This historically significant cemetery possesses several natural areas within its 350 acres. The most significant is the large tract of mixed woodland **2**, pond and wetland **1** on the west side. An oak grove remains, with a limited selection of native plants growing in the understory. This portion of the cemetery was never developed as grave sites. The property is in the process of being acquired by the City of Chicago, which will transfer it to the Chicago Park District for protection and management.

The entire cemetery provides shelter for migrating warblers in the spring, and there are four other ponds 3 to 6 which could be managed to enhance their value as natural habitat by

restoring native wetland plants along the shores. The most noticeable of these is the pond directly in front of the memorial chapel in the center of the cemetery **3**. Currently, the pond is surrounded by turf grass with maples, crab apples, and other trees on its banks. Sandpipers, ducks and geese can be seen around the pond's edges and walk along the shores.

The other cemetery ponds are flanked mainly by turf grass, with some trees and evergreen shrubs interspersed. Herons are common visitors to the ponds. All the ponds are good candidates for wetland-shoreline restorations.



PETERSON

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VESTERN

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Site