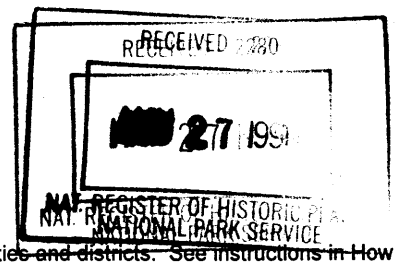
NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



735

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 an 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 **New Albany National Cemetery**

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 1943 Ekin Avenue N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town New Albany N/A ☐ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Floyd code 043 zip code 47150

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 36CFR 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 Bonner Tupek, Federal Preservation Officer — 5/25/99
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.)

[signature] — 5/14/99
Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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 Edson A. Beall — Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action 6.25.99

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	
1	0	buildings
1	0	sites
2	1	structures
3	2	objects
7	3	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, stone
roof Other
other Marble, steel

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

1862-1936

Significant Dates

1862

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 6.3

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	604425	4239570
2			
3			
4			

☐ 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 October 22, 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.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The New Albany National Cemetery is located at 1943 Ekin Avenue, New Albany, Indiana, about 1 ½ miles northeast of the town. The site is rectangular in shape. The main entrance is in the center of the southeast side and is protected by a steel gate, supported by stone piers, constructed circa 1869, with a pedestrian gate on the left, replacing a wooden gate. From the entrance going toward the back portion of the cemetery, a drive extends through the cemetery, encircling in its course, three circular plats of ground. The first circle contains the flagpole, constructed in 1949; the next, the largest of the three, contains burials (Section G); and the third contains the rostrum. The grounds are enclosed by a sandstone wall, 2 feet by 4 feet in height, based upon limestone and coped with sawn limestone. A service building is located in the southeast corner of the cemetery, and a committal service tent is situated nearby.

The cemetery was established in 1862. Graves were originally marked with headboards, painted and lettered, or by numbered stakes, that were later replaced with upright marble headstones. The cemetery closed in 1991 for the burial of casketed remains. As of August 31, 1998, there were 5,961 gravesites used for the interment of 6,286 casketed remains and 121 sites used for the interment of 147 cremated remains. As of August 31, 1998, there were 88 sites available for the interment of casketed remains (all reserved) and 55 sites available for the interment of cremated remains.

The utility building, located in the southeastern corner of the cemetery, is a single-story brick structure constructed in 1936 with an addition in 1949. The original section was a garage served by an overhead door and a simple panel door. The addition provides two additional garage bays with overhead doors. Each has a strip of six small windows. The roof is composition shingles.

The brick and iron rostrum was constructed in 1931 and is situated upon one of the circles. This structure replaced the original rostrum which was demolished. The rostrum is elevated over a brick foundation. It is two bays by three bays, divided by square brick piers supporting a ribbed tin pitch roof over open work frame rafters. The projecting eaves show exposed rafters. The flooring and stair risers and treads are concrete. In 1982, the Veterans Administration (VA) proposed to remove the rostrum. Even though the rostrum was used only on Memorial Day, public protest reached such a peak that VA decided to restore it to its original condition.

Just outside the cemetery wall is a plaque placed by the Floyd County Historical Society, inscribed as follows:

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
THIS NATIONAL CEMETERY IS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL
7 ESTABLISHED IN 1862 BY CONGRESS. 5.46 ACRES WERE
PURCHASED FROM DR. CHARLES BOWMAN DEC. 1862
FOR BURIAL OF UNION AND CONFEDERATE CASUALTIES
THERE ARE OVER 5,000 INTERMENTS FROM 7 CONFLICTS
CIVIL WAR, INDIAN WARS, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR
WORLD WARS I AND II, KOREAN, AND VIETNAM
PLACED BY FLOYD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Unfortunately, the plaque contains erroneous information. Congress established no specific national cemeteries in 1862. Congress authorized the President to establish national cemeteries pursuant to the Act of July 17, 1862, and fourteen national cemeteries, including the New Albany National Cemetery, were created in the latter half of that year,

This plaque was installed in 1973, replacing the original plaque which was inscribed with information that the land for the cemetery was purchased from a Dr. Morgan Vance family, when the land was actually purchased from Charles Bowman in 1862. In 1984, the Historic Preservation Officer for the then Veterans Administration contacted Mr. John Cody, Jr., an attorney in New Albany, and an active member of the Floyd County Historical Society. Mr. Cody located the records of sale by Mr. Bowman to the government. According to Mr. Cody, it was Major T. W. Fry(e) of the military hospital in New Albany who recommended a national cemetery at that location and Dr. Crozier of the hospital staff who drew up the original design, later approved by the War Department. Dr. Bowman was a civilian resident and practicing physician in New Albany. He donated a great deal of his time to treating the soldiers in the federal hospital. The present plaque was later erected containing the correct inscription as to the donor of the property.

A 10 foot by 15 foot family plot located in Section D contains the remains of several members of the Vance family. The earliest burial was the interment of Morgan Vance in 1872. Since the original plaque at the cemetery stated that Vance donated the land for the cemetery, Mr. and Mrs. Cody conducted further research to determine how the erroneous legend was started. A paper was found on file at the national cemetery which contained directives from the Secretary of War and the Quartermaster General of the United States concerning the burial of Morgan Vance and his family, listing the names and dates of burial (all had been reinterred from other cemeteries). Mr. and Mrs. Cody wanted more information on Morgan Vance and, after research at the New Albany Library and the National Archives, it was discovered that Vance's widow had friends in high positions in the United States Government. Within two weeks of her requests to government officials, authorization

was granted for Vance to be reinterred in the New Albany National Cemetery. A year after his death, his widow was again writing letters and she was notified by the Quartermaster at Jeffersonville that the Superintendent at New Albany National Cemetery would set aside a suitable lot of convenient size to accommodate burial of other family members. Morgan Vance's remains were reinterred in the national cemetery on May 12, 1872. In July 1883, Susan Vance's mother's remains were reinterred in the Vance lot, and in 1901, eight children were reinterred, all in one grave. In 1904, a Dr. Howard Vance was interred in the fourth grave. In 1905, Susan wrote to the Secretary of War requesting space in the Vance plot in the national cemetery for the future interment of herself and her three surviving children. Subsequently, Secretary of War W. H. Taft, allowed the lot to be enlarged, but on the express condition that nobody but Mrs. Vance be interred in that lot. On July 16, 1915, the cremated remains of Mrs. Susan Vance were interred in the same grave with her mother. There are 13 interments in the 4 gravesites.

There are two monuments, each 7 feet 6 inches in height, and made of an original cast-iron seacoast artillery tube, secured by a concrete base, one on the east side of Section G and the other on the west side. The inscription on the cast-bronze plaque affixed to the monument located on the west side reads as follows:

UNITED STATES
NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY
NEW ALBANY
ESTABLISHED 1862

INTERMENTS	2798
KNOWN	2,131
UNKNOWN	677

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

Buildings: Service building

Sites: Cemetery

Structures: Main entrance gate, rostrum

Objects: Perimeter wall, artillery monuments (2)

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

Structures: Committal service tent

Objects: Plaque at front entrance, flagpole

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The New Albany National Cemetery is significant under Criterion A and is an important component of the multiple property submission of Civil War Era National Cemeteries. This cemetery is included because it was established between 1862 and 1873 when eligibility for burial in a national cemetery was restricted to those officers and soldiers who died in performance of duty during the Civil War. It is significant under Criterion A because of its association with the Civil War. The cemetery is also significant beyond the Civil War era, as it includes the remains of veterans associated with every war and branch of service who had served their country throughout its history.

The cemetery possesses essentially the same physical characteristics as other cemeteries included in the multiple property nomination. Most of the original fabric remains, except for the lodge. Original features include the perimeter wall, gates, landscaping, road layout, burial areas, and headstones. No expansion of the burial area has taken place.

The period of significance ends in 1936, the year that the service building was constructed.

New Albany was the northern end of a river transportation system that began at New Orleans. As such, it could serve as part of the evacuation route for the wounded from much of the western theatre of the war. Many wounded were transported by boat to New Albany.

In 1862, the United States Government decided to establish a government hospital in New Albany. Instead of purchasing a building, several schools and other buildings were rented by the government. Dr. Thomas Fry, formerly a brigade surgeon under Union General Lewis Wallace, was brought in to supervise the hospitals. When the Civil War began, Wallace organized the 11th Indiana Infantry Regiment and was appointed Colonel of that regiment. Doctors Sloan, Alexander, and Bowman attended the wounded, and the ladies of the Union Aid Society acted as nurses.

The national cemetery was established in 1862 and was one of the fourteen original national cemeteries established that year. Initial interments included the military hospital dead buried in the city and reinterments from soldiers' graveyards in Kentucky, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Historical records show that by deed dated December 15, 1862, from Charles Bowman and wife, the United States purchased 5.5 acres of land for the establishment of the national cemetery. The plan of the cemetery was designed by a Dr. Crosier of Dr. Thomas Fry's hospital staff. A re-survey of the cemetery was done in 1949 and showed that the cemetery contains 6.3 acres.

The original lodge was a one-story frame building containing three rooms. A new two-story brick lodge containing six rooms and a cellar was constructed in 1869 or 1870 and was located to the left just as you entered the main entrance. This lodge was based upon the standard design by Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs. The Second Empire design was a reverse "L" shape with a one-story porch giving a generally rectangular plan. The first floor contained the office, kitchen, and living room. Sleeping rooms were located on the upper story under a slate mansard roof. Later the kitchen was relocated to a shed addition to the lodge and the old kitchen converted to a dining room. This lodge was subsequently demolished. A brick lodge, Flemish bond, two-story colonial, was constructed in 1942, and contained a two-story side wing. The pitched roof presented a pediment to the main facade and featured a round, louvered vent. The windows were six-over-six double-hung, flanked by beveled panel shutters. The off-center entry was sheltered by a modest pediment portico supported on columns and engaged pilasters. To the side opposite the office wing was a small enclosed frame porch (originally screened) under a seamed metal roof. The office wing was under a pitch roof at right angles to the main facade. The off center door was on the gable face. On the second story, each facade had a centered window; those to the front and back of the building were hipped dormers which pierced the roof line. To the rear of the wing was an entrance, directly into the burial area, which was protected by a flat metal awning. This lodge was demolished in 1985.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Cemetery System Microfilm Records

Department of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation Office

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

A Return to the New Albany National Cemetery. Floyd County Historical Society. November 1986.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a monument in the southeast corner of the cemetery property 5.5 feet northeast of the stone wall; thence proceeding south 52 degrees, 46 minutes, 25 seconds west, paralleling Ekin Avenue for 372.5 feet to the southwest corner; thence north 37 degrees, 41minutes, 50 seconds west for 734.7 feet to the northwest corner which is 5.5 feet north of the stone wall; thence north 52 degrees, 38 minutes, 35 seconds east, paralleling Beeler Street, 374.95 feet to the northeast corner; thence north 37 degrees, 30 minutes west paralleling Jay Street for 734.6 feet, to the point of beginning.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

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

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
Floyd County, Indiana
Armando A. Sammartino, photographer
Date of Photographs: October 13, 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: Entrance gate, view looking northwest
NEG. NO. 7569-2
PHOTO 1 of 15

VIEW OF: Flagpole, view looking northwest
NEG. NO. 7569-10
PHOTO 2 of 15

VIEW OF: Plaque in front of cemetery

NEG. NO. 7569-4
PHOTO 3 of 15

VIEW OF: Perimeter wall

NEG. NO. 7569-3
PHOTO 4 of 15

VIEW OF: Service building, southwest elevation and committal service tent
NEG. NO. 7569-6
PHOTO 5 of 15

VIEW OF: Service building, northwest elevation
NEG. NO. 7569-7
PHOTO 6 of 15

VIEW OF: Service building, southeast elevation

NEG. NO. 7569-8
PHOTO 7of 15

VIEW OF: Rostrum
NEG. NO. 7569-13
PHOTO 8 of 15

VIEW OF: Artillery monument, east side of Section G
NEG. NO. 7569-12
PHOTO 9 of 15

VIEW OF: Bronze plaque on artillery monument, west side of Section G
NEG. NO. 7569-11
PHOTO 10 of 15

VIEW OF: Vance plot

NEG. NO. 7664-12
PHOTO 11 of 15

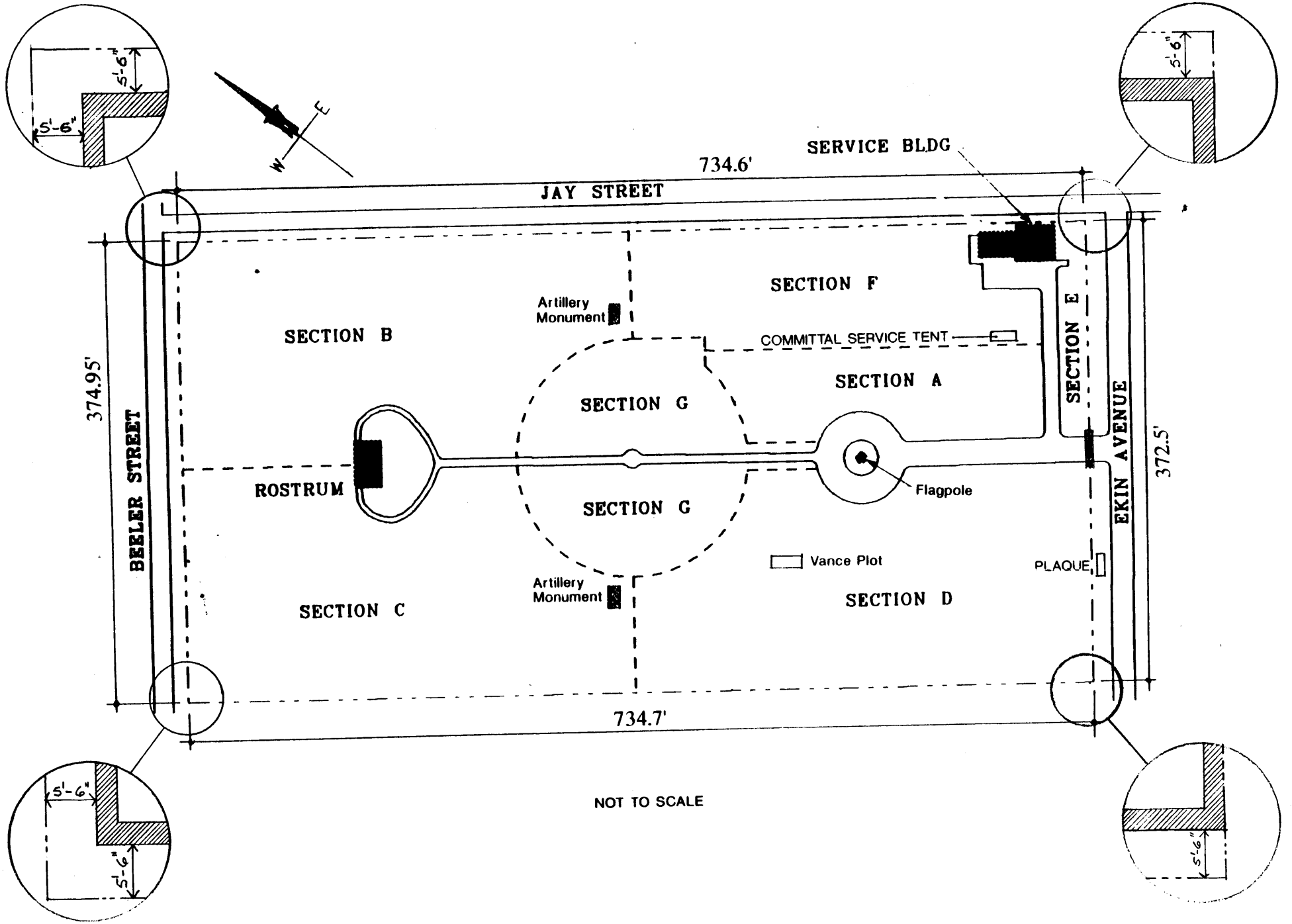
VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking west

NEG. NO. 7569-9
PHOTO 12 of 15

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking south
NEG. NO. 7569-15
PHOTO 13 of 15

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking east
NEG. NO. 7569-16
PHOTO 14 of 15

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking north
NEG. NO. 7569-5
PHOTO 15 of 15

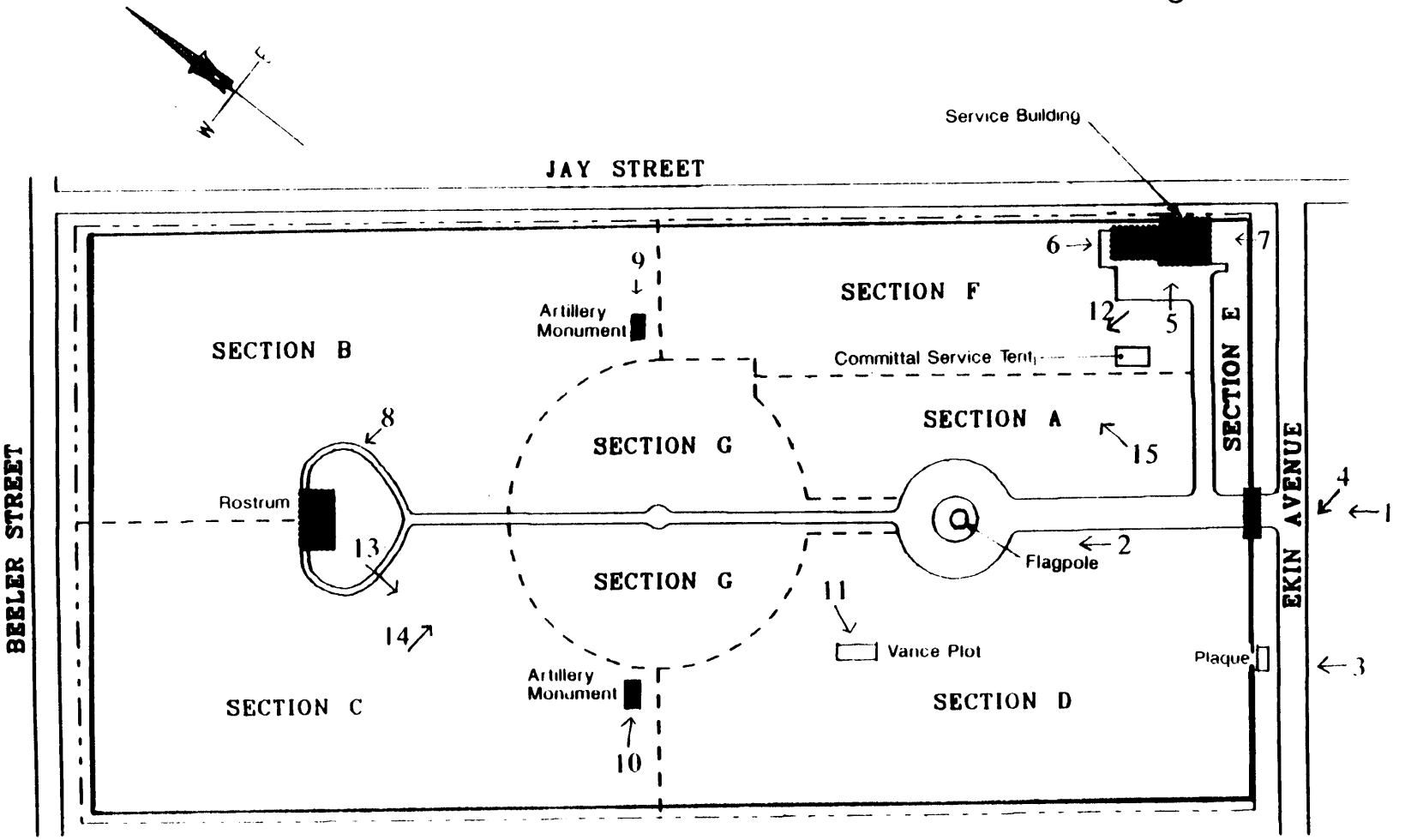


Base Map
New Albany National Cemetery
Floyd County, Indiana

Key

Contributing Resources

Noncontributing Resources



NOT TO SCALE

Sketch Map
New Albany National Cemetery
Floyd County, Indiana

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

NEW
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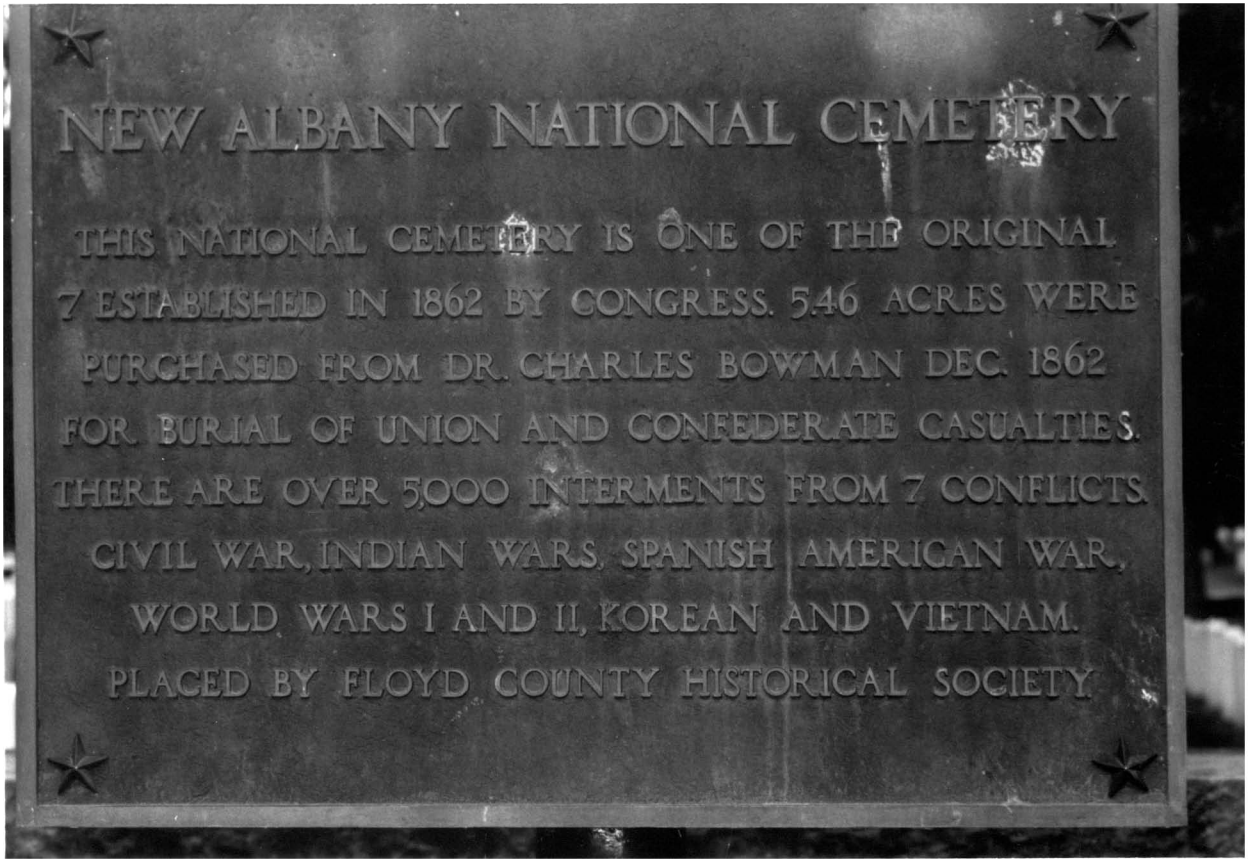
NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 1 OF 15

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 2 OF 15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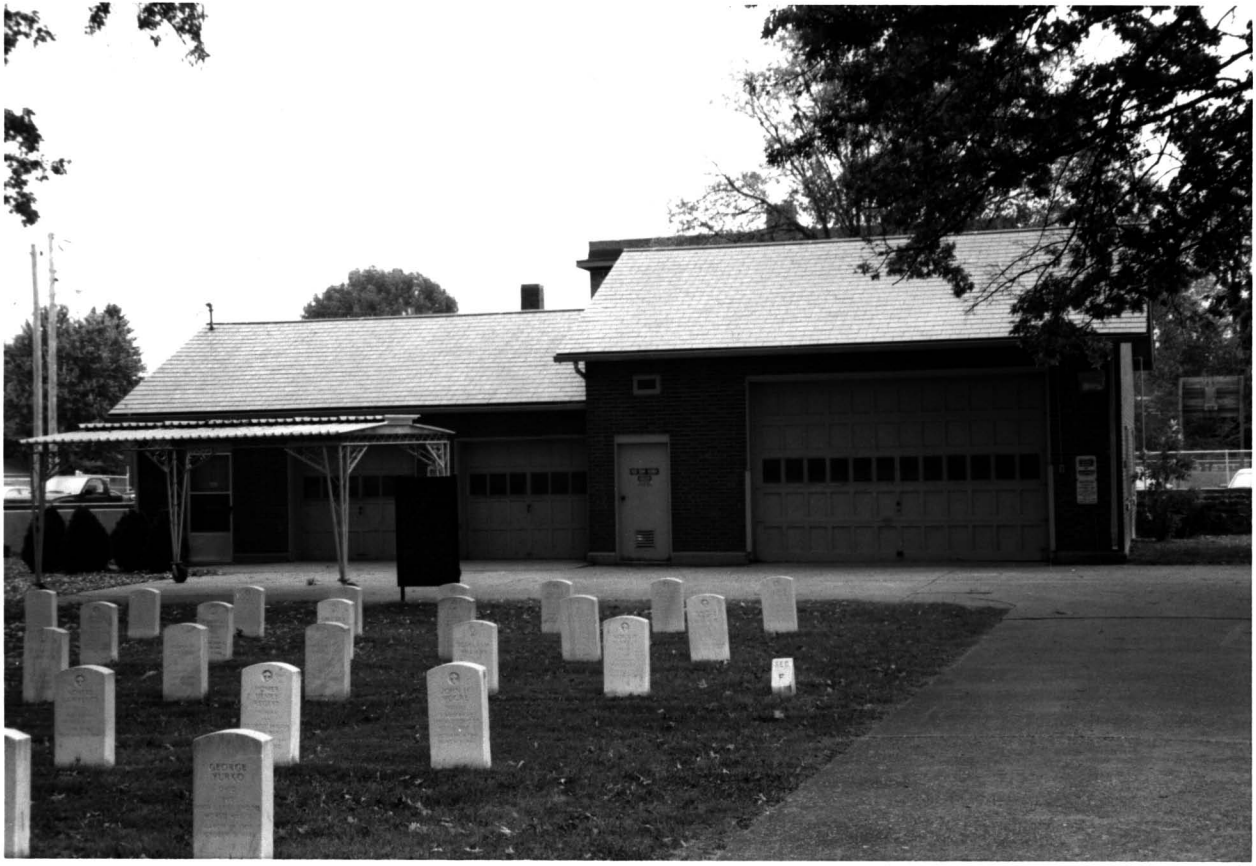
FOR BURIAL OF UNION AND CONFEDERATE CASUALTIES.
THERE ARE OVER 5,000 INTERMENTS FROM 7 CONFLICTS.
CIVIL WAR, INDIAN WARS, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR,
WORLD WARS I AND II, KOREAN AND VIETNAM.
PLACED BY FLOYD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 3 OF 15

NEW
ALBANY
NATIONAL
CEMETERY

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 4 OF 15



NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 5 OF 15

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 6 OF 15

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 7 OF 15

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 8 OF 15

New Albany National Cemetery
Floyd County, Indiana
Photo 9 of 15

E PLURIBUS UNUM
UNITED STATES
NEW ALBANY
2798.
2484.
697.

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 10 OF 15

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 11 OF 15

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 12 OF 15

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 13 OF 15

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 14 OF 15

NEW ALBANY NATIONAL CEMETERY
FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA
PHOTO 15 OF 15