

Listed 1-4-89

DA 1090

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

MULTILIST DA5123  
For NPS use only

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received \_\_\_\_\_  
date entered \_\_\_\_\_

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic City of Miami Cemetery

and or common City of Miami Cemetery

## 2. Location

street & number 1800 N. E. 2nd Avenue

not for publication

city, town Miami

vicinity of

state Florida 33132 code FL

county Dade

code FL 025

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Cemetery

## 4. Owner of Property

name City of Miami

street & number 3500 Pan American Drive

city, town Miami

vicinity of

state Florida 33133

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dade County Courthouse

street & number 75 W. Flagler Street

city, town Miami

state Florida 33130

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title FMSF-Miami Multiple Resource  
Historic Preservation Survey

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date June, 1985

federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Bureau of Historic Preservation

city, town Tallahassee

state Florida 32399-0250

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

City of Miami Cemetery

### DESCRIPTION:

Condition: Good

The City of Miami Cemetery comprises a 10 acre tract of land that is divided into eight sections. The first sections of the cemetery were laid out in 1897, when William and Mary Brickell sold 10 acres of land to the City of Miami for \$750 to be used as a municipal cemetery.<sup>1</sup> The entire subdivision of plots was completed in 1909 when the Miami City Council authorized the final platting of the tract.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Miami Cemetery is enclosed by a combination masonry wall and iron fence and is entered through iron gates embellished with the words "City of Miami Cemetery." The primary entrance is located on N. E. 2nd Avenue, while a second entrance is situated on N. Miami Avenue. A drive bisects the cemetery in an east-west direction. The length of the drive is punctuated by two traffic circles on its eastern half.

The easternmost circle marks the burial place of Julia Tuttle, and honors the "Mother of Miami" with a monument. The second circle, located near the center of the cemetery, contains a monument in honor of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The cemetery was originally divided by race and religion, with whites occupying the eastern section and blacks occupying the western section. A walled Jewish section is located in the northwest area of the cemetery.

The wide variety of headstones found in the cemetery reflects the development of funerary design from the late nineteenth century to the present. These markers range from simple inscribed stones, crosses, and obelisks to romantically-inspired angels and lambs. The cemetery also includes a number of mausoleums designed in an array of prevailing architectural styles. Although the majority are Neo-Classical in design, several display more modernistic tendencies.

The grounds of the City of Miami Cemetery are covered with lush tropical growth, and there are several rare species of tropical trees and foliage present. The cemetery has often been likened

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City of Miami Cemetery

to a botanical garden because it once served as a "proving ground" for rare tropical plants and new botanical introductions provided by the neighboring municipal nursery.<sup>3</sup> Many of the exotic plants were introduced into the cemetery in the 1920s, and at that time, the city desired to make the cemetery seem more like a park than a burial ground.<sup>4</sup>

Located in the southwest section of the cemetery is a small building which contains an office and public restrooms. This one-story Mediterranean Revival style structure is rectangular in plan and sheathed with textured stucco. The building is capped with a hipped roof covered with Mission tiles and decorated with exposed rafter under the eaves. The center portion of the building is open and supported by four Composite columns. Also located within the cemetery is a small utilitarian shed found to the west of the Jewish section.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below					
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

Specific dates 1897 Builder/Architect N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1 City of Miami Cemetery

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Specific Date: 1897

Architect: Not Applicable

The City of Miami Cemetery derives its primary significance from the graves of Miami's most important early families, from its age in relationship to the founding of Miami, and from its distinctive landscape features. The City of Miami Cemetery is also significant for its association with Miami's formative years and for its visual importance to northeast Miami.

The City of Miami Cemetery is Miami's oldest cemetery and also the first and only municipal cemetery in all of Dade County. The cemetery is the resting place for members of every important pioneer family in the city and therefore serves as a unique commemorative reminder of Miami's early days. Some of the Miami pioneers interred at the cemetery, such as Julia Tuttle, have no remaining structure or building associated with their productive lives.<sup>5</sup> As a result, the intricately carved headstones and classically-styled mausoleums constitute the only physical objects associated with many of these individuals. The City of Miami Cemetery, itself, is the site that most vividly reflects the formative years of the city's development.<sup>6</sup>

Julia Tuttle, known as the "Mother of Miami," was the twelfth person to be buried in the cemetery.<sup>7</sup> Other pioneer families include the Belchers, Burdines, Seyholds, Peacocks, and Sewells. Dr. James Jackson, Miami's pioneer physician, and John B. Reilly, first Mayor of Miami, are also buried there. War veterans, including 86 Confederate Civil War veterans and 200 Spanish-American War veterans are also interred in the cemetery.<sup>8</sup> More than 8,000 people have been buried at the City of Miami Cemetery, and the cemetery is still in active use today.

The City of Miami Cemetery is an important visual feature of northeast Miami. The parklike setting, delineated by a stone wall and iron fence, provides a sharp contrast to the commercial activity in this section of the city. The presence of the many rare and exotic plans also make the cemetery grounds a highly significant component of local landscape architecture.

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### NOTES

1. Dade County, Florida, County Recorder's Office, Deed Book M, p. 188.
2. City of Miami, Building and Zoning Department, Official Map of the City Cemetery of Miami, E. S. Frederick, Delineator, 1909.
3. "Pioneers of Miami Sleep Under Rare Tropical Trees," Miami News, 29 June 1941.
4. "Old Cemetery to be Beautified," Miami Herald, 20 April 1925.
5. Sarah E. Eaton, "City of Miami Cemetery Designation Report" (prepared for the City of Miami Heritage Conservation Board, 11 March 1983).
6. See note 5 above.
7. Miami Metropolis, 14 September 1898.
8. State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Archives, History and Records Management, "Florida Master Site File: Historic Site Data Sheet" for City of Miami Cemetery, "Statement of Significance."

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see Bibliography for Cover Nomination

## 10. Geographical Data

53 S / 41 E / 36

Acreege of nominated property 10 acres

Quadrangle name Miami

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	1 7	5 8 0 6 9 0	2 8 5 2 8 7 0	B	1 7	5 8 1 0 9 0	2 8 5 2 8 8 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 7	5 8 0 7 1 0	2 8 5 2 7 6 0	D	1 7	5 8 1 0 7 7	2 8 5 2 7 8 0
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Miami, The southerly half of the plat of THE OFFICIAL MAP OF THE CITY CEMETERY (PC 2-16) boundary follows the historic/legal boundary

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sarah Eaton / Vicki L. Welcher, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date October, 1988

street & number 500 South Bronough Street telephone (904) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida 32399-0250

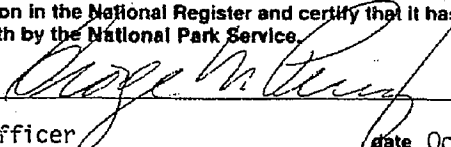
## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date October 17, 1988

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

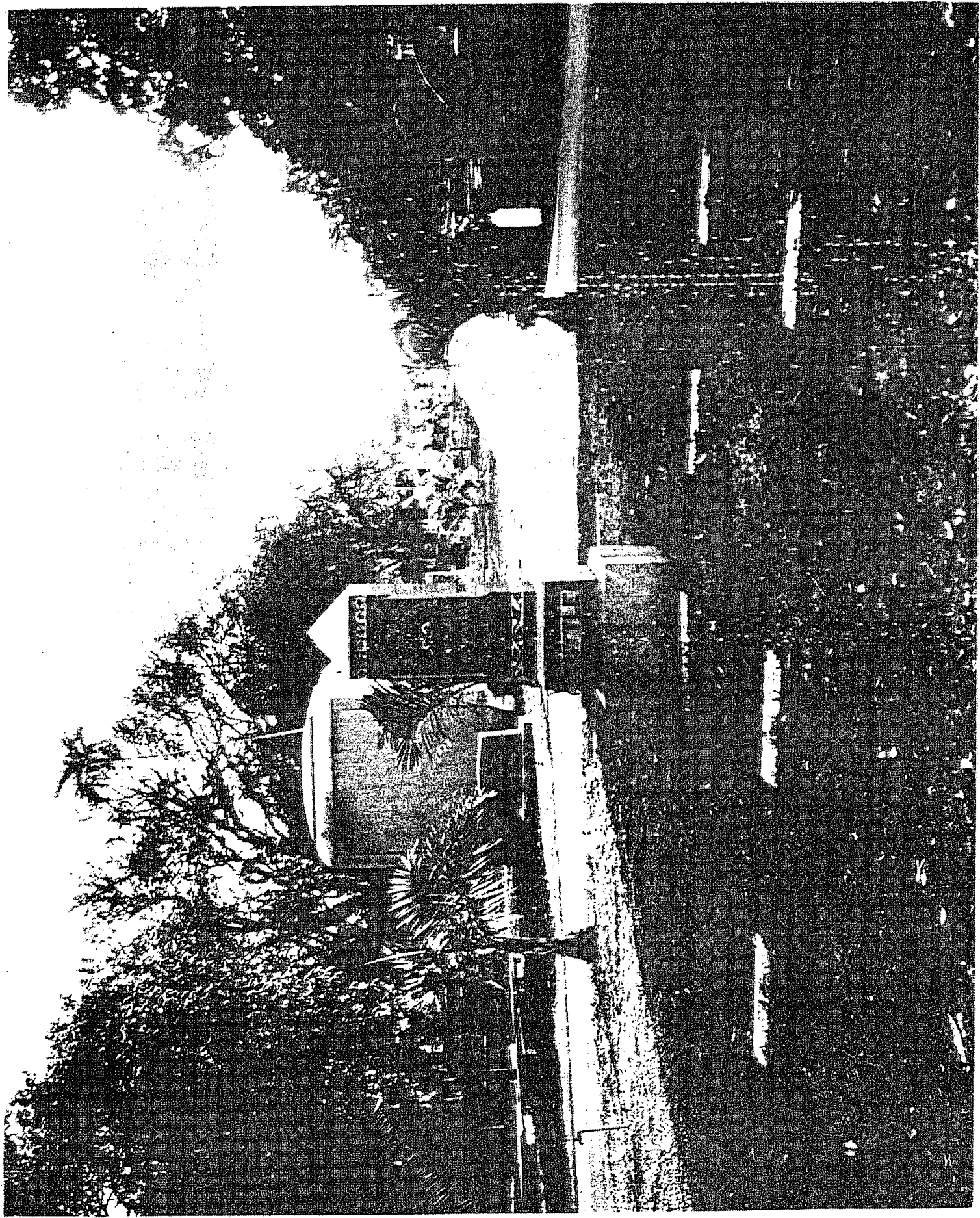
Keeper of the National Register

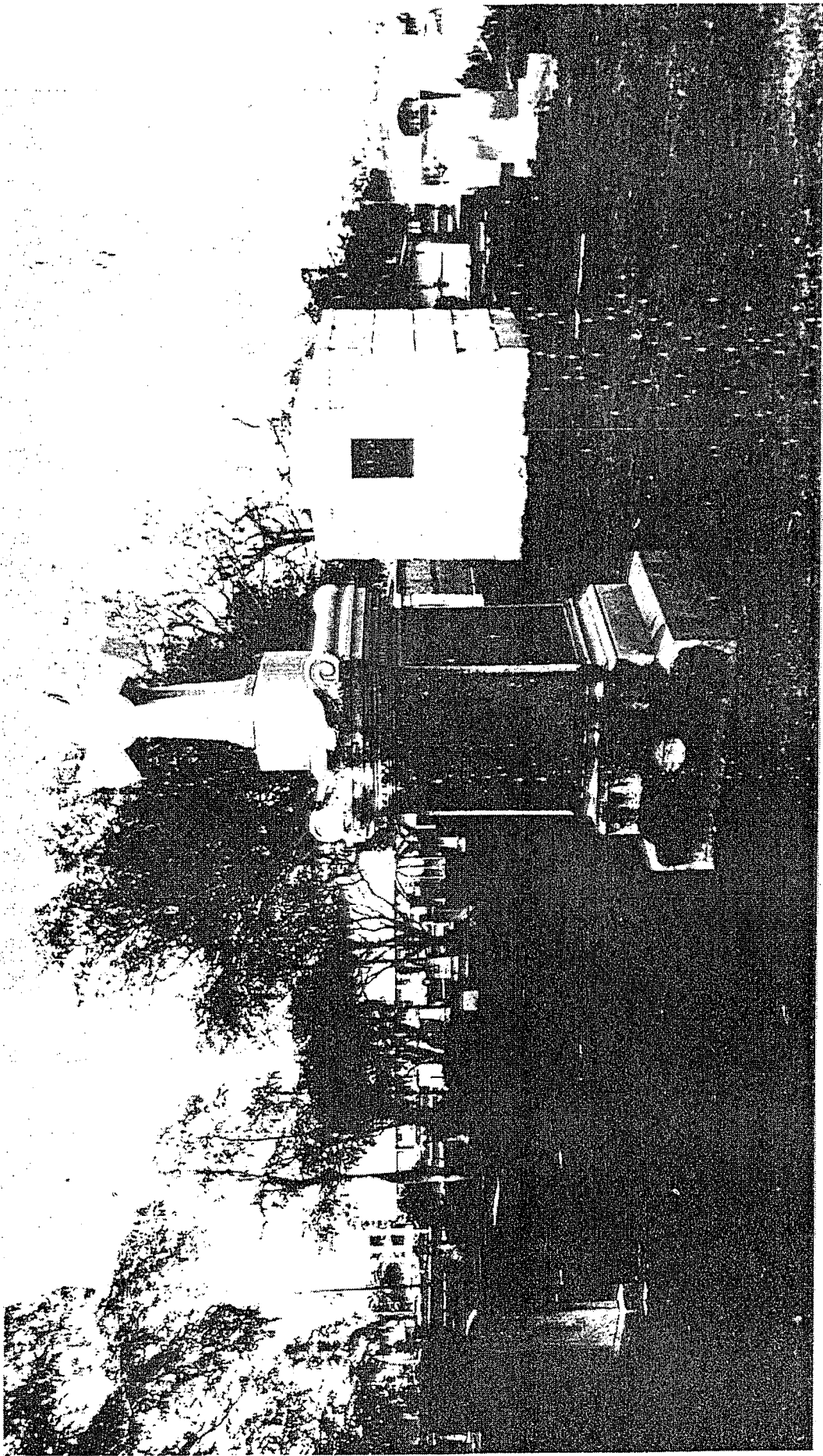
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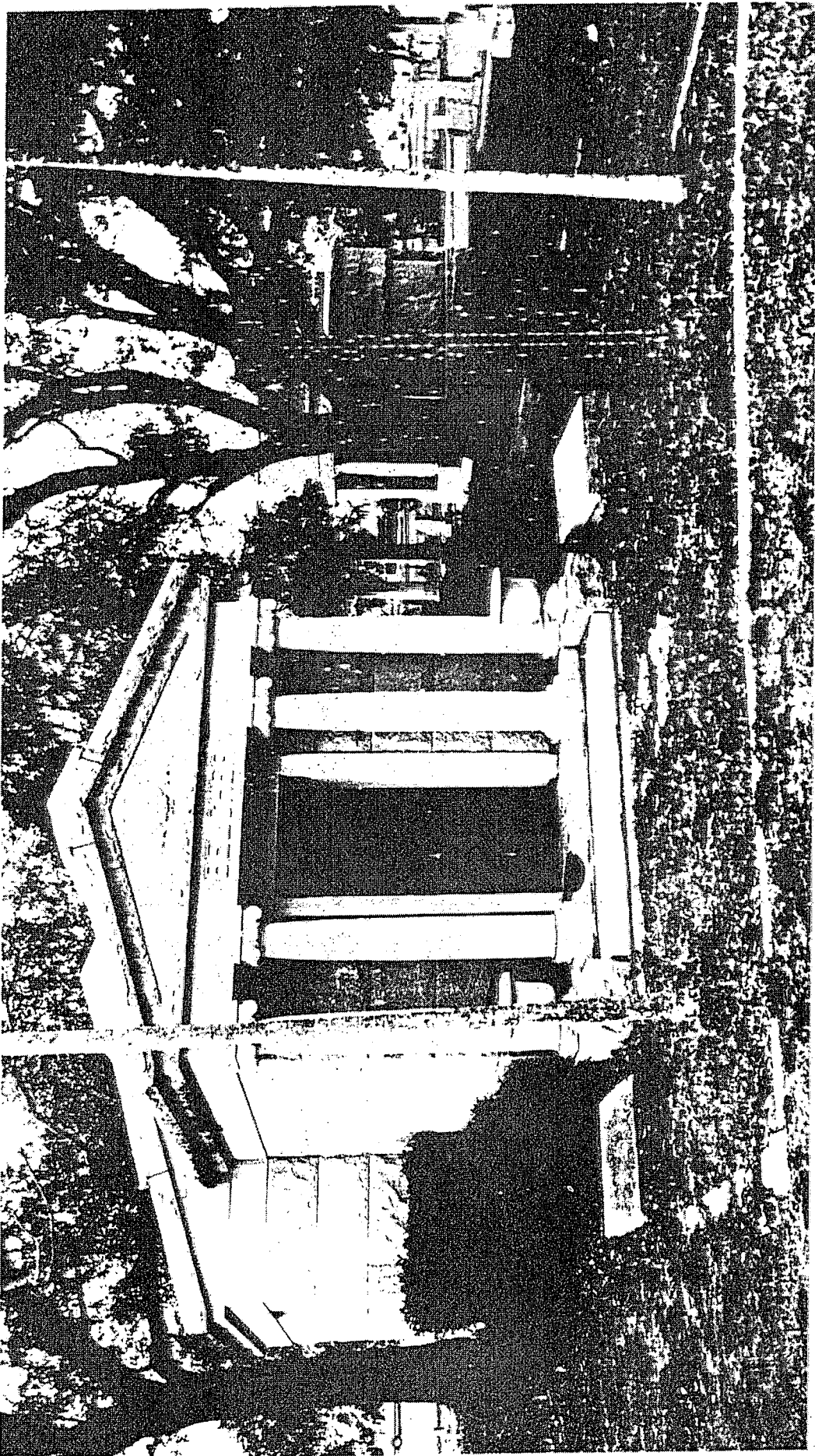
date

Chief of Registration



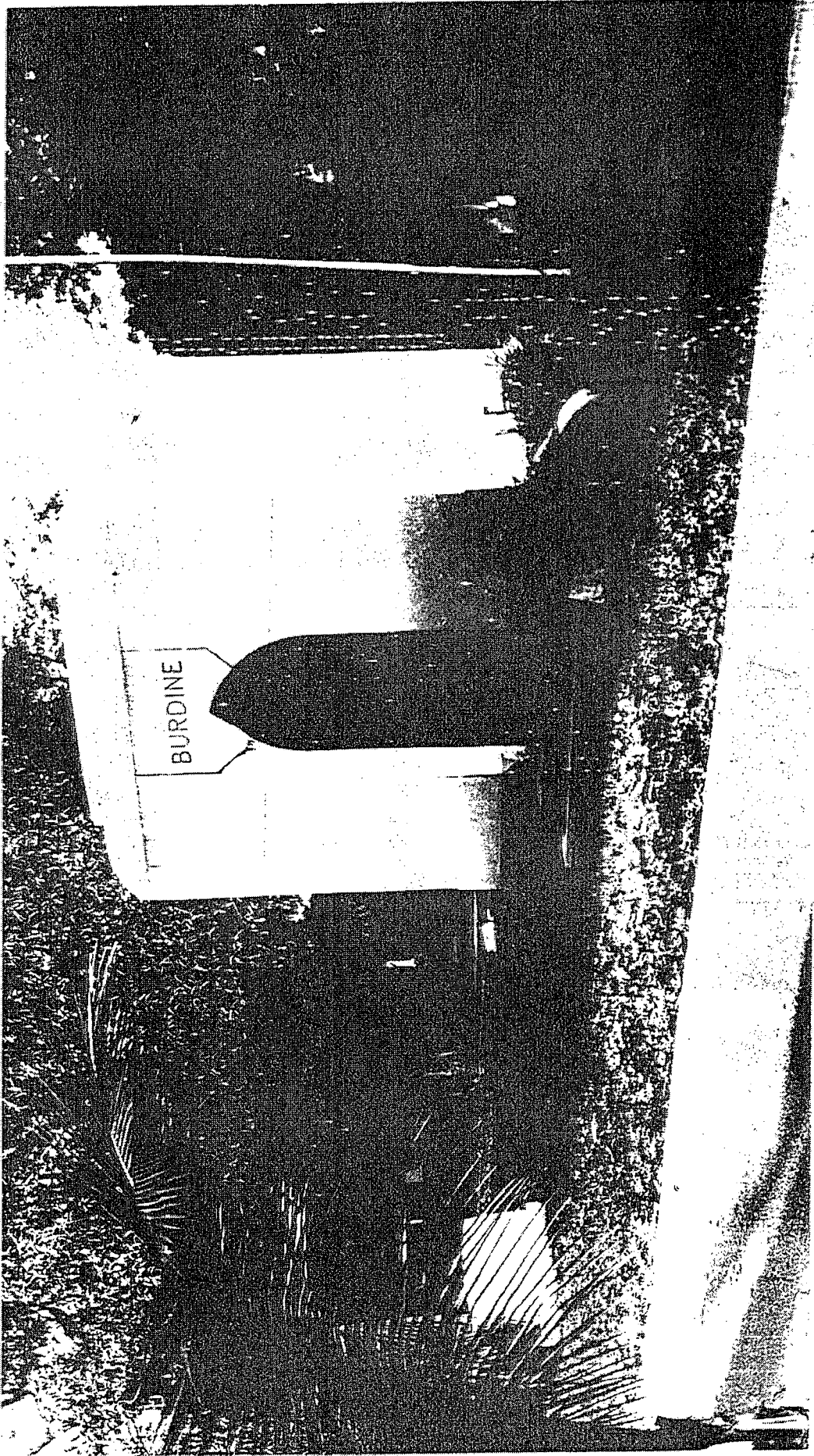


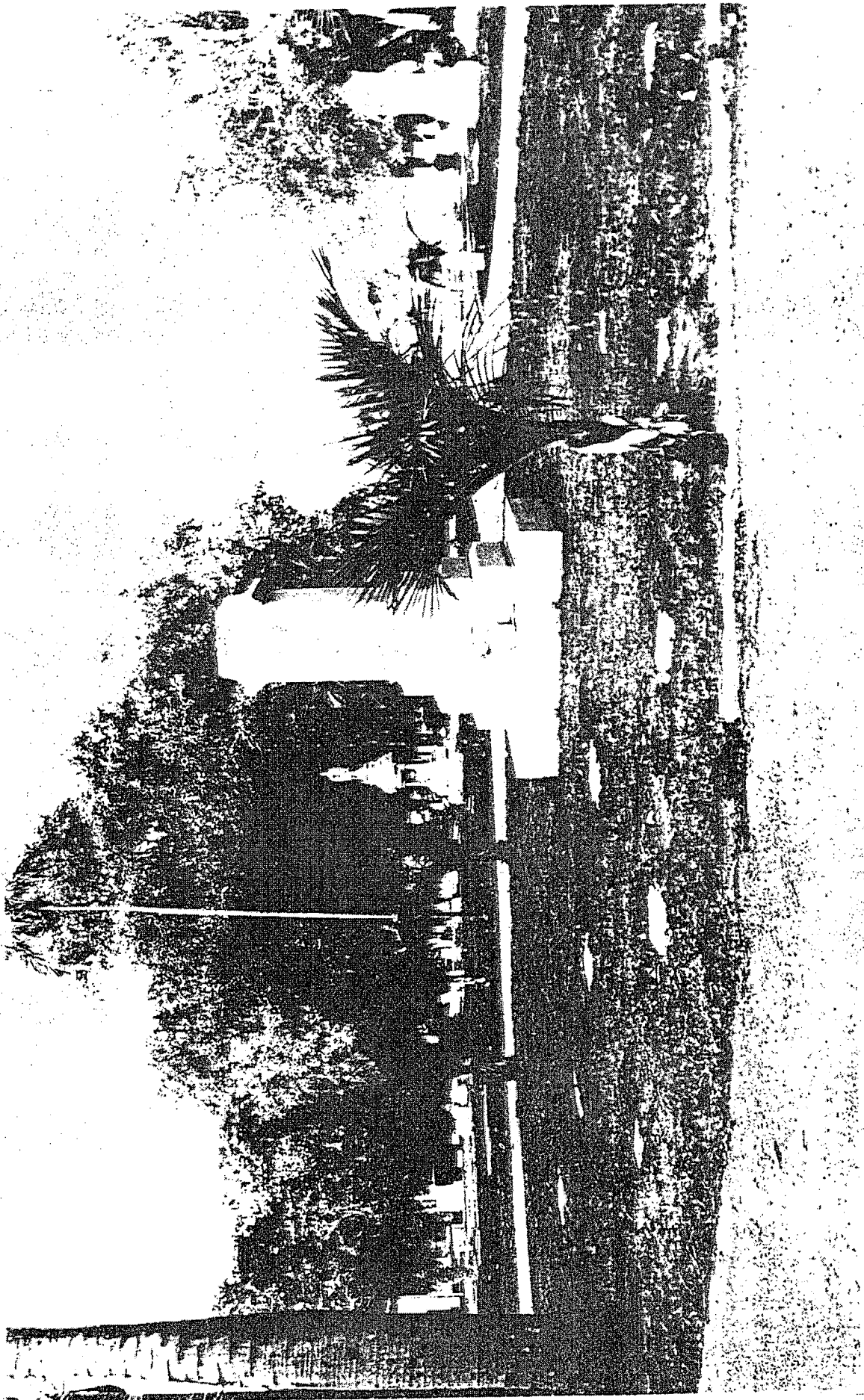


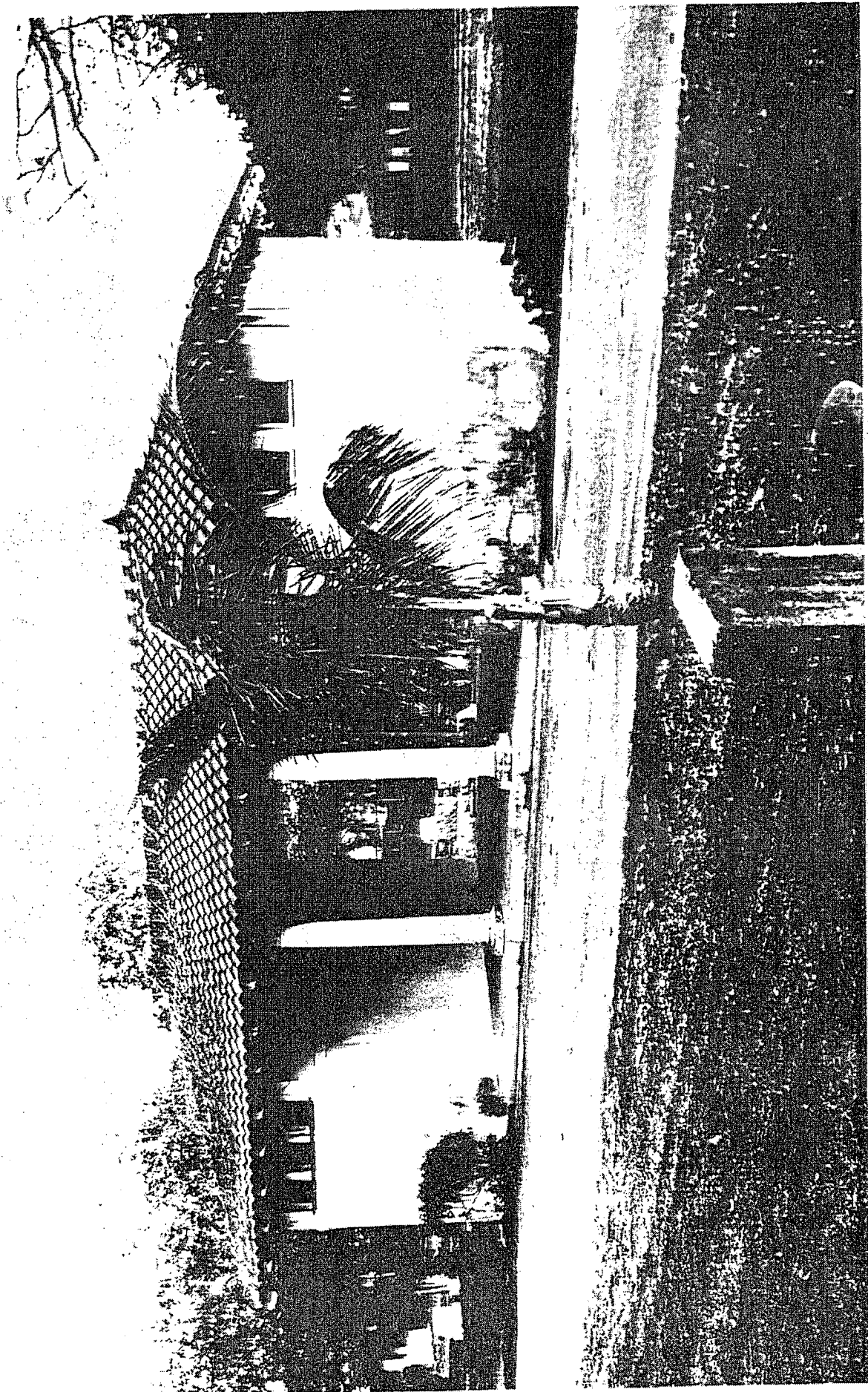


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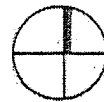
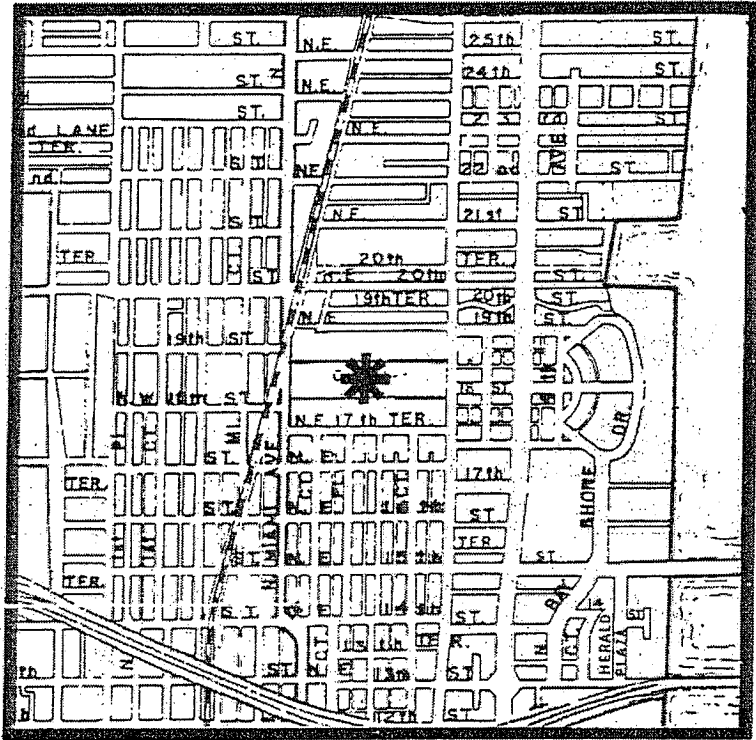




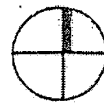
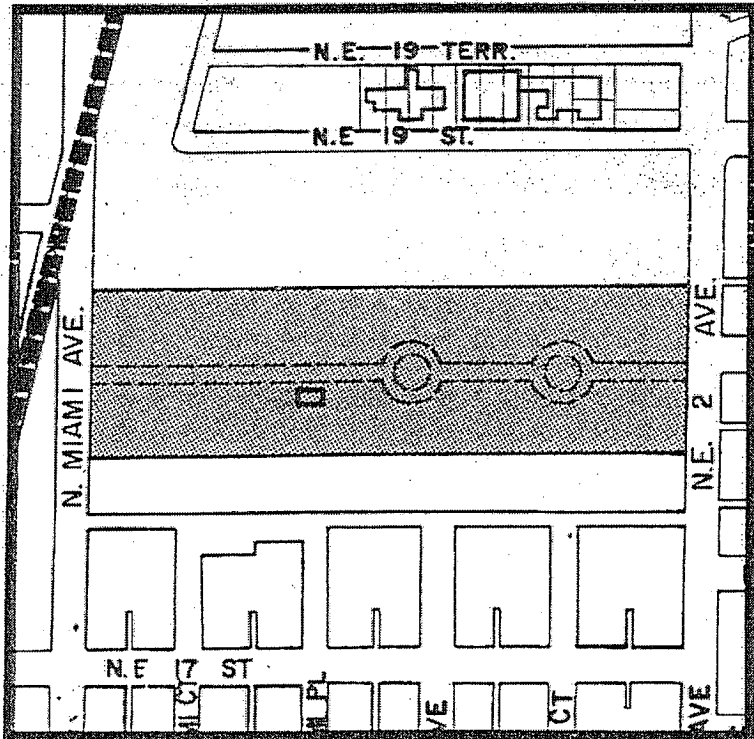


# CITY OF MIAMI CEMETERY

1800 N.E. 2 AVENUE



location



site plan