

SAN MARCOS CEMETERY
4764 Inscriptions

San Marcos Cemetery is often referred to as the San Marcos "City" Cemetery. It is located inside the city limits of San Marcos adjacent to Ranch Road 12, opposite the West Campus of Southwest Texas State University. It is owned and managed by the city of San Marcos.

Part of an original tract of land owned by Judy Camp who later became Mrs. Shadrach Dixon, the original part of San Marcos Cemetery consisted of a ten-acre tract of land. It was purchased in 1876 by the San Marcos Cemetery Association for "\$300. in silver coin." It has had three additions since that time.

Prior to the purchase of the land for this cemetery there was a cemetery located in what is now downtown San Marcos on land where the San Marcos City Library now stands (1990). The town soon outgrew the small cemetery and it was decided to relocate to an area where space could be added as needed. Several of the bodies interred in the original cemetery were moved to the new location and others were moved to cemeteries in the surrounding area. You will find at least four inscriptions dating earlier than 1876 (when the land was purchased from the Dixons to create the present cemetery).

During the 1890's a chapel was built in the middle of the original ten-acre tract. Outdoor chapels were common in cemeteries in the late 1800's and early 1900's before the days of air conditioning and funeral home chapels. With a roof overhead and open sides they afforded a cool breeze for those in attendance. This chapel is one of very few still standing in the state. It was named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1973 and entered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.

The first burial in the cemetery is believed to be Maj. C. Rogers in May of 1876; however, prior to the purchase of the land from the Dixons and the creation of a cemetery, several slaves of early San Marcos settlers were buried in the area which is now in the north-western part of the cemetery (Section U on our map).

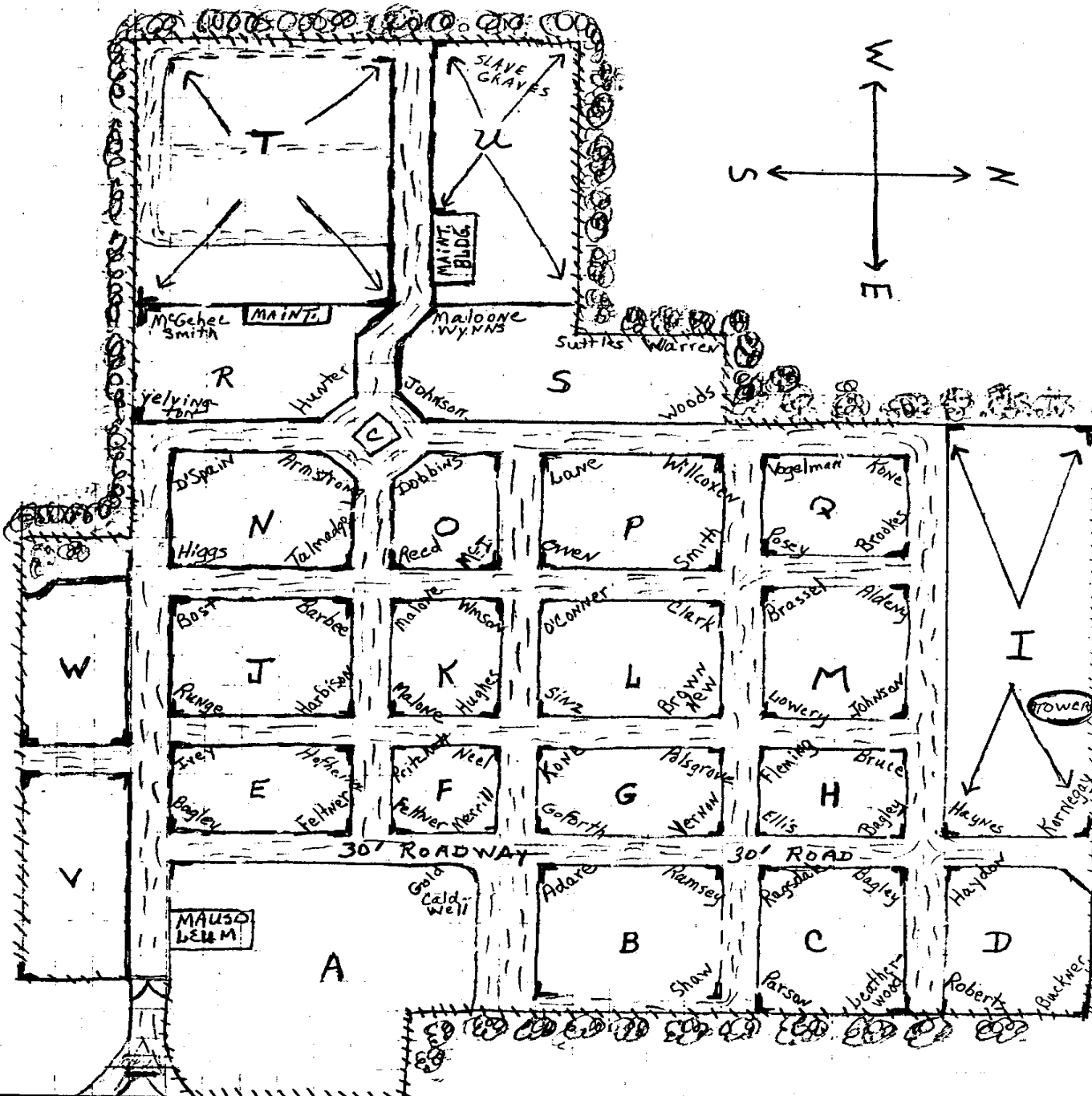
In May of 1924, the San Marcos Cemetery Association sold the cemetery and chapel to the city of San Marcos. It is now maintained by the city government and has become a perpetual care cemetery. It is well cared for and kept clean, mowed and watered under the management of Mr. Gene Bagwell. Interrment permits must be applied for through the City Secretary in addition to purchase of lots or mausoleum crypts. Restrictions must be followed regarding markers, curbs, fences, and hedges.

A Mausoleum was built in 1962 and presently holds the remains of twenty-eight persons. The inscriptions from the mausoleum are included in this volume.

War veterans buried in the cemetery include those from the War for Texas Independence, War of 1812, Mexican War of 1846, the Civil War, Spanish American War, World Wars I and II, Korean, and Vietnam Wars. There are three Civil War Union Army veterans buried here. Buried in Section Q are three young British officers of the Royal Air Force who died in 1953 while in training at Edward Gary Air Force Base in San Marcos.

There are several families who have as many as six generations buried in the cemetery.

San Marcos Cemetery



Ranch Road 12