

L.I.N.C.M.O.

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Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11570

Published Monthly

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept	16	MIA/POW Candle light Vigil at Eisenhower Park 6:30 pm.
Oct	15	LINC MO Meeting 11:30 AM
Nov	5	UVO Vets Day Svc 10:30 AM.
	13	UVO Vets Day Service at Eisenhower Park 10 am.
	13	LINC MO Vets Day Service 1:00PM
	20	Veterans Standown - Freeport Armory 9am-2pm.
Dec	3	Pearl Harbor Ceremony 1:30 PM. AT LINC MO
	7	Pearl Harbor Ceremonies Rockville Centre Mill River 11 am
	7	Pearl Harbor Ceremonies at Oyster Bay
	7	AFA Pearl Harbor Ceremonies at Republic Airport 9 am.

- Lebanon, Kentucky 1932
- Memphis, Tennessee
- New Bern, North Carolina UNK
- San Antonio, Texas 1890
- Springfield, Illinois
- Wilmington, North Carolina UNK
- Fort Donelson, Tennessee
- Shiloh, Tennessee
- Brownsville, Texas

(To be continued)



*Long Island National Cemetery
Memorial Organization*



*The Field of Valor
Newsletter*

Vol 2.	September 2006	No. 10
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Don't forget to attend the upcoming LINC MO Meeting being held on Sunday, September 10, 2006 at 11:30 PM.

Summer is going fast and we have a lot to discuss and plan for in the next couple of months.

We have the formulation of the proposed new Memorial Garden.

The upcoming Veterans Day Services & job assignments.

Our annual election of officers and the installation dinner.

An overall look at what we have accomplished and what we still have to do.

Max Graber, President



**ROSTRUMS AND THE BEGINNING OF
MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCES**

On May 30, 1864, in the little town of Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, Emma Hunter, a teenager, placed flowers on the grave of her father. A Union Army colonel, he was killed while commanding Pennsylvania's 49th Regiment. At the cemetery, she exchanged memories with another mourner, a Mrs. Meyers, who had brought wild flowers to the grave of her 19-year-old son, Joe, who had been a private. A year later, they met at the cemetery and were joined by many townsfolk who had also taken flowers to the cemetery. Every grave was decorated.

The new custom spread and women and men of both the South and the North decorated the graves of both Southern and Northern battle dead in several states.

On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued his famed Order No. 11, designating May 30 as Decoration Day. Later, Decoration Day became Memorial Day in most states and territories. General Logan's

The Quartermaster General reported that total expenditures up to June 30, 1866, amounted to \$1,144,791. Allowing \$1,609,294 for all future contingencies, it was estimated that \$2,609,294 would be the total cost of national cemeteries, and collection, transfer and reinterment of remains of loyal soldiers. The average cost of transfer and reinterment per body was \$9.75. The largest single item in this phase of the program was the wooden coffin, costing \$4 at the Washington Depot and \$3 in Tennessee.

LODGES

Lodges to be used as residences for cemetery superintendents were constructed at most of the fifty-nine national cemeteries. Those at which no lodge was constructed are:

- Ball's Bluff, Virginia
- Cave Hill, Kentucky
- Crown Hill, Indiana
- Danville, Kentucky
- Lexington, Kentucky
- Rock Island, Illinois

It is presumed that lodges were not constructed at these cemeteries for the following reasons: Ball's Bluff is only 4.6 acres in size and contains only 25 graves; Cave Hill and Crown Hill are located within private cemeteries; and Danville and Lexington are located within city cemeteries. The Rock Island National Cemetery is located within the Rock Island Arsenal (a military reservation). Lodges that were constructed at the following national cemeteries have since been demolished, due to the need to accommodate changes in cemetery operations:

- Chattanooga, Tennessee
- Fayetteville, Arkansas
- Florence, South Carolina
- Fort Gibson, Oklahoma
- Grafton, West Virginia
- Jefferson Barracks, Missouri
- Mill Springs, Kentucky
- New Albany, Indiana
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

MEIGS LODGES, See Meigs Lodges

Many Civil War era national cemeteries contain a superintendent's lodge built according to a design by Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs, who was quite significant during that period in Government and had great influence over other military architecture. His design represented the style of the period, yet was able to be used as a prototype for construction of superintendents' lodges in all parts of the country for many years. A general description of the lodges, along with a list of sites and materials, is found [HERE](#). Other than numerous variations in local building materials, there is little or no distinction in the design components of the lodges, but the overall design is significant due to its architect, its time, its use, and its flexibility in adapting to.

HEADSTONES, GRAVE MARKERS

Another provision of the Act of February 22, 1867, directed the Secretary of War to cause each grave to be marked with a small headstone or block. The Act committed Congress to a constructive fiscal policy, with landscaping and other improvements being met by an annual appropriation. The extraordinary cost of erecting permanent grave markers required a special appropriation of Congress. During hostilities, the cost of maintaining wooden headboards had suggested the long-range economy of providing a more durable type of marker.

In his annual report of 1866, the Quartermaster General stated that a design had been adopted for a small cast iron monument, to be protected from rust by a coating of zinc, to have in raised letters cast in the solid the name, rank, regiment, and company of each soldier or officer. One was to be placed at the foot of every grave and would remain when the wooden headboard decays and perishes. Although required by law, no progress was made until Congress, on March 3, 1873, appropriated \$1,000,000 for the erection of a headstone at each grave in the national cemeteries to be made of durable stone and of such design and weight as shall keep them in place when set. Subsequent interpretation of the Act held that stones should be erected only at the graves of soldiers. The project was completed in 1877 at a total cost of \$786,360. A balance of \$192,000 remained and it was then recommended to Congress that this money be used to mark those graves in national cemeteries not included by the Act of March 3, 1873, and for the erection of permanent markers at all known soldiers' graves outside the national cemeteries.

An act, approved February 3, 1879, authorized these expenditures and the second gravestone program was undertaken. By 1881, all soldiers' graves had been marked with marble or granite headstones, as provided by law. The process to erect neat marble slabs at graves other than those of soldiers (those of honorably discharged veterans) was to be done as fast as means would permit. The uniformity of these markers contributes significantly to the distinctive look and appearance of a national cemetery.

The extraordinary cost of erecting permanent grave markers could only be met by a special appropriation of Congress. In his 1868 report, Quartermaster General Meigs again rejected a recommendation in favor of the stone slab, but under authority of the Act of 1867, the

Secretary of War specified that the markers should be of white marble or granite. Meigs stoutly resisted every proposal for marble or granite slabs in place of his unsightly design of a small cast-iron monument, to be protected from rust by a coating of zinc, to have in raised letters cast in the solid, the name rank, regiment, and company of each soldier or officer. He made a special point in 1868 that the cost of these marble or granite markers would be a great charge upon the treasury. This argument was hard to meet. No progress was made until Congress took action on March 3, 1873, by appropriating \$1,000,000 for the erection of a headstone, to be made of durable stone, at each grave in the national military cemeteries, and of such design and weight as shall keep them in place when set.

The Secretary of War specified that the markers should be of white marble or granite, 4 inches thick, 10 inches wide, with 12 inches above ground and 24 inches underground in areas south of the latitude of Washington and 30 inches in those to the north. The top was curved and the face ornamented with a recessed shield and raised lettering. The granite or marble block for unknown soldiers should be 6 inches square by 2 feet 6 inches, with 2 feet set in the ground. The project was completed in 1877 at a total cost of \$786,630. A second gravestone program was undertaken in 1879 and, by 1881, all soldiers' graves were marked, as provided by law.

FENCES AND WALLS

The Act of February 22, 1867, also provided for a year-by-year improvement in landscaping and such facilities as became necessary for security and administration. Remarkable progress toward completing a long-

range program of physical improvement characterized the third phase of development during the 1880's and 1890's. Burial grounds that first presented an unsightly appearance of bare mounded graves, wooden headboards, picket fences and frame buildings had been transformed by structures of iron, stone and marble. With landscaping projects adapted to each locality, the national cemeteries gradually assumed an aspect of stately parks, adorned with shrubs, trees, graveled paths, and driveways and vistas of shaded greensward carpeting the mounded graves. The design was left up to the cemetery superintendent, who, in his own way, expressed the typical landscaping of the area. The attraction exerted by these improvements prompted the construction of access roads to many cemeteries from nearby cities.

An Act to Establish and to Protect National Cemeteries, approved February 22, 1867, directed the Secretary of War "to have every national cemetery enclosed with a good and substantial stone or iron fence; to cause each grave to be marked with a small headstone or block; to direct the appointment of reliable veterans as cemetery superintendents, and to erect adequate quarters to house cemetery superintendents." Prior to June 3, 1870, stone walls had been erected around the cemeteries at: Camp Nelson, Kentucky; Lebanon, Kentucky; Little Rock, Arkansas; Mill Springs, Kentucky; New Albany, Indiana; and San Antonio, Texas. Brick walls had been erected at Barrancas, Florida; and Mobile, Alabama; iron railings had been erected at Loudon Park, Maryland.

During fiscal year 1871, stone walls were constructed around the cemeteries at Alexandria, Virginia; Annapolis, Maryland; Ball's Bluff, Virginia; Hampton, Virginia; Jefferson Barracks, Missouri; New Bern, North Carolina; Richmond, Virginia; Wilmington, North Carolina; and Winchester, Virginia. A brick wall was constructed at Cold Harbor, Virginia, and iron railings at the cemeteries at Keokuk, Iowa; and Rock Island, Illinois.

In general, most of the properties have similar physical characteristics with regard to design, method of construction, and architectural details. Variations have occurred, due to changing cultural, chronological, and geographical influences.

All fifty-nine cemeteries, with the exception of Rock Island National Cemetery in Rock Island, Illinois, are enclosed with a perimeter wall or fence, as authorized by the 1862 legislation.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL NATIONAL CEMETERIES

The Secretary of War was also directed to purchase additional land for cemetery use.

In 1867, the following new national cemeteries (17) were established:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| • Alexandria, Louisiana | 1931 |
| • Baton Rouge, Louisiana | UNK |
| • Chattanooga, Tennessee | |
| • Culpeper, Virginia | |
| • Fayetteville, Arkansas | |
| • Fort Smith, Arkansas | |
| • Grafton, West Virginia | |
| • Jefferson City, Missouri | 1942 |