# Oregon Historic Site Record

**LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME** 

address: 750 7th St

Coos Bay, Coos County

height (stories):

1945

assoc addresses: location descr:

750 Ingersoll Ave

historic name: current/other names: Marshfield IOOF Cemetery

total inelig resources:

Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery

Individually Listed

08/17/2012

block/lot/tax lot:

total elig resources:

date indiv listed:

orig use comments:

prim style comments:

sec style comments:

siding comments:

NR Status:

twnshp/rng/sect/qtr sect: 25S 13W 35

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

resource type: District

elig evaluation: eligible/significant second date:

prim constr date: 1888 primary orig use:

Cemetery

primary style: Victorian Era: Other secondary style: Late 19th/20th Period Revivals: Other

primary siding: Marble secondary siding:

plan type:

second orig use:

Granite

architect: builder:

comments/notes:

### **GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS**

Not associated with any surveys or groupings

#### SHPO INFORMATION FOR THIS PROPERTY

NR date listed: 08/17/2012

ILS survey date: RLS survey date:

02/25/2008 Gen file date:

106 Project(s):

Special Assess Project(s):

Federal Tax Project(s):

None

None

None

## ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

(Includes expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings and alterations)

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is located on a hillside within the city limits of Coos Bay, Oregon, approximately 0.4 miles from the city hall, on Tax Lot 2900 in Township 25 South, Range 13 West, Section 34, Willamette Meridian. The 3.86-acre district contains approximately 2,024 burials. There are approximately 1,098 headstones, reflecting late nineteenth-century Victorian and subsequent stylistic trends, and erected primarily between 1888 and 1945. Upright marble and granite headstones, with curbing around individual and family plots, predominate. The southern side of the cemetery is bounded by a contributing structure in the form of a rock retaining wall topped with arches. The cemetery also has three contributing objects. In 1915, a monument commemorating the local Civil War dead was erected on a highly visible plot near the cemetery's center. On the private family plot of the original owner of the cemetery property there is an elaborate, 15-ft. tall granite monument, with the marble statue of an angel. The third contributing object is a family mausoleum built for a wealthy local businessman, constructed of gray granite.

## **HISTORY**

(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period - preferably to the present)

Statement of Significance Summary. The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, located in Coos Bay, Oregon, is locally significant for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, Community Planning and Development and Social History, and meets the special registration requirements for cemeteries under Criteria Consideration D, because of its connections with the settlement and development of the City of Marshfield, and the larger Coos Bay region, during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The purchase of the cemetery property by the newly formed Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation in 1888 corresponded with the region's development from a rural outpost into an urban center with international connections. Although Coos Bay was discovered as early as 1852, the bay's isolation precluded the region's economic expansion until the late nineteenth century. Immigrants, disillusioned gold seekers, displaced Civil War veterans, and other entrepreneurs found opportunities in the Coos Bay region during the last decades of the nineteenth century. The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery served as the community cemetery for the residents in the Coos Bay region, regardless of their ethnicity or socioeconomic status. The period of significance begins in 1888 with the establishment of the cemetery by the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation and ends in 1945 when the City of Coos Bay took active possession of the cemetery following the passage of state legislation that assured city officials that they would be able to use public funds for the cemetery's upkeep, just as if it was a city park. Criteria Consideration. The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery meets the special requirements for National Register listing under Criterion Consideration D because of its important historic associations with the growth and development of the Coos Bay region in the late nineteenth century. At this time, the Coos Bay region was a flourishing community of individuals from around the world, connected internationally by a complex maritime network. A limited number of sites, primarily private houses, have survived from this period and are representative of only a small portion of the people who lived and worked in the region. The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is the final resting place for people from twenty-seven countries, representing all socio-economic classes, who collectively succeeded in making Coos Bay the principal port between San Francisco, California and Portland, Oregon, establishing strong maritime and cultural ties worldwide.

## RESEARCH INFORMATION

Title Records Sanborn Maps Obituaries

City Directories

Census Records **Biographical Sources** Newspapers **Building Permits** 

Property Tax Records SHPO Files State Archives State Library

 Local Histories Interviews Historic Photographs

Local Library:

University Library:

**Historical Society:** Other Respository: Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery database

Bibliography:

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