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 15A). 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  Annapolis National Cemetery

other names/site number  AA-2128

2. Location

street & number  800 West Street

city or town  Annapolis

state  Maryland  code  MD  county  Anne Arundel  code  003  zip code  21401

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

I, the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, hereby certify that this listing nomination 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 X does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant.

[Signature]

[Date]

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

[Signature]

[Date]

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

removal from the National Register

☐ other, (explain)

[Signature of Keeper]

[Date of Action]

[Signature of Keeper]

[Date of Action]
**5. Classification**

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Name of related multiple property listing

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

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**6. Function or Use**

<table>
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<tr>
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**7. Description**

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>walls: Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>roof: Stone: slate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>other: Stone: Marble, limestone; Concrete: Metal: iron</td>
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</table>

**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

☐ 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.

☐ 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

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

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

Acres of Property 4.1

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

Zone Easting Northing
1 18 369560 4315080
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
date March 22, 1996
organization Department of Veterans Affairs
street & number 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
telephone (202) 565-4895
city or town Washington, D.C.
state zip code 20420

Additional Documentation
Send 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
telephone
street & number 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
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 listed status.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 15.1 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 Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Annapolis National Cemetery is located at 800 West Street at the intersection of Taylor Avenue in Annapolis, Maryland. The site may be described as a parallelogram, enclosed by a rubble stone wall, 3-5 feet high, 1,763 linear feet, laid in mortar with granite coping. Approximately 450 feet of the stone wall, beginning in the southwest corner of the cemetery, was removed in 1951 and replaced with chain link fencing and a concrete curb wall. The main entrance is in the center of the south end, fronting on the West Street road. The main entry gate, 14 feet wide, was constructed in 1940, typical of that period when new entries at many of the national cemeteries replaced original gates that were too narrow to accommodate modern automobiles. This wrought-iron gate is marked by two limestone columns approximately 8 feet high. They are designed in a modern classical form with eagles incised on the front face. From the main entrance, an avenue extends north through the grounds, passing around a small circular mound, on which stands the flagpole. The cemetery contains 15 burial sections. A lodge is situated in the southeastern corner of the grounds, and a utility building and gasoline building are located to the east of the lodge. There is also a four-foot-wide wrought-iron pedestrian gate, supported by stone piers, on the south side of the lodge.
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The cemetery was established in August 1862. The graves were originally marked by headboards, painted white and lettered black. The boards were later replaced with upright marble markers. The cemetery was officially closed in 1961. A small amount of interments still occur, including interments in occupied and reserved graves and interments of cremated remains. As of February 29, 1996, there were 2,911 graves used for the interment of 2,931 casketed remains and 26 sites used for the interment of 28 cremated remains. Interments of both casketed and cremated remains continue. As of February 29, 1996, there were 20 gravesites available for the interment of casketed remains (all reserved) and 14 sites available for the interment of cremated remains.

The original superintendent's lodge was constructed circa 1871 and was subsequently demolished. A new lodge was constructed in 1940. This colonial style house is a two-story Flemish bond brick residence with a steep gabled slate roof. The gabled roof, with a chimney at each end, extends down in the rear over a railing enclosed by a portico with one arched opening on the north side enclosed by an aluminum door providing access to the rear yard, with iron railing on the east and south sides. The dwelling looks like a duplex due to the symmetrical placement of two separate white wood paneled doors. The first story contains a living room, dining room, kitchen and office, and the second story contains three bedrooms and a bath. The windows are six-over-six double hung. There is a screened back porch. The lodge contains a basement, and a total of 1,638 square feet of living space.

A cast bronze plaque is affixed to the front of the lodge between the two white paneled doors and reads as follows:

UNITED STATES
NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY
ANNAPOLIS
ESTABLISHED 1862
INTERMENTS 2482
KNOWN 2271
UNKNOWN 211

The brick and concrete utility building with comfort station, 48 feet by 13 feet 6 inches, was constructed in 1936. The roof is asbestos shingles.

A concrete gasoline storage building, 6 feet 4 inches by 5 feet 4 inches, was constructed in 1936. The roof is tin.
A 15-foot octagonal rostrum with iron superstructure regulation octagonal pattern and a brick base, was situated on the east side of the cemetery about 200 feet northeast of the flagpole. This structure was removed some time after 1933.

There are two small iron field guns mounted on concrete bases in front of the lodge.

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
- **Objects**: Flagpole
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Annapolis 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 because of its association with the Civil War.
There were no Civil War battles in the Annapolis area, but several regiments passed through the city on their way to Washington, after President Abraham Lincoln's call to arms in April 1861. Massachusetts was the first state to respond. Two Massachusetts militia regiments (6th and 8th) had formed a brigade, and their leader was Brigadier General Benjamin Franklin Butler. The 6th Regiment was the first to travel to Washington, D.C.; Butler was back in Philadelphia with the 8th Regiment. While there, the 7th New York arrived, bound for Washington, but they declined to join Butler. On April 20, the 7th sailed for Washington aboard Boston down the Delaware Bay, out in the Atlantic, up the Bay, hoping to reach Washington via the Potomac River. Information from a fishing boat indicated that Confederate cannon blocked the Potomac, so they continued up the Chesapeake Bay to Annapolis. Butler also left Philadelphia on the 20th by train in the direction of Baltimore. When he arrived at the Susquehanna River at Perryville, he found the bridge burned. He then commandeered the railroad ferry Maryland, loaded the 8th Regiment on board and at about 6 p.m., sailed for Annapolis. He arrived a little past midnight on the 21st. At dawn, he towed U.S.S. Constitution to safety and anchored it in the mouth of the Severn River. Butler did not discharge his troops first, due to the urgency to save this great national and state property. While returning to the Naval Academy to land his troops, Maryland ran hard aground. It was still aground when, on April 22, the 7th New York arrived, passed Maryland and landed its troops. Then Boston went out to bring in the Massachusetts soldiers stranded on Maryland. The 7th New York and 8th Massachusetts regiments camped on the grounds of the Naval School at Annapolis. On the morning of the 24th, they started on what afterwards proved to be one of the hardest marches on record. The railroad tracks had been torn up between Annapolis and Annapolis Junction and locomotives had been taken to pieces by the inhabitants, in order to prevent travel. A Massachusetts volunteer put the engine together again, after which members of the regiment laid the track again. The Colonel of the 7th decided to march with Butler along the railroad instead of the common road, as he had obtained secret information that led him to suppose that armed insurrectionists awaited them along the latter route. The march lasted until the following morning. Soon after, numerous other regiments arrived and the Union army maintained a strong presence in Annapolis throughout the war.

Lawless, violent and stressful conditions prevailed in the Annapolis area during the war. In an article by Jack Kelbaugh titled "A Peek at the Past, Annapolis National Cemetery," he quotes Samuel Brooks, wartime aide to the Governor, who wrote in his reminiscences that Annapolis saw more of the grim realities of war than many places farther south. Paroled Union prisoners of war arrived in Annapolis after long stays in harsh Confederate military prisons in deplorable condition.

When the Civil War began, the tradition of exchanging and paroling prisoners of war was well established. After some early indecision, the Union and Confederate armies continued the custom of physically exchange their prisoners of war. During the early months, a few informal exchanges and/or paroles of individual soldiers took place often due to the political influence of the soldier's family. After the Battle of Bull Run in July 1861, initial paroling of prisoners occurred. Sometimes, they were granted on the battlefield but more often they were granted at military prisons. Early parole allowed soldiers to return to their homes. The Army often had difficulty locating them when they were exchanged. In addition, some personal (versus military) paroles were
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

granted during the first year of the war. Occasionally, Union officers held prisoner would be allowed to leave prison for short periods upon giving their word that they would return to prison at a specified time. Preliminary discussions about parole began in February 1862 between representatives of both armies. On July 22, 1862, both sides signed an agreement that designated City Point, Virginia, as the official prisoner exchange point and specified Annapolis as one of the locations where the Union paroled soldiers would be held. Here they were easily found and conveniently returned to their regiment at the time of an agreed upon exchange. About mid-June 1862, Colonel John Stanton, Military Governor of the Annapolis District and commander of the provost regiment, placed a notice in Northern papers directing all Union officers at home on parole or furlough to report to him in Annapolis. In early July, a similar notice called for all paroled soldiers at home to report here. Great numbers began arriving by train, and some were delivered from military prisons in the south. The first camp of paroled soldiers was established in 1861 on the grounds of St. John's College ("College Green"). They encamped here and by September 1, the number reached 3,000. The army promptly established a second camp of paroles about two miles southwest of the city. This camp was hastily established on a farm two miles southeast of town, probably on the south side of the present Forest Drive between Greenbriar Lane and Bywater Road. Within six weeks, 20,000 men were encamped there. During the winter of 1862-1863, the paroled soldiers were terribly cold in their tents, and many became ill. It was clear that barracks would be needed for the following winter. In September 1863, the Army completed "Parole Barracks"—soon to revert to "Camp Parole." Located adjacent to the old Annapolis and Elkridge Railroad, this third Camp Parole easily received supplies by train at all times. The initial 60 barracks grew to a substantially larger number later. The Parole Shopping Center now stands on the site. This final Camp Parole lasted until the end of the war.

At Camp Parole Miss Clara Barton established her headquarters and completed her wartime work. Miss Barton, known as the "Angel of the Battlefield" for her efforts in caring for the wounded of the Union Army and later the founder of the American Red Cross, accepted as her last wartime task the establishment of a register of missing or unaccounted-for Union soldiers.

Many interments in the Annapolis National Cemetery would come from the Camps of Parole. Disease took its toll among their ranks. Epidemics of smallpox and "ague" periodically swept through the Annapolis area encampments, causing scores of deaths, but typhoid fever, chronic diarrhea (dyentery), consumption and tuberculosis were the most consistent causes of death among the soldiers here.

General Ulysses S. Grant early opposed the parole and exchange of prisoners of war. In late April 1864, he suspended all parole and exchange of prisoners. By late summer, the collapsing Southern Confederacy was incapable of providing reasonable care for its legions of Union prisoners, and Grant would not budge from his position. He would neither send supplies for the Union prisoners nor exchange Confederate prisoners for them. The Confederacy had no alternative but to return its Union prisoners with no hope of receiving their own in exchange. On August 31, the first of an 8-month succession of flag-of-truce steamers arrived in Annapolis carrying 236 paroled prisoners from Virginia. During September and most of October, a steady flow
of prisoners from the upper South arrived in Annapolis. In late October, the now-enormous number held in the deep South, especially at Andersonville, were released. Thousands upon thousands of prisoners continued to stream into Annapolis. The Army expanded Camp Parole again in February 1865. Prisoners continued to arrive until about six weeks after the war ended. Many were in such poor condition that they died on the steamers while enroute to Annapolis.

Annapolis also became an Army hospital town during the Civil War. After the first Battle of Bull Run (July 18, 1861), the Union Army had to face the reality of the need to handle large numbers of wounded. General Butler recommended that the vacated buildings of the Naval School be used as an Army hospital. This facility focused initially on care for the wounded, but due to the high incidence of camp diseases, the army sick soon made up a significant portion of the hospital population. About ten days after the battle, Union wounded began to arrive from the overflowing makeshift hospitals in Washington. The existing Naval School buildings were inadequate to accommodate the great influx. The Army had to use a great number of tents to increase the capacity of the Annapolis hospital. After the Seven Days battles in the vicinity of Richmond, Virginia, in June 1862, General Robert E. Lee paroled all the Union wounded on the battlefield. The hospital was then deluged with casualties delivered from Virginia by steamer. Another massive influx occurred when scores of trains bearing wounded from Gettysburg arrived via Frederick in 1863. About January 1, 1863, the Army also pressed the St. John's College buildings into service as an Army hospital. By the fall of 1863, Annapolis had become a major Army hospital center. The hospitals had shifted their emphasis from care for the wounded to primary care for the sick and emaciated paroled prisoners arriving from the South. Because of the reputation of Annapolis being a superb hospital town, Admiral David Porter built a beautiful Navy hospital there in 1871. This state-of-the-art structure, shaped like a giant anchor, made of pressed brick and containing steam-operated elevators, was used for less than a year. A dearth of patients caused "Porter's Folly" to be used as a storage building until 1912 when it was demolished and a new Naval hospital was constructed nearby.

Jack Kelbaugh also wrote that, prior to July 1862, interments in Annapolis National Cemetery consisted almost exclusively of Union soldiers who died of wounds in the Naval School Army Hospital. National Cemetery System records show that it was not designated a national cemetery until August 1862, subsequent to the passage of the Act of July 17, 1862, which authorized the President to purchase cemetery grounds to be used as national cemeteries for soldiers who shall die in the service of their country. Mr. Kelbaugh further wrote that, during the Civil War, the Annapolis National Cemetery was called "Ash Grove U.S. Cemetery" and that Union soldiers, convalescing in the area during the last months of the war, lobbyed through their newspaper, The Crutch, to change the status of Ash Grove to a national cemetery. Sometime prior to 1871, the federal government conferred this status with the resulting name change. Mr. Kelbaugh wrote that apparently one reason why this burial ground was not considered a federal or national cemetery during the war is that nine Confederate soldiers were allowed to be buried there.
Historians explain that the great majority of interments in the Annapolis National Cemetery resulted from disease as opposed to wounds and accidents of various kinds. The three local military populations affected by disease were: (a) non-battlefield troops such as the provost regiment, troops whose stay here was of short duration either in training or waiting to be forwarded elsewhere, and hospital and quartermaster personnel; (b) captured, then paroled, Union prisoners of war held at Camp Parole; and (c) soldiers in the military hospitals here (some also died of wounds). Many who died of sickness were paroled prisoners who were too sick to go to the parole camp—they were placed directly in the hospital when arriving here. In addition, many soldiers died from "on-duty" and "off-duty" accidents. Accidental deaths resulted from being kicked in the head by a mule, eating poison mushrooms, drowning while swimming, heat stroke, and accidental discharge of weapons. Seven soldiers of the 27th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment drowned when a steam tug collided with the small boat carrying them out to a troop transport in the harbor. Also, many soldiers died of violence in the roaring, bawdy wartime army town of Annapolis. This climate of violence was further heightened by war-related political tensions and the general breakdown in the social fabric and general morality in the civilian section.

The command represented by the greatest number of interments in Annapolis National Cemetery is the 67th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment. They served as the provost (military police) regiment in Annapolis from April 1862 to late January 1863. This command was later captured nearly in its entirety and returned here as paroled prisoners of war, making two stays in Annapolis.

A Russian soldier, N. Demidoff, Seaman, R.N.S., who died at Annapolis on February 4, 1864, while serving on a Russian man-of-war docked at Annapolis, is interred in the national cemetery (Section G, Grave 2420). The seaman was killed as the result of a bar room brawl in Annapolis. According to a newspaper article estimated to be written in the early 1960's, the victim, a crew member of one of two Russian ships in the Port of Annapolis on a goodwill tour, became enraged when a bartender refused to serve him a drink. With two companions, he joined in a free-for-all and was shot dead in the course of the disturbance. The Maryland Legislature, acting on a note from the Russian Embassy, launched an investigation of the incident, an investigation joined by no less than President Lincoln. An apology and a satisfactory explanation evidently followed for top Russian officials with state and military figures being present at the gravesite for Russian Orthodox ceremonies.

Nine Confederates (8 known and 1 unknown), who died while prisoners of war at Annapolis, are also interred here.

The Annapolis National Cemetery consists of 4.1 acres. The property was formerly owned by Judge Nicholas Brewer, from whom it was leased by deeds dated August 4, 1862, and December 5, 1863, for a term of 99 years. On February 28, 1871, the right and title thereto were conveyed in fee simple to the United States for the sum of $0.
HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Category: Site

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Funerary

Known Design Source: None
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

Kelbaugh, Jack. A Peek at the Past - Annapolis National Cemetery.


GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Boundaries are indicated on the accompanying base map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The National Cemetery System has used the existing boundaries of the cemetery.
All photographs are of:

ANNAPOLIS NATIONAL CEMETERY
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Armando A. Sammartino, photographer
Date of Photographs: July 21, 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 from West Street, view looking north
NEG. NO. 48477-9
PHOTO 1 of 15

VIEW OF: Entry gate, view looking southwest toward West Street
NEG. NO. 48477-10
PHOTO 2 of 15

VIEW OF: Flagpole, view looking northwest
NEG. NO. 48477-19
PHOTO 3 of 15

VIEW OF: Lodge, west elevation
NEG. NO. 48476-4
PHOTO 4 of 15

VIEW OF: Lodge, northwest elevation
NEG. NO. 48476-5
PHOTO 5 of 15

VIEW OF: Lodge, south elevation
NEG. NO. 48477-13
PHOTO 6 of 15

VIEW OF: Lodge, east elevation
NEG. NO. 48477-14
PHOTO 7 of 15

VIEW OF: Pedestrian gate at southeast corner of cemetery
NEG. NO. 48477-17
PHOTO 8 of 15

VIEW OF: Utility building, west and north elevations
NEG. NO. 48477-15
PHOTO 9 of 15

VIEW OF: Utility building, partial east and south elevations
NEG. NO. 48477-16
PHOTO 10 of 15

VIEW OF: Gasoline storage building
NEG. NO. 48477-18
PHOTO 11 of 15

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking across Section M toward west boundary
NEG. NO. 48477-21
PHOTO 12 of 15
Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Annapolis National Cemetery (AA-2128)
Anne Arundel County, Maryland

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VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking north from flagpole
NEG. NO. 48477-22
PHOTO 13 of 15

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northeast toward boundary wall
NEG. NO. 48477-24
PHOTO 15 of 15

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking at boundary wall on west side
NEG. NO. 48477-23
PHOTO 14 of 15
Project Name: Loudon Park, Annapolis, and Baltimore National Cemeteries
Location: Baltimore City, Anne Arundel County, and Baltimore City
State: Maryland
Request submitted by: VA/Gjore Mollenhoff
Date received: 10/25/79
Additional information received: 11/27/79

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Keeper of the National Register
Date: 12/12/79