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: Raleigh National Cemetery

Other names/site number:

2. Location

Street & number: 501 Rock Quarry Road

City or town: Raleigh

State: North Carolina

Code: NC

County: Wake

Code: 183

Zip code: 37917

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

[ ] Designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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

Mary Boone Engle Federal Preservation

[ ] NATIONALLY [ ] STATEWIDE [ ] LOCALLY

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

Signature of certifying official/Title: Officer

Date: 12/17/96

Department of Veterans Affairs

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

Jeffrey J. Cross SHPO

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

Signature of certifying official/Title: Date: 10/10/96

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: 1/3/99

Edison H. Bollw

Signature of Keeper: Date of Action: 1/3/99
Classification
Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)
☐ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☒ public-Federal
☐ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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
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: Brick
roof: Slate, Metal
other: Metal: Iron: Stone: Marble, Brick

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

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<thead>
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<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

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

**Eligible 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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas of Significance</th>
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**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.)

**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
Raleigh National Cemetery

Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 6.9

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

1 17 71 5080 3961240 3 Zone Easting Northing
2 [ ] [ ] [ ]

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 December 5, 1996

organization Department of Veterans Affairs
telephone (202) 565-4895
street & number 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
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
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 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.
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Raleigh National Cemetery is located at 501 Rock Quarry Road, Raleigh, North Carolina, in Wake County. Located in a neighborhood of mixed residential and commercial development, the cemetery is a nearly seven-acre, largely flat, grassy rectangle on a north-south axis. The main entrance is off the west boundary defined by Rock Quarry Road, and is located in the northwest quadrant of the acreage that is further defined by an enclosing brick wall erected circa 1875. Behind the wrought-iron gates installed in 1936, a paved drive carries east, then south, to form an interior formal rectangular loop drive that forms the landscape structure around which the entire site is divided into numbered rectangular sections shaded by mature deciduous trees (please see the sketch map exhibit). The cemetery lodge and support buildings are located adjacent to the main entrance on the south side of the drive, and an octagonal concrete and iron rostrum is located in the south central portion of the cemetery within the rectangular loop drive.

The cemetery was established in 1865. The first superintendent was G. D. Dichtl, a discharged sergeant of Company A, Forty-second Regiment of Infantry, whose appointment was dated June 1, 1868. Graves were originally marked with headboards, painted and lettered, that were later replaced with upright marble markers. In 1982, a policy decision by the Department of Veterans Affairs provided for the use of flat markers in national cemeteries. As a result, the graves in Sections 16 and 20 are marked with flat granite markers. The policy decision was later reversed by the passage of Public Law 99-576, which mandated that for all interments that occur on or after January 1, 1987, the grave markers will be upright. The cemetery was closed in 1990. As of June 30, 1996, there were 4,916 graves used for the interment of 5,284 casketed remains and 284 sites used for the interment of 423 cremated remains. As of June 30, 1996, there were 222 gravesites available for the interment of casketed remains, (212 reserved or committed), and 27 sites available for the interment of cremated remains.

The original lodge was a frame building. A frame outhouse containing three rooms, located in the rear of the lodge, was used as a kitchen and toolhouse. Both buildings were located near the main entrance. A new two-story brick and granite lodge of the design by Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs with a tin roof containing six rooms plus 3 in the cellar, was constructed sometime prior to 1931. This structure was replaced in 1938 with the present two-story, six-room Colonial revival lodge, brick veneer on frame construction, with a slate roof. This lodge was the National Cemetery System standard during the late 1930's. The windows are six-over-six double hung. The lodge contains a basement. The rear porch was enclosed in 1960. Cemetery superintendents/directors resided in the lodge until November 1995.
A brick and concrete utility building, 13 feet 6 inches by 54 feet 3 inches, containing public restrooms, was constructed in 1916, and a garage was added in 1931. The roof is metal.

An octagonal concrete and iron rostrum was constructed in 1931. It is located near the southern end of the grounds in Section 18. The original tin roof was removed in 1957.

The brick perimeter wall replaced a rough five-barred fence with cedar posts, and the main entrance was originally closed by wooden gates. The new wrought-iron gates were installed in 1936.

A monument made of an original cast iron seacoast artillery tube, secured by a concrete base, is located in Section 16. Three cannonballs have been placed at its base. The cast bronze plaque affixed to the monument is inscribed as follows:

```
UNITED STATES
NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY
RALEIGH
ESTABLISHED 1866
INTERMENTS 1161
KNOWN 648
UNKNOWN 513
```

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

**Buildings:** Lodge, utility building

**Sites:** Cemetery

**Structures:** Entrance gate, perimeter wall, rostrum

**Objects:** Flagpole, artillery monument

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

**Structures:** Committal Service Shelter
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Raleigh 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 establishment of national cemeteries helped to fulfill the need for closure and order at the end of the Civil War. These cemeteries evoked a sense of peace through their orderly, formal plans and poignant rows of uniform markers that recall the soldiers’ units.

During the Civil War, the city of Raleigh was the site of a general hospital as well as that of a clothing factory to produce clothing for the troops. North Carolina was the only Confederate state to clothe her own troops.

During the latter part of March 1865, General William T. Sherman had visited General Ulysses S. Grant at his City Point headquarters in the hope of organizing a joint offensive against General Robert E. Lee. The mission proved futile, as Grant was not willing to delay his own push against the Confederates at Richmond until the Federal troops could arrive from Goldsboro, North Carolina. Sherman returned to Goldsboro. His next move would depend upon how Grant fared at Richmond. On April 5, rumors began to circulate that Richmond had fallen on April 4. This had killed all hopes that Sherman harbored of marching into Virginia. On April 6, he wrote to Grant advising him that his army would move straight on General Joseph Johnston. The Federal troops broke camp on the 10th and started their march. Sherman’s movements were reported to Johnston, who immediately put his army in motion for Raleigh. During the night, Sherman learned of General Robert E. Lee’s surrender on April 9. Johnston received the news at 1:00 a.m. on April 11 while encamped at Battle’s Bridge. The news brought rampant joy to the Federal camps and, in the Confederate camps, was met with skepticism.

A day prior to the surrender, David Lowry Swain, former governor of North Carolina, had met with W. A. Graham, also a former governor and agreed to a course of action to effect their common purpose: that is, peace. They felt that they should meet with Governor Zebulon B. Vance in Raleigh on April 10. Graham had recently discussed this topic with Vance and felt that he need not attend. He suggested that Swain stop by his home at Hillsboro. Swain spent April 9 with Graham and a course of action was agreed upon and presented to Governor Vance the next day. Swain suggested to the Governor that he convene the legislature, have it pass resolutions expressing a desire to stop the war, and invite the concurrence of other states. If, in the meantime, General Sherman advanced upon Raleigh, the Governor should send a commission to him to ask for a suspension of hostilities until
final action of the state could be ascertained. Vance agreed to the latter part of this plan on the condition that General Johnston’s approval be obtained. But before he put the plan into effect, he wished to have another interview with Graham. Vance consulted Johnston as to what was best for him to do. Johnston frankly advised Vance to remain in Raleigh. The Governor wired Graham on April 11 to join him that night in Raleigh. At 3:00 a.m. on April 12, Graham arrived in the city and later that morning. Vance, Swain and Graham composed a letter to Sherman over Vance’s signature. The letter requested a personal interview with Sherman on the subject of a suspension of hostilities. The Governor then appointed Graham and Swain as commissioners to visit General Sherman and deliver this letter to him. The commissioners presented Vance’s letter and were gratified to find that Sherman was ready to make an amicable and generous arrangement with the State Government. The General wrote a letter to Governor Vance, advising him that he would aid him in all his power to contribute to the end he aimed to reach, the termination of the existing war. With this communication went an enclosure that ordered the Federal troops to respect and protect the governor of North Carolina and other state officials, as well as the Mayor and civil authorities of Raleigh, provided no hostile act was committed against the invading army between Gulley’s and Raleigh. Vance was anxiously awaiting in Raleigh. Late in the day of April 12, Wheeler informed Vance that the commissioners had been captured. At sunrise on April 13, the commissioners began their return trip to Raleigh. They intended to meet Governor Vance, consult with him, and return to General Sherman with Vance’s answers before the Federal troops should enter the city. Five miles from Raleigh their train was stopped by General H. Judson Kilpatrick, who informed the commissioners that they might proceed under the flag of truce but warned them that “we will give you hell” if any resistance is met in Raleigh. Within a mile of the capital, flames could be seen rising from the railway station, which had first been plundered and then set on fire by General Wheeler’s troops who were evacuating the city at the time. The Commissioners found Raleigh nearly deserted. After a hasty consultation, the commissioners decided that Swain should remain at the Capitol until the Federal army entered the city and Graham should make his way, as well as he could, to Hillsboro where it was supposed the Governor had stopped. Thus Raleigh, without defenders and without a government, awaited the invaders.

That Sherman would arrive in Raleigh in the course of his march had been anticipated since the day he entered the state, and the local papers had kept the citizens posted on the progress of his march. Citizens hid their possessions in an effort to save them.
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

April 13 had dawned under threatening skies. At approximately 7:30 a.m., General Sherman, traveling with the Fourteenth Corps, reached Raleigh and immediately set up headquarters in the governor’s mansion. General Johnston had previously received a telegram at Raleigh directing him to leave his troops under General Hardee’s command and report immediately to President Davis at Greensboro. There he was met by General Beauregard who accompanied him to Davis’s office. During the afternoon, Major General John C. Breckenridge arrived in Greensboro with the official announcement that the Army of Northern Virginia had capitulated. The news of this disaster fully convinced Johnston that the Confederacy was doomed. In Johnston’s opinion. President Davis had only one governmental power left, that of terminating the war, and he thought this power should be exercised immediately. At a meeting of the President’s cabinet on the morning of the thirteenth, the General was able to get Davis, after much discussion, to authorize him to send Sherman the communication of April 14 asking for a suspension of hostilities. Sherman replied by letter that he was fully empowered to arrange any terms to suspend hostilities. Johnston suggested a meeting at a point on the Hillsboro road an equal distance between Durham and Hillsboro. In Durham, the General and his staff were met by Kilpatrick, who escorted them to his flag-draped headquarters in the home of Dr. Blackwell. At 11:20, the party set out to meet Johnston. After shaking hands and introducing their respective aides, Sherman asked if there was a place nearby where they might talk in private. Johnston replied that he had passed a small farmhouse a short distance back. Side by side the two generals rode to the small log home of James Bennett. When the generals closed the door to the Bennett home behind them, there were no witnesses to their conference. Also, there was debate over the disposition of President Davis and his cabinet. No decision was reached on this latter point by mid-afternoon. That night in Raleigh, Sherman officially announced Lincoln’s death. During the evening of April 17 and the morning of the eighteenth, Sherman talked with Generals Schofield, Slocum, Howard, Logan, and Blair and, without exception, they urged him to make terms with Johnston. Sherman reached the Bennett home around noon, and Johnston arrived later. The conference was on the same cordial level of the previous day. Johnston addressed Sherman on the possibility of an amnesty that would specifically include Davis, but Sherman turned a deaf ear to him. In a short while, Sherman handed a paper to Johnston, stating he was willing to submit it to President Johnson. On the evening of April 18, Sherman sat down at his desk in the governor’s mansion to write letters to Grant and Henry W. Halleck that contained the momentous events of the day. But he was unaware of the full political and legal implications of his concessions. Thus, he was taken by surprise when Grant arrived in Raleigh early on the morning of April 24, bearing the news that civil authorities had turned down the agreement signed at the Bennett home. Greatly disappointed, but with little show of emotion, Sherman sat down and addressed two notes to Johnston. In the first, he informed the Confederate general that the suspension of hostilities would cease forty-eight hours after the note reached his lines. In the second dispatch, penned shortly after the first, Sherman informed
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Johnston that he was empowered to offer only the terms Grant gave Lee at Appomattox. Later in the day, Sherman issued orders for all commands to be ready to move within forty-eight hours. Johnston was more convinced than ever that it would be a great crime to prolong the war. He suggested to Sherman that they meet again to discuss terms of surrender. Sherman once more went to Durham by rail. There he was met by Kilpatrick and escorted to the place of meeting. Sherman and Johnston were unable to meet an agreement. After leaving Bennett’s farmhouse, Johnston announced the termination of hostilities in two dispatches: one to the governors of the states, and the other to the Confederate army. Early in the evening of the twenty-sixth, Sherman reached Raleigh. He proceeded directly to his headquarters in the governor’s mansion. He hastily entered the house, for he wished to show Grant the terms he had in his pocket. Upon Sherman’s request, the General wrote his approval on the terms. Grant remarked that the only change he would have made would have been to put Sherman’s name before Johnston’s. The next morning, with the original of this agreement in his possession, Grant departed for New Bern.

News of the final surrender did not bring the “exciting freshness” that accompanied the first announcement of the previous week. On April 28, Sherman summoned to his headquarters in the governor’s mansion all corps and army commanders. He explained their duties after his departure. The necessary orders were completed and on April 29, Sherman departed by rail for Wilmington. His departure from Raleigh brought to an end the Campaign of the Carolinas.

When the Union Army under General William T. Sherman had possession of the City of Raleigh in 1865, the national cemetery was established.

Bodies were brought from Averysboro, Harnett County; Smithville, Brunswick County. 126 miles; Bentonville, Johnston County, 50 miles; Goldsboro, Wayne County. 48 miles; Greensboro, Guilford County, 90 miles; Franklinton, Franklin County, 40 miles; and Henderson, Granville County, 60 miles. Interments were made by states as far as possible. Most of these Civil War casualties died in late 1864 and early 1865 as armed hostilities were drawing to a close following General Lee’s surrender to General Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, in April 1865, and General Joseph E. Johnston’s surrender of his Confederate forces to General William T. Sherman near Durham Station, North Carolina, on April 26, 1865.

Six group burials for sixteen World War II decedents have been made. Circumstances of death for these servicemen precluded identification of their remains for individual burials, and they now rest in common graves with their comrades in arms who perished with them. Specially designed headstones bearing the name, rank, and date of death of the decedents mark the gravesites.
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

There is one Medal of Honor recipient buried in the cemetery:

William Maud Bryant, Sergeant First Class, U. S. Army, Company A, 5th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces, Vietnam Conflict - At Long Khanh Province, Republic of Vietnam, on March 24, 1969, Sergeant Bryant, assigned to Company A, distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer of Civilian Irregular Defense Group Company 321, 2d Battalion, 3d Mobile Strike Force Command, during combat operations. The battalion came under heavy fire and became surrounded by the elements of three enemy regiments. Sergeant Bryant displayed extraordinary heroism throughout the succeeding 34 hours of incessant attack as he moved throughout the company position heedless of the intense hostile fire while establishing and improving the defense perimeter, directing fire during critical phases of the battle, distributing ammunition, assisting the wounded, and providing leadership and an inspirational example of courage to his men. When a helicopter drop of ammunition was made to resupply the beleaguered force, Sfc. Bryant, with complete disregard for his safety, ran through the heavy enemy fire to retrieve the scattered ammunition boxes and distributed needed ammunition to his men. During a lull in the intense fighting, Sfc. Bryant led a patrol outside the perimeter to obtain information of the enemy. The patrol came under intense automatic weapons fire and was pinned down. Sergeant Bryant single-handedly repulsed one enemy attack on his small force and by his heroic action inspired his men to fight off other assaults. Seeing a wounded enemy soldier some distance from the patrol location, Sfc. Bryant crawled forward alone under heavy fire to retrieve the soldier for intelligence purposes. Finding that the enemy soldier had expired, Sfc. Bryant crawled back to his patrol and led his men back to the company position where he again took command of the defense. As the siege continued, Sfc. Bryant organized and led a patrol in a daring attempt to break through the enemy encirclement. The patrol had advanced some 200 meters by heavy fighting when it was pinned down by the intense automatic weapons fire heavily fortified bunkers and Sfc. Bryant was severely wounded. Despite his wounds he rallied his men, called for helicopter gunship support, and directed heavy suppressive fire upon the enemy positions. Following the last gunship attack, Sfc. Bryant fearlessly charged an enemy automatic weapons position, overrunning it and single-handedly destroying its three defenders. Inspired by his heroic example, his men renewed their attack on the entrenched enemy. While regrouping his small force for the final assault against the enemy, Sfc. Bryant fell mortally wounded by an enemy rocket. Sergeant Bryant’s selfless concern for his comrades at the cost of his life above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army. He is buried in Section 15, Grave 1227.
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

The cemetery consists of 6.9 acres. The land comprising the cemetery was formerly owned by the state of North Carolina and was, by authority of the State Legislature of January 17, 1871, donated to the United States by Governor Tod R. Caldwell.

The site of the national cemetery was originally designated as “Camp Green,” an army post used as headquarters of the occupation forces stationed in the Raleigh area. This is evidenced by the establishment of a “post” cemetery, wherein a total of 32 burials were made of troops and members of their families. The post cemetery is now Section 10 of the Raleigh National Cemetery.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Cemetery System Microfilm Records

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

Report of the Inspector of the National Cemeteries of the United States for 1870 and 1871


GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries are indicated on the accompanying base map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The National Cemetery System has used the existing boundaries of the cemetery.
RALEIGH NATIONAL CEMETERY
Wake County, North Carolina
Armando A. Sammartino, photographer
Date of Photographs: May 7, 1996

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

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>VIEW OF: Utility building, east elevation</th>
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Civil War Era National Cemeteries
Raleigh National Cemetery
Wake County, North Carolina

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking east
NEG. NO. 65138-21
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VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northwest
NEG. NO. 65138-22
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Sketch Map
Raleigh National Cemetery
Wake County, North Carolina

NOTE: Numbered arrows correspond to the views in the accompanying photographs.