

History of

Bohemian National Cemetery

Bohemian National Cemetery was founded in 1877 by eight Bohemian benevolent societies “to provide a suitable burial site for persons of Bohemian birth or extraction.” Ten years later, the cemetery was opened to all nationalities on a non-sectarian basis.

John V. Benes laid out the first burial sections in the initial 40 acres using a plan similar to Chicago's street grid. An expansion to the east and south, with graceful curving sections, was mapped in 1902 by August Petrtyl. In 1906 acclaimed landscape architect Jens Jensen designed the 60 acres to the north. Bohemian National Cemetery now encompasses about 124 acres.

The entrance has an 1893 Gothic Revival gatehouse, with an adjoining Arts and Crafts style waiting room added in 1907. The Renaissance Revival crematorium/columbarium, with decoration by artist John A. Mallin, was dedicated in 1919. A Classical Revival office building was built in 1926.

The cemetery features memorials to veterans of the Civil War, Spanish-American War, and World Wars I and II. Family mausoleums, monuments, and statuary are found throughout the cemetery.

Bohemian National Cemetery was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2006.

Friends of

Bohemian National Cemetery

Friends of Bohemian National Cemetery is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization established in 2004. Our mission is to promote the historical significance, enhance the beauty, and preserve the artistic heritage of Bohemian National Cemetery.

We work to restore and preserve the cemetery's buildings, monuments, records, and family stories.

We hold regular meetings with educational programs, coordinate volunteer efforts, conduct walking tours of the cemetery, and publish a quarterly newsletter, *Heritage Happenings*.

Friends of Bohemian National Cemetery

5255 N. Pulaski Road

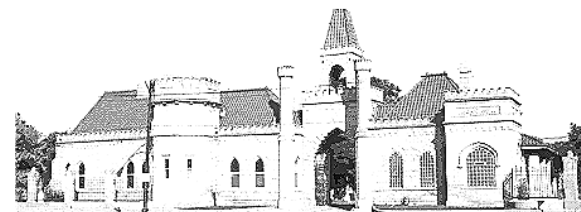
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Bohemian National Cemetery Guide and Map



Bohemian National Cemetery

5255 N. Pulaski Road

Chicago, Illinois 60630

773-539-8442

Bohemian National Cemetery

Points of Interest

1. Gatehouse
2. Office
3. World Wars I and II Memorial
4. Mother Monument by Albin Polasek
5. Crematorium/Columbarium
6. Beyond the Vines Columbarium
7. *The Resignation* by J. Mario Korbel
8. Civil War Veterans Monument
9. Spanish-American War Veterans Memorial
10. Odd Fellows Monument
11. Ladimir Klacel Circle
12. *Eastland* Disaster Memorial
13. Anton J. Cermak Family Mausoleum
14. *The Pilgrim* by Albin Polasek
15. Masaryk Memorial Mausoleum

