

Danville National Cemetery  
721 Lee Street  
Danville, Virginia 24541

### Description

The Danville National Cemetery, established in 1866, is located within the corporate limits of the city of Danville, Virginia, one mile from the depot of the Richmond and Danville Railroad. The main entrance on Lee Street has eight-foot, six-inch-wide wrought iron entry gates attached to concrete pillars, with a three-foot-wide pedestrian gate on the side. The pedestrian gate is attached to a stone pier. The cemetery is surrounded by a stone wall (1,590 linear feet) approximately four feet high. The flagpole is located on a rise in the center.



The cemetery is of an oblong shape. It is divided into ten burial sections by numerous walks and drives intersecting one another at right angles. All graves are marked with upright marble headstones, except for four group burials, which are marked with flat marble markers.



The lodge was built in 1928. It is a one and one-half-story brick and stucco structure, with a Swedish gambrel roof. All windows are double-hung sash with six-over-six lights. The roof has double dormers in the front and rear. The first floor contains a living room with fireplace, dining room, kitchen, one-half bath, and a small office. The one-half story above has three bedrooms and a full bath. The basement is unfinished, and there is a screened front porch.

### Significant Monuments/Memorials

A bronze plaque mounted on an old cannon bears the inscription:

UNITED STATES  
NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERY  
DANVILLE  
ESTABLISHED 1867  
INTERMENTS 1314  
KNOWN 1171  
UNKNOWN 143



## Civil War Activity in Area

Original interments were of the remains of Union soldiers who were prisoners of war and who died in the Confederate Prison at Danville. These prisoners were confined in seven tobacco warehouses situated in the city of Danville about 1/2 to 3/4 mile from the cemetery. The principal causes of death of these prisoners of war were pneumonia, chronic diarrhea, and a disease indicated as "scorbutus," somewhat like scurvy. Those who died at Danville as prisoners of war and interred in the national cemetery were, for the most part, privates, corporals, and sergeants. Many state regiments were represented: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Michigan, New Jersey, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, New York, New Hampshire, Vermont, and various regiments of the U.S. Colored Troops.