

**Designation Application and Report Planning and Development Department
of the City of Jacksonville regarding:**

**Proposed Designation of
NAS Cecil Field Chapel
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
LM-18-01**

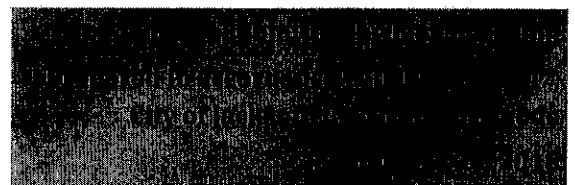
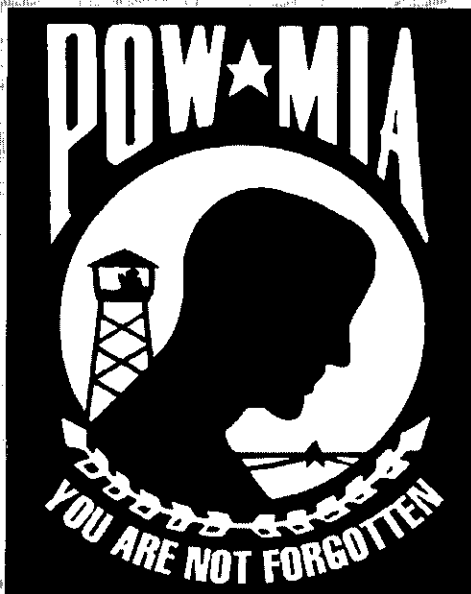


TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. Planning and Development Department - Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations.
- II. Designation Application for the property at 6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway, NAS Cecil Field Chapel.
- III. Legal Description and Map.
- IV. Proof of Publication of Public Notice.
- V. List of Property Owners Located within Three Hundred and Fifty (350) Feet of the Proposed Landmark.

construction not seen from the public right-of-way and other projects consistent with the Secretary's Standards can be pre-approved by the Jacksonville Planning and Development Department. However, the following activities will require a review by the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission.

1. Additions to historic buildings or structures.
2. Window replacement or major changes to or addition of door and window openings.
3. Demolition of all or part of historic buildings.
4. New construction and additions.
5. Enclosure of porch, porte-cochere, or garage.
6. Porch replacement.
7. Relocation of historic buildings.
8. Roof replacement with material different from existing or change in roof form.
9. Storefront restoration or replacement.
10. Mothballing the building per Chapter 307.303
11. Other work the Planning and Development Department has determined to be in conflict or potentially in conflict with the Secretary's Standards.

(D) In preparing the application, the Planning and Development Department has found the application to meet three of the seven criteria. The three criteria include the following;

A. Its value as a significant reminder of the cultural, historical, architectural, or archaeological heritage of the City, state or nation.

Although much of the military infrastructure and facilities still remain after the closure of Cecil Field in 1999, the base chapel has come to be recognized as the physical embodiment of the "Spirit of Cecil Field" defined by service, honor, sacrifice, and patriotism. Hosting hundreds of weddings, baptisms, memorial and funerals services, in addition to Memorial Day and Veteran Day events since 1966, the chapel was a significant part of the lives of military personnel and their families while stationed at Cecil Field. Also, it was the place that the memories of those naval aviators killed or missing in action from Cecil Field during the Vietnam War and Desert Storm are honored with the "Hero's Walk and Freedom Trees".

memorial, the Shipmate Memorial Chimes (Schulmerich Magnebell Carillon) was dedicated in 1967 at the newly completed chapel.

A member of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, Mrs. Mary Hoff, the wife of Cecil Field naval pilot Michael George Hoff who was shot down over Laos in 1970, took the initiative to have a banner or flag designed to remember American soldiers and sailors that are missing in action. Designed by Norman Rivkees with the Annin & Company, the flag became widely recognized as the universal symbol to ensure those missing in action or held as a prisoner of war are not forgotten.³ The flag is the only one to fly over the U.S. Capitol other than the American flag.⁴

The chapel was designed by the prominent Jacksonville architectural firm of KBJ Architects, recognized for designing many of downtown's most recognizable buildings. After noted Jacksonville architect, Roy Benjamin retired towards the end of World War II, three of his associates, William D. Kemp (1912 – 1982), Franklin S. Bunch (1913-2008) and William K. Jackson (1914-2003) organized a new firm in 1946.⁵ All three were graduates of the architectural program at the University of Florida. Interestingly one of the early commissions of Kemp, Bunch and Jackson (KBJ Architects) was Tigert Hall, the administration building at the University of Florida constructed in the late 1940s and early 1950s. KBJ Architects has been identified as the oldest architectural firm in Florida.⁶

William D. Kemp was a member of two pioneer families in north Jacksonville long associated with maritime interest including fishing and boat captains. The son of Napoleon Broward Kemp and Ethel Mildred Fox Kemp, he was born and raised in the river front community of New Berlin. Graduating from architectural school at the University of Florida in 1934, Kemp was recognized as a specialist in the design of theaters and was more associated with the business side of the firm. Under his administrative guidance, the firm grew rapidly in both the number of commissions and employees. It was Kemp's position that the architectural profession should remain pure, thus avoiding involvement in construction related activities. Most of his activities outside of architecture were related to his church, San Jose Episcopal Church, where he served as past Senior Ward and Vestryman.⁷

Franklin S. Bunch was born in 1913 in Madison, Indiana, but spent most of his youth in Jacksonville where he graduated from Andrew Jackson High School in 1930. Like Kemp, Bunch received an architectural degree from the University of Florida in 1934. After serving in the U.S. Navy and the Army Corp of Engineers during World War II, Bunch joined in

3 An August 14, 2015 article in the *Florida Times Union* identified the designer of the flag as Newt Heisley..

4 "The Breeze", Orange Park, Florida, December 12, 1974, p. 1.

Vishi R. Garig, "Mary Helen Hoff, an American Hero", *This Month in Clay County History*, undated article, c.2015, Clay County Archives.

5 In the obituary of William D. Kemp (*Florida Times Union*, October 10, 1982, B-1), a fourth founder of the firm was Ralph S. Mizrahi (1910-2002).

6 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KBJ_Architects

7 *Florida Times Union*, October 10, 1982, B-1.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KBJ_Architects

sanctuary clearly determined to be by Graveley and Graveley, Architects was St. James Lutheran Church in 1954 at 8560 Lem Turner Road in the Riverview neighborhood of Jacksonville. The design of the church had a more traditional roof pitch when compared to the Cecil Field Chapel.¹²

The project list for Graveley and Graveley Architects includes a variety of building types such as single-family residences, apartments, stores, parking garages, filling stations, restaurants, boat houses, fire stations, incinerators and truss designs. They also did numerous alterations and additions over the years including schools and churches. Although the greater majority of projects were in Jacksonville and Duval County, others were in Florida towns and cities such as Ponte Vedra, Tallahassee, West Palm Beach, Orange Park, Green Cove Springs, Starke, Penney Farms, Palatka, Alachua, High Springs, Umatilla, Orlando, Winter Garden, Fernandina Beach, Middleburg, White Springs, Seminole and Miami. Designs outside of Florida are found in Greenville, South Carolina, Orangeburg, North Carolina, as well as Bainbridge, Dublin and Savannah, Georgia.¹³

With the closure of Cecil Field, the chapel was vacated and used for storage and the wings becoming office space for the Florida Division of Forestry and the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. Because of high renovation cost as well as asbestos and lead abatement estimated at \$105,023, the future of the chapel, which was evaluated as being in fair condition, remained in limbo for several years. A movement grew to save the chapel as a monument to significant life events for so many that occurred over the years.¹⁴ Due to strong public opposition, the chapel was taken off the demolition list in 2001.¹⁵

In 2016, the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc. was founded for the stated purposes of honoring American POW/MIA that served in the Vietnam War and Desert Storm; research and promote the history of Cecil Field and to preserve the memorial and chapel at Cecil Field. Initial work of the organization involved cleaning of the grounds associated with the chapel and with the memorial markers & Freedom Trees. In addition, the chapel was cleaned up after suffering delayed maintenance and used for storage. This ambitious program is to be completed in phases that include leasing the property containing the chapel and memorial; renovating the chapel and memorial; opening a Cecil Field POW/MIA Museum temporarily in the old base theater; promote and raise funds for a new 100,000 square foot museum building adjacent to the Chapel and memorial; and expanding recreational and economic development initiatives at the Cecil Commerce Center. The Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc. has obtained a lease from the City of Jacksonville for property containing the

12 Graveley and Graveley Office Records, Southeastern Architectural Archive, Collection 151, Special Collections Division, Tulane University Library, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1987.

HTR Foundation.com/about/us.

13 Ibid.

City of Jacksonville Ordinance 2017-394.

14 *Florida Times Union*, Westside Community News, September 16, 2000, p. 1.

15 Cecil Field – Business/Operations Plan, Facility Evaluation Form.

Folio Weekly, October 17, 2000, p. 6

Florida Times Union, River City New, March 31, 2001, 2-W.

decorative window that fills the sanctuary with natural light. In many examples, the visibility of the tall A-frame roof is particularly restricted by raised screen walls and towers. The roofs usually form a narrow ridge line along the peak, however in some cases they can be rounded or flatten at the peak. The use of prow roofs is also common. Primary entryways can be centered on the front elevation or accessed in the rear or on the sides. Another common treatment is to have the roof flare out at the ends to cover one-story sections usually with a flat or shed roof that parallels the sides.

There are numerous variations of the large A-frame church design found in Jacksonville predominately from the 1960s. Three designed by Jacksonville architect, Robert Broward include Glynlea United Methodist Church, 6429 Atlantic Boulevard, 1964; Atonement Lutheran Church, (Mother of God of the Zunoro Syrian Orthodox Church), 802 Mandalay Road, 1961 and Unitarian Universalist Church, 1965. Other examples include the 7th Day Adventist Church (Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church), 2036 Silver Street, 1959, designed by Harris & Frye; Spring Glen United Methodist Church, 6007 Beach Boulevard, 1969 and St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6801 Merrill Road.

G. Its suitability for preservation or restoration.

In utilizing this criterion, it has been the practice of the Planning and Development Department to evaluate proposed landmarks based on evidence of significant exterior alterations that have negatively impacted character-defining features, as well as represent alterations difficult, costly, or impossible to reverse. Further, the degree and nature of any exterior deterioration, as well as the evidence of long term and potentially on-going neglect are also a factor in evaluating potential landmarks for their suitability for preservation or restoration.

The Cecil Field Chapel has no evidence of significant deterioration or exterior alterations. The majority of the original historic fabric remains including the windows, doors and exterior wall treatment. Although some of the wings are being used, the interior of the sanctuary is current a large open space with the removal of the pews, pulpit, rails and altar. The sanctuary has a carpeted floor over a wooden subfloor. The proposed reuse of the chapel as part of a national memorial for former prisoners of war and those missing in action will not require altering any major character defining features of the exterior, as well as the interior of the sanctuary.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings of this report, the Jacksonville Planning and Development Department recommends that the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission **APPROVE** the designation of 6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway, NAS Cecil Field Chapel, **(LM-18-01)** as a City of Jacksonville Landmark.

**City of Jacksonville Landmark, Landmark Site,
or Historic District Nomination Form**



Grayed Areas for Use by Staff

1. Name of Property

historic name NAS Cecil Field Chapel Designation Number LM-18-1

other names _____ FMSF Number _____

2. Location

street & number 6112 POW-MIA MEMORIAL PARKWAY

city or town JACKSONVILLE

state FLORIDA code FL county DUVAL code _____ zip code 32221

Real estate assessment number(s) _____
(Attach continuation sheet if necessary)

3. Sponsorship Statement

As the owner, or official representative of the owner, I am aware of the proposal for designation of the subject property or properties listed above as a city of Jacksonville landmark, landmark site, or historic district. I have been advised of the procedures for review of the proposal by the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission and the Jacksonville City Council. I understand that I will be notified of the date and place of any public meetings at which the proposal will be considered by the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission, and the City Council. I also agree to sponsor the application and pay for all notification costs. I am also aware that if designated, any construction activities affecting the subject properties including alterations, new construction, demolition and relocation, will require a review for consistency with the appropriate standards.

Sponsored by the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission at the request of Mayor Lenny Curry.

Signature of property owner or representative	Date
---	------

Representatives need to provide a signed and notarized letter from the property owner(s) identifying them as their official agent.

Please see attached letter from the Office of Mayor Lenny Curry. dated November 7, 2016.

Signature of sponsor	Title	Date
----------------------	-------	------

4. Legal Description of Property (according to county property appraiser's office)

Please see attached Legal Description – Exhibit A

Attach continuation sheet if necessary

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable Landmark Designation Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for Landmark Designation.)

- X A Its value as a significant reminder of the cultural, historical, architectural, or archaeological heritage of the City, state or nation.
B Its location is the site of a significant local, state or national event.
C It is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the City, state or nation.
D It is identified as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual work has influenced the development of the City, state or nation.
E Its value as a building is recognized for the quality of its architecture, and it retains sufficient elements showing its architectural significance.
F It has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials.
G Its suitability for preservation or restoration

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.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

- Agriculture
Architecture
Archaeology
Community Planning
Commerce
Education
Early Settlement
Health/Medicine
Industry
Maritime History
Military
Politics/Government
Recreation
Social History
Transportation
Other:

Period of Significance

1966 - 2018

Significant Dates

1966 & 1999

Significant Person

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

KBJ Architects, Inc.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Please See Attached Continuation Sheets

13. Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets (All information on continuation sheets must be typed. Sheets should have the name and address of property at top, be labeled with the appropriate application heading, and be numbered)

Maps

A Street Map Depicting Location.

Drawings (If available)

Current elevations, floorplans, etc.
Historic elevations floorplans, etc.

Photographs

Representative digital **photographs** of the property (minimum 2 megapixels, pixel image 1200 x 1600).
(Do not write upon or attach permanent labels to the photographs.)

List all property owners within 350' of the proposed landmark or landmark site.

List all contributing and non-contributing properties in the proposed historic district.

Attach proof of publication for the JHPC public hearing.



OFFICE OF MAYOR LENNY CURRY

ST. JAMES BUILDING
117 WEST DUVAL STREET, SUITE 400
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

PH: (904) 630-1776
FAX: (904) 630-2391
www.cqj.net

November 7, 2016

David B. Case, Chairman
Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission
3rd Floor – Ed Ball Building
214 North Hogan Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

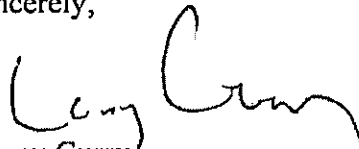
Dear Mr. Case:

Please accept this letter as my request for the consideration of a landmark designation for the old NAS Cecil Field Memorial Chapel.

An excellent representation of mid-modern era architecture, the chapel was constructed in 1965 to serve the growing number of military personnel stationed at the base. In addition, the chapel has great sentimental value to the many people who have cherished memories of weddings, funerals, baptisms and memorial services held at this sacred place. Its preservation will also allow the chapel to remain as a visual symbol of the historic NAS Cecil Field, which has undergone significant changes with its conversion from military to government and private uses.

As Mayor, I am truly honored to recommend the landmark designation of the chapel as a tribute to the service men and women stationed at Cecil Field during its 60-year history, with some making the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Also, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and other members of the Commission for your valuable service in the preservation of Jacksonville's significant and irreplaceable historic resources. Your kind consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Lenny Curry
Mayor

LCC/H

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

run along the front elevation and wraps on each corner to highlight a grouping of five windows on each side elevation. **(Photos 18 & 19)**

Having the same width as the doorways, the large centrally placed window runs from the top of the cantilevered flat roof canopy over the doorway up to the apex of the roof. The decorative window is visually divided into four vertical sections by a laminated wooden cross. The taller lower section is divided horizontally into four parts each having four vertical panes of glass secured with metallic aluminum framing. The two upper sections include a part with four vertical panes topped with three vertical panes that are cut at an angle to follow the pitch of the gable end. **(Photo 20)** The north and south elevations on the sides of the sanctuary have the same fenestration pattern composed of the grouping of five windows above the raised planter bed followed by four window pairs. The window grouping and pairs are each divided by a brick mullion and defined on each side with a slightly projecting masonry pilaster giving the appearance of being recessed. **(Photos 21, 22 & 23).**

Interior – Sanctuary

With the removal of the pews, pulpit, rails and altar, the interior of the sanctuary is currently a large open space with a carpeted floor over a wooden subfloor. The interior is defined by five laminated wooden gabled arches supporting a ceiling composed of wood planks. The first arch is immediately to the west of the lobby partition lining up at the west end of the grouping of five windows on each side elevation that provides light into the lobby. The remaining four arches physically divide the window pairs. Centrally placed between each arch is a cylindrical hanging light fixture with the later addition of ceiling fans. A mechanical chase is located between each arch at the point where they start bending towards the apex of the ceiling, as well as HVAC chases along the floor between the arches. The wall finish between the arches and window openings is a tan brick. **(Photos 24 & 25)** The sanctuary originally had two sections of pews separated in the middle by the nave that ran from the lobby partition to the chancel. All of the windows have blue, green and yellow tinted glass. The bottom 1/6 of the glass panels are operational awning style windows. **(Photos 26, 27, 29 & 30)**

Located on the west end of the sanctuary, the chancel is defined by a slightly raised platform framed on each side by an enclosed space constructed of gypsum board with doors that provides access to the interior of the building including the three wings. Above the doorways facing the sanctuary is a panel of wooden vertical slats that mimic organ pipes. Behind the vertical pieces is acoustical cloth. At the corner where the west wall of the chancel meets the two enclosed spaces on each side are wooden vertical slats backed with acoustical cloth. Below the slats are additional doors on each side leading out from the chancel. The two doors immediately perpendicular to the west wall sink below the chancel floor requiring a hand rail. Coming out from the enclosed space is a shorter arch constructed of plywood that functions as a proscenium. **(Photos 31 & 32)**

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

51'2' in length and 39' in width, the shorter north wing has a grouping of five windows centrally placed on the east side and four groupings of three windows on the west elevation, as well as the same gable end treatment on the north elevation of having a central recessed doorway under a panel of textured plywood siding. 52'8" in length and 32' in width, the south wall of the west wing has no fenestration except a pair of doors on the east end framed on each side by a window separated by a brick mullion. This doorway is perpendicular to the one found on the end of the south wing at its intersection with the west wing. The north side elevation of the west wing has a centrally placed grouping of five windows separated by brick mullions. The gable end of the west elevation has the same treatment of a centrally placed recessed entryway. (Photos 51, 52, 54, 54, & 55) Having a large open space, the west wing functioned more as a fellowship hall. (Photos 56 & 57)

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION – HERO'S WALK AND FREEDOM TREES **Not included in boundary of the Landmark Designation for the Cecil Field Chapel.**

Immediately to the south of the chapel across from the driveway running west from POW-MIA Memorial Parkway to the rear parking lot is the "Hero's Walk and Freedom Trees". Although not included in the landmark designation, the "the Freedom Trees" with adjacent bronze plaques were planted in memory of Cecil Field pilots who were POW, MIA or killed in action during the Vietnam War. The memorial was started by the Cecil Field Officers Wives Club under the "Lest We Forgot Committee". Dedicated in 1974 as the "Hero's Walk and Freedom Trees", the memorial was expanded to include POW, MIA or those killed in action from Cecil Field during Desert Storm which increase the number of "Freedom Trees" to sixteen. (Photo 58)

The memorial is composed of a concrete sidewalk that runs from near the POW-MIA Memorial Parkway west to an another access road to the rear parking lot behind the chapel. At the west end the walk loops back towards the east connecting with the east end which terminates with a concrete pad containing a plaque with information on the memorial. Located along the south side of the walk and within the loop are the sixteen trees highlighted with partially painted trunks at the bottom. In front of each tree is a three-foot-high rounded white concrete pillar setting on a brick circular base. The top of each of the pillars are sloped to accommodate a bronze plaque that memorializes one of the sixteen Cecil Field pilots killed or missing in action. (Photos 59, 60, 61, 62 & 63)

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

spariously populated Spanish East Florida.²

Contrary to the previous order of 1790, the Royal Order of 1815 allowed for land grants fee simple in exchange for service and based on head rights with no occupancy requirements. This more liberal policy spurred additional land grants before the end of the colonial period. As part of the Onis Treaty that passed ownership of Florida from Spain to the United States, settlers who received grants between January 24, 1818 and February 19, 1821 could not receive title. However, Congress passed the Donation Act, which allowed for fee simple title to grants made during this transitional period if the grantee could prove to have settled and occupied the subject property. Regardless of when grants were made, ownership of property was confirmed during the Territorial Period by a Board of Land Commissioners.³

The earliest documented settlements in the southwest part of Duval County resulted from land grants issued under the terms of the Royal Order of 1815. John Bellamy, also spelled Belleme, claimed several land grants in present-day Duval County, including a tract granted in 1817 composed of 640 acres defined by Sweetwater Branch to the southwest, Willes Creek (Wills Branch) in the center and Sabine Creek on the east. In that same year, Bellamy also was granted 500 acres at the head of McGirth (McGirt's) Creek in an area that was called Gravely Hill.⁴ John Bellamy also named his plantation Gravely Hill which was his home at the time appointed to the grand jury of Superior Court in 1823.⁵ The origin of the name has not been determined, however, amateur archaeologist and local historian, William Jones, speculated that the name was derived from large chunks of chert found in the area when exposed by washouts. This material was used by Native Americans to fabricate projectile points and other stone tools.⁶

Other land grants in the area included a 250 tract on Cedar Swamp claimed by James Bradley. Testimony before the land commissioners stated that Bradley occupied this 250-acre parcel which was granted in 1817. The heirs of Lindsley Todd laid claim to 390 acres on Cedar Creek west of McGirt's Creek that was granted to him in 1817. Todd's initial claim for the grant was his service in the colonial militia during the Patriot's Rebellion. William Silcock or Silcox received title to his 640-acre tract by congressional action in May of 1824. Testimony was provided that Silcox acquired his grant in 1816 at the age of 21, and settled, improved, and cultivated this land on Wills Creek near Cedar

² Pleasant Daniel Gold, *History of Duval County Florida*. (St. Augustine, Florida: The Record Company, 1928), pp. 62-64.

³ *Ibid*, pp. 90-91

⁴ *Spanish Land Grants in Florida Confirmed Claims*, Volume 1, pp.28-29.

⁵ Clarence Edwin Carter, *The Territorial Papers of the United States*, Volume XXII, The Territory of Florida 1821-1824 (Washington, D.C. United States Government Printing Office, 1956), p.822.

⁶ William M. Jones, *Old Gravely Hill, Duval County, Florida*. Unpublished Paper, 1992, Collection of the Jacksonville Planning and Development Department.

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

logs, ran parallel to today's U.S. Highway 90 (West Beaver Street).¹² Another road coming out of Jacksonville was the Alligator Road that ran close to the Gravely Hill Plantation before splitting, with the southwest section continuing as the Old Gainesville Road and the northwest part continuing as the Alligator Road that connected with the Plank Road located more to the north. Lenox Avenue currently follows much of the route of the Alligator Road.¹³

Expanded to over a thousand acres, the Gravely Hill Plantation was sold in 1825 by John Bellamy to Steven J. Eubanks, who arrived in Florida from Virginia during the colonial period. Although first settling along the Nassau River in northern Duval County, Eubanks moved to the Gravely Hill Plantation house that had been previously constructed by John Bellamy. According to William Jones, the site of the plantation house was on Lenox Avenue 300 feet east of Memorial Park Road, and was reportedly still standing until the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries.¹⁴ In 1837, Eubanks prepared a will requesting that he be buried beside "*the grave of my departed mother in the burial ground on my plantation called Gravely Hill*". This statement in his will was the first reference to a cemetery associated with the Gravely Hill Plantation. In 1858, Joseph L. Eubanks conveyed the property to Miles Price, who at the time was married to Caroline Eubanks, the daughter of Steven Eubanks.¹⁵

Originally from Screven City, Georgia, Miles Price and his family settled at the Gravely Hill Plantation. First married to Georgiana Winter and later Catherine Eubanks, Miles Price had seven children including Calvin, Miles, Leila, Lily, Joseph, Theodore, and Peter. In addition to his plantation at Gravely Hill, Price purchased the river front plantation of James Winter at a Commissioner's sale in 1858 for \$1,528. However, Price's association with James Winter was also personal in that his first wife, Georgiana, was Winter's daughter. Purchasing the eight hundred acres immediately southwest of downtown in 1847, Winter had developed a plantation producing cotton, corn and sugar cane, as well as constructed a home near the present intersection of Riverside Avenue and Stonewall Street.¹⁶ In 1868, Price sold the south five hundred acres to New England railroad magnate, John Murray Forbes for \$10,000 in gold. Forbes had the property platted and named Riverside. That same year, Price platted the remaining three hundred acres as Brooklyn. Ironically, it is assumed that Price, a Confederate veteran, gave it the unlikely name of Brooklyn, but still honored his southern sentiments by naming two

¹² Gold, p. 124.

¹³ William M. Jones, *A Report on the Site of Camp Finegan, A Confederate Stronghold, Duval County, Florida*. Unpublished, 1959 pp. 6 & 7.

¹⁴ Jones, Gravely Hill.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ *Abstract of Title to Riverside Property of the Indian River Association*. Drew Company, Undated (c. 1902).

Wayne W. Wood, *Jacksonville's Architectural Heritage, Landmarks for the Future*. (Jacksonville, University of North Florida Press, 1989), p. 107.

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

this part of the state back into the Union, a fourth and final occupation was planned. A Federal invasion force of 6,000 soldiers including infantry, cavalry, artillery and engineers, all under the leadership of Brigadier General Truman Seymour, met light resistance in their occupation of Jacksonville in February of 1864. This force included the 54th Massachusetts Colored Troop, the first black regiment organized in the north and sent south. Bypassing Camp Finegan, a Union cavalry under Colonel Guy V. Henry was able to penetrate fifty miles inland before meeting strong resistance. With a strong Federal force settled in Jacksonville, the Confederates abandoned Camp Finegan, and retreated further west. Camp Finegan was occupied by the Second South Carolina and Third U.S. Colored Troops who renamed it Camp Shaw. The Union occupied Camp Finegan as part of their advancement towards the interior that was ultimately stopped at the Battle of Olustee on March 1, 1864. The Federal forces retreated back to Jacksonville where they constructed a defensive wall around the city. Both sides dug in with the Union forces behind the defensive wall at Jacksonville, and the Confederates concentrated at Camp Milton. During this standoff, the Union military strength had swelled to 12,000 men with the Confederates having 8,000 troops in the general area.²¹

During late February and early March of 1864, there were numerous small clashes between the opposing forces. One of these skirmishes occurred outside of Camp Finegan on February 27 when a Company of Confederate cavalry briefly engaged a battalion of the Independent Massachusetts Cavalry which resulted in only one casualty. A much larger skirmish of five hours occurred between the rival cavalries on May 25 at Cedar Creek with both sides suffering a single casualty. Referred to as the "Skirmish at Cedar Creek", this engagement, which involved a force of 500 Confederate soldiers, occurred along Lenox Avenue between Cedar Creek and Memorial Park Road.²² Over time both the Federal and Confederate forces were being systemically drawn down as the demand for additional soldiers increased in other parts of the South. The Confederates soon abandoned Camp Milton which was occupied and then destroyed in August of 1864 by the Union.²³ Over time, the earthen and log fortifications of Camp Finegan and Camp Milton began to fade into history. Today only a small part of the earthen works at Camp Milton is still visible.

Scattered in southwest Duval County west of Blanding Boulevard are several historic cemeteries, mostly late 19th century family burial grounds. Located on the grounds of Cecil Field is the Hysler Cemetery which was included in base expansion in the early 1960s. The cemetery was located on farm land belonging to John Alfred and Anna Stalls. The first burial was his five-year-old daughter Rosa Lillie Stalls who was badly burned when her dress caught fire from the heath in the family home. She was

²¹ Summary of the 4th occupation from Martin's *Ordeal by Fire* and Jones's *Camp Finegan*.

²² Jones, *Camp Finegan*, p. 5.

²³ Martin, pp. 214-216.

City of Jacksonville

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

Maxville & Jacksonville Heights

Maxville

The large area in the west side that eventually included Maxville and Jacksonville Heights was undeveloped flat pine lands broken occasionally by swamps and creeks. Growth in these areas was spurred by the opening of the Florida Railroad that ran from Fernandina through Baldwin and Maxville to the gulf coast port of Cedar Key. A 1885 publication described Maxville as a “village settled 60 years ago by emigrants from Georgia”.²⁷ According to another source, the name of the community may have commemorated Maxville in Georgia. Pleasant Gold in his *History of Duval County* states that it was settled between 1825 – 1835 during the Territorial Period by a “colony of Georgians”. By July of 1875, Maxville had sufficient population to warrant a post office. Some of the important residents in Maxville at the time included O.C. Plummer, Elias Padgett, Sr., William Padgett, Cornelius Ducher, and postmaster, B.H. Powell.²⁸

By 1890, the community had a population of 349 residents mainly employed in lumber and naval store operations, but had dropped to 267 by 1900. With a county-wide increase in population during the first decade of the twentieth century, Maxville grew from 267 to 457 between 1900 and 1910. Also along the Florida Railroad between Maxville and Baldwin was the small community of Fiftone that was served by its own post office by 1911.²⁹ Prominent farmers and shippers in Maxville included J. Spencer, J. Speer and lumber mill owner, W. J. Lohrig. In addition to the growing of strawberries and produce, Maxville also developed a successful pecan market.³⁰

The first platted development in the area was Maxville Farms platted in 1910 by the Maxville Farm & Development Company under president, W.K. Sligh and secretary S.F. Wiley. Located on both the east and west sides of the railroad track, the plat included a combination of large “farm lots” and a centralized concentration of smaller residential lots that constituted a town center. In addition to a circular “city park”, the residential concentration had seven larger parcels parallel to the west side of the railroad track that was reserved for manufacturing. U.S. Highway 301, that runs parallel to the railroad, would later run through the town center sites. Similar to the Jacksonville Heights and

²⁷, Wanton S. Webb. *Webb's Florida, Historical, Industrial & Biographical*. (New York: W.S. Webb Company, 1885) pp. 46 & 47.

Bertha E. Bloodworth & Alton C. Morris *Places in the Sun, The History & Romance of Florida Place Names*. (Gainesville, Florida: University Presses of Florida, 1978), p. 165.

²⁸ Gold, p. 106.

Gold may have gotten his date of Maxville's founding from Webb.

²⁹ Myles Bland & David Mynatt, *Intensive Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Three SAP Parcels, Duval County, Florida*. (Jacksonville, Florida: Bland & Associates, Inc., March, 2006), pp. 6, 8 & 12.

³⁰ *Ibid*, p. B-21

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

vacant parcel called Lynn Park which had an artisan well in the center of Jacksonville Heights Road. In 1909, both halves of the "town site" was platted with sixty-four rectangular blocks each with 24 lots. The "town site" was divided down the middle by Jacksonville Heights Road, now known as 103rd Street. In 1946, the "Town Site" or Lynn Park was replated by the Jacksonville Heights Improvement Company to create four large blocks each with three long lots.³⁴ The company constructed a pavilion for use by the residents and a large administration building, as well as dug a clear water pond off Collins Road.³⁵

Using a town and farm sales strategy, Jacksonville Heights was marketed locally and to northern and Midwestern farmers and city dwellers anxious to try a rural life. With promotions being handled by the Ben Levin-Nichols Advertising Company in Chicago, Georgia state senator and Waycross realtor, George W. Deen was contracted to serve as spokesman for the new development and used testimonials on the many assets of the development in his campaigns. To further promote its potential for truck farms, poultry production and dairies, the company hired George W. Hess, an agricultural expert that worked with the US Soil Service to develop an experimental farm.³⁶

The company also offered bus tours from downtown to the new development to highlight its many virtues to potential buyers. Although emphasizing its rural qualities and agricultural potential, Jacksonville Heights was also promoted for its close and easy automobile access to the city with the opening of the Orange Park Road (Park Street). Large advertisements were placed in local and out-of-town newspapers and included cut-out coupons to purchase a ten-acre farm tract at \$20.00 per acre with a limited number of smaller residential lots at \$1.00 per acre with payments of \$1.00 per month.³⁷

The development and promotion of the Jacksonville Heights Subdivision coincided with the good roads movement that developed nationwide. The Florida Good Roads

³⁴ Duval County Plat Book 5, p. 93

Plat Book 3, P. 50, South Half of Section 10, Jacksonville Heights Town Site and p. 51, North Half of Section 15.

Plat Book 19, P, 67, Replat of Lynn Park.

³⁵ Rosalie Cates, "Westside Steamboat Landing", *Bargain Finder*, March 15, 1988, Volume 1, p. 3.

³⁶ *Florida Times Union*, April 4, 1909 and December 1, 1980, D-1. & *Florida Times Union* July 9, 1910, p. 5

Bland, pp. 14 & 16.

³⁷ Bland, p B-16

Florida Times Union, April 4, 1909, Section 2, p. 4.

One of the most famous land owners in Jacksonville Heights was legendary entertainer Bob Hope and his wife, Delores Hope. In 1956, the Hopes deeded the south 25 feet of tracts 13 & 14, Block 4, Section 30, Township 3 South, Range 24 East, Jacksonville Heights to the Duval County Board of Commissioners for the widening of Collins Road (Quit Claim Deed, Volume 25, p. 340).

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

Other plats or replats adjacent to Jacksonville Heights Subdivision included Jacksonville Farms (1910), De Soto Park, platted in 1925 by Blalock-Thomas Realty Company, and Jacksonville Terrace, also platted in 1925 by the Cooper-Price Land Company.⁴² Although having limited development during the 1940s and 50s, the Jacksonville Heights area has significantly grown with the expansion of Cecil Field and outlying fields, as well as the opening of I-10 and I-295.

Development of Cecil Field

A major impact on the development of southwest and west Duval County was the establishment of military facilities starting during the first decade of the twentieth century. Based on a recommendation from a legislature appointed commission, approximately 1000 acres along Black Point, which was the site of the old Mulberry plantation, was acquired around 1908 to serve as a Florida National Guard Camp. In September of 1917, the Federal government took control of the state reservation, and expanded it to serve as a quartermasters training camp during World War I called Camp Joseph E. Johnson, after the Confederate General. Eventually housing over 27,000 soldiers, Camp Johnson was quickly demobilized with the end of the conflict, and the property turned back over to state control where it was renamed Camp J. Clifford R. Foster.

In 1938, Congress authorized strengthening the U.S. military by increasing fleet tonnage by twenty percent that in return required additional serving facilities. In response, a board was created under Rear Admiral A. J. Hepburn charged with the task of determining the need and location for new military bases. As a result of the Hepburn Board Report, Jacksonville, Florida was selected as one of fifteen bases to be developed immediately in order to provide much needed shore based facilities for airplanes. With a legislative appropriation of seventeen million made in 1939, the Emergency National Defense Program selected the former Camp Foster Site southwest of Downtown Jacksonville for a naval air station with a carrier to be berthed at the mouth of the St. Johns River.

After receiving authorization from the Florida legislature, citizens of Duval County in 1939 approved a 1.1 million-bond issue to purchase the property at Black Point in order to be donated for a proposed naval facility. By the end of World War II, the Jacksonville Naval Air Station had over 700 buildings reflecting an investment of twenty million dollars including the headquarters of the Navy Overhaul and Repair Facility. Commissioned in October of 1940, the Jacksonville Naval Air Station eventually housed 42,000 Navy personnel and 11,000 civilians during the height of its

⁴² Duval County Court House, Plat Book 4, Page 2, Jacksonville Farms; Plat Book 9, Page 50, De Soto Park; and Plat Book 10, Page 48, Jacksonville Terrace.

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

accelerated for an anticipated invasion of Japan. Cecil Field also accommodated the training of aviators from allied countries such as Free France and British Royal Navy. Starting during World War II, there has been a constant upgrade in fighter planes and jets at Cecil Field most reflecting new mechanical and technological improvements.⁴⁶ Starting in February of 1944, Wavers were stationed at Cecil Field performing a variety of jobs including flight simulation operator, mechanic, tower control specialist, yeomen, storekeepers and pharmacist assistants. By the end of the war, 118 women had served at Cecil Field. In July of 1944, Cecil Field began to house and use German prisoners for outdoor labor.

Before the war ended, the flight line at Cecil Field had become storage for hundreds of planes sent over as bases closed down across the nation. With continued reduction in personnel, the field itself went into a caretaker status in May of 1946.⁴⁷ Towards the end of that year, Cecil Field was re-activated and became home for VF1 from NAS Miami, and VBF from NAS Fort Lauderdale. Shutting down again in January of 1948, it was re-activated in October of 1948 as base for the Attack Carrier Air Group 17, the only jet fighter squadron along the east coast and soon joined by the Attack Carrier Air Group 1. These squadrons were soon ordered to NAS Jacksonville with Cecil Field going back into a caretaking status.

With the outbreak of the Korean War, Cecil Field was permanently re-activated. Within nine months of re-opening, Cecil Field was home to 200 planes, 225 pilots, 1,800 officers and men. At the time Cecil Field and then NAS Jacksonville were the largest concentration of fleet aircraft in the nation.⁴⁸ In 1949, the first meteorological equipment was installed at Cecil Field to provide weather observations. Becoming a detachment of the Naval Weather Service Environmental Detachment (NWSED), the operation later became known as the Naval Oceanographic Command Detachment, Cecil Field. By 1949, it was estimated that Cecil Field had a yearly economic impact in the area of approximately five million dollars.⁴⁹

In September of 1950, Cecil Field became home to the attack carrier group which was composed of twenty airplanes and 35 to 40 pilots and 200 enlisted men. After being re-activated, Cecil Field was commissioned as one of four master jet bases in the US Navy as part of the "Woods Plan", created by Captain R.W.D. Woods to have a

⁴⁶ Bowie, p. 2

⁴⁷ Anticipating Cecil Field being declared surplus in 1946, Jacksonville Junior College, later Jacksonville University, sought to acquire the 2,600 acres for a new campus in order to accommodate 500 students in the Fall. At the time, the college was crowded in the Kay mansion on Riverside Avenue. *Florida Times Union*, September 21, 1999.

⁴⁸ *Jacksonville Journal*, July 13, 1949.

⁴⁹ Ed Murfin, "Some More History of the Westside of Jacksonville". Unpublished, vertical files – Jacksonville Planning and Development Department. *Jacksonville Journal*, July 14, 1949.

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

on tour of duty in Vietnam, McCain was shot down on October 26, 1967 as part of a massive attack over Hanoi. Crashing his A-4 Skyhawk, McCain broke his right leg and both arms. He was captured and placed in the Hoa Lo prison, AKA, Hanoi Hilton. Realizing his father was a 4-star admiral and head of the Navy's Pacific Command, the North Vietnamese captors offered to release him several times. He refused to leave without the other prisoners. Over the 5 ½ years in the prison, McCain and the other prisoners were regularly tortured.⁵²

After being released in 1973, McCain returned to Cecil Field where he was welcomed back by the Navy with a program held at the base chapel. He received extensive physical therapy, as well as learned to fly the unfamiliar A-7A Corsair II. In 1974, he was appointed as executive officer of the Attack Squadron 174 and became commander in 1976. Under McCain's leadership, the squadron was able to make and maintain its pilot's training rates and was awarded the Navy Meritorious Unit, the first for Attack Squadron 174. McCain's last naval assignment was serving as the Navy liaison to the U.S. Senate. He started having political aspirations on his return from Vietnam which was further enhanced by his assignment in Washington, D.C. McCain valued his time in Jacksonville and Orange Park and stated Cecil Field, "was the most rewarding assignment of my naval career".

During the 1960s, Cecil Field received infrastructure upgrades and new facilities such as sewer and water supply facilities, street lighting, a five million dollar enlisted men quarter, new mess hall, two-million-dollar family units, a second Miramar hanger, new ordinance facilities, dispensary, sports complex and 500 seat movie theater. In 1965, construction started on Building 800, a 14,744 square foot chapel and religious education building. The Memorial Chapel at Cecil Field was completed from a design by the Jacksonville architectural firm of Kemp, Bunch & Jackson (KBJ). In 1975, Cecil Field was considered as an alternative landing site for the Space Shuttle Program by the Department of Defense and the National Aeronautical and Space Administration. As a critical part of the naval air operations, pilots from Cecil Field were also involved in more recent conflicts in the Middle East including attack on Libya and Kuwait in January of 1991 as well as twelve squadrons deployed during Operations Desert Shield (Desert Storm) where Six pilots from Cecil Field were lost. The first was Captain Michael Scott Speicher who was shot down in F/A-18 Hornet jet on the first day of Desert Storm.

The operations at Cecil Field and Naval Station Jacksonville were supported at one time by at least five auxiliary facilities. Naval Outlying Landing Fields function as auxiliary airfields to nearby Naval Air Stations. Having no permanently based squadrons and with limited facilities, the OLFs are used for flight training in low-traffic locations. Located north of Cecil Field, the 2,500 acres OLF Whitehouse is

⁵² *Florida Times Union*, March 18, 2018, A-1.

City of Jacksonville

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

Aerodrome Tables as being closed to all aircraft.⁵⁷

Named after Dr. Mark B. Herlong, Chairman of the City Commission from 1932-33, Herlong Field, nine miles west of Jacksonville, was commissioned in 1941 as a training station for Navy and Marine pilots. Declared surplus after World War II, the 1,400 acres that constituted Herlong Field was transferred to the City of Jacksonville in November of 1946. Herlong Field became the third municipal airport following the main facility at Imeson Field in North Jacksonville, predecessor to the Jacksonville International Airport, and Craig Field in the southeast part of the county.⁵⁸

With the end of the Cold War, Congress in September of 1993 approved the recommendations of the Defense Base Realignment Committee to close thirty-one large military bases, including Cecil Field, and 134 smaller installations around the country. On June 26, 1993, the seventeen jet squadrons and most of the 7,500 military and civilian personnel were sent to Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia and Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort, South Carolina. At the time of closure, Cecil Field provided 8,557 jobs with an annual economic impact of 586 million. The base was composed of 24,039 acres with another 8,379 leased, 479 buildings constituting 3.4 million square feet with a plant value of 751 million and 137 miles of roadway, as well as 7,060 military and 1,497 civilian personnel. Some of the other support facilities at Cecil Field included family housing (38 duplexes and 21 single family homes, 48 mobile home pads), a Navy exchange with retail stores, gas station, recreational fields, swimming pool, gymnasium, and 18-hole golf course.⁵⁹

On October 1, 1999, most of the property, 11,000 acres, at Cecil Field was transferred to the City of Jacksonville. The Jacksonville Airport Authority received 6,086 acres that included the airfields, ramp spaces, buildings and eight hangers. 1,000 acres on the southern boundary came under ownership of Clay County. 15,000 acres of Cecil Field property not contiguous to the base was redirected to NAS Jacksonville. The City receive the property and facilities free through the Federal Aviation Administration per congressional action. Before transferring the base property, the Navy had to mitigate 18 contaminated sites spread over forty-five acres. Five of the most contaminated sites were placed on the Superfund List. The contaminated sites

⁵⁷ Murfin.

⁵⁸ Jan S. Flagler, "Historic Herlong Field, A Pleasure-Filled" 1980's Airport", *JaxPort*, Summer, 1987, pp. 9-12.

www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/cecil-field.htm.

⁵⁹ *Florida Times Union*, March 21, 1993, C-1.

Florida Times Union, December 3, 1998, A-1.

Information also from a ten-page unnamed publication dated 1993 located in the vertical files available in the Florida History Section of the Jacksonville Public Library.

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

privately with the chairman of the committee after the vote was taken to close Oceana. Senator Warner informed him that Oceana played a significant role in national security due to being the home of the SEAL Team Six and must remain open. As a result, the chairman convinced the Committee to reverse their previous decision and recommend the closure of Cecil Field.⁶⁶

Former Commanding Officer at Cecil Field, Sam K. Houston, Jr. was told by an admiral at the Pentagon that the reason for closure, was that the BRAC, “wanted to offer up a jewel [Cecil Field] to congress to show that they were serious about base closure”. Even though they were aware that closing Cecil Field was a mistake, the Committee refused to re-consider their decision to close Cecil Fields since would create a precedent for reversing other closure decisions. The closure of Cecil Field was a surprise to most since represented a successful and strategically important base not facing major encroachment and having expansion potential.⁶⁷ According to naval pilot, James B. “J.B” Renninger, Cecil Field was such a superior airfield that BRAC was of the opinion that their recommendation of closure would not be accepted by Pentagon or Congress. Unfortunately the decision makers called their hand and accepted the closure recommendation.⁶⁸

Being isolated forced the development of strong sense of community within the base. For example, Primm Wright, a navy wife, described Cecil Field as being a “little community to itself”. At the time both Normandy Boulevard and 103rd Street were undeveloped for the most part requiring access to essentials and entertainment being limited more to the base. Wright was also a member of the Cecil Field Officers’ Wives, organized for the purpose of being a support system for navy families in addition to being involved in the movement to highlight the status of POW/MIA, particularly those from Cecil Field. The officer’s wife was responsible for the purchase and installation of a pair of wings placed on each side of the front entryway of the chapel. One wing represented navigators and the other aviators. She also made reference to a large board in the back of the chapel that listed the names of both officers and enlisted personnel that were killed while stationed at Cecil Field. The board and probably the wings were relocated to NAS Jacksonville with the closure of the base.⁶⁹

Navy wife, Kathy Payton described her involvement with another important support organization, the National Navy Wives Club. In addition to promoting camaraderie among navy wives through a variety of activities, the club at Cecil Field operated a thrift store in order to raise funds for their operation. After leaving military life,

⁶⁶ Corley, interview with John Leenhouts, July 3, 2017, pp. 5-27 & 28

⁶⁷ Corley, interview with Sam K. Houston, Jr., May 16, 2017, p. 7-15.

⁶⁸ Corley, interview with James B., “J.B” Renninger, August 2, 2017, p. 9-37.

⁶⁹ Corley, interview with Primm Wright, March 13, 2017, (Lieutenant Commander Frederick Wright, 1936 - 1972), pp. 2-10, 11, 12, 24, 26, 27 & 34.

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

During the 1960s, Cecil Field received infrastructure upgrades and new facilities such as sewer and water supply systems, street lighting, a five-million dollar enlisted men quarter, new mess hall, two-million-dollar family housing units, a second Miramar hanger, new ordinance facilities, dispensary, sports complex, 500 seat movie theater and chapel. In 1965, construction started on Building # 800, the 14,744 square foot Memorial Chapel at Cecil Field. Opening on December 17, 1966, the chapel was dedicated in honor of all who given "the last full measure of devotion" to their country⁷¹. At the dedication, Rear Admiral Henry J. Rotrige, director of the Chaplains Division of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, as well as a Roman Catholic priest, gave the dedicatory sermon. The first house of worship on the base, the chapel hosted hundreds of weddings, baptisms, funerals and memorial services as well as events on Memorial Day and Veteran's Day.⁷²

Adjacent to the Chapel, twelve "Freedom Trees" with adjacent bronze plaques were planted in memory of Cecil Field pilots who were POW, MIA or killed in action during the Vietnam War. The memorial was started by the Cecil Field Officers Wives Club under the "Lest We Forgot Committee". Dedicated in 1974 as the "Hero's Walk and Freedom Trees", the memorial was expanded to include POW, MIA or those killed in action from Cecil Field during Desert Storm. Having a total of sixteen "Freedom Trees", the memorial was enhanced with a stage and pavilion. A permanent marker was displayed on the rear of the chapel listing the twenty-eight military personnel that died while serving at Cecil Field. As part of the memorial, the Shipmate Memorial Chimes (Schulmerich Magnebell Carillon) was dedicated in 1967 at the newly completed chapel.

A member of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, Mrs. Mary Hoff, the wife of Cecil Field naval pilot Michael George Hoff who was shot down over Laos in 1970, took the initiative to have a banner or flag designed to remember American soldiers and sailors that are missing in action. Designed by Norman Rivkees with the Annin & Company, the flag became widely recognized as the universal symbol to ensure those missing in action or held as a prisoner of war are not forgotten.⁷³ The flag is the only one to fly over the U.S. Capitol other than the American flag.⁷⁴

The chapel was designed by the prominent Jacksonville architectural firm of KBJ

⁷¹ *Florida Times Union*, December 18, 1966, B-5.

⁷² Corley, interview with Dennis "Dizzy" Gillespie, March 29, 2017, pp. 3-59, 60 & 72.

⁷³ An August 14, 2015 article in the *Florida Times Union* identified the designer of the flag as Newt Heisley..

⁷⁴ "The Breeze", Orange Park, Florida, December 12, 1974, p. 1.

Vishi R. Garig, "Mary Helen Hoff, an American Hero", *This Month in Clay County History*, undated article, c.2015, Clay County Archives.

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

engineer during World War II, Jackson joined with William Kemp and Franklin S. Bunch in 1946 to create the firm of KBJ, Architects. Recognized as a lead designer in the firm, Jackson had an exemplary record of public service that included the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor's Commission on Water Pollution, the Boys Club, and a member of the Local Government Study Commission for considering the consolidation of Jacksonville and Duval County. He was also actively involved in having the state legislature approve the establishment of the Jacksonville-Duval County Area Planning Board which he later served as a member. In 1972, Jackson received an Architect-Community Service Award from the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects.⁷⁹

Credit with creating Jacksonville's modern skyline, KBJ Architects were responsible for designing seventeen of the city's tallest buildings.⁸⁰ Some of the significant buildings designed by KBJ Architects include the former Prudential Building (Aetna Building, 1955), the old Independent Life Building (1955), Seaboard Airline Building (CSX Transportation Building, 1960), Gulf Life Tower in association with Welton Becket (Riverplace Tower, 1967), Times-Union Building (1967), Cathedral Towers (1968), Cathedral Townhouse (1970), Cathedral Terrace (1974), First Union National Bank Building (BB&T Bank Building, 1974), Independent Square (Wells Fargo Center, 1974), Southern Bell Tower (EverBank Center, 1983), Two Prudential Plaza (1985), American Heritage Life Building (SunTrust Tower, 1989), Bryan Simpson United States Courthouse (2002) and the Duval County Courthouse (2012).⁸¹

The elevation drawings and eave details of the chapel identify the architect as John Richard Graveley (c.1920 – 1980) of Jacksonville. The relationship between John Richard Graveley and KBJ Architects in the design of the Cecil Field Chapel has not been determined. John Richard Graveley was the son of Jacksonville architect, John Graveley (1884 – c.1970) who was originally from New Orleans where his father, Frank P. Graveley had an architectural practice in the early twentieth century. A project list from 1937 to 1975 listed only John Graveley as architect until 1957. However, in that year, the designs were credited to Graveley and Graveley, Architects. Other than alterations and additions, the only sanctuary clearly determined to be designed by Graveley and Graveley, Architects was St. James Lutheran Church in 1954 at 8560 Lem Turner Road in the Riverview neighborhood of Jacksonville. However, the church has a more traditional roof pitch when compared to the A-frame design of the Cecil Field Chapel.⁸²

⁷⁹ *Florida Times Union*, April 19, 2003, B-1.

⁸⁰ *Florida Times Union*, January 24, 2008.

⁸¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KBJ_Architects

⁸² Graveley and Graveley Office Records, Southeastern Architectural Archive, Collection 151, Special Collections Division, Tulane University Library, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1987.
HTR Foundation.com/about/us.

City of Jacksonville

**Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District
Nomination Form Continuation Sheet**

B Its location is the site of a significant local, state or national event.

It is the determination of the Planning and Development Department that the subject property at 6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway, Cecil Field Chapel, does not meet this landmark criterion.

C It is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the City, state or nation.

It is the determination of the Planning and Development Department that the subject property at 6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway, Cecil Field Chapel, does not meet this landmark criterion.

D It is identified as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual work has influenced the development of the City, state or nation.

It is the determination of the Planning and Development Department that the subject property at 6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway, Cecil Field Chapel, does not meet this landmark criterion.

E Its value as a building is recognized for the quality of its architecture, and it retains sufficient elements showing its architectural significance.

It is the determination of the Planning and Development Department that the subject property at 6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway, Cecil Field Chapel, does not meet this landmark criterion.

F It has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials.

Although still used in church design, the large A-frame of the Cecil Field Chapel was particularly popular in church architecture during the 1960s and 70s as part of the Mid-Modern Movement. A-frame designs were also used in residential construction particularly associated with resorts or vacation homes.⁸⁷ The primary element of the

The Cecil Field Memorial and Museum will join the National Prisoner of War Museum in Andersonville, Georgia as the only institutions uniquely dedicated to America's 83,000 soldiers from all branches of service missing in action since World War II (Corley, Interview with Michael Cassata, November 20, 2017).

⁸⁷ Virginia & Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. (New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1984), pp 497-499.

City of Jacksonville

**Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District
Nomination Form Continuation Sheet**

9-1 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Books and Articles

Bloodworth, Bertha E. & Alton C. Morris *Places in the Sun, The History & Romance of Florida Place Names*. Gainesville, Florida, University Presses of Florida, 1978.

Bland, Myles & David Mynatt, Intensive Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Three SAP Parcels, Duval County, Florida. Jacksonville, Florida: Bland & Associates, Inc., March, 2006.

Bradley, Alfred G. and E. Story Hallock. *A Chronology of Florida Post Offices*. Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs, 1962.

Corley, Lyn, *Conversations from Cecil Field, Florida, Transcriptions of Oral History Recording of Nineteen Who Served*. Jacksonville, Florida, 2017.

Davis, T. Frederick. *History of Early Jacksonville and Vicinity, 1513-1924*. The Record Company, St. Augustine, Florida, 1924.

Edwards, Lucy Ames. *Grave Markers in Duval County Florida, 1808 - 1916*. Jacksonville Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, 1955.

Edwards, Lucy Ames, "Stories in Stone, A Study of Duval County Grave Markers", *Florida Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 35, July, 1956-57.

Gold, Pleasant Daniel. *History of Duval County, Florida*. The Record Company, St. Augustine, Florida, 1929.

Holloman, James A., *Florida Yearbook and Almanac*. Compilation of Authoritative Data on the States Resources and Industries, Jacksonville, 1912.

Jones, William M. *A Report on the Site of Camp Finegan, A Confederate Stronghold, Duval County, Florida*. Unpublished, 1959, Collection of the Jacksonville Planning and Development Department.

Jones, William M. *Old Gravelly Hill, Duval County, Florida*. Unpublished, 1992, Collection of the Jacksonville Planning and Development Department.

Kendrick, Baynard Hardwick. *Florida trails to turnpikes, 1914-1964*. Gainesville, Florida, University of Florida Press, 1964.

City of Jacksonville

Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District Nomination Form Continuation Sheet

Spanish Land Grants in Florida. Unconfirmed and Confirmed Claims. 6 Vols.
Tallahassee, FL: State Library Board, 1940.

USGS Topographic Map, Cambon, Florida, 1917.

Work Projects Administration. *Guide to Supplementary Vital Statistics from Church Records in Florida, Volume I*. Florida Historical Records Survey: 1942.

Vertical Files

Planning and Development Department;

Abstract of Title to Riverside Property of the Indian River Association. Drew Company, Undated (c. 1902).

Bowie, Michael, *NAS Cecil Field, A Great Story...From Beginning to End*. c. 1999.

Cecil Field – Business/Operations Plan, Facility Evaluation Form.

Proposal for Cecil Field Memorial and Museum, Cecil Field POW/MIA, Inc. Jacksonville, Florida.

Ferguson, Jon R. *Cemetery Survey – Gravely Hill Cemetery*, unpublished, February, 2002.

Ferguson, Jon R. & Michael E. Lawson, Transcriptions of Grave Markers in the Deese Cemetery, August 25, 2011.

Ferguson, Jon R. & Michael E. Lawson, Transcriptions of Grave Markers in the Smith Family Cemetery, October 17, 2011.

Ferguson, Jon R. & Michael E. Lawson, Transcriptions of Grave Markers in the Turknett Family Cemetery, January 23, 2012.

Flagler, Jan S. "Historic Herlong Field, A Pleasure-Filled 1980s Airport," *JaxPort*, Summer 1987.

Florida Master Site File – *Daniels – Smith Cemetery*, 8DU14264

Florida Master Site File - *Deese Cemetery*, 8DU14265

Florida Master Site File – *Gravely Hill Cemetery*, 8DU14273.

Florida Master Site File - *Hysler Cemetery*, 8DU14276

Florida Master Site File - *Manning Cemetery*, 8DU14283

City of Jacksonville

**Landmark, Landmark Site, or Historic District
Nomination Form Continuation Sheet**

Bargain Finder, Jacksonville, Florida

February 16, 1988

April 5, 1988

May 31, 1988

"The Breeze", Orange Park, Florida,

December 12, 1974, p. 1

Florida State Gazetteer and Business Directory

1907 & 1908, page 281

1911-1912

Florida Times Union

April 4, 1901

September 20, 1908, Section 1, page 2

September 21, 1908, page 2

April 4, 1909, Section 2, p. 4

July 9, 1910

May 14, 1911, page 22

June 2, 1911, page 5

May 31, 1911, page 15

August 21, 1933, page 1

February 21, 1943, page 14

March 6, 1949, pages 1-2

July 27, 1950

August 13, 1950

January 12, 1951

July 2, 1952

March 23, 1960, Section 2, page 27

December 18, 1966, B-5

December 1, 1980, D-1

October 10, 1982, B-1

September 4, 1985, page C-8

Westside News, August 3, 1991, W-8

March 7, 1992, page 1.

June 28, 1992, page C-6

September 27, 1992, page C-4

March 21, 1993, C-1

August 21, 1993

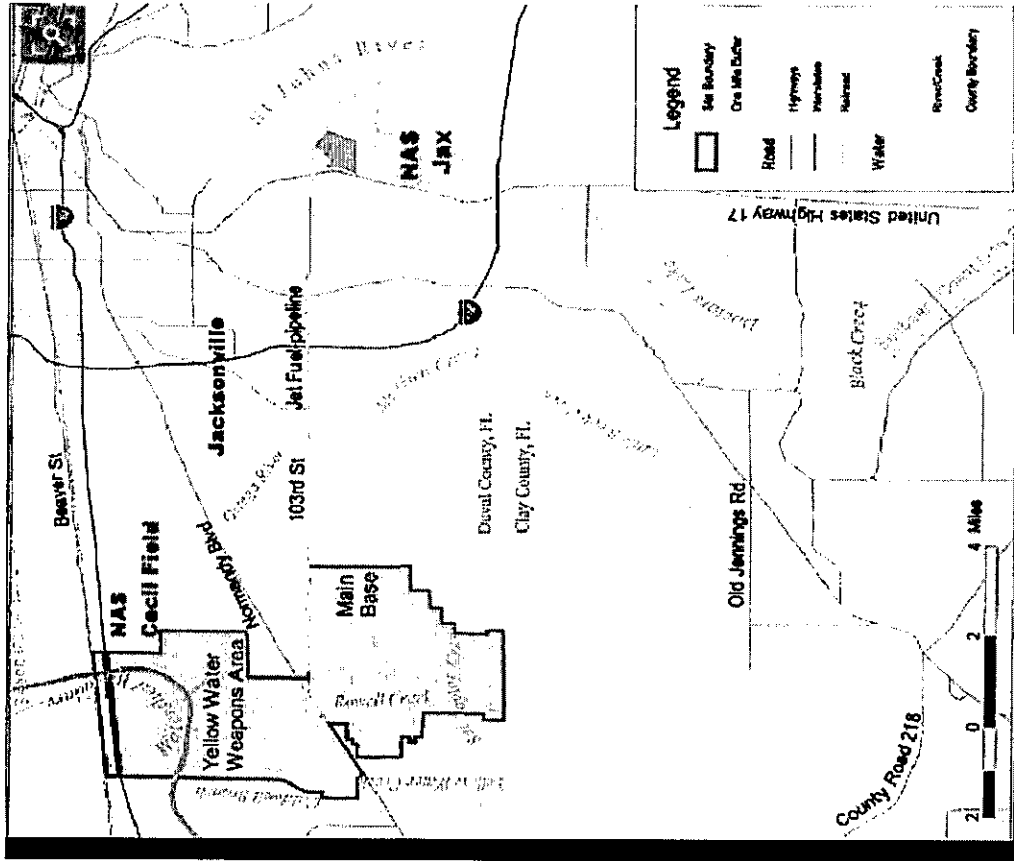
Northside Community News, January 21, 1995, page 1

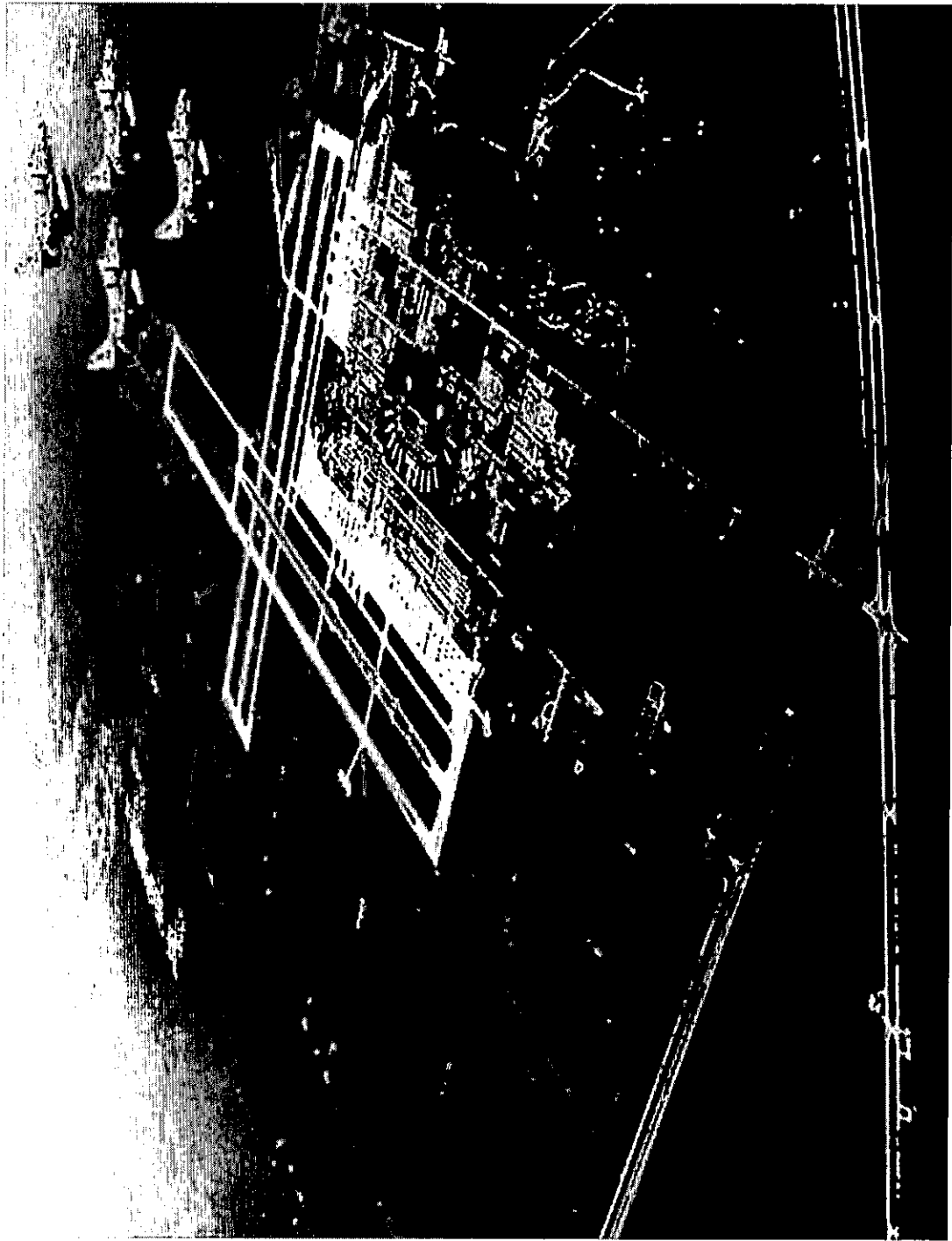
May 17, 1995, page 4

December 3, 1998, A-1

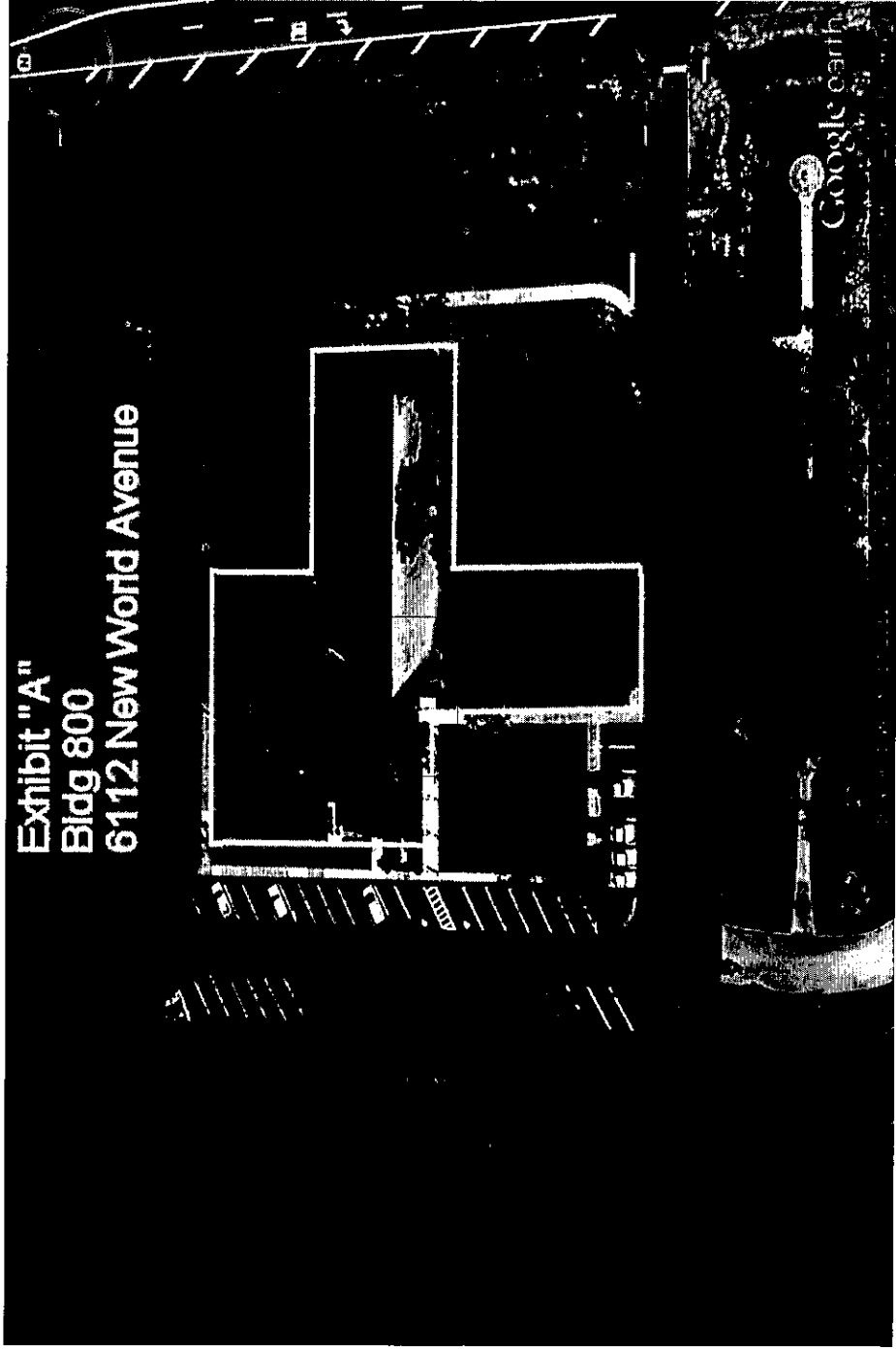
September 12, 1999, B-1

CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway

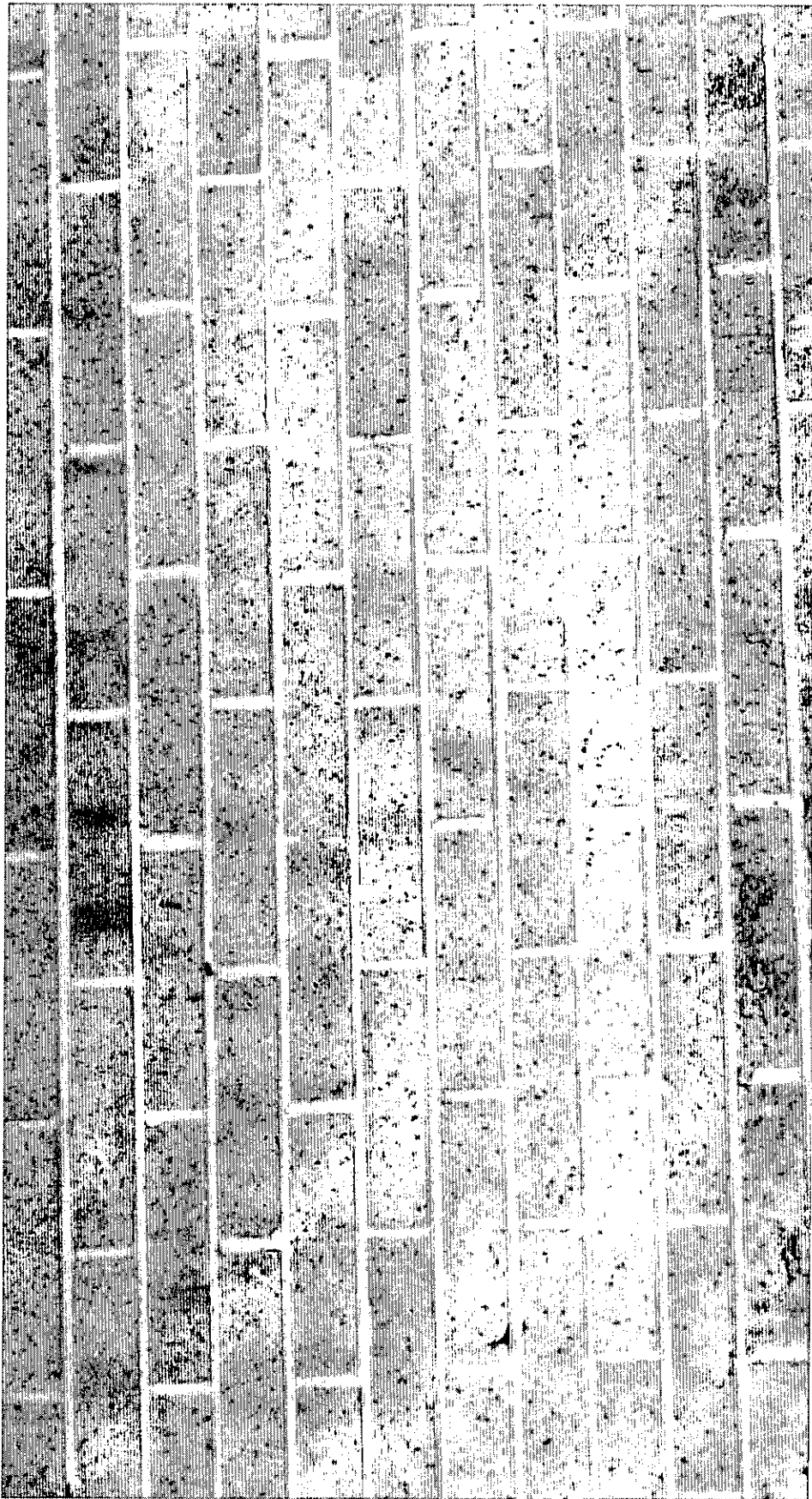




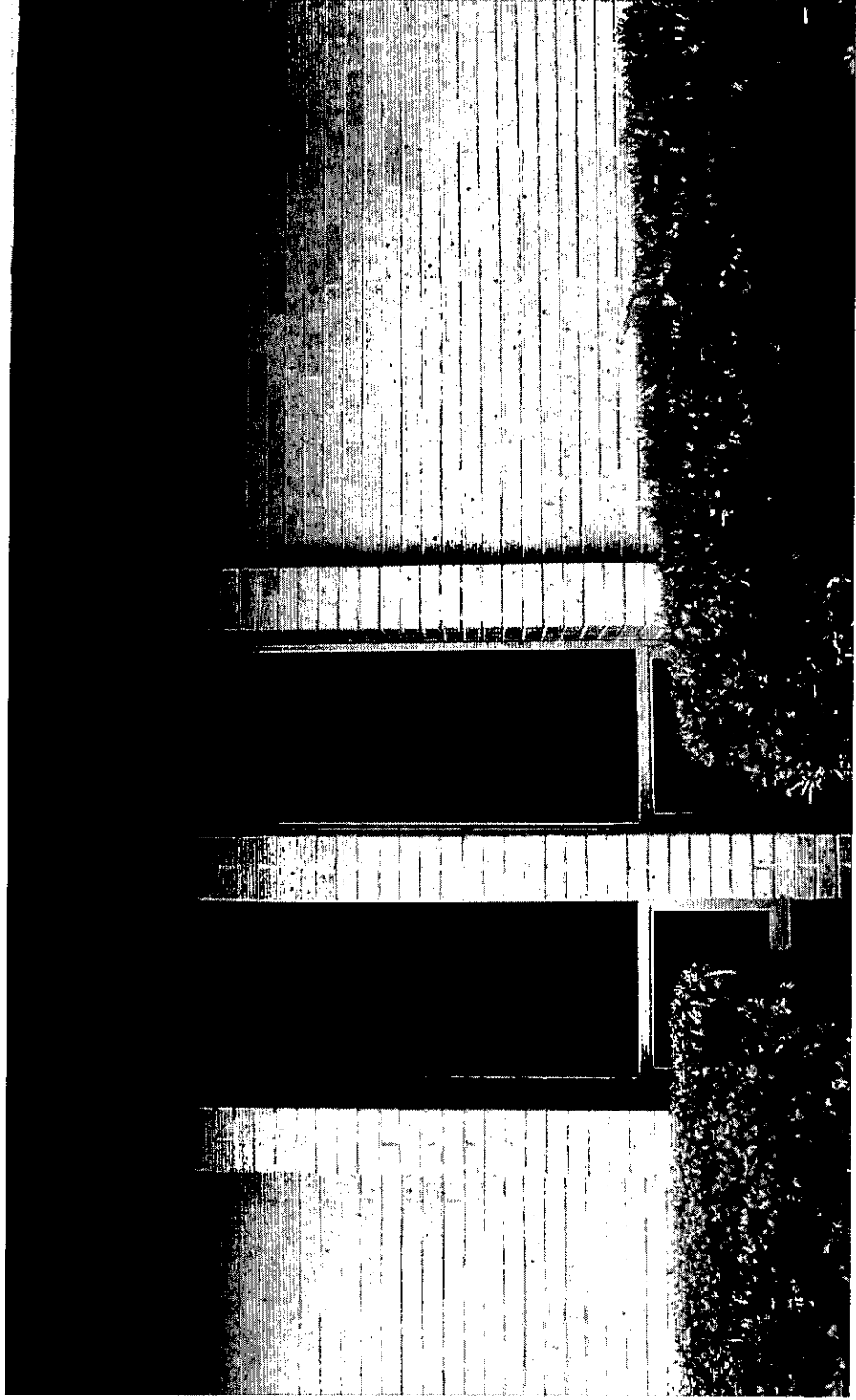
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 5, April 25, 2018



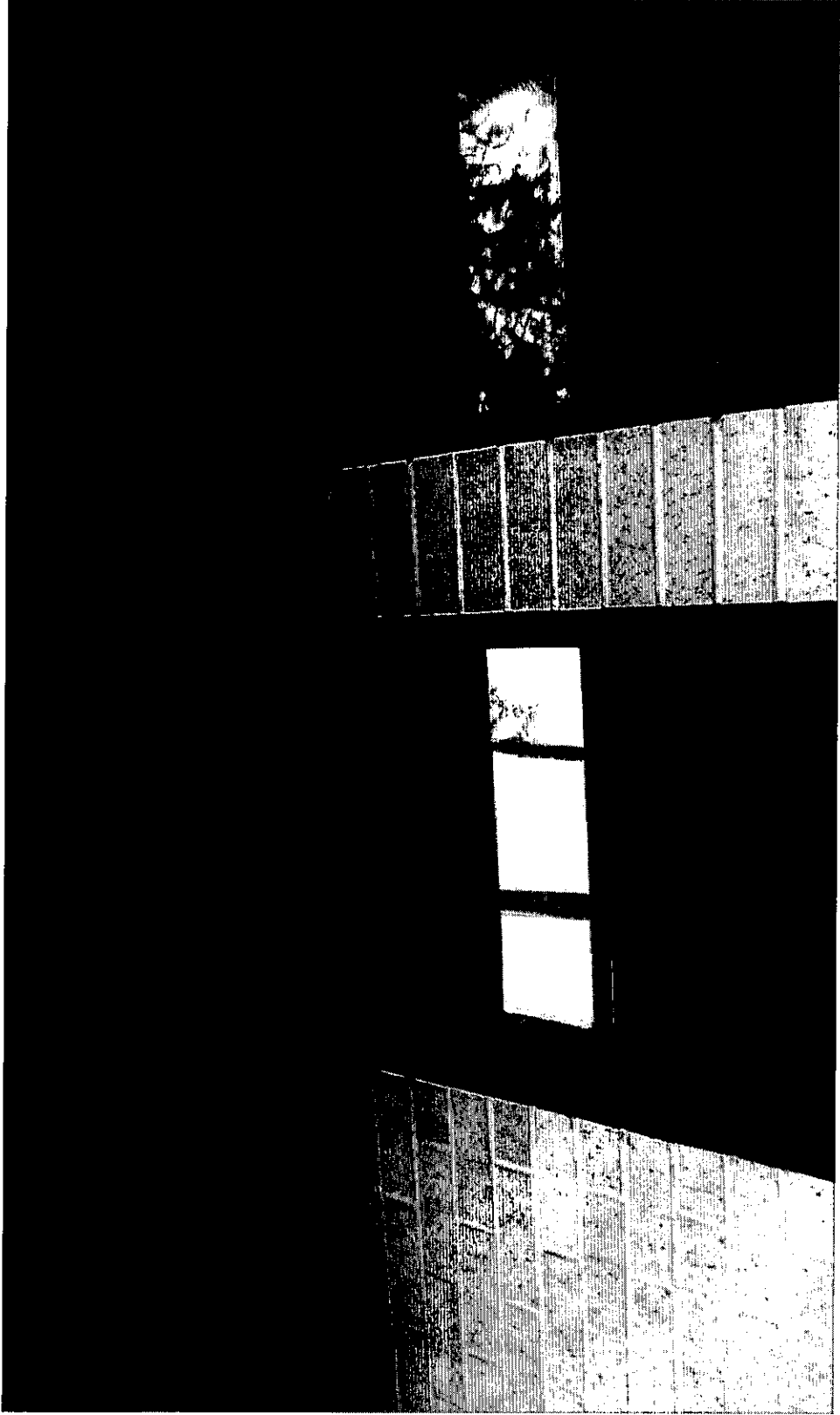
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 7, April 25, 2018



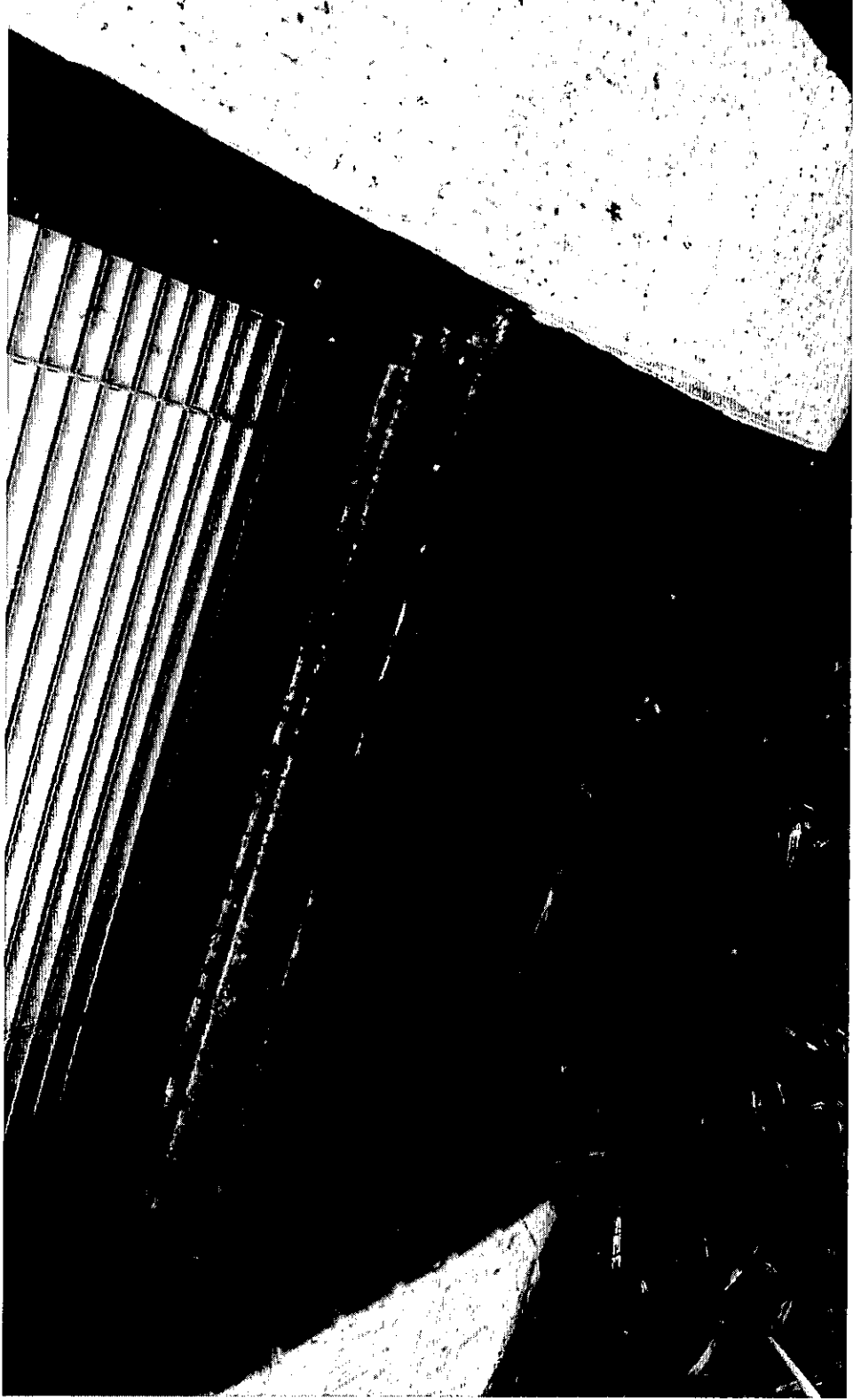
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 9, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 11, April 25, 2018



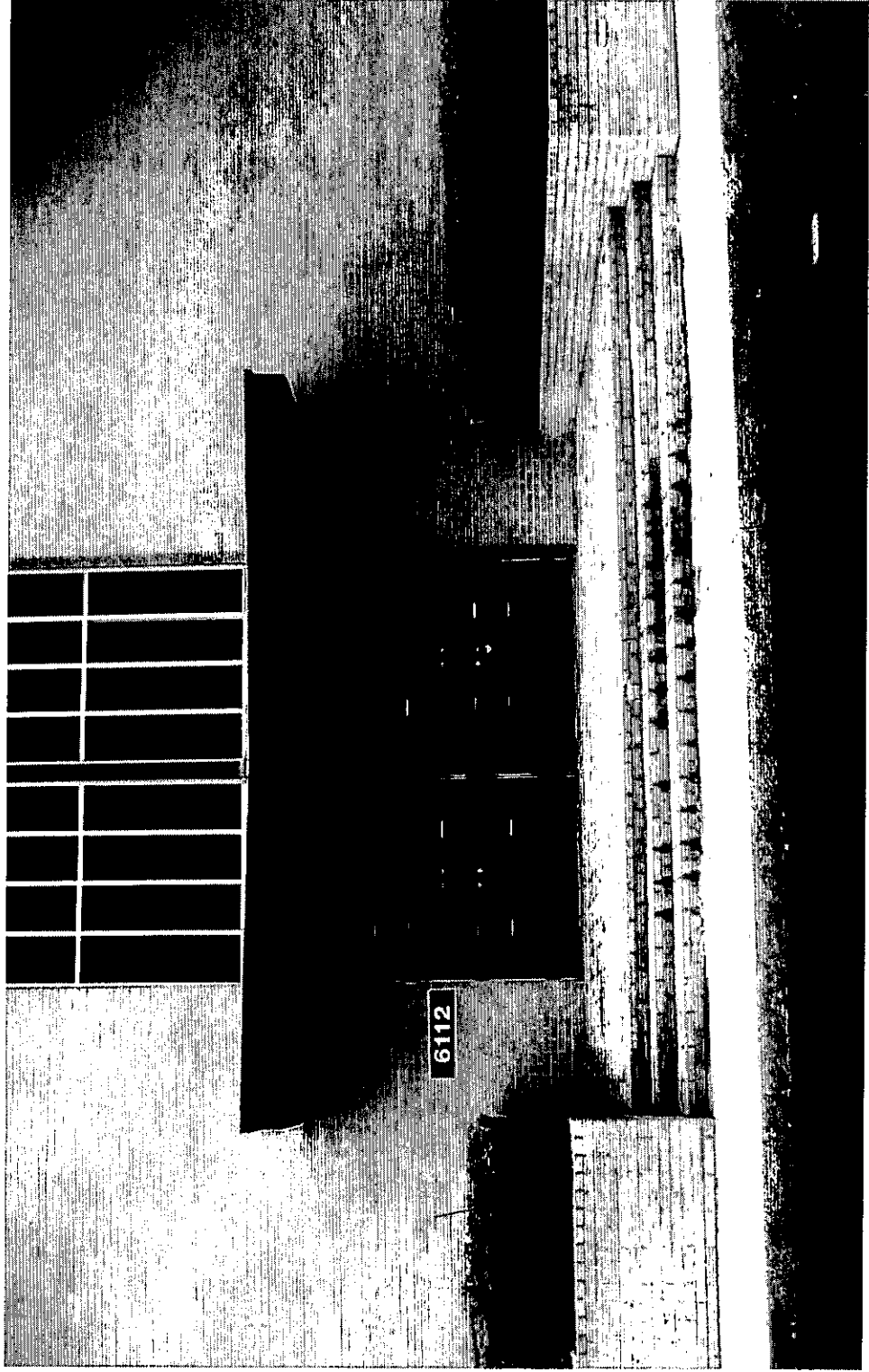
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 13, April 25, 2018



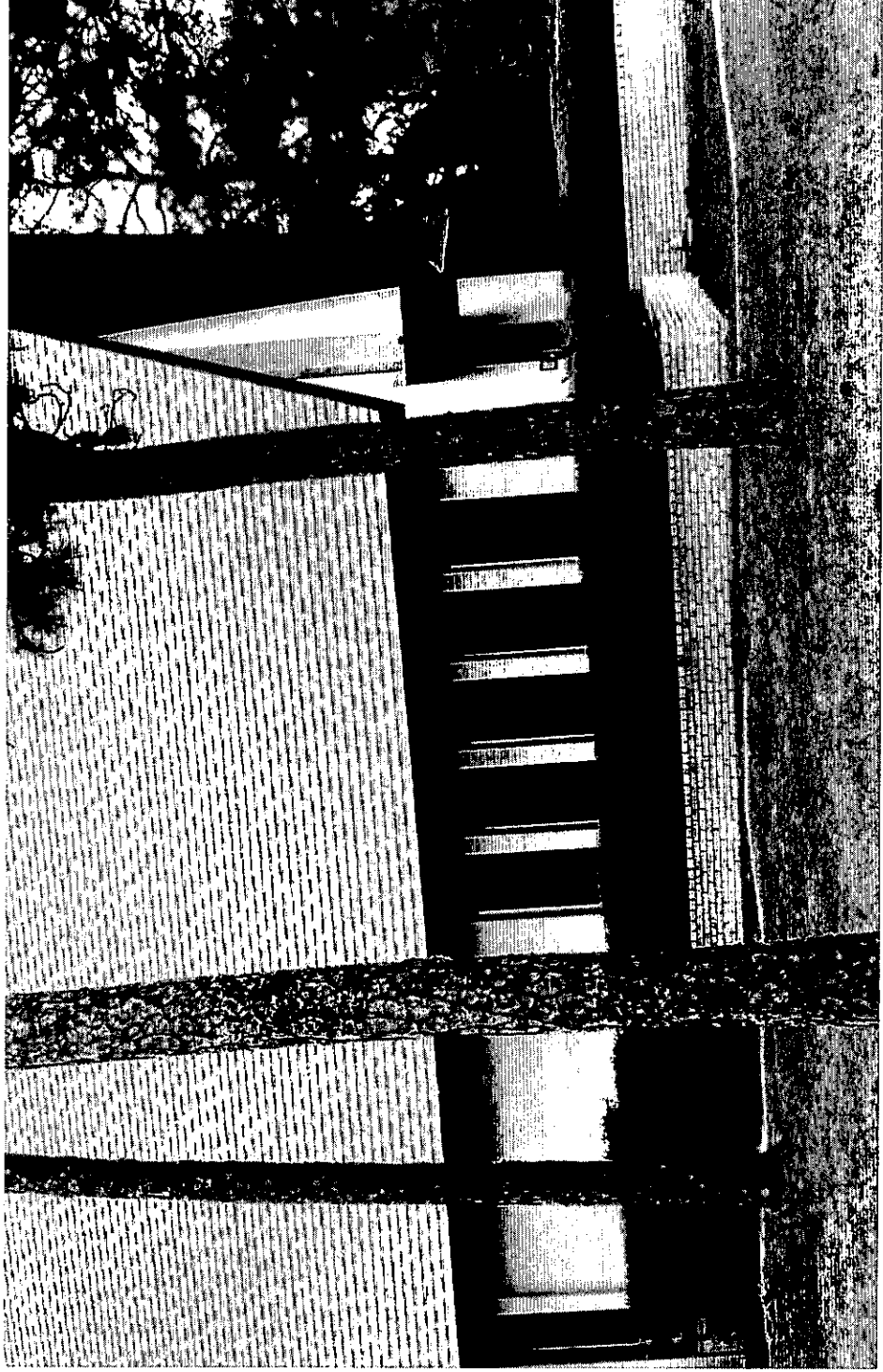
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 15, April 25, 2018



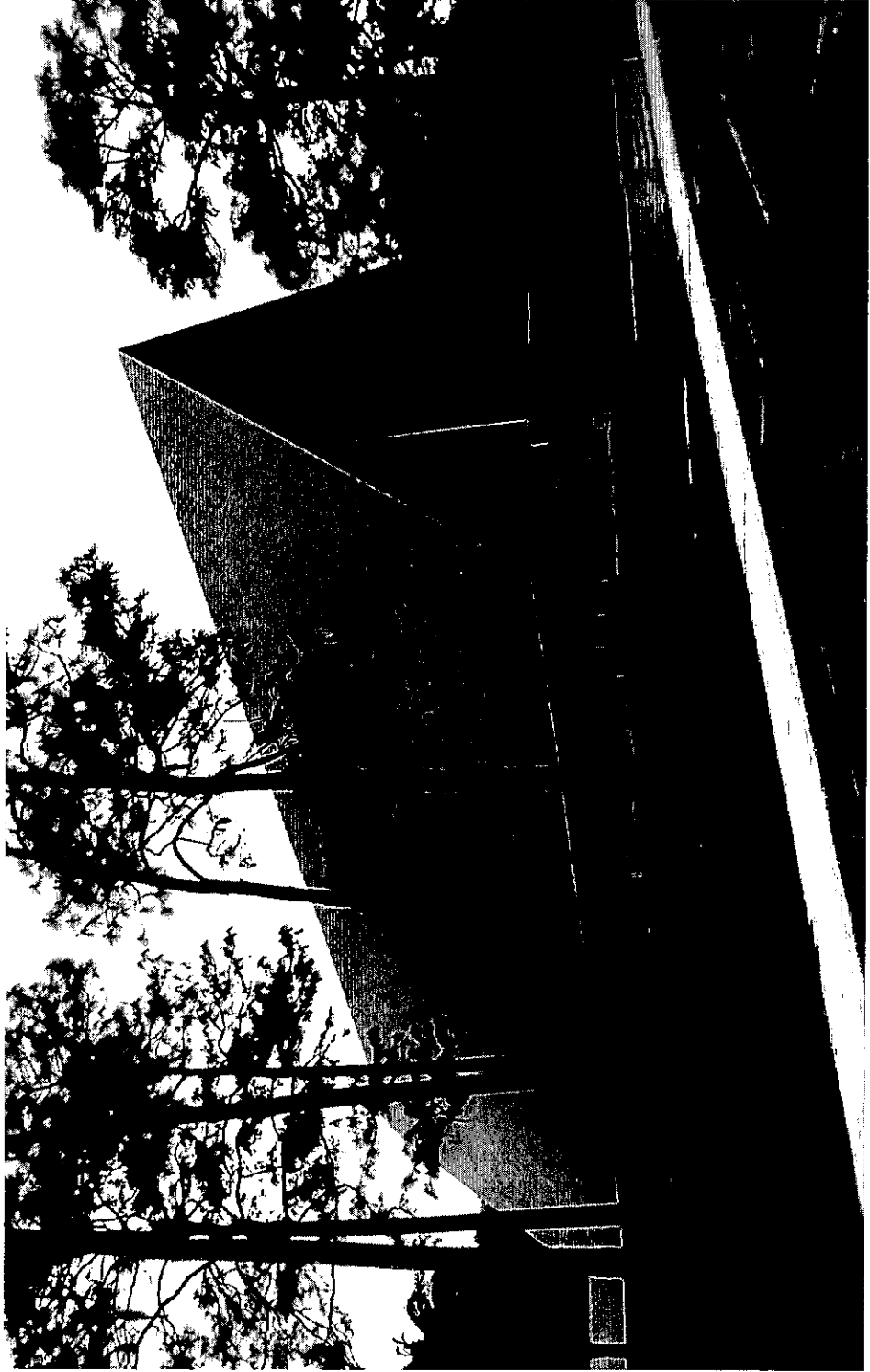
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 17, April 25, 2018



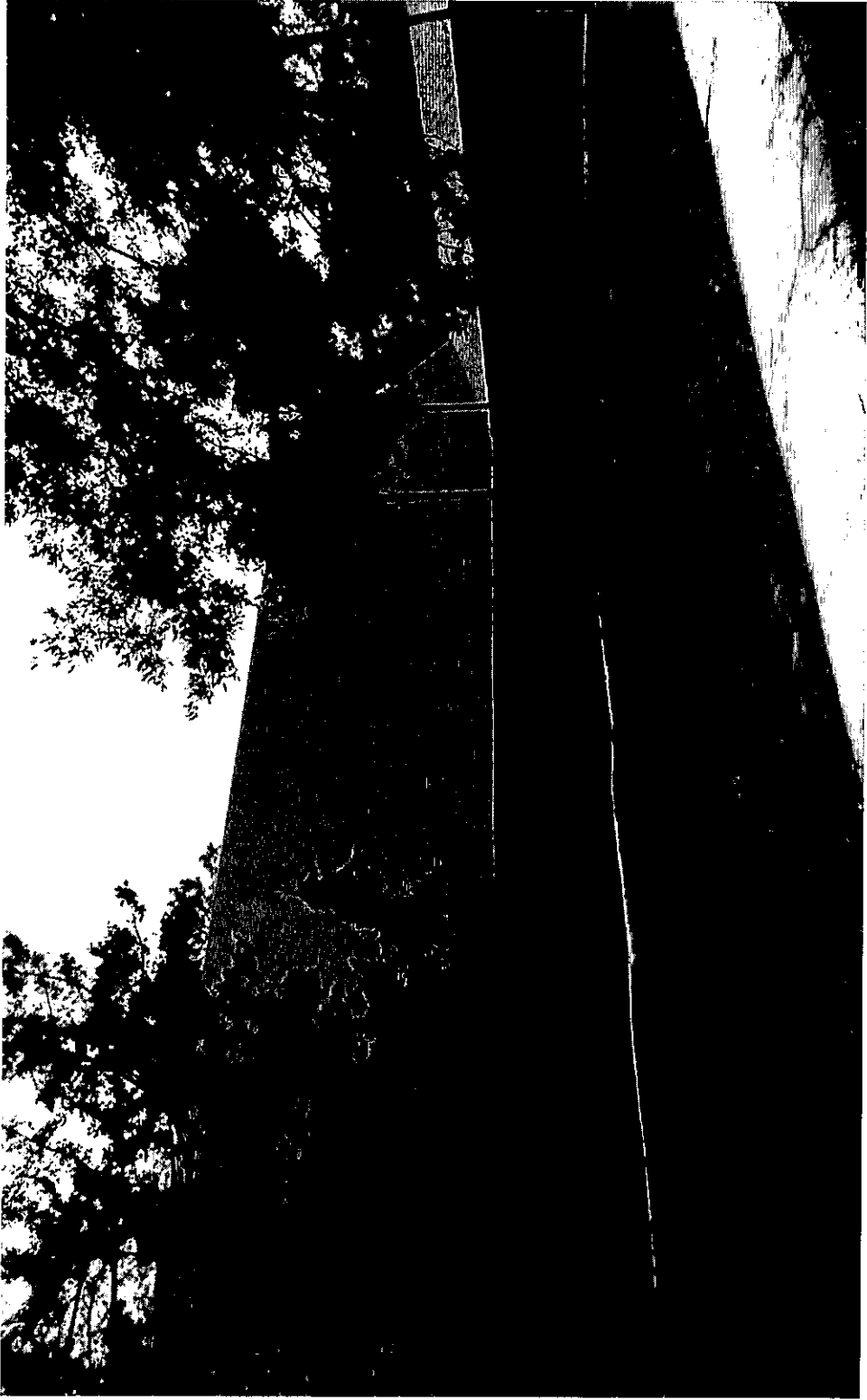
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 19, April 25, 2018



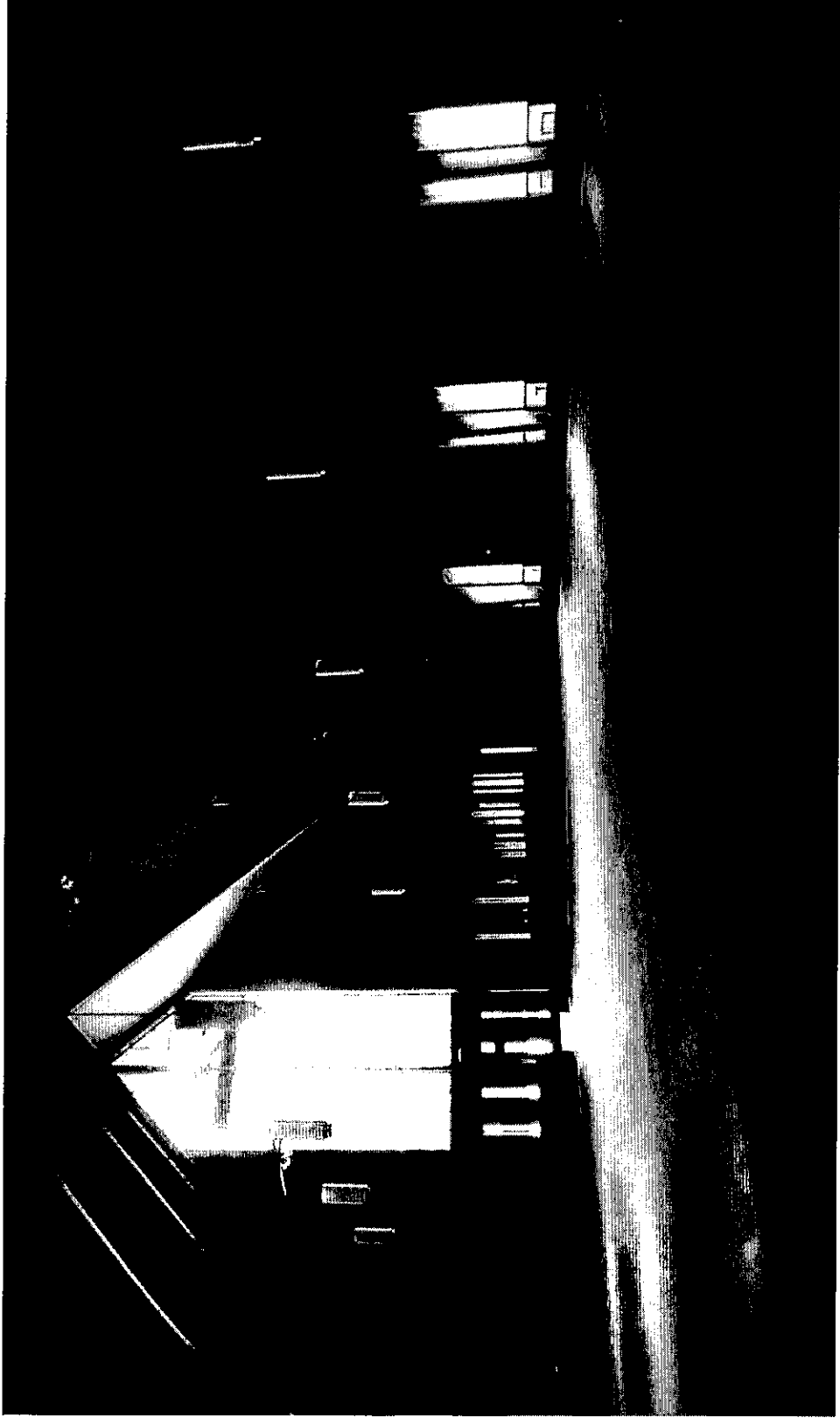
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 21. April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 23, April 25, 2018



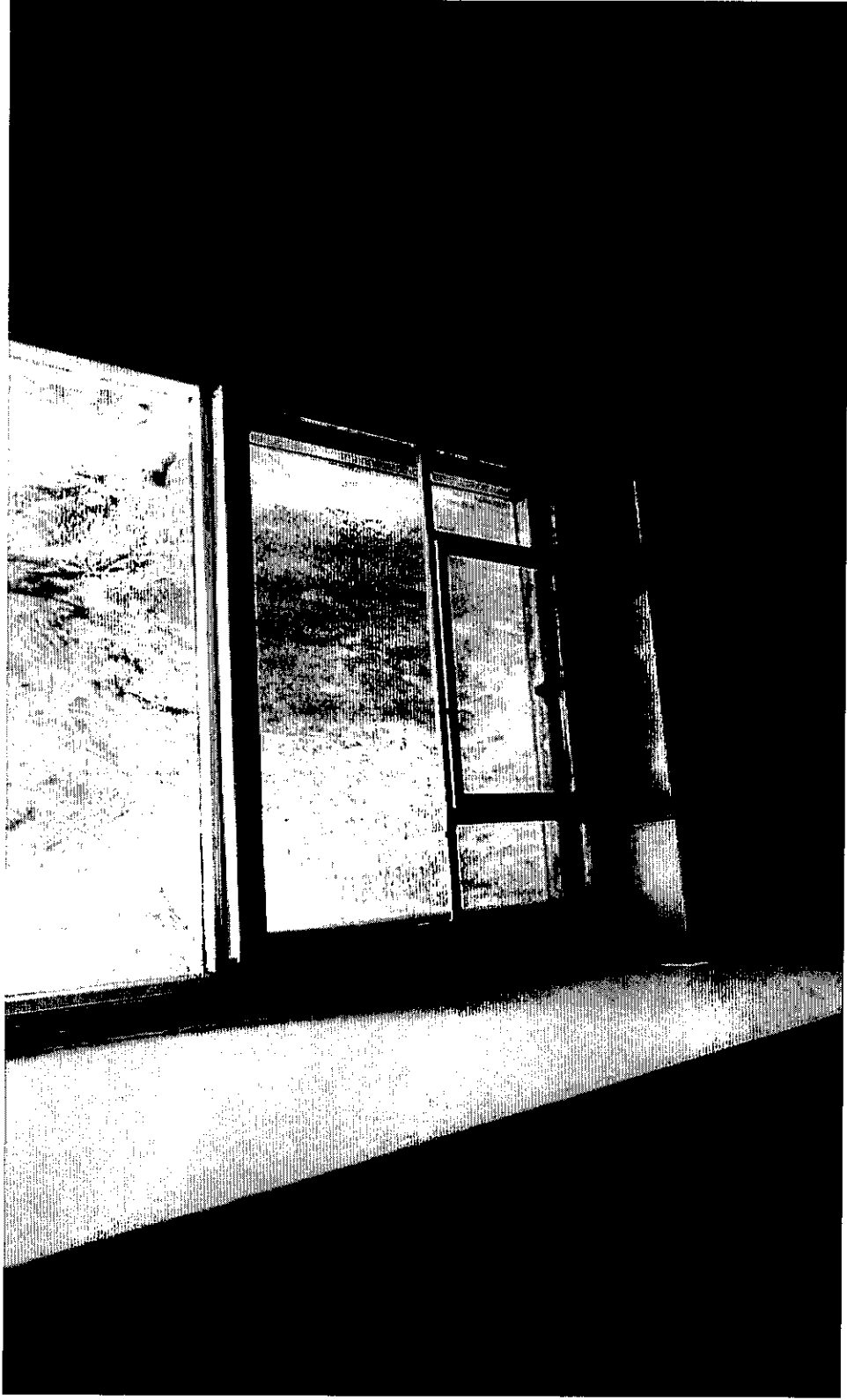
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 25, April 25, 2018



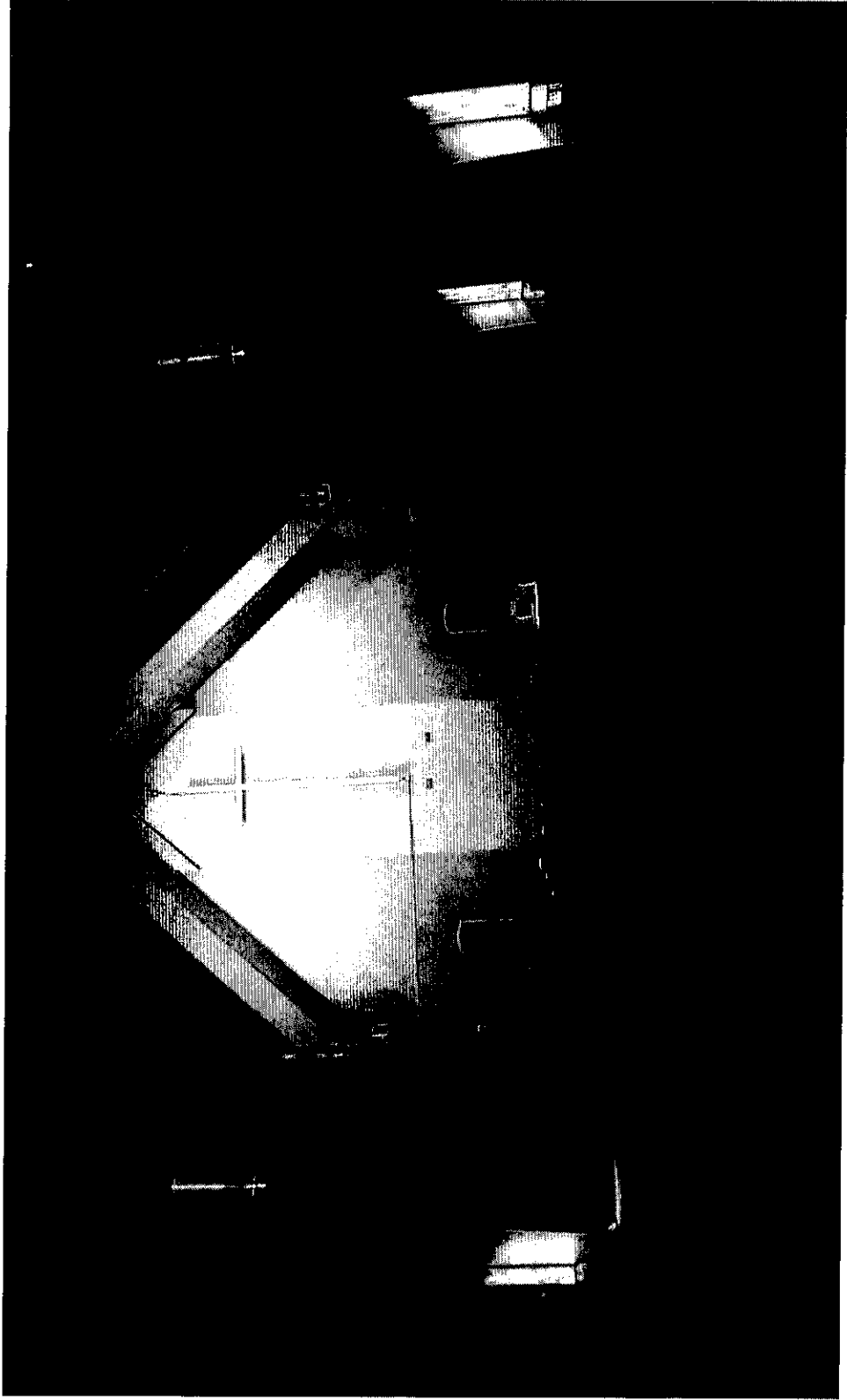
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 27, April 25, 2018



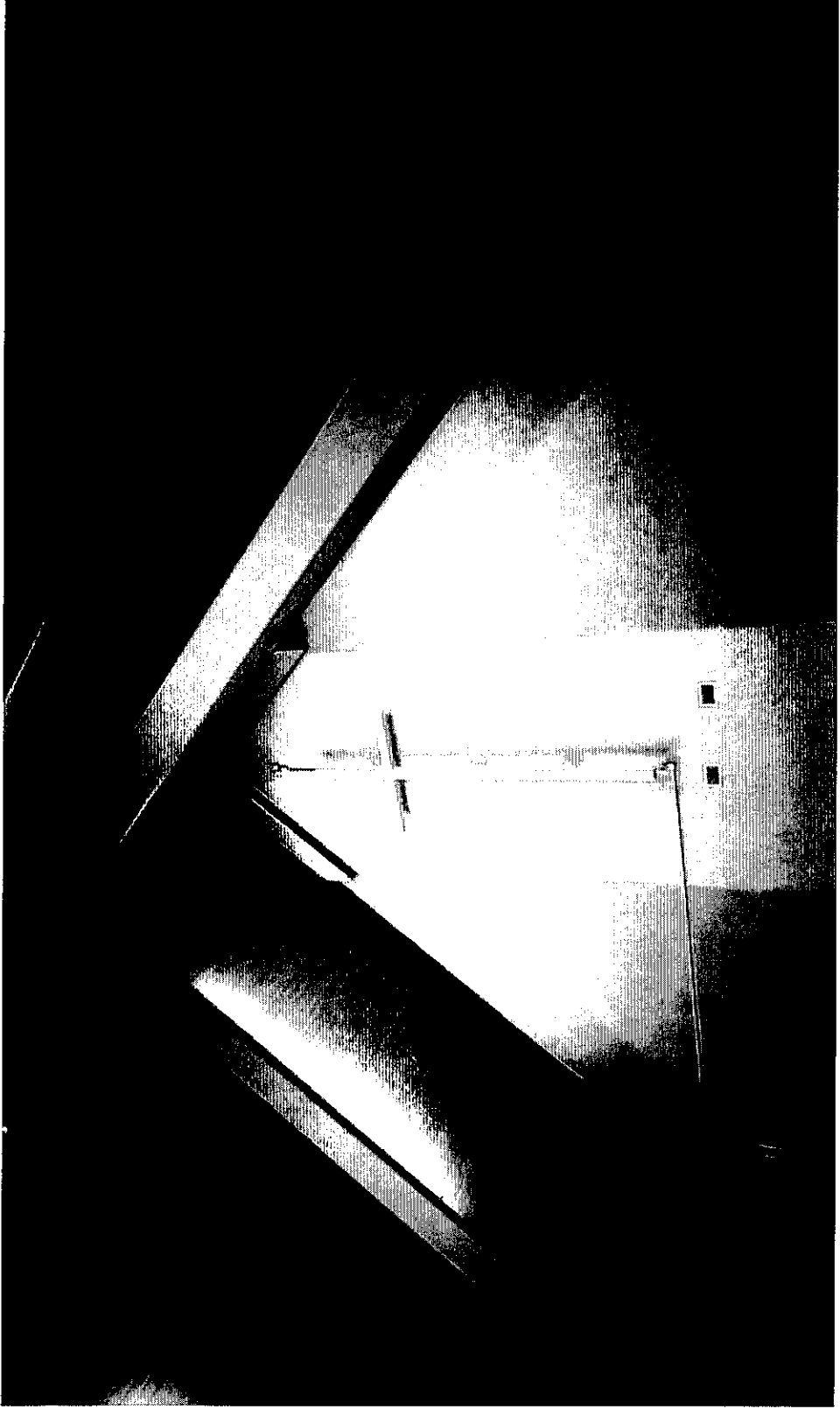
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 29, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 31, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 33, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 35, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 37, April 25, 2018



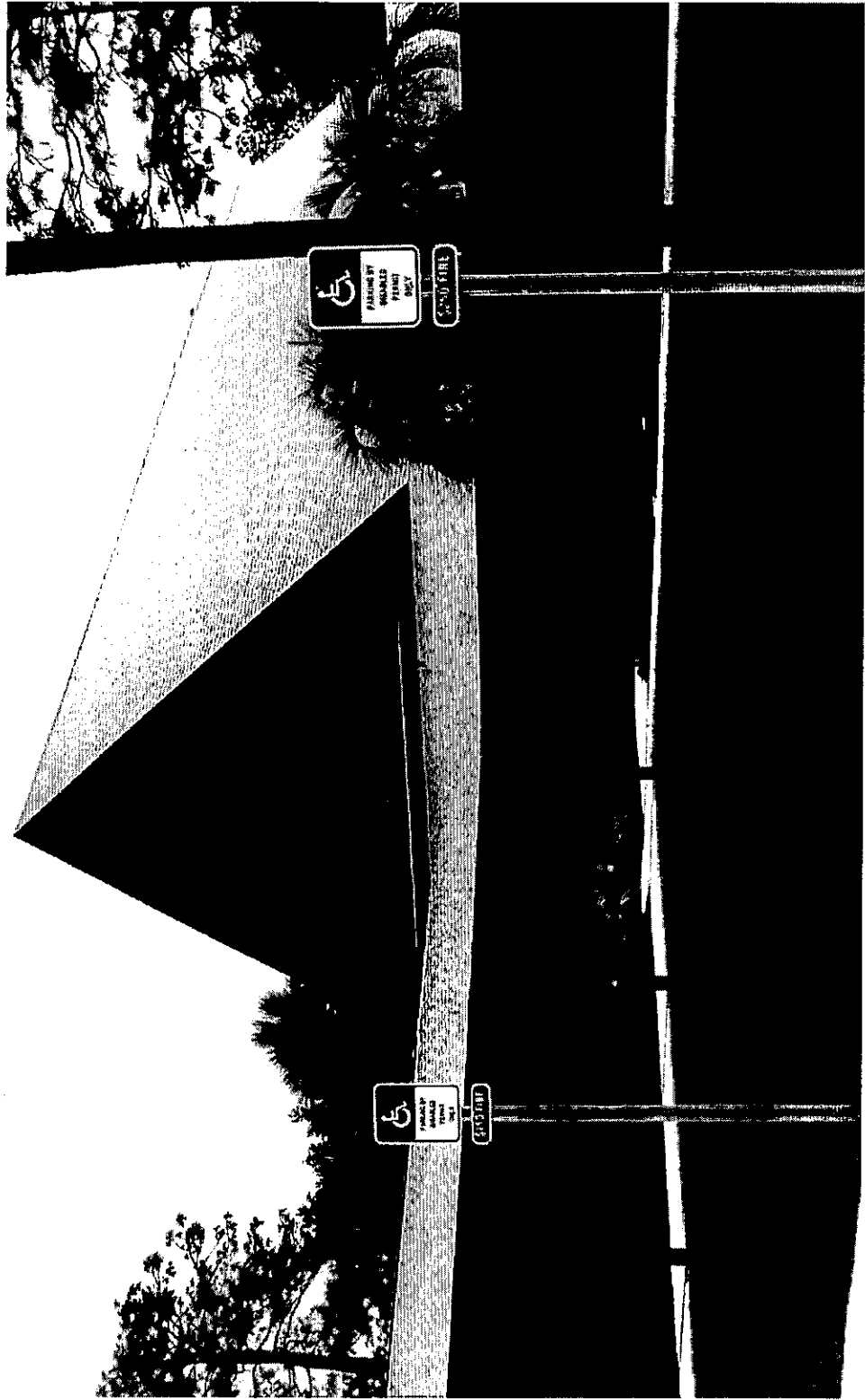
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 39, April 25, 2018



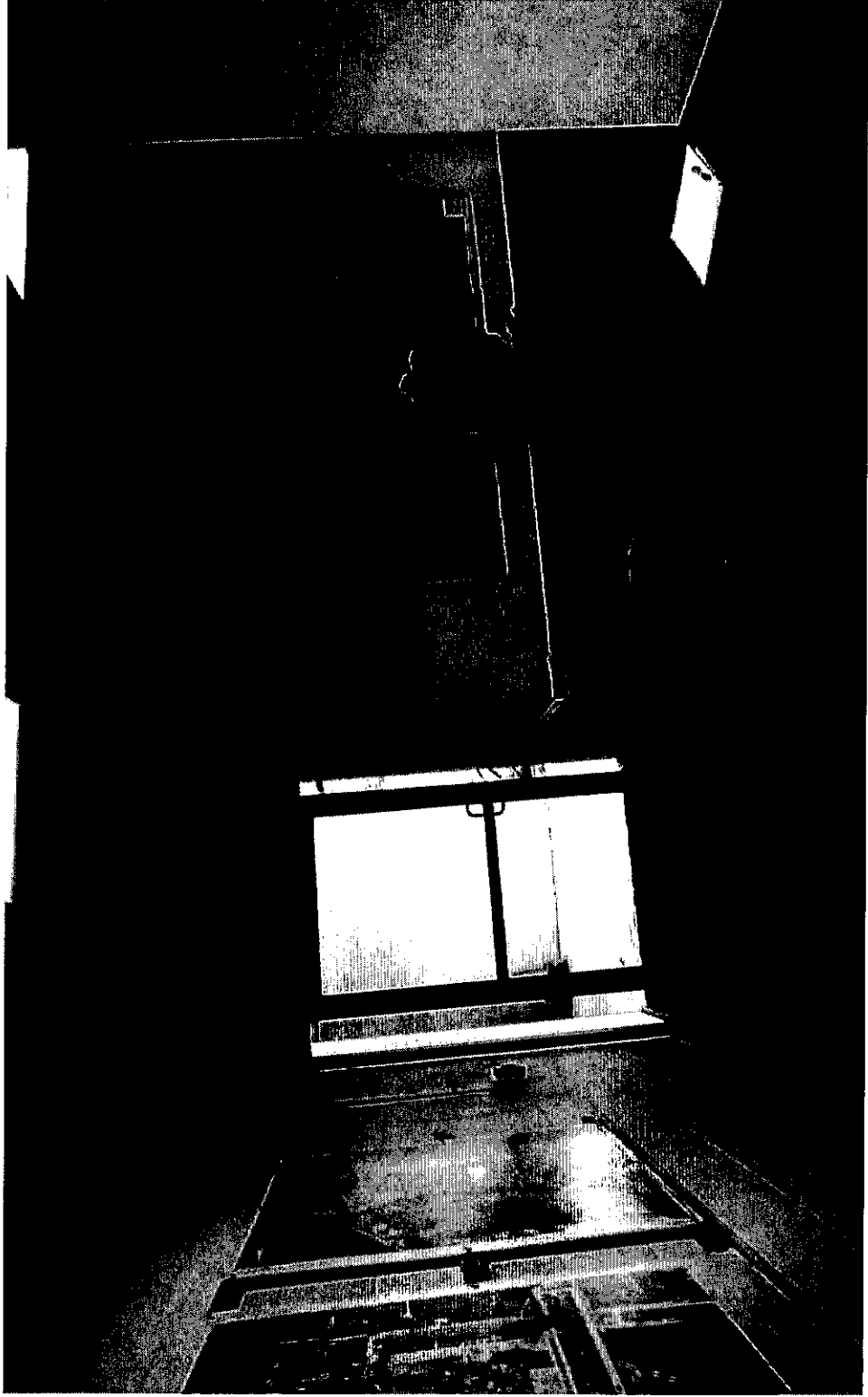
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 41, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 43, April 25, 2018



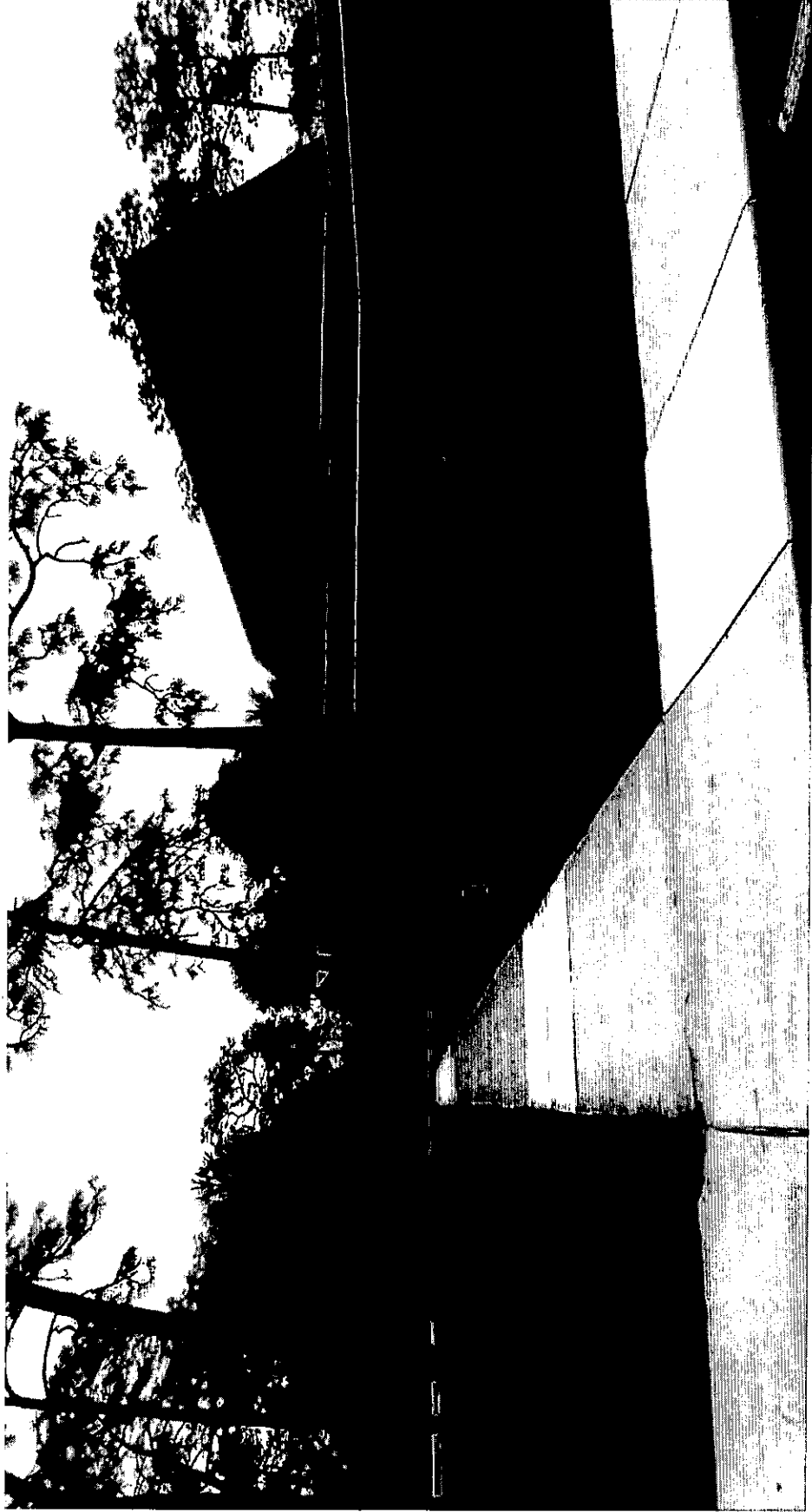
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 45, April 25, 2018



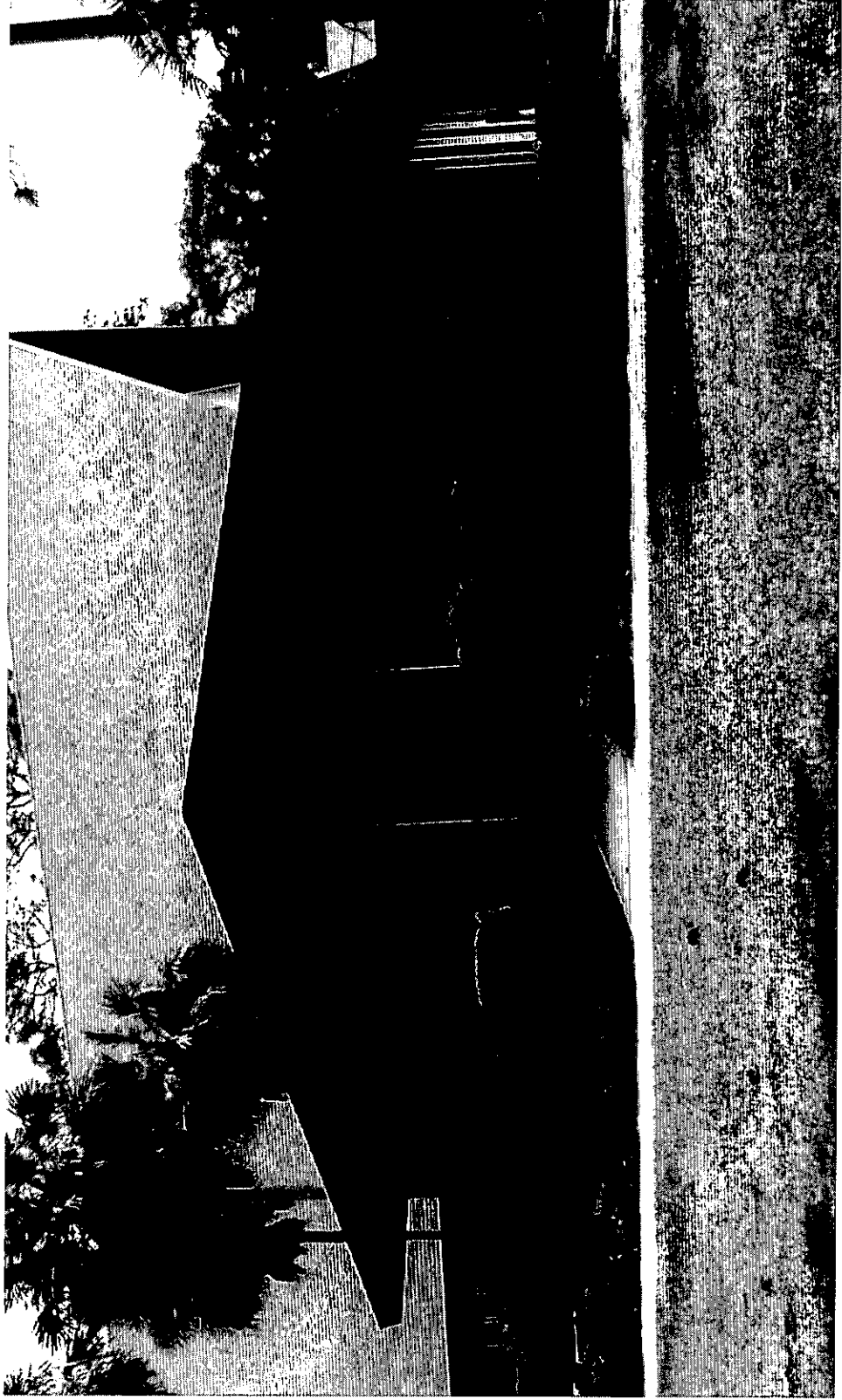
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 47, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 49, April 25, 2018



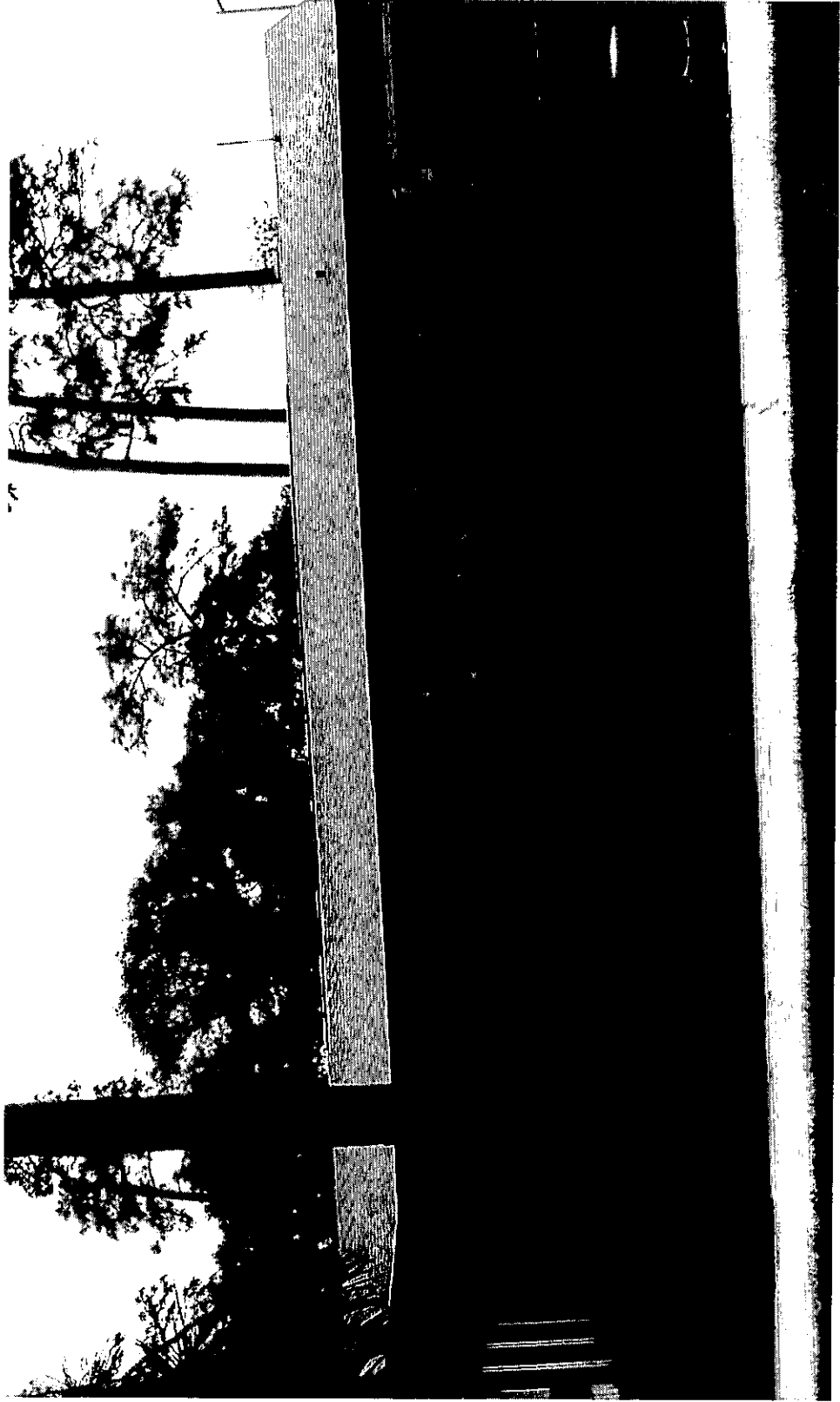
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 51, April 25, 2018



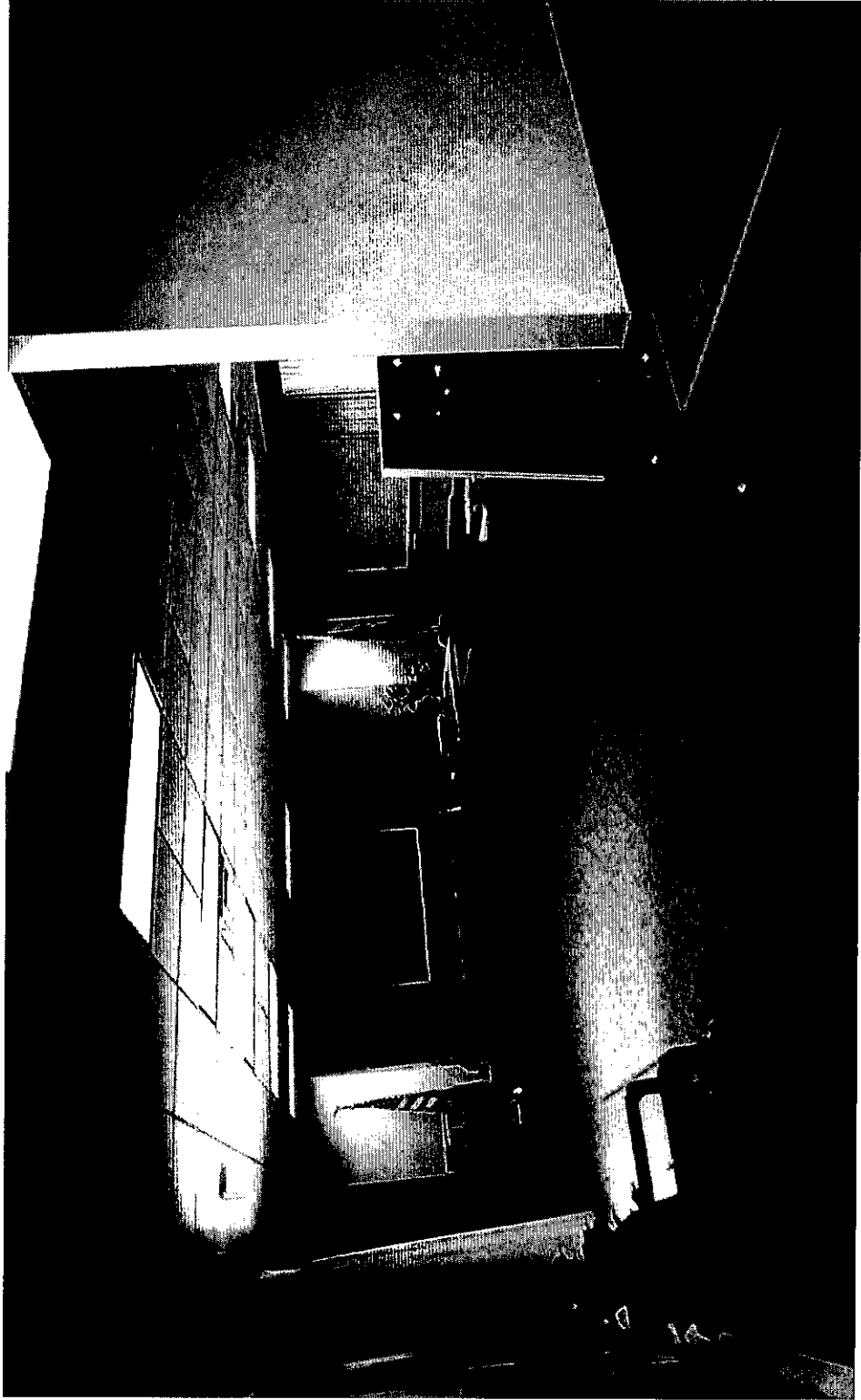
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 53, April 25, 2018



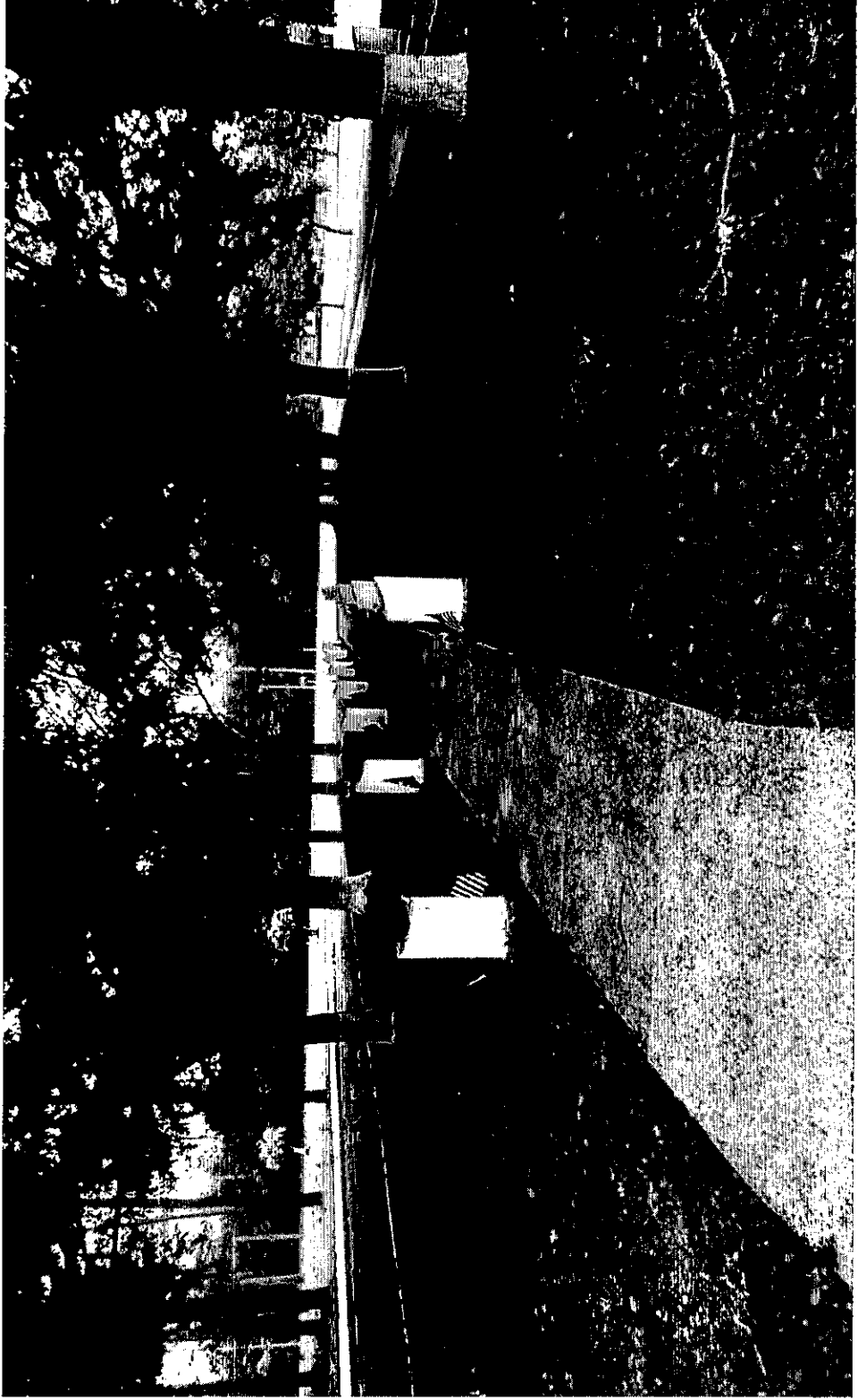
CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 55, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 57, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 59, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 61, April 25, 2018



CECIL FIELD CHAPEL, LM-18-01
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
Photo # 63, April 25, 2018

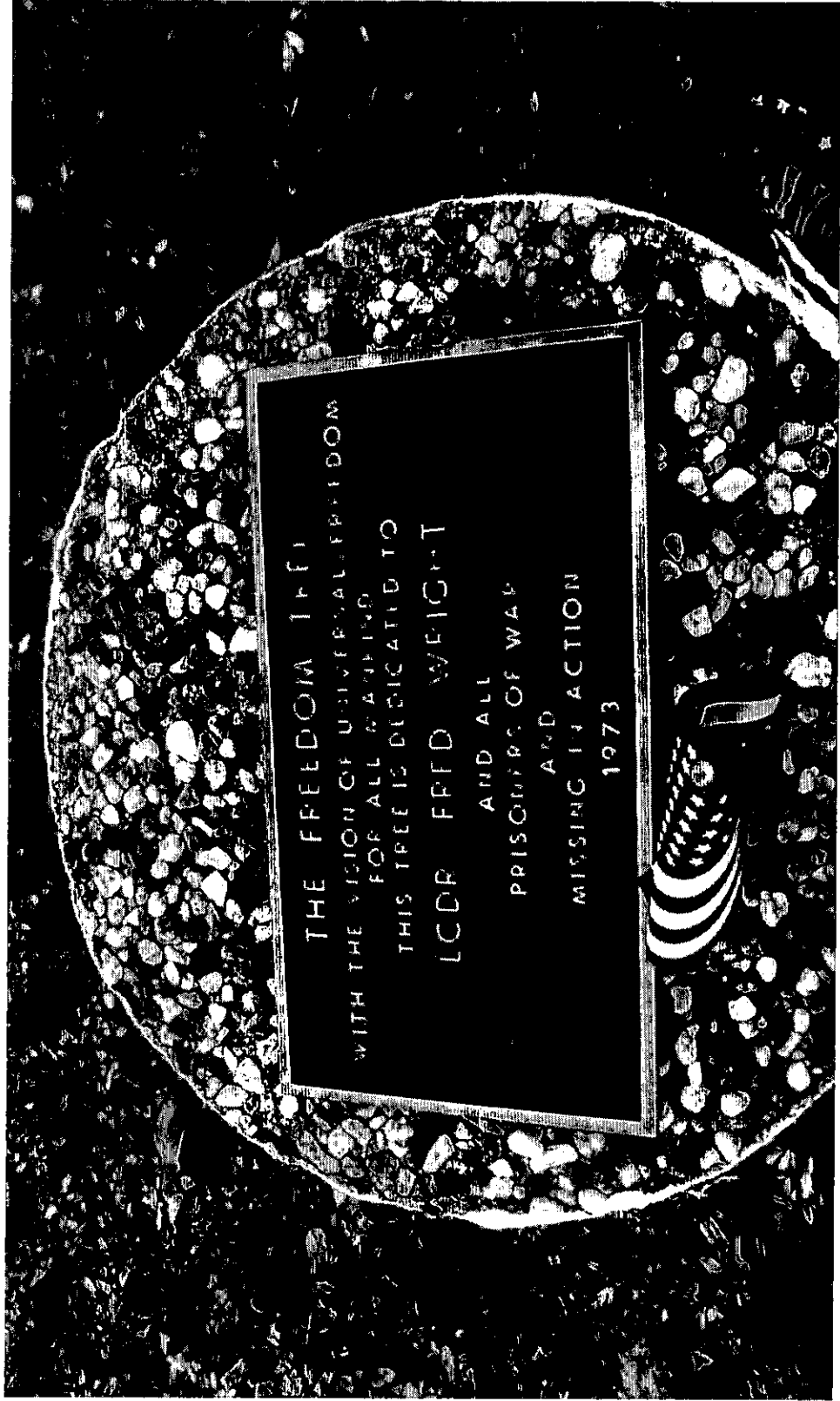


EXHIBIT A

**NAS Cecil Field Chapel
6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway
LM-18-01**

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

A PORTION OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS THE FOLLOWING; COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF NEW WORLD AVENUE (A 150 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY) WITH THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF WAY LINE OF LAKE NEWMAN STREET (A 85' RIGHT OF WAY), SAID POINT LYING IN A CURVE CONCAVE SOUTHWESTERLY AND HAVING A RADIUS OF 25.00 FEET; THENCE ALONG AND AROUND THE ARC OF SAID CURVE AND SAID WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY AN ARC DISTANCE OF 39.63 FEET TO THE POINT OF TANGENCY OF SAID CURVE, SAID ARC IS BEING SUBTENDED BY A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF SOUTH 45°23'59" EAST, 35.61; THENCE SOUTH 00°00'56" WEST, CONTINUING ALONG SAID WESTERLY LINE A DISTANCE OF 197.06 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89°59'30" WEST, 65.37 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 89°59'30" WEST, 237.79 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00°00'43" WEST, 217.42 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89°59'30" EAST, 237.79 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00°00'43" EAST, 217.42 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
THE PARCEL CONTAINING 1 ACRE, MORE OR LESS.

IV.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE

V.

**LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS LOCATED
WITHIN THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY FEET
OF THE PROPOSED LANDMARK SITE**

JACKSONVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

LM-18-01

The Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing, pursuant to Section 307.104, *City of Jacksonville Ordinance Code* on **Application No.: LM-18-01** regarding the proposed designation of the NAS Cecil Field Chapel, 6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway, as a City of Jacksonville Landmark as noted below:

Date: Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Time: 3:00 P. M.

Place: Conference Room 1002
1st Floor
Ed Ball Building
214 North Hogan Street
Jacksonville, Florida

Information concerning the proposed designation is on file with the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission and available for inspection from 8:00 A. M. until 5:00 P. M. Monday through Friday at the Offices of the Planning and Development Department, Suite 300, 214 North Hogan Street, Jacksonville, Florida, (904) 255-7835.

PLEASE NOTE: You have received this notice as owner of real property located within 350 feet of the proposed landmark per Section 307.104(f). Only the property associated with the proposed landmark as identified above is impacted by the historic designation.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED ARE NOTIFIED TO BE PRESENT AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND THEY MAY BE HEARD WITH RESPECT TO THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION.