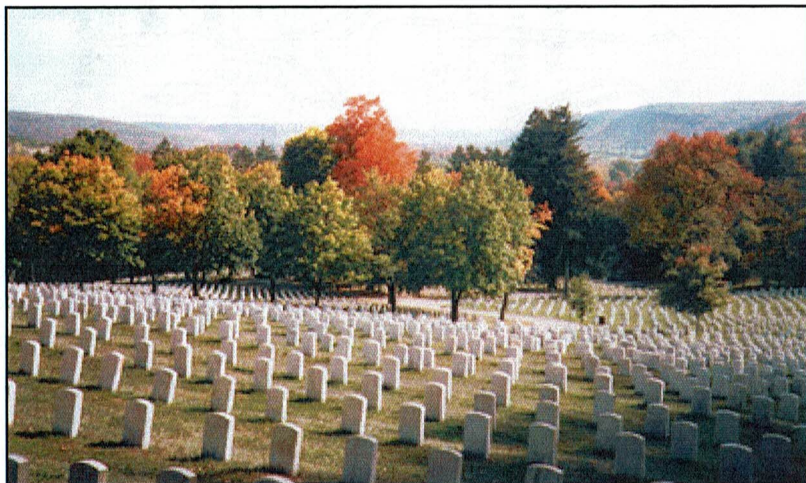


The Steuben County Historical Society presents:

A Driving Tour to the Veteran's Administration Medical Center at Bath



and the



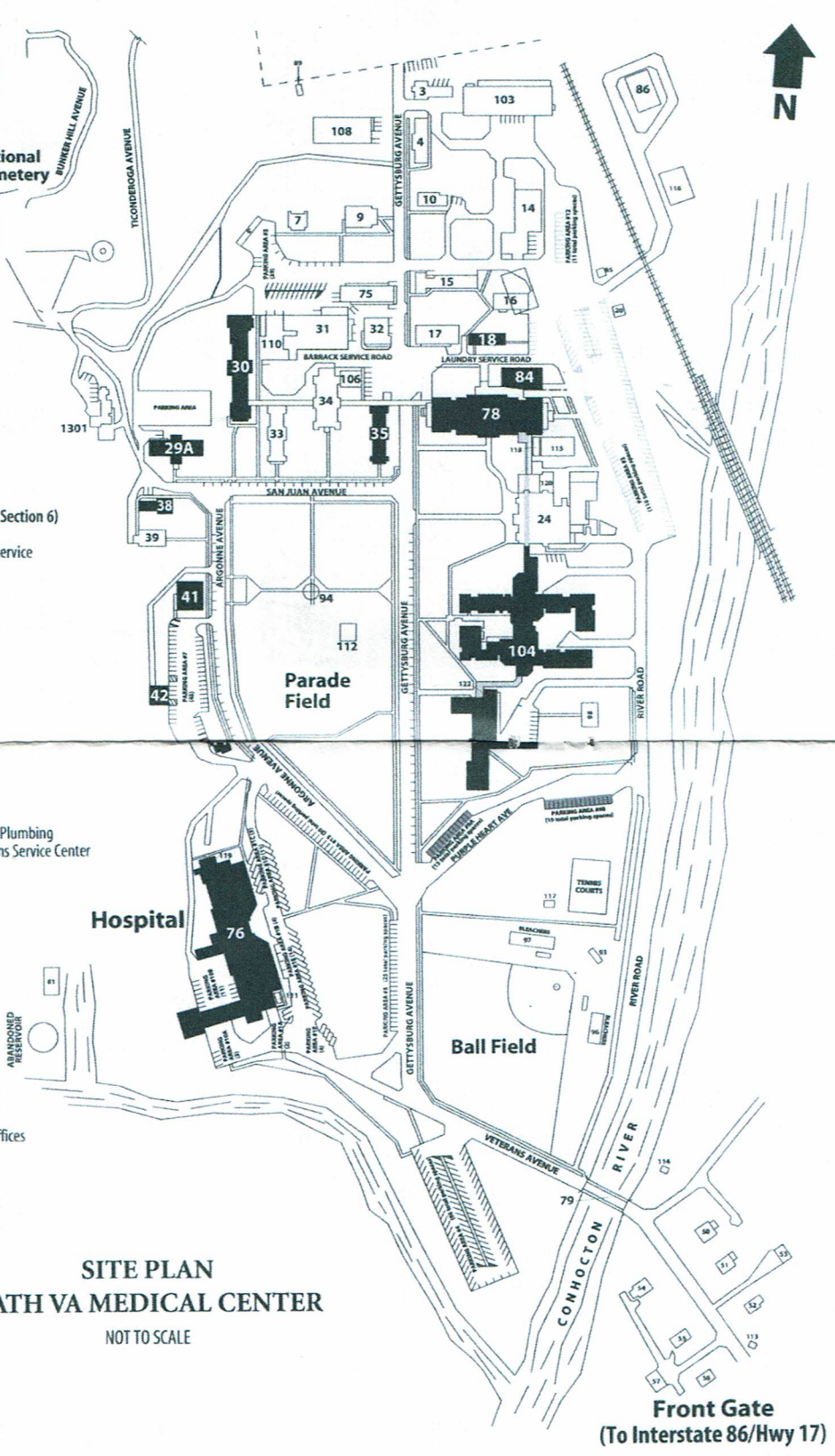
Bath National Cemetery

Building Legend

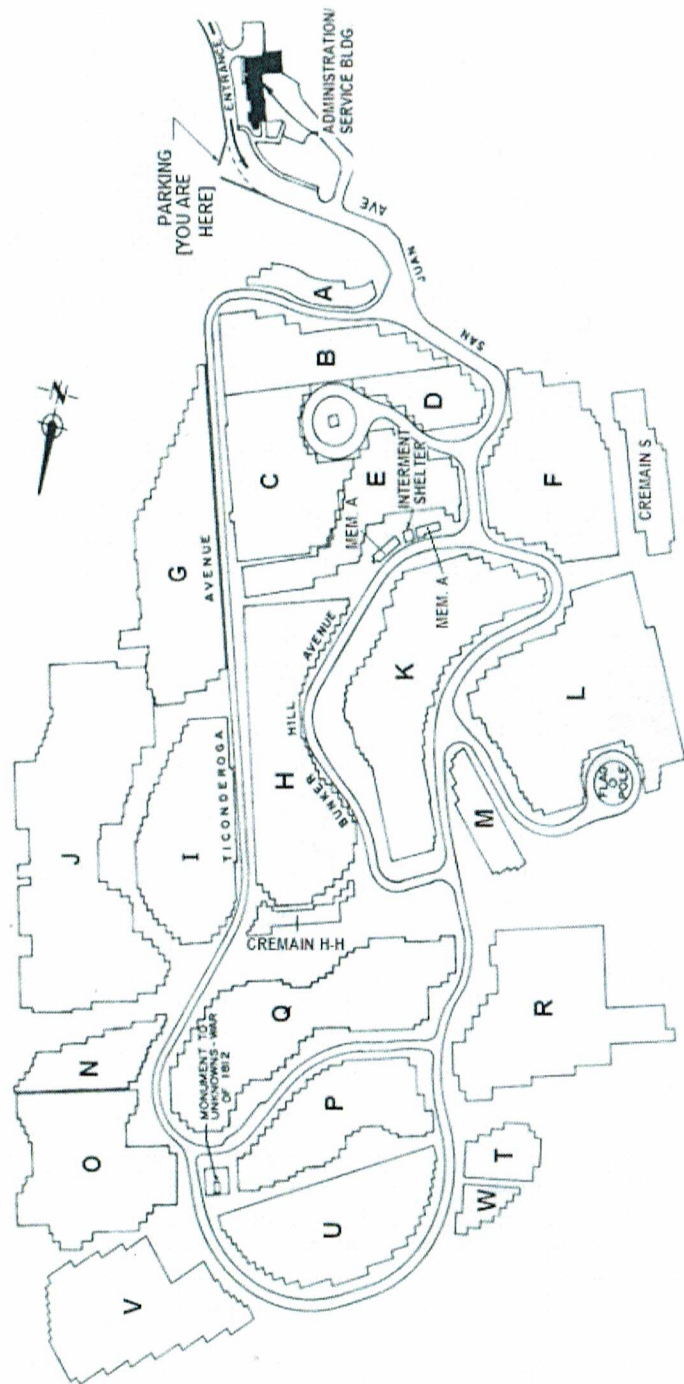
- 3 Equipment Storage
- 4 Lumber Shed
- 6 Eight Car Garage
- 7 Temporary Housing
- 9 Engineering Office
- 10 Quarters
- 14 Fire Department & Garage
- 15 Garages, Gen. Repair, Masonry Storage
- 16 Carpenter Shop
- 17 Laundry
- 18 Credit Union
- 20 Sewer - Pump House
- 24 Dom. Dining Room, Kitchen, Post Office
- 29A Upholstery Shop/Sign Shop
- 30 Director's Office, Nursing Executive Offices, (Section 6)
- 31 Boiler Plant
- 32 GEC Adm. Offices, Psychology, Social Work Service
- 33 Human Resources (Section 5)
- 34 Domiciliary Care (Section 4)
- 35 Canteen (Section 3)
- 38 Chaplain Service Office
- 39 Chapel
- 41 Business Office (A&MM, Fiscal, IS)
- 42 Historical Museum
- 44 Voluntary Service, Police
- 50 Quarters
- 51 Quarters
- 53 Three Car Garage
- 54 Quarters
- 55 Quarters
- 56 Quarters
- 57 Three Car Garage
- 75 Engineering Shops & Storage-Paint, Elec. & Plumbing
- 76 Hospital, MVAC & D&T Adm. Offices, Veterans Service Center
- 78 Nursing Home Care Unit (Section 2)
- 79 Bridge
- 81 Underground Reservoir
- 84 Wood Shop (Compensated Work Therapy)
- 85 Incinerator - Not Used
- 86 Sewage Treatment Plant - Not Used
- 89 Engineering Storage
- 92 Recreation & Library
- 93 Field House
- 94 Parade Ground - Flag Pole
- 95 Cemetery Flag Pole
- 96 Bleachers - East
- 97 Bleachers - North
- 98 Covered Picnic Area
- 103 Supply Warehouse
- 104 Domiciliary Care (Section 1), BVAC Adm. Offices
- 106 Canteen Patio
- 108 Heavy Equipment Storage
- 110 EMS Storage Building
- 111 Smoking Shelter
- 112 Gazebo
- 113 Meter House
- 114 Gauge House *
- 115 New Greenhouse
- 116 Impound Yard
- 117 Field House Storage
- 118 Green Hse. Storage
- 119 Smoke Shelter (Annex)
- 120 Smoking Shelter (B24)
- 121 Smoking Shelter (B35)
- 122 Smoking Shelter (B92)
- 1301 National Cemetery Service

**SITE PLAN
BATH VA MEDICAL CENTER**

NOT TO SCALE



**Front Gate
(To Interstate 86/Hwy 17)**



Bath National Cemetery Map

Veterans Administration Medical Center At Bath

Since 1879, Bath has been the site of a facility for providing medical services to veterans of military service. Plans for such a facility began in 1863 when it became apparent that a home for soldiers from the Civil War was needed. In 1876 Bath was selected from several other New York State locations that were being considered. In June 1877 the cornerstone of the first building of the New York State Soldiers and Sailors Home was laid. On Christmas Day in 1878 construction had reached a stage of completion that allowed 25 Civil War veterans from New York State to be fed and housed. By 1907 a peak population of 2143 veterans was reached. By 1928 the population dropped to 192 as the result of the deaths of the Civil War veterans. A group of Bath citizens who did not want to lose this local asset requested that the United States government take charge of the Home and that veterans from the Spanish-American War and World War I be admitted. In May of 1929 the Home was placed under a federal agency. In 1930 this agency was replaced by the Veterans Administration. In October 1946 the facility was officially designated the Bath Veterans Administration Center (VAC). In September 1978 the name was changed to the Veterans Administration Medical Center at Bath.

Bath National Cemetery

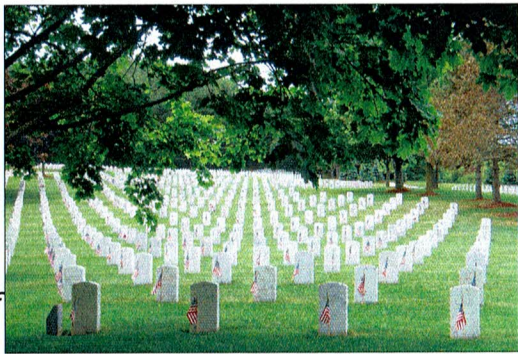
The Bath National Cemetery is located on a hillside adjacent to the Veterans Administration Medical Center. It covers an area of 30 acres and is the final resting place of over 14,200 veterans. The first burial took place in 1879 when the cemetery was part of the New York State Soldiers and Sailors Home. In 1930 it came under the control of the Veterans Administration and, in 1973, it became part of the Veterans Administration's National Cemetery System. All burials up to 1929 were those of Union veterans of the Civil War. Since that date, veterans from the nation's military conflicts from



World War I up to the present time are interred here. In 1987 the remains of 28 unknown soldiers from the War of 1812 were repatriated from Canada and brought here for burial.

This cemetery also contains the remains of five Medal of Honor veterans from the Civil War. To accommodate the increasing number of veterans being cremated, a columbarium is scheduled to be opened in September 2012. A gravesite locator can be found on the outside wall of the cemetery's administration building (1301 on map). The cemetery office can be reached at 607-664-4853.

In observance of Memorial Day all graves are decorated with a small United States flag placed there by 5th graders from the local school. As is stated in *The Heritage of Bath, NY*, "the sight



of thousands of flags waving in the wind on this meticulously maintained slope is extremely impressive."

The Historical Museum

The Historical Museum in Building 42 is open from 10 AM to 2 PM Mondays through Fridays. Admission is free to this facility which contains exhibits and displays showing the country's military history dating from 1776 to its most recent conflicts.

The Driving Tour

1. From Interstate 86, Exit 38, turn right (if you are coming from the west) or left (coming from the east) onto West Washington Street & proceed across the Conhocton River onto the VA grounds.
2. Continue on Veterans Avenue, turn right onto Gettysburg Avenue & follow map to areas of interest.
3. To visit the cemetery, stay on Gettysburg Avenue to junction with San Juan Avenue. Turn left onto San Juan Avenue &, after passing junction with Argonne Avenue, proceed up the hill to the cemetery.

Areas Of Special Interest:

- 18 - VA Credit Union
- 39 - Chapel
- 42 - Historical Museum
- 76 - Hospital
- 78 - Nursing Home Care Unit
- 84 - Wood Shop (Veteran Made Articles For Sale)
- 92 - Recreation & Library
- 94 - Parade Ground & Flag Pole
- 98 - Covered Picnic Area
- 1301 - National Cemetery Service

For more information about the Bath Veteran's Administration Hospital, Bath, and/or Steuben County, visit the Steuben County Historical Society, located at the Magee House on the corner of West Morris and Cameron Streets.

*Available there are
genealogies,
atlases & maps,
church & cemetery records,
marriage & death information,
directories & gazetteers,
census & probate indexes,
area yearbooks,
old newspapers,
as well as the Elm Cottage Museum and the
Chelsea & Liliane Kelly Children's Museum & Library.*

*Hours are 10 AM to 3 PM Tuesdays through Fridays,
telephone 776-9930.*

*You will also find driving tours around the village of
Bath, to Mossy Bank Park, and a walking tour of the
Bath Historic District.*

**We are grateful to the Bath Rotary Club
for their assistance with printing and distributing
this leaflet.**

