

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

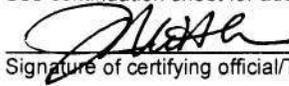
historic name Bohemian National Cemetery  
other names B-5167, Česko Národní Hřbitov

2. Location

street & number 1300 Horners Lane  not for publication  
city or town Baltimore  vicinity  
state Maryland code MD county Independent City code 510 zip code 21205-3229

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).



9-28-10  
Date

Signature of certifying official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- Determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Bohemian National Cemetery (B-5167)  
Name of Property

Baltimore City, MD  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
1		sites
2		structures
		objects
5	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)  
  
N/A

**number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**  
  
N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Funerary: cemetery

Social: meeting

Recreation and Culture: outdoor recreation

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Funerary: cemetery

Social: meeting

Recreation and Culture: outdoor recreation

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Stone, Metal

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Bohemian National Cemetery (B-5167)  
Name of Property

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 12.410 acres **Baltimore East, MD. USGS quad map**

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	1	8	3	6	5	9	0	0	4	3	5	1	9	2	7
	Zone		Easting			Northing									
2	1	8	3	6	6	0	6	3	4	3	5	2	0	0	1

3	1	8	3	6	6	1	5	8	4	3	5	1	7	3	2
	Zone		Easting			Northing									
4	1	8	3	6	5	9	9	6	4	3	5	1	6	6	5

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Shawn Gladden, Preservation Consultant  
 Organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 10/20/09  
 street & number 3414 Millie Way telephone 443-226-2894  
 city or town Manchester state MD zip code 21102

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name The Bohemian Cemetery Company of Baltimore City of the Grand Lodge C.S.P.S.  
 street & number 1300 Horners Lane telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 city or town Baltimore City state MD zip code 21205

**Paperwork Reduction Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et. seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Bohemian National Cemetery (B-5167)  
Name of Property

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**Area of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Ethnic Heritage: European  
Social History  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1884-1959  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

Euro-American  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

**Previous documentation on files (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey  
# \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record  
# \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

B-5167  
Bohemian National Cemetery

Name of Property

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## Description Summary:

The Bohemian National Cemetery of Baltimore, Česko Národní Hřbitov, is an urban, lawn-park style cemetery located atop an elevated site in eastern Baltimore, Maryland. The landscape is fairly level, with an open design framed by trees at the perimeter. The monuments are arranged in tight rows within a grid formed by the roadways. The location was a center of Bohemian cultural activities. The main entrance to the Bohemian National Cemetery is located on the eastern boundary at Horners Lane and is marked with an iron gate and granite gateway. A secondary entrance is located approximately 450' south on Horners Lane. The cemetery is comprised of 12.410 acres flanked by wooded land on the north and south, and tree lines on the east and west boundaries of the property. The cemetery contains over 4,000 gravesites marked with a variety of culturally significant headstones illustrating a distinct Czech-Bohemian funerary style. A brick receiving vault, built in 1897, is located toward the rear, west side of the cemetery. A one-story brick caretaker's cottage and a concrete lock carriage house, both circa late 1930s, are located on the south end of the property near the secondary entrance and in an area which historically served as the social, sports, and cultural gathering place for the Bohemian benevolent society, the Grand Lodge Česko Slovanská Podporující Společnost, (C.S.P.S) Benevolent Association of Baltimore. The two buildings – the caretaker's cottage and carriage house – and the two structures – the receiving vault and stone gateway – contribute to the property's significance. The cemetery is counted as one contributing site.

## General Description:

The primary cemetery entrance is a wrought iron double gate topped with a scroll pattern, hung from a fine grained, gray granite gateway.<sup>1</sup> The words "Bohemian National Cemetery" are carved on the shallow-arched stone lintel. The right supporting post carries a memorial and the left post is carved with the date, "1958." The date does not indicate the age of the gate; based on an oral history by Louise Pauline Zeman Taborsky, the gate was built sometime in the 1930s. The date signifies the dedication of the gate by Carrie Bernard Kraus to her parents, Joseph and Carrie Bernard.<sup>2</sup> The gateway is approximately 14' high with the top arch measuring 18'7". The rest of the perimeter is fenced with chain-link.

The lawn-park style grounds feature an open, uncluttered design framed by trees at the perimeter. Few trees and shrubs are found among the graves. The paved asphalt drive from the main gate runs throughout the cemetery in a rectangular pattern, dividing it into sections: the easternmost section runs north-south alongside Horners Lane; to the west and on a perpendicular axis are three parallel sections that run east-west. The monuments are arranged in tight rows within the grid formed by the roadways. There is an additional row of monuments with headstones on the north side of the northernmost drive, Third Avenue. A concrete drive leads from the

<sup>1</sup>Verified by Nelson Matthews, director of Loeblein Memorials, Inc., Baltimore, Md.

<sup>2</sup>Oral history, Louise Pauline Zeman Taborsky, Mrs. Taborsky attended the dedication of the gate.

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secondary entrance to an asphalt parking area in front of the carriage house and caretaker's cottage. The roadways in the cemetery are designated as Bohemian, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> avenues.

“Commercially produced headstones were most common, but wood, concrete, or metal markers marked earlier and less well-to-do individuals and families. For an ancestor buried in the early 1900s, you might find a flat, slab-type marker covering the entire grave.”<sup>3</sup> The gravestones are made up of a variety of materials, but are predominantly marble and granite. The monuments vary in style and type and include figural sculptures, busts, markers, vertical and horizontal tablets, and multi-part constructions with pedestals, obelisks and shafts embellished with urns, crosses, sculptures and cross gables. Two marble busts signify figures of particular significance in the community: Vaclav Shimek and J.J. Rokos (whose lives are described in the historic narrative section of this document). The marble portraits, on polished granite pedestals and enframed under pyramidal caps supported by columns, are symbols of the Czech nationalist period and the revival of the Bohemian Baroque of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>4</sup> Portrait busts are found in cemeteries throughout Central and Eastern Europe. A number of the gravestones bear the distinctive feature of a porcelain memorial photograph of the deceased, an element indicative of nineteenth century Bohemian burial traditions and funerary architecture, and commonly found in Western and Eastern Europe until replaced by modern engraving technology.<sup>5</sup>

Bronze markers are provided by the military for those who served. Many gravestones feature forms of *memento mori*, symbolic reminders of death, such as marble statues of children or lambs, and limestone sculptures of cut trees commemorating young adults whose lives were ended. Two intertwined trees mark the graves of a married couple who died together in a train accident. Various stones are embossed with symbols of vocation or special interest, for example, a wishbone to signify the gravesite of a person associated with the Maryland State Lottery and a ball to signify the burial site of a baseball player. Some gravesites have iron or marble benches next to the gravestones.

The receiving vault, built in 1897, was used to store bodies prior to burial for up to 15 days. It is a one-room, brick barrel-vaulted building, rectangular in plan, with a gable in the front, west-facing parapet. It measures 14'6" wide, 17'6" deep and 11'6" high at the top of the gable. All facades except the front are whitewashed. There are two gutters through all wythes of brick on the rear of the structure to drain the roof. The iron door, made at Bethlehem Steel in Baltimore, carries a foliate and diamond motif in the center and hangs on strap hinges within a marble frame of quoins. The quoins are Maryland marble from the local quarry at Beaver Dam,

<sup>3</sup>Carneck, 176.

<sup>4</sup>Karen S. Kiest, "Czech Cemeteries in Nebraska 1868: Cultural Imprints on the Prairie," in *Ethnicity and the American Cemetery*, ed. Richard Meyer (Bowling Green, Ohio: Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1993), 81-103.

<sup>5</sup>Joyce Corbett, Curatorial Consultant, Mingei International Museum of Art, San Diego, personal communication with MD SHPO, September 9, 2010.

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the type also used at Baltimore City Hall.<sup>6</sup> The marble lintel over the door carries the date, "1897." Set into the brick gable above the door is a marble plaque with carvings of the initials "C.S. P.S" and two clasped hands. A marble cornerstone is set into the south end of the front wall. In November 2009, Structural Preservation Systems completed exterior restoration and stabilization work including mortar repointing, repair of the parge coat on the roof, and masonry repair.

The caretaker's cottage is a one-story brick structure, rectangular in plan, with a shingle roof, built in the 1930s. It is 34' wide and 24' deep with a height of 45'. The ridge of the roof is aligned on a north-south axis. The primary entrance is on the east facade, opening to the asphalt parking area, and is comprised of four bays in an asymmetrical configuration, with a door toward the northern end flanked by a window to its north and two windows to its south. The rear façade has three bays, its off-center door flanked by windows. Both gable ends feature two windows at the main level with a small window centered at the attic level. On the north gable a brick chimney stack is set to the east of the attic window.

The interior of the cottage consists of three levels, a basement, main level, and attic. The living space on the main level consists of two rooms, a family room, a bathroom and a kitchen. The attic and basement are used for storage. The main level has been improved with repairs to the kitchen, hard wood flooring, bathroom and walls, but there have been no structural changes to the floor plan from its original construction.

The cottage is located on a part of the cemetery grounds that was used as a meeting place for the Grand Lodge Č.S.P.S. and as picnic grounds for the Czech-Bohemian community. "The cemetery came to have a greater role in the social affairs of the community...funerals provided an opportunity to focus the community around its cultural unity."<sup>7</sup> Indicative of cultural activities sponsored by the lodge, the local Czech SOKOL gymnastics group would perform outdoor exhibitions in this area.

The carriage house is a one-story concrete block garage with an asphalt-shingle roof, built in the 1930s. It is referred to as a carriage house, although it was built after the era of horse-drawn transportation. It has always been used as a garge and storage facility for the cemetery and cottage.<sup>8</sup> It is 38' wide, 18' high and 14' deep. In 2009 the original doors on the south façade were replaced with three Spanish cedar wood double doors.

"Foliage was used extensively in the Freethinker [Protestant] cemeteries, with a preference for tall evergreens that resembled European forests."<sup>9</sup> The perimeter of the cemetery, inside the fence, reflects this tradition. There is a series of evergreens situated between the cemetery and the caretaker's cottage. On the cemetery side of the tree line is a large tulip poplar, the oldest on the property. The first two gravesites, from early 1885, are

<sup>6</sup> Verified by Vince Armeni, general supervisor and mason, Structural Preservation Systems, Baltimore, Md.

<sup>7</sup> Kiest, 97.

<sup>8</sup> Oral history, Louise Pauline Zeman Taborsky.

<sup>9</sup> Carneck, 176.

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located next to this tree. The cemetery is primarily covered in grass with some gravesites covered in ivy, the two options available to those purchasing lots.

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### Summary Statement of Significance:

The Bohemian National Cemetery of Baltimore, Česko Národní Hřbitov, is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for its association with Eastern European history in Baltimore, Maryland. The site is one of the first and most visible signs of the Czech and Slovak community in Baltimore, built in 1884 by the Bohemian Cemetery Company of the Grand Lodge Č.S.P.S. to provide a burial grounds and social gathering place for immigrants. It has been an essential part of the Czech-Bohemian community since its inception, serving not only as a cemetery, but also as a multi-cultural gathering place. The Baltimore chapter of the Grand Lodge Č.S.P.S. still exists today and continues its mission of preserving the community's culture, establishing and preserving both a manuscript and an artifact collection, and maintaining the cemetery.

The period of significance begins in 1884 with the cemetery's construction and ends in 1959, a date fifty years in the past. A more specific date cannot be defined to end the historic period. The cemetery is still in use as a burial ground and meeting place for the Grand Lodge.

### Resource History and Historic Context:

Large-scale emigration to Baltimore by Bohemians can be traced back to the 1840s when Europe was engulfed in war and revolutionary upheaval, but the greatest increase in immigration came after 1881. The immigrants originally were from Bohemia, a part of the Austrian Empire, later Austria-Hungary, that became part of the Republic of Czechoslovakia after World War I. Many emigrated on the Lloyd Line from Bremen, Germany, to Locust Point in South Baltimore. By the 1880s, Baltimore had a substantial Bohemian population, trailing behind larger cities like Chicago and New York. Most of the Czechs settled in East Baltimore, from Broadway east along Washington, Chapel, and North Rose streets, Montford Avenue, and the surrounding area. They worked predominantly as garment workers, bakers and carpenters.<sup>10</sup> The majority of both men and women worked in some aspect of the sewing trade.<sup>11</sup> They attended church at St. Wenceslas, Mount Tabor Methodist-Episcopal, where the hymnal was in the Czech language, and the Presbyterian Church at Washington Street and Ashland Avenue. By the late 1880s seven building and loan associations had been formed within the community. The building and loan associations functioned democratically; most of the directors or incorporators were made up of artisans, tradesmen, small businessmen and laborers. Therefore, both directors and borrowers were from the same socio-economic class, often based in the neighborhood and working together to improve the community.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>10</sup>Stephanie Saxon-Ford, *The Czech Americans* (New York: Chelsea House Publishers), 1989.

<sup>11</sup>Mary Ellen Hayward, East Monument Historic District (B-5162) National Register Nomination, 2009, 8.2.

<sup>12</sup>Hayward, 8.9-10

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Bohemians were divided into two camps, Catholics and Protestants. In Baltimore there was a strong community of Protestant Bohemians who, in 1884, formed a local chapter of the Grand Lodge Č.S.P.S. (Česko Slovanská Podporující Společnost). The group was incorporated with goals of establishing a Bohemian elementary school, acclimating Czech-Bohemian immigrants into the Baltimore community, and promoting, uplifting, and defending the Bohemian nationality in this country. They rented the cemetery land until March 22, 1895, when they purchased it from Robert & Martha McClintock. The McClintocks had purchased the property in May of 1892 from Richard Stumph. The cemetery land was purchased with \$2,000.00 capital, raised from 100 lodge members. At this time the cemetery and park areas were surrounded by farmland and pastures leading to a wooded area and the Herring Run Stream.<sup>13</sup>

The cemetery is a representation not only of the original Bohemians, but the Czech-Bohemian-Moravian-Slovak community that has established itself in and around Baltimore City over the past 120 years. In addition to serving as a nationally-recognized burial ground, it was a site for social gatherings and meetings. Prior to the automobile, families would take the trolley line from President Street to Orangeville or horse-drawn buses to the cemetery grounds for dances, games, picnics, meetings of the local chapter of the lodge, or to watch the Národní Jednota Sokolska (SOKOL) perform various athletic activities, tournaments, and exhibitions.<sup>14</sup> The SOKOL has a rich tradition originating back to the fitness movement started in Praha in 1862. The group promoted physical, moral, and mental training for all classes of Slavic peoples and formed one of the cornerstones of Czech-Bohemian lifestyle and a means to perpetuate the language and culture.

The cemetery's significance rests not only in the site's aesthetics and history, but also in the significance of the people who are buried there. Among the over 4,000 plots at the cemetery are prominent local politicians, business people, athletes, doctors, and laborers who exemplified the Czech-Bohemian community and its importance to Baltimore history. The various designs and adornments on the markers and headstones represent the individuality of those buried here and identify something about their occupation, hobbies, and/or the way they died.

Colonel Vaclav J. Shimek (1851-1912) was a businessman and leader of the Czech community. He built the Bohemian Hall on North Broadway in downtown Baltimore, started the local Czech newspaper, the *Telegraf*, and was a highly respected and influential community and Democratic political leader. He was referred to as the Bohemian Mayor of Northeast Baltimore.<sup>15</sup> Frank Zeman, Sr. (1868-1943) was a prominent local musician who played at the Peabody Conservatory, taught music out of his home, and often played with his good friend John Phillip Sousa in Fells Point. August Klecka (1878-1946), was a leader among Bohemian-American Democrats in the city, a Baltimore City Council member from the 2nd District and the council's vice president. He also served as U.S. Marshall for Maryland from 1933 to 1946, appointed by President Franklin Delano

<sup>13</sup>Rules and By-Laws of the Bohemian National Cemetery of the Grand Lodge Č.S.P.S. 1 Oct. 1884.

<sup>14</sup>"Skill and Strength: The Athletic Bohemians." *Baltimore Sun*, August 20, 1889, Supplement.

<sup>15</sup>"Many Visitors Called: The Bohemian Mayor of Northeast Baltimore." *Baltimore Sun*, April 28, 1896.

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Roosevelt. Jaroslav J. Rokos (1871-1913) was a businessman who operated a bakery and pioneered the delivery of bakery products to groceries. Dr. William J. Rysanek (1883-1960) was the primary care physician for most of Baltimore's Bohemians. He was an inspiration to the city of Baltimore for his "splendid life of unselfish devotion" to persons who had come under his care for over fifty years. Agnes Svedja (1890-1972) was an instrumental female leader in the community and a driving force in teaching culture and traditions to young Czech-Americans. She formed two groups that were affiliated with the Women's Civic League, the Augustine Herrman Czech-American Civic Association in 1932 and the Argonne Association in 1965. She also helped form two historical societies, the Augustine Herrman Historical Society and the Charles Carroll American Heritage Association. Mrs. Svedja was a key figure in renaming the section of Maryland Route 213 between Elkton and Chestertown the Augustine Herrman Highway, honoring Maryland's first Bohemian immigrant.

Rudy Parizkek (1894-1974) was a Bohemian artist, best known for his landscape oil paintings, notably the painting *Call to Freedom* which depicts the creation of the Czech flag in Praha. Frank Ulrich (1899-1929) was a promising professional baseball player, pitcher and batter, who began his career with the original Baltimore Orioles and at his untimely death had just signed a contract with the Philadelphia Phillies. Frank J. Franz (1909-1958) was a Staff Sergeant who was awarded a Purple Heart for injuries sustained during World War II. Frank J. Pelz (1912-1988) served overseas during WWII and began a career in public service in 1945 as the criminal court clerk for the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City. He remained in that position for sixteen years until he was named Baltimore City Sheriff, a position he held until retiring in 1973. Joseph V. Mach (1921-1986) served as state delegate and senator in the Maryland General Assembly, Baltimore City councilman, and after leaving elective office joined the Maryland State Lottery as a field agent for thirteen years until his death; his gravesite is marked with a wishbone. Sgt. William R. Jecelin (1930-1950) was a posthumous recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for his ultimate sacrifice to save those around him in combat during the Korean War.

Emil Taborsky (1919-2005) was born of Czech immigrants. He became an executive at two long-standing Baltimore paper companies, the Waverly Press and the Lord Baltimore Press and Vice-President of Fairmount Savings and Loan (a Bohemian institution). He was active in the Czech-Bohemian community as a long-time SOKOL gymnast and treasurer, an accomplished semi-professional baseball player in the Bohemian league, a business leader, and a Czech historian. Mr. Taborsky helped to facilitate the immigration of Czechs to America during the Communist regime.

The Bohemian National Cemetery is a record of Baltimore's ethnic Czech-Bohemian past. It was built and flourished during Baltimore's highest period of Eastern European immigration from 1880-1912. Czech-Bohemians established communities throughout the enclaves and neighborhoods of Baltimore, communities that are distinctive of their ethnic culture even today. The Bohemian National Cemetery is an active burial ground and site for gatherings and activities. The refurbished cottage and carriage house still serve the Grand Lodge C.S.P.S., active and leading the effort to restore the site as a historically recognized place, as well as collect and preserve artifacts, documents, photographs, and ephemera from the city's Bohemian past.

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Bohemian National Cemetery

Name of Property

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### Major Bibliographical References:

#### Books:

- Argersbinger, Jo Ann E. *Making the Amalgamated: Gender, Ethnicity, and Class in the Baltimore Clothing Industry, 1899-1939*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999.
- Capek, Thomas. *The Czechs in America*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1920.
- Carmeck, Sharon DeBartolo. *Your Guide to Cemetery Research*. Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, 2002.
- Kiest, Karen S. "Czech Cemeteries in Nebraska from 1368: Cultural Imprints on the Prairie." In *Ethnicity and the American Cemetery*, ed. Richard E. Meyer, 77-103. Bowling Green, Ohio: Bowling State University Popular Press, 1993.
- Saxon-Ford, Stephanie. *The Czech Americans*. New York: Chelsea House Publishers, 1989.
- Wilson, Jane Bremly, "The Very Quiet Baltimoreans." White Main Publishing, Inc., 1991.

#### Articles:

- Baltimore Sun*, June 11, 1884.
- Baltimore Sun*, September 18, 1884.
- Baltimore Evening Sun*, December 21, 1972.
- "Many Visitors Called: The Bohemian Mayor of Northeast Baltimore." *Baltimore Sun*, April 28, 1896.
- "Skill and Strength: The Athletic Bohemians." *Baltimore Sun*, August 20, 1889, Supplement.
- Gardner, Michael. "Wachuwannano." *Construction Dimensions*, June, 1998.
- Primus, James. "I remember...Sixty-Four Years of SOKOL Activity." *Sunday Sun Magazine*, June 14, 1959.
- McCardell, Lee. "Baltimore's Czech Colony Grew From Small Group Settling at Fells Point." *Baltimore Evening Sun*.

#### Legal & Miscellaneous:

- Certificate of Incorporation for the Bohemian National Cemetery Company of Baltimore City Grand Lodge of Č.S.P.S., Baltimore City Hall of Records, Baltimore, MD, March 22, 1895.
- Rules and By-laws of the Bohemian National Cemetery of the Grand Lodge Č.S.P.S. 1 Oct. 1884.
- Survey by Charles B. Mc Clean for Joseph Varina and others, Office of County Surveyor for Baltimore County, Baltimore City Hall of Records, Baltimore, MD, November 15, 1884.
- Huebel, Frank J., Sokols and Narodni, Bohemian National Cemetery Newsletter, 1983.
- Hayward, Mary Ellen. East Monument Historic District (Baltimore City) National Register Nomination, 2009.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

B-5167  
Bohemian National Cemetery

Name of Property

Baltimore City, MD

County and State

Section 10 Page 1

## Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries of the nominated property are defined in Baltimore County land records as Block 6172, Lot 005.

## Boundary Justification:

The nominated property encompasses the acreage historically associated with the resource.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

B-5167  
Bohemian National Cemetery

Name of Property

Baltimore City, MD

County and State

Section PHOTO Page 1

### Index to Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs which accompany this documentation:

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) Number: B-5167

Name of Property: Bohemian National Cemetery

Location: Baltimore (independent city), Maryland

Location of original digital files: MD SHPO

Photo captions:

MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0001.tif

Photographer: Brian James Reamer

Date taken: September 30, 2009

Front gate, camera facing west

MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0002.tif

Photographer: Brian James Reamer

Date taken: October 22, 2009

Crypt, view from southwest

MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0003.tif

Photographer: Brian James Reamer

Date taken: November 9, 2009

Crypt, west façade, door detail

MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0004.tif

Photographer: Brian James Reamer

Date taken: November 9, 2009

Cottage, view from southeast

MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0005.tif

Photographer: Brian James Reamer

Date taken: October 22, 2009

Carriage house, view from southeast

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

B-5167  
Bohemian National Cemetery  
Name of Property

Baltimore City, MD  
County and State

Section PHOTO Page 2

MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0006.tif  
Photographer: Brian James Reamer  
Date taken: October 23, 2009  
Carriage house, view from north, monument in foreground

MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0007.tif  
Photographer: Brian James Reamer  
Date taken: October 23, 2009  
Klecka headstones

MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0008.tif  
Photographer: Brian James Reamer  
Date taken: October 22, 2009  
Cemetery grounds, view northwest

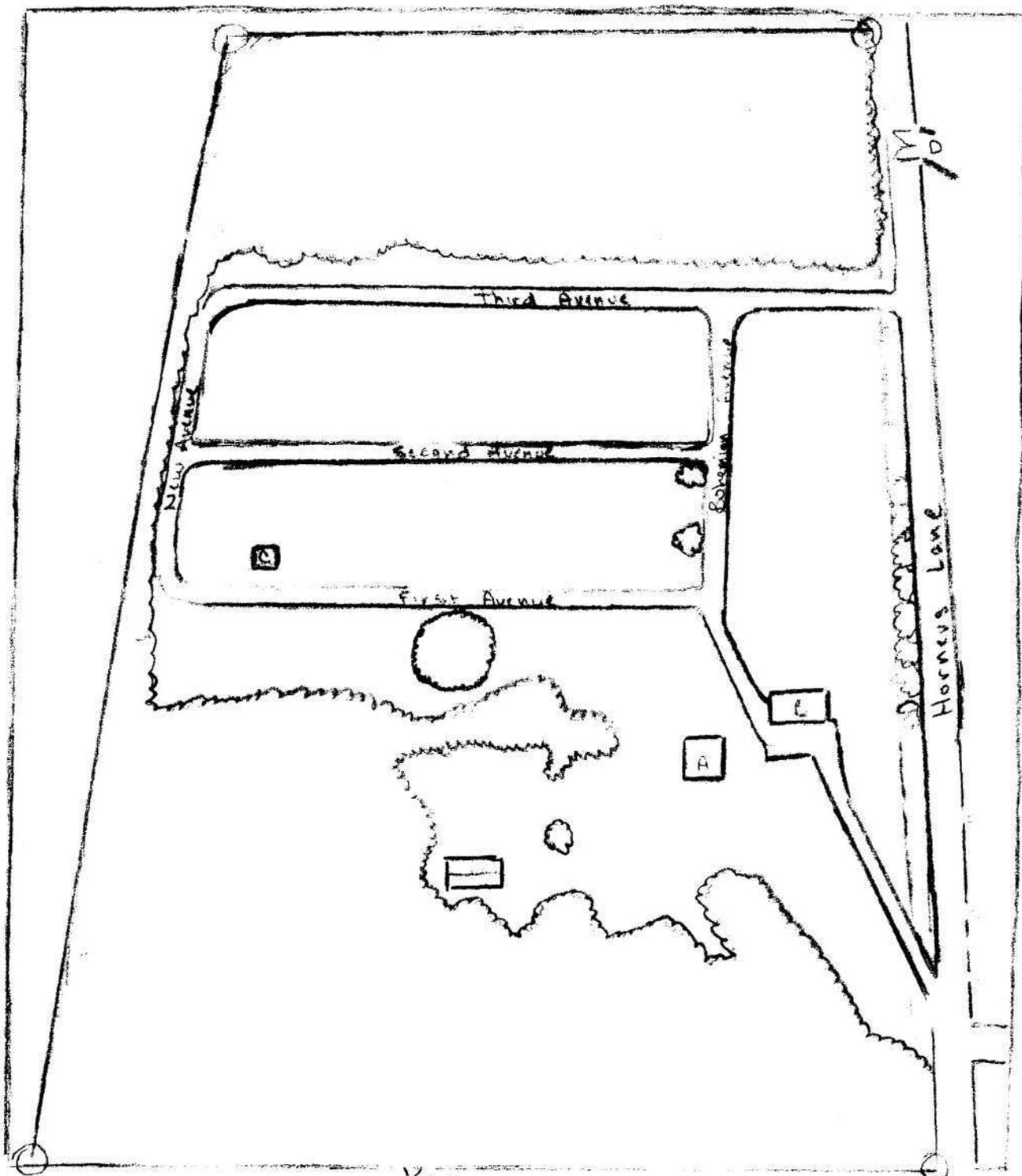
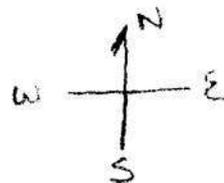
MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0009.tif  
Photographer: Brian James Reamer  
Date taken: October 22, 2009  
Surednik monument

MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0010.tif  
Photographer: Brian James Reamer  
Date taken: October 22, 2009  
Shimek monument

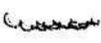
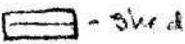
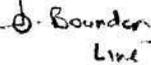
MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0011.tif  
Photographer: Brian James Reamer  
Date taken: October 22, 2009  
Intertwined tree motif monument

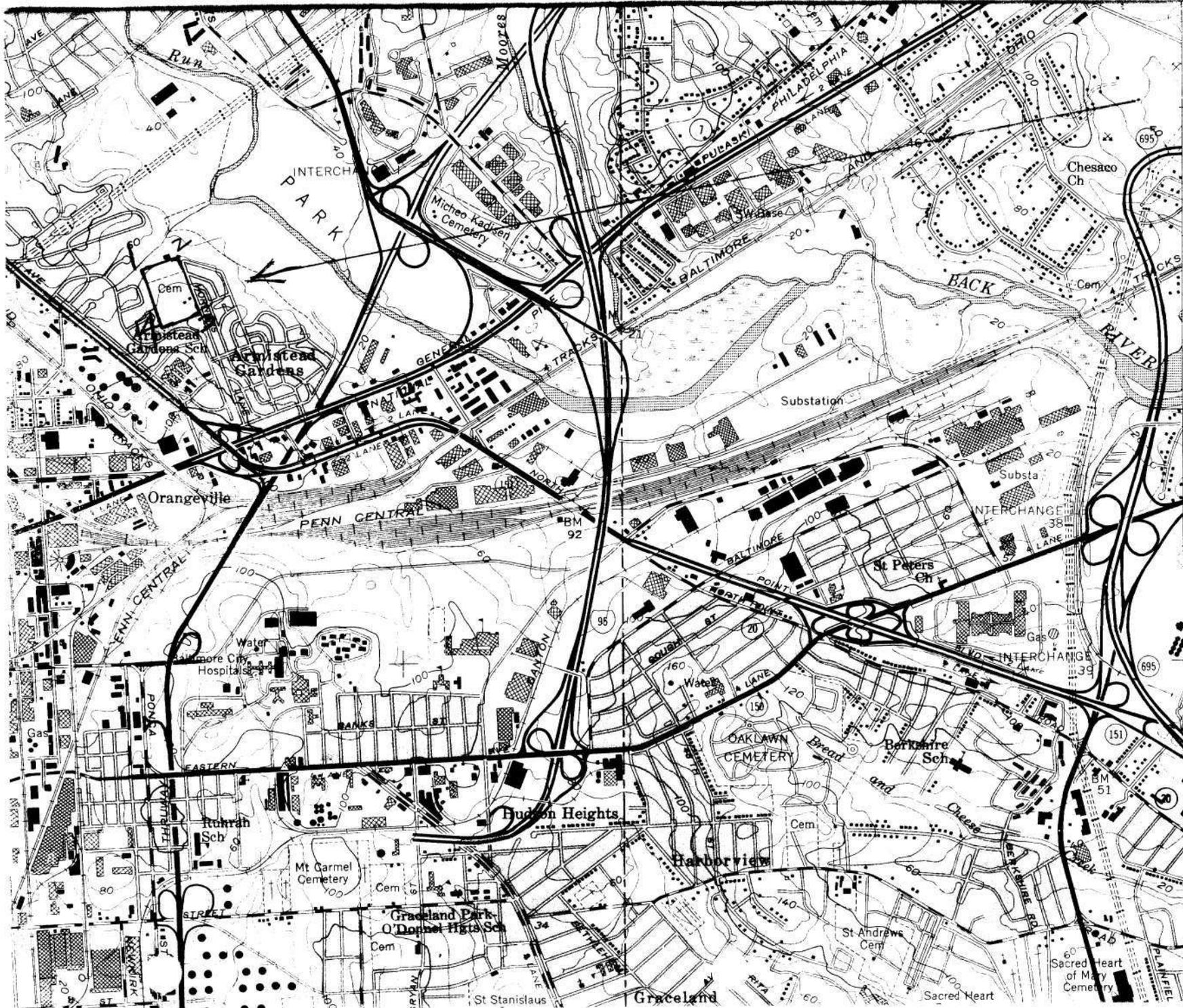
MD\_BaltimoreCity\_BohemianNationalCemetery\_0012.tif  
Photographer: Brian James Reamer  
Date taken: October 22, 2009  
Hilser headstone, Grand Lodge C.S.P.S handshake emblem

Sketch Map, not to scale  
 B-5167  
 Bohemian National Cemetery  
 Baltimore City, MD



Contributing Resources Key  
 [A] - Caretaker's Cottage  
 [B] - Carriage House  
 [C] - Vault  
 D - Front Gateway

 - Trees  
 - Tree Line  
 - Tulip Poplar, oldest tree on property  
 - Shed  
 - Boundary Line  
 - Boundary  
 - Road



4353  
 (MIDDLE RIVER) 5762 IV SW  
 4352  
 ESSEX 1.3 MI  
 MIDDLE RIVER 1.7 MI  
 17'30"  
 NORTH POINT 1.3 MI  
 SPARROWS POINT 4.3 MI

B-5167  
 Bohemian  
 National Cemetery  
 Baltimore City,  
 MD

- UTM References:
1. 18/365900/4351927
  2. 18/366063/4352001
  3. 18/366158/4351732
  4. 18/365996/4351665

BOHEMIAN  
NATIONAL CEMETERY



B-5167\_2009-09-09\_01

September 9, 2009

C. Jeanne Tabor sky

Front gate, view west



B-5167-2009-11-09-02

November 9, 2009

Brian James Reamer

Crypt, West and south facade



B-5167-2009-11-09-03

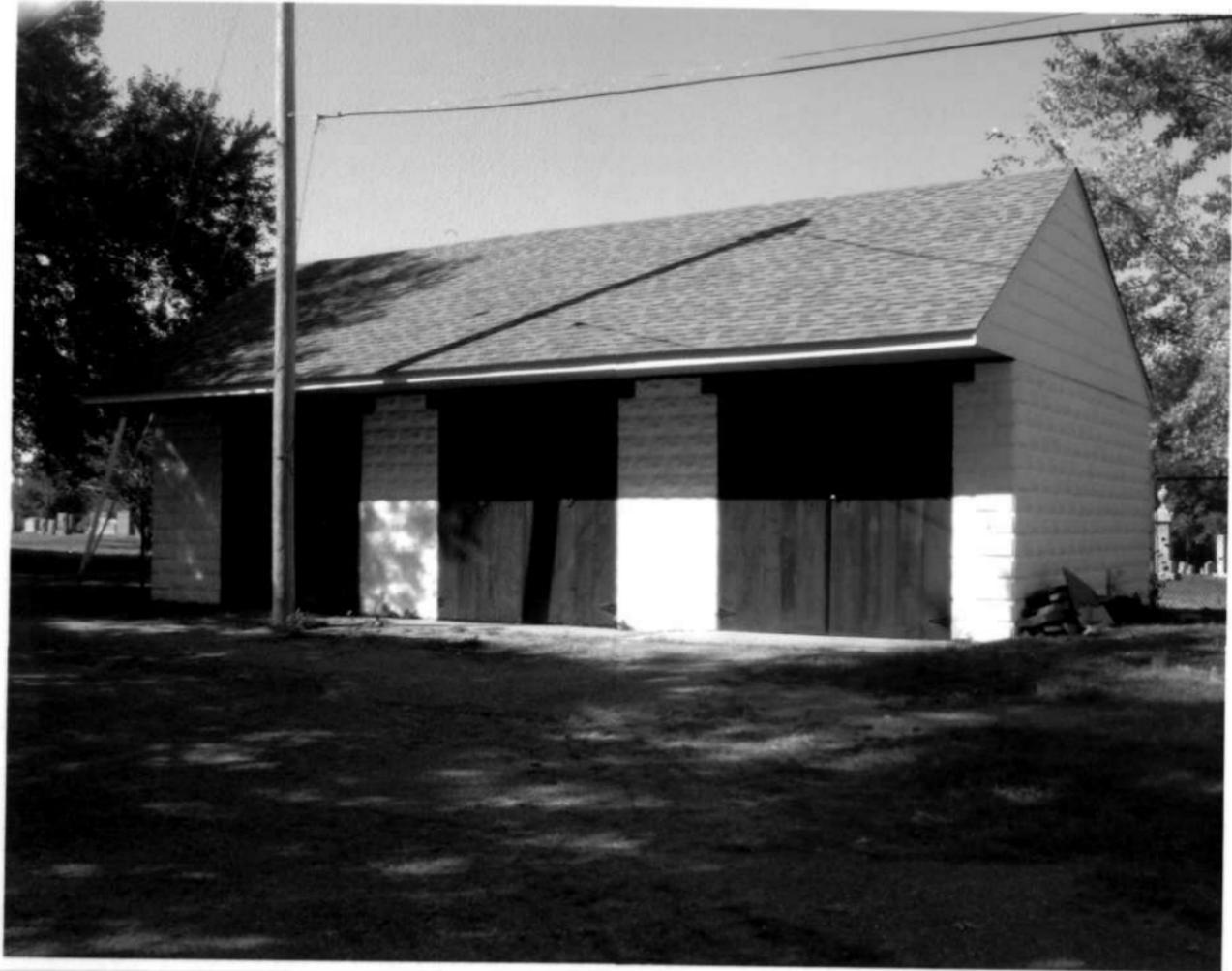
November 9, 2009

Brian James Reamer

Crypt, west facade, front door.



B-5167-2009-10-22-04  
October 22, 2009  
Brian James Reamer  
Cottage, east facade



B-5167\_2009-10-23\_05

October 23, 2009

Brian James Reamer

Carriage house, south facade



B-5167-2009-10-23-06

October 23, 2009

Brian James Reamer

Carriage house, north facade, gravestone  
in forefront.



ZDE ODPOČÍVA  
MARIE KLECKA,  
NAROZENÁ 11<sup>HO</sup> ÚNORA 1851,  
ZEMŘELÁ 25<sup>HO</sup> DUBNA 1913,  
S PÍ SLADCE.



ZDE ODPOČÍVÁ  
JOSEF KLECKA,  
NAROZEN 4<sup>HO</sup> BŘEZNA 1854,  
ZEMŘEL 17<sup>HO</sup> LEDNA 1926,  
S PÍ SLADCE.

B-5167-2009-10-22-07

October 22, 2009

Brian James Reamer

Klecka headstones



B-5167-2009-10-22-08

October 22, 2009

Brian James Reamer

Northwest view of cemetery grounds



**RUZICKA**

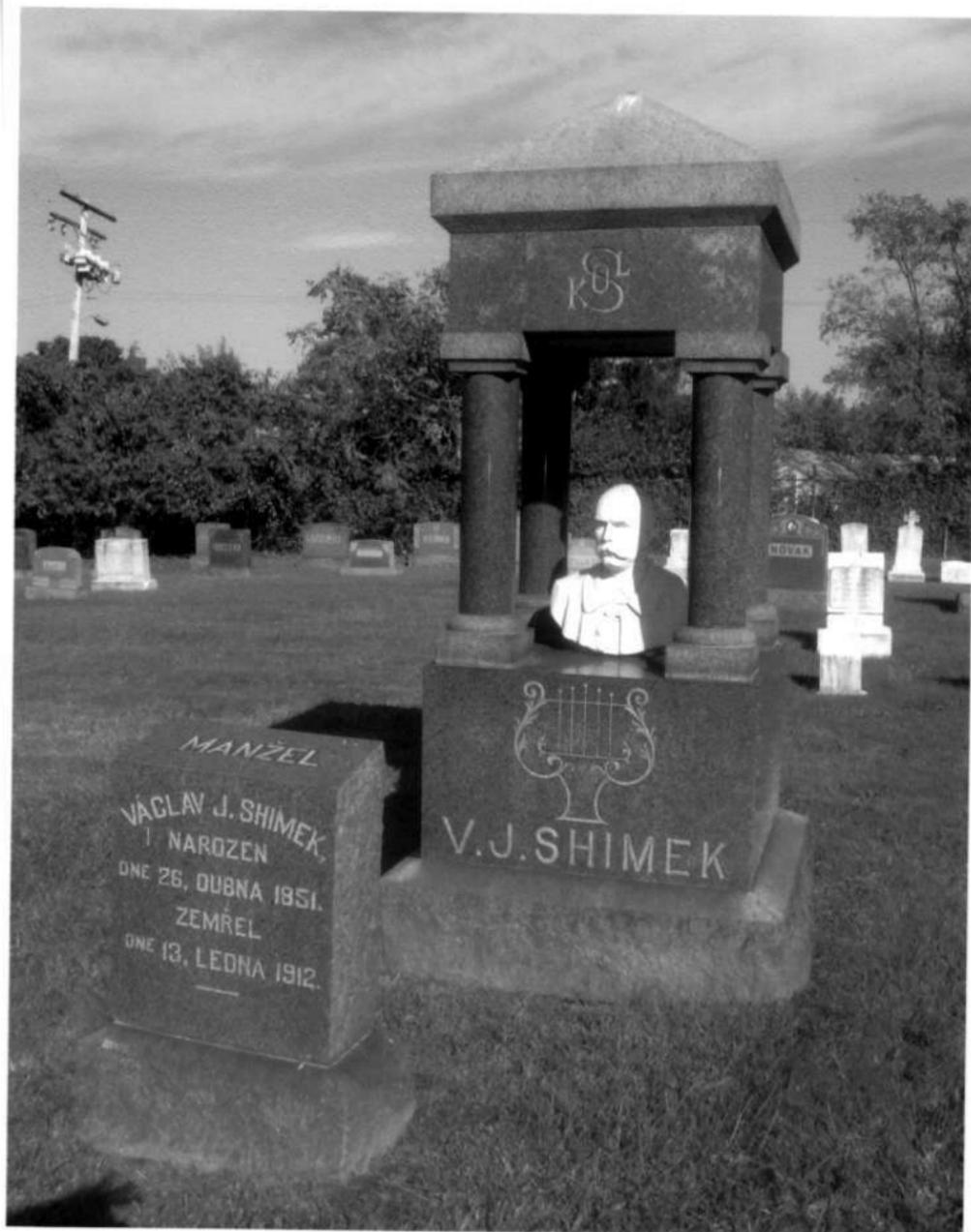
OUR LOVING SON RUDOLPH  
CHARLES J. SOPHIE L.  
1890 - 1925 1887 - 1975  
JOHN F. RUZICKA  
1899 - 1944

B-5167-2009-10-22-09

October 22, 2009

Brian James Reave

~~Headstone~~



MANŽEL

VÁCLAV J. SHIMEK  
1 NAROZEN  
DNE 26. DUBNA 1851.  
ZEMŘEL  
DNE 13. LEDNA 1912.

V.J. SHIMEK

B-5167\_ 2009-10-22 - 10

October 22, 2009

Brian Jones Keener

Shimok headstone

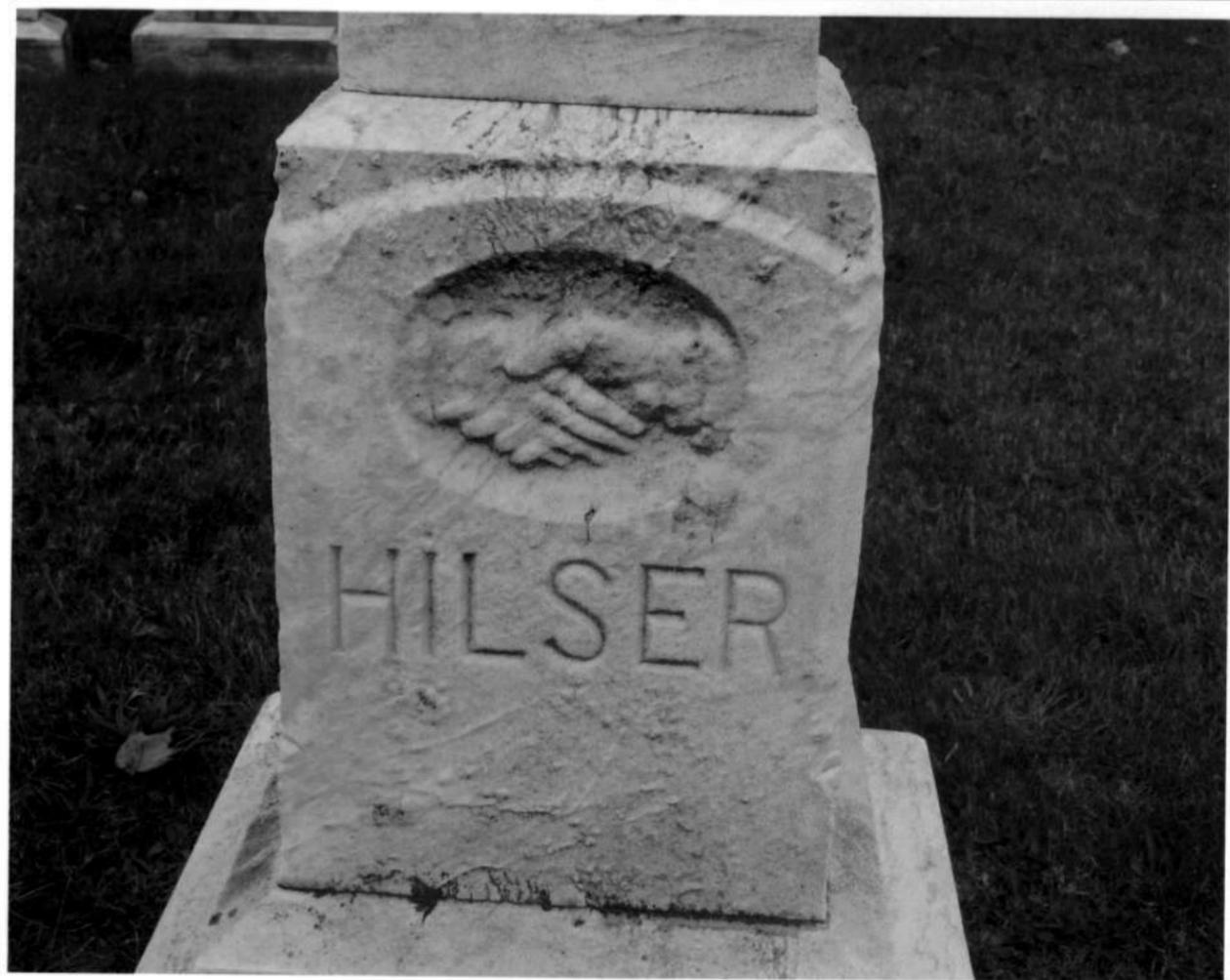


B-5167-2009-10-22-11

October 22, 2009

Brian James Reamer

Intertwined tree headstone



HILSER

B-5167-2009-09-30-12

September 30, 2009

C. Jeanne Taborsky

Headstone with Grand Lodge C.S.P.S. emblem