NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

83

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Barrancas National Cemetery

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 80 Hovey Road ☐ not for publication N/A

city or town Pensacola ☐ vicinity N/A

state Florida code FL county Escambia code 033 zip code 32508

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☒ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. ☐ (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Karen Bonne Turpak, Federal Preservation Officer — 1/6/98
Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

Department of Veterans Affairs
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judee L. Pettis, DSHPO — 12-19-97
Signature of commenting or other official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

☑ entered in the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of Keeper — Date of Action

Edson H. Beall — 2/12/98

A
NOV 1997
Received
Survey &
Registration

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
- ☐ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☒ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
- ☐ district
- ☒ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	2	buildings
1	0	sites
2	3	structures
3	1	objects
6	6	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
Funerary: Cemetery

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
Funerary: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
No style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation Concrete
walls Brick
roof Asphalt
other Marble

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all 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
(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Period of Significance

1868-1936

Significant Dates

1868

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☒ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository
Department of Veterans Affairs

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 45.1

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	472740	3358100
2	16	472580	3357630
3	16	472400	3357680
4	16	472440	3358450

☒ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Therese T. Sammartino, Staff Assistant, National Cemetery System

organization Department of Veterans Affairs date November 18, 1997

street & number 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W. telephone (202) 565-4895

city or town Washington, D.C. state _____ zip code 20420

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Department of Veterans Affairs

street & number 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W. telephone _____

city or town Washington, D.C. state _____ zip code 20420

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

DESCRIPTION: Continued

Materials:
Roof: Tin
Other: Iron

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Barrancas National Cemetery is located within the Pensacola Naval Air Station at 80 Hovey Road, about eight miles southwest of Pensacola, Florida, in Escambia County. The main entrance is located at the center of the south side and is protected by a double wrought-iron gate supported by concrete piers, constructed circa 1868. A second entrance with no gate is located along Duncan Road. A pedestrian gate, constructed in 1936, is located to the east of the main entrance, and an iron service gate supported by concrete piers and constructed in 1949, is situated near the southeastern corner of the cemetery near the service building. A portion of the original brick perimeter wall remains along the west side of the cemetery from Section 7 to Section 25. Wrought-iron fencing supported by concrete posts encloses the south boundary. Chain link fencing surrounds the service building. An administration building is located to the east as you enter the cemetery, and the service building is situated to the east of the administration building. The flagpole is located in front of the administration building. One committal service tent is situated in Section 36 to the north of the main entrance, and a second tent is located within the circle near Sections 40 and 41.

Graves were originally marked by headboards or numbered stakes that were later replaced with upright marble headstones. One section (Section 35) is marked with flat granite markers. In 1982, a policy decision by the Department of Veterans Affairs provided for the use of flat markers in national cemeteries. This decision was later reversed by the passage of Public Law 99-576, which mandated that for all interments that occur on or after January 1, 1987, the grave markers will be upright. As of September 30, 1997, there were 20,379 sites used for the interment of 22,185 casketed remains and 1,556 sites used for the interment of 2,267 cremated remains. As of September 30, 1997, there were 4,702 gravesites available for the interment of casketed remains and 523 sites available for the interment of cremated remains. The cemetery is expected to remain open until 2004.

The brick administration building, containing public restrooms, was constructed in 1976. The roof is asphalt shingles.

The brick and concrete service building with a galvanized tin roof was constructed in 1949. In November 1956, one of the former restrooms was converted into a fireproof paint and oil storage room.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

There is one commemorative monument in the Barrancas National Cemetery.

U. S. Marine Guard Monument - This monument was erected on March 15, 1884, by the Marine Guard, Navy Yard, Pensacola, Florida, to the memory of comrades who died of yellow fever in 1883, and bears the names of those who were victims. The monument has a square base, pyramiding to a point twelve feet from the base. The monument is inscribed as follows:

SOUTH SIDE

THEODORE RUSH
Quartermaster USMC Born at Newark, N.J. Nov. 1, 1863. Died Aug. 24, 1883. 20 yrs.
THOMAS SHEPPARD
Landsman, USN Born at St. Aubin, Isle of Jersey. Nov. 3, 1861. Died Sept. 17, 1883. Aged 22 years
Where immortal spirits reign
There we shall meet again.

EAST SIDE

ANDREW J. CLARK
Pvt. USMC Born at Philadelphia, Pa., January 15, 1857. Died Sept. 4, 1883. Aged 26 years
EDWARD E. HANIFAN
Pvt. USMC Born at Palmer, Mass. Apr. 15, 1858. Died Sept. 5, 1883. Aged 25 years.

Take them, O Father, In thine arms and may they henceforth be,
A messenger of peace between our human hearts and Thee.

NORTH SIDE

ALMOND H. ORWAN
Cpl. USMC Born at Coutucheeville, N.H. Jan. 27, 1857. Died Aug. 23, 1883. Aged 28 yrs.
CHARLES K. BOLTON
Pvt. USMC Born at Bremen, Germany Aug. 22, 1854. Died Sept. 6, 1883. Aged 29 yrs.
A happier lot than ours, and large light surrounds them there.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

WEST SIDE

WILLIAM FLAHERTY
Pvt. USMC Born at Lowell, Mass. Dec. 14, 1857. Died Aug. 17, 1883. Aged 26 years.
BENJAMIN BARGER
Pvt. USMC Born at Philadelphia, Pa. Sept. 1, 1856. Died Aug. 19, 1883. Aged 27 yrs.
Erected by the U. S. Marine Guard, Navy Yard, Pensacola, Fla. April 15, 1884

There are two monuments, located north of the main entrance, each made of an original cast-iron seacoast artillery tube and secured by a concrete base. Both are topped by cannonballs painted white. A bronze plaque affixed to one of these monuments is inscribed as follows:

UNITED STATES
NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY
BARRANCAS

ESTABLISHED	1867
INTERMENTS	1396
KNOWN	724

The numbers shown for contributing resources within the property reflect the following:

Sites: Cemetery (1868)

Structures: Main entrance gate (circa 1868), original perimeter wall along west side of cemetery (date unknown)

Objects: U. S. Marine Guard monument (1884), two artillery monuments (dates unknown)

The numbers shown for non-contributing resources within the property reflect the following:

Buildings: Administration building (1976), service building (1949)

Structures: Service gate (1949), two committal service tents (unknown dates)

Objects: Flagpole (1949)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Barrancas National Cemetery is significant under Criterion A and is an important component of the multiple property submission of Civil War Era National Cemeteries. It is significant under Criterion A because of its association with the Civil War. The cemetery is significant beyond the Civil War era, as it includes the remains of veterans associated with every war and branch of service who have served their country throughout its history. The cemetery also meets Criteria Consideration D, because it has been designated as a primary memorial to the military history of the United States.

The period of significance ends in 1936, the year that the pedestrian gate was constructed.

During the period following the election of 1860 and the inauguration of President Abraham Lincoln a President of the United States on March 4, 1861, seven southern states approved ordinances of secession from government by the United States of America. On January 10, 1861, Florida became the third state to secede. Pensacola Bay provided the best harbor along the Gulf of Mexico. Its entrance was guarded by three United States Army forts—Fort McRae and Fort Barrancas on the land side and Fort Pickens on the western tip of Santa Rosa Island. On the day of Florida's secession from the Union, Lieutenant Adam J. Slemmer, commanding Company G of the 1st United States Artillery, spiked the guns at Fort Barrancas, blew up the ammunition at Fort McRae, and occupied Fort Pickens.

Pensacola's location on the best natural harbor on the Gulf Coast, along with her naval and civilian shipyards, made the city a valuable prize for the Confederacy. However, the Federal occupation of Fort Pickens at the western tip of Santa Rosa Island at the entrance to Pensacola Bay, nullified these advantages.

The Confederacy had been organized during the month of February 1861 in Montgomery, Alabama, and Brigadier General Braxton Bragg assumed command of the Confederate troops at Pensacola on March 11, 1861. Bragg's plans to attack Fort Pickens were upset by the arrival of train of Lieutenant John Worden, who was dispatched to Fort Pickens with specific orders for the landing of troops by the Navy. Worden assured Bragg that the dispatches he was carrying were only "of a pacific nature." He was allowed to proceed to Fort Pickens. A storm delayed Worden's oral communication of orders from Secretary of the Navy Gideon Wells directing the landing of Federal reinforcements the next day, April 12, the day the Civil War actually began at Fort Sumter, South Carolina. Other events contributed to the tense atmosphere here. On April 19, Bragg declared martial law in the Pensacola area in an unsuccessful attempt to stop traffic across the bay. Officials of the Alabama and Florida

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Railroad expressed fear of sabotage on the wooden trestles near the Escambia River north of Pensacola. On April 20, the impetuous attempt by Lieutenant David Porter, USN, to take the USS *Powhatan* into Pensacola Bay was stopped when Captain Montgomery Meigs put the USS *Wyandotte* directly in Porter's path.

A number of actions took place in and around Pensacola Bay before the Confederates evacuated the area. While Confederates were moving a large floating drydock from the Navy Yard to Pensacola in May 1861, the tow-line broke and the dock drifted close to Fort Pickens near Batteries Lincoln and Cameron. Colonel Brown, commanding officer of Fort Pickens, suspected the drydock would be used as a floating battery. He prepared to fire upon it. However, before Brown could take any action, the Confederates scuttled the drydock. Because of Confederate endeavors to refloat the dry dock during the summer, the Federals sent a small detachment from Fort Pickens during the evening of September 2 and destroyed by fire all that remained of the drydock above the waterline.

Upon learning that Confederate naval authorities at Pensacola were attempting to outfit the *Judah* as a privateer, Federal naval officers readied a plan to destroy the *Judah* before she could be put to sea. During the night of September 14, 1861, a Federal raiding party of about 100 sailors and marines in four small boats cast off from the USS *Colorado* and approached the *Judah* about 3:30 a.m. A small but alert Confederate force greeted the raiders with a burst of musketry. After a brief encounter, the Federals boarded the ship and set her afire. Another Federal contingent spiked a ten-inch columbiad in a nearby battery. As the sun rose, the victorious naval force returned to the Colorado, having sustained three dead and thirteen wounded. Confederate forces lost three also, suffered many injuries, the destruction of the *Judah* and the cannon of the protective battery. In retaliation for the burning of the *Judah*, General Bragg ordered an attack upon the Federal fortifications on Santa Rosa Island.

General Dick Anderson, under orders from General Bragg, organized an expeditionary force of just over 1,000 men to attack Fort Pickens. The operation started during the night of October 8 but, because of transportation problems, the attacking force did not leave Pensacola until nearly midnight. The steamers *Ewing*, *Time* and *Neaffie*, with their flotilla of barges and flats, arrived on the island at a point four miles east of Fort Pickens. After a march of some three miles through soft sand, the Confederate forces were spotted by a Federal picket just east of Brown's Camp occupied by the 6th Regiment of New York Volunteers. The quiet of the early morning was broken by a musket blast from the picket. He was quickly overrun and shot by the charging Confederate troops. The 6th New York withdrew, running westward to the batteries on the north side of the island near Fort Pickens. Many of the Southern militia got caught up in the excitement of burning and looting Brown's Camp. General Anderson reassembled his troops. He abandoned his plans for any further attack and ordered

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

his troops to march back to their original point of debarkation. As they were boarding the steamers, flats, and barges, the well-trained Union infantry showered the Confederates with large quantities of effective musketry that caused considerable death and injury. Florida's first major land battle ended when the steamers left the island for Pensacola. The Confederates reported a loss of 18 dead, 39 wounded, and 300 missing or presumed prisoners of war. Colonel Brown stated his losses as 14 dead, 29 wounded, and 24 prisoners.

A great artillery exchange occurred during November 22 and 23, 1861, causing extensive damage to Fort McRee and the water battery close to it, as well as destruction of two thirds of the village of Warrington and many buildings about the Navy Yard, including the hospital. During the two-day bombardment, the Federals suffered very little damage to Fort Pickens or their adjacent gun batteries, but lost two men and sustained 13 wounded.

In a second brutal exchange of artillery on January 1 and 2, 1862, Federal artillery caused extensive damage to the Navy Yard and other buildings where Confederates were quartered. The powder magazine at Fort McRee exploded, making the fort totally useless.

In early 1862, Federal invasion of central and western Tennessee caused the withdrawal of about 8,000 Confederates in and near Pensacola by March 19, 1862. Colonel Thomas M. Jones protested to Richmond about abandonment of Pensacola. He was authorized by Adjutant General Samuel Cooper to use his own discretion concerning the evacuation of the city. Colonel Jones was also advised by Major General Robert E. Lee to prepare immediately to send any remaining troops to Mobile. Pensacola was not vacated at this time but, on May 7, 1862, Commander David Farragut's Federal fleet was anchored off the mouth of Mobile Bay. Colonel Jones hurriedly removed most of the artillery and military supplies. The last Confederates to leave, late on May 9, ignited fires intended to destroy the remains of the Navy Yard and other military installations. The troops at Fort Pickens, alerted by many fires on the mainland, began a heavy bombardment lasting until the dawn of May 10.

Early on May 10, 1862, acting Mayor Dr. John Brosnaham surrendered Pensacola to Lieutenant Richard Jackson, U. S. Army. During that evening, a flag raising ceremony was held by Federal troops in Plaza Ferdinand. Pensacola played a relatively minor role during the remainder of the Civil War. The Western Gulf Squadron used the Navy Yard as an operational base. Fort Barrancas was the starting point for a number of raids into Alabama and western Florida.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

For many years prior to the Civil War, a small cemetery of the Marine Hospital had been maintained at the United States Navy Yard at Pensacola, near Fort Barrancas. During the war years, many Civil War casualties were interred in this cemetery in gravesites initially set aside for personnel on duty at the Pensacola Navy Yard. In 1868, by agreement between the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of War, this cemetery was transferred to the War Department and was designated the Barrancas National Cemetery. Outside the enclosing brick wall at the southeast end of the grounds was a small plat of about 1 ½ acres enclosed by a wooden fence and hedge, which was used as a site for the lodge and other buildings. By letter dated April 17, 1930, from the Acting Secretary of the Navy to the Secretary of War, the War Department was granted permission to continue to use for cemetery purposes a tract of land lying outside of the east wall of the national cemetery, to be used by the superintendent as a truck garden, stable yard, and poultry run, and not otherwise. Charles M. O'Regan was ordered to assume charge as superintendent. The total area was 7.1 acres.

Original burials were those of troops stationed at Barrancas and Fort Pickens, as well as bodies removed from Pensacola, Bayou Chico, and Gunboat Point in Escambia County; Santa Rosa Island and East Pass in Santa Rosa County; and Appalachicola in Franklin County. Subsequent reinterments included remains from San Juan Island and St. Andrew's Bay in Washington County.

The 1.17-acre area designated as the "Civilian Cemetery" contains burials from the early 1800's until approximately 1934. During the early days of the navy yard, employees and their families were allowed to live on the reservation and a small community developed. Expansion of facilities from 1933-1935 necessitated the removal of those families still living there and the relocation of the graves. Relocation was completed on September 6, 1935, and no additional burials have been made since that time.

The cemetery has been expanded over the years. In 1945, 3.4 acres were transferred from the Department of the Navy. Public Law 97-167, December 3, 1985, transferred 15.3 acres from the Department of the Navy, and Public Law 682, 81st Congress, approved August 10, 1950, transferred 24.8 acres from the U. S. Naval Station for expansion of the cemetery. The total area is 45.1 acres.

A grave of interest is that of Ga-Ah, an Apache Indian who was the second wife of Apache Chief Geronimo. Geronimo was born in southern Arizona, and his Indian name was Goyathloy, meaning one who yawns. The Mexicans gave him the name Geronimo, which is Spanish for Jerome. Geronimo was perhaps the most cunning Indian fighter in American history, and rose to leadership by his extraordinary courage, determination and skill in successive raids on Mexican troops who had killed his mother, first wife, and children, in 1858. He led devastating raids in Arizona and New

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Mexico before the U. S. Government intervened and caused him to surrender to General George F. Crook in May 1883. Geronimo escaped and conducted further raids in both the United States and Mexico before his capture by General Nelson A. Miles in 1886. He along with his wife Ga-Ah and his followers were captured. As prisoners of war, they were removed to Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island and subsequently transferred to Mount Vernon Barracks, Alabama, north of the city of Mobile. Ga-Ah died of pneumonia on September 29, 1887, and is buried in Section 18, Grave 1496.

During the 1930's, outbreaks of malaria and yellow fever were common in West Florida, Alabama, and other areas of the Gulf Coast. These diseases claimed the lives of many infants and young children whose immune systems had no natural defenses to these outbreaks. They were children of soldiers and sailors who were stationed at Fort Barrancas and the Pensacola Navy Yard. Most of their graves are located in Sections 23 and 25.

Seventy two Confederate soldiers (52 known and 20 unknown) are buried in the Barrancas National Cemetery.

Also buried in the cemetery are the remains of 55 individuals from the Fort Myers area of Florida, who were casualties of the Second Seminole War which occurred in the early 1840's. They were originally buried at a cemetery associated with Forts Harvie and Myers, collectively occupied during the Second and Third Seminole Wars and the Civil War, circa 1841 to 1865. Fort Harvie was the Army's principal depot for operations in Southwest Florida and was established on November 1, 1841, during the Second Seminole War, and remained active until March of 1842. Fort Myers was established in 1850 at the same location and continued to function through the Civil War years. During the Civil War, Fort Myers was manned by Union forces and became an important haven for Gulf Coast civilians who were Union sympathizers. In 1888, the 55 bodies (9 known and 46 unknown) were disinterred and reinterred in the national cemetery. All but five of the graves are located in Section 3. A native-American woman and four unknown children are buried in Section 18.

Additional reinterments in the Barrancas National Cemetery include the bodies of twenty-one soldiers and civilians from Fort Dade located on Egmont Key at the mouth of Tampa Bay and 468 American soldiers from Key West. Some of the interments at Fort Dade had been made in 1899, while others were interred during World War I when a flu epidemic was sweeping the country. The properties at Key West and at Fort Dade, which were owned by the Government, were being sold and the Quartermaster Department specified that the bodies be removed to a permanent Army cemetery. According to two newspaper articles, copies of which were located in cemetery files, the reinterments were made in 1927 in Sections 16 and 17.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

In February 1993, as part of a Florida Department of Transportation project in Fort Myers involving the upgrading of the south approaches to the new Edison Bridge, archeological monitoring of a portion of Fowler Street was conducted by Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI). Background research indicated that burials associated with the Fort Myers military cemetery were likely to have occurred within the project impact zone. ACI monitored the removal of asphalt pavement and fill removal, revealing evidence of six graves. In March 1993, an additional fourteen burials or burial features were located, all proximate to the previously discovered six burials. During the excavation, the partial remains of seventeen individuals were exhumed from the twenty burial features. Also recovered were several buttons, spent artillery, coffin hardware, two partial grave markers, and coffin wood fragments. In 1996, the partial remains of the seventeen individuals were reinterred in the Barrancas National Cemetery in Section 3, Grave 37.

Seven crew members of the C-130 Hercules Gunship that was shot down during the Persian Gulf War are buried in Section 38. These men belonged to an elite Air Commando Unit stationed at Hulburt Field near Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Their mission was instrumental in the speedy and victorious conclusion to that war in which 28 nations joined to liberate the country of Kuwait from an Iraqian invasion in 1990.

Two aircrew members of the United States Air Force C-130 Hercules Aircraft from the Special Operations Wing at Hurlburt Field crashed on takeoff off the coast of Kenya while in direct support of operations in Somalia. Their gravesites are located in Section 38.

In Section 40 are buried two local airmen, Joseph Edward Rimkus and Joshua Woody, who died in the terrorist bombing of the United States Housing Compound in Dhahran on June 25, 1996.

There are three Medal of Honor recipients buried in the cemetery. Their graves are marked with headstones inscribed with an enlarged gold-leafed replica of the medal of the awarding service and the words "MEDAL OF HONOR."

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Stephen W. Pless - Major (then Capt.), U. S. Marine Corps, VMD-6, Mag-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing - He was awarded the medal for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a helicopter gunship pilot attached to Marine Observation Squadron 6 in action against the enemy forces near Quang Nai, Republic of Vietnam on August 19, 1967. During an escort mission, Major Pless monitored an emergency call that four American soldiers stranded on a nearby beach were being overwhelmed by a large Viet Cong force. Major Pless flew to the scene and found 30 to 50 enemy soldiers in the open. Some of the enemy were bayonetting and beating the downed Americans. Major Pless displayed exceptional airmanship as he launched a devastating attack against the enemy force, killing and wounding many of the enemy and driving the remainder back into a treeline. His rocket and machine-gun attacks were made at such low levels that the aircraft flew through debris created by explosions from its rockets. Seeing one of the wounded soldiers gesture for assistance, he maneuvered his helicopter into a position between the wounded men and the enemy, providing a shield which permitted his crew to retrieve the wounded. During the rescue, the enemy directed intense fire at the helicopter and rushed the aircraft again and again, closing to within a few feet before being beaten back. When the wounded men were aboard, Major Pless maneuvered the helicopter out to sea. Before it became safely airborne, the overloaded aircraft settled four times into the water. Displaying superb airmanship, he finally got the helicopter aloft. Major Pless' extraordinary heroism, coupled with his outstanding flying skill, prevented the annihilation of the tiny force. His courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and uphold the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the U. S. Naval Service. He is buried in Section 21, Grave 929A.

Clifford Chester Sims, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army, Company D, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division - For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty on February 21, 1968, near Hue, Republic of Vietnam, Staff Sergeant Sims distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader with Company D. Company D was assaulting a heavily fortified enemy position concealed within a dense wooded area when it encountered strong enemy defensive fire. Once within the woodline, Staff Sergeant Sims led his squad in a furious attack against the enemy which had pinned down the lst Platoon and threatened to overrun it. His skillful leadership provided the platoon with freedom of movement and enabled it to regain the initiative. Staff Sergeant Sims was then ordered to move his squad to a position where he could provide covering fire for the company command group and to link up with the 3rd Platoon, which was under heavy enemy pressure. After moving no more than 30 meters, Staff Sergeant Sims noticed that a brick structure in which ammunition was stocked was on fire. Realizing the danger, Sims took immediate action to move his squad from this position. Though in the process of leaving the area, two members of his squad were injured by the subsequent explosion of the ammunition,

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Sims' prompt actions undoubtedly prevented more serious casualties from occurring. While continuing through the dense woods amidst heavy enemy fire, Sims and his squad were approaching a bunker when they heard the unmistakable noise of a concealed boobytrap being triggered immediately to their front. Staff Sergeant Sims warned his comrades of the danger and unhesitatingly hurled himself upon the device as it exploded, taking the full impact of the blast. In so protecting his fellow soldiers, he willingly sacrificed his life. Staff Sergeant Sims' extraordinary heroism at the cost of his life is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself and the U. S. Army. He is buried in Section 29, Grave 546.

Clyde E. Lassen, Lieutenant, United States Navy - He was awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty on June 19, 1968, as pilot and aircraft commander of a search and rescue helicopter, attached to Helicopter Support Squadron Seven, Detachment Four, embarked in U. S. S. *Preble* (DLG-15), during operations against enemy forces in North Vietnam. Launched shortly after midnight to attempt the rescue of two drowned aviators, Lieutenant (then Lieutenant, Junior Grade) Lassen skillfully piloted his aircraft over unknown and hostile terrain to a steep, tree-covered hill on which the survivors had been located. Although enemy fire was being directed at the helicopter, he initially landed in a clear area near the base of the hill but, due to the dense undergrowth, the survivors could not reach the helicopter. With the aid of flare illumination, Lieutenant Lassen successfully accomplished a hover between two trees at the survivor's position. Illumination was abruptly lost as the flares were expended, and the helicopter collided with a tree, commencing a sharp descent. Expertly righting his aircraft and maneuvering clear of the ground obstructions, Lieutenant Lassen remained in the area to make another rescue attempt. Again, he was unsuccessful in effecting a rescue. Disregarding a dangerously low fuel state and significant damage to his aircraft, he was determined to make one final attempt. In spite of intensified enemy opposition and the loss of flare illumination, Lieutenant Lassen, fully aware of the dangers in clearly revealing his position to the enemy, turned on his landing lights and completed the landing. On this attempt, the survivors were able to make their way to the helicopter. Enroute to the coast, Lieutenant Lassen encountered and successfully evaded additional hostile antiaircraft fire and, with fuel for only five minutes of flight remaining, landed safely aboard U. S. S. *Jouett* (DLG-29). His courageous and daring actions, determination, and extraordinary airmanship in the face of great risk sustain and enhance the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He is buried in Section 38, Grave 113.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Admiral John Walter Reeves, Jr., who was cited for his outstanding tactical leadership during World War II, is also interred in the cemetery. In 1942, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his effective execution of exacting tasks as Task Group Commander of the North Pacific Force. His guidance was instrumental in forcing the Japanese from the Aleutian Islands. Later, as commander of Carrier Division Four, he was awarded the Legion of Merit with Combat "V" and a Gold Star in lieu of the Second Distinguished Service Medal for his exceptional leadership during action against enemy Japanese forces on Truk Atoll. Admiral Reeves also received a Gold Star in lieu of the Second Distinguished Service Meal for his ".....brilliant tactical skill and exceptional foresight during attacks on the enemy stronghold of Truk." Following his distinguished World War II service, Admiral Reeves reported to the Naval Air Station at Pensacola where he served as Chief of Naval Basic Training. He was buried in Section 26, Grave 814, on July 18, 1967.

The original superintendent's lodge, constructed between 1868 and 1870, was a three-room brick structure with a frame addition of two rooms. It was located outside the enclosing wall in a small plat of about 1 ½ acres, enclosed by a wooden fence and hedge. A lodge constructed in 1890 replaced this lodge. The new lodge was a Gulf Coast adaptation of standard Navy housing for the 19th and 20th centuries and was a two-story, eight-room structure of frame construction with four open porches. A concrete basement was constructed in 1934. The wood exterior had been covered with aluminum siding and the roof was tin. This lodge was demolished in October 1996 and was recorded with the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS No. FL-388) in July 1996.

A three-room brick storage building with wood window frames and sills and wood door and casings, as well as a wooden one-room pump house, 11 feet 6 inches high, were removed in 1960. A paint and oil storage building, brick, 12 feet by 29 feet, with metal shed roof, erected in 1874, was subsequently removed.

A brick rostrum with ornamental iron columns situated in the northeast section of the grounds was subsequently removed.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Report of Inspector of the National Cemeteries of the United States for 1869

Report of the Inspector of the National Cemeteries for the years 1870 and 1871

Holt Dean W. American Military Cemeteries. North Carolina. McFarland and Company, Inc., 1992.

Parks, Virginia; Rick, Alan; and Simons, Norman. Pensacola in the Civil War. Florida. Pensacola Historical Society, 1978.

Report - Excavation of 8LL1758, U. S. Military Cemetery at Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida. Prepared for the Florida Department of Transportation by Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Sarasota, Florida, December 1994.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - UTM REFERENCES (Continued)

Point 5	Zone 16	Easting 472200	Northing 3358200
Point 6	Zone 16	Easting 472220	Northing 3358220

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries are indicated on the accompanying base map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The National Cemetery System has used the existing boundaries of the cemetery.

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
Escambia County, Florida
Therese T. Sammartino and Sandra Beckley, photographers
Date of Photographs: May 20 and October 1, 1997

All negatives are stored with Technical Support Service (401B), National Cemetery System, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20420

VIEW OF: Main entrance, view looking north

NEG. NO. 3635-15
PHOTO 1 of 24

VIEW OF: Pedestrian gate, south side

NEG. NO. 3635-20
PHOTO 2 of 24

VIEW OF: Service gate, east side

NEG. NO. 3635-10
PHOTO 3 of 24

VIEW OF: Flagpole, view looking south
NEG. NO. 3635-19
PHOTO 4 of 24

VIEW OF: Perimeter wall, west side
NEG. NO. 3635-16
PHOTO 5 of 24

VIEW OF: Administration building, north elevation
NEG. NO. 3635-11
PHOTO 6 of 24

VIEW OF: Administration building, east elevation
NEG. NO. 3635-12
PHOTO 7 of 24

VIEW OF: Administration building, south elevation
NEG. NO. 3635-13
PHOTO 8 of 24

VIEW OF: Administration building, west elevation
NEG. NO. 3635-14
PHOTO 9 of 24

VIEW OF: Service building, south elevation
NEG. NO. 7229-4
PHOTO 10 of 24

VIEW OF: Service building, east elevation
NEG. NO. 7229-5
PHOTO 11 of 24

VIEW OF: Service building, northeast elevation

NEG. NO. 7229-6
PHOTO 12 of 24

VIEW OF: Service building, north elevation

NEG. NO. 7229-7
PHOTO 13 of 24

VIEW OF: Service building, west elevation
NEG. NO. 7229-8
PHOTO 14 of 24

VIEW OF: U. S. Marine Guard monument
NEG. NO. 3635-3
PHOTO 15 of 24

VIEW OF: Artillery monuments, view looking south
NEG. NO. 3635-6
PHOTO 16 of 24

VIEW OF: Grave of Ga-Ah
NEG. NO. 3635-4
PHOTO 17 of 24

VIEW OF: Committal service tent, Section 36
NEG. NO. 3635-22
PHOTO 18 of 24

VIEW OF: Committal service tent between Sections 40 and 41
NEG. NO. 7229-15
PHOTO 19 of 24

VIEW OF: Civilian cemetery
NEG. NO. 3635-21
PHOTO 20 of 24

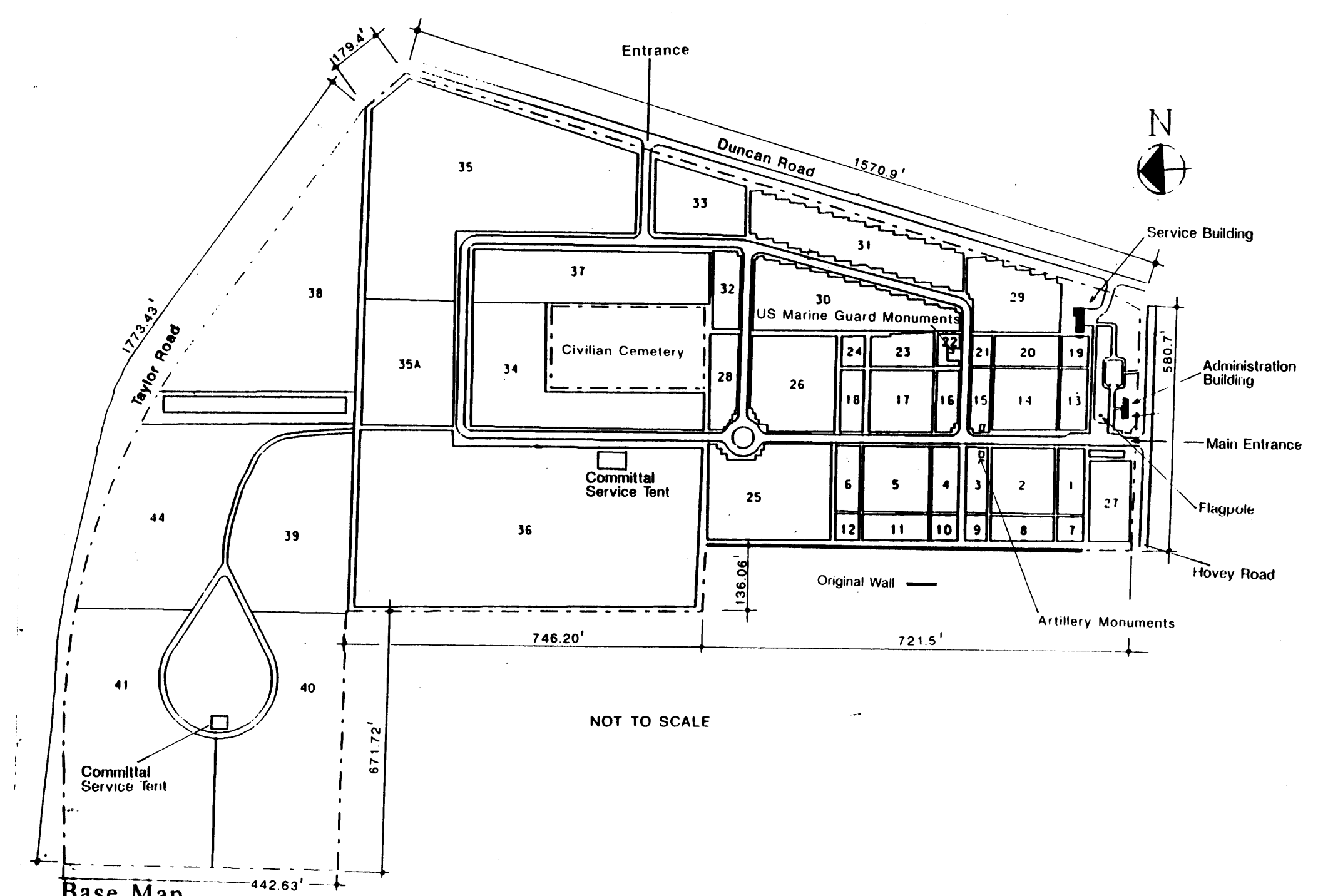
VIEW OF: Civilian cemetery
NEG. NO. 7229-9
PHOTO 21 of 24

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking west

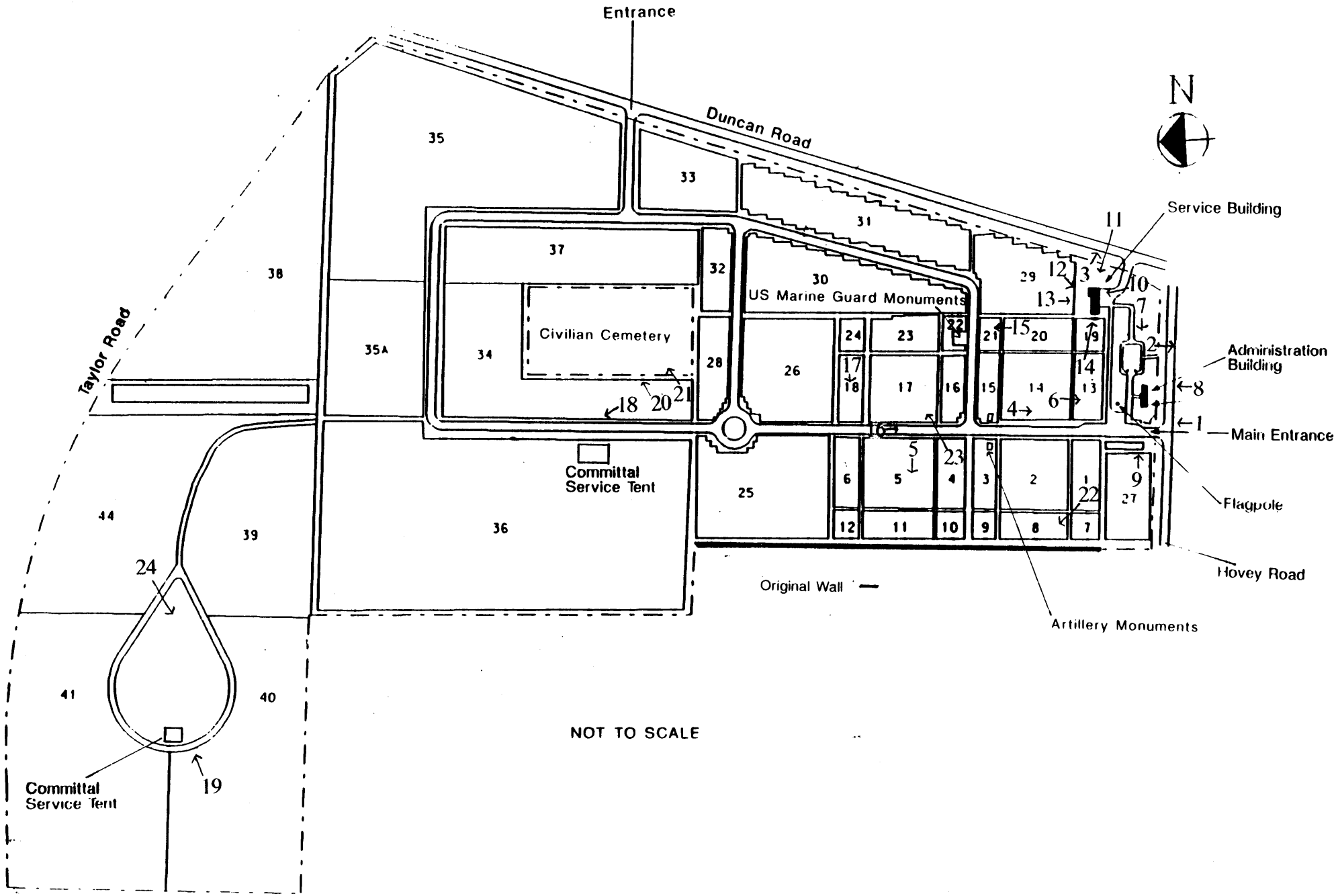
NEG. NO. 3635-17
PHOTO 22 of 24

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northeast
NEG. NO. 3635-18
PHOTO 23 of 24

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking west
NEG. NO. 3635-23
PHOTO 24 of 24



Base Map
Barrancas National Cemetery
Escambia County, Florida



Sketch Map
Barrancas National Cemetery
Escambia County, Florida

Note: Numbered arrows correspond to the views in the accompanying photographs

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Barrancas National Cemetery

MULTIPLE NAME: Civil War Era Cemeteries MPS

STATE & COUNTY: FLORIDA, Escambia

DATE RECEIVED: 12/08/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/22/01
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 98000083

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 1.10.01 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER Edson Beall DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 1/10/01

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

WEST SIDE

WILLIAM FLAHERTY
Pvt. USMC Born at Lowell, Mass. Dec. 14, 1857. Died Aug. 17, 1883. Aged 26 years.
BENJAMIN BARGER
Pvt. USMC Born at Philadelphia, Pa. Sept. 1, 1856. Died Aug. 19, 1883. Aged 27 yrs.
Erected by the U. S. Marine Guard, Navy Yard, Pensacola, Fla. April 15, 1884

There are two monuments, located north of the main entrance, each made of an original cast-iron seacoast artillery tube and secured by a concrete base. Both are topped by cannonballs painted white. A bronze plaque affixed to one of these monuments is inscribed as follows:

UNITED STATES
NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY
BARRANCAS

ESTABLISHED	1867
INTERMENTS	1396
KNOWN	724
UNKNOWN	672

The numbers shown for contributing resources within the property reflect the following:

Sites: Cemetery (1868)

Structures: Main entrance gate (circa 1868), original perimeter wall along west side of cemetery (date unknown)

Objects: U. S. Marine Guard monument (1884), two artillery monuments (dates unknown)

The numbers shown for non-contributing resources within the property reflect the following:

Buildings: Administration building (1976), service building (1949)

Structures: Service gate (1949), two committal service tents (unknown dates)

Objects: Flagpole (1949)

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 1 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 2 OF 24

CHEVROLET

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 3 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 4 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 5 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 6 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 7 OF 21

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 8 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 9 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 10 OF 29

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 11 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 12 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 13 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 14 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 15 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 16 OF 24

GERONIMO
SEC
18

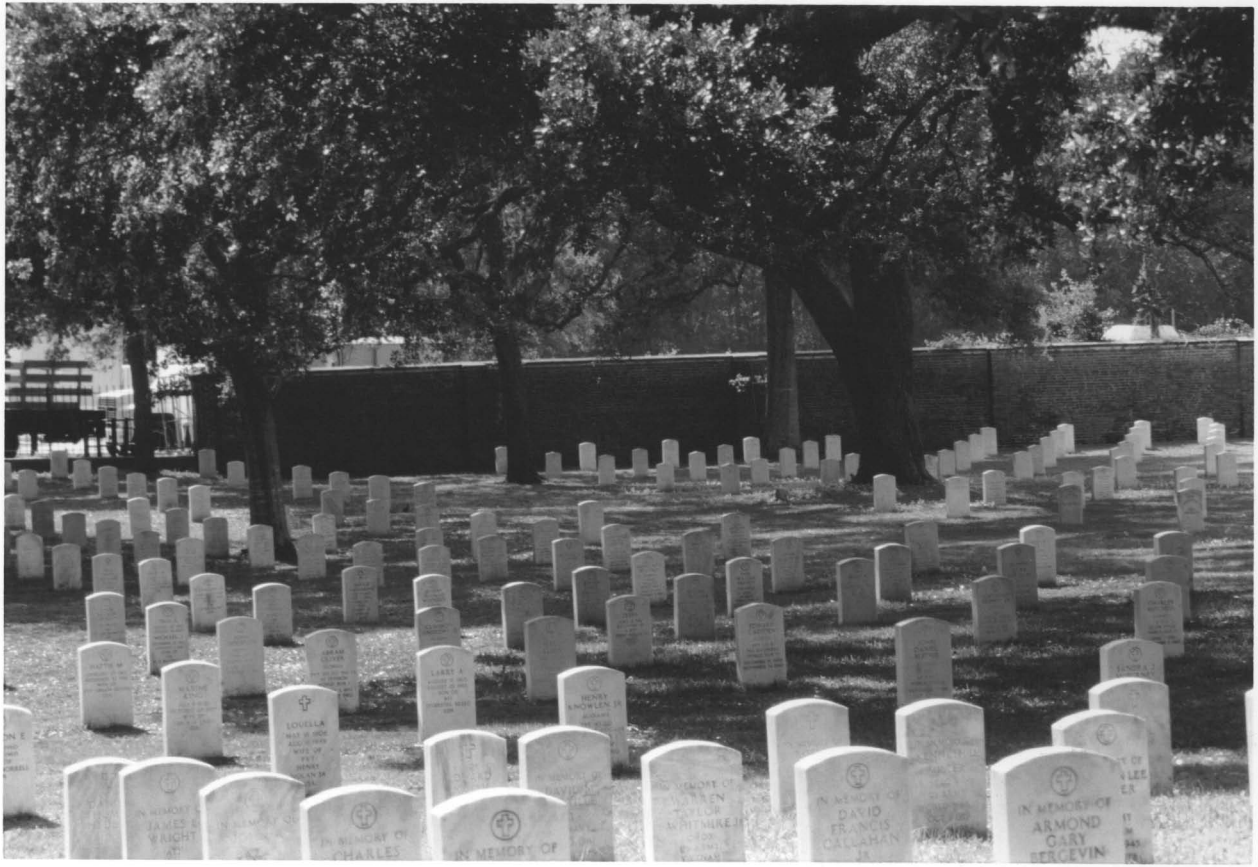
BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 17 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 18 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 19 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 20 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 21 OF 24


IN MEMORY OF
DAVID
FRANCIS
CALLAHAN
IN MEMORY OF
ARMOND
GARY
BERGEVIN

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 22 OF 24

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 23 OF 24

WILLIAM E.
HOLZSCHUH

BARRANCAS NATIONAL CEMETERY
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTO 24 OF 24