

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 Winchester National Cemetery

other names/site number Virginia Department of Historic Resources File No. 138-35

## 2. Location

street & number 401 National Avenue  not for publication N/A

city or town Winchester vicinity N/A

state Virginia code VA county Winchester (Ind. City) code 840 zip code 22601

## 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 Rome 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 A. Ziemik 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Winchester National Cemetery

Name of Property

Winchester (City), 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
2	0	structures
17	0	objects
23	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

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Funerary: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Tudor Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone, Concrete

walls Stucco, Brick, Wood

roof Asbestos; Metal: Tin

other Metal: Cast Iron, Iron; Stone: Limestone, Marble

Narrative Description

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

Winchester National Cemetery

Name of Property

Winchester (City), 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.)

- 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.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

**Period of Significance**

1866-1940

**Significant Dates**

1866

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Meigs, Montgomery C.

**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

Winchester National Cemetery  
Name of Property

Winchester (City), Virginia  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 4.9

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>745580</u>	<u>4340870</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 October 5, 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

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia

Section number 7 Page 1

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

The Winchester National Cemetery is located at 401 National Avenue, Winchester, Virginia, about 1/4 mile east of Winchester City Hall. The cemetery is rectangular in shape and is enclosed by a limestone wall, 4 feet 6 inches high, 18 inches thick, and extending 1,879 lineal feet. The main entrance is situated in the center of the north side and is protected by 12-foot-wide entry gates, constructed circa 1910, made of ornamental wrought and cast iron. The main gates are supported by cast iron piers. There is a 4-foot-wide walk gate on each side, supported by concrete piers. A 14-foot-wide cast iron rear access gate to Woodstock Lane, with stone piers on each side, was constructed in July 1940.

The cemetery was established on April 9, 1866, and contains 91 burial sections. The sections are numbered from 1 through 92 and, for reasons unknown, there is no section 5. The burial sections were originally named after various states, as far as practicable, and the interments were made in the same manner. The graves were originally marked by headboards, painted white and properly lettered. The boards were later replaced with upright marble markers. As of August 31, 1995, there were 5,056 graves used for the interment of 5,370 casketed remains and 74 sites used for the interment of 94 cremated remains. The cemetery was officially closed on July 11, 1969. Interments in occupied graves, as well as interments of cremated remains, continue. As of August 31, 1995, there were 27 gravesites available for the interment of casketed remains (26 reserved) and 37 sites available for the interment of cremated remains.

The lodge was originally constructed in 1871 and consisted of a one-story stone building of three rooms. Although this lodge was based on a design by Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs, it was a smaller version than the standard lodge design by Meigs for national cemeteries during that era. A one-story frame wing containing a kitchen was added around the turn of the century. The windows on the first floor are six-over-one double-hung. About 1914, a second-story frame addition containing three bedrooms and one bath was constructed over the stone part of the house. The windows on this story are in pairs, four-over-one double-hung. The roof appears to be made of asbestos cement shingles with ridge rolls. The old kitchen was removed, date unknown, and replaced with the present one-story stucco kitchen wing. The roof on this wing is tin. In 1936, an addition to this wing was made, containing a laundry room and basement.

An old frame tool house and brick comfort station were demolished in 1930 and a new brick, stucco and concrete utility building with comfort station, 29 feet 6 inches by 29 feet, was constructed directly to the rear of the lodge near the eastern corner of the perimeter wall. The roof is tin. A pair of wrought-iron gates, 9 feet wide, supported by stone piers, was constructed in November 1929, to provide access to the utility building.

A brick, stucco, and concrete gasoline storage building, 6 feet 4 inches by 5 feet 4 inches, was constructed in 1936 beside the southeast perimeter wall near the eastern corner of the cemetery. The roof is tin.

A well is located in the rear of the lodge.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number   7   Page   2  

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

There are fourteen commemorative monuments in the Winchester National Cemetery:

**123rd Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry - Granite, surmounted by cut granite, faced with cross rifles; Base, 8 feet 5 inches by 8 feet; Height, 7 feet 6 inches, inscribed:**

IN MEMORY OF  
123RD REGIMENT. O.V.I.  
8TH CORPS                      24th CORPS  
1862                                      1899

**Pennsylvania - Surmounted by a bronze figure of a woman supporting a fallen figure of a soldier holding a flag; Base, 8 feet, 1 inch by 8 feet 1 inch; Height, 20 feet; erected by The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, inscribed:**

PENNSYLVANIA  
MOURNS HER KNOWN  
AND UNKNOWN DEAD PEACEFULLY  
SLEEPING HERE, WHO GAVE UP THEIR  
LIVES THAT THE NATION THEY LOVED  
SO DEARLY SHOULD NOT  
"PERISH FROM OFF THE EARTH"

**14th New Hampshire Regiment - Granite with cut column point at top; Base, 3 feet by 3 feet; Height, 10 feet; erected by the State of New Hampshire sometime prior to 1969, inscribed:**

NEW  
HAMPSHIRE  
ERECTS THIS MONUMENT TO THE MEMORY OF HER BRAVE SONS OF HER  
14TH REGIMENT WHO FELL IN BATTLE SEPT. 19, 1864  
UPON THIS FIELD AND ARE HERE BURIED IN ONE COMMON GRAVE  
CAPTS. W. H. CHAFFIN, W.A. FOSGATE  
LIEUTS. H.S. PAUL, J.A. FISKE

SERGTS.  
O.C. WILSON.  
G.W. FELCH.  
M. MACURDY.  
A.A. BAKER.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia

Section number 7 Page 3

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

CORPLS.

N.P. RUST.  
M. ALLEN.  
G.W. HAZEN.  
S. TASKER.  
N.W. NOYES.  
D.W. CHASE.

PVTS.

N. WYMAN.  
S.H. YOUNT.  
G. PERRIGO.  
G.L. WETHERBEE.  
F.B. ANDREWS.  
H.L. HAYNES.  
A.E. BOYD.  
C.L. HOMAN.  
M. MARSTON.  
G.T. SOUTHER.  
W.A. SCOTT.  
L. PARKER.  
O.A. BARNES.  
S. WATERS.  
H.O. BAKER.  
D.J. CAMERON.  
D.W. PHELPS.  
L.E. BENT.

MORTALLY WOUNDED

COL. A. GARDNER.  
A.B. COLBURN.  
G.H. STONE.  
L. WILLARD.  
H.F. BROWN.  
L.E. BURT.  
G.W. TUCKER.  
L. G. MERRILL.  
R. VARNEY.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number 7 Page 4

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

O. STRAW.  
G.B. COFRAN.  
H. ATWOOD.  
A. HARRIMAN.

**114th New York Volunteer Infantry - Granite with cut granite spar pyramidal peak at top; Base, 7 feet 10 inches by 7 feet 10 inches; Height, 30 feet; inscribed:**

1ST  
BRIGADE  
FIRST DIVISION  
19TH ARMY  
CORPS  
114TH N.Y. VOL. INFANTRY  
SEPT 3, 1862 - JUNE 8, 1865  
ERECTED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
IN HONOR OF HER SONS  
OF THE 114TH REGIMENT NEW YORK  
VOLUNTEER INFANTRY  
A TRIBUTE TO THEIR DEVOTION TO DUTY, THEIR  
UNFALTERING COURAGE AND GLORIOUS SACRIFICES  
TESTED ON MANY FIELDS, THEIR VALOR WAS MOST  
CONSPICUOUS AT WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA SEPT. 19TH  
1864, IN HOLDING ADVANCED DEFENSIVE LINES  
AT A LOSS, KILLED AND WOUNDED, OF 188 OF THE  
315 ENGAGED, AND AT CEDAR CREEK, VIRGINIA  
OCT. 19th, 1864, IN RESISTING FLANK ATTACKS AND  
JOINING IN THE FINAL VICTORIOUS CHARGE  
AT A LIKE LOSS OF 127 OF THE 250 ENGAGED.  
TIME CROWNS THEIR MEMORIES  
WITH UNDYING HONOR



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

Section number   7   Page   5  

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

**Massachusetts** -A life-size bronze statue of a soldier in field equipment; Erected in 1907, inscribed:

**MASSACHUSETTS**

2D MASS. VOL. INFANTRY  
26TH MASS. VOL. INFANTRY  
30TH MASS. VOL. INFANTRY  
34TH MASS. VOL. INFANTRY  
37TH MASS. VOL. INFANTRY  
38TH MASS. VOL. INFANTRY  
2D MASS. VOL. CAVALRY  
3D MASS. VOL. CAVALRY  
1ST BATTERY ARTILLERY

TO THE  
VALOR  
OF THE  
SONS OF MASSACHUSETTS  
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THE  
UNION  
IN THE  
SHENANDOAH VALLEY  
1861-1865

**34th Massachusetts Infantry** - Granite base with cut marble column supporting bust statue of George D. Wells;  
Base, 4 feet by 4 feet; Height, 9 feet; erected by his comrades and inscribed:

WELLS  
THIRTY FOURTH  
MASSACHUSETTS  
INFANTRY  
1862-65  
ERECTED BY COMRADES  
34  
TO THOSE WHO FELL IN  
THE VALLEY

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number   7   Page   6  

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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

**3rd Massachusetts Cavalry - Granite cut base, cut granite monument, faced with horse's head; Base, 3 feet 10 inches by 6 feet; Height, 5 feet, inscribed:**

3RD MASS. CAVALRY  
SHERIDAN'S VALLEY CAMPAIGN 1864  
CASUALTIES  
KILLED  
AND  
WOUNDED  
207  
ERECTED SEPT. 19, 1888

3RD MASS. CAVALRY  
19TH CORPS

**38th Massachusetts Volunteers - Marble cut to peak at top; Base, 1 foot 6 inches by 1 foot 6 inches; Height, 3 feet 6 inches, inscribed:**

THIRTY EIGHTH  
MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS

OUR COMRADES FELL  
IN THE  
CAMPAIGNS OF 1864  
THESE LIE BURIED  
IN THIS VALLEY  
IN UNKNOWN GRAVES

ERECTED SEPT. 19<sup>th</sup> 1864

FIRST SERG'T  
CURTIS HOBBS.  
SERG'T  
A.J. STETSON.  
SERG'T.  
M. H. MARSTON.  
SERG'T.  
MARTIN G. CHILDS.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Section number 7 Page 7

Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

CORPL.  
THEODORE TUCKER.  
CORPL.  
CHAS. E. NEALE.  
JOHN CONNORS.  
DENNIS B. NASH.

GROVER'S DIVISION - THIRD BRIGADE

DENNIS WHITE.  
JOSEPH RIPLEY.  
BELA BATES.  
G. OTIS HUDSON.  
LINDLEY KITCHEN.  
GEO. L. BURTON.  
J.M. FISHER WHITING.  
GEO. H. PRATT.  
W.H. DODGE.

18th Connecticut Volunteer Regiment - Granite with shaft of rough granite corners chamfered and top cut to a pyramid; Base, 6 feet by 6 feet; Height, 12 feet, inscribed:

18TH CONN.  
VOL. REGT.  
KERNSTOWN  
CEDAR CREEK  
BERRYVILLE

LYNCHBURG  
SNICKER'S FORD  
WINCHESTER

WINCHESTER  
NEW MARKET  
PIEDMONT

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number 7 Page 8

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

**12th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers - Granite with cut base and shaft, draped with large cut granite flag; Base, 5 feet 8 inches by 5 feet 8 inches; Height, 10 feet; erected by the State of Connecticut on October 19, 1890, inscribed:**

QUI TRANSTULIT SUSTINET  
CONNECTICUT'S TRIBUTE  
TO HER FALLEN HEROES  
ERECTED OCT. 19, 1896

12TH REGIMENT C.V.  
ORGANIZED  
SEPT. 16, 1861.  
MUSTERED OUT  
AUG. 12, 1865.

ENGAGEMENTS  
GEORGIA LANDING. LA. OCT. 27, 1862.  
CAPTURE GUN BOAT "COTTON" LA.  
JAN. 14, 1863.  
PATTERSONVILLE, LA. MAR. 27, 1863.  
BISLAND. LA. APR. 13, 1863.  
SIEGE OF PORT HUDSON LA.  
MAY 25. TO JULY 9. 1863.  
BRASHEAR CITY. LA. JUNE 23. 1863.  
WINCHESTER & OPEQUAN VA.  
SEPT. 19. 1864.  
FISHERS HILL. VA. SEPT. 22. 1864.  
CEDAR CREEK. VA. OCT. 19. 1864.

**13th Connecticut Volunteer Regiment - Granite; Base, 7 feet by 4 feet 6 inches; Height, 6 feet; inscribed:**

13TH REGT. CONN. VOLS.  
GEORGIA LANDING. LA. OCT. 27, 1862.  
IRISH BEND LA. APR. 14, 1863.  
VERMILLION BAYOU LA. APR. 17, 1863.  
SIEGE OF PORT HUDSON MAY 24, to JULY 9, 1863.  
CANE RIVER LA. APR. 22, 1864.  
MANSURA LA. MAY 16, 1864.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia

Section number 7 Page 9

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

WINCHESTER VA. SEP. 19, 1864.  
FISHER'S HILL VA. SEP. 22, 1864  
CEDAR CREEK VA. OCT. 19, 1864.

8th Regiment, Vermont Infantry - Granite with shaft cut to point at top; Base, 2 feet 8 inches by 2 feet 8 inches; Height, 7 feet; inscribed:

8TH REGIMENT  
INFANTRY

L. ESTES	CO. A
A.K. COOPER	CO. A
L. WHITEMORE	CO. A
T.L. GEER	CO. A
M.W. WELLS	CO. A
J.S. BIGELOW	CO. B
M.P. WARREN	CO. B
E. BELLVILLE	CO. B
W.J. FADDEN	CO. B
G.F. BLANCHARD	CO. B

VERMONT

L.H. LAMB	CO. L
J.F. BLACK	CO. L
W.W. PIERCE	CO. L
C.J. BLOOD	CO. L
C.E. JENKS	CO. L
J.D. LEWIS	CO. K
S.F. PERHAM	CO. K
N.C. CHENEY	CO. K
F. RUSSELL	CO. K
S. SCHERKERT	CO. K
R.C. AUSTIN	CO. G
A. DUPUYS	CO. G
A.O. EVANS	CO. H
S.S. CHILDS	CO. H

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia

Section number 7 Page 10

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

G.E. ORMSBY	CO. H
J.V. ALLEN	CO. H
J. PROUTY	CO. H
A. MILLS	CO. I
C.F. PHILIPPS	CO. I
E. FISHER	CO. I
J.V. GOODELL	CO. C
W. LEITH	CO. C
C.S. ROOT	CO. C
J.H. DAY	CO. D
W.H. REED	CO. D
A. THOMPSON	CO. D
C.S. BARBER	CO. D
J.W. HARDING	CO. E
EDWARD HALL	CO. E
G.E. AUSTIN	CO. E

**8th Vermont Volunteers** - Granite with shaft cut to a point at the top; Base, 2 feet 3 inches by 2 feet 3 inches; Height, 8 feet, erected by Herbert E. Hill on September 19, 1885, inscribed:

HONOR THE BRAVE  
ERECTED TO  
COMMEMORATE THE BAYONET CHARGE  
OF THE  
EIGHTH VERMONT VOL'S. LED BY  
GENL. STEPHEN THOMAS  
SEPT. 19, 1864  
COMMITTED TO THE CARE OF THOSE  
ONCE A BRAVE FOE  
NOW OUR GENEROUS FRIENDS  
GIFT OF  
COMRADE HERBERT E. HILL  
BOSTON, MASS.  
DEDICATED SEPT. 19, 1885

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

Section number 7 Page 11

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

**6th Army Corps- Granite, rough base faced with cut shaft supporting ball resting on top; Base, 5 feet by 5 feet; Height, 15 feet, inscribed:**

ERECTED BY THE SURVIVORS OF THE SIXTH ARMY CORPS  
AND THEIR FRIENDS  
DEDICATED SEPTEMBER 19, 1891  
BRIG. GENL. DAVID A. RUSSELL  
U.S. VOLS.  
1ST DIV. 6TH ARMY CORPS  
MAJOR 8TH. U.S. INFTRY.  
BVT. MAJ. GENL. U.S.A.  
BORN SALEM N.Y. DEC. 10. 1820  
KILLED IN ACTION AT OPEQUAN, VA.  
SEPT. 19. 1864

Also inscribed in the right lower corner of the monument is "J. Ferguson" (apparently the name of the sculptor).

There are two monuments, 7 feet 6 inches in height, each made of an original cast iron seacoast artillery tube, secured by a concrete base. One is located on each side of the flagpole. There is no inscription on either monument.

Records available regarding all these monuments focus on size, by whom dedicated or erected, and/or the inscription. Except for the 6th Army Corps monument, no information is inscribed on the monuments as to the name of the sculptor or the foundry which fabricated the memorials.

Many Civil War soldiers whose remains could not be identified are buried in a common area located in the center of the cemetery, identified by four wooden boundary markers. A plaque commemorating these soldiers is located in Section 37 near the flagpole and is inscribed as follows:

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number 7 Page 12

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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

**UNKNOWN CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS**

WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE FOUR WOODEN  
BOUNDARY MARKERS ARE THE GRAVES OF 2,338  
CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS WHOSE NAMES ARE UNKNOWN

THESE SOLDIERS WERE ORIGINALLY BURIED WHERE  
THEY BRAVELY FOUGHT AND DIED DURING BATTLES  
AT NEW MARKET, FRONT ROYAL, SNICKER'S GAP,  
HARPER'S FERRY, MARTINSBURG, ROMNEY, AND  
THE SURROUNDING AREA.

EVEN THOUGH THEIR NAMES ARE UNKNOWN,  
THE SACRIFICE OF THESE SOLDIERS WILL NEVER  
BE FORGOTTEN.

A plaque, located near the cemetery entrance, is inscribed as follows:

THIRD BATTLE OF  
WINCHESTER  
NEAR HERE EARLY, FACING EAST  
TOOK HIS LAST POSITION ON SEPTEMBER  
19, 1864, ABOUT SUNDOWN HE  
WAS ATTACKED AND DRIVEN FROM  
IT, RETREATING SOUTH, PRESIDENTS  
RUTHERFORD B. HAYES AND WILLIAM  
MCKINLEY SERVED IN THIS ENGAGE-  
MENT ON THE UNION SIDE



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number 7 & 8 Page 13

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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

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

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

**Sites:** Cemetery

**Structures:** Main gate, perimeter wall, rear access gate

**Objects:** Flagpole, 14 commemorative monuments, 2 artillery monuments

**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Winchester 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.

Six major battles occurred in the Winchester area during the Civil War. The First Battle of Kernstown took place on March 23, 1862, about 3 miles south of Winchester. When Confederate Major General Thomas J. ("Stonewall") Jackson learned that Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, commanding the Union 5th Corps, had crossed the Potomac and was advancing on Winchester, he abandoned the town and retreated up the Shenandoah Valley. Banks occupied Winchester on March 12, 1862, and followed the retreating Confederates. The forces met at Fisher's Hill in a brisk fight on March 17 in which the Confederates were defeated and forced to continue their retreat up the Valley. The Federal division under Brigadier General James Shields, which was pursuing Jackson, followed on March 18 to Woodstock, where the infantry halted; the cavalry continued to Mount Jackson, where it learned that the Confederates had crossed the Shenandoah River. Shields started on his return to Winchester on March 19 and reported to General Banks upon his arrival that Jackson had left the Valley. Banks thereupon ordered his forces, except the division commanded by Shields, east of the Blue Ridge and, on March 22, departed for Washington. Colonel Turner Ashby, commanding Jackson's cavalry, had scouted Shields's return to Winchester and, on March 22, attacked the Federal outposts at Kernstown. General Shields moved out immediately with reinforcements and forced Ashby to retire. Shields was wounded during this fight and turned over his command to Colonel Nathan Kimball. The fighting resumed on the morning of the 23rd east of the Valley Turnpike (Route 11) at Kernstown with Colonel Kimball commanding; Colonel E. B. Tyler's brigade was held in reserve. General Jackson reached Kernstown at about 2 p.m. after a forced march and pressed the attack against Shields. Soon after his arrival, Jackson shifted the attack from the east to the west and attempted to turn Shields's right flank, leaving Ashby with his 290 troopers and three guns to continue the fight east of the highway. The forces met on Sandy Ridge just west of Kernstown. Shields had left Colonel Sullivan's

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number 8 Page 14

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**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)**

brigade to hold Ashby and now called up Colonel Tyler, who had been in reserve. The Federal artillery was posted on Pritchard's Hill, from which point they poured a hot fire on the Confederates advancing along Sandy Ridge. The fighting continued until dark, when the outnumbered Confederates, their ammunition depleted, were forced to retreat. Confederate losses at Kernstown were 718 from a force of 3,000 infantry, 290 cavalry, and 27 guns; Federal losses were 590 from a force of 6,000 infantry, 750 cavalry, and 24 guns.

The First Battle of Winchester took place on May 25, 1862. General "Stonewall" Jackson had struck at Front Royal in a surprise attack on May 23, 1862, routing and capturing most of the 1,000 Federal troops stationed there. Colonel John B. Gordon, commanding the 3rd brigade under Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, insisted that it was an attack in force by Jackson's force of 17,000 men and urged Banks to retire to his base at Winchester. Banks refused to be convinced of his danger and delayed his movement to Winchester until May 24. Jackson had moved out on the Front Royal road to Winchester planning to cut off Banks's move in that direction; ordering Major General Richard S. Ewell to continue on the Front Royal road, Jackson moved west toward the Valley Pike with Colonel Turner Ashby's cavalry in advance. Striking the Pike near Middletown, the Confederates found the road crowded with Banks's trains moving toward Winchester and attacked immediately. In a short time, the road was clogged with burning wagons and dead horses; the cavalry escort fled to the west pursued by those of Ashby's cavalry who had not stopped to loot the captured wagons. The Federal column was thrown into confusion by the attack, some of the troops retreating toward Strasburg, while others continued toward Winchester with the Confederates in pursuit. At about 2 a.m. on May 25, the Federal troops reached Winchester, exhausted after the running fight. Jackson had been compelled to allow his exhausted troops two hours of much needed rest and, at 5 a.m., ordered an advance. As his batteries opened, he heard the sound of firing in the east and knew that Ewell was pressing forward in that direction. Federal resistance was stubborn and it was not until three hours later that Gordon's right flank was rolled up by an attack by General Dick Taylor's brigade. General Isaac R. Trimble flanked Donnelly's position at about the same time and the Federal troops retreated through Winchester and out along the Martinsburg Pike, continuing their retreat to the Potomac, crossing to safety at Williamsport. Jackson's efforts were rewarded by capture of valuable supplies at Winchester and at Martinsburg, including a great store of much needed medical supplies. During the action on May 23, 24, and 25, Banks lost 3,000 men, most of whom were captured; Jackson lost 400 men.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number 8 Page 15

**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)**

The Second Battle of Winchester occurred on June 13, 14, and 15, 1863. On June 13, Federal patrols reported the Confederates advancing in force along the Front Royal Road toward Winchester. Major General Robert A. Milroy signaled Colonel Andrew T. McReynolds, stationed in Berryville with 1,800 men, to abandon that town and retreat toward Winchester. Major General Richard S. Ewell had sent Brigadier General Robert E. Rodes to Berryville to capture the troops there, but McReynolds reached Winchester safely and was posted in Star Fort. The Union division wagon guard at Bunker Hill commanded by Major William T. Morris fought off Jenkins's cavalry, which had accompanied Rodes on his move to Berryville, and returned with some loss to Winchester. There was some street fighting in Winchester, with skirmishing east of town on the 13th and continuing on the 14th. On June 14, Milroy ordered Colonel Joseph Warren Kiefer to occupy West Fort, which was an uncompleted strong point about a mile west of Fort Milroy located just northwest of Winchester. Ewell had sent Brigadier General Jubal A. Early with his division to a position near Little North Mountain, this movement being unobserved by the Federals. Their attention was centered on Brigadier General John B. Gordon with his Georgia troops and some guns on Bowers Hill, south of Fort Milroy. At 4 p.m. on the 14th, Early opened with 20 guns on West Fort and, under this artillery cover, Hays's brigade attacked and drove the Federals from West Fort to Fort Milroy and Star Fort. Without help from Major General Joseph Hooker, Milroy knew that he was fighting a losing battle and prepared to retreat. During the night of the 14th, Milroy ordered his guns spiked and, abandoning his wagons, led his troops at 1 a.m. on the 15th along the Martinsburg Pike. Ewell anticipated such movement and ordered Major General Edward Johnson with his division to march east of Winchester to intercept the move toward Martinsburg. Johnson marched through the night and reached the bridge across the railroad near Stephenson, as Milroy approached from Winchester, three miles distant. Johnson's attack was unexpected in the dark but the retreating Federal troops put up a stiff resistance and casualties were suffered on both sides. Many prisoners were taken by the Confederates. The Federal losses from June 12 to and including June 15 were 95 killed, 373 wounded, and 5,039 missing and captured.

On July 24, 1864, a second battle at Kernstown took place between the armies of Major General Jubal A. Early and Brigadier General George Crook. Crook commanded the Army of West Virginia later to be known as the Eighth Corps of Major General Philip H. Sheridan's army. Early fell back to Strasburg and, on July 22, started down the Valley Pike looking for Crook. Crook had taken position behind Hoge Run, the anchor of his line being the fine artillery position on the south end of Pritchard's Hill. Early attacked at Kernstown and was victorious. His victory deprived General Ulysses S. Grant of two infantry corps and two divisions of cavalry for the entire fall of 1864.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number 8 Page 16

**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)**

The Third Battle of Winchester, also known as the Battle of the Opequon, took place on September 19, 1864. Major General Jubal A. Early was in the vicinity of Bunker Hill, where he had gone with Major General Robert E. Rodes, Major General John B. Gordon and Major General John C. Breckenridge to drive Colonel William W. Averell back toward Charles Town, leaving Major General Stephen D. Ramseur to guard Winchester. When Major General Philip H. Sheridan learned of this division of Early's forces, he ordered an immediate advance against Ramseur at Winchester, planning to defeat him before Early could rejoin him. Ramseur, outnumbered as he was, resisted stoutly the Federal advance. When Early, from his position on the Martinsburg Pike, heard firing from Ramseur's position, he hurried with the divisions of Rodes and Gordon to his assistance, joining Ramseur at about 11 a.m. Rodes formed on Ramseur's left (Rodes was killed while forming his line) and Gordon's division formed the left flank until Breckenridge joined at about 2 p.m. At noon, Sheridan had ordered the 8th Corps under Brigadier General George Crook up from reserve to extend the Federal right. At 3 p.m., Crook struck the Confederate left flank at almost the same time the 1st Cavalry Division under General Wesley Merritt rode against the Confederate left. The line broke and Early retreated to earthworks at Winchester. At 5 p.m., continued Federal pressure broke this line and Early retreated through Winchester and up the Valley Pike. The Confederate loss was about 4,000 from a force of 11,000; Sheridan lost 5,665 from a force of 42,000. This Federal victory, along with those on September 22 and October 19, 1864, near Winchester, broke Confederate control of that town and the Shenandoah Valley, the Federal troops remaining in that area during the remaining months of the war. This battle was fought on the site of the present national cemetery.

The sixth battle that occurred in the Winchester area was the Battle of Cedar Creek on October 19, 1864. Despite the disabling reverses suffered at Winchester on September 19 and at Fisher's Hill on September 22, Lt. General Jubal A. Early, commanding the Second Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia, knew that he must still endeavor to prevent the victorious Major General Philip H. Sheridan from returning detachments of his force to General Ulysses S. Grant, opposing General Robert E. Lee at Petersburg in eastern Virginia. He knew that to accomplish this task, he would have to mount another offensive. Therefore, when Sheridan withdrew northward from Harrisonburg, Early followed. The Second Corps reached Fisher's Hill on October 13 and discovered the Federals encamped upon the slopes north of Cedar Creek, encircling the stately mansion Belle Grove, just south of Middletown, some 20 miles from Winchester. Reconnaissance convinced Early at first that his position was too strong for his weakened army to attack. Early had suffered heavy casualties among his officers and his divisions were critically short in this respect. In numbers, the three corps of Sheridan was greatly superior to Early's five divisions. With these circumstances in mind, Early held his ground at Fisher's Hill, hoping the Federals would attack him or withdraw to the north. After four days, the provisions of the Second Corps were nearly exhausted and Sheridan was still at Cedar Creek. Early, an ardent understudy to Stonewall Jackson, determined to attack. Sheridan was believed to have had his headquarters at Belle Grove. By the time the sun was up on October 19, the Confederates were successfully advancing in all parts of the field. Early had attained the surprise necessary to catapult an army of inferior numbers to a position of advantage and near victory over an army more than twice its size in numbers. Between sun-up and 10 a.m., his men drove Sheridan's three corps

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number 8 Page 17

**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)**

from their respective camps and from their rallying position west of Middletown. The Confederates had captured 1,300 prisoners and 18 guns, but Sheridan was not among the captured. He had not even been on the field but had spent the night of October 18 in Winchester after returning from a trip to Washington. He arrived on the field in the early afternoon and helped to reform and steady his badly shaken ranks. Around 4:30 p.m., Sheridan had ably reorganized his beaten army and set it in motion against Early. The sheer weight of numbers thrown against the Confederates in positions more easily taken than susceptible of holding soon broke their lines and put the men in head-long fight for the opposite bank of Cedar Creek and the heights of Fisher's Hill south of Strasburg. Sheridan recovered his 18 guns and some 20 Confederate guns. Many Federal prisoners escaped and many wagons were retaken by the Federals. Early's victory of the morning was Early's defeat and disgrace of the evening. Southern clamor against him soon resulted in his replacement. Confederate control of Winchester and the Shenandoah Valley was broken. Federal troops remained in the area during the remaining months of the war.

Following the close of the war in 1865, there was increased activity in the development of existing national cemeteries and establishment of new burial grounds. On April 13, 1866, by Joint Resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives, the establishment of more new burial grounds was initiated. Twenty-one national cemeteries were established that year, including the Winchester National Cemetery.

The cemetery was established on April 9, 1866, and the land for the cemetery, consisting of 4.88 acres, was acquired by deed dated December 1, 1871, from Jacob Baker, for \$1,500.

The first burials were of soldiers reinterred from battlefields near Winchester, New Market, Front Royal, and Snicker's Gap, Virginia, and from Harpers Ferry, Martinsburg, and Romney, West Virginia, altogether from a region of country of about 50 miles in extent. The reinterments were conducted by the Union soldiers who were stationed in Winchester during Reconstruction.

According to an article in the March 19, 1894, edition of the Winchester Times J. W. Smellie, then owner of the fine Belle Grove estate near Middletown, informed the newspaper that George W. Staples, who was a Confederate soldier during the entire war, was plowing in the field immediately in front of the mansion a few days earlier. He turned up two skulls and upon going further, another one was raised by his plow. Upon making an examination, nine bodies were found in a trench. They proved to be U.S. soldiers, as evidenced by pieces of their coats with Federal buttons upon them. Evidently, two of them were officers. Smellie found a bullet between the ribs of one of the skeletons when it dropped out upon being taken up. Several of the shoes had foot bones in them and one boot had the entire leg bone in it. A battery of artillery belonging to the 6th Army Corps, Sheridan's Army, was stationed in this field. Smellie immediately placed himself in correspondence with Major Drum, Superintendent of the Winchester National Cemetery, and the remains were later removed to the cemetery and reinterred.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Winchester National Cemetery  
City of Winchester, Virginia**

Section number 9 & 10 Page 18

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**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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Department of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation Office

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

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

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

The Archives Room, The Handley Regional Library, Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society, P.O. Box 58, Winchester, Virginia 22604

Civil War Battles in Winchester and Frederick County, Virginia 1861-1865, prepared and published by Winchester-Frederick County Civil War Centennial Commission

**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

After entering the cemetery, proceed to the southwest corner as a starting point, otherwise known as the point of beginning; proceed northwest in front of the utility building and lodge approximately 360 feet, thence turning southwest for approximately 590 feet, thence southeast for approximately 360 feet, thence northeast for another 590 feet, to the point of beginning.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

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

**EO. 11593**

**DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY NOTIFICATION  
National Register of Historic Places  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

RECEIVED

JUN 25 1981

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

(cont.)

**Name of property:** Winchester National Cemetery

**Location:** Winchester County

**State:** VA

**Request submitted by:** VA Gjore Mollenhoff

**Date received:** 6/16/81 **Additional information received:**

**Opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer:**

Eligible       Not Eligible       No Response

**Comments:**

**The Secretary of the Interior has determined that this property is:**

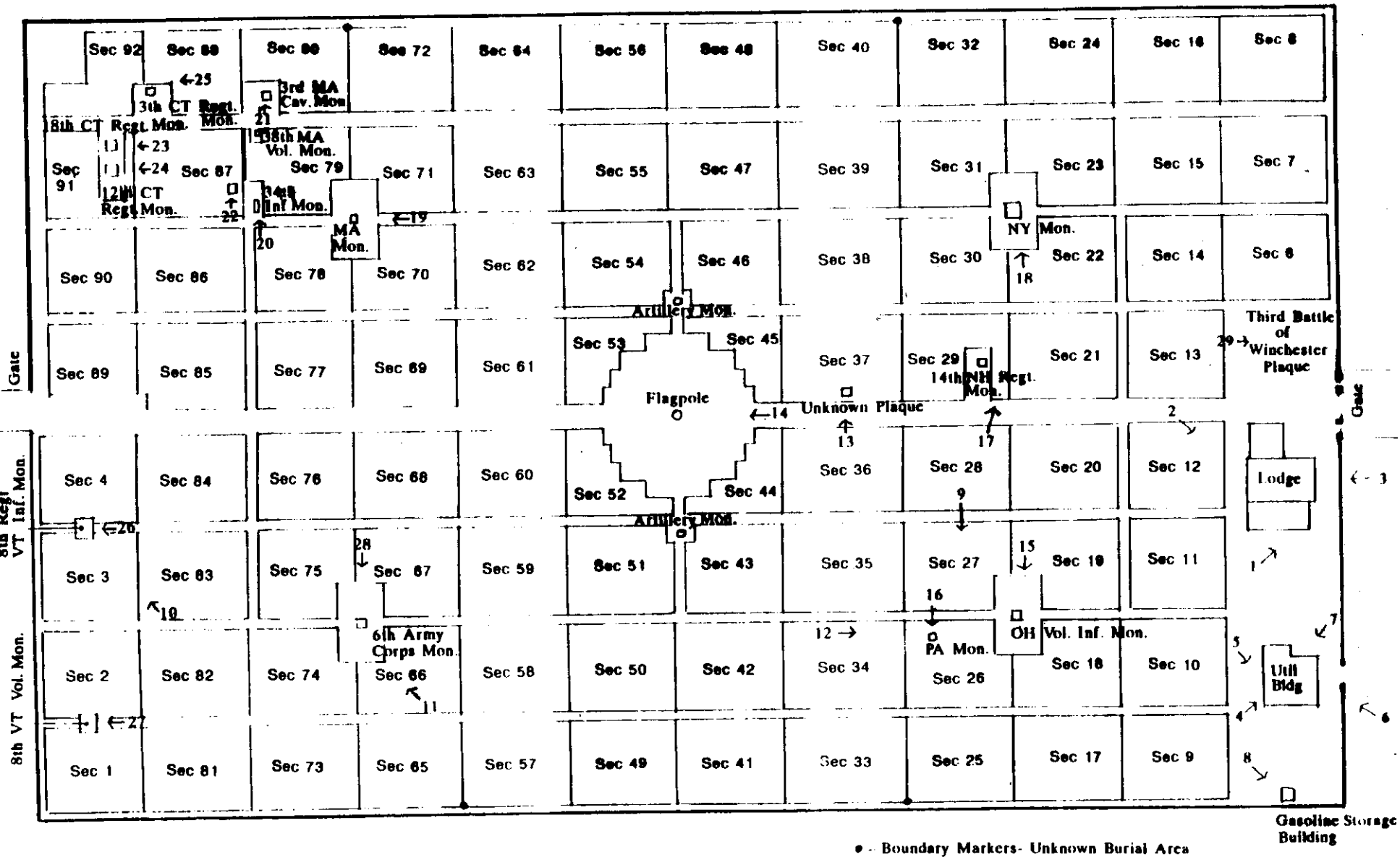
Eligible      **Applicable criteria:**       Not Eligible

**Comments:** 36 CFR Part 63.3  
Determination

Documentation insufficient  
(Please see accompanying sheet explaining additional materials required)

*for Susan Meringue*  
Keeper of the National Register  
Determined Eligible

Date: *June 23, 1981*

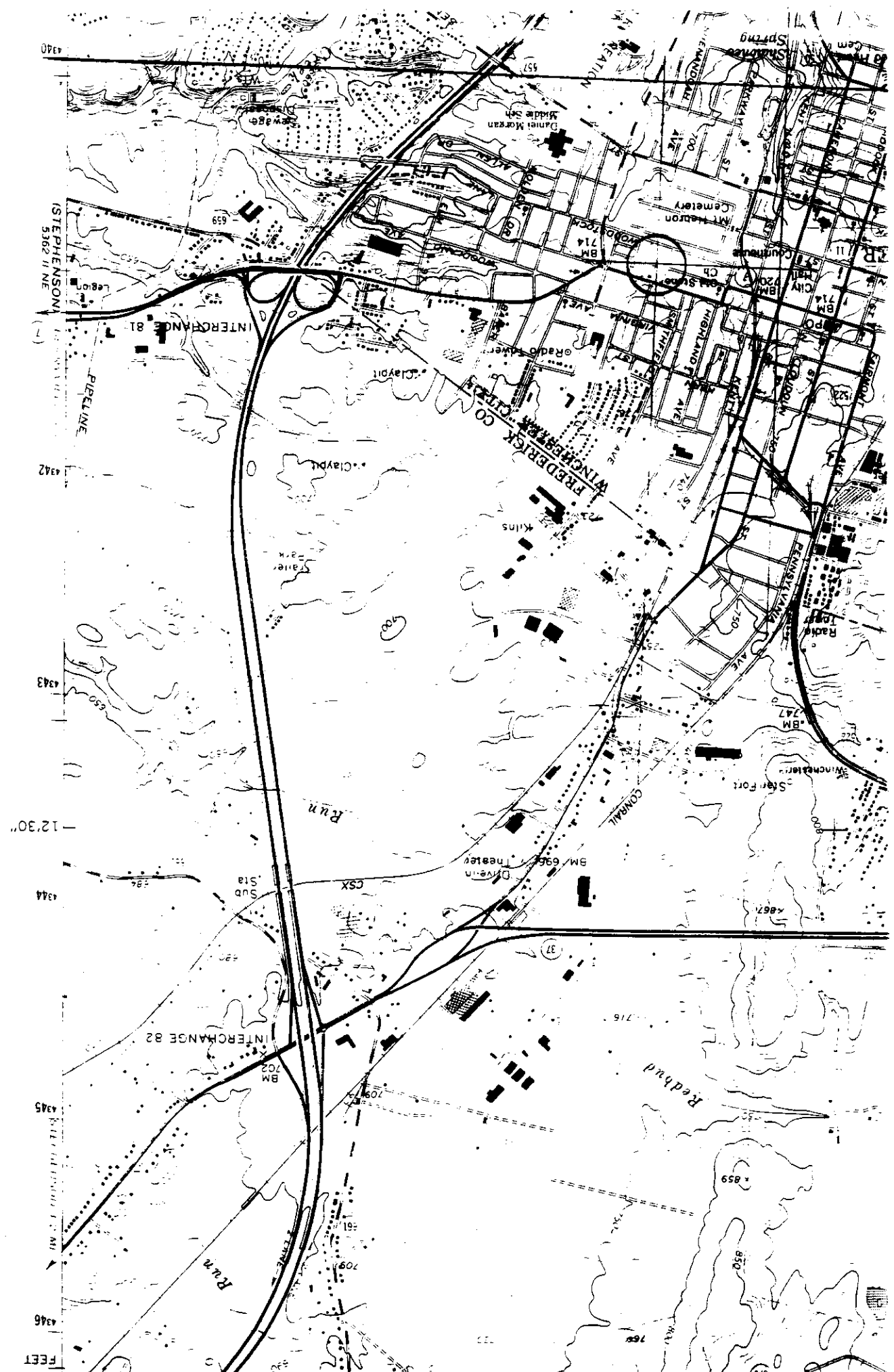


Sketch Map  
 Winchester National Cemetery  
 City of Winchester, Virginia



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





4340

STEPHENSON  
5362 ft NE

4342

4343

12'30"

4344

4345

4346

0 100 200  
FEET

