

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 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.

REC-1045

OMB No. 10024-0018

JUL 28 1999

NATIONAL REGISTER, HISTORY & EDUCATION

1. Name of Property

historic name Springfield National Cemetery

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1702 East Seminole Street

☐ not for publication N/A

city or town Springfield

☐ vicinity

state Missouri

code MO

county Greene

code 077

zip code 65804

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 Korne-Tupak
Signature of certifying official/Title

Officer

7/22/99
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.)

Claire F. Blackwell
Signature of commenting or other official/Title

15 July 1999
Date

Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPO/Missouri Department of Natural 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:)

Edson H. Beall
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

8/27/99

Springfield National Cemetery
Name of Property

Greene County, Missouri
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	
1	1	buildings
1	0	sites
3	1	structures
8	3	objects
13	5	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)

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stone

roof Slate

other Marble

Narrative Description

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

Springfield National Cemetery
Name of Property

Greene County, Missouri
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.)

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)

Military

Period of Significance

1867-1940

Significant Dates

1867

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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

Springfield National Cemetery
Name of Property

Greene County, Missouri
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 18.1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	15	476690	4114030
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	15	476690	4113760

3	15	476490	4113760
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	15	476490	4113990

☒ 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 Administration

organization Department of Veterans Affairs

date April 15, 1999

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

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

MATERIALS:

Walls: Brick
Roof: Asphalt
Other: Iron, bronze, granite

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Springfield National Cemetery is located at 1702 East Seminole Street, Springfield, Missouri, in Greene County. The main entrance is situated along East Seminole Street and is protected by an iron gate supported by iron posts with a pedestrian gate on each side. The original cemetery, established in 1867, consisted of five acres of land and was enclosed by a wooden picket fence with an Osage orange hedge planted just inside the fence. In 1874, the wooden fence and hedge were replaced with a limestone wall covered with a coping of sandstone slabs. The cemetery has been expanded over the years and, in 1911, the adjacent 6.3-acre Confederate cemetery along its southern boundary was incorporated into the national cemetery (Sections 1N, 2N, 1S and 2S). Later expansions included 4.3 acres of land to the west of the original cemetery (Sections F, G, H, I, J, K, and L). The older portion of the cemetery is enclosed by a limestone wall constructed in 1874, as previously stated. The wall bordering the north and east boundaries in the newer burial area is made of concrete. Chain link fencing encloses the remainder of the newer burial area, as well as the southern side of Section 34. Openings in the wall are located at each end of the roadway between the original cemetery and the former Confederate cemetery. Both openings are enclosed by iron gates. There are also two openings between the former Confederate cemetery and Section 34, one of which is enclosed by an iron gate.

Approximately 280 feet to the south of the main entrance is a circle upon which stands the flagpole, and equally spaced around the circle are four artillery monuments. The lodge and service building are situated immediately to the west of the main entrance, and a rostrum sits approximately 250 feet to the south of the flagpole.

Graves were originally marked by headboards, which were later replaced with upright marble headstones. As of March 31, 1999, there were 10,273 sites used for the interment of 12,525 casketed remains and 776 sites used for the interment of 1,101 cremated remains. As of March 31, 1999, there were 99 gravesites available (97 reserved) for the interment of casketed remains and 1,978 sites available for the interment of cremated remains. The cemetery is expected to remain open until beyond the year 2030 for the interment of cremated remains only.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 Page 2

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

An inspector's report for 1871 stated that there was a lodge near the main entrance which was a small wooden cottage containing three rooms. Subsequently, a brick and stone lodge with a tin and slate roof was constructed. In 1930, a sleeping porch was added but was removed in 1934. This lodge was replaced in 1940 with a brick two-story structure, containing 6 rooms, 1 ½ baths, an office, and a basement. The roof is slate. The building was renovated in 1996 for sole use as an administrative office.

A brick and concrete service building with an asphalt shingle roof is located to the west of the lodge. The date of construction is unknown, but it was built before 1933, when records show that the building was enlarged to provide for a toolhouse, a double garage, and rest rooms. In 1939, the building was remodeled and the garage extended by 20 feet. In 1998, the building was renovated to include new overhead doors, replacement windows, the addition of a covered storage area, and installation of concrete paving where needed near the building.

A stone rostrum with iron railings is located in the Confederate Section of the cemetery. The date of construction is unknown. The rostrum is built on the line between the Confederate section and the main portion of the cemetery and is built with the north side facing the main portion of the cemetery and the south side facing the Confederate section and one speaker's lectern on each side for patriotic and commemorative observances held at the cemetery. On the South or Confederate side of the rostrum there are three bronze plaques inscribed as follows:

LEFT

CONFEDERATES
OF THE 501 ORIGINALLY BURIED HERE, 238
WERE KILLED IN THE BATTLE OF WILSON
CREEK AUGUST 10TH, 1861. MOST OF THE
REMAINING 263 DIED FROM WOUNDS RECEIVED
IN BATTLE OR FROM SICKNESS. SOME WERE
KILLED IN THE BATTLE OF SPRINGFIELD,
JANUARY 8TH, 1863.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 Page 3

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

CENTER

AMVETS
ON MAY 28, 1979
INSTALLED AND PRESENTED THIS
CARILLON
AS A GIFT TO THE PEOPLE
IN MEMORY OF
OUR HONORED DEAD
WHILE THESE BELLS
RING, SAFELY REST
FREEDOM LIVES

RIGHT

CONFEDERATE
CEMETERY
ESTABLISHED 1870
BY PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS
SUI RECENDI CAUSA DIMICAVERT

The exact number of Confederate dead interred in the Confederate section is not known. There are 463 Confederate graves; however, the plaque refers to the "501 originally buried here," and several have been interred since the alleged 501 burials. Indications are that one or more of the graves contains more than one body.

On the speaker's lectern on the north side of the rostrum a plaque is installed which was donated by the Vietnam Veterans of Southwest Missouri University, April 6, 1979, inscribed as follows:

IN MEMORY OF
THOSE WHO FOUGHT
AND THOSE WHO DIED
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
DURING THE
VIETNAM CONFLICT
DONATED BY S.M.S.U.
VETERANS CLUB
1979

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 Page 4

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

There are four large commemorative monuments within the Springfield National Cemetery:

UNION MEMORIAL (BAILEY MONUMENT) - This monument is 25 feet in height, surmounted by a statue of a life-size infantry soldier (6 feet). This monument was erected in accordance with the bequest of the late Dr. T. J. Bailey of Springfield, at a cost of \$5,000. The inscription reads as follows:

FRONT

IN HONOR TO
AND IN MEMORY OF
THE CITIZENS AND VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS
WHO WERE KILLED AND DIED OF
WOUNDS RECEIVED IN DEFENCE
OF SPRINGFIELD, MO.
AGAINST THE REBELS
JANUARY 8, 1863.

RIGHT

THIS MONUMENT WAS
ERECTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS
OF THE LAST WILL OF
DR. THOMAS J. BAILEY
TO SHOW HIS LOVE FOR THE
UNION AND ITS GALLANT
DEFENDERS.

LEFT

THEY SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES
THEY ARE OUR DEAD
WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS
WE WILL
REMEMBER THEM

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 Page 5

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

BACK

“THE UNION
THE CONSTITUTION AND THE
ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS”
A FAVORITE QUOTATION OF
DR. T. J. BAILEY
ERECTED UNDER DIRECTION OF
J.W.D.L.F. MACH. EXECUTOR

LYON MONUMENT - Approximately 12-14 feet tall with a knight's helmet, a battle axe and a wreath on top of a four-foot pillar. The date of erection is unknown. The inscription reads as follows:

FRONT

ERECTED BY
THE CITIZENS OF SPRINGFIELD
TO THE MEMORY OF GENERAL
NATH'L. LYON
WHO FELL AT THE BATTLE OF
WILSON CREEK
WHILE COMMANDING
THE UNION ARMY
AUG. 10, 1861

BACK

THOUGH HE DIED FOR HIS COUNTRY
YET HE LIVES IN THE HEARTS OF HIS
COUNTRYMEN
THOUGH HE FELL IN WAR
IN PEACE HE IS NOT FORGOTTEN
CHERISHING HIS VIRTUES
COMMENDING HIS PATRIOTISM
WE HONOR HIS MEMORY

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 Page 6

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

By General Orders No 111 dated December 30, 1861, General Lyon was posthumously given an award. It read as follows: "Thanks of United States Congress to General Lyon's command: Joint Resolution expressive of the recognition by Congress of the gallant and patriotic services of the late Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon, and the officers and soldiers under his command, at the battle of Springfield, Missouri." (General Lyon was in the United States Army of the West, Operations, August 5-9, 1861.)

PRICE MONUMENT – This monument, approximately 15 feet tall, is topped by a more-than-life-size bronze figure of a Confederate soldier approximately 10 feet tall. It was erected in 1901 to honor General Sterling Price. Chevalier Trentanove of Italy was the sculptor. On the front of the monument, below the soldier is a bronze bas-relief portrait, allegedly of General Price, Missouri's soldier in the Army of the Confederate States of America. On each side of the monument are bronze replicas of the Confederate battle flag. The inscription reads as follows:

NORTH SIDE

TO THE MEMORY OF THE MISSOURI SOLDIER IN THE ARMY
OF THE
CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA
MAJOR GENERAL STERLING PRICE.

EAST SIDE

THOSE WHO DIED FOR A RIGHT PRINCIPLE DO NOT DIE IN VAIN

WEST SIDE

THEY FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHT OF SELF GOVERNMENT

SOUTH SIDE

ERECTED AD 1901 BY
THE UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS OF MISSOURI
AND
THE DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY OF MISSOURI

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 Page 7

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION MONUMENT – This granite monument located to the east of the Confederate section, was dedicated on August 8, 1992. The inscription reads as follows:

IN MEMORY OF MEMBERS OF
THE U. S. MILITARY FORCES
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
DURING THE JAPANESE ATTACK
ON PEARL HARBOR AND OTHER
MILITARY INSTALLATIONS ON
DEC. 7, 1941
A DATE THAT WILL LIVE
IN INFAMY
“REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR”
“KEEPING AMERICA ALERT”
DEDICATED BY
MISSOURI OZARK CHAPTER 6
PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS
ASSOCIATION
AUG. 8, 1992

At the bottom of the memorial are inscribed seals of the four branches of military service (U. S. Navy, U. S. Marines, U. S. Army, and U. S. Coast Guard.

There is a small granite block placed at a point where it was thought that 750 to 800 unknown Confederate were interred. The block is inscribed as follows:

IN MEMORY OF THE GALLANT CONFEDERATE
DEAD WHO FELL AT WILSON'S CREEK ON
AUGUST 10, 1861, AND WHOSE PLACE OF
BURIAL IS NOT KNOWN THIS MARKER WAS
ERECTED BY THE UNITED DAUGHTERS OF
THE CONFEDERACY ON SEPT. 27, 1958.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 Page 8

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

In 1957, an excavation to a depth of seven feet had been made in an attempt to locate evidence of human remains in that spot, but none was found. Because of the earlier belief, however, that site was chosen for the monument. This concrete slab, located in the Confederate section along the south side of Third Drive South and directly south of the Price monument, consists of one slab 6 feet by 16 feet in the Confederate section (marked off in four sections.) An annual general inspection report dated January 8, 1953, recommended that an appropriate inscription be entered on the slab to indicate the common grave site (a fact that cannot be confirmed). Then Superintendent Harold Montague contacted the members of the Board of Directors of the Confederate Cemetery Association of Missouri who donated the Confederate cemetery to the U. S. Government. No member could furnish any information to identify the purpose for which the slab was erected. Action initiated in 1953 to determine burials, if any, was dropped due to violation of sentiments of the patriotic organizations concerned, and the project was abandoned.

Just north of the rostrum, the Lakes Counties 4H Clubs of America buried a time capsule during the Bicentennial Celebration on July 4, 1976, which is marked by a small granite slab inscribed as follows:

LAKES COUNTRY
4 H CLUBS

SALUTE TO
AMERICA

JULY 4, 1976

BENEATH THIS MARKER IS OUR GIFT TO THE 4 H
MEMBERS OF 2076 A.D. A TIME CAPSULE TO BE
OPENED ON OUR NATION'S 300TH BIRTHDAY

CAPSULE HARRIS FUNERAL HOME OZARK, MO.
MARKER HOLT MONUMENT CO. BUFFALO, MO.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 Page 9

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

There are four monuments, equally spaced around the flagpole circle, each made of an original cast iron seacoast artillery tube and secured by a concrete base. A bronze plaque affixed to one of the monuments is inscribed as follows:

UNITED STATES
NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY
SPRINGFIELD
ESTABLISHED 1867
INTERMENTS 1521
KNOWN 832
UNKNOWN 889

Two additional artillery monuments (Model 1819 seacoast guns), located just inside the main entrance, were transferred to the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield on April 14, 1986. A description of each reads as follows:

"Gun No. 946 was cast at the West Point Foundry, near West Point, New York. The barrel weighs 5,535 pounds and has the inspector's initials "I.B." on the muzzle face. On trunnion are the initials "WPF" meaning West Point Foundry. The left trunnion "WPF" is stamped upside down. Gun No. 250 was cast at West Point Foundry in the year 1829. The barrel weighs 5,507 pounds and has the inspector's initials "I.B." on the muzzle face. The year 1829 is stamped on the left trunnion and the initials "WPF" are on the right trunnion."

In August 1997, these two artillery monuments were transferred from the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield to the Fort Davidson State Historic Site near the village of Pilot Knob, Missouri.

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

Buildings: Lodge

Sites: Cemetery

Structures: Main entrance gate, rostrum, perimeter wall enclosing older portion of cemetery

Objects: Union Memorial (Bailey) monument, Lyon monument, Price monument, United Daughters of the Confederacy marker, artillery monuments (4)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 7 & 8 Page 10

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

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

Buildings: Service building

Structures: Committal service shelter

Objects: Flagpole, Pearl Harbor Survivors Association monument, Time capsule marker

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Springfield 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 cemetery is also significant beyond the Civil War era, as it includes the remains of veterans associated with many wars and all branches of service who had served their country throughout its history. The cemetery also meets Criteria Consideration D, because it has been designated as a primary memorial to the military history of the United States.

The period of significance ends in 1940, the year that the lodge was constructed.

On August 10, 1861, the second major battle of the Civil War was fought, the first in the western theater, in the rolling hills and brush-choked gullies around Wilson's Creek, some ten miles south of Springfield. Headstrong but capable, Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon, one of the most promising young Union officers, began the attack by dividing his inferior force, sending Franz Sigel to make a rear attack on the opposing force. Sigel, 37, a native German and a graduate of Karlsruhe Military Academy, had been commissioned a Brigadier General only three days before the battle and was not familiar with American military practices. Independent command was not one of his strong points. Sigel's attack came to nothing. His troops were routed and he was out of the battle without having contributed much except confusion. Lyon drove the Confederates, under Generals Sterling Price and Ben McCulloch back at first but they rallied and with their superior numbers, eventually won the day. The Federal retreat was greatly hampered by the great mounds of the dead, making escape difficult. Many more lost their lives or were wounded. It was during one of the charges when Lyon was rallying his men that he became the victim of death's bullet. With Lyon dead, the Federals withdrew and the Confederates were too worn out to follow. The Federals left 1,317 of their force dead along Bloody Ridge, nearly 25 percent of their original force and withdrew all the way to Rolla, southwest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 8 Page 11

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

of St. Louis, conceding a large part of the state to the secessionist forces. A Confederate victory was claimed, and morale soared in the South. No other battle in the state would be as heavy during the war.

On January 8, 1863, a battle was fought at Springfield, Missouri. In late December of 1862, Confederate Colonel Joseph O. Shelby's brigade was on the march for foray on the border's side. By January 8, Springfield was before them in the distance like a beautiful panorama. With flaunting banners and all the pomp and circumstance of war, the Federals had marched gaily out to meet them and had taken their position. The First and Third Regiments were formed as infantry and Major B. Elliott's scouts and First Lieutenant Gregg's company were held in reserve. Shelby rapidly moved his brigade to the open plain south and southeast of the town. Elliott and Gregg were on the right flank, watching and skirmishing with the enemy there, and over the level earth squadrons of horse swept. Colonel MacDonald's regiment could plainly be seen winding over the crest of the hill and moving rapidly to the attack. MacDonald had met the enemy and was driving them, but they soon re-enforced and would in turn compel him to retreat. Shelby saw the crisis and ordered Lieutenant Colonel Gordon and Colonel Gilkey to charge with their regiments to support MacDonald. At the command, a thousand warriors sprang to their feet and, with one wild Missouri yell, burst upon the foe. The storm increased and the combatants got closer and closer. The battle thickens. Colonel G. W. Thompson was now ordered up and advanced with spirit and alacrity. The battery commanded by Lieutenant Richard A. Collins was advanced. The Federals re-enforced largely and came back with cavalry and artillery, and a hot, desperate conflict ensued. The fighting lasted thirteen hours. The amassed forces were large. Federal forces numbered 2,099, and Confederate estimates were about 3,000 to 4,000. The battle at Springfield was soundly claimed as a victory by both armies. The Federals remained in control of the field but not without serious losses. The Confederate command, after forced marches of over 200 miles, was tired and cold. Both sides mourned many casualties.

The national cemetery was established in 1867, and initially contained 5 acres of land. City authorities had purchased a tract of 80 acres of land on the prairie for a cemetery and gave the privilege to the general government to select in it a plat for a national cemetery at the cost of \$37.50 per acre. Mr. William Goodyer, the government agent, selected a plat of 5 acres on the highest ground of the prairie. Alexander McAlpine, a discharged quartermaster sergeant of Company B, Forty-fifth Regiment of Infantry, was apparently the first superintendent. His appointment was dated August 6, 1867.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 8 Page 12

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Bodies were removed from several places in the following counties: Greene, Barton, Christian, Dade, McDonald, Webster, Stone, Dallas, Barry, Laclede, Lawrence, Douglas, Newton, Wright, Jasper, Taney, and Polk.

During subsequent years, strips of land for roadways were acquired from several different property owners, bringing the total acreage to 6.9 acres. By deed dated September 27, 1897, E. E. Colby, Special Commissioner, conveyed a parcel containing 0.3 acre for the extension of Phelps Boulevard. Another 0.3-acre parcel was acquired in 1922 for a roadway. By deed dated June 28, 1911, the Confederate Cemetery Association of Missouri deeded to the United States the 6.3-acre Confederate Cemetery for incorporation into the national cemetery.

Subsequent land acquisitions included a donation in 1981 by the City of Springfield of a 3.3-acre parcel of land located at the Hazelwood Cemetery, and a purchase of 1 acre of land in 1991 from the United Hebrew Corporation. The total acreage of the national cemetery is 18.1 acres.

The Confederate cemetery had been established in 1871 by the Confederate Cemetery Association for the interment of Confederate soldiers and contained 6.3 acres, of which 2.7 acres were enclosed by a wall. This cemetery adjoined the national cemetery. By an Act of Congress approved March 3, 1911, the Secretary of War was authorized to accept the Confederate Cemetery, comprising 6.3 acres, as part of the Springfield National Cemetery. The Act also provided that a suitable gate or entry way be made in the stone wall that divided the two cemeteries, so that persons may readily pass from one to the other. The deed contained a restriction that the cemetery would never be used for any other purpose than as a cemetery for the graves of men who were in the military or naval service of the Confederate States of America.

When the Army wished to expand the Springfield National Cemetery because gravesites in the national cemetery would soon become exhausted, the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) organization was contacted relative to the use of the vacant land lying outside of the wall of the Confederate section, adjoining the national cemetery (3.6 acres). Correspondence between the Department of the Army and the Missouri Division of the UDC resulted in an agreement by the UDC that they had no objection to the unrestricted use of the land outside the enclosure wall surrounding the Confederate cemetery. Subsequently, the organization was requested to execute a "Special Release" deed to the 3.6 acres, whereby all restrictions would be removed. A Judge Advocate General's opinion was rendered on December 26, 1947, to the effect that the UDC was not empowered to execute the necessary release. Since the land in question was accepted pursuant to specific authorization of Congress, it would be necessary to obtain Congressional action to authorize

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 8 Page 13

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

the Secretary of the Army, upon release of the restrictions, to administer the involved portion as a national cemetery. By deed dated September 13, 1948, the Confederate Cemetery Association removed all the restrictions written into the deed of June 28, 1911, relative to the land outside the enclosure wall and expressly retained the restrictions on the 2.7 acres containing the Confederate burials. Public Law 85-41, approved May 31, 1957, amended the Act of March 3, 1911, so as to permit the use of the portion of the Confederate Cemetery lying outside the walled enclosure as part of the national cemetery.

There still remained many unoccupied gravesites in the area restricted for Confederate burials, none of which could ever be used because of the passage of time. In 1981, an agreement was made between the Confederate Cemetery Association of Missouri and the then Veterans Administration that all restrictions would be removed and that burials of all veterans could also be made in the area within the enclosure wall. In 1984, the old Confederate cemetery was reopened for burials. On the south side of General Sterling Price's monument is a plaque which reads as follows:

AUGUST 10, 1984
THIS TABLET IS DEDICATED BY THE
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION IN GRATEFUL
APPRECIATION TO THE UNITED
DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY
MISSOURI DIVISION, FOR ACTIONS TAKEN
TO REMOVE DEED RESTRICTIONS ON 485
UNOCCUPIED CONFEDERATE SITES
IN SPRINGFIELD NATIONAL CEMETERY
GRAVESITES FOR USE BY ALL VETERANS
AND THEIR DEPENDENTS SERVES AS A
SYMBOL OF REUNIFICATION OF PURPOSE
FOR MEMORIALIZING THOSE WHO HAVE
HONORABLY SERVED THIS GREAT NATION
WITHOUT REGARD TO PAST DIFFERENCES
IN CONFEDERATE AND UNION ALIKE
DEDICATED ON THIS ANNIVERSARY OF
THE BATTLE OF WILSON'S CREEK
AUG. 10, 1861

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 8 Page 14

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Five Buffalo soldiers are interred in Section 29. These soldiers played a key role in the development of the West. In 1866, shortly after the Civil War, four new U. S. Army regiments began a lonesome duty in some of the harshest Western territory this country had to offer. These units of black soldiers were designated as the 24th and 25th Infantry and the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry. Their orders were to protect settlers moving West and fledgling railroad construction, to suppress hostile Indian attacks and to guard the U. S. mail. After dozens of clashes with Indian warriors, the men became known as "Buffalo Soldiers," a name they wore like a badge of honor. They helped to maintain law and order and to pursue outlaws, cattle thieves, and even Mexican revolutionaries. They built or renovated dozens of Army posts and camps, strung thousands of miles of telegraph lines and mapped uncharted wilderness.

There are five Medal of Honor recipients buried in the national cemetery. Their graves are marked with headstones inscribed with an enlarged gold-leafed replica of the medal of the awarding service and the words "MEDAL OF HONOR."

Harrison Collins - Corporal, U. S. Army , Company A, 1st Tennessee Cavalry— He was awarded the Medal for the capture of the flag of Chalmer's Division (C.S.A.), at Richland Creek, Tennessee, on December 24, 1864. He died on December 25, 1890, and is buried in Section 26, Grave 1357-B.

Orion P. Howe - Musician, Company C, 55th Illinois Infantry - At Vicksburg, Mississippi, on May 19, 1863, he was a drummer boy, 14 years of age, and was severely wounded and exposed to heavy fire from the enemy. He persistently remained upon the field of battle until he had reported to General W. T. Sherman the necessity of supplying cartridges for the use of troops under command of Colonel Malmborg. He is buried in Section 4, Grave 207-A.

Fred Henry McGuire - Hospital Apprentice, U. S. Navy - While attached to the USS Pampang, McGuire was one of a shore party moving in to capture Mundang, on the island of Basilan, Philippine Islands, on the morning of September 24, 1911. Ordered to take station within 100 yards of a group of nipa huts close to the trail, McGuire advanced and stood guard as the leader and his scout party first searched the surrounding deep grasses, then moved in the open area before the huts. Instantly enemy Moros opened point-blank fire on the exposed men and approximately 20 Moros charged the small group from inside the huts and from other concealed positions. McGuire, responding to the calls for help, was one of the first on the scene. After emptying the rifles into the attackers, he closed in with rifle, using it as a club to wage fierce battle until his comrades arrived on the field, when he rallied to

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 8 Page 15

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

the aid of his dying leader and other wounded. Although himself wounded, McGuire ministered tirelessly and efficiently to those who had been struck down, thereby saving the lives of two who might otherwise have succumbed to heavy enemy-inflicted wounds. He is buried in Section 29, Grave 332.

Patrick H. Pentzer - Captain, Company C, 97th Illinois Infantry - At Blakely, Alabama, on April 9, 1865, he was among the first to enter the enemy's entrenchments and received the surrender of a Confederate general officer and his headquarters flag. He is buried in Section 24, Grave 1696.

Jack Williams - Pharmacist's Mate Third Class - U. S. Naval Reserve - He was awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with the 3d Battalion, 28th Marines, 5th Marine Division, during the occupation of Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, on March 3, 1945. Gallantly going forward on the front lines under intense enemy small-arms fire to assist a Marine wounded in a fierce grenade battle, Williams dragged the man to a shallow depression and was kneeling, using his own body as a screen from the sustained fire as he administered first aid, when struck in the abdomen and groin three times by hostile fire. Momentarily stunned, he quickly recovered and completed his ministrations before applying battle dressings to his own multiple wounds. Unmindful of his own urgent need for medical attention, he remained in the perilous fire-swept area to care for another Marine casualty. Heroically completing his task despite pain and profuse bleeding, he then endeavored to make his way to the rear in search of adequate aid for himself when struck down by a Japanese sniper bullet which caused his collapse. Succumbing later as a result of his self-sacrificing service to others, Williams, by his courageous determination, unwavering fortitude and valiant performance of duty, served as an inspiring example of heroism, in keeping with the highest traditions of the U. S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country. Williams is buried in Section 30, Grave 2375.

The Springfield National Cemetery meets the registration requirements of the related multiple property nomination titled "Civil War Era National Cemeteries." The cemetery possesses physical characteristics, such as the lodge, perimeter wall, decorative entrance gates, and headstones, and generally maintains integrity of the original fabric. Although the cemetery has been expanded, the original burial area of Civil War dead remains intact. The cemetery was established in 1867, which is within the period of the establishment of all the Civil War Era national cemeteries in the multiple property nomination (1861-1881).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number 9 & 10 Page 16

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Cemetery System Microfilm Records

Department of Veterans Affairs Historic Preservation Office

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

Report of the Inspector of the National Cemeteries for the years 1870 and 1871

Holt Dean W. American Military Cemeteries. North Carolina. McFarland and Company, Inc., 1992.

Denney, Robert E. The Civil War Years. Sterling Publishing Company, Inc., New York, NY, 1994.

Bartels, Carolyn M. The Civil War in Missouri Day by Day 1861-1865. Two Trails Bookshop & Publishing, Shawnee Mission, Kansas, 1992.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - UTM REFERENCES (Continued)

POINT	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
5	15	476420	4113990
6	15	476420	4113920
7	15	476340	4113920
8	15	476340	4113840
9	15	476290	4113840
10	15	476290	4113950
11	15	476340	4113950
12	15	476340	4114040

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries are indicated on the accompanying base map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

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

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number PHOTO Page 17

SPRINGFIELD NATIONAL CEMETERY

Greene County, Missouri

Armando A. Sammartino, photographer

Date of Photographs: November 17, 1998

All negatives are stored with Technical Support Service (401B), National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20420

VIEW OF: Main entrance gate, view looking south

NEG. NO. 6772-18

PHOTO 1 of 30

VIEW OF: Limestone wall, east side

NEG. NO. 6771-5

PHOTO 7 of 30

VIEW OF: Gate along Glenstone Street

NEG. NO. 6771-17

PHOTO 2 of 30

VIEW OF: Concrete wall along northwest side

NEG. NO. 6771-21

PHOTO 8 of 30

VIEW OF: Opening in wall, south side

NEG. NO. 6771-14

PHOTO 3 of 30

VIEW OF: Lodge, east elevation

NEG. NO. 6771-10

PHOTO 9 of 30

VIEW OF: Gate along Hazelwood Drive

NEG. NO. 6771-7

PHOTO 4 of 30

VIEW OF: Lodge, south elevation

NEG. NO. 6771-9

PHOTO 10 of 30

VIEW OF: Flagpole, view looking south

NEG. NO. 6772-19

PHOTO 5 of 30

VIEW OF: Lodge, west elevation

NEG. NO. 6771-12

PHOTO 11 of 30

VIEW OF: Limestone wall, west side

NEG. NO. 6771-8

PHOTO 6 of 30

VIEW OF: Lodge, north elevation

NEG. NO. 6771-11

PHOTO 12 of 30

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

**Springfield National Cemetery
Greene County, Missouri**

Section number PHOTO Page 18

VIEW OF: Service building, east elevation
NEG. NO. 6771-13
PHOTO 13 of 30

VIEW OF: Artillery monument
NEG. NO. 6772-22
PHOTO 22 of 30

VIEW OF: Service building, south and west
elevations
NEG. NO. 6771-25A
PHOTO 14 of 30

VIEW OF: Stone honoring Confederate dead

NEG. NO. 6771-16
PHOTO 23 of 30

VIEW OF: Rostrum, north elevation
NEG. NO. 6771-3
PHOTO 15 of 30

VIEW OF: Vietnam plaque on rostrum
NEG. NO. 6771-0A
PHOTO 24 of 30

VIEW OF: Rostrum, east elevation
NEG. NO. 6771-2
PHOTO 16 of 30

VIEW OF: Time capsule marker
NEG. NO. 6772-25
PHOTO 25 of 30

VIEW OF: Committal service tent

NEG. NO. 6771-6
PHOTO 17 of 30

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northwest
showing artillery monuments
NEG. NO. 6772-23
PHOTO 26 of 30

VIEW OF: Price monument
NEG. NO. 6771-4
PHOTO 18 of 30

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northwest
NEG. NO. 6771-20
PHOTO 27 of 30

VIEW OF: Bailey monument
NEG. NO. 6772-20
PHOTO 19 of 30

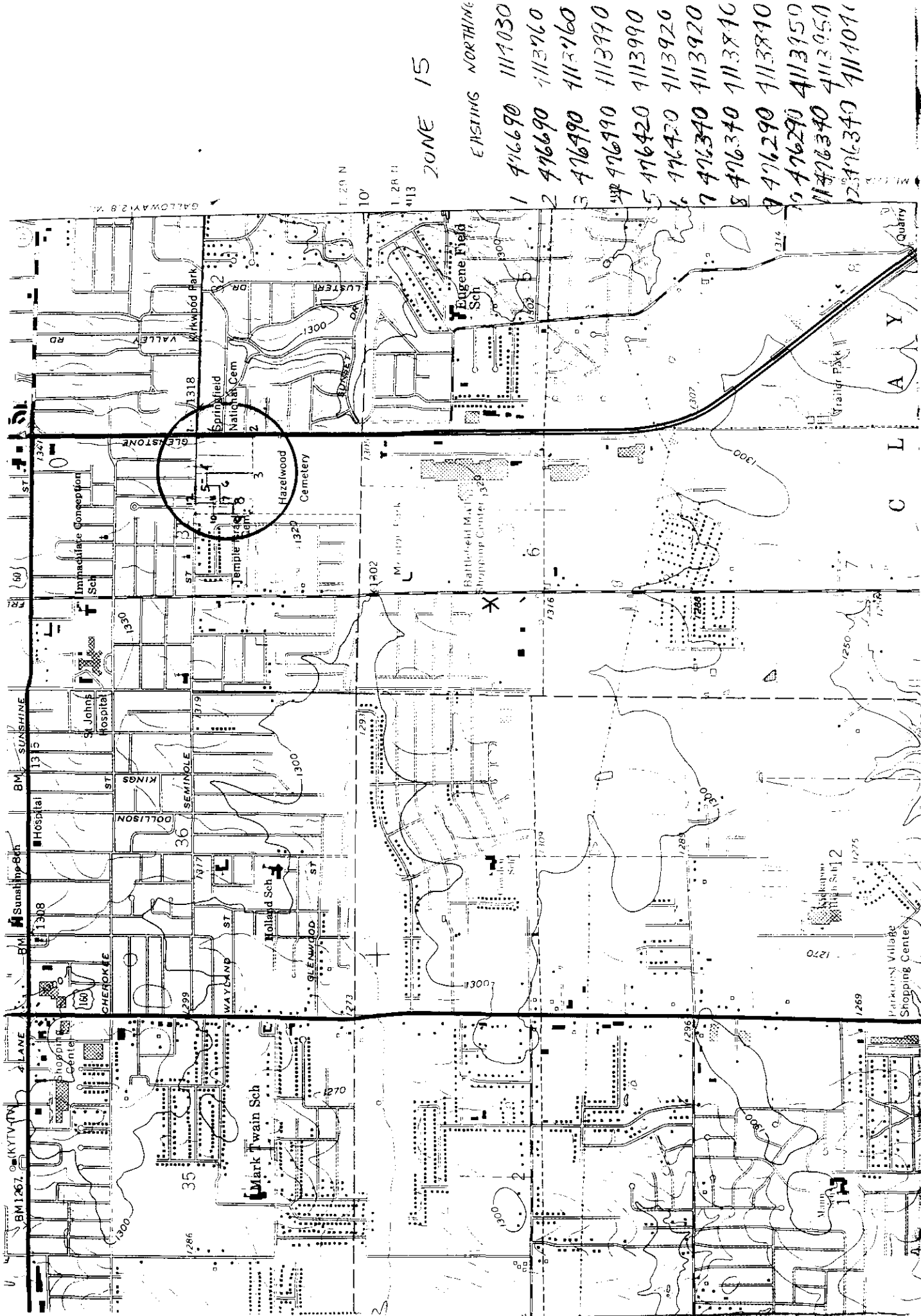
VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northwest
NEG. NO. 6771-18
PHOTO 28 of 30

VIEW OF: Lyon monument
NEG. NO. 6772-21
PHOTO 20 of 30

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking southwest
NEG. NO. 6771-19
PHOTO 29 of 30

VIEW OF: Pearl Harbor monument
NEG. NO. 6771-1
PHOTO 21 of 30

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking southeast
NEG. NO. 6771-15
PHOTO 30 of 30

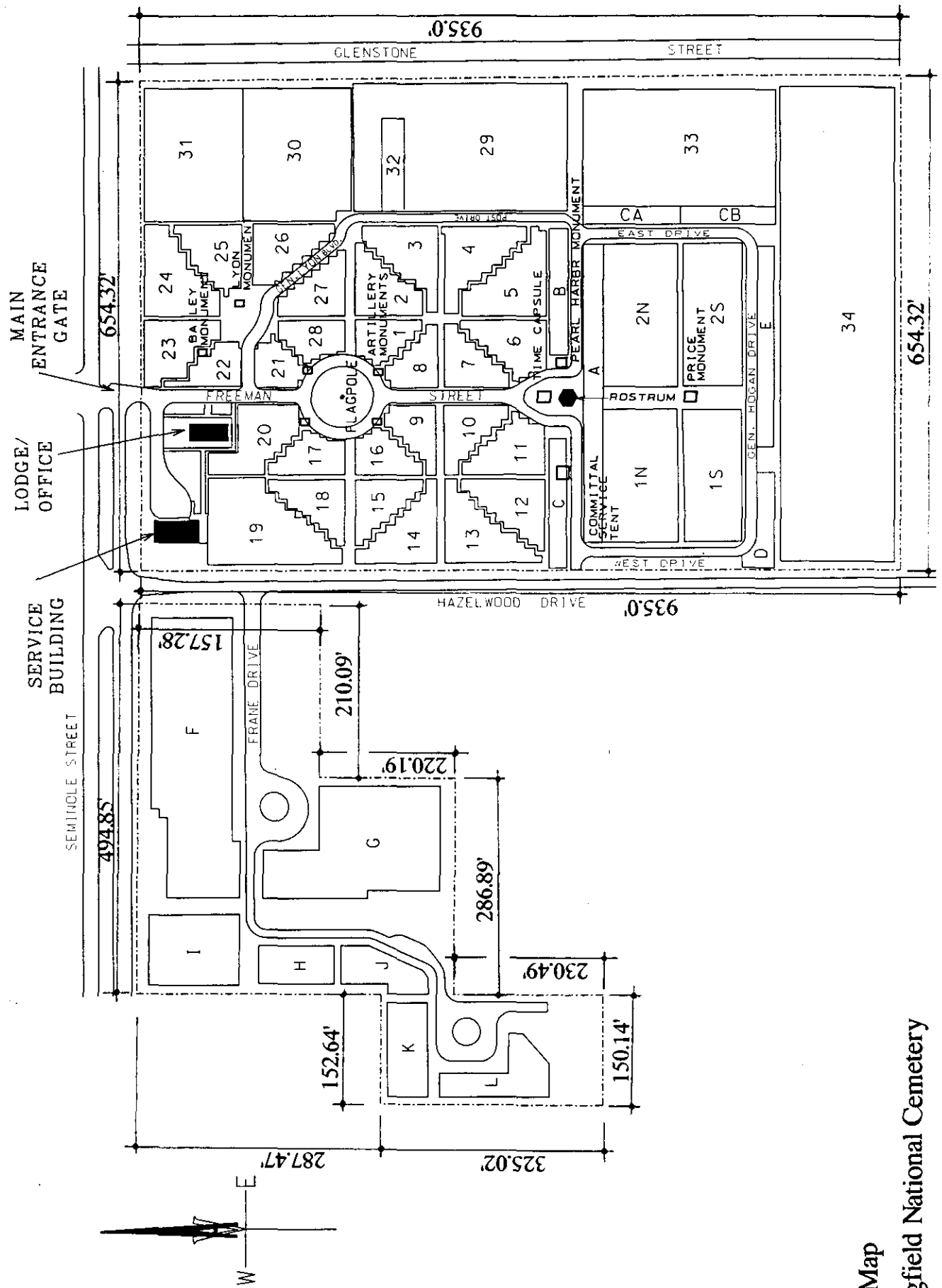


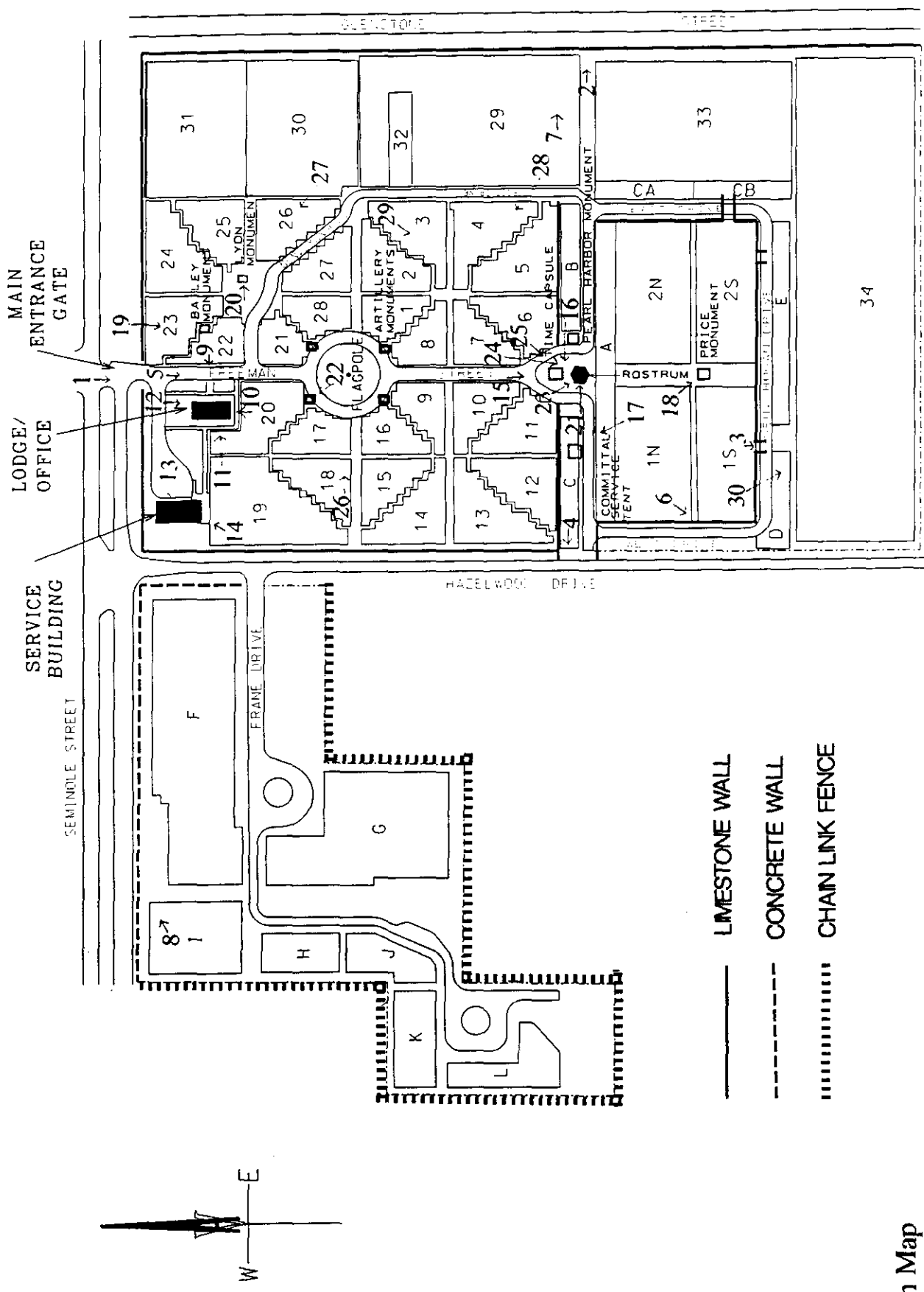
ZONE 15

ENSING NORTHING

1	416690	1114030
2	416690	1113960
3	416490	1113760
4	416490	1113990
5	416420	1113990
6	416420	1113920
7	416340	1113920
8	416340	1113840
9	416290	1113840
10	416290	1113950
11	416340	1113950
12	416340	1114010

M. 11.2





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

Sketch Map
Springfield National Cemetery
Green County, Missouri

E.O. 11593

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY NOTIFICATION

National Register of Historic Places

Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

Name of property: Springfield National Cemetery

Location: Springfield, Green County

State: MO

Request submitted by: VA/Gjore J. Mollenhoff

Date received: 2/12/80

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:** A

☐ **Not Eligible**

Comments: 36 CFR Part 63.3
Determination

☐ **Documentation insufficient**

(Please see accompanying sheet explaining additional materials required)

for W. Ray Luce
Keeper of the National Register

Date: 2/28/80









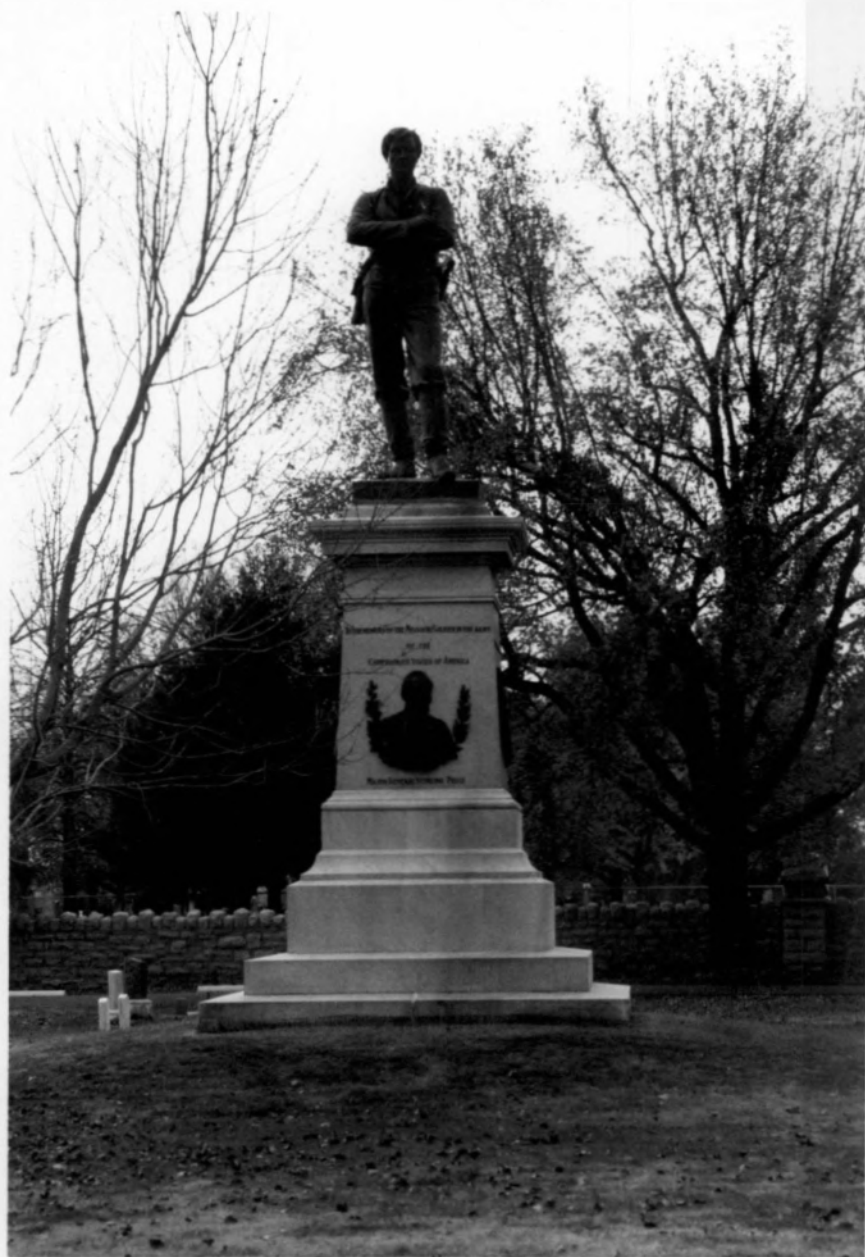























IN MEMORY OF THE GALLANT CONFEDERATE
DEAD WHO FELL AT WILSON'S CREEK ON
AUGUST 10, 1861 AND WHOSE PLACE OF
BURIAL IS NOT KNOWN THIS MARKER WAS
ERECTED BY THE UNITED DAUGHTERS OF
THE CONFEDERACY ON SEPT. 27, 1958.



IN MEMORY OF
THOSE WHO FOUGHT
AND THOSE WHO DIED
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
DURING THE
VIETNAM CONFLICT

DONATED BY S.M.S.U.
VETERANS CLUB

1979





