

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received DEC 23 1987  
date entered

FEB -2 1988

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Confederate Cemetery at Lewisburg

and or common

2. Location

street & number Maple Street and U.S. Route 60, "Library Park" not for publication

city, town Lewisburg N/A vicinity of

state West Virginia code 54 county Greenbrier code 025

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	N/A occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Cemetery

4. Owner of Property

name City of Lewisburg

street & number 119 W. Washington Street

city, town Lewisburg N/A vicinity of state West Virginia

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Greenbrier County Courthouse

street & number 200 North Court Street

city, town Lewisburg state West Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Reconnaissance Architectural Survey  
title of Lewisburg: Pauley & Gioulis has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date September, 1986  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Dept. of Culture & History, Historic Preservation Unit

city, town Charleston state West Virginia

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Confederate Cemetery at Lewisburg is located atop a high knoll that overlooks the Lewisburg National Register Historic District in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. The cemetery is situated at the terminus of a trail-like greenway that is, basically, a continuation of Maple Street, after Maple Street crosses U.S. Route 60 via a small steel pony truss bridge. At the beginning of the trail there are "rock sculptures" and the trail is followed by a split-rail wooden fence. Interpretive wooden markers, erected by the Lewisburg Historic Landmark Commission, follow the greenway until it terminates at the Confederate Cemetery. The Cemetery can be reached by automobile on the west side by a gravel road that is an off-road of McElhanny Road.

The cemetery itself is enclosed by a wrought-iron fence, approximately six feet high, that is rectangular in configuration. The fence extends 106 feet across the front, inclusive of a large wrought-iron drop latch entrance gate (the only entrance to the cemetery) and 99 feet at the rear. It extends 95 feet on one side and 92 feet on the other (north) side. A large, regulation size flag pole stands beside the entrance to the gate.

In the center of the enclosed cemetery rectangle is the principal feature of the cemetery; the final resting place of 95 unknown Confederate dead from the Battles of Lewisburg and Droop Mountain (see Part 8). These graves are buried beneath a raised earthen mound that is in the shape of a Christian cross. The mound is raised approximately three feet high. The cross measures 80 feet 5 inches from top to bottom, while the crossing "arm" of the cross extends fifty three feet. The body and arms of the cross are approximately ten feet in width. The mound dominates this small cemetery, although to the rear, against the west fence, are three individual markers, placed on beyond each end of the "arm" of the cross and one beyond the "head" of the cross that mark the three single graves of soldiers, as well as a small commemorative marker to the unknown dead that is of more recent origin than the others.

Within the fence of the Confederate Cemetery, along its outer periphery so as not to encroach upon the mound, are large shade trees, eight in number. These give the entire cemetery a shaded and arbored ambiance that enhances the quasi-rural setting of the place.

All man-built structures within the cemetery; the mound, the four monuments, and the wrought-iron fence that encloses it, contribute to the cemetery's significance. There are no non-contributing structures. There are no known archeological resources.

The Confederate Cemetery of Lewisburg, sitting atop a hill overlooking historic Lewisburg, is uniquely landscaped and is a highly significant landmark in Greenbrier County, West Virginia.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History
<b>Specific dates</b>	1862; c.1870	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Not Known

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Confederate Cemetery at Lewisburg, resting atop an eminence overlooking the Lewisburg Historic District in Greenbrier County, West Virginia, is significant as the only military cemetery of its landscaped configuration in West Virginia,<sup>1</sup> and as one of the state's only cemeteries of Confederate dead.<sup>2</sup> It is also significant as the only physical reminder of any consequence of the locally important Civil War Battle of Lewisburg.<sup>3</sup>

### Explanatory Notes

1. The Confederate Cemetery in Lewisburg, sitting atop a high knoll overlooking historic Lewisburg, West Virginia, is a rectangular area surrounded by a finely crafted wrought-iron fence. The burials themselves, ninety-five in number, lie within a large mound, approximately three feet high, that is in the configuration of a large cross. The cross measures 80 feet 5 inches long, with the cross bar extending 53 feet. While there are some military cemeteries in West Virginia, most notably the Grafton National Cemetery, this is the only such cemetery to consist of this distinct landscaped feature.

2. The Confederate Cemetery at Lewisburg is one of the state of West Virginia's only cemeteries devoted almost exclusively to the burial of Confederate battle casualties. Certainly West Virginia, which according to conservative estimates, gave 10,000 soldiers to fight for the Confederate cause, contains the graves of many Confederate veterans and some Confederate battle deaths, most of these burials lie within existing larger cemeteries. In some, the veterans are randomly placed, as chance would allow, while other burials, at best, lay within "Confederate Cemetery" sections in larger cemeteries. An outstanding example of this latter type is the Confederate Cemetery in Charleston's Springhill Cemetery (recently listed in the National Register of Historic Places). There are also several examples in West Virginia of small, somewhat isolated burials, generally containing less than a dozen graves, in various degrees of upkeep and preservation. The Confederate Cemetery at Lewisburg is, however, the largest and best preserved of the few extant Confederate cemeteries in the state of West Virginia.

3. The Confederate Cemetery at Lewisburg contains the graves of ninety-five unknown Confederate soldiers who fell in the Battle of Lewisburg (May 23, 1862), and of Droop Mountain (November 6, 1863). While the battlefield at Droop Mountain, in nearby Pocahontas County, is preserved in the form of a state park and is listed in the National Register, there are no extant reminders of the locally significant Battle of Lewisburg, excepting a historic highway marker and a few shell and bullet holes in buildings still standing from that time. The Battle of Lewisburg was fought between Federal forces

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

"Historic Cemeteries of Lewisburg", pamphlet, Lewisburg Historic Landmark Commission, Lewisburg, W.Va., 1986  
Official Records of the War of the Rebellion of the Union and Confederate Armies, Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1901

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approx. 1/2 acre

Quadrangle name Lewisburg, W.Va.

Quadrangle scale 1":24,000'

### UTM References

A 

1	7	5	48	2	80	4	18	3	78	0
Zone		Easting				Northing				

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing				

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing				

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing				

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing				

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing				

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing				

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing				

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at the point where the western side of a greenway approximately 800 feet south of the southern terminus of Maple Street meets the northeast corner of the wrought-iron fence that surrounds the Confederate Cemetery;

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael J. Pauley, Historian and Michael Gioulis, Preservation Consultant

organization Pauley and Gioulis date July 30, 1987

street & number 4651 Victoria Road telephone 304 744-9342

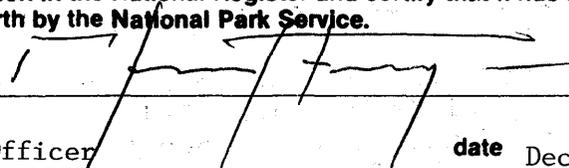
city or town Charleston state West Virginia

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

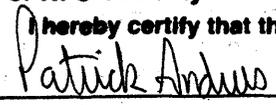
State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title State Historic Preservation Officer date December 11, 1987

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date 2/2/88

 Patrick Andrews  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation sheet Confederate Cemetery

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under the command of Colonel (later General) George Crook who had occupied the town in early May, and Confederate forces under General Henry Heth. A part of the Federal line of battle ran through the present location of the cemetery. The Confederates lost 80 killed in battle, and the majority of these were buried in the Lewisburg Confederate Cemetery. Later, about 1870, some of the unknown dead from Droop Mountain were interred here, and the cemetery assumed its present configuration.

There are, within the enclosed area of the cemetery, three individual monuments to Confederate soldiers, all of them at the rear of the cemetery. These mark the graves of Captain J.W. Brannam (1834-1870), Colonel Mordecia Halstead (1808-1863), and J. W. Rogers (1836-1914). The Brannam monument bears an inscription that tells that it was made by "Smith & Rippella, Charleston, W.Va." There is also a small monument, bronze tablet implanted in stone, at the head of the cross which commemorates the 95 unknown dead. This marker was placed here by the Federal government in 1956.

The Confederate Cemetery at Lewisburg is, then, significant as the only Civil War cemetery in the state of West Virginia with its unique landscaped configuration, as a physical reminder of the important local Battle of Lewisburg, and as one of Greenbrier County's most significant local landmarks.

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Continuation sheet

Confederate Cemetery

Item number

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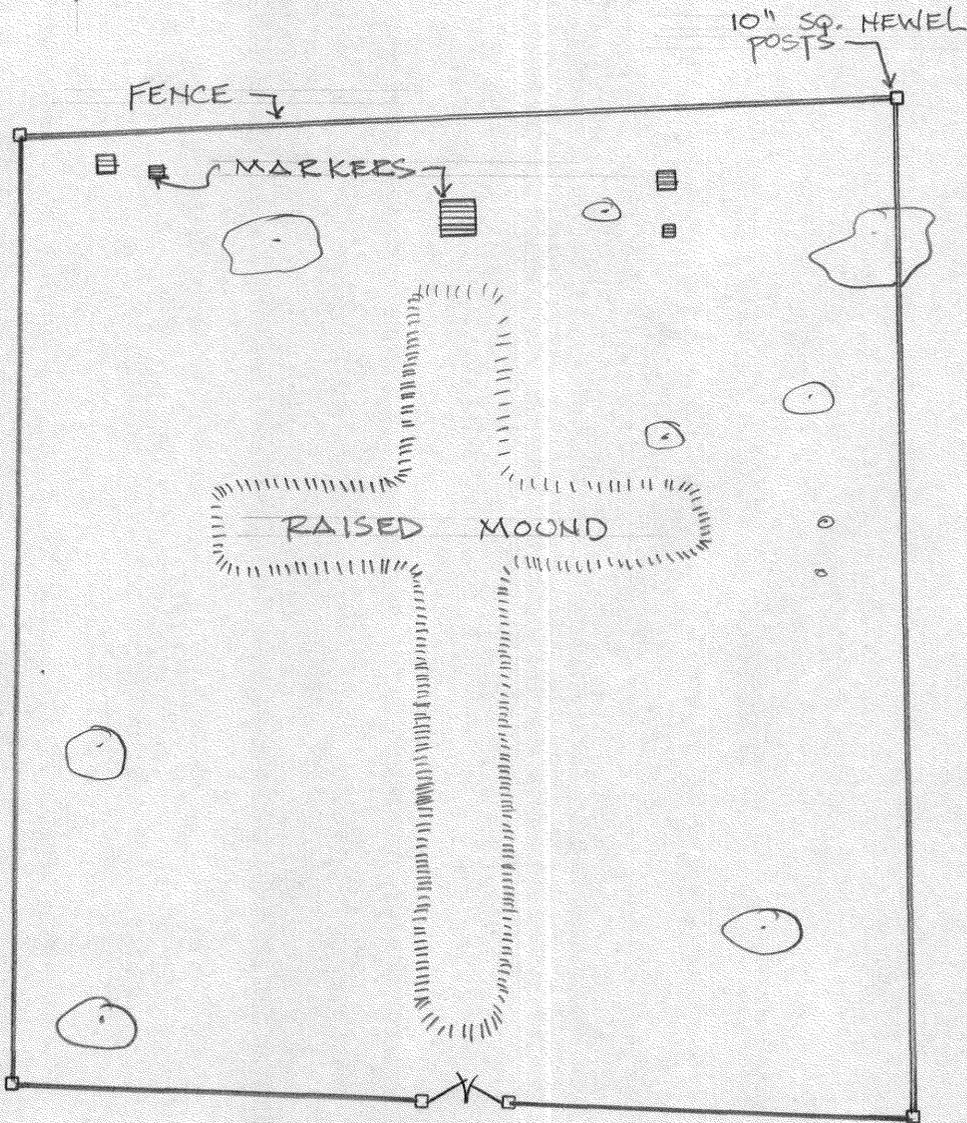
Rice, Otis K., A History of Greenbrier County, Parsons, W.Va., McClain Printing Co., Greenbrier Historical Society, publisher, 1986

Stutler, Boyd B., West Virginia in the Civil War, Charleston, W.Va., Education Foundation, Inc., 1966

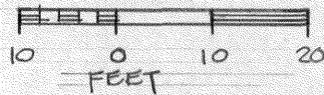
West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia, Richwood, W.Va., Comstock Pub., 1973

Item 10      Verbal boundary description      p. 2

thence along the front of said fence (which is also the western side of the aforementioned greenway,) for 106 feet to the southeast corner of said wrought-iron fence; thence 95 feet west along the southern side of said wrought-iron fence to the southwest corner of said fence; thence 99 feet north along the western side of said wrought-iron fence to its northwest corner; thence 92 feet east along the northern side of said wrought-iron fence which is also the southern side of a gravel road to the point of beginning, enclosing approximately the northern half of Lot. No. 111 of Lewisburg City Map 15.



SCALE:



- SKETCH PLAN -  
CONFEDERATE CEMETERY  
LEWISBURG

FROM FIELD NOTES, JULY 1987  
MICHAEL GIOULIS & MICHAEL J. PADLEY