Final

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Butler Community Mausoleum

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number County Road 28 East, east of County Road 71 [ ] not for publication

city or town Butler [x] vicinity

state Indiana code IN county DeKalb code 033 zip code 46721

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _x_ 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 _x_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ **national** ___ **statewide** _x_ **local**

Signature of certifying official/Title 1-29-2014 Date

Indiana DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:)

Patrick Andrus 3/25/2014
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

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

- [x] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

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

- [x] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
1	0	**Total**

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

The Early Community Mausoleum Movement in Indiana

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: graves/burials

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: graves/burials

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:

Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE: Limestone
walls: STONE: Limestone
roof: TERRA COTTA
other: METAL: Bronze

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The community mausoleum of Butler is located just north of the center of the Butler Cemetery. The cemetery is a public burial ground for the community of Butler and is located east of the community in a mostly rural setting. The mausoleum is approximately 36' wide by 78' long with a central entry on its south wall. The mausoleum is reminiscent of Early Christian basilicas with a vestibule and central aisle plan configuration. Its walls are composed of limestone and it has red tiles on its roofs. The floor is covered with ceramic mosaics and the crypts are clad with marble. The building was constructed in 1914 and the first interments were made the same year.

Narrative Description

The Butler community mausoleum is positioned near the center of the cemetery on the north side of the main east/west drive that divides the cemetery in half. This main drive has four connecting drives that are entrances off of the county road on the south (front) side of the cemetery. A war memorial is located in an area that is encircled by a driveway; it is on axis with an entry drive. The memorial is located east of the mausoleum and another entry drive is located just west of the mausoleum. There are graves on each side of the mausoleum.

The mausoleum is comprised of two sections – a tall vestibule at the front of the building, and a long nave-like wing with clerestory (photo 3). A stepped parapet wall terminates the wing on its north side. A course of smooth limestone block with water table provides the foundation for the building.The mausoleum's walls are composed entirely of a combination of smooth and rock-faced rusticated limestone. The vestibule walls have a reverse pattern of smooth block for corner quoins and rusticated block for the rest of the wall. The smooth limestone quoins merge into the topmost course of wall masonry, cornice, parapet, and projecting central entrance surround. The lower walls of the nave-like wing are rusticated while the clerestory walls are smooth block. The building's roofs are covered with red clay tile that has French-cut appearance while the corners of the building and midpoints of the wing are punctuated by short buttresses that appear more decorative than functional.

The vestibule façade (photo 2) is divided into three sections by the full-height projecting entrance feature. The entrance opening is enriched by a pair of Roman Doric columns set on plinths flanking the doorway. The columns support a thin lintel shelf that separates the recessed transom window from a pair of bronze doors that have recessed panels. The transom is divided into three sections of art glass. It is surrounded on three sides by several bands of molding in stone. The two sections of the vestibule flanking the entrance each have a single, narrow, art glass window recessed within a molded frame on the south face and louvered vents on the east and west walls. The vestibule's cornice is a simple combination of cavetto and cyma reversa moldings that wraps around three sides of the upper wall but does not continue on the north face.

The rear (north) wall of the mausoleum is composed of rusticated block and smooth quoins (photo 0004). The wall forms a stepped parapet that terminates the nave-like wing. A single light rectangular window is centrally located in the lower half of the wall. It is recessed within a molded surround. Three louvered vents are set in a triangular arrangement in the upper half of the wall.

The interior of the building has a central hall on axis with the entry (photo 0001). The vestibule area is separated from the nave by marble-clad walls approximately two feet wide. These dividing walls are the height of the walls beneath the clerestory area. The floor is covered with small hexagonal white ceramic mosaic tiles. A Greek-key pattern composed of black tiles forms a border in the floor. The clerestory walls and ceiling are covered with plaster are painted white.

Crypts are located in the east and west walls of the vestibule and the central hall. There are three rows of crypts vertically placed in each wall and approximately one hundred and sixty total crypts in the building. Each crypt is divided by a marble frame and is covered by a marble panel engraved with the deceased's name and birth and death years. Much of the

engraving is highlighted with gold lettering. The north and south (entry) walls are also clad with marble. The marble used in the building is white with dark gray veining.

The earliest interments date to 1914 though a few deceased family members were reinterred in the crypts after the building was constructed. Most of the interments date from 1914 through the 1950s. Only a few crypts remain unoccupied. Frances Marion Emerick (1858-1920) and his wife, Myrtle (she went by "Mary", 1873-1959) are interred in the Butler mausoleum. Francis (his name apparently was misspelled on the stone; he went by "Frank") was a salesman for the mausoleum company in Ohio responsible for the design of the Butler building. Frank Emerick was the driving force behind community mausolea in DeKalb County, Indiana.

Butler Community Mausoleum
Name of Property

DeKalb County, IN
County and State

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.)

[x] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

[ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

[x] 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.

[X] D a cemetery.

[ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

[ ] F a commemorative property.

[ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance
1914

Significant Dates

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
Ohio Mausoleum Company

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance is 1914, the year the mausoleum was constructed. Although the mausoleum continued to be used for interments into the 1960s, the areas of significance of architecture, engineering, and social history culminated with the construction of individual mausolea.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)
Criterion Consideration D has been checked because the mausoleum is located within a cemetery. However, the Butler Community Mausoleum is eligible for its significance as an architectural type and as a social history artifact. Only the mausoleum, not the entire cemetery falls within the boundary of what is being nominated.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Butler Mausoleum is eligible for the National Register under criteria A and C. It is eligible under criterion A because of the community's embrace of a burial method not previously practiced in the United States. This represents a shift in cultural and social norms and is significant under social history. The mausoleum is eligible under criterion C because of its high level of architectural craftsmanship. The mausoleum has the associative and physical qualities specified in the registration requirements of the Early Community Mausoleum Movement in Indiana Multiple Properties Documentation Form.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

The development of the community mausoleum was a new concept for burial in the United States when it was designed and promoted during the first years of the 20th century. The community mausoleum movement began in Ohio and expanded across the United States. Possibly due to the exposure they had given their proximity to the Ohio border, the community mausoleum movement's early years found a receptive audience in DeKalb County where every community of any considerable size constructed mausoleums between 1914 and 1922. Butler was the first community in DeKalb County to construct a community mausoleum in 1914.

The construction of mausolea during this early period was more typical of small family vaults; the construction of community mausolea was infrequent and was usually reserved for larger communities or urban areas. The rural nature and subsequent size of Butler is an unusual condition in which to find a community mausoleum constructed during the early 20th century. The importance of Butler's mausoleum was evident in its position when the town's new cemetery was designed. While the city beautiful movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries typically had little impact on small rural communities, one location where this was concept was often implemented was the platting of town cemeteries. The concept included features like winding drives and round-a-bouts that had memorials in their centers. The Butler Mausoleum became a focal point, second only to the war memorial, in the cemetery plan.

Community mausolea were promoted for several reasons. Mausolea were promoted as a return to a more sensitive and respective way to deal with the remains of the departed. By the placement of the remains of family members in an above ground crypt versus the placement of remains in the ground it was thought that family members could more easily deal with grief and show respect to their loved ones. The mausolea were also considered to be more enduring than the typical practice of ground burials. At the time the community mausolea movement was occurring concrete vault burials were just becoming a practice and many old cemeteries were being razed and moved due to their unsightly conditions. Mausolea were also promoted as a more sanitary method of burial due to the process through which decomposition of the body occurred in a controlled, engineered manner rather than unwanted contamination of the ground in and around the cemetery.

A Butler resident by the name of Frank Emerick seems responsible for the popular use of community mausolea in DeKalb County. Emerick represented an Ohio-based mausoleum company and helped form the local ownership entities necessary to maintain the buildings by the sale of crypts in the mausolea. The Butler Mausoleum, being the first in DeKalb County, may be a testament to Emerick's ability to sell the community mausoleum concept which was a method contrary to traditional burial practices. Emerick and his wife are interred in the Butler Mausoleum. Frank died in 1920 and his wife Mary died in 1959.

The Butler Community Mausoleum appealed to a broad cross-section of residents. The Kniselys family, who established the Butler Company in 1888, chose interment in the mausoleum. Their company produced buggies, bicycles, and

windmills, and employed about three hundred men by 1914. The Kniselys were also instrumental in the establishment of the community bank. The Gunsenhouser family also chose the mausoleum when their son, Ernest, died in 1926. The parents, Henry and Ann, were farmers and were also interred in the mausoleum.

ARCHITECTURE

The Butler Mausoleum is representative of a new architectural form: the community mausoleum. This building type was developed in Ohio in the early years of the 1900s. The building's style also represents a period of architecture that reflected permanence by the adaptation of historical precedents from the Classical period. The Butler Mausoleum is reminiscent of Early Christian and Roman basilicas with aisles used for crypts, tiled roofs, a nave, clerestory windows, and transepts. The style may be loosely termed "Romanesque" but with none of that style's characteristic arches.

The Butler Mausoleum appears monolithic in its construction with massive stone block walls. It has a formal entrance portico and extensive use of marble in the interior. The interior contains marble cladding, mosaic tiled floors, and art glass windows. The most striking architectural features of the Butler Mausoleum include the Doric columns with exaggerated entasis that form the entry portico. The columns are short and thick and reflect the heavy weight of the wall above the entry's opening. The carved stone buttresses also reflect the overall weightiness of the walls. Other important architectural features include the art glass windows which provide an intimate glow to the interior. The building was a model used by the Ohio Mausoleum Company. Similarly designed mausolea are located in Greenville and Chattanooga, Ohio and Oxford, Indiana. Dr. Collett designed the similar mausoleum in Greenville, Ohio; it is likely the Ohio Mausoleum Company absorbed the patent and continued the production of similar mausolea.

Registration Requirements

The Butler Mausoleum meets the registration requirements of the Early Community Mausoleum Movement in Indiana Multiple Properties Documentation Form because it is an example of the early era of community mausolea and retains excellent physical integrity. The building has a high degree of integrity with little, if any, architectural changes from its original construction.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

The City of Butler is located in northeastern DeKalb County, a few miles west of the state line. It was originally called Norristown and began to develop in the early 1840s. The name was changed to Butler during the 1860s and it was incorporated as a town in 1866. The first railroad was established through the town in 1856 and a second railroad was constructed in 1873. The population grew from 1300 in 1880 to 1818 in 1910. Butler was incorporated as a city in 1903.

Generally there was a significant priority placed on new civic improvements in Butler and throughout DeKalb County during the period the mausoleum was constructed. This may have also contributed to the development of the community mausoleum. DeKalb County constructed a new county home, courthouse and jail between 1908 and 1917. The latter two were designed in the Classical Revival style. Other important civic developments in Butler during this time were the Carnegie Library and Hotel Butler, both in 1916, and the high school gymnasium. The Butler electric light and water works company was a municipal establishment that was serving three hundred residents the year the mausoleum was constructed in 1914. The town also had three miles of sanitary sewer and two miles of roads paved with brick in 1914.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

History of DeKalb County, Indiana. Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen and Company, Inc., 1914.

Jenkins, W. C. "Post Cineres Gloriam Venit." *National Magazine* Volume XL April 1914-September 1914: pages 637-647.

Smith, John Martin, DeKalb County 1837-1987 (Volume One A and Volume Two). Auburn: DeKalb Sesquicentennial, Inc., 1990.

Previous documentation on file (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 #_____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #_____

Primary location of additional data:

____State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
____University
____Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 033-086-35002

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	679658	4588773	3			
2				4			

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary is the footprint of the mausoleum, approximately thirty-six feet wide and seventy-eight feet long. The front of the building is located approximately 72 paces from the north side of County Road 28 and about one-tenth of a mile east of the road's intersection with County Road 71.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Only the mausoleum building is being placed on the National Register of Historic Places, therefore the boundary is restricted to the building footprint. No other contributing resources associated with the mausoleum are located outside of the building's footprint.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kurt West Garner
organization Indiana Landmarks/Partners in Preservation, Inc. date September 30, 2012
street & number 12954 6th Road telephone 574-936-0613
city or town Plymouth state IN zip code 46563

Butler Community Mausoleum
Name of Property

DeKalb County, IN
County and State

e-mail kwgarner@kwgarner.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Butler Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Butler

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0001 Main hall, looking south

1 of 4.

Name of Property: Butler Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Butler

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0002 Front entry, looking northeast

2 of 4.

Name of Property: Butler Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Butler

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0003 Front and west side of building, looking northeast

3 of 4.

Name of Property: Butler Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Butler

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0004 Back of building, looking southeast

4 of 4.

Property Owner:

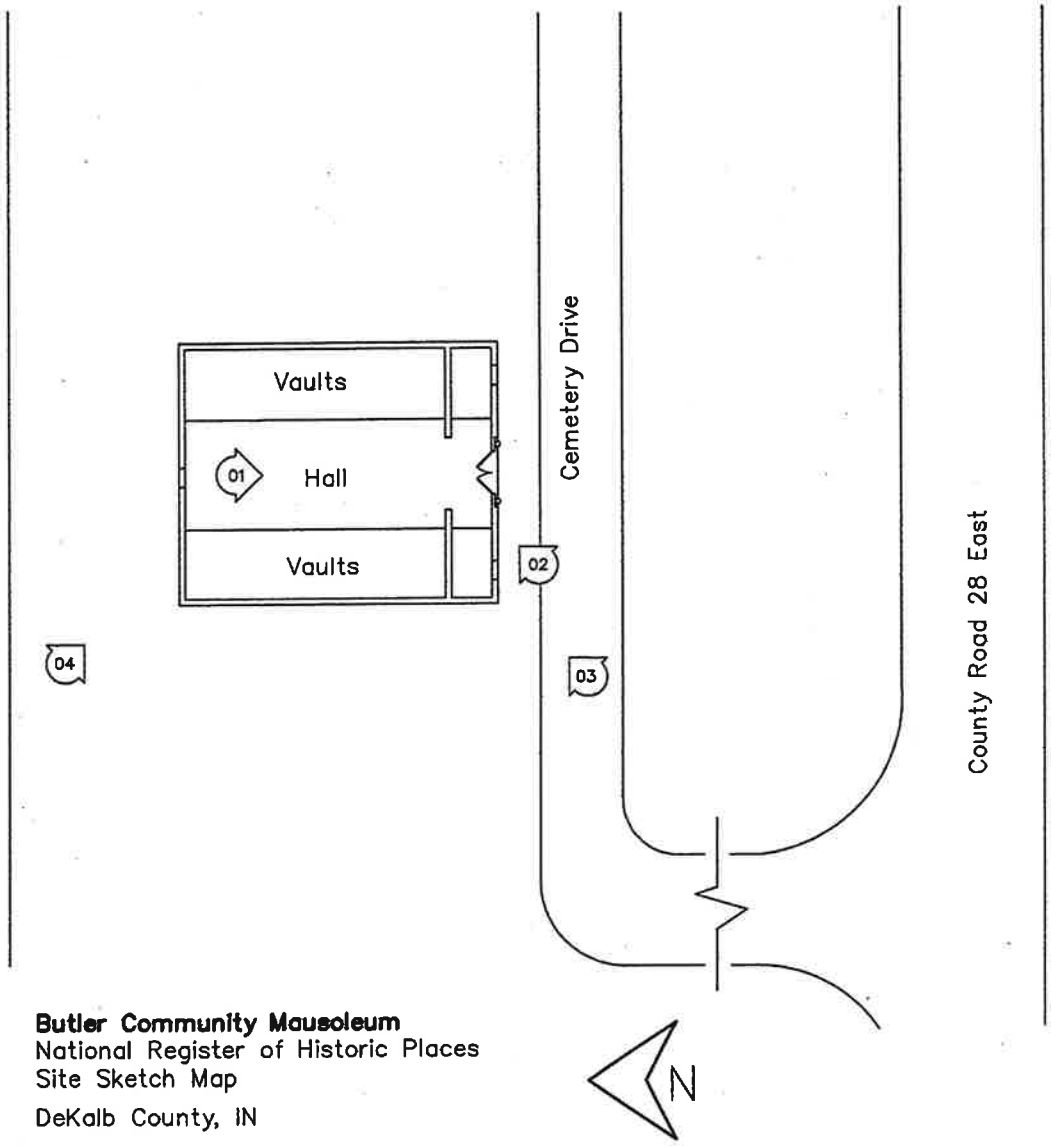
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name [redacted]

street & number [redacted] telephone [redacted]

city or town [redacted] state [redacted] zip code [redacted]

Paperwork Reduction Act 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.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

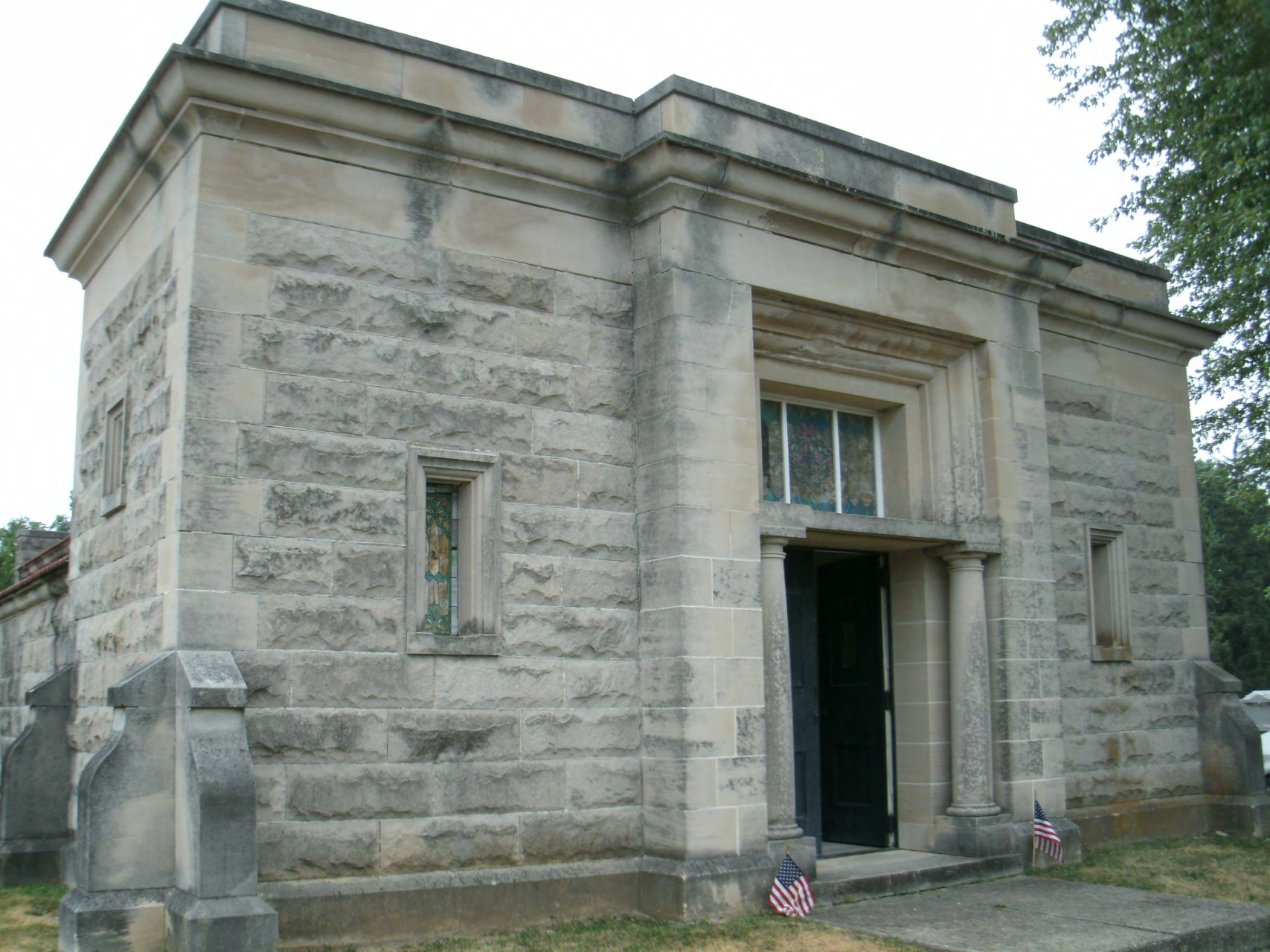


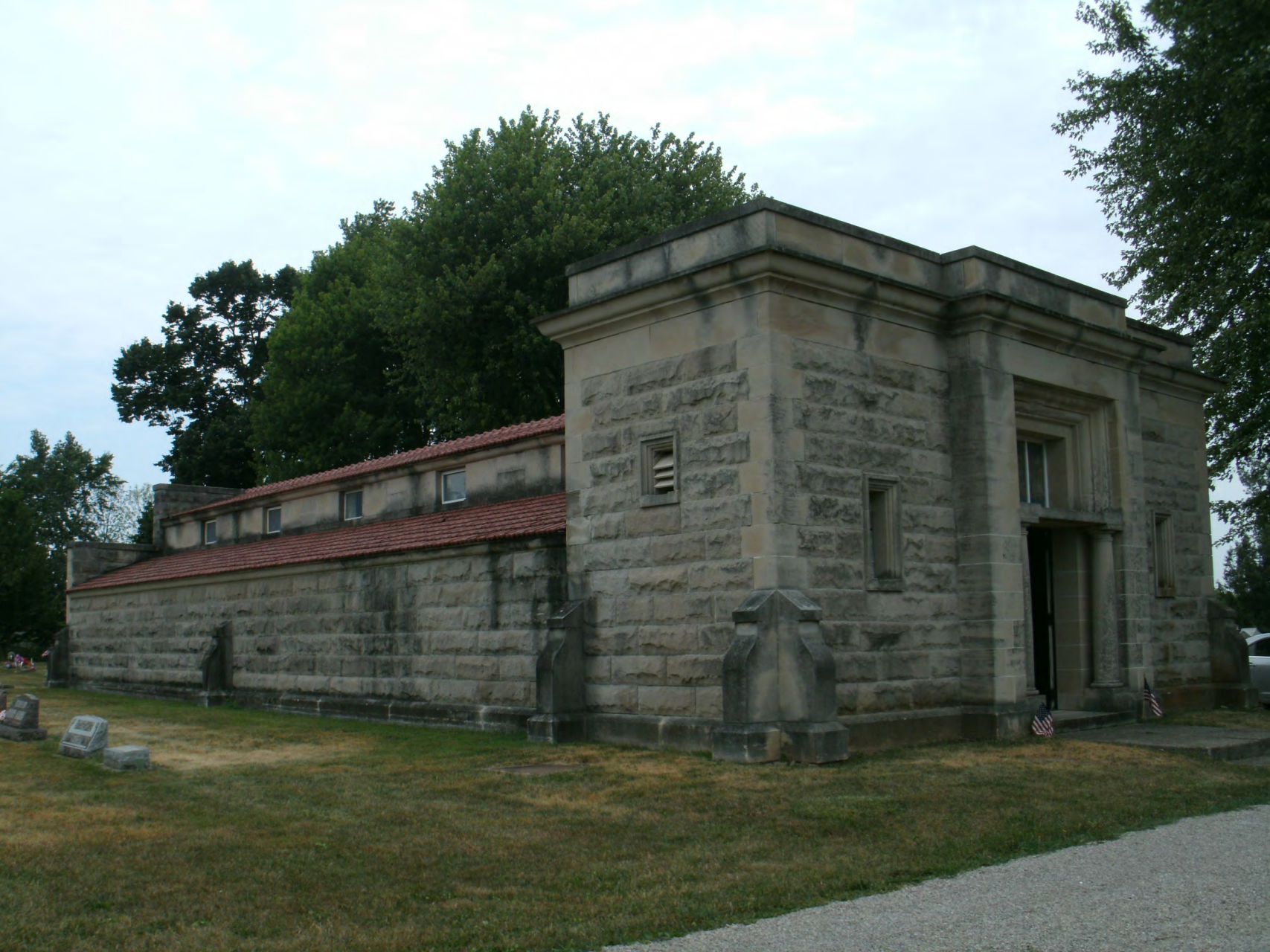
Butler Community Mausoleum
National Register of Historic Places
Site Sketch Map

DeKalb County, IN

02 = Photographs

STROLE
1901
ABETH STROLE
1850
1922
AUL OF
HOOK
1890
HOOK
1862
1928
J. HOOK
26.1853
4.1940
J.E. JENNINGS
T.28.1856
T.22.1937
JENNINGS
1850
1934
MAY C. SOU
SARAHM. SOU
GEORGE G. SO
HESTER
JULY
APR
HELEN C. WAL
C. HARWOO
JULIA A. MAR
T. W.





JONES