(Subsequent communication from Brian Hogan, dated March 10, 2003)

John,

I went back and re-checked my data. Still no Austin Groves or Graves or Roves or Raves, and vice-versa.

I then looked at the roster of the 42nd USCT (1071 names) for anyone whose 1st name was Austin, an uncommon name. I found 3 men with that 1st name, a Satywhite, a Kemp, and a Grose.

If its anyone, its Austin Grose, Co.A, enlisted as a Private, discharged as a Corporal.

These rosters are found on the NPS website, or search for "Civil War Soldiers and Sailors", or just "CWSS" on Google. The names are taken from the General Index Cards in the National Archives so its not unusual to find errors due to difficulties in translating sometimes atrocious handwriting.

In this case I suspect that the headstone spelling is probably correct, and the Index card is wrong.

A surer test would be to order service records under both names, then see what they find!

Brian

With this information, some of the Civil War experiences of Austin Groves can be approximated by a study of his unit's history, as documented in the "Official Records of the War of the Rebellion", basically a Union account of correspondences during the war. Pertinent pages from these accounts are presented below.