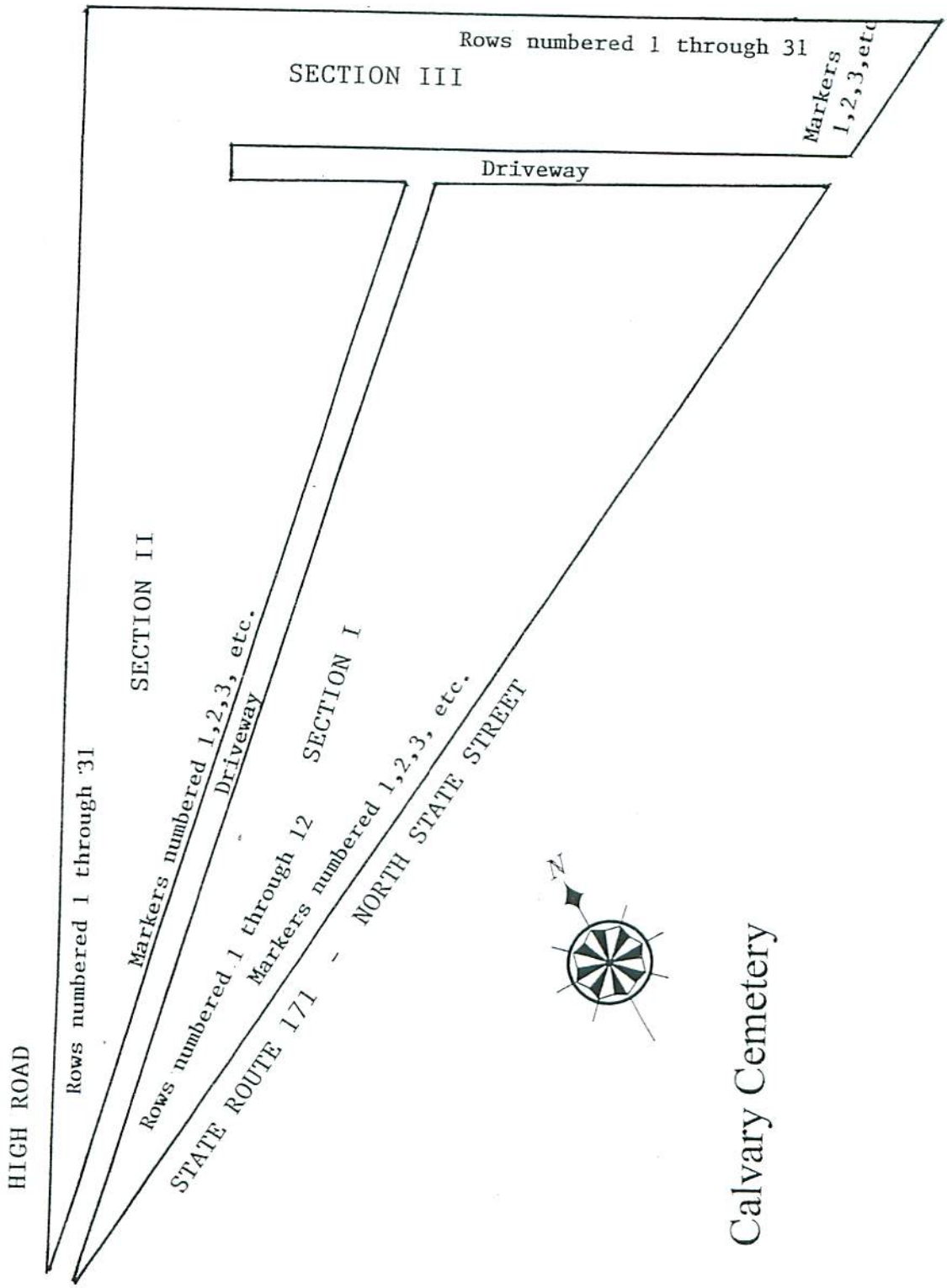

Rows numbered 1 through 31
SECTION III
Markers 1,2,3,etc
Driveway
HIGH ROAD
Rows numbered 1 through 31
SECTION II
Markers numbered 1,2,3, etc.
Driveway
Rows numbered 1 through 12
SECTION I
Markers numbered 1,2,3, etc.
STATE ROUTE 171 - NORTH STATE STREET
N
Calvary Cemetery

CALVARY

Calvary Cemetery's roots go back to the I&M Canal Commissioners, as do most Lockport properties. Its location in today's terms is at the intersection of State Route 171 and High Road. In 1859 it was part of the "NW 1/4 of Section 13 ... containing 160 acres more or less." This parcel was purchased from the Canal Commissioners for $2240.00 by Charles E. Boyer and would later be known as Boyer's Subdivision. The land was subdivided into lots numbered 1 through 14. Lot 5 (10 acres) was purchased from Boyer April 29, 1865, by Julius and Elizabeth Scheibe of Lockport for $300.00. The Scheibes in turn sold the lot on June 8, 1898, to the Rev. James J. McGovern, the pastor of St. Dennis Church in Lockport. It then became Calvary Cemetery.

Calvary today is a particularly attractive cemetery, nicely arranged and carefully tended. Due to its location at a sharp intersection its area is triangular, and its sections are separated by driveways in a T-shape. Trees and plantings give it a pleasant and peaceful aspect, in spite of the busy highway along its border. It is the "newer" of the two Catholic cemeteries in town, still actively being used for burials, and its markers and monuments have a different flavor from its counterpart to the south. If St. Dennis is the province of the Irish, Calvary is that of the Italians.

A number of handsome monuments are found here. Probably the most esthetically pleasing is that of the Rev. Dr. James J. McGovern, long-time beloved pastor of St. Dennis Church in Lockport. There is a large impressive Celtic cross inscribed simply "Munchhalfen." Some older stones are interesting for their simplicity and their obvious age. A "mystery" stone is found on the Toffolo lot; at least it is a mystery to the compilers of this reading. We have searched in vain for its meaning and will welcome an interpretation. It is pictured with the photos included between the two readings. There is also a group of stones representing a family of six children who died in a fire, a tragedy which is told in the news story on a following page.

Calvary has its share of war veterans, with one Spanish-American War vet plus several from the Civil War, both World Wars, Korea and Viet Nam.

Among the death dates on some monuments in the reading are 1873, 1876, 1880 and 1889. Knowing that 1898 was the date of the purchase of the land, one may well ask how can this be? Inquiries have turned up the answer: several people have been moved here from other cemeteries.

Calvary Cemetery is a rewarding place to visit, with its large shade trees and tastefully decorated graves. It invites one to stop for a moment of contemplation and remembrance.