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 rear of form. Complete 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: Seven Pines National Cemetery

Other names/site number: Virginia Department of Historic Resources File No. 43-755

2. Location

Street & number: 400 East Williamsburg Road

City or town: Sandston

State: Virginia

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the 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 meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally [ ] statewide [ ] locally. ( [ ] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title: [ ] Federal Preservation Officer Date: 6/14/95

[ ] Department of Veterans Affairs

State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official/Title: [ ] Date: 8/25/95

[ ] VA DEPT. 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: Patrick Andrews

Date of Action: 10/26/95
5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)
- [ ] private
- [ ] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [x] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)
- [ ] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [x] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>buildings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sites</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>structures</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>objects</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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)
- Late Victorian: Second Empire

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
- foundation: Stone, concrete
- walls: Brick
- roof: Metal: Tin; Stone: Slate; Asbestos
- other: Stone: Marble; Metal: Iron; Brick

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

- **Architecture**
- **Military**

### Period of Significance

1866-1936

### Significant Dates

- 1866
- 1874
- 1876

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Meigs, Montgomery C.

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### Narrative Statement of Significance

( Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### 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  1.9

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

1  18  296560  4154890
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
street & number  810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
city or town  Washington, D.C.
date  June 13, 1995
date  June 13, 1995
telephone  (202) 565-4895
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.
city or town  Washington, D.C.
date  June 13, 1995
telephone  (202) 565-4895
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 Seven Pines National Cemetery is located at 400 East Williamsburg Road, Sandston, Virginia, approximately eight miles southeast of Richmond. It can be reached by U.S. Highway No. 60 and Virginia State Highway No. 156. The cemetery is nearly square in shape and is enclosed by a brick wall, extending approximately 1,011 lineal feet, constructed in 1876. The main entry is located at the center of the south side, while a second pedestrian entry is near the lodge at the southeast corner of the grounds. Both were constructed in 1876 and are protected by wrought-iron gates, supported by stone piers. A third gate, 11 feet wide, constructed in 1934, gives access to the utility building. In the center of the cemetery is a circle 32 feet in diameter, upon which a flagpole has been erected.

The cemetery was established on June 27, 1866, and comprises approximately 1.9 acres. The graves were originally marked by headboards, painted white and properly lettered. The boards were later replaced with upright marble markers. Remains were removed from Savage's Station and from farm yards and fields within a four-mile area surrounding the cemetery. As of January 31, 1995, there were 1,130 graves used for the interment of 1,780 casketed remains and 7 sites used for the interment of 11 cremated remains. Of the 1,791 total interments, 1,244 are unknown Civil War soldiers.

The cemetery was officially closed on July 24, 1964; however, interments in occupied graves, as well as interments of cremated remains, continue. As of January 31, 1995, there were no gravesites available for the interment of casketed remains, but there were 5 sites available for cremated remains.

The lodge was constructed in 1874 to replace the frame lodge built when the cemetery was established. It was constructed from a design by Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs and is Second Empire in style. It is an L-shaped brick and stone structure with a tin and slate mansard roof. The main portion is one and one-half stories with dormer windows projecting from the mansard roof. The first floor contains a living room, dining room, kitchen and office. The upper story contains two bedrooms and a bath. The lodge also contains a basement. There is a total of 1,501 square feet of living space. The windows on the first story are six over six double-hung sash, while the upper-story windows have glass louvers. In 1936, an enclosed porch was constructed to the rear of the lodge.

A brick and concrete utility building with comfort station, 33 feet 4 inches by 22 feet 3 inches, was constructed in 1934 northeast of the lodge. Its roof is clad with asbestos shingles.

A brick and concrete gasoline storage building was constructed in 1936 near the northeast corner of the cemetery. Its roof is clad with asbestos shingles.
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  (Continued)

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

United States
National Military Cemetery
Seven Pines
Established June 27th, 1866
Interments 1357
Known 150
Unknown 1207

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

**Objects:** Flagpole, seacoast artillery monument
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Seven Pines 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.

The grounds occupy a portion of a battlefield of great significance to the Civil War. Here was fought the Battle of Fair Oaks, better known as the Battle of Seven Pines, from whence the national cemetery derives its name. Great heroism was exemplified by both sides—the one to capture and the other to defend the capital of the Confederacy at Richmond. This capital city was regarded as the symbol of the South, and throughout the conflict, Federal armies made repeated attempts to capture it.

One of the first attempts was made by Major General George B. McClellan when, in the spring of 1862, with the Army of the Potomac, he began his march on the Confederate capital. By the end of May, he was within a few miles of Richmond with his advanced line established at the junction of the Nine Mile Road and the Williamsburg Road. On the morning of May 31, General Joseph E. Johnston, who was in command of the defense of Richmond, attacked McClellan's forces on this front and thus the Battle of Seven Pines began. For two days, the battle was bitterly contested and both sides lost heavily. The battle plan had been sound, but the attack was badly bungled. Directed by vague verbal orders instead of explicit written ones, whole brigades got lost, took the wrong roads, and generally got in each other's way. Nine of the twenty-three attacking brigades never actually got into the fight at all. Towards nightfall, Johnston was severely wounded in the chest and borne from the field. The command then fell to Major General Gustavus W. Smith. Fighting ceased with darkness. Early the next morning, June 1, Smith renewed the attack. The Confederates later withdrew and the battle was over before noon. That afternoon, President Jefferson Davis appointed his chief military advisor, General Robert E. Lee, as commander of the Southern forces. Although the battle itself was indecisive, the casualties were heavy on both sides. The Confederates lost 6,184 in killed, wounded, and missing; the Federals 5,031.

The cemetery derived its name from its proximity to the intersection of Nine Mile Road and Williamsburg Road, which was known as Seven Pines.

The cemetery was established on June 27, 1866, and comprises 1.9 acres. The ground was appropriated by the United States in May 1866. The original site contained some 1.3 acres of land and was formerly owned by Richard Hilliard, who by deed dated April 24, 1867, conveyed the same to the United States in fee simple for the sum of $134.33. By deed dated May 1, 1873, from Richard Hilliard, and by deed dated September 8, 1875, from James Kelly, additional strips of land were conveyed to the United States at a total cost of $46.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Cemetery System Microfilm Records

Department of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation Office


*Battlefields of the Civil War*. New York: Arno, 1979


GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Begin at Station 2163 plus 52 on the centerline of the Virginia State Highway's Survey of Route 60; from which a 3/4-inch iron pipe witness driven flush with the ground bears N. 190 degrees 06 minutes East, 18.6 feet distant, and the SE corner of the brick wall of Seven Pines National Cemetery bears N. 4 degrees 50 minutes East, 24.3 feet distant; thence N. 71 degrees 11 minutes west, 303.0 feet along the tangent centerline of the highway to Station 2166 plus 55 on the tangent, this point being the intersection of the tangent centerlines of Route 60 and the Nine Mile Road, from which the SW corner of the brick cemetery wall bears N. 69 degrees 20 minutes East, 35.5 feet; thence N. 17 degrees, 09 minutes East, along the tangent centerline of the Nine Mile Road 270.0 feet to a point from which the NW corner of the brick wall of the Seven Pines National Cemetery bears S. 70 degrees 54 minutes East, 35.5 feet, and an iron pipe witness driven flush with the ground bears S. 70 degrees 54 minutes East, 18.1 feet distant; thence S. 70 degrees 54 minutes East, 311.7 feet to an iron pipe driven flush with the ground for the NE corner of the cemetery property from which the NE corner of the existing brick wall of Seven Pines National Cemetery bears N. 70 degrees 54 minutes West, a distance of 6 feet, thence S. 19 degrees 06 minutes West, along the property line of the Seven Pines National Cemetery parallel to the existing cemetery wall and at 6-foot distance therefrom, 269.0 feet to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The National Cemetery System has used the existing boundaries of the cemetery.
SEVEN PINES NATIONAL CEMETERY
Henrico County, Virginia
VDHR File No. 43-755
Mr. James Brownie and Ms. Billie Crenshaw, photographers
Date of Photographs: September 27, 1994 and January 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: Cemetery, view looking west with stone perimeter wall on the left
NEG. NO. 13067-17
PHOTO 1 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge and utility building, west elevation
NEG. NO. 13067-20
PHOTO 6 of 17

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northwest toward flagpole
NEG. NO. 13067-23
PHOTO 2 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge, south elevation
NEG. NO. 13067-24
PHOTO 7 of 17

VIEW OF: South entry on Williamsburg Road, with south elevation of lodge in distance
NEG. NO. 13067-15
PHOTO 3 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge, west elevation, showing kitchen addition
NEG. NO. 13067-198
PHOTO 8 of 17

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking southwest toward Williamsburg Road
NEG. NO. 13067-22
PHOTO 4 of 17

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northwest, showing gasoline storage building
NEG. NO. 13067-21
PHOTO 9 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge, southeast elevation
NEG. NO. 13067-16
PHOTO 5 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge, north elevation and east elevation of kitchen
NEG. NO. 13067-24A
PHOTO 10 of 17
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries
Seven Pines National Cemetery
Henrico County, Virginia

Section number  Photo  Page  6

VIEW OF: Lodge, southwest elevation
NEG. NO. 13067-18
PHOTO 11 of 17

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking southwest
NEG. NO. 16021-2
PHOTO 15 of 17

VIEW OF: Perimeter wall, south boundary,
showing right pier at entry and pedestrian entry
to lodge
NEG. NO. 16021-7
PHOTO 12 of 17

VIEW OF: Entry gate pier, left side
NEG. NO. 16021-6
PHOTO 16 of 17

VIEW OF: Perimeter wall, south border,
showing original entry gate
NEG. NO. 16021-5
PHOTO 13 of 17

VIEW OF: Close up of artillery monument
NEG. NO. 16021-3
PHOTO 17 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge, south elevation
NEG. NO. 16028
PHOTO 14 of 17
Sketch Map
Seven Pines National Cemetery
Henrico County Virginia

Note: Numbered triangles correspond to the views in the accompanying photographs.