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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OMB No. 10024-0018

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   Corinth National Cemetery

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number   1551 Horton Street   ☐ not for publication   N/A

city or town   Corinth   vicinity   N/A

state   Mississippi   code   MS   county   Alcorn   code   003   zip code   38834

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 Ronne Tupek   6/25/96
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.)

T. Lynn B. McLeod   24 Sept 1996
Signature of commenting or other official/Title   Date

State Historic Preservation Officer
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

[signature]

Date of Action

11/20/96

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
5	0	structures
1	0	objects
8	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

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)
Dutch Colonial

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick, Concrete

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Brick; Metal: Iron; Stone: Granite

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.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Period of Significance

1866-1934

Significant Dates

1866

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder
.N/A

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
#_____

Primary location of additional data:
☐   State Historic Preservation Office
☐   Other State agency
☒   Federal agency
☐   Local government
☐   University
☐   Other
Name of repository
Department of Veterans Affairs

10.   Geographical Data

Acreage of Property   20.0

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

1	16	362220	3865860	3	16	361930	3865600
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	362210	3865580	4	16	361940	3865870

☐   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 7, 1996

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

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(8-86)

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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

Section number ___7___ Page ___1___

Corinth National Cemetery
Alcorn County, Mississippi

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Corinth National Cemetery is located at 1551 Horton Street, approximately 3/4 mile southeast of the court house within the city limits of Corinth, Mississippi, in Alcorn County. The site is nearly square in shape and was originally enclosed by a wooden picket fence which was replaced in 1872 with a brick wall, four feet in height with concrete coping. The main entrance is situated at the center of the north side and is protected by a double ornamental wrought-iron gate supported by granite piers with a pedestrian gate on each side. There are three other entrances to the cemetery. On the south side, there are two entrances, one for pedestrians and one for carriages, both protected by wrought-iron gates; on the north side is an entrance, also protected by a wrought-iron gate, with a pedestrian gate on one side. From the main entrance, a road leads north to a circle, where the flagpole is located. The lodge is located northeast of the main entrance, and the utility building is situated in the southeast corner of the cemetery.

The cemetery was established in 1866. The first superintendent was Mr. Joseph Berrigan, a discharged private of Company B, 43rd Regiment of Infantry, who was appointed on November 26, 1867. Graves were originally marked with stakes, properly numbered, that were later replaced with upright marble headstones.

As of May 31, 1996, there were 6,615 graves used for the interment of 6,714 casketed remains and 7 sites used for the interment of 10 cremated remains. Interments of casketed remains in occupied graves and reserved graves, as well as interments of cremated remains, continue. As May 31, 1996, there were 6,842 gravesites available for the interment of casketed remains, plus 13 reserved gravesites, and 38 sites available for the interment of cremated remains. It is estimated that the cemetery will have gravesites available until beyond the year 2030.

The original superintendent's lodge, constructed some time prior to 1869, was a wooden cottage containing six rooms with a small cellar under the kitchen and was located east of the south entrance. By 1872, it had been replaced with one of brick, one and one-half stories high, with a French roof. In 1934, a new lodge was constructed. The first story is brick and the dormered second story frame and stucco, with a concrete foundation and an asphalt shingle gambrel roof. The second story has stucco gables with exposed wood loosely imitating half-timber English tudor. The lodge contains six rooms, an office, a basement, and a front porch which was enclosed in 1952. No director has resided in the lodge since January 1991, and the building is now used as an administrative office.

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Continuation Sheet**

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Corinth National Cemetery
Alcorn County, Mississippi

Section number ____7____ Page ____2____

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

A brick stable with arched door openings approximately 20 feet by 40 feet, containing a tool house and public toilet, was demolished in 1934. The roof was tin. In 1936, a new brick and concrete utility building, 20 feet by 31 feet, containing a storage room and two public rest rooms, was constructed on the same site. The windows are six-over-six double hung, and the roof is asphalt shingles. The utility building area, which includes a fuel storage area, is enclosed by a wooden picket fence.

A weather board oil house and lattice cistern house were constructed prior to 1933 and subsequently removed.

An iron and brick octagonal rostrum with a corrugated iron roof, construction date unknown, was removed in 1942. It was located west of the main drive near the south end of the cemetery.

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

Buildings: Lodge

Sites: Cemetery

Structures: Gates (4), perimeter wall

Objects: Flagpole

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

Buildings: Utility building

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Corinth National Cemetery
Alcorn County, Mississippi

Section number ___8___   Page ___3___

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Corinth 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 "Siege and Battle of Corinth Sites" received the designation of a National Historic Landmark on May 6, 1991. The Corinth National Cemetery is a contributing resource within this historic landmark designation, which is on file at the National Park Service, Washington, D. C.

The city of Corinth was strategically located, and its capture was a prime objective of Union forces in the area. It was regarded as the symbol of the south throughout the conflict. It was where the vital railway line which led east from Memphis, connecting the western part of the Confederacy from Virginia, crossed the north-south line of the Mobile and Ohio. The Confederates kept the city heavily fortified, but early in the spring of 1862, they were forced to evacuate. Union troops soon occupied the city and continued to do so for five months.

In mid-March 1862, the troops of General Albert Sidney Johnston, Commander of the Western Department of the Confederate Armies, began arriving in Corinth from Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and all had arrived by March 24. General Johnston had charged General P. G. T. Beauregard, his second in command, with the responsibility of assembling troops at Corinth. Later, the Confederate Army of Kentucky and that of Mississippi were consolidated under General Johnston's command. He decided that he would attack the Federals at Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee, and drive them into the river. The troops were to move early on April 3, but one delay caused another. More delays occurred on April 4 and Johnston did not get his troops aligned until late in the day on April 5 and decided to wait until the following day. Then, on April 6, he sent them into the unsuspecting Union lines around Shiloh Church. Most Union troops did not react and were unprepared for the charge. General Ulysses S. Grant was alerted and immediately went to Pittsburg Landing. Sometime around 3 p.m. that day, General Johnston was wounded in the leg. He continued to direct the battle but slowly bled to death. Command of the troops passed to General P. T. Pierre Beauregard, who collected his battered units and organized a defense at Corinth. His army recovered at Corinth. Major General Henry W. Halleck arrived at Pittsburg Landing to assume direct command of the Union troops. By April 29, Halleck, with over 100,000 men, prepared to attack Beauregard's nearly 65,000. Halleck would march from Pittsburg Landing to Corinth. From early May to about May 29, skirmishing took place between Halleck's and Beauregard's forces. After all the waiting and watching, nothing happened. On May 29, Beauregard decided to quit and ordered a pullout. To cover the withdrawal, he had the front-line troops make loud noises to keep the Federals occupied. Although Halleck called it a victory, some wondered.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Corinth National Cemetery

Section number ___8___ Page ___4___

Alcorn County, Mississippi

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

The next morning, May 30, Halleck's Union forces cautiously entered Corinth only to find the village deserted. General Halleck ordered Generals W. S. Rosecrans and John Pope to pursue the Confederates. A Union cavalry column caught up with the Confederate rear guard in Tuscumbia bottom late in the afternoon and met strong resistance. The Confederates crossed the river and burned the bridge, leaving sufficient force to prevent reconstruction of the bridge. The next morning, the Federals went up-stream to a narrow place in the river, felled trees, and crossed. While the artillery engaged the Confederates at the bridge, the infantry began a flanking movement. Seeing they were about to be trapped, the Confederates withdrew toward the south with the Federals continuing to press their rear. The Federals halted their pursuit at Twenty Mile Creek near Baldwyn. They remained there for eight days before returning to Corinth. When the pursuit ended, General Halleck began to break up his army into smaller commands. He sent Major General Don Carlos Buell off toward Chattanooga and detaching another 20,000 men to guard railroad communications. He reduced his grand army to less than 40,000, and the initiative passed to General Braxton Bragg, who had superseded General Gaston T. Beauregard. Bragg hurried off to Chattanooga, leaving Major Generals Earl Van Dorn and Sterling Price with about 40,000 men. President Abraham Lincoln then appointed Halleck as general-in-chief of the United States land forces. General Ulysses S. Grant was named to succeed Halleck. He was supervising the new line of defense begun by General Halleck. When completed, the Halleck line and the Beauregard line would encircle the city. Grant, however, was expected to protect the whole of western Tennessee; he had 7,000 men at Memphis, 12,000 at Bolivar, 6,000 at Jackson, and 23,000 at Corinth under Major General William S. Rosecrans. General Beauregard was able to complete all duties assigned to him, although he had not been feeling well. General Braxton Bragg later relieved Beauregard. At Tupelo, he reorganized the Army of Tennessee. During the last week in July, Bragg began transferring his forces to Chattanooga. Price was left in Tupelo to keep an eye on Grant in Corinth.

After a battle at Iuka, Mississippi, on September 19, Rosecrans moved his command northwest to Corinth where he strengthened the fortifications in Corinth. Van Dorn and Price moved in on Corinth late in September with 22,000 men. Rosecrans opposed them with about 21,000 troops. The battle of Corinth began on October 3. Van Dorn's first attack hit two Federal divisions outside the inner defenses. The blue-coats fought stubbornly but had to fall back behind the fortifications. Price then sent his divisions against the Union center. The Federals waited until the Confederates broke out of the woods and advanced over an open field. When they reached point blank range, the Federals poured in a deadly fire, including artillery from entrenched positions on the left. Price's men retreated, reformed, and tried again, but were repulsed. The third charge sent some Federals running but the line held until fighting died out at nightfall. Van Dorn felt he had the battle won and that another thrust would bring victory.

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Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Corinth National Cemetery

Section number ___8___ Page ___5___

Alcorn County, Mississippi

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

It was 9 a.m. before the Confederates attacked on October 4. They hit first on the Federal right. Again, Price's troops led the attack, broke through and penetrated into the town of Corinth, fighting along streets and around houses. Rosecrans saw the break and rode among his panicked troops. His hat was shot away. His hair streamed in the wind. He "fought like a private soldier, dealt sturdy blows with the flat of his sword and fairly drove them to stand," Whitelaw Reid, a war correspondent wrote. "Then came a quick rally which his magnificent bearing inspired. . .and the charging column was speedily swept back outside the entrenchments."

At the same time the Confederates also hit the Federal left. They stormed Battery Robinett, an entrenched artillery position, and some of the foremost ranks spilled over the top of the works but were driven out by a bayonet charge. Back in the woods they reformed and, led by Colonel W.P. Rogers of the Second Texas, they swarmed over the works despite heavy losses. Colonel Rogers carried a flag to the top of the rampart. A Union drummer boy picked him off with a single revolver shot. His men raced on, about 100 reaching the Corinth public square, but then they were beaten back into the woods. That was enough for Van Dorn. Soon after 7 p.m., he ordered a retreat. Union casualties were: 355 killed, 1,841 wounded, 324 missing; Confederate losses were 473 killed, 1,997 wounded, and 1,763 missing.

During the next fifteen months, Corinth continued to be a base for Union reconnaissance and raids throughout the northeastern counties of Mississippi, the northwestern ones in Alabama, and the adjacent counties in southern Tennessee. Many skirmishes occurred, mainly between cavalry units of the two armies.

The casualties of this battle and other clashes between the two armies were so numerous that in 1866 the cemetery was established on a portion of the battlefield. Original interments were remains gathered from some 10-15 battlefields or skirmish sites. In addition to Corinth, Iuka, and Holly Springs, remains were brought from Grenada, Guntown, and Farmington, Mississippi; from Parker's Crossroads, Middlebury, and Brittans Lane, Tennessee; from Florence, Tuscambia, Decatur, and Cullman, Alabama; and from various scattered camps in Tennessee and Mississippi. Original interments represented regiments from 15 different states, including the dead of the 63rd regiment of Ohio volunteers, 4th regiment of Illinois volunteers, and Michigan volunteers. As far as possible, the interments were made by states. There are three Confederates interred in the cemetery, two known and one unknown.

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Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Corinth National Cemetery
Alcorn County, Mississippi

Section number 8, 9, 10 Page   6

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

The cemetery contains 20 acres. It was formerly owned by Calvin F. Vance and Margaret, his wife; Francis M. White and Catherine S., his wife; and James H. Walker, who on February 1, 1868, by deed in fee simple, conveyed the same to the United States for the sum of $3,500.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Cemetery System Microfilm Records

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

Report of the Inspector of the National Cemeteries of the United States for `1870-1871

Commager, Henry Steele. The Blue and the Gray. Wings Books, New York, 1991.

Holt, Dean W. American Military Cemeteries. McFarland & Company, Inc., 1992.

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

Rogers, Margaret Greene. Civil War Corinth 1861-1865. The Rankin Printery, Corinth, MS, 1989.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries are shown on the accompanying base map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

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

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Corinth National Cemetery
Alcorn County, Mississippi

Section number ___PHOTO___ Page ___7___

CORINTH NATIONAL CEMETERY
Alcorn County, Mississippi
Mark E. Maynard, photographer
Date of Photographs: April 23, 1996

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

VIEW OF: Main entrance gate, view looking north
NEG. NO. 65054-5
PHOTO 1 of 17

VIEW OF: Pedestrian gate, south side
NEG. NO. 65053-25
PHOTO 2 of 17

VIEW OF: Carriage gate near southeast corner of cemetery
NEG. NO. 65054-7
PHOTO 3 of 17

VIEW OF: Rear entrance gate, view looking south
NEG. NO. 65054-15
PHOTO 4 of 17

VIEW OF: Flagpole, view looking north
NEG. NO. 65054-13
PHOTO 5 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge, south elevation
NEG. NO. 65053-23
PHOTO 6 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge, east elevation
NEG. NO. 65053-22
PHOTO 7 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge, north elevation
NEG. NO. 65054-1
PHOTO 8 of 17

VIEW OF: Lodge, west elevation
NEG. NO. 65053-24
PHOTO 9 of 17

VIEW OF: Utility building, west elevation
NEG. NO. 65054-2
PHOTO 10 of 17

VIEW OF: Utility building, north elevation
NEG. NO. 65054-3
PHOTO 11 of 17

VIEW OF: Utility building, east elevation
NEG. NO. 65054-4
PHOTO 12 of 17

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Civil War Era National Cemeteries

Corinth National Cemetery
Alcorn County, Mississippi

VIEW OF: Utility building, south elevation and portion of perimeter wall
NEG. NO. 65054-8
PHOTO 13 of 17

VIEW OF: Perimeter wall, view looking west
NEG. NO. 65054-9
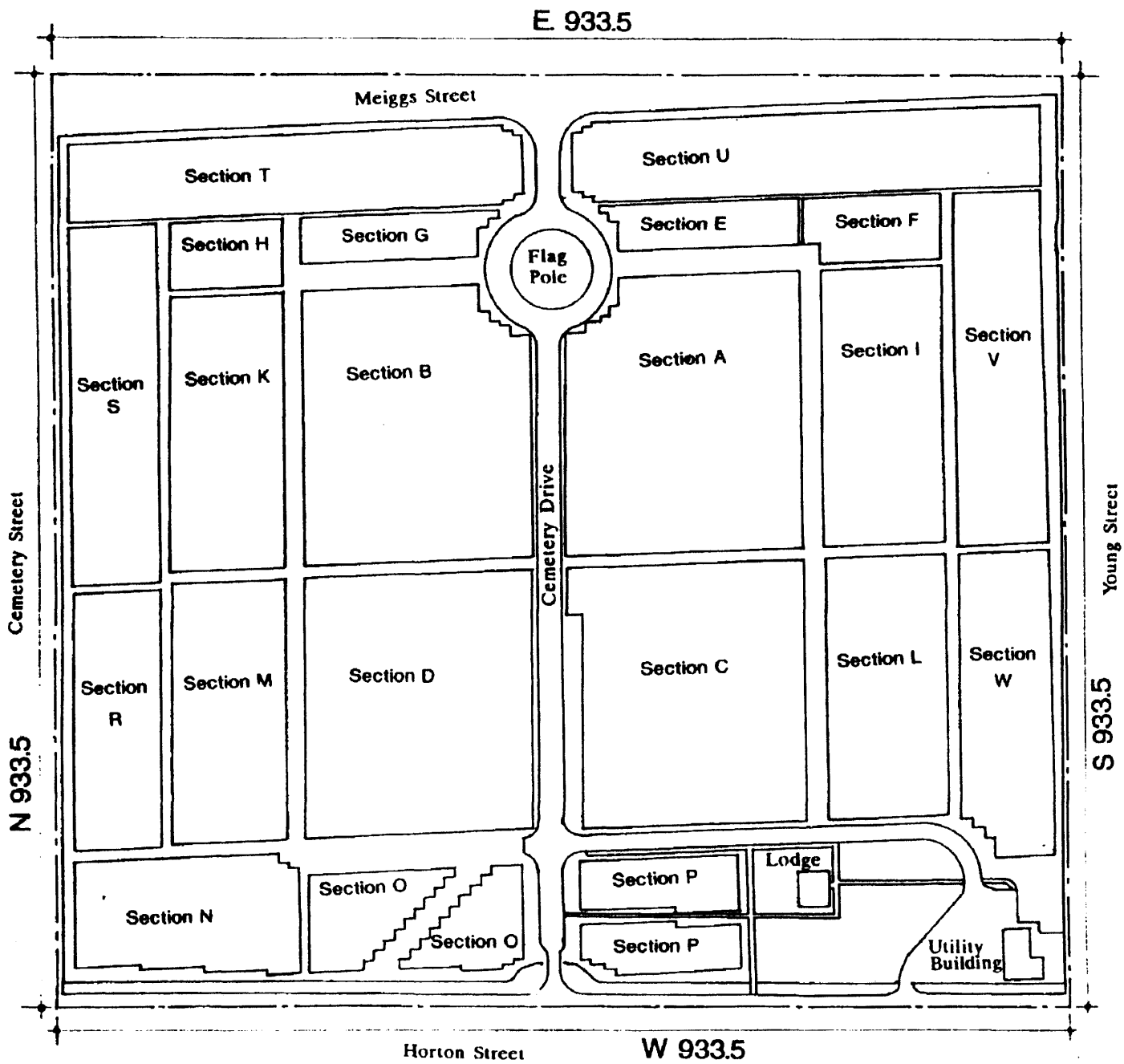PHOTO 14 of 17

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking southwest
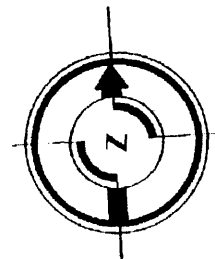NEG. NO. 65054-14
PHOTO 15 of 17
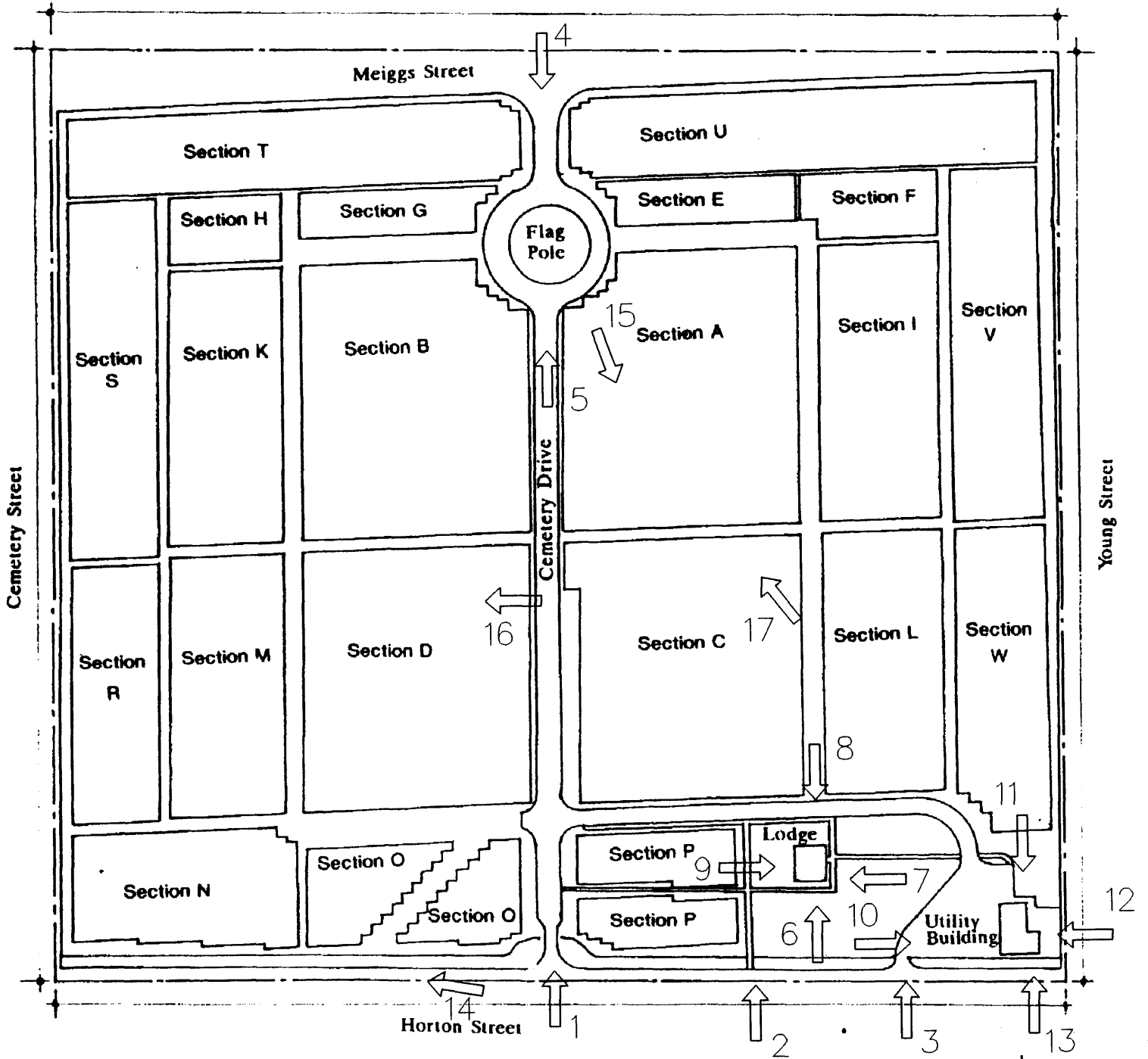
VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking west
NEG. NO. 65054-11
PHOTO 16 of 17

VIEW OF: Cemetery, view looking northwest
NEG. NO. 65054-21
PHOTO 17 of 17

E. 933.5

Meiggs Street

Section T

Section U

Section H

Section G

Section E

Section F

Flag
Pole

Section
S

Section K

Section B

Section A

Section I

Section
V

Cemetery Street

Cemetery Drive

Young Street

Section
R

Section M

Section D

Section C

Section L

Section
W

N 933.5

S 933.5

Section N

Section O

Section O

Section P

Lodge

Section P

Utility
Building

Horton Street

W 933.5

N

**Base Map
Corinth National Cemetery
Alcorn County, Mississippi**

NOT TO SCALE:

Meiggs Street

Section T

Section U

Section H

Section G

Flag
Pole

Section E

Section F

Section
S

Section K

Section B

15

Section A

5

Section I

Section
V

Cemetery Street

Cemetery Drive

16

17

Section L

Section
W

Section
R

Section M

Section D

Section C

Young Street

8

Section N

Section O

Section O

11

Section P

Lodge

9

12

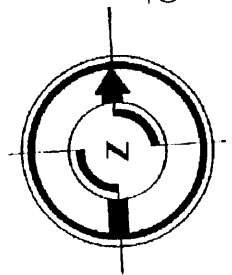Section P

6

10

7

Utility
Building

14

1

2

3

13

Horton Street

Sketch Map
Corinth National Cemetery
Alcorn County, Mississippi

Note: Numbered arrows correspond
to the views in the accompaning
photographs.

NOT TO SCALE:

N