

American Cemetery

Category: Legends and traditions

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American Cemetery, declared a National Monument on March 13, 2019

The Columbia or American cemetery declared a National Monument, on March 13, 2019, when the 94th anniversary of the ratification of the Hay-Quesada Treaty, which restored Cuba's sovereignty over the formerly Isle of Pines, was commemorated on the Isle of Youth .

In 1902 Isle of Pines Land and Development founded the town of Columbia, located 12 kilometers from Nueva Gerona, and five years later they created the Columbia Cemetery Society, exclusively for US citizens who died on the spot, a function maintained after the town and its original conditions disappeared. of the massive Yankee colonization.

The first inhumation occurred in 1907 when Freeman Cooper died while the last buried citizen was Stefania Koenig, in 1981.

The necropolis is of the garden type, it has 135 lots each with a capacity for six or eight burials, and generally in this memorial park rest the mortal remains of more than 300 of those settlers, belonging to all social classes.

The churchyard transcends as the most important material testimony of a political and diplomatic battle won by Cuba on March 13, 1925, one of the episodes of the struggle for our sovereignty and an example of reaffirmation of anti-imperialism, independence and Cubaness.

The reasons are reported in Resolution number four, in which the Columbia Cemetery or the American Cemetery, located on the Columbia highway, kilometer 12, Juan Delio Chacón Popular Council, special municipality of Isla de Isla, is officially declared a National Monument of the Republic of Cuba. youth.