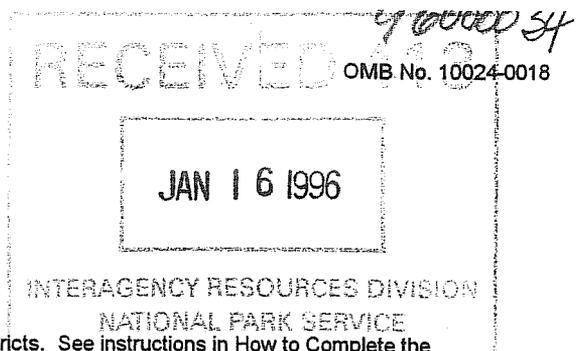


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# 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 Staunton National Cemetery

other names/site number Virginia Department of Historic Resources File No. 132-19

### 2. Location

street & number 901 Richmond Avenue  not for publication N/A

city or town Staunton  vicinity N/A

state Virginia code VA county Staunton (Indep. City) code 790 zip code 24401

### 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 Roma Dupak 10/6/95  
Signature of certifying official/Title Federal Preservation Officer 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.)

Julie J. Basnik 11/8/95  
Signature of commenting or other official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
Virginia Department of Historic 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:)

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Pattik Andrews 2/26/96

Staunton National Cemetery

Name of Property

City of Staunton, Virginia

County and State

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	
3	0	buildings
1	0	sites
3	0	structures
2	0	objects
9	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Funerary: Cemetery

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Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Funerary: Cemetery

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Second Empire

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Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone, concrete

walls Brick

roof Metal: Tin, Aluminum; Stone: Slate; Asbestos

other Stone: Marble; Limestone; Metal: Iron

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Narrative Description

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

Staunton National Cemetery

Name of Property

City of Staunton, Virginia

County and State

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.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions.

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):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, etc.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Military

Period of Significance

1868-1940

Significant Dates

1866

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Meigs, Montgomery C.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Federal agency, etc.

Name of repository

Department of Veterans Affairs

Staunton National Cemetery  
Name of Property

City of Staunton, Virginia  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 1.2

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>670900</u>	<u>4222980</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
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 September 28, 1995

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

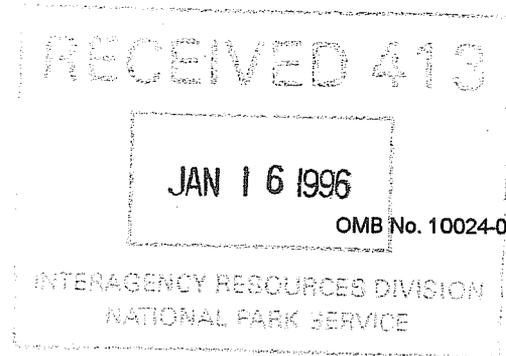
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to 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.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1



Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Staunton National Cemetery  
City of Staunton, Virginia

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

The Staunton National Cemetery is located at 901 Richmond Avenue, Staunton, Virginia, about 1 1/2 miles east of the Augusta County Courthouse. The site is nearly square in shape and is enclosed by a limestone wall, extending approximately 891 lineal feet. The main entrance, at the center of the south side, is protected by ornamental wrought-iron gates that are 14 feet wide and supported by stone piers. A driveway leads to the flagpole at the center of the grounds, where it intersects with another drive extending to the east and west walls.

The cemetery was established in 1866 and contains 5 burial sections. Graves were all originally marked with headboards that were later replaced with upright marble markers. As of August 31, 1995, there were 838 graves used for the interment of 976 casketed remains and 10 sites used for the interment of 13 cremated remains. The cemetery was officially closed in 1983. As of August 31, 1995, there were 4 gravesites available for the interment of casketed remains (all reserved) and 4 sites available for the interment of cremated remains.

The lodge was constructed circa 1871 from a design by Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs, and is Second Empire in style. It is an L-shaped stone and frame structure with a mansard roof clad with aluminum siding. The main portion is one and one-half stories with dormer windows projecting from the mansard roof. The first story is built of stone and contains the living room, dining room, cemetery office, and two additions. The first addition is the brick kitchen, constructed in 1930, and the second addition is a utility room covered with aluminum siding. Their roofs are covered with tin. The upper story, containing two bedrooms and a bath, was originally clad with slate shingles, but has since been replaced with aluminum siding. The lodge also contains a partial basement beneath the kitchen, which was constructed in 1934. In 1936, a frame enclosure was constructed over the area way at the kitchen addition to the lodge. There is a total of approximately 1,384 square feet of living space. The windows on the first story have six-over-six double-hung sash, while those on the upper story have two-over-two double-hung sash. The front porch was screened in 1939, and the kitchen porch was enclosed in 1952.

A brick utility building was constructed circa 1887, containing a kitchen, storeroom, tool room, and toilet. A brick addition and garage were constructed in 1932. Stepped brick parapets obscure the building's tin shed roof.

United States Department of the Interior  
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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Staunton National Cemetery  
City of Staunton, Virginia**

Section number   7   Page   2  

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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

The brick and concrete gasoline storage building, 8 feet 6 inches by 8 feet 6 inches, was constructed in 1940. It has a pyramidal slate roof. An in-ground pumphouse and well are located near the utility building.

A monument, 7 feet 6 inches in height, made of an original cast-iron seacoast artillery tube, and secured by a concrete base is located near the flagpole. The inscription on the cast-bronze plaque affixed to the monument reads as follows:

United States  
National Military Cemetery  
Staunton  
Established 1867  
Interments  
Known 232  
Unknown 521

Records regarding this monument focus on its size and the inscription on the bronze plaque affixed to the monument. No information is available as to the name of the manufacturer.

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

**Buildings:** Lodge, utility building, gasoline storage building

**Sites:** Cemetery

**Structures:** Gate, perimeter wall, pumphouse/well

**Objects:** Flagpole, artillery monument

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Staunton National Cemetery  
City of Staunton, Virginia**

Section number 8 Page 3

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**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Staunton National Cemetery is significant under Criteria A and C, 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 and under Criterion C, because the lodge represents a distinctive prototypical design by Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs, who was acclaimed as a master architect of civil works projects for the Quartermaster Corps.

Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign has long been regarded as one of the most brilliant in the history of modern warfare. After his outstanding performance at Bull Run, Jackson had been promoted to major general and assigned command in the Shenandoah Valley. Jackson knew the Valley intimately, had a small and mobile force, and possessed interior lines of communication. The Valley Campaign, as he conducted it, was a military chess game; his objective not so much to defeat the enemy as to distract, confuse, check and eventually checkmate them. Altogether, even with the forces of major generals Richard S. Ewell and Edward Johnson that were added to his command, Jackson only had some 18,000 men. On May 8, 1862, crossing over at Staunton, he surprised and defeated Major General John Charles Fremont at the Battle of McDowell, less than 40 miles from Staunton. Jackson's 10,000 men were attacked by about 6,000 from Fremont's command under Brigadier General Robert C. Schenck. Jackson buried the dead and rested his army, and then fell back into the Valley. He approached Front Royal from the south and, on May 23, took Major General Nathaniel P. Banks's troops (about 800 men) by surprise and captured them. Banks retreated to Winchester where Jackson struck and scattered his forces. By early June, the two Union armies of Fremont and Brigadier General James A. Shields, with a force of 11,000 and 8,500 respectively, were pursuing Jackson southward, each along one side of the Massanutten Range, potentially positioned for a pincer if they could join forces at the end of the mountainous divide. Jackson's plan was to keep Fremont and Shields apart, so that each could be dealt with individually by his army, which by this time had shrunk to 12,500. On June 8, Jackson parked most of Ewell's division astride the road to Port Republic near Cross Keys, southeast of Harrisonburg, to hold Fremont in check while he proceeded with his own troops four miles southeast, across the North River bridge to Port Republic. There he intended to meet and defeat Shields, then wheel back on Fremont with his combined force. The plan was well-conceived, even though it did not materialize quite the way Jackson thought it would. Fremont engaged Ewell in the terrifying artillery duel at Cross Keys on June 8. On the Confederate right, Brigadier General Isaac R. Trimble met an inept offensive with a surprise rebuff and countercharge. Fremont fell back, thus failing to join forces with Shields. Upon hearing of the success of Cross Keys, but plagued by an unanticipated incursion from Shields's advance forces as well as logistical problems while fording the rain-swollen South River,

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**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Staunton National Cemetery  
City of Staunton, Virginia**

Section number 8 Page 4

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**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)**

Jackson called for Ewell's troops to rejoin him. Trimble's brigade, the last of the Confederates to cross over the North River, destroyed a temporary bridge of wagons placed end to end and planked over, so that by the time Fremont's troops arrived, they were prevented from coming to the aid of Shields's struggling army. Although Trimble downplayed his slow, then speeded-up withdrawal, followed by his competent firing of the North River bridge, these actions contributed enormously to Jackson's success. At the last moment, Jackson decided to cancel his option to march back to Cross Keys to re-engage Fremont. As Monday, June 9, dawned at Cross Keys, only Trimble's three forward regiments faced the Union army, the bulk of Ewell's forces having decamped at four in the morning. To be the last to maintain the check was a consolation prize of sorts, an acknowledgment of gratitude from Jackson and Ewell for the autonomous gains of the day before. Trimble remained until 9 a.m., when he slowly retired to Port Republic.

The casualties resulting from the Battle of Cross Keys were 288 Confederates (41 killed, 232 wounded, 15 missing) and 684 Federals (114 killed, 443 wounded, 127 missing). These figures did not take into account soldiers who later died from their wounds.

The Battle of Port Republic on June 9 was fierce. Heavy casualties were inflicted on both sides as the lines of engagement wavered. The commanding Union artillery position overlooking the plain of battle was lost and retaken two times before it was captured by the Confederates and turned to their advantage. At length, the smaller Union fighting force under the command of Shields's subordinate, Brigadier General Erastus B. Tyler, who was overpowered and pursued in retreat northward toward the town of Conrad's Store (now called Elkton). The Battle of Port Republic had been a hard fight over ground that was repeatedly won and lost. Union casualties numbered more than 800; Confederate casualties were close to 1,000. After a few days' hesitation (fearing a renewed offensive by Fremont that did not materialize), Jackson allowed his victorious soldiers an extended respite until June 18, when General Robert E. Lee's Southern Command ordered him to march toward Richmond.

The Valley Campaign was over. From the date of Jackson's arrival at Staunton until the Battle of Port Republic, was 35 days. He marched from Staunton to McDowell, 40 miles; from McDowell to Front Royal, about 110; from Front Royal to Winchester, 20 miles; Winchester to Port Republic, 75 miles; a total of 245 miles, fighting in the meantime, 4 desperate battles, and winning them all. This campaign, above all others, made Jackson's name legendary.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Staunton National Cemetery  
City of Staunton, Virginia**

Section number 8 Page 5

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**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)**

The Battle of Piedmont took place in Staunton on June 5, 1864. Union Major General David Hunter moved his forces toward Staunton, forcing the Confederate Military Department of Southwest Virginia to do battle at Piedmont. The Confederate forces, under Brigadier General W. E. "Grumble" Jones, were defeated. Jones was killed and Hunter's troops looted Staunton, which played a vital role in the Civil War as a supply depot for the Confederacy. The Confederates lost about 1,600 men, 1,000 of whom were taken as prisoners.

The Staunton National Cemetery was not established until 1866, two years after the Battle of Piedmont. The original interments in the new cemetery were of the remains of soldiers removed from the city cemetery at Staunton and from Cross Keys, Port Republic, Waynesboro, and other places nearby. There are 67 Union prisoners of war, 65 known and 2 unknown, interred in this cemetery.

Among those buried in the cemetery is Nicolae Dunca, born in 1837, in Transylvania, Romania, who came to the United States in December 1861. He enlisted in the Union Army in March 1862 and, due to his past military experience, was appointed captain of the 12th Infantry Regiment, U.S. Volunteers from New York. He was assigned as aide-de-camp to Major General John C. Fremont, whose army was operating in the Shenandoah Valley. Dunca was killed in action at the Battle of Cross Keys on June 8, 1862, and was still a Romanian citizen at the time of his death. He was buried at Perkey's Farm, Cross Keys, Virginia, and his remains were later transferred to the Staunton National Cemetery (Section B, Grave 292).

The cemetery contains 1.15 acres. The land was acquired from Nicholas K. Trout and wife et al by deed dated September 30, 1868, for the sum of \$900.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Staunton National Cemetery  
City of Staunton, Virginia

Section number 9 & 10 Page 6

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**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

National Cemetery System Microfilm Records

Department of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation Office

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

Commager, Henry Steele. The Blue and the Gray. New York. Wings Books, 1950.

Denney, Robert E. The Civil War Years. New York: Sterling Publishing Company, Inc., 1992.

Svenson, Peter. Battlefield. New York. Ballentine Books, 1992

**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Beginning in the southeast corner of the cemetery along Waynesborough-Richmond Road (U.S. Route 250), North 47 degrees West 208 feet to the New Hope Road then North 43 degrees East 230.5 feet to a corner, thence South 47 degrees East 227.3 feet, thence South 45 degrees 50 minutes West 230.8 feet to the point of beginning.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Staunton National Cemetery  
City of Staunton, Virginia**

Section number PHOTO Page 7

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All photographs are of:

**STAUNTON NATIONAL CEMETERY**

City of Staunton, Virginia

VDHR File No. 132-19

Armando A. Sammartino, photographer

Date of Photographs: April 28, 1995

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: Entry gate, view looking northeast  
NEG. NO. 17645-4  
PHOTO 1 of 23

VIEW OF: Flagpole, view looking southwest  
NEG. NO. 17646-14  
PHOTO 6 of 23

VIEW OF: Entry gate plaque, right side  
NEG. NO. 17645-8  
PHOTO 2 of 23

VIEW OF: Artillery monument at flagpole  
NEG. NO. 17645-24A  
PHOTO 7 of 23

VIEW OF: Perimeter wall, view looking northeast  
NEG. NO. 17645-11  
PHOTO 3 of 23

VIEW OF: Lodge and perimeter wall, view looking east  
NEG. NO. 17645-6  
PHOTO 8 of 23

VIEW OF: Close-up of perimeter wall  
NEG. NO. 17645-12  
PHOTO 4 of 23

VIEW OF: Lodge, south elevation  
NEG. NO. 17645-19  
PHOTO 9 of 23

VIEW OF: Flagpole, view looking north  
NEG. NO. 17645-17  
PHOTO 5 of 23

VIEW OF: Lodge, south elevation  
NEG. NO. 17645-20  
PHOTO 10 of 23

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National Register of Historic Places  
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Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Staunton National Cemetery  
City of Staunton, Virginia

Section number PHOTO Page 8

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VIEW OF: Lodge, east elevation

NEG. NO. 17646-1  
PHOTO 11 of 23

VIEW OF: Pump house and well at south  
cemetery wall

NEG. NO. 17645-21  
PHOTO 18 of 23

VIEW OF: Lodge, south and east elevations

NEG. NO. 17646-2  
PHOTO 12 of 23

VIEW OF: Headstone at grave of Nicolae  
Dunca

NEG. NO. 17645-22  
PHOTO 19 of 23

VIEW OF: Lodge, north elevation

NEG. NO. 17646-4  
PHOTO 13 of 23

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northwest

NEG. NO. 17645-15  
PHOTO 20 of 23

VIEW OF: Lodge, view looking southwest

NEG. NO. 17646-13  
PHOTO 14 of 23

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking toward west  
perimeter wall

NEG. NO. 17645-23  
PHOTO 21 of 23

VIEW OF: Utility building, east elevation

NEG. NO. 17645-18  
PHOTO 15 of 23

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking southeast

NEG. NO. 17646-13  
PHOTO 22 of 23

VIEW OF: Utility building, west and north  
elevations

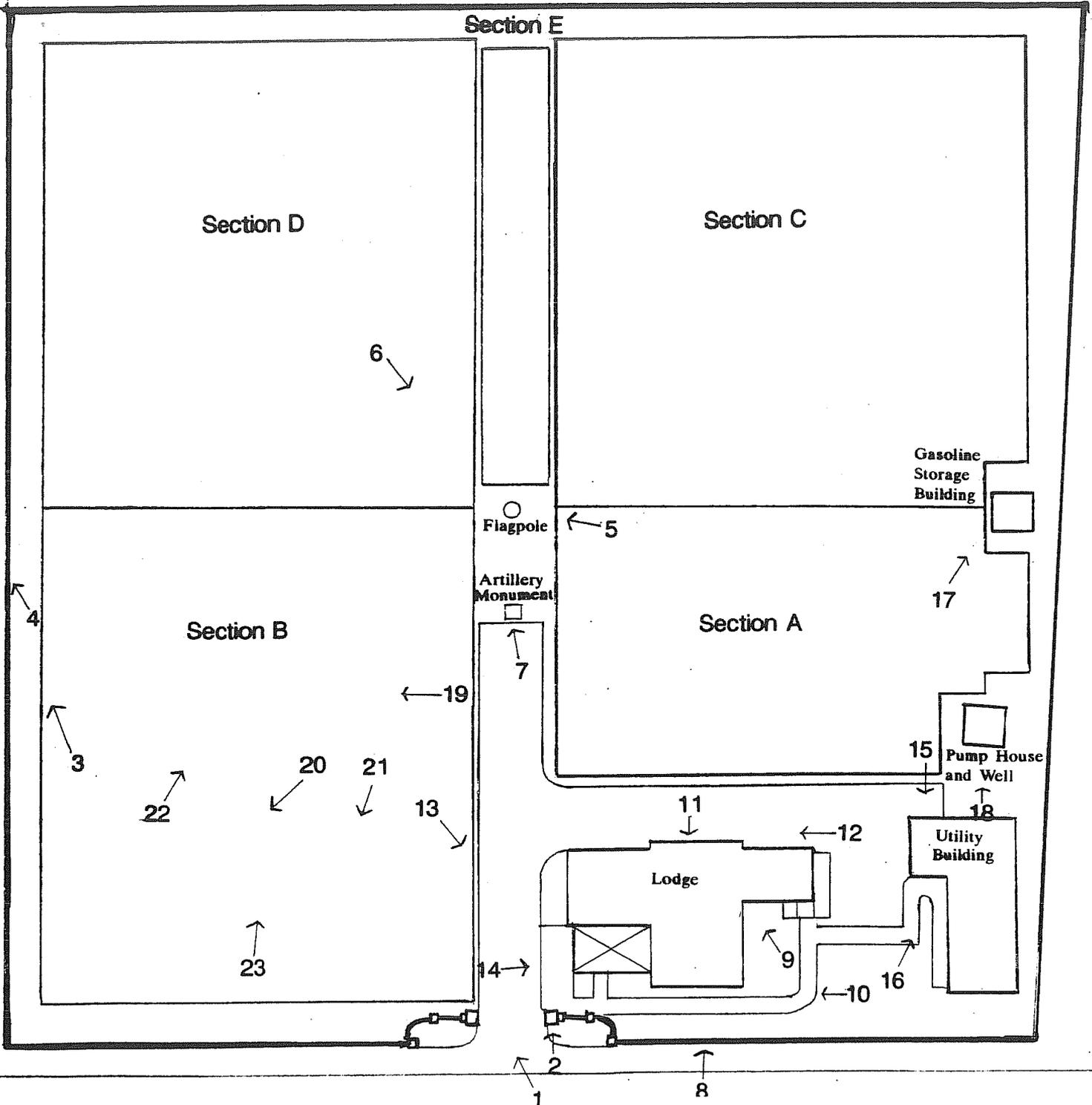
NEG. NO. 17646-5  
PHOTO 16 of 23

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking east

NEG. NO. 17646-23  
PHOTO 23 of 23

VIEW OF: Gasoline storage building

NEG. NO. 17646-11  
PHOTO 17 of 23



NOT TO SCALE

Sketch Map  
 Staunton National Cemetery  
 City of Staunton, Virginia

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 Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 96000034 Date Listed: 2/26/96

Staunton National Cemetery Staunton VA  
Property Name: County: State:

Civil War Era National Cemeteries MPS  
Multiple Name

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews 2/26/96  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

In Section 8 of the form, under Significant Date, the year 1866 is entered; because this date occurs before the defined Period of Significance (1868-1940) it will not be entered in the National Register database. The registration form is officially amended to delete 1861 as a Significant Date.

**DISTRIBUTION:**  
National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)