

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 Richmond National Cemetery

other names/site number Virginia Department of Historic Resources File No. 43-126

2. Location

street & number 1701 Williamsburg Road  not for publication N/A

city or town Richmond  vicinity

state Virginia code VA county Henrico code 087 zip code 23231

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 Dyeck June 21, 1995  
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 Shamit 8/25/95  
Signature of commenting or other official/Title Date

VA DEPT. OF HISTORIC RESOURCES  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is	Signature of Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:)		

Richmond National Cemetery  
Name of Property

Henrico County, Virginia  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
1	0	sites
3	0	structures
5	0	objects
12	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 Victorian: Second Empire

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone, concrete

walls Brick

roof Metal: tin; Asbestos

other Stone: Marble, granite, sandstone; Metal, iron

**Narrative Description**

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

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(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.)

**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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Military

**Period of Significance**

1866-1936

**Significant Dates**

1866

1870

1890

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Meigs, Montgomery C.

Richmond National Cemetery  
Name of Property

Henrico County, Virginia  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 9.7

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>18</u>	<u>288500</u>	<u>4154420</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 June 19, 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.

(8-86)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Richmond National Cemetery  
Henrico County, Virginia

Section number 7 Page 1

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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

The Richmond National Cemetery is located at 1701 Williamsburg Road in Henrico County, Virginia. The site is rectangular in shape and enclosed by a granite and sandstone wall, extending approximately 2,588 lineal feet, constructed circa 1890. The main entrance is located at the center of the north side and is protected by ornamental wrought-iron gates supported by ornamental cast-iron posts.

The cemetery was established on September 1, 1866. According to the "Report of the Inspector of the National Cemeteries of the United States for 1869," the cemetery layout was as follows: "From the entrance gate, an avenue 18 feet wide extends to the south fence, and a cross avenue east and west, 20 feet wide, divides the plot into four equal sections, and these again are subdivided by avenues crossing each other at right angles, 10 feet wide, into six sections each, making 24 in all, for burial purposes. In the center of the plot is a circle 50 feet in diameter, on which a flagpole has been erected." The west side of the main drive has been altered and the south perimeter has been expanded. There are now 29 burial sections.

The graves were originally marked by headboards, painted white, and properly lettered. The boards were later replaced with upright marble markers. As of January 31, 1995, there were 7,325 graves used for the interment of 9,147 casketed remains and 38 sites used for the interment of 52 cremated remains. Of the 9,199 total interments, 5,706 are unknown Civil War soldiers.

The cemetery was officially closed in August 1963; however, interments in occupied graves, as well as interments of cremated remains, continue. As of January 31, 1995, there were 150 gravesites available for the interment of casketed remains (all reserved), and there were 63 sites available for cremated remains.

The lodge was constructed in 1870 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 slate mansard and tin roof. The original slate shingles were removed and replaced during the 1970's with asbestos composition shingles. The main portion is one and one-half stories with dormer windows projecting from the mansard roof. The first floor contains an entry porch, living room, dining room, kitchen and office. The upper story contains two bedrooms and a bath. The lodge also contains a basement, which is divided into two rooms by a masonry wall. A single-story rear addition was constructed circa 1900. There is a total of 1,501 square feet of living space. The windows on the first story are one-over-one double-hung sash, while the upper-story windows are modern one-over-one sash replacements. The interior is finished with hardwood floors. The old porch was demolished in 1936 and a new larger porch constructed.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Richmond National Cemetery  
Henrico County, Virginia**

Section number 7 Page 2

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

A 16-foot octagonal iron gazebo, Chinese Chippendale in style, was constructed circa 1890 in the northeast segment of the cemetery at the intersection of Sections 13-A, 14-A, 21-A, and 22-A. It was built to be used as a rostrum. The gazebo was removed in 1952, leaving only a concrete base and floor.

The old tool house was demolished in 1934, and a new combination brick and concrete utility building with comfort station, 33 feet 4 inches, by 22 feet 3 inches, was constructed to the rear and south of the lodge. The roof shingles are an asbestos composition.

A brick and concrete gasoline storage building, 8 feet 5 inches by 8 feet, was constructed in 1936 between the utility building and the northwest perimeter wall. The roof shingles are an asbestos composition.

There are four monuments located in the area of the flagpole circle, each 7 feet 6 inches in height and made of an original cast-iron seacoast artillery tube, secured by a concrete base. The inscription on the cast-bronze plaque affixed to one of the monuments reads as follows:

United States  
National Military Cemetery  
Richmond  
Established September 1st, 1866  
Interments 6,529  
Known 838  
Unknown 5,691

Records regarding these monuments focus on size and the inscription on the bronze plaque affixed to the one 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, rostrum base

**Objects:** Flagpole, four artillery monuments

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Richmond National Cemetery  
Henrico County, Virginia

Section number 8 Page 3

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### NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Richmond 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 cemetery is located within the area of fortification lines established for the defense of the capital city of the Confederacy. The cemetery was established in 1866 and comprises 9.74 acres. Reinterments included 3,200 bodies, mostly unknown, removed from Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia; 210 (115 known) from the cemetery of the Belle Isle Confederate Prison in Richmond; 12 deceased prisoners of war from a trench at the Rocketts Landing; 388 (all known but 18) from Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond; and remains from the Cold Harbor and Seven Pines battlefields, as well as from locations in Chesterfield and Hanover Counties. Some seventy different locations within a maximum distance of 25 miles of the cemetery site were searched in order that Union dead might be accorded honored burial in a national cemetery.

One unknown Confederate soldier was reinterred in the cemetery on April 7, 1978. An employee of a local radio station was relic hunting near the banks of Beaverdam Creek in Hanover County and discovered the remains. There were several Minie balls, and the hunter had presumed that four had struck the soldier. There were buttons and a belt buckle among the items that had triggered the alarm on his metal detector. The remains were found under a foot of dirt roughly 80 feet from the creek. A knife, pewter bayonet scabbard, and canteen were also among items that led to verification by Mr. Les Jensen of the Museum of the Confederacy that the soldier was indeed a Confederate.

By deed dated July 29, 1867, the first tract of land, consisting of 3± acres, was purchased from Mr. William Slater for \$900. A parcel containing 5 acres was purchased for \$1,500 by deed dated July 10, 1868, from Mr. William L. Williams and Ms. Ann B. Brown. By deed dated June 23, 1906, a parcel consisting of 1.74 acres was purchased from Mr. George Geffert for \$1,392.

### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Cemetery System Microfilm Records

Department of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation Office

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

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Civil War Era National Cemeteries**

**Richmond National Cemetery  
Henrico County, Virginia**

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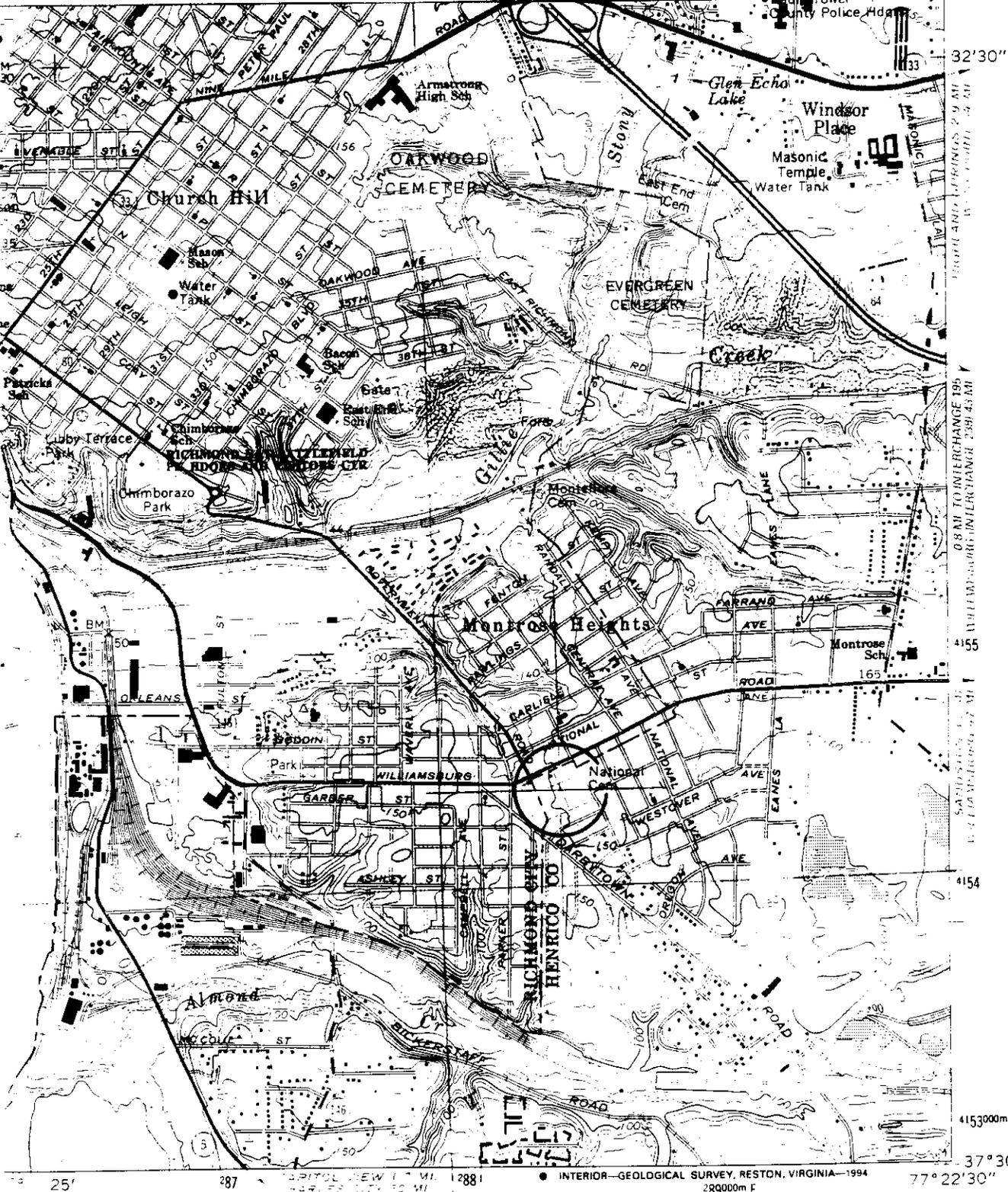
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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

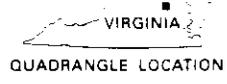
The Richmond National Cemetery is located at the intersection of Government Road and Route 60 (Williamsburg Road). It is 1/2 mile west of the intersection of Charles City Road with Route 60. It is located on the south side of Route 60. The boundary is defined by the stone wall which is 671 feet east to west on the south side of Route 60. At the northwest corner the west boundary is 634 feet; to the southwest corner, the south boundary is 672 feet; to the southeast boundary, the eastern boundary is 639 feet.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

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



ZONE 18  
 EASTING 288 500  
 NORTHING 4154 420



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
 Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty - - - - -  
 Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - - - -  
 Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

(DUTCH GAP)  
5558 TV NE

# RICHMOND (VA) NATIONAL CEMETERY

RICHMOND, VA.  
 37077-E4-TF-024

1964  
 REVISED 1994  
 DMA 5559 III SW - SERIES V834

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial photographs taken 1989 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1994  
 Information shown in purple may not meet USGS content standards and may conflict with previously mapped contours  
 Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas