
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
1998



Stones River National Cemetery
Stones River NB - Stones River National Cemetery

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Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

The 20.1 acre Stones River National Cemetery is located three miles west of the City of Murfreesboro, close to the location where General Rosecrans massed his artillery on the first day of the Battle of Stones River (December 31, 1862-January 2, 1863). The cemetery was designed and laid out by the War Department between 1863 and 1869 as part of a national system of Civil War cemeteries. The cemetery retains a high degree of integrity characteristic of the original, formal design.

The northwestern third of the cemetery lot is reserved for residential and utility functions. The remaining two-thirds of the cemetery is devoted to the burial and commemoration of war graves. The cemetery contains 6,886 interments, of which 6,139 are the graves of Union Civil War dead. All available gravesites were used by 1974 and the cemetery is now on inactive status.

A native limestone block wall, approximately four feet high and two feet wide, encloses the entire cemetery bordered to the east by the CSX Railroad and to the west by the Old Nashville Pike. Three gates in the western wall provide access to the cemetery from the road. The southernmost entrance provides vehicular access to the cemetery and the northernmost entrance to the residence/utility area. The middle gate is a pedestrian entrance between the cemetery and residence/utility area. A paved entrance drive leads from the southernmost gate to center of the cemetery, Lincoln Square. A small parking lot is located to the south of the drive, just inside the perimeter wall.

Within the cemetery proper, grave markers are arranged in concentric sections around the central Lincoln Square. The square contains a flagstaff, two standing cannon, and a cannonball pyramid. Grassed paths radiate diagonally from the central square into four larger grassy sections. Seven cast iron markers containing excerpts from the "Bivouac of the Dead" poem are spaced regularly along the main entrance drive and central square. Placed among the formal arrangement of standardized grave markers are two unique monuments, the 15-foot U.S. Regulars Monument, and the two by four foot 43rd and 180th Ohio Monument. The brick rostrum was reconstructed in 2006.

The individual headstones are arranged in rows within each section of the cemetery. The Civil War era headstones are marble and the section markers are limestone. Concrete markers indicate sections added later with recent burials marked a variety of Victorian designs.

Today, none of the original structures constructed by the War Department in the residence/utility area of the cemetery survive. The existing park residences, utility buildings, and entrance drive were all constructed by the NPS in the 1960s. Today there are three brick ranch houses (one converted to an office), a shop building, an L-shaped shed, a well house, a powder magazine, and a parking area in the northwest portion of the cemetery. This area is delineated by a chain-link fence and the cemetery wall. Cedar trees provide a visual screen from the rest of the cemetery.

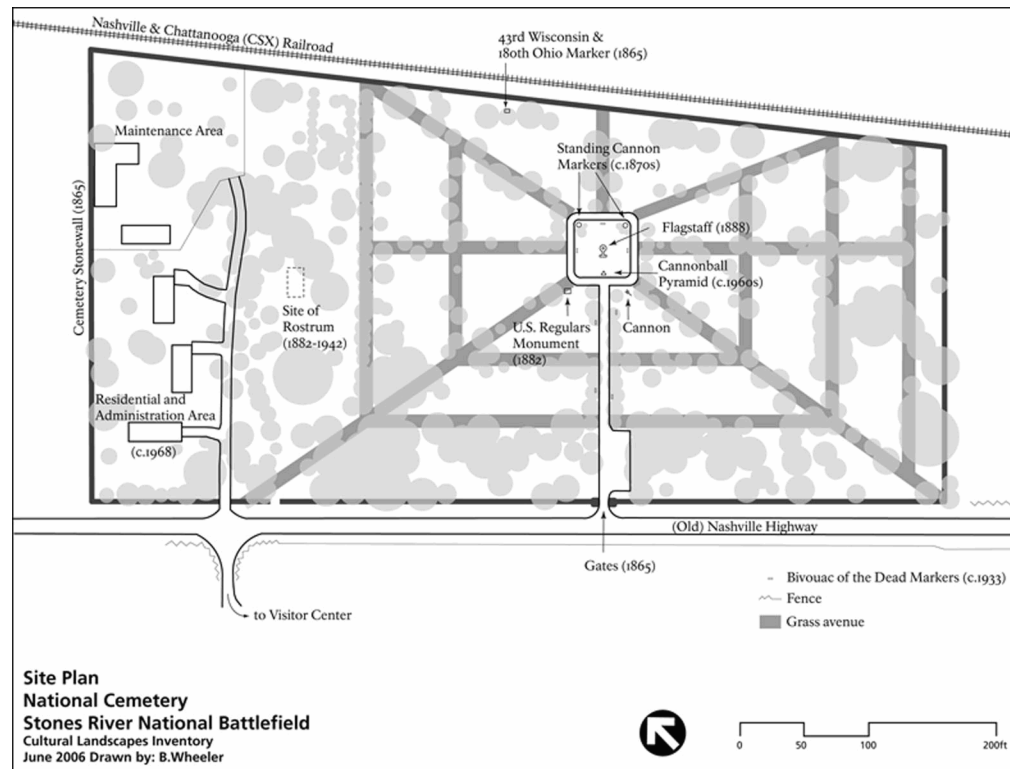
The existing vegetation is a dominant visual feature of the cemetery. The tree species are evenly distributed along the cemetery avenues with a mix of evergreen and deciduous species. The age of the existing stand has a variety of mature (2 - 3.5 feet in diameter), and young (3 - 8 inches in diameter) trees. The condition of the mature individuals ranges from poor to fair. It is possible that several of the

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large individuals date to the period of the cemetery's original design and layout. The smallest individuals date to the recent NPS efforts to reestablish the plantings based on a 1892 vegetation map. The condition of the young trees ranges from fair to good. Current understory plantings are sparse with evergreen shrub plantings located around Lincoln Square. Grass covers the remainder of the cemetery, but is patchy along the pathways due to shade from the mature trees.

Site Plan



Stones River National Cemetery, CLI site plan, 2006.

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Stones River National Cemetery
Property Level:	Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	550097
Parent Landscape:	550097

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Stones River NB - Stones River National Cemetery -STRC
Park Organization Code:	5599
Subunit/District Name Alpha Code:	Stones River NB - Stones River National Cemetery - STRC
Park Administrative Unit:	Stones River National Battlefield

CLI Hierarchy Description

Stones River National Cemetery is one of three landscapes within the Stones River National Battlefield park. The landscapes include the STRI National Cemetery, the Fortress Rosecrans landscape, and the Stones River Battlefield. There are 5 component landscapes associated with the Main Battlefield and 2 component landscapes under Fortress Rosecrans. The STRI National Cemetery is a single landscape enclosing approximately 20 acres with a limestone block wall erected in 1865.



CLI Hierarchy, Stones River National Battlefield, 2007.

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

The CLI was compiled with information at SERO, including a draft of the Stones River National Cemetery CLR. David Hasty and Beth Wheeler conducted a site visit in May 2006. The park contact is Gib Backlund.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	08/03/2007
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	08/30/2007

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The National Cemetery is located three miles west of Murfreesboro between the Old Nashville Highway and the CSX Railroad (formerly the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway). The 20.1 acre tract is enclosed by a limestone perimeter wall and located directly across the road from the Stones River Battlefield and Visitor Center. The National Cemetery is bounded to the northeast by railroad tracks and to the southwest by the paved roadway. Beyond the wall to the northwest, the cemetery is bordered by undeveloped private property. The land to the southeast is National Park Service land.

State and County:

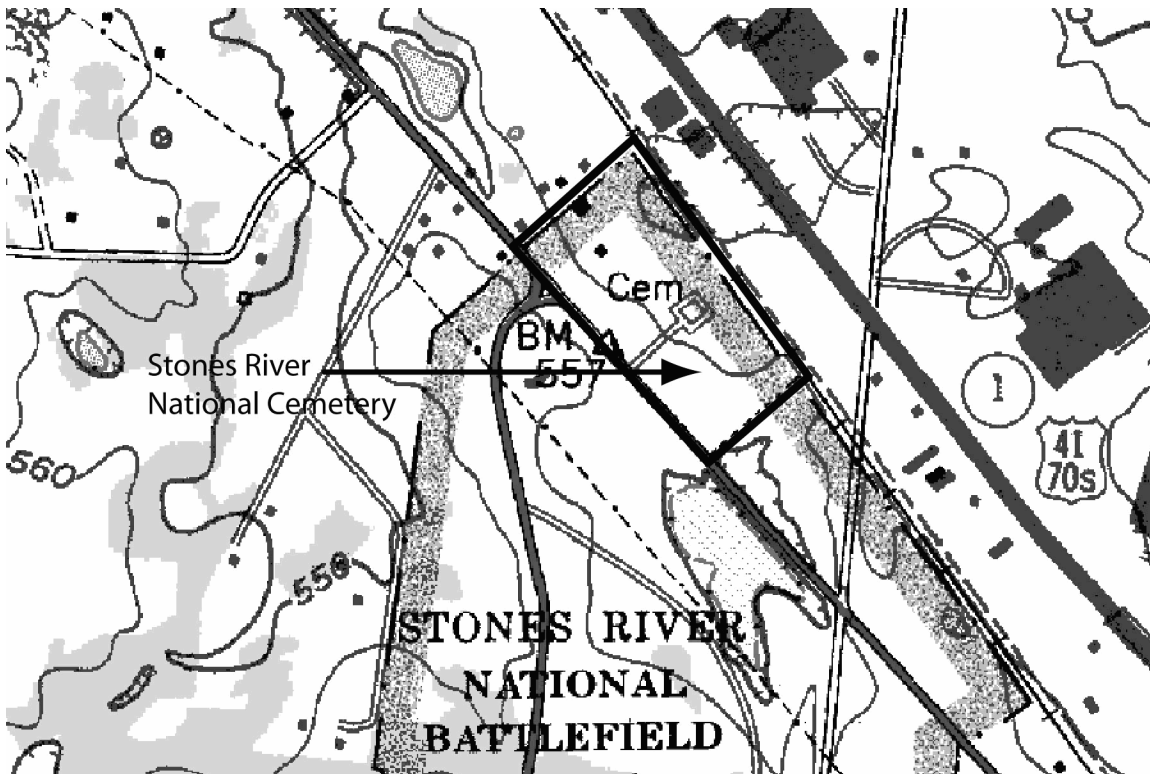
State:	TN
County:	Rutherford County

Size (Acres): 20.10

Boundary UTMS:

Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	551,255
UTM Northing:	3,970,736
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	550,988
UTM Northing:	3,971,028
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	551,149
UTM Northing:	3,971,174
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	551,386
UTM Northing:	3,970,852

Location Map:



Location of Stones River National Cemetery.

Regional Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Stones River National Battlefield is located in what was until recent times a rural area outside of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. The city limits now surround the park on all sides. The area historically supported small farms, and while agriculturally diversified, produced mainly corn and livestock. As the area was settled, Murfreesboro prospered with the railroad and turnpike routes, eventually making the area a target for Union soldiers during the Civil War. The Stones River and Murfreesboro area is also known for raising exceptional horses.

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

STRI is located in a karst region, noted for rolling hills, rocky outcrops, and sinkholes. This area of Middle Tennessee has thin limestone soils that support cedar and cedar glades.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

STRI lies partially within the current boundaries of the City of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and is in the 6th Congressional District of Tennessee.

Management Unit: Stones River National Cemetery

Tract Numbers: 01-101, 01-102, 01-103

GIS File Description:

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 08/01/2007

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

An objective of the Stones River General Management Plan is to "preserve the 1892 design of the national cemetery's landscape and the 1860s design of the Hazen Monument, and maintain a quiet, reflective, and reverent atmosphere." (1998)

Maintenance Location Code: CEMETERY

Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

Management Agreement:

Expiration Date: UK

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Unrestricted

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Description:

The lands surrounding the National Cemetery contribute to the context of the Civil War battle that took place December 31, 1862 through January 2, 1863. The battle raged over thousands of acres, only a small portion of which is preserved by the NPS today. The key events during the Battle of Stones River are within the park boundaries, but all adjacent land contributes to the significance of the Battle of Stones River. The formal design of the cemetery encloses the burials and memorials from adjacent private property.

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The entire park was administratively listed on the National Register in 1966 with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. In 1974, a nomination was prepared to include the recently acquired portions of Fortress Rosecrans. The state office accepted documentation for the Stones River park historic district in 1978. The existing boundaries of the National Register district encompass the federally owned park property (as of the last documentation date). In 2003, a draft of additional documentation was submitted to the park for review based on research by Sean Styles (author of the HRS). The draft has additional historic contexts, including the early commemoration of the battlefield and the African-American ethnic heritage, but does not include the War Department era commemoration. SHPO concurrence for the documentation has not been filed.

Existing NRIS Information:

NRIS Number:	66000075
Other Names:	Stones River National Military Park
Primary Certification:	Listed In The National Register
Primary Certification Date:	10/15/1966
Other Certifications and Date:	Draft Additional documentation - 7/14/2003
NRIS Number:	66000075
Other Names:	Stones River National Military Park
Primary Certification:	Listed In The National Register
Primary Certification Date:	10/15/1966
	Additional Documentation - 1/26/1978

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Contributing
National Register Classification:	District
Significance Level:	National

Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria:	C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
Criteria Considerations:	D -- A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events F -- A commemorative property

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	AD 1863 - 1933
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Landscape Architecture
Facet:	Rural Cemeteries
Other Facet:	National Cemetery
Time Period:	AD 1863 - 1933
Historic Context Theme:	Shaping the Political Landscape
Subtheme:	The Civil War
Facet:	Battles In The North And South
Other Facet:	None

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Landscape Architecture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None

Statement of Significance:

The Stones River National Cemetery is nationally significant for its association with the movement to establish, design, and administer a national system of cemeteries after the Civil War (1863-1933) (Criterion A). The cultural landscape, originally designed for the interment of Union soldiers killed at the Battle of Stones River, combined a formal aesthetic with the commemoration of individual soldiers into the new national cemetery standard. The STRI cemetery is also significant for late nineteenth century funerary landscape architecture (Criterion C). The National Cemetery qualifies under Criterion Consideration D and F for design features significant in their own right. The monuments, limestone wall, and grave markers have characteristic style, construction, and layout distinctive to national cemeteries of the period. The efforts to memorialize the Civil War immediately following the battle used uniform burial sections, a central flagstaff, and stone monuments to represent the honor and sacrifice of the

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soldiers. In particular, the Stones River National Cemetery is one of the earliest examples of a designed national cemetery and retains good integrity of contributing features.

The rural cemetery aesthetic became popular in the nineteenth century and emphasized a peaceful, contemplative setting to bury the dead. This cemetery design utilized winding drives and naturalistic plantings. During the Civil War, cemeteries established a new military standard, yet remained quiet and reflective places. The national cemetery shifted focus from commanding generals to the individual soldier, memorializing the war and embracing a heroic view of death and sacrifice. A series of national cemeteries was established at major battlefields using distinctive landscape architecture.

The formal landscape of the national cemetery identified each soldier with an individual headstone while separating the cemetery from the surrounding community with a stone wall, symbolizing everyday reality. A central flagstaff was used as a focal point, standard in each national cemetery and burials were arranged in orderly and symmetrical sections. All national cemeteries had monumentation, a perimeter wall, standardized grave markers, symmetrical avenues between sections, and a manicured lawn. National cemeteries became important sites for veteran reunions and helped prompt the preservation of battlefield parks after the war.

The Stones River National Cemetery, located on the 1863 battlefield, was established the same year for the interment of soldiers killed in the Battle of Stones River and surrounding engagements. Quartermaster John Means, who served as the first cemetery manager, designed the National Cemetery. Means laid out burial sections along diagonal avenues radiating from the focal point, Lincoln Square, with monuments and cannons placed around the flagstaff. A level grass lawn surrounded ordered rows of marble headstones. The limestone wall, made of local materials and characteristic of national cemeteries, was constructed in 1865-1871 and enclosed approximately 20 acres. The Stones River National Cemetery contains over 6,000 Civil War graves and retains good integrity of historic landscape features, though later interments were added until 1974. Extant historic features include the U.S. Regulars Monument (1883), 43rd Wisconsin and 180th Ohio Monument (1865), "Bivouac of the Dead" panels (1888), the flagstaff, marble headstones, and two standing cannons. The War Department managed the cemetery from 1863 until its transfer to the NPS in 1933. The period of significance spans the lay out of the cemetery and the continued use and monumentation of the site. Most Civil War burials occurred from 1863-1865, though buildings, a rostrum, plantings, and monuments were added over the intervening years. The cemetery also served as a primary site for commemoration of the war and emancipation until after the turn of the century. In 1927, the cemetery became part of the Stones River National Battlefield yet remained under War Department administration. In 1933, the cemetery administration was passed to the National Park Service.

The cemetery at Stones River retains sufficient aspects of integrity (location, design, workmanship, setting, feeling, association, materials) in the landscape features and monuments that survive from the historic period. The NPS management of the cemetery has not significantly altered the landscape but additions, including the Mission 66 housing, do not contribute to the site. In the 1970s, the NPS staff began to restore the cemetery landscape based on an 1892 vegetation plan. The planting of specimen trees restored the design and feeling of the cemetery. Recent repointing of the limestone perimeter wall

has compromised the material integrity of the feature, but the wall still conveys location, feeling, association, and design. The overall spatial organization and design integrity are well preserved at Stones River National Cemetery, despite the additional of a parking area at the main gate and minor changes to the burial sections. Although Battle of Stones River is interpreted as another important period within the national cemetery, the designed and commemorative landscape (1863-1933) is nationally significant for National Register eligibility.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Designed
 Historic Site

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function:	Cemetery
Primary Current Use:	Cemetery
Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Both Current And Historic
Cemetery	Both Current And Historic
Leisure-Passive (Park)	Both Current And Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Stones River National Battlefield; National Cemetery	Current
Stones River National Military Park; National Cemetery	Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 1790 - 1850	Settled	Area settled by Revolutionary War veterans.

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AD 1842	Built	Nashville-Murfreesboro Turnpike to Shelbyville. This roadway would later provide a boundary for the Stones River National Cemetery.
AD 1851	Built	Nashville and Chattanooga railroad extended to Murfreesboro.
AD 1862 - 1863	Military Operation	Battle of Stones River (December 31, 1862- January 2, 1863).
AD 1863 - 1864	Built	Fortress Rosecrans
	Designed	Hazen Brigade Monument, the wall surrounding the monument, and 31 graves designed. Section markers installed in cemetery.
AD 1863 - 1865	Designed	Stones River National Cemetery designed by Quartermaster John Means and laid out in concentric sections around a central area (Lincoln Square) with a flagstaff and monuments. Each avenue named for a commanding officer at the Battle of Stones River. Two standing cannon placed near flagstaff in 1865.
AD 1863 - 1932	Memorialized	STRI National Cemetery was designed and constructed during this period as part of a national system of Civil War cemeteries.
		Major General George H. Thomas Captain John A. Means
AD 1864	Military Operation	Nathan Bedford Forrest unsuccessfully leads troops in a minor assault against Fort Rosecrans.
AD 1865 - 1871	Built	Limestone wall constructed around the perimeter of the Stones River National Cemetery.
AD 1865 - 1876	Memorialized	Artillery guns added to Lincoln Square at some point during this period.
AD 1867	Altered	Wooden grave markers replaced with marble headstones.
AD 1868	Land Transfer	United States gets title of 20 acres of Stones River National Cemetery from James M. Tompkins and Benjamin Lillard.

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AD 1871	Built	Stone lodge built for cemetery manager in accordance with design of other National Cemetery architecture. Lodge includes basement kitchen, anomolous to vernacular house form.
AD 1873	Memorialized	Gravestones placed for Civil War interments.
AD 1875	Land Transfer	Hazen Brigade Memorial (approximately one acre) becomes Federal property.
AD 1876	Graded	Graves filled and top dressed with soil to create level lawn. Cemetery closed to allow grass to grow and fully root in avenues, a continuing maintenance concern.
AD 1876 - 1883	Graded	National Cemetery graded and ornamented.
AD 1878	Planted	Major planting in Stones River National Cemetery. 200 trees and 100 rose bushes planted, including cedars and ornamental shrubs. The roses were planted in four rows of twenty-five bushes near the Superintendent's lodge.
	Designed	Iron hitching posts added near cemetery for visitors. Ten settees installed in Lincoln Square.
AD 1879	Altered	Two lawn vases added near Superintendent's lodge.
	Maintained	Iron repainted and walls repointed.
AD 1882	Built	Rostrum. Ceremonial structure built in National Cemetery with brick columns and wooden roof.
AD 1883	Memorialized	Theodore O'Hara poem, "Bivouac of the Dead" installed on cedar posts in the cemetery.
	Memorialized	U.S. Regulars Monument erected in Section C. The sandstone pillar has inscriptions and is topped with a bronze eagle.
	Planted	English ivy, Chinese wisteria, Virginia Creeper, and Honeysuckle planted to ornament the rostrum. Headstones also cleaned.

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AD 1888	Memorialized	Iron flagstaff with weathervane replaces rotted wooden flagpole. Plaques of Lincoln's Gettysburg address installed.
AD 1890 - 1899	Planted	English Ivy planted along stone wall. Osage Oranges removed from National Cemetery.
AD 1895	Reconstructed	Stone wall around the Hazen Brigade Monument rebuilt.
AD 1906	Built	Stable constructed.
AD 1910	Restored	U.S. Regulars Monument repaired.
AD 1913	Memorialized	Iron shields added to entrance gate of cemetery.
AD 1925	Altered	Modernization of National Cemetery. Telephone installed in lodge building and motorized lawn mowers used to maintain cemetery.
AD 1925 - 1926	Built	Stone lodge for Superintendent removed and new wood structure built.
AD 1927	Established	Stones River National Battlefield under the supervision of the War Department.
AD 1929	Built	A new well was constructed for the National Cemetery residence and office.
	Altered	Driveway extended to maintenance yard and stable area.
AD 1930	Built	Brick outbuilding and addition to the stable.
AD 1930 - 1939	Planted	WPA plants vegetative screen in Stones River National Cemetery.
AD 1932	Paved	Cemetery avenues and main road paved.

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AD 1933 - 1998	Conserved	NPS assumed administrative control over STRI National Cemetery in 1933 and has continued to administer the property according to its historic function.
AD 1938	Expanded	Paved roads in National Cemetery widened. South drive expanded from 12' to 16' and North drive from 8' to 12'. The turnaround is paved to a width of 18'.
AD 1941 - 1942	Removed	Rostrum removed from cemetery.
AD 1954	Developed	U.S. Highway 41 (Murfreesboro Road) redirects traffic from Old Nashville Highway. Concrete manufacturing plant built in viewshed of National Cemetery.
AD 1961 - 1963	Altered	Cemetery wall repointed and two entrances (pedestrian and railroad) blocked in. Main gate widened for automobile traffic.
AD 1962	Built	Parking lot constructed in National Cemetery.
AD 1964	Planned	National Cemetery added to automobile tour of battlefield and two interpretive signs were installed inside the cemetery.
AD 1964 - 1968	Memorialized	Cannonball pyramids likely added to Lincoln Square during this period.
AD 1968	Built	Three brick ranch houses built to replace Superintendent lodge with orientation changed from facing Old Nashville highway to the interior of cemetery. Cedar screen planted nearby to provide privacy. Stable and outbuilding replaced with maintenance building and garage.
AD 1975	Graded	Ditch and swale excavated to alleviate flooding in front of National Cemetery.
AD 1977 - 1983	Rehabilitated	Cemetery wall and Hazen Brigade Memorial wall repointed with latex joint compound.
AD 1980 - 1999	Developed	Area surrounding the STRI National Cemetery and Battlefield developed by commercial businesses, including a car dealership.

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AD 1981	Planted	Fifty-five trees planted in cemetery based on historic 1892 planting plan. Arborists repair forty-three trees.
AD 1983	Restored	U.S. Regular Monument repaired and rededicated.
AD 1986 - 1987	Preserved	Hazen Brigade Monument preservation project.

Physical History:

1862-1863

December 31, 1862 - January 2, 1863, Battle of Stones River

In the winter of 1862, Gen. Braxton Bragg's Confederate Army of 38,000 men and Maj. Gen. William Rosecrans' Union Army of 45,000 men were vying for control of Middle Tennessee's rich farmland and transportation routes. In October 1862, Bragg retreated from Perryville, Kentucky and moved south to concentrate his troops in Murfreesboro, Tennessee for the remainder of the winter. Rosecrans countered by ordering his troops from Kentucky to Nashville. On December 26, 1862, Rosecrans marched his troops further south, intending to engage Bragg's army before advancing on Chattanooga to gain control of its important rail center.

The two met at Murfreesboro at the end of the day on December 30. At dawn on December 31, 1862, the Confederates opened the battle with a charge on the Union right flank. It was not until mid-afternoon that the Union army was able to establish a new line of battle along the Nashville Pike following a concentrated exchange of fire and the arrival of Federal reinforcements. Once the new line was established, the days fighting ceased. On the next day of the battle, New Years Day, the armies remained in position and there was no exchange of fire.

On the morning of January 2, 1863, Bragg was surprised to find that the Union Army remained on the battlefield and had not retreated. Late in the day, Bragg ordered Gen. Breckenridge's brigade to launch an attack that eventually drove the Federals first line back to a shallow crossing on Stones River known as McFadden's Ford. The battle ended as massive Union artillery fire stopped the Confederate advance.

Losses were heavy on both sides yet they each claimed victory. An estimated 13,000 Union and 10,000 Confederate soldiers were killed and wounded. On January 3, 1863, Bragg's Army retreated to Tullahoma, Tennessee, and Rosecrans' Army remained to occupy the City of Murfreesboro, and construct Fortress Rosecrans, the largest earthen fortification built during the Civil War. From Fortress Rosecrans the Union Army was able to launch an attack on the Confederate rail center in Chattanooga, successfully dividing the Confederacy along the transportation routes running southeast through Tennessee.

1863-1932

The Stones River National Cemetery was established in 1864 to reinterr Union soldiers buried on the battlefield following the Battle of Stones River (and included a ninety-mile area of middle Tennessee). Captain John Means (116th Ohio Volunteers) laid out the formal grounds between the railroad and Nashville Pike. The federal government finally acquired 20 acres of the battlefield from James M. Tompkins and Benjamin Lillard in 1868, after the cemetery was established.

The national cemetery began with the exhumation and re-interment of Union soldiers. This process necessitated meticulous record keeping, though one-fourth of the gravesites remain unknown. Members of the Hazen Brigade were excluded from reburial in the national cemetery and the Hazen Brigade Memorial was constructed to the south for a separate burial and commemoration. National cemetery graves were originally marked with wooden headstones lined in rows between parallel gravel walkways. A limestone wall enclosed the cemetery with construction beginning in 1865 by the 111th USCT. The wall protected the Union graves from Confederate looters (sympathizers lived in the area) and conformed to mandates by the War Department requiring permanent enclosures around national cemeteries. A temporary picket fence was constructed inside the boundary while the stone wall was being completed. By 1867, marble headstones replaced the wooden headboards in the cemetery.

The formal layout of the cemetery is centered on Lincoln Square with symbolic and decorative features surrounded by geometric plots. A wooden flagstaff was located in the middle of the square and two standing cannon markers were added in 1865. The 43rd Wisconsin and 180th Ohio monument was placed near the railroad tracks by "Tennessee Union Soldiers Railroad Employees" in 1865. The orderly design of the national cemetery contrasted with other picturesque rural cemeteries popular at the time. The linear rows and individual grave markers emphasized the individual soldier contrasting the family grouping of plots at most cemeteries. Lincoln Square served as a focal point with standardized features reiterating the national establishment within a designed landscape representing a lasting memorial to the Union troops.

The design was no soon planned then altered and four additional acres to the north of the cemetery were purchased for a housing and maintenance area. A temporary wooden lodge was constructed on the opposite side of Nashville Pike to house the cemetery superintendent before the standard superintendent lodge, a feature of national cemeteries, was constructed in 1871 on the additional land. The lodge was stone construction with a mansard roof, but needed repairs almost immediately. Besides the stone lodge, outbuildings were also part of the surrounding landscape in this portion of the cemetery.

In 1865, almost no vegetation grew in the cemetery, but by 1869, small trees lined the cemetery avenues with a few additional trees near Lincoln Square. A 1876 report notes that "the drives and walks are lined with very handsome Evergreens...there are a few native forest trees of good size in the eastern portion; and a number of young trees have been planted in the vacant area between the west wall & burial sections, and on the south side." A nursery was located in the housing and maintenance area for transplanted trees and a small garden provided vegetables for the superintendent. The cemetery lawn was originally planted in bluegrass.

After 1876, the national cemetery landscape changed significantly. Planting became a priority and major grading projects took place, creating a formal landscape. Slumping graves received fill dirt and the burial sections were maintained as a lawn.

In 1878, the cemetery staff planted 100 rose bushes in circular beds near the Superintendent's lodge and the following year added a pyracantha hedge between the housing area and the burial sections. Trees planted in 1881 did not outlast a drought in Tennessee and all dead trees were replaced (with additional fruit trees added) in 1882. Added in 1879, two lawn vases held

annual flowers outside the lodge. Despite the emphasis on ornamenting the cemetery landscape, no formal planting plan existed. A report in 1896 notes that the interior of the limestone walls were covered in English ivy (*hedra helix*), replacing the previous osage orange hedge (*maclura pomifera*). In 1878, ten settees were placed in the cemetery and hitching posts added the next year when the perimeter wall was repointed.

The 1880s saw many improvements to the Stones River National Cemetery. A brick rostrum was constructed in 1883 for ceremonies and planted with English ivy, Chinese Wisteria, Virginia Creeper, and honeysuckle scarlet trumpet plants to cover the wooden trellis roof. New brick walkways connected outbuildings and an iron flagstaff replaced the original wooden one (1888). The cemetery erected seven plaques with the poem *Bivouac of the Dead* by Theodore O'Hara and cornerstones were replaced to mark section burials. In 1883, the U.S. Regulars Monument was added and cemetery headstones cleaned. In 1888, iron plaques of the Gettysburg Address, a feature of all national cemeteries, were added to the gates.

The popularity of Decoration Day (what became Memorial Day) increased after the war and by 1896, a new gate for the railroad entrance was needed. Veterans and locals picnicked at the battlefield and by the turn of the century Stones River National Cemetery was an annual destination for African Americans from Nashville commemorating emancipation. In 1910, additional maintenance work, including repointing and repairing the headstones occurred.

The Stones River National Cemetery became part of the newly-formed Stones River National Battlefield in 1927. As the management and administration integrated, the cemetery became a part of the larger battlefield interpretation. Modern amenities were also introduced to the cemetery including telephone lines (1925), motorized lawn mowers (1929), a well (1929), a new wooden superintendent's lodge (1929), and bituminous surfacing on the gravel paths (1932). The cemetery also integrated in 1930, reserving Section Q for African American burials. This section divided the newly created cemetery section and altered the design of the landscape.

The cemetery remained the center for ceremony at the park with a service taking place on July 15, 1932 to dedicate the new battlefield park. The following year the park administration was transferred from the War Department to the National Park Service.



1933-Present

The NPS Superintendent at the time of the transfer, Melroe Tarter, continued to manage the national cemetery and new battlefield until 1942. After the War Department transfer, the park reported to Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. During the New Deal, the Public Works Administration worked on the landscape planting a vegetative screen in the cemetery and updating drainage along Old Nashville Pike. Roads within the national cemetery were widened during this period. In 1942, the rostrum was taken down. The cemetery received remains of WWII soldiers to inter after 1945.

Mission 66, the ten-year NPS initiative to improve park facilities, changed the Stones River National Cemetery considerably. The housing area of the cemetery expanded with the construction of three brick ranch houses. In 1963, the limestone wall was repointed and three pedestrian entrances were altered (two to allow for vehicles, one rocked in and closed). A parking lot was also added in front of Lincoln Square near the main cemetery entrance. The National Cemetery became a stop on the interpretative tour route through the park as part of Mission 66.

Constant flooding and the burden of maintenance from additional burials caused the cemetery to officially close in 1974. The park soon initiated a rehabilitation project for the cemetery landscape and interpretation expanded to include the commemorative landscape. An 1892 planting plan guided all new vegetation and trees were planted in 1981 and 1985. Mature trees were trimmed and repaired by a tree surgeon and younger trees were pruned and fertilized.

In 1983, the U.S. Regulars Monument was repaired and the monument rededicated for its centennial. The crowning eagle, stolen in 1968 by a Tennessee fraternity as a prank, was

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recovered and reattached. Ten years later, more repair was done. During the 1980s, a headstone and section marker replacement program was initiated and replicas were made to match the historic style. Damaged markers were restored or replaced. The original settees, missing since an unknown era, were replaced with concrete benches throughout the cemetery during this period.



National Cemetery

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The Stones River National Cemetery retains integrity of all seven aspects: location, association, setting, design, feeling, materials, and workmanship. The cemetery preserves character-defining landscape features including monuments, spatial organization, vegetation, topography, and land use. The location of the interments remains unchanged, superimposed on the site of heavy fighting in 1863. The association with the Civil War is reinforced by the adjacent battlefield preserved and interpreted by the NPS. The cemetery setting is intact within the perimeter stone wall, though adjacent commercial development has diminished the integrity. The design and feeling of the national cemetery are extant in symmetrical burial sections, centralized Lincoln Square, and the orderly rows of gravestones. The historic stone wall, 43rd Wisconsin and 180th Ohio and U.S. Regulars monuments, standing cannon, and plaques convey the original materials and workmanship of the historic period.

Overall, the Stones River National Cemetery retains good integrity. The landscape features convey the significance of the site as an early example of the National Cemetery movement initiated after the Civil War and the commemoration of soldiers with monuments and individual markers.

Aspects of Integrity:	Location
	Design
	Workmanship
	Feeling
	Association
	Setting
	Materials

Landscape Characteristic:

Buildings and Structures

The commemorative structures in the STRI cemetery contribute to the significance of the site and demonstrate integrity. The markers and landscape features memorialize Civil War casualties and are examples of late nineteenth-century funerary architecture. The headstones, limestone wall, monuments, plaques, cannons, flagstaff, and cannonball pyramid remain in their original location. These features date to the period of significance and convey the design, feeling, and association of the national cemetery. The buildings (three residences and maintenance buildings) were constructed in the 1960s by the NPS and do not contribute to the associated history of the national cemetery.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Bivouac of the Dead Tablets
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Feature Identification Number: 98478
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 90223
LCS Structure Name: Bivouac of the Dead
LCS Structure Number: HS-22

Feature: Cemetery Flagstaff

Feature Identification Number: 98479
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 90226
LCS Structure Name: Cemetery Flagstaff
LCS Structure Number: HS-21

Feature: Forty-third Wisconsin and 180th Ohio Marker

Feature Identification Number: 98480
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 07041
LCS Structure Name: Forty-third Wisconsin and 180th Ohio Marker
LCS Structure Number: HS-19

Feature: Standing Cannon Markers

Feature Identification Number: 98481
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 90227
LCS Structure Name: Standing Cannon Markers
LCS Structure Number: HS-23

Feature: Stones River National Cemetery Markers

Feature Identification Number: 98482
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 07032
LCS Structure Name: Stones River National Cemetery Markers
LCS Structure Number: HS-10

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Feature: Stones River National Cemetery Wall

Feature Identification Number: 98483

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 90222

LCS Structure Name: Stones River National Cemetery Wall

LCS Structure Number: HS-20

Feature: U.S. Regulars Monument

Feature Identification Number: 98484

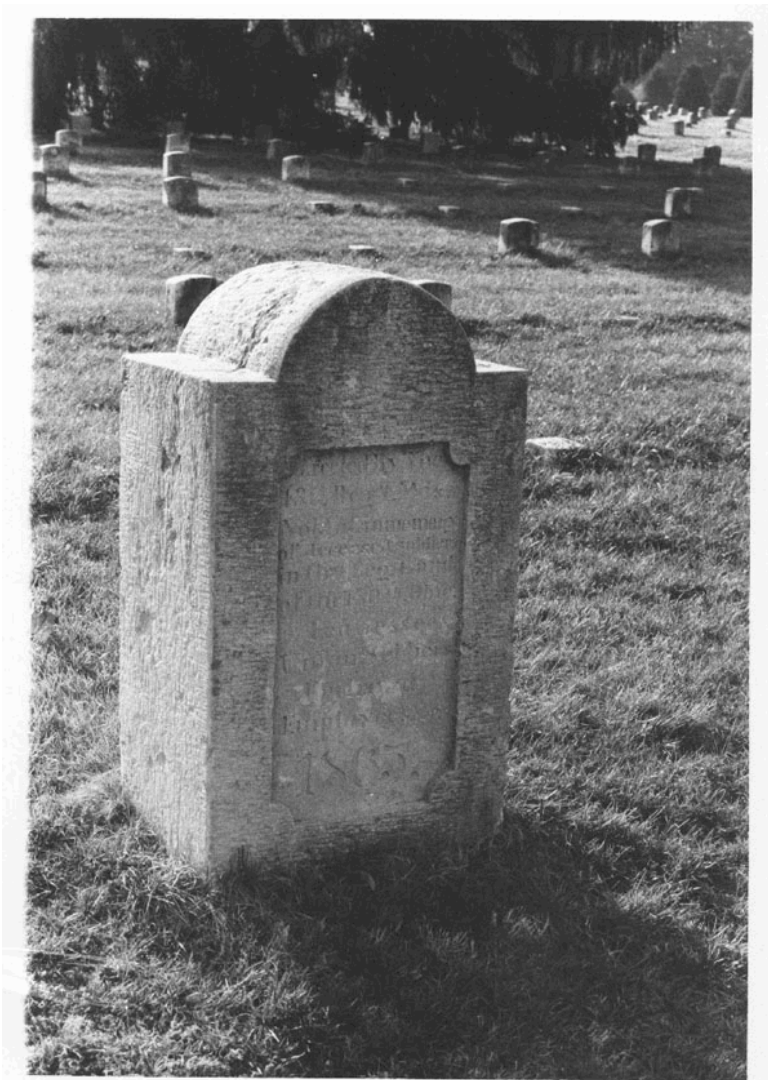
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 07040

LCS Structure Name: U.S. Regulars Monument

LCS Structure Number: HS-18

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:





Cemetery wall along Nashville Pike, 2006.



Standing cannon in cemetery

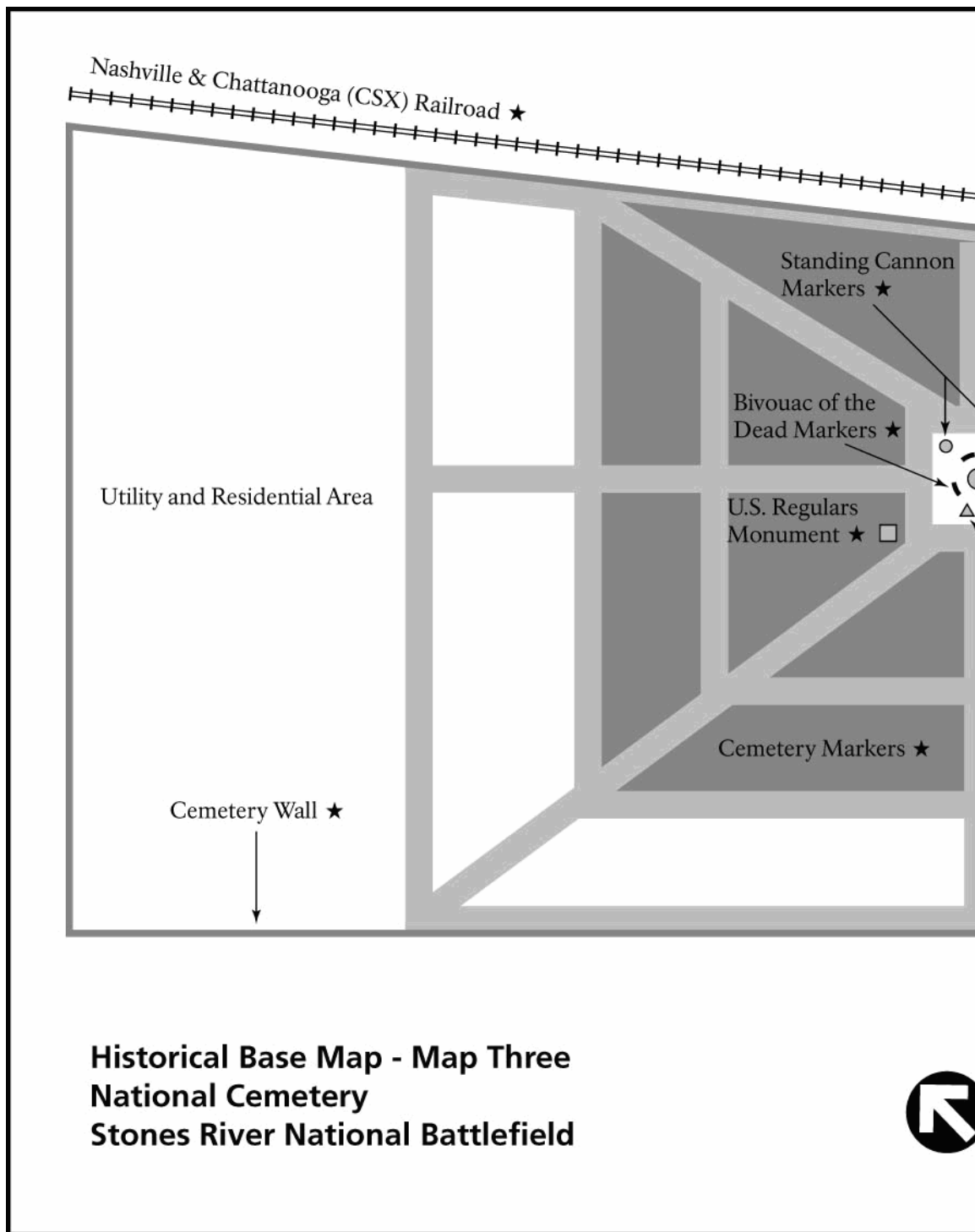
Circulation

The circulation system of roads and railroads around the STRI National Cemetery contributes to the larger historic battlefield landscape. The Old Nashville Highway and Nashville-Chattanooga railroad bordering the STRI cemetery were present during the Battle of Stones River and provide boundaries to the cemetery. The current circulation pattern within the cemetery does not replicate the historic period. The entrance drive and cemetery avenues retain their original configuration, however the stable and railroad entrances have been blocked in, a parking lot added, and the Lincoln Square turnaround paved with asphalt.

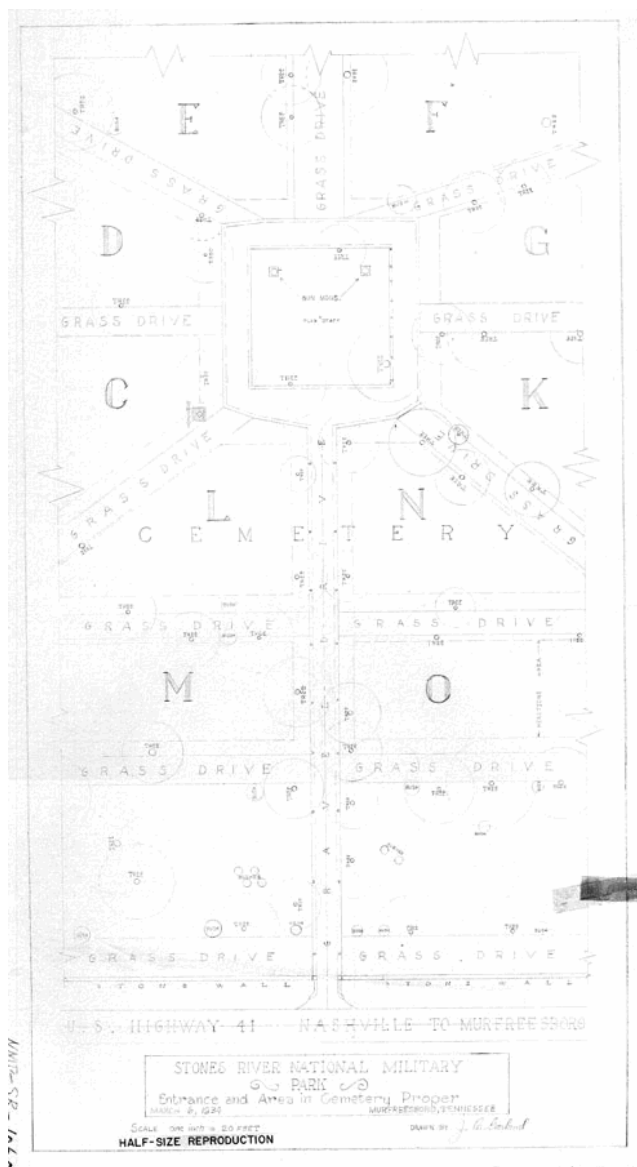
Spatial Organization

The spatial relationships and symmetry of design at STRI National Cemetery contribute to the historic landscape. The original sections of the National Cemetery remain intact and convey the feeling and association of the Civil War cemetery. The National Cemetery is clearly defined as a separate landscape within the larger park, both by the consciously designed layout and by the limestone-walled enclosure that sets it apart from the commemorative battlefield. The concentric spatial configuration remains a distinguishing feature since the establishment of the cemetery in 1863-1865. The primary road by the stable and former lodge has been altered slightly to allow access to three Mission 66 residences and a maintenance yard and has compromised integrity. Despite paving and widening the avenues, each secondary route exists in its original configuration. A gated opening in the front (south) cemetery wall provides access to the Old Nashville Highway, a historic route pre-dating the Civil War battle. Although two additional entrances in the limestone wall have been blocked in, the railroad still exists along the northern boundary of the cemetery. The burial of Union soldiers in geometric sections with uniform grave markers continued with subsequent interments, providing visual continuity in the cemetery organization. No changes have been made to the original configuration or burials, though a section was subdivided and separated for African-Americans before the cemetery closed.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Cemetery Map



Cemetery Planting Plan, 1934

Topography

The topography of STRI National Cemetery is a contributing feature of the historic battlefield landscape. The site occupies one of the highest points in the park and was the site of the final Union defense line on December 31, 1862. In addition, the grading of the site for a National Cemetery, according to set plans for cemetery construction, contributes to the historic landscape. The concentric sections arranged around Lincoln Square were leveled in the twentieth-century to alleviate flooding and emphasize the original plan.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Aerial of Stones River National Cemetery.

Vegetation

The vegetation contributes to the cultural landscape of the national cemetery. The existing vegetation was planted in the 1970s following a 1892 plan, though no formal plan exists from the original cemetery design. The evergreen trees lining the avenues of the burial section remain in the same location and setting and some may date to the historic period. Today the grassy avenues lined with mature hemlocks and spruce convey good integrity. Smaller planting such as English ivy on the perimeter wall and vines on the rostrum are not extant today.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Mown pathways
Feature Identification Number:	98485
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Ornamental trees
Feature Identification Number:	98486
Type of Feature Contribution:	Undetermined

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Feature: Specimen trees

Feature Identification Number: 98487

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Cemetery Vegetation



Hemlock and spruce trees.

Views and Vistas

The external views from inside the cemetery walls to the 1862-3 battlefield have been compromised to commercial and industrial development. The internal views have good integrity with the restored vegetation, symmetrical vistas, and a cedar screen by the utility area all intact. The view from the railroad tracks into the cemetery was historically important and designed to highlight the rows of grave markers and monuments to passing railway riders. This view retains good integrity.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: View from the cemetery across the road toward the battlefield

Feature Identification Number: 98488

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: View of the vegetation enclosed center of the cemetery

Feature Identification Number: 98489

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Views and vistas of the STRI National Cemetery from the tracks of the

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Nashville and Chattanooga (CSX) Railroad.

Feature Identification Number: 98490

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Views down the mown pathways

Feature Identification Number: 98491

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



View of Lincoln Square, 1975



View Eastward over Nashville Pike, 1975

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment:	Good
Assessment Date:	09/30/1998
Condition Assessment:	Fair
Assessment Date:	08/01/2007

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The STRI cemetery is in fair condition due to the condition of several features. The vegetation, location, spatial organization, and landscape features retain integrity, but the LCS lists the 43rd Wisconsin and 180th Ohio monument, the cemetery wall, and the flagstaff in fair condition. Structural deterioration is the primary impact for each assessment, though weather also affects the flagstaff. The recent rostrum construction was incomplete at the time of the CLI site visit.

Impacts

Type of Impact:	Structural Deterioration
Other Impact:	Condition of the 43rd Wisconsin and 180th Ohio monument, the cemetery wall, and the flagstaff.
External or Internal:	Internal
Type of Impact:	Adjacent Lands
External or Internal:	External
Impact Description:	Visual and noise intrusions from adjacent commercial development.
Type of Impact:	Operations On Site
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Ongoing management and preservation maintenance of the cemetery landscape in the absence of thorough documentation of the significant features of the historic landscape and an evaluation of alternatives for appropriate treatment. Dead and dying trees pose a potential threat to historic resources and visitor safety. Potentially significant individual trees are approaching the limit of their natural lifespan.

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Preservation
Approved Treatment Document: General Management Plan
Document Date: 11/30/1998

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

The 1998 GMP draft states the cultural landscape of STRI National Cemetery be preserved to the 1892 design, while the Hazen Memorial landscape be preserved to its 1860s appearance. The cemetery should also be maintained as a quiet, reflective, and reverent atmosphere. In 1989 the long-term management goal for the cemetery was to restore and maintain Stones River National Cemetery to reflect the appearance that existed in the late nineteenth century (1890's). (SFM, 1989).

Approved Treatment Completed: No

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Date: 11/30/1998

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

Citation Author:	Richard Clinton Genoble
Citation Title:	War, Memory, and Landscape: The Stones River National Cemetery
Year of Publication:	1999
Citation Type:	Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location:	SERO
Citation Author:	Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. and John Milner Associates, Inc.
Citation Title:	Stones River National Battlefield Cultural Landscape Report (draft)
Year of Publication:	2006
Citation Publisher:	NPS
Citation Type:	Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location:	SERO
Citation Author:	Ann M. Willett
Citation Title:	A History of Stones River National Military Park
Year of Publication:	1958
Source Name:	CRBIB
Citation Number:	002857
Citation Type:	Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location:	On file at STRI, SERO
Citation Title:	Fence and Ground Cover Map, Part of the Master Plan, Stones River National Battlefield
Source Name:	CRBIB
Citation Number:	011029
Citation Location:	On file at STRI

Citation Title: "Entrance and Drive to Park and Cemetery, Stones River National Military Park."

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Number: NPS Map Number 327-1064

Citation Type: Graphic

Citation Location: On file at SERO

Citation Title: "Existing Conditions, Stones River National Battlefield"

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Number: NPS Map Number 327-20033A

Citation Type: Graphic

Citation Location: On file at SERO

Citation Title: "General Development Plan, Part of the Master Plan, Stones River National Military Park."

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Number: NPS Map Number 327-3027

Citation Type: Graphic

Citation Location: On file at SERO

Citation Title: "National Cemetery - Existing Development, Part of the Master Plan."

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Number: NPS Map No. 327-2029

Citation Type: Graphic

Citation Location: On file at SERO

Citation Title: "National Cemetery, Stones River Tenn. Office of Q.M.G., 1st Army, June 16, 1892."

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Number: NPS Map Number 327-20,004

Citation Type: Graphic

Citation Location: On file at STRI

Citation Title:	"Planting Plan & Incidental Construction, Headquarters Area"
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Number:	NPS Map Number NB-SR-3067A
Citation Type:	Graphic
Citation Location:	On file at SERO
Citation Title:	"Stones River National Battlefield, Rutherford County, Tennessee, Land Status Map, Segment 01"
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Number:	NPS Map Number 327-80,008
Citation Type:	Graphic
Citation Location:	On file at SERO
Citation Title:	"Stones River National Military Park, Cemetery"
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Number:	NMP-SR-1062
Citation Type:	Graphic
Citation Location:	On file at SERO
Citation Title:	"Visitor Center and Residence Area, As Built Drawing."
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Number:	NPS Map Number 327-3004-E
Citation Type:	Graphic
Citation Location:	On file at SERO
Citation Title:	"Water and Sewage Systems, Visitor Center, Utility and Residence Areas."
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Number:	NPS Map No. 327-3009
Citation Type:	Graphic
Citation Location:	On file at SERO

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Citation Title: "Tree Key Sketch of National Cemetery, Stone River, Tenn., Prepared by Branch of Forestry," and attached "Tree Census," (9 sheets).

Source Name: Other

Citation Number: none

Citation Type: Graphic

Citation Location: On file at STRI