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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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Fort Logan National Cemetery  
other names/site number Fort Logan Post Cemetery; Denver National Cemetery; Denver National Cemetery, North; 5DV4344

### 2. Location

street & number 3698 South Sheridan Boulevard

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

  
city or town Denver  
state Colorado code CO county Denver code 031 zip code 80236

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:  
X national     statewide     local  
Kathleen A. Schamb 10/12/16  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
FPO, US Dept. of Veterans Affairs  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government  
In my opinion, the property X meets     does not meet the National Register criteria.  
[Signature] 10/4/16  
Signature of commenting official Date  
State Historic Preservation Officer Title History Colorado State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register  
    other (explain):  
[Signature] 11/29/2016  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only **one** box.)

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

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4		buildings
1		sites
9		structures
25		objects
39		<b>Total</b>

**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**

N/A

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 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete  
 walls: Brick  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 roof: Asphalt shingles  
 other: STONE / marble, sandstone, granite  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

Fort Logan National Cemetery is located in the southwestern part of the City and County of Denver, approximately seven miles from downtown. It is in the southeast quadrant of the intersection of South Sheridan Boulevard and West Kenyon Avenue. The cemetery sits in a suburban part of the city surrounded on three sides by residential subdivisions and on the fourth by the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan. The cemetery includes 214 acres, of which 201.5 acres are currently used for funerary purposes. The remaining 12.5 acres are undeveloped. The cemetery is roughly L-shaped as depicted on USGS maps in Section 10.. The Colorado Piedmont dominates the local topography. The U.S. Army initially established a three-acre post cemetery at Fort Logan in 1889, and on March 10, 1950, Congress designated the former post cemetery at Fort Logan a national cemetery. As of February 2016, Fort Logan National Cemetery contained 124,734 interments (81,475 in caskets and 40,587 cremains). Significant features of the cemetery include the original post cemetery in the northwest corner, a small section set aside for POW burials within the post cemetery area that has only one interment, the two man-made bodies of water, and Logan Boulevard that serves as the main thoroughfare across the western part of the cemetery.

#### General Description

The current boundaries of Fort Logan National Cemetery date to 1976 when the eastern extension was added to the original rectangular property. Fort Logan's vegetation includes mature trees in the original cemetery, especially noticeable along Logan Boulevard although present along the other streets within the 1950-era cemetery boundaries as well as scattered among the graves in that section of the cemetery. Immature trees are present in the eastern extension along Colorado and New Mexico streets and Omaha Drive (see Photo 24).<sup>1</sup> A fence consisting of square stone pillars with pyramidal tops and square bases, steel posts and wrought-iron picket panels serves as the western border where the main gate and north gate are located along South Sheridan Boulevard. Similar fencing is also found along portions of the cemetery's northern border, West Kenyon Avenue. Chain-link fence, painted black, extends along the southern and eastern property lines. Lowell Street borders the eastern property line and nomination boundary. Other features include granite section markers and angled concrete curbs on asphalt paved roadways (Photo 22).

Two bodies of water within the cemetery dominate the landscape. Incinerator Lake, alternately referred to as Crematory Lake, Cemetery Lake and Veterans Lake, was created from two smaller ponds to hold water for the cemetery. This artificial lake is located in the southwestern corner portion of the cemetery. The present shoreline dates to 1962, but the lake as a landscape feature is older. The Incinerator Lake has been there from before 1903.<sup>2</sup> The northern shore and a portion of the eastern shore of the lake are rip-rapped with cobbles while the remainder of the eastern shore and a portion of the southeastern shore has a retaining wall of random ashlar stone. These measures were taken to prevent erosion of the banks. A covered pumping facility lies east of the eastern shore and facilitates the transfer of water from Incinerator Lake to the reservoir that lies

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<sup>1</sup> In the Master Development Plan prepared by Gerald F. Kessler & Assocs., Inc., for the Department of the Army, Office of Memorial Affairs the authors note the presence of "a few native cottonwoods" and the introduction of willow and boxelder trees by Incinerator Lake and toward the east boundary. Mostly prairie vegetation characterized the undeveloped acreage. (p. 9) The immature trees seen today are likely those introduced in the expansion by NCA that followed the plans first laid out in this document. Gerald F. Kessler & Associates and Fensten Engineering Corporation, "Fort Logan National Cemetery Master Development Plan," 1973, National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D.C., hereafter cited: "Master Plan."

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Turnbach, Director, Fort Logan National Cemetery, to Virginia B. Price, NCA Historian, electronic communication, 13 April 2016.

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downhill to the northeast. The reservoir, sometimes referred to as East Lake or Memorial Lake, is roughly T-shaped and stone lined on its eastern shore; it was completed in the early 1980s.<sup>3</sup> There is a concrete spillway from the reservoir dam that is on the northeastern perimeter of the body of water.

The water for Fort Logan National Cemetery comes from the mountain snowpack and is stored in the cemetery lakes. It is not reclaimed or reused. No other entity shares in ownership of the cemetery lakes.<sup>4</sup>

Clumps of trees are scattered around the reservoir and shrubs and other vegetation are present near the spillway. Committal Shelters A and B are near the northern and southern shores of the reservoir respectively.<sup>5</sup> A memorial pathway runs along the south shore of the reservoir.

Support buildings are scattered throughout the cemetery and include a Public Information Center, an Administration and Maintenance complex, and the old maintenance building. As a result of being constructed at various times over the past six decades, the buildings exhibit a variety of architectural styles and materials.

The cemetery has eighty-seven burial sections designated with a mixed alpha, numerical, and alphanumeric designation system. There are sixteen columbaria units for cremains. The grave markers at the Fort Lyon National Cemetery include a mix of late nineteenth-century marble stones with gently rounded tops, embossed American shields, and raised lettering for the inscription, the post-World War I upright white marble markers referred to as "General-type," and a handful of private headstones made of a variety of materials including marble and granite. There are also portions of the cemetery with flat rectangular marble markers set at ground level. Several sections of the cemetery contain memorial markers, each inscribed with the opening words of "In Memory Of." Variations were noted in the lettering on the headstones and markers, and the use of emblems of belief. These are consistent with the nationally established standards for headstones and markers adopted during the late nineteenth century by the War Department and revised by that agency following World War I.<sup>6</sup>

In 1981, Fort Logan National Cemetery was determined eligible for listing in the National Register. In 2011, the Keeper of the National Register confirmed National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility by issuing a clarification of policy stating that all national cemeteries are considered exceptionally significant and eligible for listing in the NRHP regardless of age, and that all resources located within the boundaries of national cemeteries are considered contributing elements to each national cemetery regardless of age.<sup>7</sup> Below is a description of the contributing resources within the boundaries of Fort Logan National Cemetery:

### **Contributing Resources (39)**

**Site (1):** As indicated in the 2011 Clarification of Policy from the Keeper of the National Register, the overall acreage within the boundaries of the cemetery is considered one contributing site, which includes all of the buildings, structures, and objects as noted below.

<sup>3</sup> The reservoir or East Lake/Memorial Lake was created as part of a construction project that began in 1980; the completion date for Memorial Lake is thought to be 1983. Joseph Turnbach, Director, Fort Logan National Cemetery, to Virginia B. Price, NCA Historian, electronic communication, 13 April 2016.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Turnbach, Director, Fort Logan National Cemetery, to Virginia B. Price, NCA Historian, electronic communication, 13 April 2016.

<sup>5</sup> Committal Service shelters are roofed, open-air pavilions designed for interment services away from a specific gravesite. The location and amenities of committal shelters are tailored to the services conducted. In national cemeteries, for example, landscaping separates the shelters from administrative and maintenance areas. Visitor facilities, such as bathrooms, are not provided. For more information, please see "Cemetery Components –Committal Service Shelter," at <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/grants/shelter.asp> (accessed 9 August 2016).

<sup>6</sup> "Inter-World War National Cemeteries: Associated Multiple Property Documentation Form, National Register of Historic Places," Nomination 2016, National Park Service (<https://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/places/64501262.htm>, accessed 9 August 2016).

<sup>7</sup> Keeper of the National Register, "National Register Eligibility of National Cemeteries—A Clarification of Policy." 8 September 2011. (Washington, D.C.: History Program Collection, NCA). Available at: [http://www.cem.va.gov/pdf/Final\\_Eligibility\\_of\\_VA\\_cemeteries\\_A\\_Clarification\\_of\\_Policy\\_rev.pdf](http://www.cem.va.gov/pdf/Final_Eligibility_of_VA_cemeteries_A_Clarification_of_Policy_rev.pdf)

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**Buildings (4):** Administration and Maintenance Building (1991/2004), Garage and Storage Building (1991), Old Maintenance Building (1956/1958/ca.1970), Public Information Center (1986/2004).

**Structures (9):** Committal Shelter A (2004), Committal Shelter B (2006), Committal Shelter C (2006), Main Gate (ca. 1985), North Gate (1958), Kenyon Avenue Gate (ca. 2004), Maintenance Entrance (ca. 1991), Columbarium 1 (2011), Columbarium 3 (2012).

**Objects (25):** Two flagpoles: U.S. Flagpole and POW/MIA Flagpole, plus the *Bivouac of the Dead* Plaque, the Gettysburg Address Plaque, the Blue Star Memorial Marker, and the monuments placed along the Memorial Walk including: 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division, 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division, All Veterans Honor Guard, American Ex-POWs, American Legion Post 161, Borinqueneers Men of the 65th Infantry Regiment, Merchant Marines, Navy Armed Guard of World War II, Purple Heart, Submarine Veterans of World War II, U.S. Submarine Veterans, VA bench, Veterans Benefits Administration/Dorothy Starbuck, Veterans Widows, VFW Department of Colorado, VFW Post 4171, VFW Post 5061 and Ladies Auxiliary, and VFW Post 9644.

### **Buildings (4)**

**Administration and Maintenance Building (1991/2004)** (See Photos 3-4): This building was constructed in 1991 as a maintenance and storage building while the administration function was housed in a separate building at the front of the cemetery. In 2004 the administration wing was added to the building giving it an irregular "L" footprint. The building sits on a concrete pad and foundation. The maintenance building is one and one-half stories and the administration wing is one-story. The height is not the only difference between the original building and the administration addition. The walls of the maintenance wing are concrete blocks laid in common bond while the administration wing walls are made of stuccoed building panels or sheets. The roofs of the two wings are noticeably different although they both rely on the basic shed roof form. The maintenance wing has shed roofs while the administration portion of the building has a set of intersecting shed roofs. The administration wing also has a gable-roofed projection to the east. The roofs are covered with asphalt composition shingles. The building has no chimneys, however, metal stove and vent pipes are present. The windows are a combination of three-light hopper, two-light double-hung, and sliding types. There are also some one-light fixed windows of various sizes. All the windows have aluminum frames. All the pedestrian doors in the building are steel or steel framed with fixed lights. The steel garage doors on the maintenance bays are of the overhead roller variety. The building has a small wing near the southeast corner that contains the cemetery director's office and a meeting room. The projection has a gable roof. It has the same wall materials as the main portion of the administration wing. There is also a small room that projects to the east at the northeast corner of the building. The main entry is in the southeast corner of the administration wing through a single door with sidelights. The entry is inset under the main roof. There is a paved traffic and parking circle to the south and southeast of the entry. The center of the circle is a grassed area with a single flagpole that flies the POW/MIA flag. Grass lawns surround the rest of the administration building and the lawns have evergreen and deciduous trees planted around the traffic circle. There is also a satellite dish to the east of the administration wing. There is a paved storage and parking lot with three fuel pumps south of the maintenance building with a cinderblock fence to obscure the view of the maintenance yards from cemetery visitors. North of the maintenance building there is a paved apron and unpaved storage areas set off from the rest of the cemetery by a chain-link fence with privacy strips. A maintenance driveway from the northeast enters the rear of the storage and maintenance yard. A combination garage and storage building lies southwest of the maintenance wing across the paved portion of the maintenance yard.

**Garage and Storage Building (1991)** (See Photos 7-8): This one-story Garage and Storage Building has a rectangular footprint and was constructed in 1991. The utilitarian building sits on a concrete pad and foundation; it has a series of shed roofs covering three vehicle storage bays and the chemical storage room at its southern end. These roofs are covered with asphalt composition shingles and have metal vent and stove

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pipes. The walls are made of concrete blocks and are laid in common bond. The main portion of the building contains three storage and service bays for cemetery vehicles. Each of these bays has one or two single-light fixed windows in the upper portion of the wall bracketing the overhead roller garage door. The northern and southern bays also have steel pedestrian doors. Seam lines in the exterior wall indicate that each bay was built as a unit. South of the southern bay there is a windowless, chemical storage room, which is accessed by double doors. The north and south walls of the building have ventilator panels near the tops of the walls. The building faces a paved storage and parking lot shared with the maintenance and administration building. South, east, and west of the building is cinderblock fencing that obscures the visitor's view of the maintenance yard and this building from the public street. North of the building is an unpaved storage lot separated from the rest of the cemetery by a chain-link fence with privacy strips. Along the north wall of the building there is a pipe storage rack for irrigation pipe used in the cemetery. Immediately west of the building is a hillside that slopes down to the rear wall.

**Old Maintenance Building (1956/1958/ca.1970; 5DV.11489) (See Photos 9-11):** This building is the oldest remaining at the cemetery. The first part of the building was constructed in 1956. It has had two additions: the first in 1958 and the second ca. 1970. The additions transformed the building's footprint from its original square to an "L." The building originally had a hipped roof; one-third of the building was used as office space and the other two-thirds was a single-bay garage. A perpendicular addition was constructed on the garage-side of the building adding two additional bays in 1958. Finally, the building was expanded in-line with an additional three bays and an oversize bay (roof-line is higher and the building projects outward from the main block at both front and back) at the end ca. 1970. The building sits on a concrete pad and foundations. The building has hipped roofs covered with asphalt shingles. There are no chimneys in the building; however, there are metal stove and vent pipes in the roof. The walls are red brick laid in common bond. There are decorative cornices at the top of the walls. The windows have been boarded up with plywood sheets; photos from the time of original construction to 2005 indicate that the openings contained three horizontal lights—the top two lights were fixed and the lower opened inward. The garage door opening from the original square building was in-filled with twelve fixed-light windows and wood panels. The building has solid pedestrian doors. The six vehicle bays in the south-facing side have wood, and eight- and ten- light overhead roller garage doors. The walls next to the bay openings are protected by steel wall corner guards that are half the height of the door openings. There are exterior lights on the brick wall sections between each of the door openings. The door nearest the north end of the west wall in the northwest corner of the building is covered by a hipped roof hood made of materials the same as the main roof. The hood is noticeably wider than the door opening and it extends to the south of the door. The east wall has a vent near the top of the wall. West of the building is Wyoming Street and the older sections of the cemetery that were part of the post cemetery at Fort Logan. To the south is a large parking lot that extends beyond the end of the building. East of the building is an open lawn area and to the north there are burials in Section H of the cemetery.

**Public Information Center (PIC) (1986/2004) (See Photos 12-15):** This building initially served as the administration building for the cemetery. It was built in 1986 and remodeled in 2004 for use as the PIC. The building has a rectangular footprint and is one-story with a roof extension over the central portion and breezeway (Photo 14).<sup>8</sup> It has two enclosed wings connected by a central breezeway; the larger wing to the northeast is the visitor reception and office area while the smaller, southwest wing includes the public restrooms, utility, and storage areas. The building has a poured concrete foundation and sits on a concrete pad. The roof is a mix of gable and shed types covered with asphalt composition shingles. The building has no chimneys, but stove and vent pipes are present on the roof. The walls are wood frame covered with vertically patterned wood siding. The office area has plate glass windows with hopper opening panels at the top set to open outward. The doors in the building are a combination of metal frame with plate glass windows and solid metal doors. The façade that faces a semicircular parking lot is decorated with bronze seals of the armed services. The parking lot lies north of the building and connects to Logan Boulevard. The building overlooks Incinerator Lake to the south. Landscaping around the PIC includes deciduous trees with flowers and shrubs

<sup>8</sup> The roof extension is essentially a contemporary version of the dormer, but on a scale of a cross gable. The purpose is the same – to bring light into the interior and to offer space without adding another story to the building height.

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in a xeriscape setting. The trees around the PIC are Austrian Pine, Colorado Spruce, Green Ash, Red Oak, and Norway Maple.<sup>9</sup>

### Structures (9)

**Committal Shelters A, B and C (2004 and 2006)** (See Photo 16): Committal Shelter A was built in 2004 and sits overlooking the reservoir in the central portion of the cemetery. The shelter has a square footprint with a small bump-out in the rear wall. It sits on a poured concrete pad that extends beyond the edges of the roof and is partially edged on three sides (front and two sides) with a short brick wall capped with concrete. A wide, curved sidewalk extends from the short wall to the semicircular parking lot reserved for the shelter. The structure has a pyramidal roof covered in standing seam metal. The roof consists of the ribbed metal sheets with glass panels at the peak that act as a skylight. The roof is mounted on four columns of sand colored brick. Around the roof is a wood construct that both trims the roof and suspends the hinged glass doors on two sides that can be closed to protect the shelter's interior from inclement weather. The rear wall is made of glass panels that match the opening panels and in front of it is a brick partial wall with bronze plaques of the seals of the armed services mounted on it. Committal Shelter B was built in 2006 and sits southeast of Committal Shelter A on the opposite side of the reservoir. Committal Shelter C was also built in 2006 and is situated near the southeast corner of the cemetery in Section 5. Both are identical to Committal Shelter A.

**Main Gate (ca. 1985)** (See Photo 2): The main gate to the cemetery opens onto Denver's South Sheridan Boulevard from Logan Boulevard. It was constructed ca. 1985 in conjunction with the development of Logan Boulevard and the new administration building. The gate includes six large granite pyramidal topped posts and eight smaller granite pyramidal topped posts that form a modified semicircle gate area split by Logan Boulevard. From north to south there are four of the smaller posts connected with steel picket panels that have been painted black and then there are two of the larger posts also connected with steel picket panels. Between the westbound and eastbound lanes of Logan Boulevard lies an island that contains two of the large matching posts connected by a picket panel like those described above and a Department of Veterans Affairs bronze plaque. Between the posts is a sign of brass lettering on a panel of marble that contains the name of the cemetery (Photo 1). It parallels Logan Boulevard and is easily read by drivers on South Sheridan Boulevard. The island also features flowers and other landscaping. South of the island is the eastbound lane of Logan Boulevard and the final two large posts. These are not connected by picket panels because a sidewalk into the cemetery passes between them. Continuing west and south from the southern-most large posts are four small posts connected with black steel picket panels.

**North Gate (1958)** (See Photo 19): The North Gate, also offering access to the cemetery from South Sheridan Boulevard, is made of two large and four smaller granite posts, like those found in the main gate. The North Gate was the primary entrance into the cemetery in 1958. Center opening gate panels are attached to the two larger obelisks that sit on each side of Denver Drive. The gates are made of picket panels similar to the fence with extra horizontal members to stiffen them. The overall gate area forms a modified semicircle split by Denver Drive.

**Kenyon Avenue Gate (ca. 2004)**: The entry from Kenyon Avenue has no formal gates like those that face South Sheridan Boulevard. Instead the fence curves in parallel to the edges of the pavement and then ends with two granite obelisk-shaped posts. It was constructed ca. 2004 when the eastern extension of the cemetery was developed.

**Maintenance Entrance (1991)**: The maintenance entrance opens onto Kenyon Avenue and is a simple gate made of steel picket panels, painted black, similar to the rest of the fence along Kenyon Avenue. It was built in 1991 when the maintenance building was first constructed.

<sup>9</sup> Regarding the species of trees, Joseph Turnbach, Director, Fort Logan National Cemetery, to Virginia B. Price, NCA Historian, electronic communication, 15 August 2016.

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**Columbarium 1 (2011)** (See Photo 17): There are sixteen columbaria units that run from northwest to southeast in two groups of five and two groups of three on the south side of Denver Drive in Section U. The columbaria units vary in height, allowing for three rows of niches or five, and in length, accommodating ten columns of niches to as many as twenty-seven. Columbarium 1 provides almost 5500 niches for cremain burials. Each of the columbaria units has a rectangular footprint. Each is made of common-bond laid, earth-toned brick columns with each of the niches covered with a white marble inscription panel. The niches and columns are capped with colored (earth tone) concrete. Sidewalks, brick and concrete benches, and landscaping surround the columbarium court.

**Columbarium 3 (2012)**: There are twelve columbaria units that run from east to west in three groups of four on the north side of Omaha Drive in Section 28. The columbaria units are rectangular in plan with three rows and sixteen columns of niches; framing the court are niche walls, or single-sided columbaria units, varying in length from ten columns to twenty-seven. The three-row units are just over six feet in height. Altogether, Columbarium 3 provides over 3600 niches for cremain burials. Each unit is made of common-bond laid, earth-toned brick columns with each of the niches covered with a white marble inscription panel. The niches and columns are capped with colored (earth tone) concrete. Sidewalks, brick and concrete benches, and landscaping surround the columbarium court.

### Objects (25)

**U.S. Flagpole** (See Photos 15 and 20): The flagpole is located on the southeastern shore of Incinerator Lake and southeast of the Public Information Center. The 75' high flagpole is visible from the Public Information Center and the main gate. It is a metal pole capped with a flying eagle and it has upward focused spotlights to keep the American flag illuminated at night. It sits on a concrete circular pad.

**POW/MIA Flagpole** (See Photo 3): The POW/MIA flagpole is located southeast of the Administration and Maintenance Building in the grassy area in the center of the traffic circle on Arizona Street. The metal flagpole is noticeably shorter and smaller than the U.S. flagpole and is used to fly the black and white POW/MIA flag.<sup>10</sup>

**Bivouac of the Dead Plaque** (See Figure 17): The cast-aluminum plaque features a quatrain from the poem 'Bivouac of the Dead' by Theodore O'Hara. The plaque is affixed to a granite block, and is located south of the Public Information Center near the walkway and just west of Incinerator Lake.<sup>11</sup>

**Blue Star Memorial Marker** (See Figure 18): The Blue Star Memorial marker is a cast-aluminum plaque attached to a post and placed within a landscaped area near the cemetery entrance and Public Information Center.<sup>12</sup> Begun as a tribute to veterans by the National Council of State Garden Clubs following World War II, the markers are placed along highways, by historic sites, in national cemeteries and in veterans' facilities. The marker was sponsored by the Colorado Garden Club.

The Blue Star comes from the service flag used in World War II by those who had a family member serving the military. The marker design followed an initiative of the New Jersey Council of Garden Clubs in 1944 that oversaw the planting of about 8,000 trees along U.S. 22. The trees were a living memorial to the men and

<sup>10</sup> In 1990, Congress established national POW/MIA Recognition Day. The Act honors the service of those imprisoned during war and those who remain missing. It designated the POW/MIA flag as the symbol of national observance. The flag represents an ongoing commitment to U.S. service members whose fates remain unknown. It is flown in all our national cemeteries. For more on the POW/MIA flag, see <http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/celebrate/powmia.pdf> (accessed 9 August 2016).

<sup>11</sup> For more about the origins of the *Bivouac of the Dead* plaques in national cemeteries, please see <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/history/bivouac.asp> (accessed 11 August 2016). The recent plaques, like this one in Fort Logan National Cemetery, are part of an initiative by NCA that began in 2001. At that time, new plaques were commissioned for all existing national cemeteries where they were missing and for national cemeteries under development.

<sup>12</sup> The location of the former Administration Building/Visitors' Building guided the placement of the marker.



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women in the Armed Forces from New Jersey. In 1945, the state legislature designated the highway “Blue Star Drive.” Once the National Council of State Garden Clubs adopted the memorial highway program, the Blue Star Memorial Marker was introduced to convey memorialization.<sup>13</sup>

**Gettysburg Address Plaque** (See Figure 17): Located about 100 feet north of the main flagpole is a cast-iron plaque featuring President Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address. These plaques, originally added to national cemeteries in 1909 to commemorate Lincoln’s birth, are a common feature in national cemeteries. The plaque was installed in 2012.<sup>14</sup>

**Memorial Walk** (See Figure 14 and Photo 21): There are nineteen monuments made of granite blocks and bronze plaques along the pathway that overlooks the south side of the lagoon described above and one memorial bench (Figures 19-20). The first was installed in the early 1990s and the most recent in 2011. They were primarily placed by veterans’ organizations. The bulk of these memorialize service persons from America’s twentieth century wars. The block-style monuments are:

1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division: The monument has a rectangular base made of granite. The sides of the granite block are rough-cut. A bronze plaque is affixed to the honed top face of the stone. The dedication inscription reads as follows: DEDICATED (/) TO THOSE MEN OF THE (/) FIRST MARINE DIVISION, FMF (/) WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES (/) IN THE SERVICE OF (/) THEIR COUNTRY (/) WORLD WAR II KOREA VIETNAM (/) SOUTHWEST ASIA.<sup>15</sup> Above the dedication the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division insignia and wreath encircle “First Marine Division Association”; below the wreath is a *Semper Fidelis* banner. Engraved in the granite below the dedication plaque is “Rocky Mountain Chapter.”

2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division: The granite block monument has rough-cut sides and a bronze dedication plaque affixed to the top face. The monument was dedicated on June 6, 2005, and sponsored by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division Association. The inscription reads: SECOND MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION (/) COLORADO CHAPTER [USMC insignia] SILENT SECOND [USMC insignia] (/) [2nd Marine Div. insignia] (/) SECOND TO NONE (/) SEMPER FIDELIS (/) FREEDOM IS NOT FREE: YOU HAVE TO FIGHT FOR IT. (/) THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO ALL OUR MEN WHO DIED FIGHTING FOR IT. (/) FOLLOW ME (/) 2004.

4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division: The block-style monument is made of granite. The inscription is incised on the top face of the stone along with the insignia for the U.S. Marine Corps and the 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division. The central section of the front face is recessed to receive a rendering of the flag-raising on Iwo Jima that took place in February 1945. The Rocky Mountain Chapter 32 of the 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division Association dedicated the monument in 1998. The inscription reads: FOURTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOC. WWII (/) UNCOMMON VALOR WAS A COMMON VIRTUE (/) SEMPER FIDELIS (/) ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER 32 1998.

10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division: The granite and bronze block-style monument to the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division was dedicated on December 5, 2009. The bronze plaque with the dedication inscription is affixed to the top face of the granite block. An etching of a soldier highlighted with lithochrome is on the front face. The inscription reads: WWII 10th MOUNTAIN DIVISION/UNITED STATES ARMY (/) THIS MONUMENT IS DEDICATED TO THE WORLD WAR II 10<sup>TH</sup> (/) MOUNTAIN DIVISION SOLDIERS. THEIR UNIQUE TALENTS AND HEROIC (/) DEEDS CONTRIBUTED TO THE ALEUTAIN ISLANDS CAMPAIGN AND THE (/) EARLIER TERMINATION OF THE WAR IN THE ITALIAN THEATER OF (/) OPERATIONS. SPECIAL TRIBUTE IS AWARDED TO THE MORE THAN (/) 1,000 SOLDIERS WHO WERE KILLED IN ACTION AND TO THOSE BURIED (/) IN THE HALLOWED GRAVES OF THIS CEMETERY. (/) THE TENTH MOUNTAIN DIVISION FOUNDATION, INC. 2009. The two insignia on the plaque are the division badge (at left) and outline of mountain peaks (at top).

<sup>13</sup> Richard F. Weingroff, “Blue Star Memorial Highways,” <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/blue01.cfm> (accessed 19 July 2016); Weingroff references “Dogwood Planted along Roadsides,” *Contractors and Engineers Monthly* (September 1946).

<sup>14</sup> For details about the installation of Gettysburg Address tablets in national cemeteries, please see <http://www.cem.va.gov/ceh/history/LincBic.asp> (accessed 9 August 2016).

<sup>15</sup> Note: “Southwest Asia” is inscribed on the dedication plaque, not Southeast.

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All Veterans Honor Guard: The rectangular granite block monument has rough-cut sides and a honed top face. A bronze plaque is affixed to the top. The monument was dedicated on May 20, 2000. The inscription on the plaque reads: ALL VETERANS HONOR GUARD (/) THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMBERS OF (/) THE ALL VETERANS HONOR GUARD, LIVING AND DEPARTED, (/) WHO HAVE SERVED WITH HONOR AND COMMITMENT TO (/) FAITHFULLY PROVIDE THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS AND (/) HONORABLE MILITARY SERVICE POSSIBLE FOR (/) OUR DEPARTED COMRADES.(/) 2000.

American Ex-POWs: The granite block monument was dedicated in 1996, and is located near the beginning of the Memorial Walk. The main flagpole is about 130 yards distant. A bronze plaque is inscribed with the insignia of the American Ex- Prisoners of War (POW) and the American flag along with the dedication, which reads: TO HONOR ... REMEMBER (/) AMERICAN EX - PRISONERS OF WAR (/) OF COLORADO (/) DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO (/) ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER (/) MILE HIGH CHAPTER (/) NORTHEAST COLORADO CHAPTER (/) COLORADO'S ARKANSAS VALLEY CHAPTER (/) WESTERN SLOPE CHAPTER (/) "NOT BY ARMS ALONE" (/) MAY 27, 1996.

American Legion Post 161: A block-style monument with a granite base and bronze dedication plaque affixed to the top face of the stone, the American Legion Post 161 monument resembles the others on the Memorial Walk. The insignia of the American Legion is centered on the plaque, with text inscribed above and below. Above the insignia, the inscription reads: AMERICAN LEGION (/) WILMORE-RICHTER POST 161 (/) ARVADA, COLORADO. Below it, the inscription continues: THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED BY OUR POST MEMBERS IN MEMORY OF ALL VETERANS WHO HONORABLY SERVED GOD AND COUNTRY SO THAT THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY MAY PREVAIL. The monument was dedicated on November 7, 1999.

Borinqueneers Men of the 65th Infantry Regiment: The monument to the "Borinqueneers" is a granite block with a bronze plaque affixed to the honed top face of the stone. The bronze plaque is inscribed with the dedication, in English and Spanish, which reads: Dedicated to the men of the 65th Infantry Regiment (/) United States Army for their Valor and Patriotism (/) During the Korean War 1950-1953 (/) [Dept. of Army insignia] [Borinqueneers insignia] "The Borinqueneers" (/) Dedicado a los Soldados de El Regimiento 65 de Infanteria (/) Ejercito de los Estados Unidos (/) por su Valentia y Patriotismo (/) durante la Guerra de Corea 1950-1953."

Merchant Marines: The granite block monument was donated by the Colorado Chapter of the United States Merchant Marine Veterans of World War II, and dedicated on April 17, 1995. A bronze plaque is affixed to the top face of the block, and the dedication is inscribed on it. The inscription reads: IN HONOR OF THE MEN (/) WHO SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE IN WWII. Below the insignia for the Merchant Marines, the inscription continues in two columns of text. To the left, it reads: THEY THAT GO DOWN TO THE SEA (/) IN THE SHIPS, (/) THAT DO BUSINESS IN GREAT WATERS, (/) THESE SEE THE WORKS OF THE LORD (/) AND THE WONDERS OF THE DEEP. (/) U.S. MERCHANT MARINE VETERANS (/) WORLD WAR II (/) COLORADO CHAPTER (/) 1995. To the right, the inscription reads: THEY CAME FROM OUR MOUNTAINS, (/) OUR PRAIRIES AND OUR (/) OCEAN SIDES. (/) THEY CAME FROM OUR VILLAGES, (/) AND OUR CITIES, AND (/) THEY WENT DOWN TO THE SEA IN (/) SHIPS TO DEFEND FREEDOM AND (/) THEIR COUNTRY. THEY EXERCISED (/) THEIR DUTY WITH MUCH HONOR.

Navy Armed Guard of World War II: Members of the Rocky Mountain USN Armed Guard Veterans of World War II donated the monument which was dedicated in 1996. The monument consists of a granite block-style base with a bronze plaque affixed to the top face. The center of the plaque features the insignia of the U.S. Navy Armed Guard. The dedication inscription reads: In memory of (/) U.S. Navy Armed Guard of WWII. Below it, in the left column, the text continues: Dedicated to the 144,970 officers, (/) gunners and (/) communication per- (/) sonnel who served aboard vessels (/) of the Merchant Fleet. Through (/) their efforts, desperately needed (/) supplies reached their destination (/) despite horrendous conditions and (/) frequent enemy engagement. And to the right: To the 1,890 armed guard who (/) gave their lives, to their families (/) and

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friends, the Army and Mer- (/) chant Crew that assisted us so (/) well, this memorial is dedicated (/) by their surviving shipmates. Our motto "We Aim - to Deliver" (/) and we did. Information about the sponsors of the monument is at the bottom of the plaque. It reads: Sponsored by the members of the Rocky Mountain U.S.N. Armed Guard Veterans of WWII--Colorado-Montana-North Dakota-South Dakota-Utah-Wyoming (/) Dedicated 1996.

Purple Heart: The Military Order of the Purple Heart Colorado Chapters 375, 423, and 434 donated the block monument for the Memorial Walk. It was dedicated on May 26, 1997. The three chapters honored the Armed Forces in all our nation's conflicts with this monument. It is made of granite, and a bronze plaque is affixed to the top face of the stone block. The Purple Heart and American flag are inscribed on the plaque in the top left and right corners respectively.

Submarine Veterans of World War II: The Colorado Diggers and Ladies Auxiliary dedicated the monument to the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II in October 1998. It is a granite block with rough-cut sides and a honed top face. A bronze plaque is affixed to the top. The dedication includes insignia and the following text: IN MEMORY OF ALL COLORADE SUBMARINE SAILORS WHO SERVED (/) HONORABLY IN THE "SILENT SERVICE" DURING WORLD WAR II (/) AND THEIR LOVED ONES. [At the bottom left] DEDICATED BY THE COLORADO DIGGERS (/) & LADIES AUXILIARY [At the bottom right] OCTOBER 1998. The monument is located about 75 feet from Committal Shelter B.

U.S. Submarine Veterans: The monument to U.S. Submarine Veterans was dedicated July 8, 2011. The block-style monument consists of a granite base with rough-cut sides and a bronze plaque affixed to the honed top face. The plaque is inscribed with a dedication, donor insignia, and flags. The text reads: DEDICATED TO UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS WHO VOLUNTARILY ANSWERED THEIR COUNTRY'S CALL (/) AND FAITHFULLY SERVED IT IN TIMES OF WAR AND PEACE, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES AND REMAIN ON "ETERNAL PATROL" (/) A HEARTFELT "WELL DONE" (/) SAILOR, REST YOUR OAR! (/) ROCKY MOUNTAIN BASE (/) UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS (/) DENVER, COLORADO 2011.

Veterans Benefits Administration/Dorothy Starbuck: The monument is a granite block with a bronze plaque affixed to the top face. A bronze medallion with the VA insignia is attached to the front face. It was dedicated in 1997. The dedication inscription reads: This memorial is dedicated to the employees of the (/) Department of Veterans Affairs' Veterans Benefits (/) Administration. It is inspired by the memory of (/) DOROTHY L. STARBUCK, former Chief Benefits Director, (/) a tireless leader and advocate for veterans and their families. (/) Drawing from the extraordinary example of compassion and (/) tenacity set by MS. STARBUCK, the staff of the Veterans (/) Benefits Administration continues its outstanding efforts on (/) behalf of this nation's veterans.

Veterans Widows: The block-type monument is located near the VA Bench on the Memorial Walk. It was dedicated on June 28, 1997. The dedication date was allegedly selected to correspond to the Battle of Monmouth in 1778. The monument's base is a granite block. A bronze plaque is affixed to the top face of the stone; it provides the dedication inscription: DEDICATED BY THE (/) VETERANS' WIDOWS INTERNATIONAL NETWORK, INC. (/) FOUNDED DENVER, CO MARCH, 1995. The plaque also bears the insignia of the VWIN (Veterans' Widows International Network). Below the insignia, the inscription continues: In Memoriam of our husbands (/) either interred here or elsewhere around the world (/) who so faithfully served our country. (/) We honor and remember!

VFW Department of Colorado: The granite block monument has rough-cut sides and a bronze plaque affixed to the top face. The plaque is inscribed with the dedication as well as the insignia of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and its Auxiliary. The dedication reads: To honor all veterans and their families for (/) their sacrifices in the defense of freedom (/) around the world. (/) VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS (/) AND (/) LADIES AUXILIARY (/) DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO. The monument was dedicated on May 17, 2008.

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VFW Post 4171: The monument has a granite block base and a bronze dedication plaque. The insignia of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the inscription are presented on the plaque. The inscription reads: Golden Post 4171 (/) Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Beneath the insignia, it reads: This Memorial is dedicated to the memory of our Post members who served in the Armed Forces of the United States in all of our nation's conflicts. May their sacrifices of blood, sweat, and tears to secure and protect the freedoms that we enjoy never be forgotten. We must never allow tyranny and oppression to rule our country and destroy our freedom. (/) God bless our flag and God bless America. (/) March, 1997.

VFW Post 5061 and Ladies Auxiliary: The block monument consists of a granite base with a bronze plaque affixed to the face. The sides of the base are rough-cut. The inscription on the plaque reads: "VFW POST 5061 AND IT'S LADIES AUXILIARY (/) to honor those who put on a uniform and served our country at home or overseas during war time or peace time." Above the inscription is the insignia for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), and below is a row of insignias for the five armed service branches.

VFW Post 9644: The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 9644 monument was dedicated on May 30, 1997. It is a granite block with rough-cut sides and honed top face. The bronze dedication plaque is affixed to the top. Across the top of the plaque are the insignia for the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary. In-between the two is a scene of mountains and the U.S. flag. The text below reads: DEDICATED TO (/) COMRADES AND SISTERS (/) OF (/) VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. (/) VERLE HUFFMAN POST 9644 (/) AND ITS LADIES AUXILIARY (/) FOR THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE TO OUR NATION'S VETERANS (/) FORT LOGAN, COLORADO - MAY 30, 1997 (/) "REST IN PEACE."

The VA bench was installed in 1997 and is a permanent feature on the memorial pathway. It is made of granite. A large bronze medallion with the VA seal is attached to the front base of the bench (Figure 20).

## Integrity

Fort Logan National Cemetery retains a high degree of integrity particularly in the overall location, setting and design of the site. The present national cemetery includes the nineteenth-century post cemetery that was the initial burying ground and co-exists with the bordering institutional complex and suburban landscape that developed in tandem with the cemetery in the twentieth century. Designated as a national cemetery in 1950 and expanded to its present boundaries in 1976, the environs remained consistent. Moreover, designs for the grounds adhered to the architectural language that emerged in the earliest plans for national cemeteries at the end of the Civil War, throughout various modernization efforts and building construction. Improvements to the cemetery grounds followed a master plan conceived during the U.S. Army's administration of the site and updated by VA around 1980.<sup>16</sup> Walls, flagpoles, identifying signage and plaques, administrative and storage facilities, columbaria, and rows of headstones and markers provide a continuity of materials, workmanship, feeling and association across the national cemetery system.

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<sup>16</sup> "Master Plan."

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### 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 the 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Military

#### Period of Significance

1889-present

#### Significant Dates

1889

1950

1973

#### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

#### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

Unknown

#### Period of Significance (justification)

The beginning date of 1889 for the period of significance corresponds to the year that the first burial took place at the Fort Logan post cemetery, the predecessor of Fort Logan National Cemetery. Present is used as the end date as the National Register has determined that "present" is most consistent with the Congressional intent of the federal laws establishing the national cemeteries and with the National Register policies for evaluating properties of continuing exceptional importance. A closing date of "present" allows for the recognition of the highly significant values these places have had on the recent past, including honoring those killed in recent military conflicts.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Fort Logan National Cemetery is nationally significant under Criterion A for its association with the development of military and veterans cemeteries during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries by the federal government. It was previously determined eligible for listing by the Keeper of the NRHP in 1980.<sup>17</sup>

Fort Logan National Cemetery has a history that dates back to the late nineteenth century as the U.S. Army consolidated its Western posts as the frontier shrank, lessening the need for the smaller posts. Further, it is tied to Colorado's ongoing attempts to attract and keep federal installations during the twentieth century. Fort Logan National Cemetery is one of dozens of cemeteries that were operated by the Army as part of the national cemetery system prior to its transfer to the Veterans Administration by the National Cemeteries Act of 1973.

Fort Logan National Cemetery serves as a memorial to the sacrifices of the U.S. military, and is a reflection of the expanded burial and memorial mission established during the Civil War with the earliest national cemeteries. For these reasons, Criteria Consideration D is also satisfied.

### **Early History of Fort Logan**

Fort Logan, dating to the 1880s, represents an evolutionary step in the U.S. Army's presence in the American West. During the 1880s the Army began closing many of its outlying posts as western states became more and more populated and developed. As a result, the once isolated settlements no longer required military protection. The spread of the western rail network also allowed the Army to quickly move troops and supplies to wherever the need arose. The frontier posts that had played such an important role in the development of the West became increasingly obsolete and expensive to maintain. The functions of those posts were consolidated at fewer, often larger, forts. Recognizing this trend, Denver business leaders and Colorado U.S. Senator Henry M. Teller began a campaign to convince the Army to build a post in or near Denver. Local leaders donated funds sufficient to acquire 640 acres for a fort. During 1887 Teller introduced a bill in Congress to authorize a fort in the Denver area that was signed by President Grover Cleveland in February of that year. Army representatives, including Lieutenant General Philip Sheridan, came to Denver to find a suitable location for the new post during March 1887. Sheridan viewed a number of potential sites and selected one known as the "Johnson Tract" or the "Johnson Ranch" south of Bear Creek and southwest of the city. By the end of the summer land had been purchased and turned over to the Army and the initial troop detachments from the 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment under the command of Major George K. Brady arrived in Colorado. After spending a short time at a neighboring ranch, they moved onto Army land at the end of October, marking the official opening of the post. In November Captain Lafayette E. Campbell, Quartermaster Corps, arrived to organize the construction efforts. During 1888 the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad built a spur to Fort Logan to supply the troops. The construction program continued for nearly a decade when the bachelor officers' quarters and new parade grounds were completed in 1897.<sup>18</sup>

The 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry continued to be the post's primary garrison through 1888 and into early 1889. During April of the former year the post was finally given an official title by the Secretary of War: Fort Logan, named for John Alexander Logan (1826-1886). Logan had been a general with the Union Army during the Civil War and later became the first commander of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), one of the nation's first large, vocal

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<sup>17</sup> Sandra M. Webb and Karen R. Tupek, Fort Logan National Cemetery Nomination draft, n.d., and National Register Determination of Eligibility, cover page, 8 December 1980, Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO.

<sup>18</sup> "A Brief History of Fort Logan," Denver: Friends of Historic Fort Logan, n. d., hereafter cited: Friends "Brief;" and "Site Record for site 5DV4344," Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO., hereafter cited: "5DV4344."

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veterans groups. From his position as commander of the GAR, Logan directed veterans to observe May 30 as Decoration Day to honor the military dead. This holiday evolved into Memorial Day, observed on the last Monday of May.<sup>19</sup>

In May 1889 two companies of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry arrived at Fort Logan from Fort Laramie, Wyoming. A few months later the headquarters of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry and five more companies arrived at Fort Logan relieving the 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry as the post's garrison. The 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry's commander Colonel Henry Clay Merriam took over as the commanding officer of Fort Logan. During the early months of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry's presence at Fort Logan the first burial took place in the post cemetery when Private Peterkin's daughter, Mable, passed away on June 28, 1889 (Figure 16).<sup>20</sup> The Army transferred the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry from Fort Bowie (Arizona Territory) to Ft. Logan during 1894 and it became the first cavalry unit stationed at Fort Logan. That year also marked the beginning of Army aviation at Fort Logan when the Signal Corps stationed an observation balloon at the post. Ivy Baldwin, then a sergeant, piloted the balloon. The balloon remained at Fort Logan until the outbreak of the Spanish-American War in 1898 when it was sent to Cuba to support Army operations there. The balloon crew gathered valuable reconnaissance information prior to being shot down on the second day of the Battle of Santiago. This marked the end of active ballooning by the Army at Fort Logan. In addition to the balloon, the Army shipped nearly all of the post's troops to the island for the duration of hostilities.<sup>21</sup>

### **History of Army Activities at Fort Logan during the Twentieth Century**

During the early twentieth century the Army continued to have a presence at Fort Logan and in 1908 expanded the post through the acquisition of another 340 acres. The next year the Army re-tasked the post to become a recruit depot primarily handling inductions into the Army before the new soldiers were shipped to other locations for their training. As such the post was extremely busy during World War I when the United States' small peacetime Army suddenly expanded to millions of soldiers. During the 1920s Dwight D. Eisenhower, then a Major, was one of the recruiting officers stationed at the post.

A single company of the 38<sup>th</sup> Infantry garrisoned Fort Logan from 1922 until 1927 when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Engineers arrived at the post and took control. This unit organized and supervised much of the rehabilitation work done during the 1930s at Fort Logan. They were assisted by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal program.<sup>22</sup> During 1940, as the nation began to mobilize in anticipation of likely participation in World War II, Fort Logan became a sub-post of the Army Air Corps' Lowry Army Air Base located on the plains east of Denver. The fort was used as a school to train clerks while it continued to be a personnel processing center. As the wartime casualties mounted the Army also used parts of Fort Logan as a convalescent hospital. The increasing number of German prisoners caused the Army to open a Prisoner of War camp at Fort Logan. At its height the post was home to as many as 5,500 soldiers and others involved in the war effort.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> "Brief" and "5DV4344."

<sup>20</sup> Topographic maps made in the 1940s and 1950s show the post cemetery located at the present cemetery's northwest corner; it was folded into the national cemetery plan as the grounds developed. This is illustrated in topographic maps from 1967 to 1994. (See Figure 15, plus Photo 25 for an image of headstone from the post cemetery era) HALS Photographs also include views in the old post cemetery vicinity, including HALS No. CO-2-6, CO-2-19, and CO-2-20. See "Fort Logan National Cemetery," Historic American Landscapes Survey, National Park Service for National Cemetery Administration, 2006, Library of Congress.

<sup>21</sup> "Brief," and "The Story of Fort Logan's War Balloons: 1894-1898," Denver: Friends of Historic Fort Logan, n. d.

<sup>22</sup> Specific projects through the WPA for the post cemetery are not known at this time; likely the labor was used for infrastructure improvements throughout the post. Grading, riprap installations, and wall repairs are some of the projects carried out with WPA funds and labor elsewhere.

<sup>23</sup> "Brief," 5DV4344, and "Site Record for site 5DV4344.1," Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO., and "Site Record for site 5DV4344.1," Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO., and "Site Record for site 5DV694," Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO.

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## Fort Logan after World War II and the Development of the National Cemetery

After Japan signed the peace treaty on September 2, 1945 ending World War II, the Army determined Fort Logan to be surplus property, closing the post in 1946. From 1946 through 1951 the Veterans Administration (VA) used the buildings as a temporary hospital while awaiting completion of the Denver VA Hospital. After the VA moved out of the buildings, the Army placed the post in caretaker status pending future disposal.

By late 1944 and early 1945 the federal government, including the Army, began planning for the postwar world and demobilization. During 1946 and 1947 the Army identified surplus military reservations and posts and the Memorial Division of the Quartermaster Corps examined these surplus properties, looking at them as potential sites for new or expanded national cemeteries. The Memorial Division determined that lands within nine of the surplus posts could be used as burial grounds. This proposal was incorporated into Bill No. S 272. As the legislation worked its way through Congress, a number of changes took place to the bill and in the final version it only specified lands at Fort Rosecrans (San Diego, CA) and Jefferson Barracks (St. Louis, MO) for national cemeteries.<sup>24</sup> The failure of that act to include Fort Logan led to further efforts by Denver boosters and interested parties to renew their efforts on behalf of a national cemetery at Fort Logan.

The local Denver supporters caught the ears of Colorado's U.S. Senators, Eugene D. Milliken and Edward C. Johnson. Their efforts led to passage of Public Law 453 of the 81<sup>st</sup> Congress that established a national cemetery at Fort Logan in 1950.<sup>25</sup> This was due in large part to the lobbying efforts of Mrs. Kathleen Miller of Denver who wanted her son, Master Sergeant Harry C. Miller, who had been killed in a B-29 raid over Japan, to be buried in Denver. MS Miller was originally buried in China and later his remains were relocated to Hawaii, and finally to Denver, after the national cemetery opened.<sup>26</sup>

The Army dedicated the cemetery on March 10, 1950, as Denver National Cemetery and Denver National Cemetery, North. The "north" designation referred to the existing post cemetery.<sup>27</sup> Rocky Mountain Arsenal handled the burials and other operations until November 23, 1951, when the Quartermaster Corps appointed a superintendent for the cemetery and a few months later, on February 1, 1952, necessary staff was authorized, terminating the role of the Arsenal in the cemetery's operations.<sup>28</sup> As these changes were taking place the local citizenry campaigned for a name change because of the confusion caused by the two names and the desire to relate the cemetery to Fort Logan. The Army acquiesced, changing the name to Fort Logan National Cemetery in February 1952.<sup>29</sup> The original national cemetery included 132 acres of the Fort Logan military reservation with 15 developed acres and 117 kept in reserve for future development.<sup>30</sup>

The early development of Fort Logan National Cemetery occurred in the northwestern portion of the current cemetery in and around the original post cemetery, moving out from there in southerly and easterly directions. As early as 1956 the cemetery needed to develop additional land for burials (Figure 1).<sup>31</sup> By 1966 this growth led to another significant increase to the developed area by adding another thirteen acres with nearly 7,000

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<sup>24</sup> "Data Concerning New National Cemetery at Fort Logan, Colorado," National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington D.C.

<sup>25</sup> "History of the Ft. Logan National Cemetery," National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington D.C., hereafter cited: "History of Ft. Logan."

<sup>26</sup> *Denver Post*, 2 November 1950.

<sup>27</sup> "History of Ft. Logan."

<sup>28</sup> "Denver National Cemetery - North," National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington D.C.

<sup>29</sup> Briefing Book, Location of Fort Logan National Cemetery for September 1952, National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D.C., hereafter cited: Briefing Book; and Charles J. Dorman to Chief of the Memorial Division, letter 4 January 1951, Record Group 15, Box 14, Fort Logan Entries, National Archives, College Park, MD.

<sup>30</sup> "Master Plan."

<sup>31</sup> Percival Brundage to Harvey B. Higley, letter 19 March 1956, National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D.C.



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burials at the cemetery by April 1966.<sup>32</sup> Land not being used for cemetery purposes was leased to a local rancher for grazing. Additionally, the Army allowed Incinerator Lake to be used by the VA hospital for recreational fishing by patients.

In addition to the build out of burials sections, the late 1950s and 1960s the first round of construction specific to the cemetery took place. The first building completed at the cemetery was a square, brick maintenance building, which consisted of a small office and garage bay, in 1956. It was expanded in 1958 with the addition of two garage bays situated perpendicular to the original building. A superintendent's lodge and office was constructed in 1958 just inside of the entrance in the then popular Ranch or sometimes called a Rambler style, continuing a tradition established in the national cemeteries just after the Civil War of superintendents living on the cemetery grounds (see Figure 10; 5DV.4344.1; it was removed ca. 1994).<sup>33</sup> In 1960, the maintenance building underwent interior changes in order to move the superintendent's office from the lodge into the maintenance building (Figures 10 and 13).<sup>34</sup> Prior to this construction the cemetery used old temporary barracks buildings for office space and other purposes, and rented office and living space for the superintendent approximately eight miles from the cemetery. As part of the early building program the first new fences were installed at the cemetery along with a formal entrance—now the North Gate.<sup>35</sup> In October 1967, an administration building was constructed adjacent to a new entrance located south of the original entrance along South Sheridan Boulevard. It was renovated in 1986 to serve as a gravesite locator building and restrooms and was demolished ca. 2004 (Figures 11 and 12; 5DV.9008).

During the 1950s the Quartermaster Corps also began to address securing an adequate water supply to irrigate the cemetery, a critical issue in semi-arid climates such as Denver's. This effort reached a major milestone during 1969 when the cemetery installed new pumping systems for Incinerator Lake and secured new water supplies.<sup>36</sup> Throughout these early years the cemetery grew only slowly, but planning for the future, including issues with the water supply, continued under the auspices of the Army Quartermaster Corps.<sup>37</sup>

### **National Cemetery Act of 1973 and Changes to the National Cemetery System**

In 1973 Congress transferred all but two of the national cemeteries from the Army to the Veterans Administration (VA) in an effort to consolidate all federal-owned and operated veterans cemeteries under one agency. VA received the Fort Logan property from the Army on August 13, 1973.<sup>38</sup> At the time of the transfer, the Army had recently completed a master development plan for the cemetery. Included in the master plan was an aerial photograph of the cemetery from 1973 that shows the cemetery entrance slightly north of the current main gate, a secondary entrance that corresponds to the present north gate, the Old Maintenance Building with additions, the Administration Building and Superintendent's Lodge (Figure 3). The aerial depicts all burials being north of the current route of Logan Boulevard and west of a street that was near the current eastern ends of Montana Street and Denver Drive. Modern Incinerator Lake is present, but referred to in 1973 as Cemetery

<sup>32</sup> "Building Planned at Ft. Logan Cemetery," *Denver Post*, 7 April 1966.

<sup>33</sup> Aerials and topographic maps include the lodge in 1994; it is gone by the 1999 aerial photography. The intention to demolish the lodge is discussed as early as 1993. James E. Hartmann, SHPO, to Robert B. Holbrook, DVA, letter 16 November 1993, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D.C.

<sup>34</sup> Briefing Book and Superintendent's Lodge, Maintenance Building and Administration Building Property Cards, Record Group 15, Box 14, Fort Logan Entries, National Archives, College Park, MD.

<sup>35</sup> Drawings and photos of first cemetery headquarters, 11 May 1953, National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D.C., and Buildings and Utilities card, Main Entrance Gate, National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D.C.

<sup>36</sup> "Water Supply Study," 1957, and "Acceptance of FY 1969 P-0862 Construction Projects," National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D. C.

<sup>37</sup> Briefing Book.

<sup>38</sup> Transfer and Acceptance of Military Real Property, Fort Logan National Cemetery, 23 July 1973, National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D. C.

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Lake. The reservoir presently northeast of the lake had yet to be constructed; instead a tributary of Bear Creek runs to the northeast. There are very few trees in the photo, most of which are immature except in and around the old post cemetery in the northwest corner of the property. The plan presented a comprehensive design for the entire site that included a new entrance and administration building, maintenance complex, superintendent's lodge, reservoir, and "structural interment facilities", in addition to expanded in-ground burial sections.<sup>39</sup>

Despite the change in leadership, the VA undertook a program to carry out many of the projects found in the Army's master development plan during the later 1970s and through the 1980s. Additionally, the VA sought out land for cemetery expansion. In 1976, 76.83 acres to the east of the cemetery, along West Kenyon Avenue, were transferred to VA. The land was formerly part of the Fort Logan Military Reservation; it was deeded in 1960 to the state of Colorado for use as a mental hospital that came to be known as the Fort Logan Mental Health Center, now the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan. The parcel had reverted to the U.S. government in 1975.<sup>40</sup> Major elements of the master plan that were carried out during this period included the construction of a new entrance and Logan Boulevard, building of the reservoir northeast of Incinerator Lake, and the construction of a larger administration building; the 1960s administration building was turned into a visitor's center. In addition, incrementally more acres were developed for interments<sup>41</sup> (Figures 3 and 4).

By 1980 the VA prepared a program that led to significant changes at the cemetery. The agency began the process by requesting a Determination of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places from the Keeper of the Register. The 1980 documentation indicates that slightly less than 41 acres had been developed for cemetery purposes and the remaining 173.2 acres were still undeveloped. The wording of the nomination form also indicates that the unnamed lagoon was yet to be constructed as it only discusses Incinerator Lake. The Keeper of the Register determined that the cemetery was eligible under Criterion A and Exception D:

Ft. Logan National Cemetery is eligible as one of the national cemeteries under the jurisdiction of the Veterans Administration. All such cemeteries are potentially eligible due to inherent exceptional significance and from association with historic events.

The eligible portion of the cemetery is the 40.8 acres that have been developed for cemetery purposes. The remaining acreage is judged not to be eligible at this time because it has not been developed or utilized.<sup>42</sup>

The first major change following this determination was the construction of what was then the new administration building during 1986. Five years later, the lands in the eastern section of the original cemetery property were landscaped and prepared for burial use (Figure 5). The VA also built the current maintenance and storage buildings in 1991. At approximately the same time, the road system in the eastern part of the cemetery was laid out. By 1994, the superintendent's lodge was demolished; it had not been used for approximately ten years. The area it occupied inside of the North Gate was turned into a memorial section.

As the number of burials at the cemetery continued to grow, further improvements were planned in the early 2000s. In particular, the administration wing was added to the maintenance building during 2004 and Committal Shelter A was built at the same time replacing a 1991 structure. Once the new administration wing opened, the 1986 administration building was remodeled, expanded, and converted to the Public Information

<sup>39</sup> "Master Plan," 6, 12.

<sup>40</sup> "Brief," and John T. Long to Dean Harper, letter 25 October 1973, National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D.C.; Michael J. Norton, Regional Administrator, General Services Administration, to Dovan E. Hower, Director, Land Management Service, Veterans Administration, letter 17 March 1976.

<sup>41</sup> 1980 Photo Montage, National Cemetery Administration, Ft. Logan National Cemetery vertical file, Washington, D.C.

<sup>42</sup> "5DV4344."

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Center. The unused 1960s administration building/visitors center was torn down at this time. Two years later, in 2006, Committal Shelters B and C were built, again replacing earlier structures. The final improvement as of this date was the construction of Columbarium 1 and Columbarium 3, consisting of niche walls for the interment of cremated remains that was first suggested in the 1970s master plan.<sup>43</sup>

### **Headstones and Burial at Fort Logan National Cemetery**

The variety of grave markers at Fort Logan National Cemetery reflects the history and evolution of government headstones. After the War Department created the first organized system of marking graves with wood boards in 1861, a concerted effort was undertaken to recover the dead from their temporary wartime burial places and accomplish permanent reburial. Public sentiment turned toward a more permanent mode of marking graves, and in 1873 Secretary of War William W. Belknap approved the first stone design for permanent national cemetery markers.

For the known dead, the War Department adopted a slab design of marble or durable stone 4 inches thick, 10 inches wide, and 12 inches high. The stone was polished and the top slightly curved. The number of the grave, rank, name of soldier, and soldier's home state were engraved on the front face. While not part of the original design, the majority of the headstones from this time period feature a recessed shield in which the inscription appears in bas relief. This marker, referred to as the Recessed-Shield type, was originally designed for members of the Union Army but was eventually used for the eligible deceased of the conflicts with Native Americans and Spanish-American War. A small block of marble with the number of the grave cut on the top face marked the graves of the unknown dead. The War Department discontinued the use of stone blocks for unknown soldiers in 1903 and adopted the same stone design for both known and unknown soldiers.

Following World War I, a board of officers composed of Assistant Secretary of War J. M. Wainwright, Army Chief of Staff General John J. Pershing and Quartermaster General Harry L. Rogers adopted a new design to be used for all graves except those of the veterans of the Civil War and Spanish-American War. The General-type headstone approved in 1922 took the same form as the earlier headstone but did away with the shield design. The recessed inscription on the front face included the soldier's name, rank, regiment, division, date of death, and home state. Also after World War I, an emblem of belief (EOB), the Latin cross or Star of David, was authorized for use on each stone. Over time, additional inscriptions were permitted on headstones, fonts changed, and additional EOBs were authorized.

Because Fort Logan began as a post cemetery, a number of private markers can still be seen in the oldest sections of the cemetery. Private markers were prohibited in new sections of the national cemetery as they were developed. Additionally a few sections of flat markers are present at Fort Logan. Flat markers were sanctioned by Congress in 1985 for all new sections in national cemeteries. However, due to large public outcry, the legislation was rescinded less than a year later in favor of the General-type headstone.

Veterans of the Civil War, Spanish-American War, the two World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, recent conflicts in the Middle East and the peacetime military establishment are buried at Fort Logan National Cemetery, along with their eligible dependents. Among the veterans buried are two Medal of Honor recipients—the Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor bestowed on members of the U.S. Armed Forces. A third recipient is memorialized in the cemetery. The recipients are:

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<sup>43</sup> William J. Leeper, Sr. and Judy Zelio Interview, 17 September 2011, Joseph Turnbach Interview, 31 August 2011, Google Earth Fort Logan National Cemetery 5 May 2011 image, and Dennis T. Gerdovich to Jennifer Perunko, electronic communication, 11 October 2011, copy in possession of Steven F. Mehls at WCRM, Boulder, CO.

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**Major William E. Adams**, (Vietnam) U.S. Army, A/227th Assault Helicopter Co., 52nd Aviation Battalion, 1st Aviation Brigade. Kontum Province, Republic of Vietnam, May 25, 1971 (Section P, Grave 3831).

**First Sergeant Maximo Yabes**, (Vietnam) U.S. Army, Company A, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. Phu Hoa Dong, Republic of Vietnam, February 26, 1967 (Section R, Grave 369).

**Private John Davis**, (Civil War) Company F, 17th Indiana Mounted Infantry. Culloden, Ga., April 1865 (Memorialized in section MB, Grave 280).

In addition to the three Medal of Honor recipients, notable burials at the cemetery include several "Buffalo Soldiers" – men of African and Caribbean descent who served in segregated regiments (9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cavalry, and 24th and 25th U.S. Infantry) in the years following the Civil War. Additionally, the cemetery is the final resting place of German prisoner of war Karl Baatz, who died while being held at Fort Logan during World War II.

### Summary

Over 100,000 military men and women, and their eligible spouses and dependents, are buried in Fort Logan National Cemetery, as of June 2012. The U.S. flag flies daily over the orderly rows of white marble markers in honor of the lives and deeds of those who answered the call of duty. Set against the backdrop of snow-capped Mount Evans, Fort Logan National Cemetery reflects the lives of those willing to serve and protect their country in times of war and peace. The cemetery is maintained and preserved as a final resting place and memorial to U.S. military personnel.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Manuscripts

Washington, D.C. National Cemetery Administration. Fort Logan National Cemetery Vertical File. Briefing Book, Location of Fort Logan National Cemetery for September 1952.

Washington, D.C. National Cemetery Administration. Fort Logan National Cemetery Vertical File. Gerald F. Kessler & Associates and Fensten Engineering Corporation. "Fort Logan National Cemetery Master Development Plan." 1973.

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Denver, CO. Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society. Site Records for sites 5DV694, 5DV4344, 5DV4344.1, 5DV9008, and 5DV11489.

Denver, CO. Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, and National Park Service. Sandra M. Webb and Karen R Tupek. *Fort Logan National Register Nomination*, undated (determined eligible, 8 December 1980).

Washington, D.C. National Cemetery Administration. Fort Logan National Cemetery Vertical File. Transfer and Acceptance of Military Real Property, Fort Logan National Cemetery, 23 July 1973.

Pamphlets

"A Brief History of Fort Logan." Denver: Friends of Historic Fort Logan, n. d.

Newspapers

"Sgt. Miller First G.I. Buried in Logan in U.S. Cemetery," *Denver Post* 2 November 1950.

"Building Planned at Ft. Logan Cemetery," *Denver Post* 7 April 1966.

Personal Communications

Interview with William J. Leeper, Sr. and Judy Zelio at Ft. Logan Museum (Historic Field Officers Quarters) 3742 West Princeton Circle, Denver, CO 80236. 17 September 2011.

Interview with Joseph Turnbach, Cemetery Director, Fort Logan National Cemetery. 31 August 2011.

Photographs

Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) Collection, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. David Haas, Photographer, May 2006, for National Cemetery Administration.

Web Sites

Fort Logan National Cemetery, Google Earth. Image dated 5 May 2011.

Fort Logan National Cemetery, <http://www.cem.va.gov/CEM/cems/maps/ftlogan888.pdf>.

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscapes Survey # CO-2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Sandra M. Webb and Karen R Tupek, Fort Logan National Register Nomination, undated (1980); found officially eligible by the Keeper of the National Register 8 December 1980.

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 5DV.4344

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 214  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

The UTM reference point was derived from heads up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHP by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

**UTM References (NAD 83)**  
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

<p>1 <u>13</u>      <u>495 466</u>      <u>4388 962</u> Zone      Easting      Northing</p> <p>3 <u>13</u>      <u>495 698</u>      <u>4388 875</u> Zone      Easting      Northing</p> <p>5 <u>13</u>      <u>497 024</u>      <u>4388 456</u> Zone      Easting      Northing</p> <p>7 <u>13</u>      <u>496 260</u>      <u>4388 204</u> Zone      Easting      Northing</p>	<p>2 <u>13</u>      <u>495 698</u>      <u>4388 958</u> Zone      Easting      Northing</p> <p>4 <u>13</u>      <u>497 020</u>      <u>4388 861</u> Zone      Easting      Northing</p> <p>6 <u>13</u>      <u>496 260</u>      <u>4388 456</u> Zone      Easting      Northing</p> <p>8 <u>13</u>      <u>495 460</u>      <u>4388 204</u> Zone      Easting      Northing</p>
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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Fort Logan National Cemetery is located in: the south half of the northwest quarter; the south half of the northeast quarter; the north half of the north half of the southwest quarter; and the south half of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 6, Township 5 south, Range 68 west of the 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian, commonly described as 4400 W. Kenyon Avenue, City and County of Denver, Colorado.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

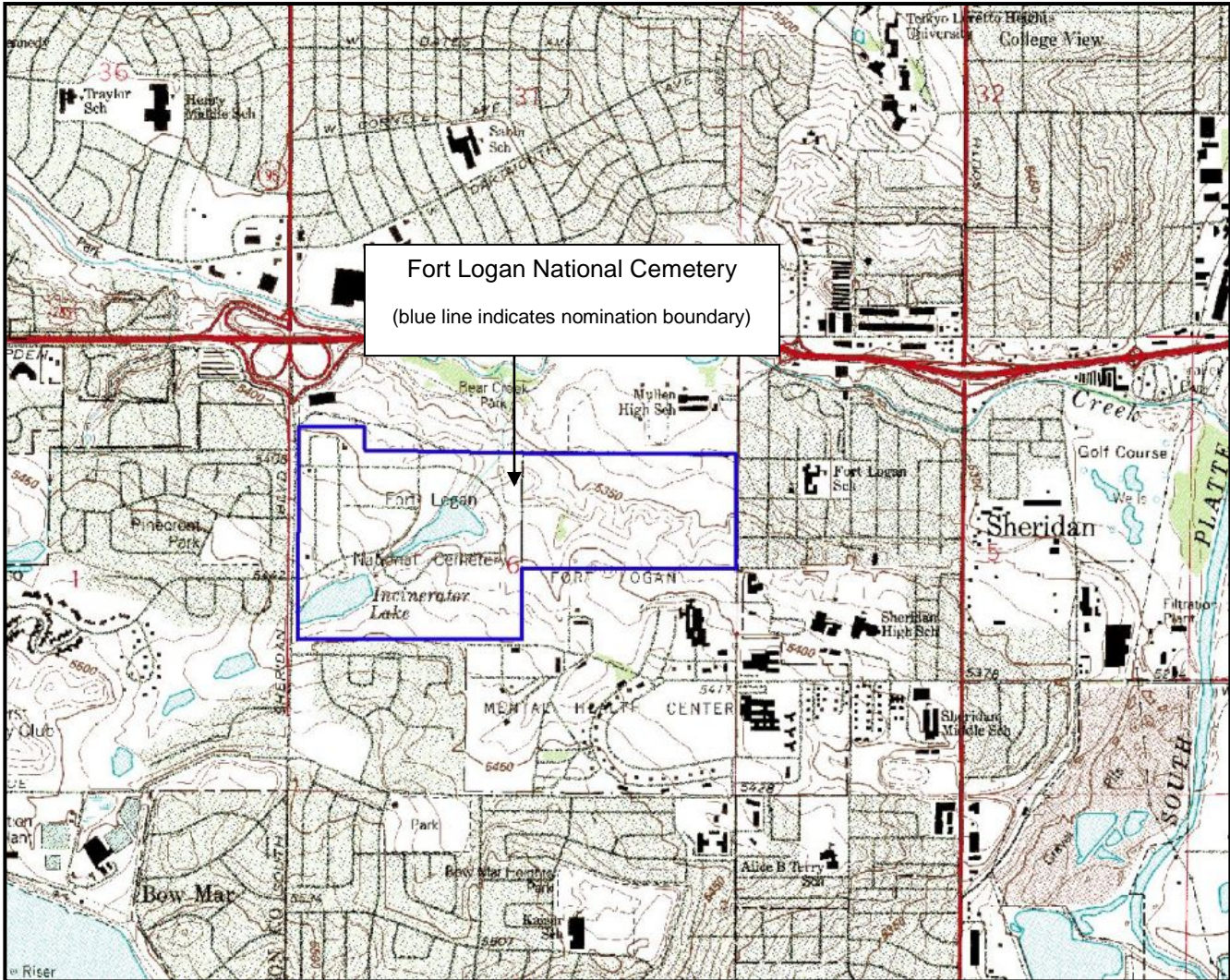
The National Cemetery Administration recognizes the above verbal boundary as the existing boundaries of the cemetery. The boundaries include the developed and undeveloped parts of the cemetery, which are both historically associated with the Fort Logan National Cemetery.

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**USGS Topographic Map** (7.5 minute series)  
Fort Logan Quadrangle  
Regional perspective

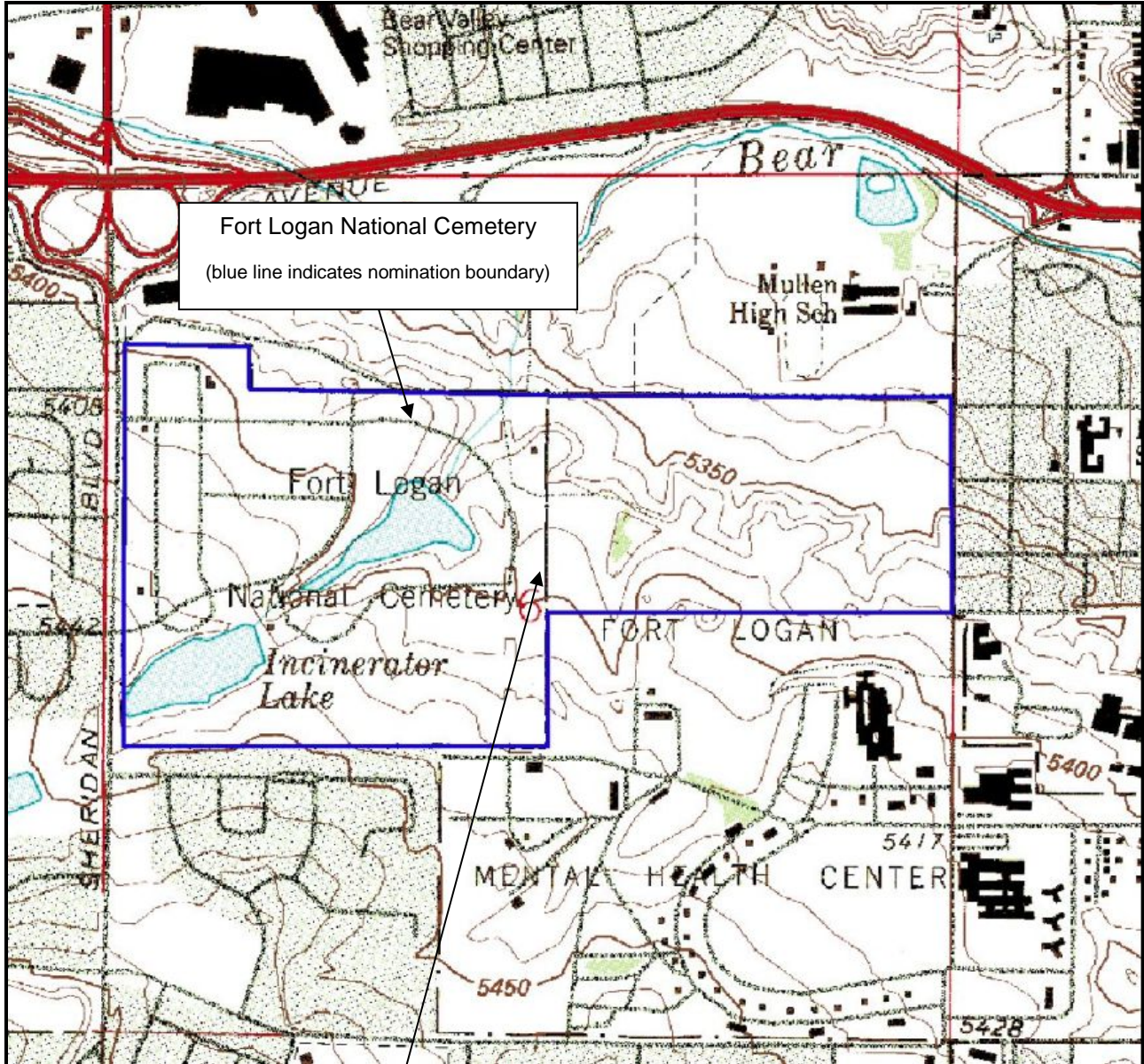
Elevation Ranges from 5330' - 5440'



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**USGS Topographic Map** (7.5 minute series)  
Fort Logan Quadrangle  
Close – up perspective



Fort Logan National Cemetery  
(blue line indicates nomination boundary)

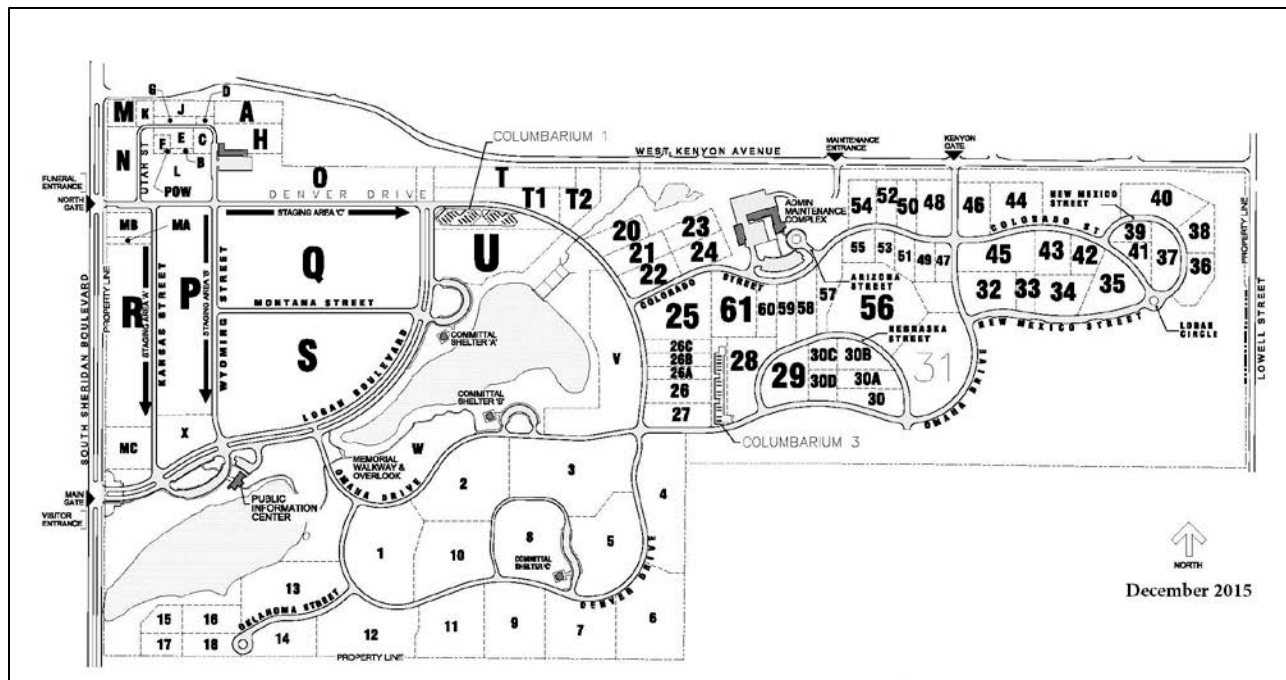
Black line marks earlier east boundary, prior to 1973



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Fort Logan National Cemetery Sketch Map, 2015



**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Steven F. Mehls, Historian (for owner)  
organization Western Cultural Resource Management Date February 25, 2012 |revised January 2015  
street & number P.O. Box 2326 telephone 303-449-1151  
city or town Boulder State CO zip code 80306  
e-mail [steve.mehls@wcrminc.com](mailto:steve.mehls@wcrminc.com)

**Additional Documentation**

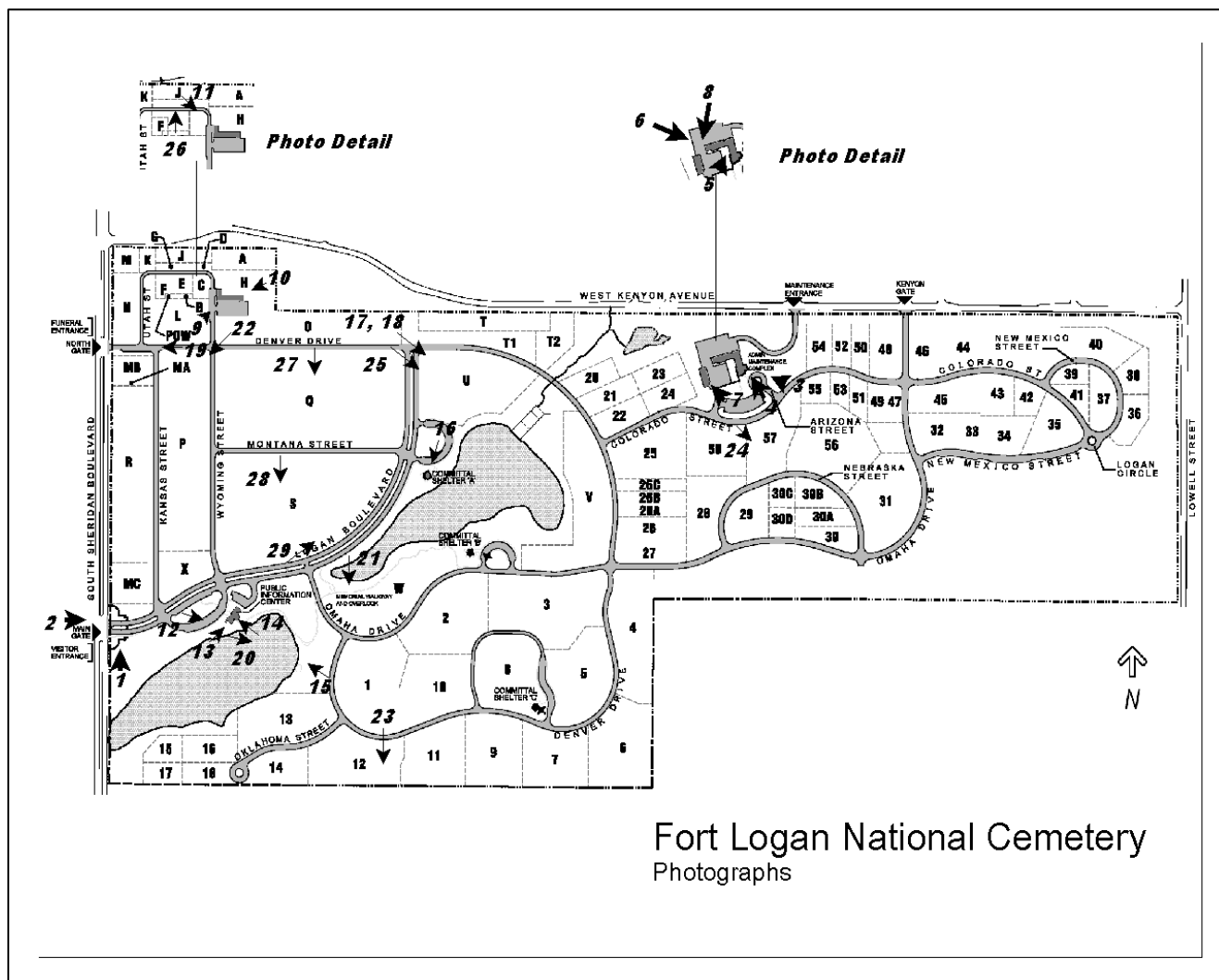
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**

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Photo Key



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Photographs

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Fort Logan National Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Denver

County: Denver

State: Colorado

Photographer: Steve Mehls

Date Photographed: August 31, 2011

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Description of Photograph(s) and number:

001. View to north, Main entrance sign
002. View to east, Main gate
003. View to northwest, Administration Offices and Traffic circle with POW/MIA flagpole
004. View to north-northwest, Administration Offices oblique view of main entry
005. View to north-northeast, Maintenance Building front oblique
006. View to southeast, Maintenance Building rear oblique
007. View to west-northwest, Garage and Storage Building façade oblique
008. View to southwest, Garage and Storage Building façade oblique
009. View to northeast, Old Maintenance Building façade oblique
010. View to southwest, Old Maintenance Building rear oblique
011. View to southeast, Old Maintenance Building former office area and section marker in foreground
012. View to southeast, Public Information Center façade oblique
013. View to northeast, Public Information Center western end and rear
014. View to north-northwest, Public Information Center view of rear breezeway
015. View to northwest, View of Incinerator Lake and Public Information Center; main flagpole near left edge of image
016. View to southwest, View of Committal Shelter A, identical to Committal Shelters B and C.
017. View to southeast, Overview of Columbaria area and flat markers portion of the cemetery
018. View to southeast, Detail of Columbaria area showing construction equipment
019. View to west, North Gate and Denver Drive
020. View to southeast, Overview of Incinerator Lake and Flagpole from the Public Information Center
021. View to southwest, Overview of Memorial Pathway and Lagoon
022. View to southwest, Overview of older portion of the cemetery showing mature trees
023. View to south, Overview of newer portion of the cemetery showing proximity to residential development in background
024. View to southeast, Overview of newer portion of the cemetery showing immature trees
025. View to north, View of typical headstone from the late nineteenth century in the old post cemetery portion of the cemetery
026. View to south, View of typical headstone from the mid to late twentieth century in the national cemetery portion of the cemetery
027. View to south, View of Memorial section and typical "In Memory of" headstone from the mid to late twentieth century during national cemetery operations
028. View of a typical private grave markers in the older section of the cemetery
029. View to northeast, View of Logan Boulevard

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**Historic Image/Figure Log**

All historic images and figures are on file with the Veteran’s Cemetery Administration, Washington, D.C., unless otherwise noted.

Figure No.	Description
1	Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 1961, showing lodge, old maintenance building and the current North Entrance and Utah Street. (Note: North is top of photo; intersection of South Sheridan Blvd. and West Kenyon Avenue is in upper left corner.)
2	Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 1967, showing expansion of cemetery to the south along South Sheridan Blvd; there is a new entrance from the main road and a designed flagpole plaza. (Note: The lake bed on Incinerator Lake is visible in the bottom, left corner, and a tributary to Bear Creek can be seen extending from the lake to the upper right corner of the photo. The creek will eventually be dammed to create the T-shaped reservoir known as Memorial Lake.)
3	Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 1973, showing the administration building at the southern entrance to the cemetery and the expansion of burial sections to the east. (Note: The dashed line indicates the boundaries of the national cemetery property prior to 1976.)
4	Fort Logan National Cemetery, layout map, 1985, showing expansion of cemetery to the east and the lake/reservoir created from the damming of Bear Creek; the southern entrance present in the 1967 aerial photo has been closed and a new entrance constructed further south. Also present are an administration building constructed just inside of the old southern entrance and a permanent interment shelter on the north shore of the lake/reservoir.
5	Fort Logan National Cemetery, layout map, 1990, showing the first numerical burial sections shown of Omaha Drive. Also present are the reconfigured southern entrance leading to Logan Boulevard—the main thoroughfare through the cemetery—and a new administration building. The old administration building is now referred to as the “Visitor’s Building.”
6	Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 1994, showing the lodge shortly before demolition.
7	Fort Logan National Cemetery, layout map, 2011, just before the construction of the columbarium courts.
8	Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 2013, after the completion of the columbarium courts.
9	Fort Logan National Cemetery main entrance gates on Sheridan Boulevard. Unknown date. Unknown photographer. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.
10	Fort Logan National Cemetery front of lodge, camera facing east. 1978. Unknown photographer. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.
11	Fort Logan National Cemetery front of Administration Building, 1978. Unknown photographer. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.
12	Fort Logan National Cemetery front of Administration Building, 1993 (5DV.9008; no longer extant). Photographer: URS Corp. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.

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13	Fort Logan National Cemetery front of Service Building, west-facing side, 1978. Unknown photographer. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.
14	Detail of site plan showing the Memorial Walk and monument placement along the path, April 2003, and photograph, 2005.
15	Topographic Maps, 1940s-1980s, illustrating location of the post cemetery and development of Fort Logan and the national cemetery.
16	Headstone for the grave of Mable Peterkin, who died June 1889. The interment was the first in the cemetery. Photograph, 2007.
17	<i>Bivouac of the Dead</i> Plaque near the Public Information Center and Incinerator Lake. Photograph, 2005. Gettysburg Address Plaque near the main flagpole and Memorial Walk. Photograph 2016.
18	Blue Star Memorial Marker near entrance to Fort Logan National Cemetery. Photograph, 2007.
19	View along the Memorial Walk. Photograph, 2005.
20	VA Bench on the Memorial Walk. Photograph, 2005.

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Figure 1: Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 1961, showing lodge, old maintenance building and the current North Entrance and Utah Street. (Note: North is top of photo; intersection of South Sheridan Blvd. and West Kenyon Avenue is in upper left corner.)

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Figure 2: Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 1967, showing expansion of cemetery to the south along South Sheridan Blvd; there is a new entrance from the main road and a designed flagpole plaza. (Note: The lake bed on Incinerator Lake is visible in the bottom, left corner, and a tributary to Bear Creek can be seen extending from the lake to the upper right corner of the photo. The creek will eventually be dammed to create the T-shaped reservoir known as Memorial Lake.)

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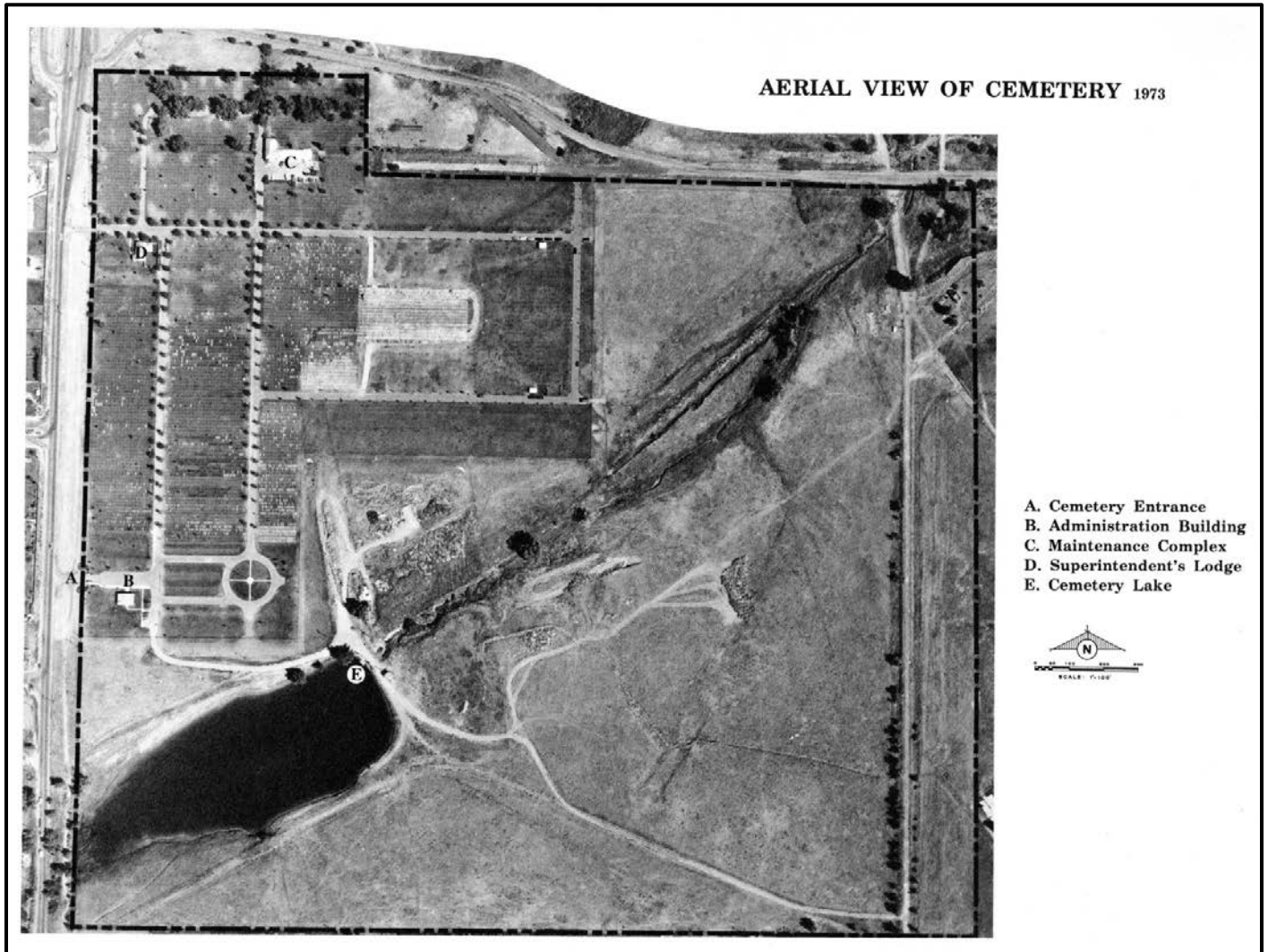


Figure 3: Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 1973, showing the administration building at the southern entrance to the cemetery and the expansion of burial sections to the east. (Note: The dashed line indicates the boundaries of the national cemetery property prior to 1976.)



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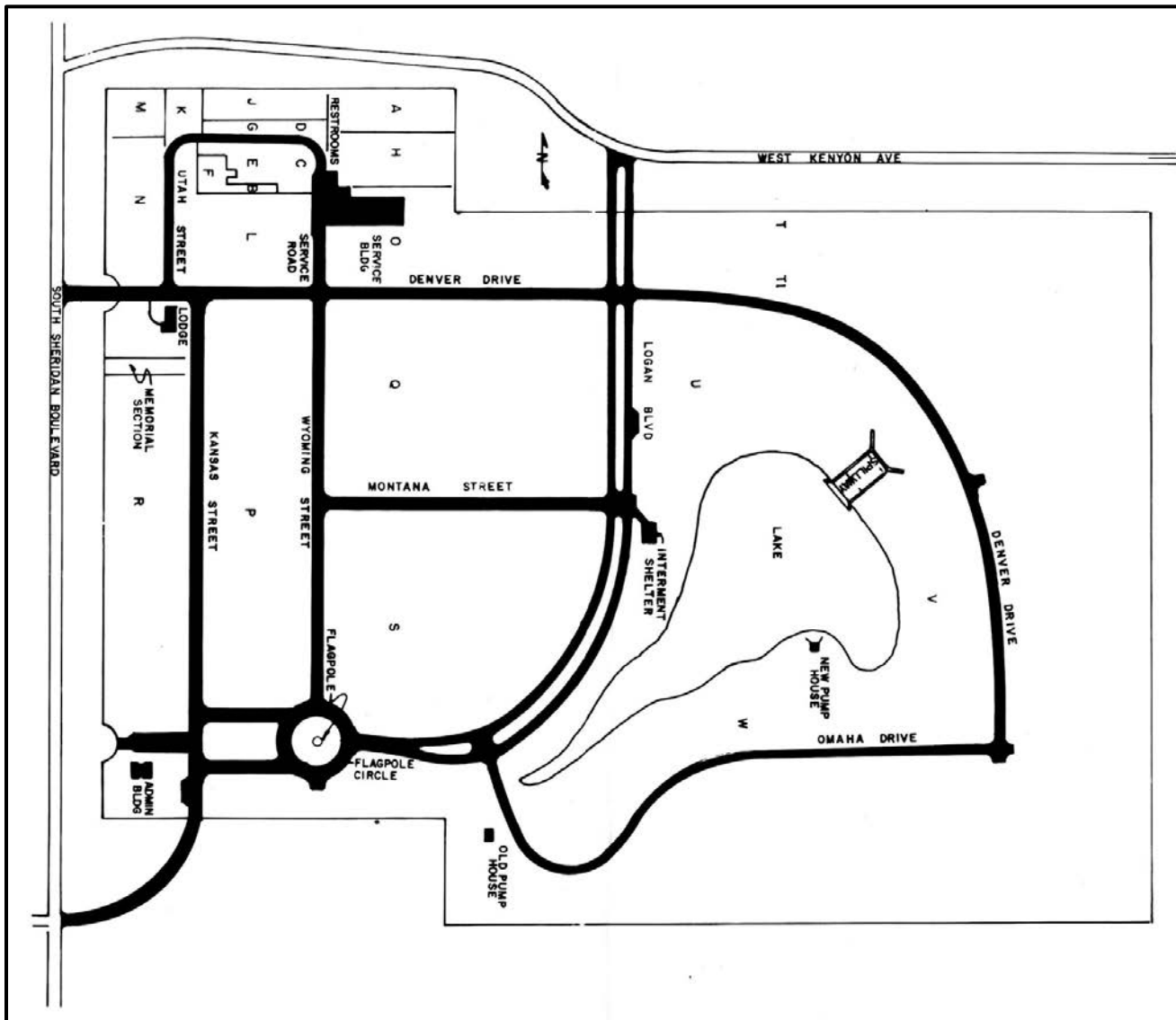


Figure 4: Fort Logan National Cemetery, layout map, 1985, showing expansion of cemetery to the east and the lake/reservoir created from the damming of Bear Creek; the southern entrance present in the 1967 aerial photo has been closed and a new entrance constructed further south. Also present are an administration building constructed just inside of the old southern entrance and a permanent interment shelter on the north shore of the lake/reservoir.

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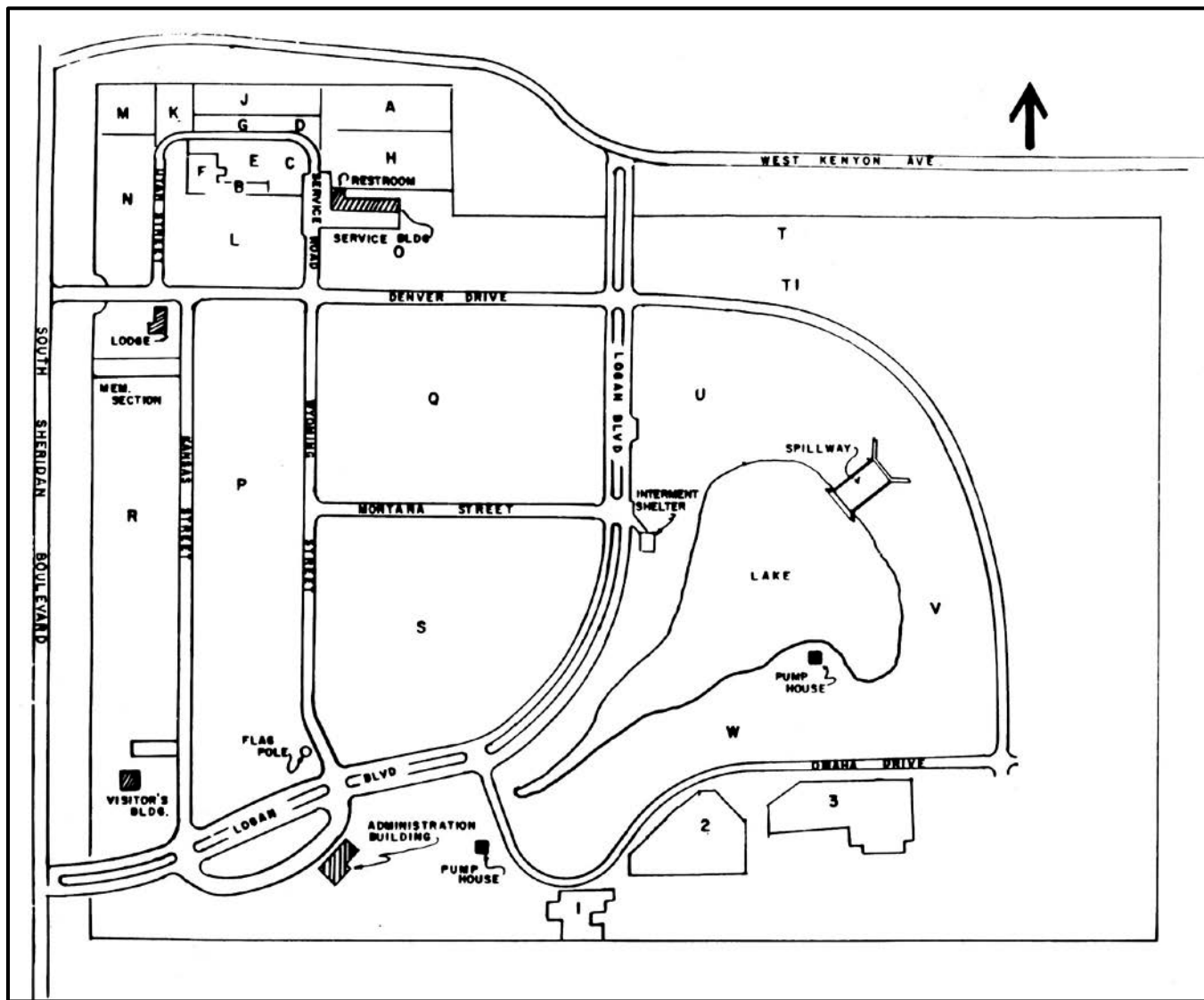


Figure 5: Fort Logan National Cemetery, layout map, 1990, showing the first numerical burial sections shown of Omaha Drive. Also present are the reconfigured southern entrance leading to Logan Boulevard—the main thoroughfare through the cemetery—and a new administration building. The old administration building is now referred to as the “Visitor’s Building.”

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Figure 6: Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 1994, showing the lodge shortly before demolition.

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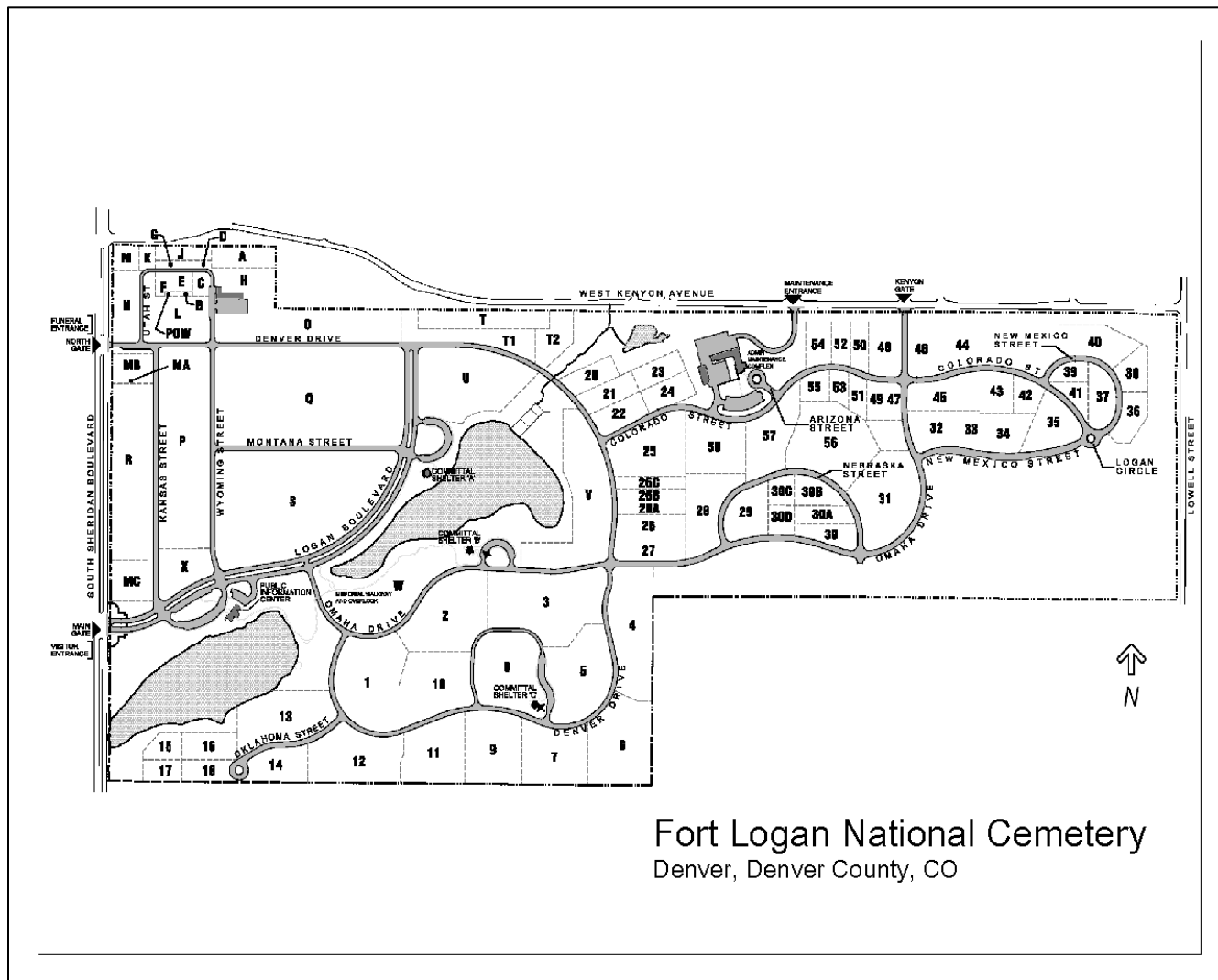


Figure 7: Fort Logan National Cemetery, layout map, 2011, just before the construction of the columbarium courts.

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County and State



Figure 8: Fort Logan National Cemetery, aerial photograph, 2013.



Figure 9: Fort Logan National Cemetery, main entrance gates on Sheridan Boulevard, ca. 1978. Unknown photographer. Camera facing east. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.

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County and State



Figure 10: Fort Logan National Cemetery, front of superintendent's lodge (no longer extant, demolished ca. 1994; 5DV.4344.1), camera facing east, 1978. Unknown photographer. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.



Figure 11: Fort Logan National Cemetery, front of Administration Building, 1978 (5DV.9008). Unknown photographer. No longer extant (demolished 2004). On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.

Fort Logan National Cemetery

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County and State



Figure 12: Fort Logan National Cemetery, front of Administration Building/Visitor's Building, 1993 (5DV.9008).  
Photographer: URS Corp. No longer extant (demolished 2004). On file with the Office of Archaeology  
and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.

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Figure 13: Fort Logan National Cemetery, front of Service Building, west-facing side, 1978 (5DV.11489). Unknown photographer. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the VA Historic Preservation Office.



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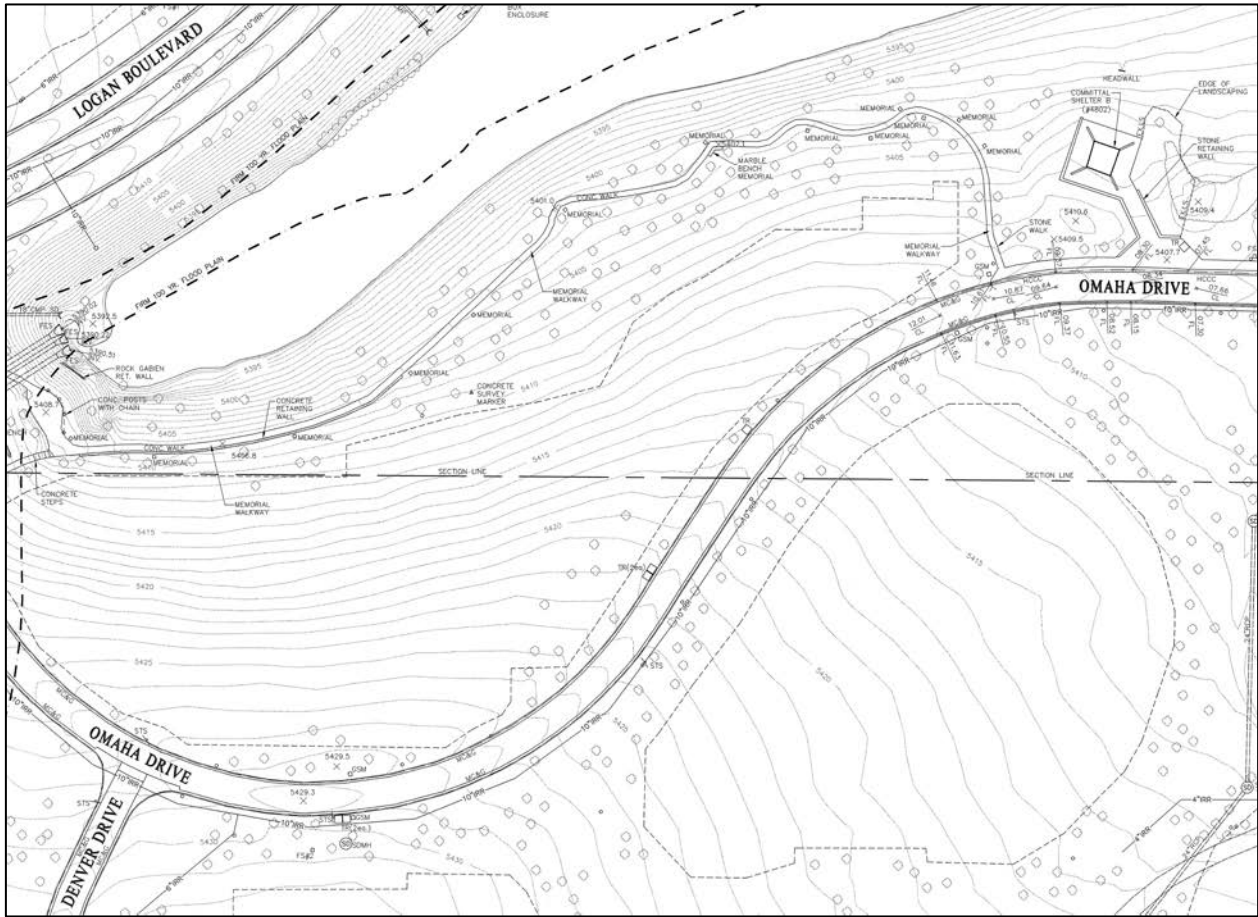


Figure 14: Detail of site plan showing the Memorial Walk and monument placement along the path, April 2003, and below, photograph of the Memorial Walk, 2005.



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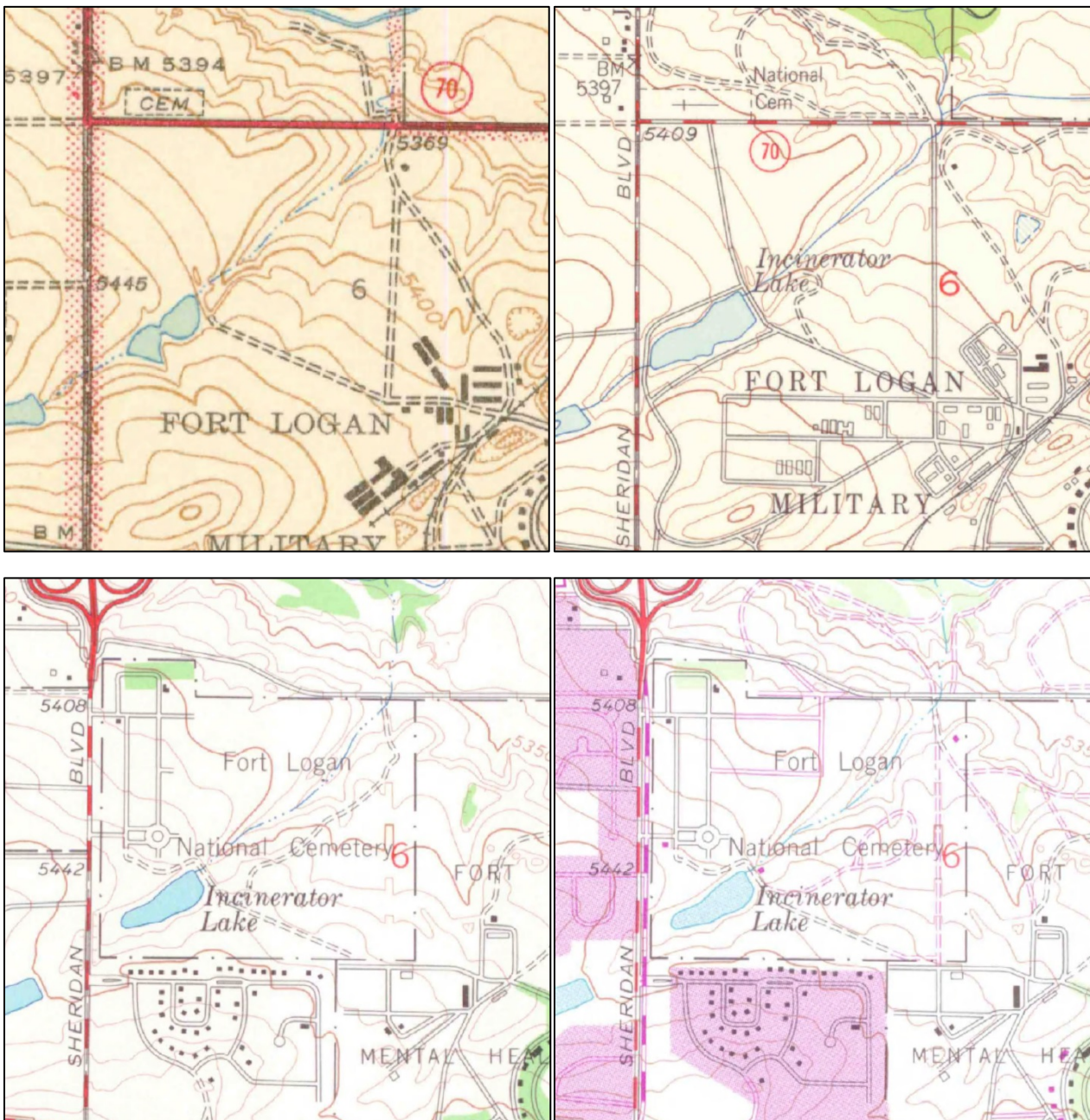


Figure 15: Topographic Maps, 1940s-1980s, illustrating the location of the post cemetery in relation to the development of Fort Logan and the national cemetery landscape.

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Figure 16: Headstone for the grave of Mable Peterkin, who died June 1889. The interment was the first in the cemetery. Photograph, 2007.

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Figure 17: (L) *Bivouac of the Dead* Plaque near the Public Information Center and Incinerator Lake. Photograph, 2005.  
(R) Gettysburg Address Plaque near the main flagpole. Photograph 2016.



Figure 18: Blue Star Memorial Marker near the entrance to Fort Logan National Cemetery. Photograph, 2007.

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Figure 19: View along the Memorial Walk, 2005.



Figure 20: VA Bench on the Memorial Walk, 2005.

Fort Logan National Cemetery  
Name of Property

Denver County, CO  
County and State

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**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Kathleen Schamel, Federal Preservation Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs  
street & number 810 Vermont Avenue, NW (003C2) telephone 202-632-5529  
city or town Washington state D.C. 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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

FORT LOGAN NATIONAL CEMETERY

















NO  
SMOKING  
IF USED  
HERE



































PEROME F  
WALTERS  
MAY 1 1925  
DEC 25 1925  
MAY 5 1998  
IN HEARTS  
EVERMORE

LOUISE M  
MAY 1 1925  
MAY 1 1998  
WIFE OF  
PEROME F  
WALTERS  
MAY 1 1925  
MAY 5 1998  
LIVING WITH  
AND MOTHER

ROBERT H  
PERRY  
COL  
US AIR FORCE  
WORLD WAR II  
KOREA  
VIETNAM  
OCT 5 1924  
MAY 10 1998  
FOREVER IN  
OUR HEARTS

EDWARD L  
MILLS  
CAPT  
US ARMY  
WORLD WAR II  
NOV 25 1923  
MAY 22 1998  
DEAR HUSBAND

WARREN G  
WILLES JR  
OCT 3  
VIETNAM  
OCT 3 1924  
APR 30 1998  
US ARMY  
WORLD WAR II  
KOREA  
VIETNAM  
OCT 3 1924  
APR 30 1998  
WE LOVE YOU

WORMINGTON  
MAY 10 1924  
MAY 10 1998  
IN OUR HEARTS  
FOREVER



WALLEN MATSON

CO. B.

2 U.S. INF.

COLORADO  
CPL BTRY C 18 FA  
3 DIVISION  
WORLD WAR I  
MAY 2 1890  
MARCH 23 1954



GEORGE P  
KLINGLER

CONNECTICUT

M SGT

US AIR FORCE  
WORLD WAR I & II

JANUARY 19 1892

JANUARY 20 1954



+

IN MEMORY OF  
**COURTNEY D  
LAMBERT**  
PFC  
US MARINE CORPS  
WORLD WAR II  
JUL 20 1927  
JAN 24 2006  
LOVING HUSBAND  
AND FATHER

+

IN MEMORY OF  
**JOHN C  
BAUDENDISTEL**  
2ND LT  
US ARMY AIR FORCES  
WORLD WAR II  
OCT 15 1922  
DEC 19 1945  
KIA

+

MEMORY OF  
**RONALD R  
KERN SR**  
SMSGT  
US AIR FORCE  
KOREA  
VIETNAM  
DEC 1 1931  
OCT 27 2002  
LOVED BY ALL

+

MEMORY OF  
**HARD D  
DEVITT**  
COMM  
US NAVY  
WORLD WAR II  
R. 27 1923  
R. 27 2003

+

IN MEMORY OF  
**HAROLD J  
HOSLEY**  
PL SGT  
US MARINE CORPS  
WORLD WAR II  
AUG 8 1920  
OCT 6 2006  
BELOVED DAD  
AND GRANDAD

IN MEMORY OF  
FRED GIESKING  
SGT 1ST CLASS  
HOSP. CORPS  
U. S. A.  
DIED  
APRIL 4, 1904  
AGE 37 YRS.

ERECTED BY THE  
WOMEN OF THE WORLD

EGIL  
RIGSTAD  
COLORADO  
DIED ON TRAIN

CHARLES  
DWIN  
BLACKWELL

G. T. CASLOW  
DIED  
77th St. N.Y.C.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Fort Logan National Cemetery

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Denver

DATE RECEIVED: 10/14/16      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/14/16  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/29/16      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/29/16  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000810

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: Y

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    \_\_\_\_\_ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA A CCO

REVIEWER [Signature]

DISCIPLINE Historic

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 11/27/16

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**Office of Construction & Facilities Management**  
**WASHINGTON DC 20420**

October 12, 2016

Paul Loether, Director  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street, NW  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Paul:

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is pleased to submit the nomination for Fort Logan National Cemetery (Colorado). The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Fort Logan National Cemetery to the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have questions regarding the nomination, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at 202-632-5529.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Schamel".

Kathleen Schamel  
Federal Preservation Officer

Encl.