

Oak Hill Cemetery, Gatehouse
3001 R Street, N.W.
Washington (Georgetown)
District of Columbia

HABS No. DG-249

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

OAK HILL CEMETERY GATEHOUSE

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Location: 3001 R Street, N.W. (Georgetown), Washington, D.C.
On the north side of R Street (formerly Road Street),
at the intersection of 30th Street (formerly
Washington Street).

Present Owner: Oak Hill Cemetery Company

Present Occupant: John W. Collier, Superintendent

Present Use: Office and private residence of the Superintendent

Statement of Significance: This handsome brick Victorian building forms an impressive entry to the spacious wooded grounds of Oak Hill Cemetery.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Between 1850 and 1853.
2. Architect: Probably George de la Roche.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The cemetery is located in an area known as "The Rock of Dumbarton" which adjoined the original limits of Georgetown. The following is an incomplete chain of title to the property. The references are to the Recorder of Deeds, Washington, D.C.

1792 Deed June 13, 1792, recorded June 16, 1792 in Liber A, folio 117

George Beall, eldest son and heir at law of Colonel George Beall, deceased, and wife Anna to

Thomas Beall, his youngest brother

Recites that Colonel George Beall by his last will and testament, dated on or about March 15, 1780, did devise unto his son Thomas Beall, all that part of land called and known by the name of "Rock of Dumbarton," adjoining Georgetown, divided by the first large branch north of Georgetown, then down with said branch to Rock Creek, then down the west side by and with said Creek, and all that part that layeth to the south of the before mentioned branch and the west side of Rock Creek...contains about 50 acres.

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This property of Thomas Beall was transferred to his daughter, Eliza R. Washington, wife of George C. Washington.

1848 Deed June 7, 1848, recorded June 10, 1848 in
Liber W.B. 142, folio 274
Lewis W. Washington
George C. Washington, et al
to
William W. Corcoran

Part of a tract of land called "The Rock of Dumbarton" beginning at a large stone on the north side of Road Street planted by Thomas Beall of Georgetown and Richard Parrott as the corner of the line dividing their lots and is now the corner of the same line between the lots of said Lewis Washington and George C. Washington, and Captain W. M. Boyce and running by and with the north side of said Street, Easterly 482' to a large stone being the corner of the land of the heirs of Louis Grant Davidson from the premises hereby intended to be conveyed, thence north 12 degrees, east 412'9" to a spring branch, thence north 40 degrees, east 198' to Rock Creek, thence west by and with said Creek 700' to a large rock marked B.W., being the northern corner of the land owned by Captain Wm. M. Boyce and premises hereby intended to be conveyed, thence with straight line 1030' to beginning. Containing 12-1/2 acres more or less.

1848 Oak Hill Cemetery Company received charter from Congress, March 3, 1848.

1849 Deed of Gift May 1, 1849, recorded May 19, 1849 in
Liber JAS 4, folio 29
William W. Corcoran
to
Oak Hill Cemetery Company

At later dates additional parcels of land were purchased, including land from "Evermay." At the present time, Oak Hill Cemetery consists of 15-3/4 acres of land.

4. Original plans and construction: None known.
5. Alterations and additions: By 1867 the gatehouse had undergone several changes from its original design. The foundations of the upper part of the tower had rotted and the tower had to be removed; the roof of the building

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was raised one additional story; and a two-story addition containing a dining room and a second stairway was added. (More complete information is given in B-1.)

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

1. The Gatehouse:

In 1869 an investigation into the affairs of the Cemetery was called because a committee of Trustees became aware that the company records "afforded no account of the origins of the cemetery." At the time, they knew that W. W. Corcoran had donated the land, but decided that the origins of the cemetery should be recorded and that the original contributions should be officially entered in the account books.

The company apparently was very loosely organized and few books were kept. The investigating committee found many thousands of dollars in unpaid rents and notes, which they resolved to collect. In addition, they came across a controversy revolving around an addition to the gatehouse. This addition to the gatehouse was authorized in September, 1867. When the Board authorized the work, only a front elevation was presented and no scheme for a dining room was included. The work was to be limited to \$2,000, but the contract price came to be \$2,500, and subsequently there was an additional appropriation for \$500. The investigating committee called in the architect, a Mr. Phelps, for questioning. In Mr. Phelps' testimony he recounted that he made two plans for Oak Hill; one showing the old building and the other the proposed alterations. The object was to show the Board of Managers the altered condition as compared with the old.

Mr. Phelps measured the building with the aid of the superintendent of the gatehouse, Mr. Sanger, who told Mr. Phelps what alterations were to be made to suit him. He desired that Phelps raise the roof of the building and build a two-story addition. The plans also included a dining room. Phelps told the committee he never received any compensation for making the plans.

The testimony of the Board of Trustees indicates that most members did not recollect ever seeing a plan which represented the building as it was to be finished. Further testimony of another architect, a Mr. Frederick, indicated that the condition of the foundation of the upper part of

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the tower was so bad--the timbers were rotten--that the tower had to be taken down. The contractor also stated that he had had to buy new timbers, make folding doors to the dining room, and build a stairway, none of which were called for in his contract; he received no remuneration for this work.

The investigation into this addition only showed to the committee how the trustees had lost control over the affairs of the cemetery. However, they were powerless to take any action except to reprimand Mr. Sanger, the superintendent, since the changes he had directed, although unauthorized, had already been made.

In the Report of the Investigating Committee Appointed at a Meeting of Lot-Holders of Oak Hill Cemetery on Monday, February 15, 1869, p. 35, there appears a statement of Mr. Corcoran's donations to the cemetery:

Grounds for original purchase,	
June 7, 1848	\$ 3,000.00
Gatehouse and chapel, between	
August 1850-January 1853	9,400.00
Iron fence, between January 1852,	
and January 1853	3,582.54
Improving grounds	<u>24,176.28</u>
	\$40,158.82
Mr. Corcoran increased amount to	
about	\$54,000.00
With cost of mausoleum	<u>13,000.00</u>
	\$67,000.00

2. W. W. Corcoran:

William Wilson Corcoran, the donor of Oak Hill Cemetery, was born in Georgetown on December 27, 1798, at 122 Bridge Street (now 3131 M Street). His father, Thomas Corcoran, had been engaged in the shipping business in Georgetown since 1787; he was a director of the Bank of Columbia, mayor of Georgetown, and a member of the Board of Trustees of Columbia College.

At the age of nineteen, the son established a dry goods store at the corner of First and High Streets (now N and Wisconsin Avenue). His business was so successful that he built a large warehouse at the corner of Bridge and Congress Streets (now M and 31st Street) in partnership with his brother Thomas.

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Between the years 1828 and 1836 Corcoran assumed responsibility for the real estate transactions of the Bank of Columbia and the Bank of the United States. In 1835 he married Miss Louise Morris. Soon after the marriage they moved to the city of Washington. Corcoran established a business on Pennsylvania Avenue near 15th Street. He became the financial agent for the State Department in 1841, handling all of their foreign transactions.

Mrs. Corcoran died in 1840, and their son shortly thereafter. Corcoran's only daughter married George Eustis, a Congressman from Louisiana. Daniel Webster was a very close friend of Corcoran's. After Webster's death, Corcoran purchased his home on Lafayette Square, and enlarged the house by adding an art gallery and extensive gardens. (The site of the house is now the United States Department of Commerce Building.) Corcoran also aided A. J. Downing in collecting plants from foreign countries for Lafayette Square.

In 1842 Corcoran formed a banking partnership with his friend George Riggs. They established offices in the old Bank of the United States building which they bought in 1844. At this time American credit was "annihilated" abroad; Corcoran and Riggs offered to take up a government loan of \$5,000,000, which proved to be a very successful risk, and was the beginning of an extremely lucrative financial career. The two partners negotiated the loan which enabled the United States to be successful in the war against Mexico in 1846; Corcoran engaged a large loan from England and was hailed as "the fortress of American credit on the exchanges of London and the European Continent." ("A Washington Philanthropist," Appleton's Journal, January 3, 1874, p. 10.) After that, the house of Corcoran and Riggs took on almost all loans made by the United States government. In 1854 Corcoran withdrew from the partnership; however, Riggs continued under the name of Riggs and Company (now the Riggs National Bank). In 1860 Corcoran's sympathies fell to the Confederacy and at the outbreak of the war he left for Europe and remained there until it was ended.

Corcoran was an extremely charitable and generous man. Many gifts were made anonymously, many unrecorded. Among his major donations (excluding the cemetery) are: the grounds for the Washington Orphan Asylum; the grounds and endowment for the Louise Home for Ladies (a residence for ladies "reduced from affluence and over fifty years of age"); a large endowment for Columbia College; and gifts to the University of William and Mary, Virginia Military Institute, the University of Washington and Lee, and the University of Virginia.

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A note in The Evening Star, December 31, 1853, mentions that "W. W. Corcoran, Esq. of your city has made provision for giving to all of the inmates of our poor and alms houses on New Year's Day a sumptuous dinner. The table is supplied with all the delicacies our market will offer. This, we believe, has been Mr. C.'s custom for several years."

Corcoran's most notable and important gift to the city of Washington was the Corcoran Art Gallery, which was donated in 1869. The original gallery was designed by James Renwick (at 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue) and is now being restored by the Smithsonian Institution to open in 1971 as the Renwick Gallery. (More information on the Corcoran Gallery can be found in Minnigerode, pp. 227-235.)

After a long illness Corcoran died February 24, 1888, at his home. Black crepe was draped around the Riggs Bank; the Corcoran Art Gallery was closed, as was the office of the Washington Monument. Many flags in the city were flown at half-mast. He was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery. His wealth was estimated at \$3,500,000 and he had already disposed of an estimated \$4,000,000 in philanthropic projects.

3. George de la Roche:

George de la Roche (1791-1861) was by profession a civil engineer, although he did engage in the practice of architecture. His best known work was the old United States Naval Observatory. Mr. Corcoran hired Captain de la Roche to survey and lay out the cemetery grounds. It is generally thought that he designed the gatehouse, although there is no documentary proof. The existence of a design by him for a proposed gate for the Glenwood Cemetery (reproduction found in the Peabody Room, Georgetown Public Library) would at least indicate his interest and capabilities in this area. De la Roche's Georgetown address was 143 Washington Street.

4. Notes on the Cemetery:

Oak Hill Cemetery is located on the highest point of ground in Georgetown, 176' above sea level. Many prominent citizens are buried in the cemetery. There are also some important monuments such as the Van Ness Mausoleum, by George Hadfield, modelled after the Temple of Vesta, and a granite monument to E. M. Stanton, the Secretary of War under President Lincoln. Mr. Corcoran had the remains of John Howard Payne, author of "Home, Sweet Home" removed to the cemetery. Alexander de Bodisco, the Russian Ambassador, was buried there in 1854.

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Each grave site, as laid out by George de la Roche, is nine feet deep to provide for three interments.

The cemetery was usually described in terms of its beautifully wooded setting: "Oak Hill Cemetery, one of the most romantic and picturesque spots on the continent, where nature and art have combined to produce the most surprising and charming scenic effects..." (The Evening Star, September 30, 1860.) However, soon after its completion the cemetery was strongly criticized by Dr. Louis Mackall in a publication entitled Oak Hill Cemetery, or a Treatise on the Fatal Effects Resulting from the Location of Cemeteries in the Immediate Vicinity of Towns. The following are excerpts from this treatise:

The following Treatise is intended to awaken the people of the District, and particularly the inhabitants of Georgetown, to a sense of a most serious danger, which threatens their health and their lives; and to induce them to unite in making an effort to avert from themselves a dreadful calamity.

To this end, it is proposed to state the impressions of the most intelligent communities, in relation to the practice of inhumation in or near towns: to give the opinions of learned divines, and of eminent medical men, who have patiently investigated this subject, and to present some of the facts on which these opinions and those impressions were founded. We will then proceed to show that the establishment of the Oak-Hill Cemetery, in the vicinity of Georgetown must necessarily be followed by the most fatal consequences.

Dr. Mackall begins the treatise by tracing the ordinances passed in Europe which prohibit interment near cities. He then gives case histories of deaths of grave diggers and others.

It is the opinion of medical men, confirmed by the suggestions of common sense, that cemeteries should be placed on high ground where there are few or no trees, that the exhalations, always arising from them, may be speedily diluted, and thus rendered comparatively innocuous.

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In 1849, Congress passed a law incorporating a company for the establishment of 'Oak-Hill Cemetery.' This cemetery consists of about 15 acres of land, lying nearly in the form of a square and densely wooded with forest trees. The grounds adjoining it, on the east and west, are also thickly covered with forest trees.

A detailed description of the topography of the cemetery is then given:

Near the bottom of the ravine running through the middle of the cemetery and not far from its intersection with the eastern valley, a large receiving vault is constructed, in which are now entombed twenty or more bodies.

...it will be at once apparent that the putrid exhalations from the receiving vault--from the graves on the side of the hill (for it is impossible to confine this subtle fluid even in the deepest grave), and from other vaults, when constructed, must gravitate into the valleys along the whole course of the principal road, and accumulate there. The process of accumulation, favored by the heavy and damp atmosphere of the valleys, must go on, until the effluvia reaches so high a state of concentration, that its deleterious influence might be extended far and near.

Road Street, along the Heights of Georgetown, on which the cemetery binds, is a favorite resort with the people of the district, when taking their evening recreation, whether walking or riding. Many would in this way be brought unconsciously, under dangerous influence.

A chart of the wind velocities is included to give validity to Dr. Mackall's next statement.

This is not all! A high wind at such time might sweep this huge mass of poisonous vapor over upon the town, and it would settle down upon the inhabitants like a pall, bringing sickness and death into every family.

About the first of July, last, a very offensive odor issued forth from the large receiving vault above referred to, and was diffused over the whole cemetery. Soon after this an epidemic disease,

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attended with symptoms of diarrrhea and dysentery appeared in the town, and was observed to be prevalent in the neighborhood of the cemetery, and along Green and Washington Streets.

The treatise ends with an appeal to the citizens of Georgetown to complain to the Grand Jury, the guardians of Health of the District of Columbia, and if they would not react, to appeal to Congress.

People of Georgetown, this whole subject has now been laid fairly before you...Will you let...death go on and do its work? If such is your determination, recollect that many a one of you may have a friend, a brother, or a sister, a darling child, or a beloved wife snatched from you, as the just punishment of your criminal apathy.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Old Views: None found.

2. Bibliography:

a. Primary and unpublished sources:

District of Columbia Deed Books, Recorder of Deeds, Washington, D.C.

Page, Henry, III. The de la Roche Family. (Unpublished manuscript, available in Peabody Room, Georgetown Public Library.)

b. Secondary and published sources:

"A Washington Philanthropist," Appleton's Journal, January 3, 1874, p. 10.

Bouligny, E. A Tribute to W.W. Corcoran. Philadelphia, 1874.

Mackall, Louis. Oak Hill Cemetery, or a Treatise on the Fatal Effects Resulting from the Location of Cemeteries in the Immediate Vicinity of Towns. Washington, D.C., 1950.

Minnigerode, C. Powell. "The Corcoran Gallery of Art," Records of the Columbia Historical Society, Vols. 48-49. Washington, D.C., 1946-1947.

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Report of the Investigating Committee Appointed at
a Meeting of Lot-Holders of Oak Hill Cemetery
on Monday, February 15, 1869. Georgetown, D.C.,
1869.

The Evening Star (Washington, D.C.), December 31, 1853;
September 30, 1860.

----- "Mr. Corcoran Dead," February 24, 1888.

----- "W.W. Corcoran's Will," February 29, 1888.

The National Republican (Washington, D.C.). "One
Million Dollars," March 1, 1888.

W.W. Corcoran, A Grandfather's Legacy; Containing a
Sketch of His Life and Obituary Notices of Some
Members of His Family Together With Letters from
His Friends. Washington, D.C., 1879.

Prepared by Ellen J. Schwartz
Architectural Historian
Commission of Fine Arts
September 1969

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This gatehouse, built about 1850, is a miniature Italianate brick villa with an irregular and picturesque silhouette. Its corner buttresses lend it a somewhat Gothic appearance as well.
2. Condition of fabric: Good. There is some deterioration of the sandstone hood molds and of the wood eaves in a few spots.

There have been a number of additions. The first, about 1867, increased the front or office section from two to three floors and also added the first (and probably also the second) room to the west. Other additions include a file vault and one-story bay added to the office at the northeast corner, a wooden shed addition at the juncture of the present north parlor and dining room (northeast corner), and the rear one-story brick kitchen wing.

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B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The building has been added on to many times so that it has a somewhat irregular shape. In general, however, it is composed of an office section to the east with a stair hall to the south and a tower at the southeastern corner. This whole section is about 35' north-south and 20' east-west. To the west of this is the residence, which is about 35' north-south and 30' east-west, with a more recent kitchen extending 18' further west. The entire building, including bay windows, measures about 40' north-south by 68' east-west. The main portion of the structure (office and stair hall) is three stories tall, the residence is two floors with a one-story kitchen at the west. The office has a one-story addition to the north.
2. Foundations: Brick to grade, with a stone water table 18" from grade (measured at the east hall steps).
3. Wall construction: Walls are brick in common bond with header courses every seven and eight rows. Where additions have been made, there is no bond with the previous brickwork.

Red sandstone is used extensively. The water table running around the building is of stone, except for the office bay and the house bay windows, which have brick water tables. The west kitchen addition has no water table at all. Sandstone is also used for hood molds, window sills, buttress caps, steps, and a string course around the southeast tower. The wooden shed addition is of 3" wide vertical match boarding with 1 bead, painted gray.

4. Framing: Load bearing brick walls; interior framing not visible.
5. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: Below the south window of the south parlor is an areaway 2-1/2' x 4' by a window. At the juncture of the north parlor bay and the north wooden addition is a modern two-leaf bulkhead with a concrete retaining wall at the north side.
6. Chimneys: There are two plain brick chimneys. The first is located at the west wall of the main office and has a simple cove molding of stone at the top. The second, at the west wall of the residence dining room, is rectangular with three projecting courses at the top.

7. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: On the east side, the door to the office is four-panel and 30" wide, with the upper two panels glazed. It does not appear to be very old. The opening is round headed with a single light pane above. The door is reached by three sandstone steps. The east hall entrance has a 6-panel round-head wooden door, the middle two panels of which are glazed and

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the others diagonally boarded. This 3' wide door is painted gray and is reached by three sandstone steps. The doorway is round headed and has a curved hood mold with end drops above it. The south hall entrance door is very similar, except that it is three-panel and the upper large panel is glazed. The wooden door to the northwest shed addition is seven-panel, with the upper four panels glazed. The four-panel wooden door to the rear kitchen addition is reached by one bluestone step.

- b. Windows and shutters: All windows in the three-story section are round headed with hood molds on the first and second floors. Most of the first-floor windows are one-over-one sash with three-pane fanlights. On the second floor are 16-light, or 12-light windows hinged at the top with fanlights of two or three panes above. On the third floor the windows are mostly six-over-six sash. The sills of all windows are sandstone. Some sills rest on square consoles and have projecting upper edges; others are plain squared stone. The office bay has one-over-one segmental arch windows with plain sills.

The west section has a variety of window types. Above the north bay is a triple window, each unit of ten panes (2 x 5) hinged at the top and with a single light lunette above each. Others are 16-light or six-over-six sash with 2 or 4-light lunettes. The south parlor window consists of two one-over-one sash windows paired under a square hood mold. The dining room window is two-over-two sash and has a similar hood mold. The added parlor bay to the north has six-over-six segmental windows. Cellar windows exposed at grade below this bay are 3-light.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The office section has an east-west gable over the northern portion, a gable facing south, and a low pyramidal roof on the tower. These are covered with gray rectangular slates set at 45°. The office bay has a flat standing seam roof painted red. The parlor section of the house has a gable end at the north and a half hip roof at the south; the dining room has an east-west gable. The kitchen addition has a shed roof (hidden behind a low parapet to the west) sloping down to the north; the roof of the wooden shed addition slopes to the west. The roof of the house is slate covered like the office section; toward the ridge of the parlor section, however, the upper four courses of slate can be seen to have a more purple hue than the lower courses.

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- b. Cornice, eaves: The office and house have eaves that project about 18" and are supported by wide spaced wooden brackets about 5" across. The brackets are about 30" tall, except for those on the tower, which are about 36". There are simple rain gutters and downspouts. The north parlor bay has a molded cornice and small modillions; the other additions have a simple wood and metal finish.
- c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: The southeast corner tower is three stories high--the upper floor, containing bells, is open. The east and south openings have a four-baluster railing 20" high. A short distance below is a stone string course and above, at the spring of the arches of the openings, a double brick belt course.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The ground floor plan consists of an office section to the east and a residential section to the west. On the first floor the office is composed of a main room 13'-10" north-south by 15'; a bay 8'-6" x 10'-9" added to the north (adjoining the file vault), and a stair hall to the south which measures 18' long by 5'-11" wide. The residence, which was not accessible, is entered from the west end of the hall. The first room is a double parlor, the northern one with the bay being the smaller. To the west is the dining room (with a stair to the second floor against its east wall). From the dining room a door leads to the kitchen addition to the west.

On the second floor above the office is a bedroom of the residence and a small storage room 6' square under the tower. On the third floor there is another room above the office, and a small door over the landing which leads out to the bells.

2. Stairways: The stair hall has a half-turn stair with landing, and runs of 11 and 4. From the second floor landing is a half-turn flight with landing and runs of 9 and 4 to the third floor. The stair has 8 - 1/2" risers, and a 33" wide tread. The hand rail is of circular section with plain rectangular balusters and turned newels and posts. The stairway in the dining room of the residence is boxed at the south side with vertical tongue and groove.
3. Floors: In the office section all floors are linoleum covered. In the stair hall floors are 3 - 1/4" - 5" wide pine, except where replaced by 2 - 1/4" hardwood on the first floor adjacent to the entrance doors.

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4. Wall and ceiling finish: Walls of the office and hall are plaster on lath, painted cream colored in the office and papered in the hall. The 9' ceilings are undecorated.
5. Doorways and doors: Interior doors are four-panel wood. The doorways of the first and second floors have an attractive molding around them consisting of a 3/4-round molding on a base concave at each side. This is found around both the square-head and round-head doors. The small door leading to the bells on the third floor is 21" x 40" and is composed of vertical boarding. It is located 45" from the floor.
6. Decorative features and trim: The interior windows on the first and second floors have the same heavy molding as the doorways. There is a picture molding 9" from the ceiling in the main office, and a molded 7-1/2" baseboard.
7. Notable hardware: None.
8. Lighting: In the hall is a hanging electric fixture with a bulb and clear ribbed glass shade at the bottom. A gas branch extends out of the fixture at right angles, just above the light. Other lighting is modern.
9. Heating: In the main office is a simple fireplace of black marble with yellow veining. It measures 47" high by 62" long, with a mantel shelf 70" by 8-1/2". The opening is now sealed up. In the dining room of the residence, against the west wall, there is a wooden mantel painted white. Modern heat is by hot water radiators.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The gatehouse, at the northwest corner of R Street and the projection of 30th Street, faces east with its south side along the public walk of R Street. To the north and east is Oak Hill Cemetery.
2. Enclosures: South and east of the gatehouse is the main entrance gate to the cemetery. The gateway consists of a pedestrian entrance 5' wide, and, just to the east of that, a vehicle entrance 11' wide. Each is closed by a heavy iron gate. The three sandstone pillars at the gateway are decorated on the street side with two attached columns having floral capitals. The tops of the pillars are decorated with a cove molding and machicolation. The

metal tracks for the main gate rollers are still in place, as are the two cast-iron posts which protect the gates from being hit by vehicles when open. The fence itself, in sections about 12' long (with posts set in granite blocks 13" tall), has palm or papyrus bud finials.

3. Outbuildings: Northwest of the house is a two-story brick supplies building, about 18' x 33', with a three-bay facade. On the north elevation the three doors are round headed and the one-over-one sash windows above them on the second floor are nearly square. On the south elevation are four round-head one-over-one sash windows (about the same size as the rectangular ones on the second floor of the north side), and a narrow round headed doorway at the east end. There are only two windows on the second floor. Windows and doors have sandstone sills. There is a belt course in brick at the second floor level. The hip roof is covered with gray rectangular slate. Inside, much of the partitioning is vertical tongue and groove. A half-turn stair with landing ascends to the second floor at the center of the building. Attached to the east of the building is a modern garage for at least two vehicles.
4. Walks: East of the gatehouse is a herringbone brick walk with bluestone curb and the brick roadway (stretchers in common bond). The public walk to the south is 15' wide at the gate and has a granite curb. North of the east hall entrance is a sandstone splash block 25" x 15-1/4". West of the office bay is a second splash block (in tan sandstone) 16" x 21", but more crudely carved. By the south hall entrance is a small cast-iron boot scraper set in a red sandstone block.
5. Landscaping: West of the house there is a private rose garden; to the north and east are numerous oak trees and the plantings of the cemetery.

Prepared by Daniel D. Reiff
Architectural Historian
Commission of Fine Arts
August 1969

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were made in 1969 during a project to record 14 structures and a group of 16 items of "street furniture" in the Georgetown section of Washington, D.C. The project was conducted by the Commission of

Fine Arts with the cooperation of the Historic American Buildings Survey. The resulting documentation was donated to HABS by the Commission and published in 1970 in HABS Selections Number 10, Georgetown Architecture: Northwest Washington, District of Columbia.

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The project was under the direction of Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer of the Commission of Fine Arts. The recording team was composed of Miss Ellen J. Schwartz and Mr. Daniel D. Reiff, Architectural Historians, and Mr. William P. Thompson, Architect. The photographs were made by photographers J. Alexander and Jack E. Boucher under contract to the Commission.