NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

United States Department of the Interior
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 Marietta National Cemetery

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 500 Washington Avenue ☐ not for publication N/A

city or town Marietta ☐ vicinity N/A

state Georgia code GA county Cobb code 067 zip code 30060

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 Rome Tupek, Federal Preservation Officer 8/17/98
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.)

Mark R Edwards Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer 8/04/98
Signature of commenting or other official/Title Date

Georgia Department of Natural Resources
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:)

for Signature of Keeper — Date of Action

Edson H. Beall — 9-18-98

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	
2	0	buildings
1	0	sites
5	1	structures
3	3	objects
11	4	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)
Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation Concrete
walls Stucco
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

1866-1940

Significant Dates

1866

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 23.2

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	727000	3759350
2	16	727500	3759360
3	16	727490	3759170
4	16	727000	3759180

☐ 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 July 28, 1998

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.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Materials:

Walls: Brick
Roof: Tin
Other: Iron, granite, bronze

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Marietta National Cemetery is located at 500 Washington Avenue, Marietta, Georgia, in Cobb County, 20 miles northwest of Atlanta. The site is rectangular in shape and is in full view of Kennesaw Mountain. It is situated within the corporate limits of the town of Marietta. The cemetery is comprised of 23.2 acres of undulating land rising from the entrance and the four sides to a high hill near the center, where the rostrum is located. This hill is the focal point of the cemetery. The grade rises again along the eastern edge of the cemetery. From the main entrance, drives wind around and through the grounds, dividing them into numerous sections of various sizes and shapes to conform to the natural features of the land. The ground rises gradually from all sides and the summit near the center of the cemetery commands an extensive view of the surrounding country. The cemetery is beautifully laid out into 13 sections and is intersected with winding walks and avenues. The burial sections are of all shapes—ovals, shields, crescents, circles, etc., and the graves of the soldiers, all marked with uniform marble headstones, are placed in rows corresponding to the shape of the section. The many walks, beautiful trees and shrubs, as well as the numerous monuments, make this a very beautiful cemetery.

The grounds were originally enclosed by a wooden fence. This was replaced with a rubble stone wall, covered with four-inch stone coping twenty-two inches wide, which was constructed circa 1872-1874 by Bird Wallace, Contractor. The main entrance is situated at the northwest corner and is protected by a double iron gate. An iron service gate is located near the center of the west side. On a granite arch over the main entry gate is the following inscription: "Marietta National Cemetery, Established 1866." Inscribed on the opposite side of the arch is the following: "Here rest the remains of 10,312 Officers and Soldiers who died in defense of the Union 1861-1865." The arch was constructed in 1883 by the Stone Mountain Granite Company. Near the center of the cemetery is an oval mound on which is erected the flagpole. A smaller entrance, also protected by an iron gate, is located at about the center of the west side. The lodge is situated a short distance to the west of the main entrance, and the utility building is located to the south of the main entrance. A rostrum is located in the western portion of the site, and a committal service tent is situated to the southeast of the lodge.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The cemetery was established in 1866. Graves were originally marked by stout stakes made of chestnut and pine, six feet long, four inches broad, and two inches thick that were later replaced with upright marble headstones. The cemetery closed in 1970, except for interments in occupied and reserved graves and interments of cremated remains. As of June 30, 1998, there were 16,469 sites used for the interment of 17,308 casketed remains and 557 sites used for the interment of 1,101 cremated remains. As of June 30, 1998, there were 248 gravesites available (247 reserved) for the interment of casketed remains and 2 sites available for the interment of cremated remains.

The original lodge was constructed between 1868 and 1870 and was located near the main entrance. It was built of brick and consisted of three rooms with a projecting roof and piazza all around. There was a kitchen in the basement. A two-story brick building consisting of six rooms and three cellar compartments. In 1883, an additional story was added to the lodge. This lodge was later replaced by the present clay tile and stucco lodge, constructed in 1921. The roof is asphalt shingles. There are six rooms, a front porch, and a basement.

Mr. Bird Wallace was contracted to build the perimeter wall after the very substantial original fence was outdated. He also built the first lodge made of brick which he had molded and burned in his own brickyard just east of his residence on Roswell Road (which is now the Roswell Street Baptist Church). Other citizens were employed as foremen or various assistants. The wall was afterward capped with 4 inch-by-22 inch coping of Bedford limestone, which held the old wall together for a dozen years, until about 1882, when the masons employed to erect the granite gateway were detailed to go over the entire wall for pointing the random rubble joints with cement mortar. (The main wall was laid up in lime mortar.) Many years later, the height of the wall was increased, in two stages, by an addition of two to six feet, to fit the street grade changes and for keeping out intruders. The coping was replaced after the face lifting and additional pointing was done, this time in portland cement.

The wall for closing the flanks of the widened space for the entrance gateway, is of a different texture. This wall is of Chicamauga limestone, with a history. It was a remnant from a bridge contract which Henry Green Cole, the donor of the land for establishment of the cemetery, completed for the Western and Atlantic Railroad at Allatoona Creek. These left-over dimension stones were hauled to the top of the cemetery hill where Cole had hoped to build his home, before the war. After Cole donated the site, he hauled the stones over to the "Joyce Place," the site of Bayard Cole's residence built by his father DeWitt Cole. From the "Joyce Place," a second choice for Henry Green Cole's residence, the Chicamauga lime rock was finally hauled over to the cemetery gateway, on Webster Cole's rock wagon and erected into the substantial wall which now flanks the cemetery gate on both sides.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

National Cemetery System microfilm records contain a copy of a letter written by D. W. Cole on December 1, 1948, to then superintendent of the cemetery R. V. Ridenhaur. He stated that as a boy who grew up in and out of the cemetery, he recalled the original very substantial fence, oak posts, red cedar rails, heart pine pickets, all heavy dimensions. In the early eighties, the handsome granite gateway was erected, beginning with a Major Gauld's performance of making concrete of hand broken rock, "branch" sand, Rosendale cement, for the base mat under the footings of the gateway. These new flanking walls were of limestone ashlar derived from Cole reserves which D. W. Cole personally hauled to the site and furnished sand for the mortar. His letter goes on to state that the main wall, "Bird Wallace type, was quite a different piece of goods, built of field stones, for which Wallace with his mule teams scoured the County, sand from road gutters in the same territory, lime mortar for setting and grouting throughout. Stones not laid on their "best beds" but rather set on edge, "shiner" fashion, interior filled with random rubble or cobbles and grouted with same lime mortar; top plastered with some mortar. After a time, under separate contract, the wall was coped with Bedford limestone, with the effect of a bonding agent. Some ten years later, the masons employed thereon were detailed to point the main wall throughout with good natural cement mortar. The coping and pointing held the wall together until recent years when it was again pointed in Portland cement, incidental to raising the height and resetting of the coping."

The brick and stucco utility building, with a stone and concrete foundation, was constructed in 1926. The roof is tin. An addition to west end was constructed in 1938, and a chimney and stove added in 1945. In 1952, an addition of 1,048 square feet was constructed.

At the same time the granite arch at the main gate was erected, in 1883, the brick and granite coped rostrum was erected. The remains of this rostrum, including the brick pillars, were turned into a wisteria arbor in March 1940. A new white marble and concrete rostrum, 37 feet by 22 feet, with a metal roof was then constructed in April 1940. The structure is of a classic architectural design and resembles a Greek temple of the Acropolis. Three marble benches were added in June 1940. A flagstone walk between the rostrum and the flagpole passes beneath the wisteria arbor.

A brick public restroom building was constructed in 1926 and rebuilt in 1934. The structure is 12 feet by 18 feet and has an asphalt roof.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

There are three commemorative monuments in the Marietta National Cemetery:

Twentieth Army Corps Monument - A marble monument, somewhat Egyptian in character, approximately 10 feet high, with a base of approximately two feet square and a very tapered square shaft. This monument was erected in May 1870 by the Twentieth Army Corps and dedicated to their comrades. It is located in Section B and is inscribed as follows:

IN MEMORIAM

OUR DEAD HEROES

2ND DIVISION, 20TH A.C.

WINCHESTER RINGGOLD
PORT REPUBLIC - MILL CREEK GAP
CEDAR MOUNTAIN - RESAGGA
ANTIETAM - NEW HOPE CHURCH
CHANCELLORSVILLE - PINE HILL
GETTYSBURG - KOLPS FARM
WAUHATCHIE - KENESAW
LOOKOUT MT. PEACHTREE CREEK
MISSION RIDGE ATLANTA
1864

Wisconsin Monument - The monument was dedicated on Memorial Day 1925 to the 405 sons of the state of Wisconsin who had perished in Georgia during the Civil War and who are interred in the cemetery. The Wisconsin legislature appropriated $5,000 for the monument, and the contract was awarded to Stotzer and Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The shaft is a memorial hewn from Wisconsin granite and is of simple dignity in appearance, standing 12 feet high with the likeness of a badger, the Wisconsin symbol of heroic tendency, at the top. A scroll upon the face bears the message of dedication. During the dedication, the band of the 22nd Infantry and Troops from Fort McPherson led the parade through the streets of Marietta. In the line of march of the parade were representatives of the five veterans' organizations, the Grand Army of the Republic, United Confederate Veterans, U. S. Spanish War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and Disabled War Veterans. General D. B. Freeman of North Georgia Brigade of U. S. V. read Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. The

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

principal address was made by Charles B. Perry of Wisconsin. Charles M. Hambright unveiled the monument and it was accepted by Mrs. Katharine Kling, President of Woman's Relief corps of the O. M. Mitchell Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. More than 2,000 attended the unveiling. Following the ceremony, a salute was fired over the graves of the Union soldiers. The monument is inscribed as follows:

WISCONSIN
DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF
WISCONSIN SOLDIERS
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN DEFENSE OF THE UNION IN
1861-1865.

FOUR HUNDRED AND FIVE
BELONGING TO THE FOLLOWING REGIMENTS
ARE BURIED HERE
1ST CAVALRY
5TH BATTERY LIGHT ARTILLERY
6TH BATTERY LIGHT ARTILLERY
10TH BATTERY LIGHT ARTILLERY
12TH BATTERY LIGHT ARTILLERY

1ST INFANTRY	3RD INFANTRY
10TH INFANTRY	12TH INFANTRY
14TH INFANTRY	15TH INFANTRY
16TH INFANTRY	17TH INFANTRY
18TH INFANTRY	21ST INFANTRY
22ND INFANTRY	24TH INFANTRY
25TH INFANTRY	26TH INFANTRY
31ST INFANTRY	32ND INFANTRY

On the reverse side of the monument is inscribed the following:

"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. HE THAT
BELIEVETH IN ME, THOUGH
HE WERE DEAD YET SHALL
HE LIVE."

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Gold Star Mothers - On April 24, 1960, the Atlanta chapter 24 of the Gold Star Mothers donated a marble monument located at the base of the flagpole near the entrance to the rostrum. The monument is 2 feet high, 2 feet 8 inches long, 1 foot 4 inches deep, and is inscribed as follows:

IN MEMORY
OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES
OF THE UNITED STATES
MISSING IN ACTION.

Pearl Harbor Survivors Association Monument - Dedicated on December 7, 1996. The inscription reads as follows:

TO THOSE WHO DIED TO THOSE WHO SURVIVED
GEORGIA CHAPTERS PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION, INC.
DEDICATED THIS MEMORIAL TO ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL
SERVING THE STATIONS ON OAHU, HAWAII DURING THE
JAPANESE ATTACK DECEMBER 7, 1941

DEDICATED
December 7, 1996

U. S. CASUALTIES	KILLED	WOUNDED	DAMAGE SUSTAINED
Army	218	364	9 Battleships
Navy	2,008	710	Lost: Arizona
Marines	109		Oklahoma, Utah
Civilians	68	35	Sunk: California
			Nev., W. Virginia
Total	2,403	1,178	Damaged: Maryland, PA
			Tennessee

DEDICATED TO THOSE WHO DIED AND TO THOSE WHO SURVIVED
JAPANESE ATTACK DECEMBER 7, 1941
REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR - KEEP AMERICA ALERT

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

A plaque affixed to one of the pillars on the east side of the entrance arch commemorates Henry Greene Cole, who donated the land for the Marietta National Cemetery. The plaque is inscribed as follows:

IN MEMORY OF HENRY GREENE COLE OF MARIETTA, GEORGIA
WHO GAVE THESE GROUNDS TO HIS COUNTRY
THIS TABLET IS ERECTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

In 1968, AMVETS, Department of Georgia, donated a carillon to the cemetery. A dedication ceremony was held on Memorial Day of that year.

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

Buildings: Lodge, utility building

Sites: Cemetery

Structures: Gates (2), perimeter wall, rostrum, entrance arch

Objects: Twentieth Army Corps Monument, Wisconsin monument, bronze plaque at cemetery gate recognizing Henry Green Cole's donation of the land for the cemetery

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

Structures: Committal service tent

Objects: Flagpole, Gold Star Mothers monument, Pearl Harbor Survivors Association monument

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Marietta 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 National Register Criterion C, as it retains its historic site layout, its historic landscaping including curvilinear drives and irregularly-shaped burial tracts, its historic pattern of grave arrangement, its historic headstones, commemorative monuments, and original perimeter wall. The only altered feature is the wall, which has been raised or heightened, and the only missing feature is the original lodge building, replaced by an early 20th-century structure. The cemetery today clearly conveys its overall historic character and appearance.

The period of significance ends in 1940, the year that the rostrum was constructed.

Even before the great Battle of Atlanta, Marietta played a part in the unfolding drama of the Civil War. Sometime after 5:00 a.m., on April 12, 1862, James G. Andrews and a group of volunteers from an Ohio brigade were recruited by the Union Army for an espionage mission. Their assignment was to make a raid into the area held by Confederate troops and destroy the bridges between Atlanta and Chattanooga, cutting a vital supply link. On the morning of April 12, Andrews and his men, known to history as the "Raiders," boarded a freight train at Marietta (then Big Shanty) bound north for Chattanooga. At a breakfast stop, when the crew and passengers left the train, the Raiders uncoupled the train and commandeered the locomotive nicknamed the "General." Their action was quickly discovered by the conductor and his crew whose pursuit began the "Great Locomotive Chase." After an eighty-seven mile chase, the General finally ran out of fuel, and the Raiders continued their flight on foot. In less than a week, however, the Confederate forces succeeded in capturing all the men, including Andrews. Trials were held for the spies, and Andrews and seven of his men were hanged. Soon after, six of the Raiders escaped from jail, were recaptured, and a year later were exchanged with Union prisoners of war. These six men were the first to receive the newly created Medal of Honor.

The Atlanta campaign, fought in northwestern Georgia during the spring and summer of 1864, was one of the most important military campaigns of the Civil War. Northern forces were under the command of Major General William T. Sherman and Confederates were commanded first by General Joseph E. Johnston and then by General John B. Hood.

By early 1864, Union armies were poised for what they hoped would be a quick campaign to dismember the Confederacy and end the war. Leaders on both sides had long recognized the importance of Atlanta, located a few miles south of the Chattahoochee and about 120 miles from Chattanooga, Tennessee. Atlanta's four railroads were not only the best means of communication

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

between the eastern and western parts of the Confederacy, but they were also the major lines of supply for the Southern armies in Virginia and north Georgia. The city's hospitals cared for the sick and wounded and her factories produced many kinds of military goods. In addition, the city's capture would give the Union armies a base from which they could strike further into Georgia to reach such vital manufacturing and administrative centers as Milledgeville, Macon, Augusta, and Columbus. All these things were clear to the men who led the opposing armies.

William Tecumseh Sherman had been chosen as supreme commander in the West in early 1864. Grant knew he could be counted on to carry out his part of the grand strategical plan for 1864. Sherman's assignment was to break up the Confederate army in northern Georgia, get into the interior of the enemy's army as far as he could, and inflict all the damage he could against their war resources. Sherman had almost 100,000 men organized into three armies: the Army of the Cumberland, commanded by Major General George H. Thomas; the Army of the Tennessee, commanded by Major General James B. McPherson; and the Army of the Ohio, commanded by Major General John M. Schofield. By early May, Sherman had assembled these troops around Chattanooga and was prepared to march with them into Georgia.

Opposed to Sherman's host was the Confederate Army of Tennessee, commanded by General Joseph E. Johnston. At the beginning of May, the 55,000 men of his army were concentrated around Dalton, Georgia, 35 miles southeast of Chattanooga. The southern force consisted of two infantry corps commanded by Lieutenant Generals William J. Hardee and John Bell Hood, and a cavalry corps led by Major General Joseph Wheeler. The Confederate government wanted Johnston to march into Tennessee and reestablish Southern authority over that crucial state. Johnston believed that he should await Sherman's advance, defeat it, and then undertake to regain Tennessee. This issue had not been resolved at the opening of the campaign in early May, and lack of understanding and cooperation illustrated by this incident, would hamper Confederate efforts throughout the campaign.

Johnston requested reinforcements. A large body of 15,000 troops constituting the Army of the Mississippi and commanded by Lieutenant General Leonidas Polk joined Johnston, raising the Confederate force to about 70,000.

The first major battle of the campaign, the Battle of Resaca, was fought from May 13-15. The 13th was spent in skirmishing and establishing the positions of the two armies. The 14th saw much heavy fighting and, on the 15th, both sides made attacks that achieved some local success but were inconclusive. During the night of May 15-16, the Confederates withdrew and crossed to the southern bank of the Oostanaula River, burning the bridges behind them. No accurate casualty figures are available, but Federal losses were probably about 3,500 and Confederate casualties about 2,600.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Once across the Oostanaula, Johnston sought to make a stand and draw the Federals into a costly assault. He expected to find favorable terrain near Calhoun, but in this he was disappointed and during the night of May 16-17, he led the Confederates on southward toward Adairsville. The Federals followed, Sherman dividing his forces into three columns and advancing on a broad front. Adairsville proved to be an unsuitable position for Johnston to give battle, so it was abandoned during the night of May 17-18. On May 19, Johnston ordered Hood to march along a country road a mile or so east of the Adairsville-Cassville Road and form his corps for battle facing west. Johnston formed his army on a ridge and hoped that Sherman would attack him there on May 20. That night the Confederate leaders held a council of war. During the night, the Confederates withdrew across the Etowah River. Sherman gave his men a short rest. They were still 53 miles from Atlanta.

Sherman expected to push through this region south of the Etowah with little delay. His optimism was ill-founded, for the rough terrain and heavy rains favored Johnston's smaller force and helped delay the Federal advance for five weeks. Johnston posted his army around Allatoona Pass, a gap in the high hills south of the Etowah through which the railroad ran on its way southward to Marietta. He had again occupied a strong position, hoping that Sherman would attack it. Sherman, however, was determined to avoid a direct assault and crossed the river to the west where the country was more open. Dallas, a small town about fourteen miles south of the river, was the first objective. On the 24th, the Federals were closing in on Dallas. By that evening, the Southerners held a line east of Dallas.

On May 25, in a late afternoon battle, at New Hope Church, Thomas's army lost about 1,500 men. The Confederates suffered little and were elated at their success. On the 26th, both commanders were working to position their men in the woods east of Dallas. There was little fighting during the day, except for skirmishing.

On the following day, Sherman attempted to defeat the right of the Southern line by a surprise attack. In the battle known as Pickett's Mill, the Northerners were hurled back with about 1,500 casualties. For the Federals, this engagement was one of the most desperate of the campaign. Over the next few days, fighting continued almost incessantly. When it became clear that no decisive battle would be fought at Dallas, Sherman gradually sidled eastward to regain the railroad. On June 3, advance elements of the Federal forces reached the little town of Acworth and, within a few days, almost all of the Northern troops were in that general area.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

By June 10, Sherman was ready to resume the advance. The Southerners had taken up a line north of Marietta that ran from Brush Mountain on the east to Pine Mountain in the center to Lost Mountain on the west. Rain fell almost every day and hampered the Northern advance. For several days, there was heavy skirmishing in which the Federals captured Pine Mountain and made gains at other points. By the 16th, the Southerners were forced to give up Lost Mountain. Johnston tried to hold a new line, but it was enfiladed by the Federal artillery. During the night of June 18-19, the Confederates took up a new position along the Kennesaw Mountain and off to the south. In the days that followed, McPherson and Thomas were engaged in what amounted to a siege of the Southern position. Little progress could be made on the ground, but the artillery on both sides was used in attempts to batter and weaken the enemy. Day after day, the big Union guns pounded the Southern line, their fire being answered by Confederate cannon high on Kennesaw Mountain.

After a battle at the Kolb farmhouse on June 22, in which several Confederate attacks were hurled back by the Federals, there was relative calm along the lines for several days. The lines now ran from the railroad north of Marietta to Olley's Creek southwest of the town.

Several days after the battle at Kolbs farm, Sherman decided that he would make a direct assault on Johnston's lines. He decided to strike the Confederates at three points: McPherson would assault the southern end of Kennesaw Mountain, Thomas would move against a salient known as the "Dead Angle" several miles to the south, and Schofield would push south on Sandtown Road and attempt to cross Olley's Creek. The date of the assault was June 27. The best estimates place Northern losses at about 3,000 men. The Southerners lost at least 750 killed, wounded or captured. Sherman had been criticized for ordering the frontal attack on Johnston's lines. Had the assault succeeded, he would have won a great victory. As it was, he did not continue the attacks when it was clear they would fail, and he had managed to secure a position from which he could easily pry Johnston out of the Kennesaw line.

The Confederate government had been displeased by Johnston's conduct of the campaign, which led President Jefferson Davis to remove him from command, and replace him with John B. Hood, by order issued on July 17. Hood was promoted to the temporary rank of full general.

On July 19, the Army of the Cumberland crossed Peachtree Creek, but as it advanced, it drifted toward the west. Thus by the afternoon a gap had developed in the Northern line between Thomas on the right and Schofield in the center. Hood decided to concentrate the corps of Hardee and Stewart against Thomas. The attack on Thomas was set for 1:00 p.m. on July 20. What Hood had planned as a quick blow against an unprepared Northern army developed into a headlong assault against a

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

partially fortified line.. Northern casualties in the battle of Peachtree Creek were reported at 1,600. The estimate of Southern losses was 4,700.

Attention then shifted to the eastern side of Atlanta. Hood, determined to strike McPherson who, on July 20 and 21, had moved past Decatur and entrenched a line running north and south a few miles east of Atlanta. He chose Hardee's Corps to be the flanking column and planned to have Cheatham's men attack the front of McPherson's army from the west while Hardee struck from the south and east. Late on the 21st, Hardee's men withdrew from their advanced position north of Atlanta and by midnight were marching out of the city. On the morning of July 22, Sherman found the Southerners gone from his immediate front and concluded that Atlanta had been abandoned. As his armies pushed forward, however, they discovered that the defenders had only fallen back to a new position. It was not until noon that Hardee had his men in position and at 1:00 p.m., he sent them forward. Poor coordination also weakened the force of the Confederate offensive. Nevertheless, the fighting was severe. The first charge was driven back, but the Southerners returned to the attack again and again throughout the long afternoon. Several times they swarmed over the Federal positions, capturing men and cannon, but each time they were driven back. In one of the early charges, McPherson was killed by advancing Confederate skirmishers. Finally, at about 7:00 p.m., the Southerners abandoned the attack and fell back. Their losses have been estimated at about 8,000. Union casualties were reported at 3,722.

Although he had inflicted heavy losses on the Southerners, Sherman seems to have become convinced that he would not be able to capture Atlanta by his customary tactics. He brought up a battery of siege guns and shelled the city. He also decided to try cavalry raids in the hope that his horsemen could reach the railroads below Atlanta and, by cutting them, force Hood to evacuate the city. Late in July, two expeditions were launched. One under Brigadier General George Stoneman was to swing to the east to McDonough, Lovejoy Station, and Macon, tearing up the railroad and destroying supplies as it went. The other expedition, under Brigadier General Edward M. McCook, was to operate to the west and join Stoneman in attacking the Confederate lines of communications south of Atlanta. From the start, both raids were badly managed. Stoneman chose to go directly to Macon rather than follow orders. He reached the vicinity of Macon on July 31 where he was attacked by the Southerners and captured along with about 500 of his men.

On August 10, Hood struck out at his opponent's line of supply. He sent cavalry commander Wheeler with 4,000 men to destroy the railroad north of Marietta and to disrupt Sherman's communications with the North. Although Wheeler was able to make some temporary breaks in the line, he was unable to reduce substantially the flow of supplies to Sherman's armies. Eventually, the Confederate cavalry drifted into Tennessee and did not rejoin Hood until the campaign was over. Wheeler's departure led

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Sherman to send out a third cavalry expedition, commanded by Brigadier General Judson Kilpatrick. The Northerners reached the railroads below Atlanta and on August 18-20, succeeded in tearing up sections of the track. On the 20th, they were driven away. Kilpatrick reported to Sherman that the railroad had been so thoroughly wrecked that it would take at least ten days to repair it. However, on the following day, the Federals saw trains bringing supplies into the city from the south. Clearly, the Northern cavalry was not strong enough to destroy Hood's lines of supply. New plans would have to be tried if the Unionists were to capture Atlanta.

When Sherman made no new efforts to flank the city and when the Northern cavalry raids were beaten off one after another, many men came to believe that Atlanta had been saved. Many thought that Wheeler's cavalry had cut off Sherman's supplies and that this had forced the Federal commander to lift the siege. Sherman had not retreated. Rather, he concluded that only his infantry could break Hood's lines of supply and had resolved to move almost all of his force to the southwest of the city. The movement began on August 25. By noon on the 28th, Howard's Army of the Tennessee had reached Fairburn. Later that afternoon, Thomas's troops occupied Red Oak. The Northerners spent the rest of the 28th and the 29th, destroying the tracks. Only one railroad, the Macon and Western remained in Confederate hands. Sherman soon moved to cut it. By August 29, Hood had learned of the Federal activities at Fairburn. In early September, Hood knew that Atlanta could not be held any longer. He evacuated the city during the night of September 1-2. Supplies that could not be carried away were burned. On September 2, Major James M. Calhoun surrendered Atlanta to a party of Federal soldiers. The capture of Atlanta delighted and heartened Northerners. News of Sherman's victory was greeted with ringing bells and cannon fire all over the North.

Sherman soon turned Atlanta into an armed camp. In mid-September, a truce was declared and the citizens who chose to remain in the Confederacy were transported by the Northerners to Rough-and-Ready, where they were handed over to Hood's men who conveyed them farther south. After completion of this unpleasant task, Hood determined to reverse Sherman's strategy and to move with his whole army around Atlanta to draw Sherman after him into Alabama or Tennessee. Sherman left a strong garrison in Atlanta and followed Hood northward for several weeks. Unable to bring his opponent to bay, Sherman detached a strong force to deal with the Confederates and returned to Atlanta. Hood's army was virtually destroyed in several battles fought in Tennessee in November and December. Sherman, meanwhile, reorganized his armies and on November 15 burned Atlanta and marched out of the city on his way to the sea.

The establishment of the national cemetery at Marietta did not occur until two years after the burning of Atlanta. Many proposed sites in the Marietta area were examined, but the present site was selected as the most suitable and adaptable, its hill top affording a view of Kennesaw in one direction and

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Atlanta and Stone Mountain in the opposite direction. Tents and supply wagons of Sherman's troops once dotted the area. The site was at one time the projected site of the capitol of the Confederate States of America. The owner of the property, Mr. Henry G. Cole, had refused an offer of $50,000 for the property for that purpose. He rejected the offer with the comment that he "expected to put it to a better purpose." Cole, a citizen of Marietta who remained loyal to the Union throughout the Civil War, offered the land to be used as a burial ground for both Union and Confederate fatalities. His hope was that by honoring those who had fallen together, the living might learn to live in peace together. Unfortunately, the bitter differences which remained during the early days of Reconstruction made it impossible for either the North or the South to accept Mr. Cole's offer toward reconciliation. Mr. Cole had been incarcerated for several months in a Rebel prison for his devotedness to the Union. When this effort failed, 24 acres were offered to General George H. Thomas for use as a national cemetery. The offer was accepted, surveys made, title perfected, and the land was conveyed to the United States on July 31, 1866. Henry G. Cole was appointed preliminary superintendent of operations. He also contributed stone and gravel, trees and shrubbery. Immediately thereafter, the platting and landscaping of the grounds proceeded under the direction of Chaplain Thomas B. Van Horne, as he was then superintendent. He was succeeded by Lieutenant A. W. Corliss, 33rd United States Infantry. R. E. Wiswell was appointed Assistant Superintendent on September 1, 1866. James G. Hughes, a discharged Sergeant of Battery F, Fifth Regiment of Artillery, was then the superintendent. His appointment was dated November 26, 1867.

Original interments included 225 members of the United States Colored Troops, Black Americans who had died for the freedom of their brothers.

A large force was employed in scouting the battlefields and bringing in the bodies for interment. Judge Rigsby, with a force of carpenters and a pile of limber was busy making coffins as fast as they were needed. Mr. John Winters, with a large force of men and miles, contracted cemetery and battlefield work. For many Georgia families, hard hit by the post-war depression, assistance in this effort provided the only employment available. The re-burial of the dead was not done by contract. The military had direct and intimate charge of identification which was carried out with meticulous care.

During 1867 and 1868, disinterment and reinterment of bodies proceeded, at which time the number of officers and soldiers interred in the cemetery totaled 10,132, as indicated on the entablature of the granite gateway entrance to the cemetery. These included all those who died on the battlefields between the south side of the Costanaula River at Resaca to the battlefields of Kennesaw and Atlanta.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Bodies were removed from a national cemetery at Montgomery, Alabama, which had been discontinued, as well as from Rome, Dalton, Atlanta, and many other places in Georgia, including Augusta in Richmond County, Atlanta in Fulton County, Dahlonega in Lumpkin County, Dalton in Whitfield County, and Rome in Floyd County.

A second land donation by Mr. Cole in 1867 and a purchase in 1870 of an outstanding dower interest brought the cemetery to its present site of 23.2 acres.

In recognition of Mr. Cole's gift, the government made express provisions that a burial plot be set aside for members of the Cole family, irrespective of relationship. Mr. Cole died on April 18, 1875, and was interred in Grave 1 of the Cole plot. To date, seventeen interments have been made in the Cole plot. Space is reserved for the interment of five additional family members, provided that the burials be limited to those five persons.

Further recognition of Henry Cole's gift came in 1909 when Congress authorized a bronze plaque to be placed at the gate of the cemetery to commemorate the gift. The plaque is affixed to one of the pillars on the east side of the entrance.

Mr. Dix Fletcher, the father-in-law of Henry Cole, was instrumental in continuing annual memorial observances at the Marietta National Cemetery during the early days of the cemetery's history. In 1879, during a typical ceremony, trains carried participants from Atlanta where they joined local celebrants for the stirring march the half mile to the cemetery. Patriotic music and oratory reminded all of the sacrifices made on behalf of the Union. Graves were then decorated with flowers in tribute to those who fell far from their homes and loved ones.

Daniel Webster Cole, a son of the donor of the national cemetery land, resided for many years in the family home directly across the street from the gates and, during his long life, maintained an active interest in the cemetery. He was a construction engineer by profession and, in 1892, at the request of Superintendent Andrew B. Drum, made the first layout map of the Marietta National Cemetery. This drawing has served as a basis for subsequent official layout maps of the cemetery. At various other times, Mr. Cole's intimate knowledge of the history of the cemetery was of great assistance to the Office of the Quartermaster General. Official recognition of these fine services was accorded in a congratulatory letter signed by the then Assistant Secretary of the Army, Honorable Dewey Short, which was sent to Mr. Cole at the time of his ninety-fourth birthday, May 10, 1957. Daniel Webster Cole died on June 2, 1958, and was interred in the Cole family plot in the national cemetery. The Department of the Army was represented at the funeral by a senior officer from the Atlanta General Depot, U. S. Army, who brought with him a message of sympathy from The Quartermaster General,

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Major General Andrew T. McNamara, on the passing of a distinguished representative of a family whose generosity and patriotism made possible the establishment of the Marietta National Cemetery.

Also interred in the cemetery is John Clark, who distinguished himself not only as a soldier but also as a civil servant during the early years of the United States. Clark was born in February 1766, the son of General Elijah Clark and Hannah Harrington Clark. He fought in many battles during the Revolutionary War, and during his career rose from the rank of lieutenant to major general. He served in the Georgia House of Representatives from 1801 to 1803 and the Georgia Senate from 1803 to 1804. He was elected governor twice, in 1819 and in 1823, and, after completing his terms as governor of Georgia, was appointed Indian Agent for Florida by President Andrew Jackson. Clark and his wife contracted yellow fever and died in Florida within fourteen days of each other. In 1923, the Daughters of the American Revolution had the remains of John and Nancy Clark moved to Marietta National Cemetery. The same marble shaft monument that marked the graves in Florida was transferred to the national cemetery and erected on the new gravesites. The original marker was replaced in 1963 by the state of Georgia.

There is one Medal of Honor recipient buried in the Marietta National Cemetery. His grave is marked with a headstone inscribed with an enlarged gold-leafed replica of the medal of the awarding service and the words "MEDAL OF HONOR."

Lee Hugh Phillips - Corporal, United States Marine Corps, Company E, 2d Battalion 7 Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein) - For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty on November 4, 1950, while serving as a squad leader of Company E, in action against enemy aggressor forces. Corporal Phillips assumed the point position in the attack against a strongly defended and well-entrenched, numerically superior enemy force, occupying a vital hill position which had been unsuccessfully assaulted on five separate occasions by units of the Marine Corps and other friendly forces. Corporal Phillips fearlessly led his men in a bayonet charge up the precipitous slope under a deadly hail of mortar, small-arms, and machine gun fire. Quickly rallying his squad when it was pinned down by a heavy and accurate mortar barrage, he continued to lead his men through the bombarded area and, although only five members were left in the casualty-ridden unit, gained the military crest of the hill where he was immediately subjected to an enemy counterattack. Although greatly outnumbered by an enemy squad, Corporal Phillips boldly engaged the hostile force with hand grenades and rifle fire and, exhorting his gallant group of Marines to follow him, stormed forward to completely overwhelm the enemy. With only three men now left in his squad, he proceeded to spearhead an assault on the last remaining strongpoint, which was defended by four of the enemy on a rocky and almost inaccessible portion of the hill position. Using one hand to climb up the extremely hazardous precipice, he hurled grenades with the other and, with two

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

remaining comrades, succeeded in annihilating the pocket of resistance and in consolidating the position. Immediately subjected to a sharp counterattack by an estimated enemy squad, he skillfully directed the fire of his men and employed his own weapon with deadly effectiveness to repulse the numerically superior force. By his valiant leadership, indomitable fighting spirit and resolute determination in the face of heavy odds, Corporal Phillips served to inspire all who observed him and was directly responsible for the destruction of the enemy stronghold. He was killed in action on November 27, 1950, and is buried in Section B, Grave 8.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries are indicated on the accompanying base map.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

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

MARIETTA NATIONAL CEMETERY
Cobb County, Georgia
Therese T. Sammartino and Lagenia Rush, photographers
Date of Photographs: May 21 and October 23, 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 gate, view looking southeast
NEG. NO. 3634-1
PHOTO 1 of 25

VIEW OF: Main entrance gate, view looking west
NEG. NO. 3634-3
PHOTO 2 of 25

VIEW OF: Service gate
NEG. NO. 7571-10
PHOTO 3 of 25

VIEW OF: Flagpole, view looking east
NEG. NO. 3634-12
PHOTO 4 of 25

VIEW OF: Perimeter wall along north side
NEG. NO. 3634-24A
PHOTO 5 of 25

VIEW OF: Lodge, west elevation

NEG. NO. 3634-7
PHOTO 6 of 25

VIEW OF: Lodge, north elevation

NEG. NO. 3634-8
PHOTO 7 of 25

VIEW OF: Lodge, east elevation

NEG. NO. 3634-9
PHOTO 8 of 25

VIEW OF: Lodge, south elevation
NEG. NO. 3634-10
PHOTO 9 of 25

VIEW OF: Utility building, east elevation
NEG. NO. 3634-6
PHOTO 10 of 25

VIEW OF: Utility building, south elevation
NEG. NO. 7571-13
PHOTO 11 of 25

VIEW OF: Utility building, north elevation, and public rest room, north elevation
NEG. NO. 3634-13
PHOTO 12 of 25

VIEW OF: Rostrum, north elevation

NEG. NO. 3634-13
PHOTO 13 of 25

VIEW OF: Rostrum, west elevation
NEG. NO. 3634-16
PHOTO 14 of 25

VIEW OF: Arbor
NEG. NO. 3634-17
PHOTO 15 of 25

VIEW OF: Committal service tent
NEG. NO. 3634-11
PHOTO 16 of 25

VIEW OF: Wisconsin monument
NEG. NO. 3634-15
PHOTO 17 of 25

VIEW OF: Twentieth Army Corps monument
NEG. NO. 3634-14
PHOTO 18 of 25

VIEW OF: Gold Star Mothers monument
NEG. NO. 3634-24
PHOTO 19 of 25

VIEW OF: Pearl Harbor Survivors Association monument
NEG. NO. 3634-2
PHOTO 20 of 25

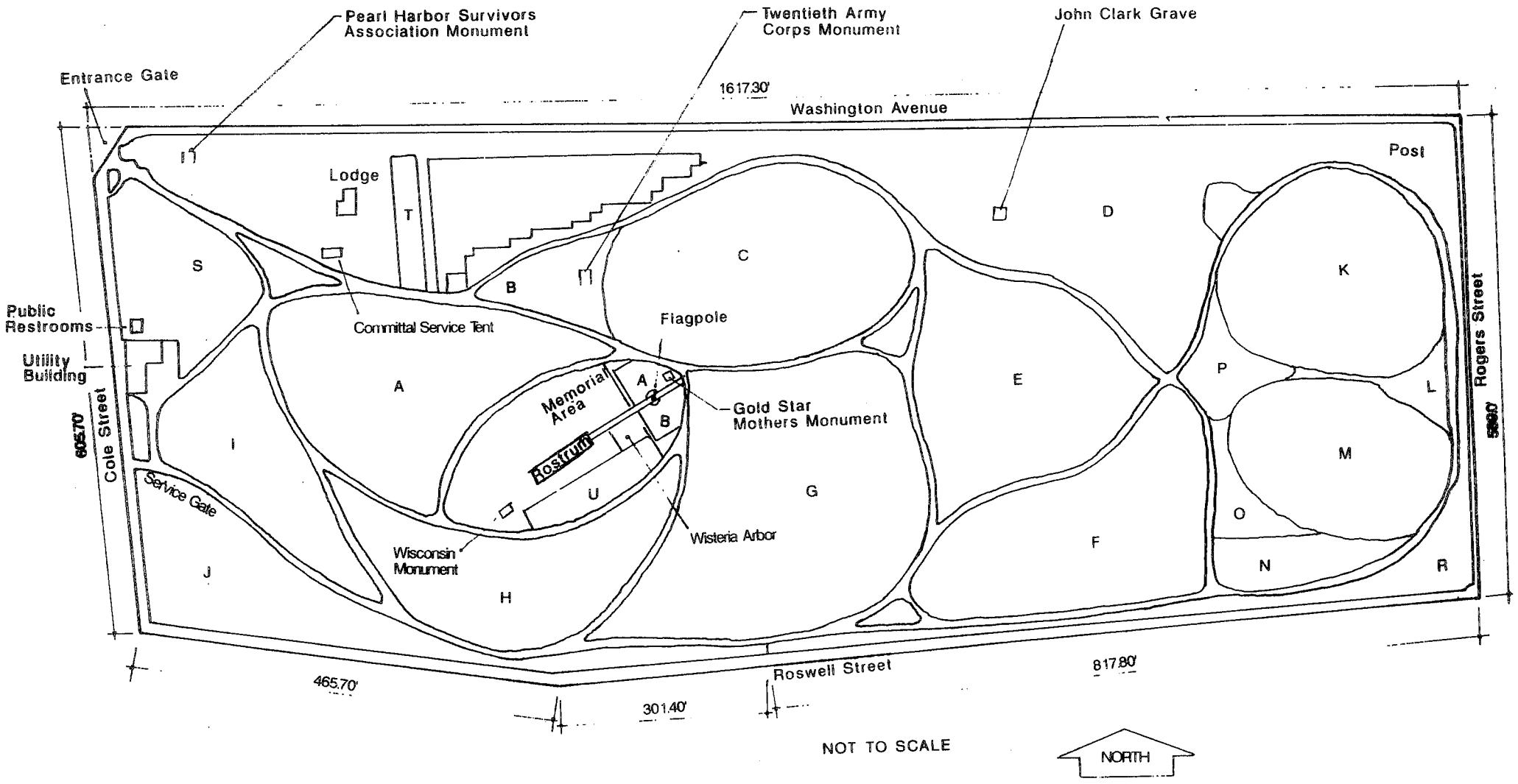
VIEW OF: Cole family plot
NEG. NO. 3634-18
PHOTO 21 of 25

VIEW OF: Monument, John Clark grave
NEG. NO. 3634-20
PHOTO 22 of 25

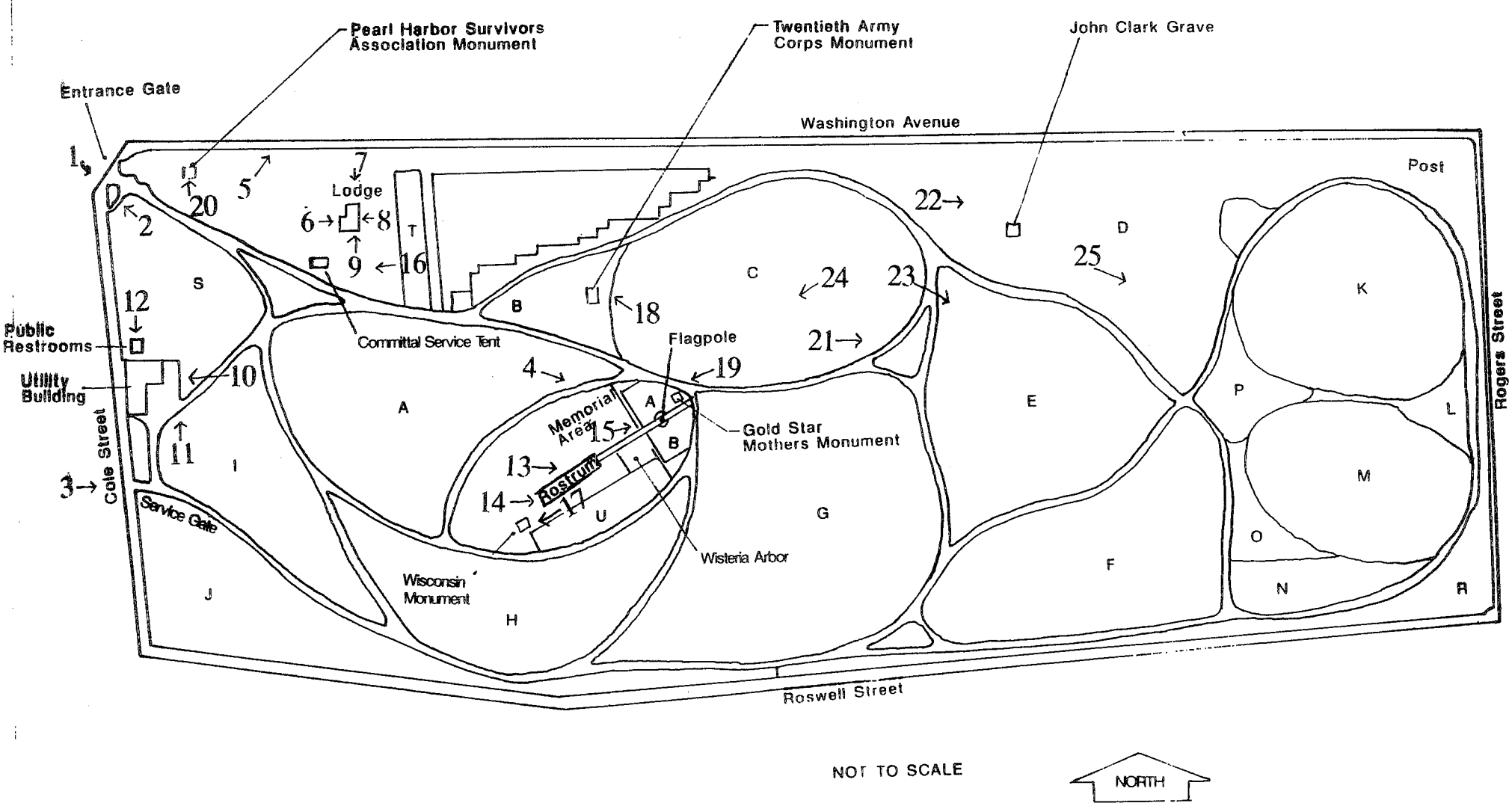
VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking east
NEG. NO. 3634-19
PHOTO 23 of 25

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking southwest
NEG. NO. 3634-23
PHOTO 24 of 25

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking east
NEG. NO. 3634-21
PHOTO 25 of 25



Base Map
Marietta National Cemetery
Cobb County, Georgia



Sketch Map
Marietta National Cemetery
Cobb County, Georgia

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