UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

NAME
HISTORIC Stones River National Military Park
AND/OR COMMON Stones River National Battlefield

LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
Old Nashville Pike, Route 2
CITY, TOWN
Murfreesboro
STATE
Tennessee

CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
X DISTRICT
BUILDING(S)
X STRUCTURE
SITE
OBJECT

OWNERSHIP
X PUBLIC
PRIVATE
BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
IN PROCESS
BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS
X OCCUPIED
UNOCCUPIED
WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
YES: RESTRICTED
X YES: UNRESTRICTED
NO

PRESENT USE
X AGRICULTURE
COMMERCIAL
X PARK
EDUCATIONAL
PRIVATE RESIDENCE
ENTERTAINMENT
RELIGIOUS
GOVERNMENT
SCIENTIFIC
INDUSTRIAL
TRANSPORTATION
MILITARY
OTHER:

AGENCY
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
Southeast Region - Department of Interior
STREET & NUMBER
1895 Phoenix Blvd.
CITY. TOWN
Atlanta
STATE
Georgia

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Rutherford County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Public Square
CITY, TOWN
Murfreesboro
STATE
Tennessee

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
DATE
April 1941

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Rutherford County Courthouse
CITY, TOWN
Murfreesboro
STATE
Tennessee
DESCRIPTION

CONDITION
—EXCELLENT
—GOOD
—FAIR

DETERIORATED
—RUINS
—UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE
—UNALTERED
—ALTERED

CHECK ONE
—ORIGINAL SITE
—MOVED DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Stones River National Battlefield, established by an act of Congress in 1927, was the scene of the Battle of Stones River, December 31, 1862 through January 2, 1863. The Union forces, commanded by General William S. Rosecrans, met the Confederate forces, under General Braxton Bragg, and engaged in one of the bloodiest battles fought west of the Appalachians during the Civil War. Twenty-three thousand casualties were inflicted upon the two armies during the three day battle. Stones River National Battlefield is located in Rutherford County, Tennessee, three miles N.W. of Murfreesboro and 30 miles S.E. of Nashville. Rutherford County is the center of a physiographic region known as the Central Basin of Tennessee. The Central Basin has level to gently rolling topography and is characterized by outcroppings of Ordovician age limestone, caves, sinks, and underground drainage. The basin is ringed with a circular belt of hills known as the Highland Rim.

Stones River Battlefield is characteristic of much of the Central Basin in that it has limestone outcroppings and "Cedar Glades". Cedar Glades are natural open areas on nearly barren, flat rock surrounded by eastern red cedar (Juniperus Virginiana L.) and numerous other hardwoods. The dense cedar thickets and the rock outcroppings played a vital role in the battle in that they offered natural protection to troops, but by the same token made it nearly impossible to move equipment or cannon.

Although in 1927, numerous small houses and farms were located on what is now Stones River National Battlefield, the area has been returned to maintained much as it was during the battle. Within Stones River National Battlefield District, there are six historic structures, and there are four additional structures outside the Battlefield proper.

1. Stones River National Cemetery-HS #10
   Enclosed by a stone wall, the cemetery is bordered by the Old Nashville Pike on the southwest and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad on the northeast. The Cemetery Union dead from the Battle of Stones River, as well as battles and skirmishes south and east of Murfreesboro as far as 85 miles, were reinterred from their battlefield graves into the National Cemetery. Civil War dead total 6,124 of which 2,307 are unknown. The known dead are marked with 10x4 white marble headstones, while a 6 x 6 x 4 marble stone marks the graves of the unknown dead. Fallen soldiers from the Spanish American War, World Wars I and II, Korean conflict and Vietnam action are also buried in the cemetery. Total numbers of graves presently in the National Cemetery are 6,920. The cemetery was closed January 31, 1974, for other than reserved burials.

   Although the cemetery is often thought of as a separate entity, it was consolidated with Stones River National Battlefield by an Act of Congress in 1927 and is administered by the National Park Service.

   First Order of Significance

   UTM Reference: 16/551180/3970740

   Recommended Treatment - Partial Reconstruction
   Cost Estimate: $62,000

2. U.S. Regulars Monument-HS #18
   An interesting feature of the cemetery is the United States Regulars Monument erected in 1882, the 14 foot cylindrical concrete shaft standing on a 93 1/2 square concrete base was capped by a 300 lb. bronze eagle, which was stolen in 1967. The monument was erected by survivors of the Regular Brigade, Army, of the Cumberland in memory of the 15th, 16th, 18th, and 19th U.S. Infantry and Battery H, 5th U.S. Artillery, who were killed or died of wounds received at the Battle of Stones River.
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stones River National Battlefield is historically the site on which the Union Army of the Cumberland, under General William S. Rosecrans met the Army of the Tennessee commanded by General Braxton Bragg. On December 30, 1862, the Union forces massed west of Murfreesboro and planned their attack on the city. The Confederate forces were prepared on the morning of December 31, 1862; they surprised the Union forces with a heavy attack at the southern end of the Union line. The Union line was thrown back to the Nashville Pike. The battle raged for three days and the Union forces held their ground and the Rebel forces retreated southward. The bloody battle cost both armies 23,000 casualties and was recorded as the bloodiest battle fought west of the Appalachians during the Civil War. The Battle was the beginning of the Union drive to cut the Confederacy in half. Although the battle was fought over a 3700-acre area, Stones River is comprised of the 351 acres of ground where the hardest fighting occurred and where Stones River National Cemetery was established in 1865 and Hazen’s Monument was erected in 1863.

The National Cemetery contains the bodies of all Union soldiers known and unknown that were found in and around the battlefield. It also contains Union dead from battles such as Franklin, Spring Hill and small skirmishes along the Nashville and Decatur Railroad. Today the cemetery is the final resting place for soldiers of all wars since the Civil War.

Erected in 1863 the Hazen Brigade Monument may be the oldest Civil War Monument. It honors not only those members of the brigade that died at Stones River, but also those who fell at Shiloh in 1862 and Chickamauga-Chattanooga in the fall of 1863.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
The Artillery and Breckinridge's Attack, Manuscript, N.P.S., 1959
Fence and Ground Cover Map, Manuscript, N.P.S., 1961
Smith, W.D., Col., The Battle of Stones River Tennessee, December 31, 1862-January 2, 1863
Manuscript, N.P.S. 1932
Continued on Continuation Sheet

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 351 acres
UTM REFERENCES See map
A[1.6] 551137 0 0 0 399730 0 0 0 491681 0 0 0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C[1.6] 555000 0 0 0 3968100 0 0 0 497210 0 0 0
D[1.6] 555100 0 0 0 397210 0 0 0
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
The irregular boundary of Stones River National Battlefield District begins on the southern boundary at the intersection of Manson Pike and Van Cleve Lane and proceeds west along the north side of Manson Pike for approximately 767 yds. It makes a 90 degree turn and runs north for 533 yds. It then makes a 90 degree turn west 133 yds. then another 90 degree turn to the north for 233 yds. It then makes a 90 degree turn east for 200 yds. and then turning north again and running for 1,100 yds., turning N.E. for 433 yds. to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. then the northern boundary parallels the railroad east for 967 yds. It turns 90° (cont.)

FORM PREPARED BY
NAME/TITLE Ron A. Gibbs, Chief I, & RM
ORGANIZATION Stoles River National Battlefield
STREET & NUMBER Route 2, Old Nashville Highway
CITY OR TOWN Murfreesboro
STATE Tennessee
DATE September 22, 1975
PHONE 615-893-9501

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
YES__ NO__ NONE__

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY CONSERVATION
ATTEST: CHARLES F. CRUZEN

DATE 4/12/78

DATE 6/24/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
2. US Regulars Monument - Continued
Significance: First Order
Recommended Treatment: Preservation
Cost Estimate: 0

3. Hazen's Brigade Monument-HS #11
A 10foot high and 10 foot square frustum-shaped monument constructed of native limestone blocks. It was erected in 1863 by men of the 9th Indiana Veteran Volunteers, who were under the command of Col. W.B. Hazen, in memory of the members of the brigade that fell during the Battle of Stones River. Hazen's Brigade was the only Union unit that held its ground and never retreated under the heavy Confederate attack on December 31, 1862.

The monument is surrounded by the graves of fifty-five members of the brigade. The graves and monument are enclosed with a 100' x 30' limestone rock wall. The monument is probably one of the oldest existing Civil War Monuments. (Weathering has made the inscriptions nearly illegible.)
Significance: First Order
Recommended Treatment: Preservation
Cost Estimate: $730.00

4. Van Cleve Lane-HS #14
Also known as Old Bowen Lane, the road runs north-south near the eastern boundary of the park for .9 of a mile. During the Battle of Stones River, cannon, equipment, and troops were constantly moved on the dirt lane. The Confederate attack on the morning of December 31, 1862, moved across the lane in an east-west direction. After the battle, Old Bowen Lane was renamed in honor of General H.P. Van Cleve, Commander of the 3rd Division, Army of the Cumberland, who was wounded during the battle. The lane was gravelled in 1929, and later was topped with asphalt. At present, the asphalt lane follows its original course and nearly one mile of the lane is incorporated into the park road system from its southern beginning at MansionPike to the N.C. & St. Louis Railway Crossing to the North.
Significance: 2nd Order
Recommended Treatment: Preservation
Cost Estimate: 0

5. Old Nashville Highway-HS #15
This road traverses the park in an east-west direction for .6 of a mile between the visitor center and the National Cemetery. At present it is a county secondary, two-lane, asphalt road that has been paved and the road bed raised in low spots since 1929. At the time of the battle it was a toll dirt road and served as the route of march of the Federal left under Major General Thomas L. Crittenden. By noon of December 31, 1862, the Nashville Pike remained the only supply line open to General Rosecrans. The successful Federal defense of this road was a deciding factor in the Federal victory gained on January 2, 1863.
Significance: 2nd Order
Recommended Treatment: Preservation
Cost Estimate: 0
6. Forty-Third Wisconsin and 180th Ohio Monument-HS #19

This monument of native Rutherford County limestone is placed in the central section of Section E of Stones River National Monument. It faces north towards the railroad by the north wall of the cemetery. Its shape resembles a tombstone and is often mistaken for one. It stands 41.5" above the ground and measures 22.5" wide by 14" deep. It bears the inscription: "Erected by the 43rd Reg't. Wis. Vol. Inf. in memory of deceased soldiers in the Reg't. and of the 180th Ohio, Tennessee Union Soldiers Railroad Employees and Co., 1865." The monument is one of the oldest Civil War monuments in the nation.

Significance: 2nd Order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: 0

7. The Artillery Monument-HS #12

The Artillery Monument is dominated by a white painted 34' high, concrete, obelisk shaped monument, bearing a bronze tablet commemorating the Confederate repulse by Union Artillery at this site on January 2, 1863. The monument was erected by the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railroad in July of 1906. The monument and a small one acre lot were donated to the Government by the Railroad in 1928, additional land was purchased in 1963 and a small asphalt 15 car parking lot built on the crest of the bluff to the northwest of the monument. The approximate site of the Union battery position is marked by 5 reproduction 12 pdr. Napoleon and iron display carriages. The west fork of Stones River forms the Eastern boundary, the old road trace of Bowen Lane and McFadden's Ford comprise the southern boundary and the north and west boundaries lie along a barbed wire fence separating the lot from the Smith Farm. This repulse marked the last engagement at the Battle of Stones River. The site also marks the site of one of the major river crossings used by the Union Army during the battle.

Significance: 2nd Order

Acreage: 9.25

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

UTM Reference: 16/551800/3971490

Cost Estimate: #3,700.00

8. Redoubt Brannon-HS #13

Redoubt Brannon was the largest of four redoubts of Fortress Rosecrans, and now is the best preserved. This redoubt was rectangular in shape and approximately 200 feet by 150 feet with earthen walls 20 feet high. A cross shaped earthen magazine was located in its center (now collapsed). The redoubt contained positions for six guns, four positions for heavy ordnance and two for light field guns. The redoubt faces the west fork of Stones River with Old Nashville Pike on its northeast wall and the Louisville and Nashville railroad outside the west wall. According to an 1866 sketch made by Benson J. Lossing there were two frame structures outside the west wall on the bluff above the river. There is no visible trace of these structures now. The entire redoubt and surrounding acreage is now within the City of Murfreesboro limits and is overgrown with thick, almost impenetrable vegetation. At present the site is not maintained by the National Park Service.

The Fortress was built as a direct result of the Battle of Stones River in order to maintain a base of supply for the assault on Chattanooga and Sherman's march to the sea. It remained in Union hands throughout the War and insured Union control of Middle Tennessee through an excellent base of supply.
8. Redoubt Brannon-Continued

Significance: First Order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: 0

Acreage: 4.6
UTM Reference: 16/554320/3968240

9. Bragg's Reservation - HS #16

This small site is located one and five tenths of a mile southeast of Stones River National Battlefield just north of Old Nashville Highway and railroad underpass. The site is surrounded by a chain link fence on three sides and dominated by a small pyramidal pile of 12 pdr. shells marking the headquarters site. There is a small five car asphalt parking lot on the south (entrance side) of the lot.

This area was the Commanding General of the Confederate forces, General Braxton Bragg's second headquarters site (Jan. 1-3, 1863) during the Battle of Stones River. There may have been a log structure on the site during the battle. No trace now exists.

Significance: 2nd Order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: $400.00

Acreage: 1/4 acre
UTM Reference: 16/552420/3969320

10. Rosecrans' Headquarters - HS #17

This small site is located one half mile west of Stones River National Battlefield on the south side of Old Nashville Highway. The site is enclosed on three sides by a chain link fence and a small pyramidal pile of 12 pdr. shells mark the headquarters site. The lot is fronted by an asphalt five car parking lot. The site marks the tent headquarters of Major General William S. Rosecrans, Commanding General, U.S.A. Forces during the Battle of Stones River - December 30, 1862 to January 3, 1863.

The site is seriously intruded upon by a stone quarry that runs up to the fence on two sides of the lot. Visitors are exposed to a safety hazard of falling rocks when blasting operations are in progress in the quarry. Rocks are frequently thrown into the site by blasting.

Significance: 2nd Order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: $300.00

Acreage: 1/4 acre
UTM Reference: 16/550240/3971630
9. Bibliographic References - Continued

Morton, J. St. Clair, Memoir Explaining the Situation and Defense of Fortress Rosecrans, 1863, Record Group 77, National Archives.

10. Geographical Data - Continued - UTM Reference

Redoubt Brannon - 16/554320/3968240
Bragg's Headquarters - 16/552420/3969320
Rosecrans' Headquarters - 16/550240/3971630
Artillery Monument - 16/551800/3971490

Historic Site
A) 16/552000/3972000 16/551160/3971000
B) 16/555740/3968000 16/551810/3970100
C) 16/550000/3968000 16/551430/3968910
D) 16/550000/3972000 16/550510/3969010

Cemetery
16/551180/3970740

Verbal Boundary Description - continued

southwest for 133 yards to the southside of Old Nashville Highway. It then proceeds south for 467 yards, turning 90 degrees south for 800 yards to the southside of the intersection of Van Cleve Lane and Manson Pike for a total of 337 acres.

Included in the historic site are four satellite sites, one to the northeast of the National Military Park and one to the northwest. The other two sites are east and southeast of the National Military Park. Below are boundary or location descriptions.

Redoubt Brannon - The redoubt faces the west fork of Stones River with the Old Nashville Pike on the northeast wall and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad outside the west wall of the redoubt.

Braggs Headquarters - This 1/4 acre reservation is located 1.5 miles southeast of the National Battlefield and north of the Old Nashville Highway and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad underpass.

Rosecrans Headquarters - Located a 1/2 mile west of Stones River National
Battlefield on the south side of the Old Nashville Highway. It is on the edge of a large stone quarry.

Artillery Monument - The nine acre site is bounded by the West fork of the Stones River on the east, the old road trace of Bowen's Road and McFadden's Ford on the south and on the north and west is bounded by the Smith Farm.
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 17 1976
DATE ENTERED

SEEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME
HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
Bragg's Headquarters

2 LOCATION
CITY, TOWN
Murfreesboro

VICINITY OF

COUNTY
Rutherford

STATE
Tennessee

3 PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT
Ron A. Gibbs - NPS

DATE OF PHOTO
February 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT
Stones River National Battlefield

4 IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

Looking Northeast from parking lot of headquarters site.
**Name:** Hazen Brigade Monument  

**Location:**  
City, Town: Murfreesboro  
Vicinity Of:  
County: Rutherford  
State: Tennessee  

**Photo Reference:**  
Photo Credit: Ron A. Gibbs - NPS  
Date of Photo: February 1975  
Negative Filed At: Stones River National Battlefield  

**Identification:**  
Describe View, Direction, Etc. If District, Give Building Name & Street:  
View looking north from Old Nashville Highway
Here lie the
late Mrs. Mary A. Wis.
and
in memory of deceased soldiers
in the late and
of the Civil War.
Long may your
magnificent
memorial
remain.
May 1865.
1. NAME
   HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
43rd Wisconsin & 180th Ohio Monument

2. LOCATION
   CITY. TOWN
   Murfreesboro

   VICINITY OF

   COUNTY
   Rutherford

   STATE
   Tennessee

3. PHOTO REFERENCE
   PHOTO CREDIT
   Ron A. Gibbs - NPS

   DATE OF PHOTO
   February 1975

   NEGATIVE FILED AT
   StonesRiver National Battlefield

4. IDENTIFICATION
   DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

   View looking southeast in Section E of Stones River National Cemetery.
**NAME**

Historic

**LOCATION**

City, Town: Murfreesboro  
Vicinity of: Rutherford  
County: Tennessee

**PHOTO REFERENCE**

Photo Credit: Ron A. Gibbs - NPS  
Date of Photo: February 1975

**IDENTIFICATION**

Describe View, Direction, Etc. If District, Give Building Name & Street:

View looking east from entrance road to monument.
**NAME**

Redoubt Brannon

**LOCATION**

**CITY, TOWN:** Murfreesboro  
**VICINITY OF:**  
**COUNTY:** Rutherford  
**STATE:** Tennessee

**PHOTO REFERENCE**

**PHOTO CREDIT:** Ron A. Gibbs - NPS  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** February 1975  
**NEGATIVE FILED AT:** Stones River National Battlefield

**IDENTIFICATION**

**DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET:**  
View looking northeast across Old Nashville Highway  
**PHOTO NO.:**
Looking west from intersection of Nashville Highway and Van Cleve Lane. National Cemetery on right, visitor center on left.
NAME
HISTORIC
AND/OR COMMON
Stones River National Cemetery

LOCATION
CITY, TOWN
Murfreesboro
VICINITY OF
COUNTY
Rutherford
STATE
Tennessee

PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT Ron A. Gibbs
DATE OF PHOTO February 1975
NEGATIVE FILED AT Stones River National Battlefield

IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
Looking north from park Visitor Center towards National Cemetery entrance gate.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME
HISTORIC
AND/OR COMMON
U.S. Regular Monument

2 LOCATION
CITY, TOWN Murfreesboro VICINITY OF
COUNTY Rutherford STATE Tennessee

3 PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT Ron A. Gibbs - NPS
DATE OF PHOTO February 1975
NEGATIVE FILED AT Stones River National Battlefield

4 IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
Looking west from section C of Stones River National Cemetery.
Note Eagle missing from top of shaft.
**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
Stones River National Cemetery

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN
Murfreesboro

VICINITY OF

COUNTY
Rutherford

STATE
Tennessee

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT
Ron A. Gibbs - NPS

DATE OF PHOTO
February 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT
Stones River National Battlefield

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

View looking north from center of cemetery
Looking south from intersection of Van Cleve and Old Nashville Highway
Rosecran's Headquarters Site

Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, Tennessee

Photograph Reference: Ron A. Gibbs - NPS
Date of Photo: February 1975
Negative Filed at: Stones River National Battlefield

View looking southwest from Old Nashville Highway