

Stones River National Battlefield

Cultural Landscape Report

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Stones River National Battlefield

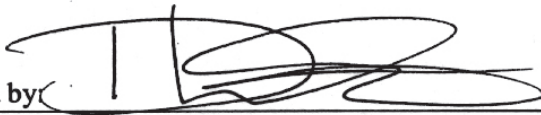
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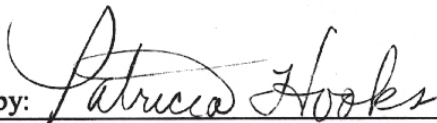


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- 11 "Map of Rutherford County, Tennessee." Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: D.G. Beers & Co., 1878
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Other maps and photographs in this document were prepared by the authors in 2005–2006.

Foreword

Stones River National Battlefield tells the story of a major Civil War battle. The landscape at this park, which comprises only a portion of that great field of battle, belies the carnage and suffering which took place here. But through careful stewardship of the landscape, we can help people understand the events that swept across these pastoral fields and forests. With the guidance of this Cultural Landscape Report, we can manage land to reflect the fields and forests of the 1860s, while fostering the success of native vegetation and wildlife where once there had been the scars of battle. We hope that our stewardship of park land presents an example of how a community can care for places important to all of us.

We appreciate the exceptional contributions of the preparers of this report from Wiss, Janney, Elstner, Associates, Inc., Deborah Slaton and Kenneth Itle, along with those from John Milner Associates, Inc., Krista Schneider, Liz Sargent, and Julie Basic. Their work along with the contributions by Tracy Stakely of the Southeast Regional Office of the National Park Service, will be reflected in the landscape of Stones River National Battlefield and will help visitors and researchers understand the momentous events that took place here during the American Civil War.

Stuart K. Johnson
Superintendent

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Introduction

Management Summary

Stones River National Battlefield is located about three miles northwest of downtown Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, Tennessee. The existing national park includes a portion of the Civil War battlefield of Stones River, a key battle in the campaign to control middle Tennessee, which occurred December 31, 1862, to January 2, 1863. The park was established by an Act of Congress in 1927 as Stones River National Military Park under the administration of the Army Quartermaster General. The park was transferred to the administration of the National Park Service in 1933.

In addition to the main portion of the park, referred to as the Nashville Pike Unit, the park includes a number of outlying parcels, among which are the McFadden Farm Unit and the headquarters sites of Union Major General William S. Rosecrans and Confederate General Braxton Bragg. The park also includes two parcels with portions of Fortress Rosecrans, the largest enclosed earthwork built during the Civil War, and the Stones River National Cemetery.

Stones River National Battlefield is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. As noted in the National Register nomination, the battlefield is eligible under Criterion A for “its national and state significance in the military history of the Civil War and its national and state significance in commemoration due to the design and historical associations of the Hazen Brigade Monument and Stones River National Cemetery. It is also eligible for its local significance under Criterion A in African American ethnic heritage and for its local significance under Criterion C in landscape architecture.”¹

The National Park Service has previously identified eight distinct cultural landscapes that are included in the NPS Cultural Landscapes

Inventory. The integrity of the cultural landscape has been greatly affected in recent decades by the construction of new arterial streets through the greater historic battlefield; intensive residential, commercial, and industrial development around the park; the growth of forest on previously cleared land; and the thinning or cutting of trees in historically wooded areas. The park boundaries were expanded in the late 1980s and early 1990s; however, the existing tour route and interpretive signage were developed for the previously established smaller extent of the park.

This Cultural Landscape Report has been developed primarily to provide treatment recommendations for managing the overall landscape of the park. The treatment recommendations will support future development of an alternative tour route and other physical changes to the park and will identify possible strategies to mitigate the effect of the contemporary urban environment on the historically rural battlefield.

Historical Summary

Prior to the Battle of Stones River, the landscape over which the battle occurred was covered in stands of woodland and agricultural fields. The Nashville Pike ran through the northern portion of the battle site, as did the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad tracks. The site of the battle was occupied by scattered farms and woodlands including Eastern red cedar growing in dense thickets. The ground on the battlefield consists of shallow soils overlaying limestone and shale bedrock, pitted with sinkholes caused by surface and underground water sources dissolving the limestone: geological features that would prove to be significant in the outcome of the battle.

In its central position within the state, Rutherford County provided a strategic location for control of roads, railroads, and access to the food production of Tennessee. Murfreesboro in late 1862 was the base of operations for the Army of Tennessee, the Confederacy’s principal western army, commanded by General Braxton Bragg. Nashville was controlled by Union forces and

1. Michael T. Gavin and Sean M. Styles, “Stones River National Military Park / Stones River National Battlefield National Register Nomination, Additional Documentation,” November 14, 2003.

used as a forward supply depot, making control of Murfreesboro essential to the Federal 14th Army Corps (the Army of the Cumberland). Control of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad was necessary to supply Union forces in a campaign to take Chattanooga.

The Battle of Stones River, which occurred from December 31, 1862, to January 2, 1863, was one of the bloodiest of the war. In all, more than 3,000 were killed and nearly 16,000 were wounded. The Army of Tennessee lost control of the rich farmland of middle Tennessee, which would now support the Union forces, and dissent was generated within its command. Following the battle, the Army of the Cumberland was established as a potent defensive force. With the help of former slaves, Union forces constructed Fortress Rosecrans, a fortification that served as a supply depot and base of occupation for the Union for the duration of the war. Fortress Rosecrans was also important to the Union in protecting and maintaining control of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad throughout the war.

During and following the war, the battlefield became the site of several memorials. Soon after the battle, in the spring of 1863 members of the Hazen Brigade were detailed to construct a monument to their unit's heroism at Stones River. On March 29, 1864, the National Cemetery was established at a site between the Nashville Pike and the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. The Artillery Monument was constructed in 1906.

Efforts to establish a national park on the battlefield began in the late nineteenth century. The Stones River Battlefield and Park Association, chartered on April 28, 1896, secured options for the purchase of property connected with the battle to establish a park. Congressional action to establish a park was delayed until after World War I. The 1926 Act for the Study and Investigation of Battlefields resulted in the establishment of Stones River National Military Park by Congress on March 3, 1927, under the control of the War Department.

Between 1928 and 1934, additional land was acquired by donation from the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway. The War Department began rehabilitation and alteration of the grounds in July 1930, and the park was

officially dedicated in July 1932. In 1933, the National Park Service gained jurisdiction over all historic sites, battlefields, monuments, and parks previously administered by the War Department, and additional acreage was added to the park at Stones River. Development of Stones River during the 1930s occurred through the efforts of the new federal public works agencies established in 1933.

The National Park Service Mission 66 program was developed to provide funding to revitalize the national parks over a ten year period concluding in 1966, to coincide with the agency's fiftieth anniversary. Construction in the early 1960s included a new visitor center with parking lot. On April 22, 1960, the park was redesignated as Stones River National Battlefield. The battlefield's authorized boundary was expanded in 1987 and in 1991. In 1997, the National Park Service reversed tour routes through the park to improve visitor understanding of the history of the battlefield. In 2003–2004, the visitor center was extensively expanded and remodeled. Within the last two years, some social trails have been closed to provide protection for the cedar glades.

Project Methodology

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) of Northbrook, Illinois, was the lead firm for this study. WJE staff performed archival research for the project and prepared the management summary and site history portions of the written report. The Charlottesville, Virginia, office of John Milner Associates, Inc. (JMA) provided landscape architectural services for the study, including existing conditions documentation and physical condition assessments, comparative analyses and integrity evaluations, and preparation of treatment recommendations.

Existing conditions documentation and physical condition assessments were undertaken during two site visits. The first site visit was conducted by JMA landscape architects Liz Sargent and Julie Basic in October 2005; this visit involved documentation of the Nashville Pike, McFadden Farm, and Hazen Brigade units, as well as the sites of General Rosecrans's and General Bragg's headquarters. During this time, WJE and JMA staff also participated in the start-up meeting at the park's administrative offices to initiate the project. The second site visit was conducted by JMA

landscape architects Krista Schneider and Julie Basic in April 2006; this visit primarily involved documentation of the Fortress Rosecrans parcels. During the second site visit, JMA staff met with key park staff to discuss management issues and treatment concerns regarding the cultural landscape. During both site visits, JMA staff ground-truthed and annotated base maps obtained from the park and completed digital photography as part of the existing conditions survey. The base maps were created by exporting linework from the GIS (geographic information system) data provided by the park into AutoCAD.

The project team gathered historical materials from the collection of the park during the site visit of October 2005. WJE performed additional research at the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville and at the National Archives II in College Park, Maryland. WJE also contacted the Denver Service Center of the National Park Service, which provided copies of relevant documents to the project team. The materials collected included previous written reports; historic photographs and sketches; maps and plans; and written documents such as letters and journal descriptions.

JMA completed comparative analyses and integrity evaluations by comparing historical information—taken from the site history and historic maps and photographs—to existing conditions data in order to understand how the landscape changed over time. This process was aided by comparative photography undertaken during the October 2005 visit, where views in historic photographs were recreated as closely as possible in today's landscape. Integrity evaluations were completed using the seven aspects of historic integrity as described in *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports* and according to standards set by the National Register of Historic Places.

After completing the analyses and evaluations, landscape features were classified as either contributing (dating from, and supporting, the period of significance); non-contributing (post-dating and/or not supporting the period of significance); or undetermined (too little information was known about the feature to make a definitive classification). Missing features that were present during the period of significance, but no longer exist, were also identified. This

classification system aided in understanding which landscape features should be retained or restored, which features could be adapted to accommodate new changes, and which missing features might be returned to the landscape.

The treatment plan drew from the condition assessments and the results of the comparative analyses and integrity evaluations in order to determine appropriate treatment alternatives for the park. An overarching treatment concept was developed to direct treatment guidelines and recommendations. Guidelines and recommendations responded to existing issues, such as maintenance concerns and the proposed tour road, and offered suggestions that would preserve and enhance the park's historic landscape character, as well as enhance interpretation efforts.

Scope of Work

The project team was provided with a detailed statement of work for this CLR by the National Park Service. The CLR study includes the core battlefield, the McFadden Farm/Artillery Monument site, General Bragg's Headquarters site, General Rosecrans's Headquarters site, the Hazen Brigade Monument site, and the Fortress Rosecrans parcels. Detailed study of the national cemetery is not included, nor is study of the larger historic battlefield beyond the park boundaries. The CLR describes the historical development of the site; documents the existing conditions; analyzes the landscape's potential National Register significance; identifies character-defining landscape features; determines an appropriate treatment strategy; and develops specific treatment recommendations.

The final CLR report consists of the following chapters:

- **Introduction:** The introduction provides the administrative context for the project; describes its purpose; summarizes the physical history of the site; reviews the project scope and methodology of the project team; describes the physical boundaries of the study and the regional context of the study area; summarizes the findings of the study; and recommends areas for further investigation.
- **Site History:** The site history is a historical description of the landscape and its

significant features. It includes a discussion of the historic contexts and describes the periods of significance associated with the landscape.

- **Existing Conditions and Analysis:** The existing conditions of the extant landscape are documented and described, for each unit of the park and for landscape characteristics such as land use, circulation, and structures. For each unit of the park, the existing conditions are compared to the conditions in existence during the periods of significance, and the integrity of the landscape is analyzed.
- **Treatment:** The recommended approach for long-term management of the landscape is described, based upon its significance, existing condition, and use.

During discussions with park and Southeast Regional Office staff, the following key issues were identified to be addressed in the CLR:

- Planning is in progress to change the route of the tour road through the park, with new wayside exhibits planned for the revised tour route. The Environmental Assessment for this project is complete. The Finding of No Significant Impact was signed on December 23, 2005.
- Control and monitoring of invasive and alien plant species is ongoing, and limited areas that were historically open fields have been converted to native grasses. A draft plan for vegetation management is under development. Also, a fire management plan was completed in 2003 and is scheduled to be updated in 2008.
- To maintain open field areas, selected areas that were fields at the time of the battle were planted with corn, cotton, soybeans, and hay by local farmers since the early 1970s. This arrangement ended in 2004. During 2005 and 2006, the School of Agribusiness and Agriscience at Middle Tennessee State University continued to plant these fields. A local farmer may be interested in continuing to farm these fields in the future, but this has not been resolved. (During the Civil War, the dominant crops were corn and cotton. Livestock roamed freely in the woods and

pastures, which were bounded by fences to contain the farm animals.)

- The recently completed Medical Center Parkway connecting downtown Murfreesboro to Interstate Highway 24 is leading to many new developments for historic battlefield lands south of the park boundaries. Another new street adjacent to the park boundaries is Garrison Drive east of Thompson Lane, completed in 2006. Planned developments include a multi-story hospital, a Chamber of Commerce visitor center, a conference center, multi-story hotels, numerous restaurants, and an outdoor mall. Several strip shopping centers and multi-story buildings have already been constructed in this area. The potential to screen these new developments from view needs to be considered.
- Newly-acquired park lands include forest and fallow agricultural land with invasive alien species as well as former landfill sites. Planning for the long term cleanup and restoration of these lands needs to be undertaken.
- The ecologically significant cedar glades ecosystem within the park boundaries contains two federally endangered plant species. The cedar glade area is currently bisected by the park tour road. Alteration of this road is part of the planned change to the tour route.

Description of Study Boundaries

The CLR study boundaries are identical to the boundaries of the park, except that the National Cemetery has been excluded. The park parcels included in the study are the Nashville Pike Unit, the Hazen Brigade Monument site, the McFadden Farm Unit, the General Rosecrans's Headquarters site, the General Bragg's Headquarters site, the Redoubt Brannan parcel, and the Lunette Palmer/Lunette Thomas/Curtain Wall No. 2 parcel.

The Nashville Pike Unit of the park lies near the intersection of two historic roadways. The Old Nashville Highway, known as the Nashville Pike during the Civil War, runs northwest to southeast.

This road is intersected by historic McFadden's Lane, now known as Van Cleve Lane, which is currently closed to traffic within the park. The historic Wilkinson Pike forms the southern boundary of the park. Parallel to the Nashville Pike is the historic Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad; control of this railroad was a major factor in the Civil War campaign in middle Tennessee. The railroad currently forms the northern boundary of the Nashville Pike Unit with the exception of the Unicorn Tract north of the railroad. The park is also bordered by a number of non-historic contemporary roadways, all of which experience heavy automobile and truck traffic. Two major routes run parallel to Old Nashville Highway: New Nashville Highway (U.S. Highway 41/70S), north of the railroad between the Nashville Pike Unit and the McFadden Farm Unit; and Interstate Highway 24, about one mile southwest of the park. The eastern boundary of the Nashville Pike Unit is formed by Thompson Lane, a new road built in the 1990s. Thompson Lane includes a large embankment and bridge passing over the Old Nashville Highway and the railroad. The western boundary of the Nashville Pike Unit is an irregular property line through fields and woods. The Hazen Brigade Monument site is located between the Old Nashville Highway and the railroad.

The second-largest parcel of the park is the McFadden Farm Unit. This area is north of New Nashville Highway and west of Thompson Lane. The park property extends to the Stones River on two sides. This area is currently accessible either from the south via Van Cleve Lane or from the east via the Stones River Greenway trailhead. The two points of access are connected by a footpath that passes under the bridge carrying Thompson Lane over Stones River.

The two generals' headquarters sites are relatively small parcels along the Old Nashville Highway and West College Street. The General Rosecrans's Headquarters site is northwest of the larger park sections, and the General Bragg's Headquarters site is southeast of the larger sections, reflecting the disposition of the armies at the start of the battle.

The two small parcels associated with Fortress Rosecrans are located southeast of the remainder of the park. Redoubt Brannan is on West College Street where it crosses Stones River; Lunette

Palmer/Lunette Thomas/Curtain Wall No. 2 are farther south near the Old Fort Golf Course and the commercial development along Tennessee Highway 96 west of downtown Murfreesboro.

Summary of Findings

This CLR generally concurs with the significance evaluation of existing National Register documentation for Stones River National Battlefield regarding the areas, criteria, and period of significance for the property. Based on a comparative analysis of historic and existing conditions associated with the battlefield, the CLR suggests that the majority of the park possesses sufficient integrity to either the Civil War battle sub-period of significance, or the early park development sub-period of significance, to convey its important associations to the visitor. Many of the battlefield's historic cultural and natural resources survive from one of these periods of significance. Despite the fact that changes within and around the park have occurred to diminish aspects of its integrity, the strong relationship between the military events of the battle and the surviving features of the landscape continue to be expressed in the surviving fabric of the park.

One of the most significant threats to the integrity of the park today is the extensive industrial, commercial, and residential subdivision development occurring along its boundary and within its viewshed. Another threat to integrity is the evolving character and composition of vegetative communities. Although National Register Bulletin 40 recognizes that vegetation is often a reversible condition that is one of the more easily managed threats to battlefield integrity, natural resource protection considerations, viewshed protection, and the constant management needs associated with the control of invasive plant species render vegetative scene restoration difficult at best. The CLR focuses to the degree possible on enhancing integrity by suggesting specific alternatives for land cover where it will support the park's new Interpretive Plan.

This CLR supports the goals established by the park and the region for managing and interpreting Stones River National Battlefield. Of primary importance is the ongoing desire to

continue to enhance the legibility of 1863 landscape conditions, particularly in association with a proposed change to the tour road and the preparation of a new Interpretive Plan. The treatment plan developed as part of this CLR addresses these goals by making recommendations regarding changes in land cover (removal of non-contributing woodland, rehabilitation of historic woodlands, and re-establishment of historic field and fencing patterns), protection and rehabilitation strategies for important natural resources such as the cedar glades and riparian buffer areas, as well as identification of missing buildings and structures, and guidelines for managing and maintaining special resources such as Civil War earthworks.

The treatment plan recommends that the overall approach to landscape treatment should be **rehabilitation**. This approach affords the park the opportunity to update and enhance its interpretive program and make changes to land cover while continuing to protect resources and systems associated with the period of significance. The overarching concept for cultural landscape treatment at Stones River is to balance the protection and enhancement of the battlefield's historic integrity with contemporary park visitor access and interpretation responsibilities and sustainable land management practices. Many of the specific landscape treatment actions are intended to help convey the story of the battle by reinstating historic conditions or establishing aids to interpreting missing battle features. The concept also takes into consideration contemporary land ownership issues, which include a park composed of numerous noncontiguous parcels linked by public road corridors and edged by developments that are often inconsistent with the character of the landscape at the time of the battle. Finally, the concept also recognizes the value of post-battle commemoration, and seeks to reconcile commemorative features with features that relate directly to the battle.

The CLR also spells out the overarching approach to treatment for each of the landscape characteristics considered within the document: spatial organization; natural systems and features; vegetation; circulation; buildings and structures; views; small-scale features; and archeological resources including earthworks. The CLR also addresses other related landscape issues such as

new design and construction, and opportunities for pursuing partnerships with local entities. Recommendations related to the various landscape issues are developed from the overall treatment approach. Specific projects for implementation of the treatment plan have also been defined. The CLR team has identified seventeen implementation projects that the park can utilize in securing funding for and implementing various landscape treatment recommendations. These projects include the following:

1. Remove invasive plants from cedar glade communities
2. Rehabilitate cedar brake and dense cedar woodland communities in areas of interpretive value
3. Enhance and expand native warm-season grass fields and meadows
4. Establish filter strips in association with crop exhibits, roads, parking areas, and trails
5. Remove non-contributing woodland vegetation
6. Manage mixed woodlands to promote a combination of natural and cultural resource values
7. Update invasive plant species control plans
8. Establish screen plantings in specific locations to manage views
9. Protect the Pioneer Brigade Earthworks, and manage woodland environs to preserve associated resources
10. Mark and interpret the locations of historic buildings and structures missing from the battlefield landscape
11. Restore fencelines missing from the battlefield landscape
12. Consider alternatives for establishing and maintaining non-historic fencelines, controlled visitor access points, and linear connections between park units

13. Rehabilitate portions of historic Van Cleve Lane
14. Convert a portion of the tour road to a pedestrian trail that connects with the proposed new tour route
15. Establish design guidelines for contemporary park features, such as site furnishings
16. Enhance connections between noncontiguous park units and parcels

Recommendations for Further Research

This CLR recommends that a former African American community that once edged Van Cleve Lane within the park be interpreted to the public. This effort would require conducting additional research and investigation into the community.

Archeological investigation of the missing buildings that are known to have been present at the time of the battle—McFadden Farmstead, Toll House, Block House, and cabins west of Van Cleve Lane, along Old Nashville Pike, and on the site of General Rosecrans's Headquarters—are warranted given their interpretive value to the park.

Site History

Development of the Site prior to the Battle

The earliest occupants of the middle Tennessee region were likely the Native Americans known as Mound Builders. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, Shawnees lived along the Cumberland River in middle Tennessee, but were driven out by Cherokees and Chickasaws.² Many battles occurred among the Native American tribes in the region. The area was eventually regarded as a common hunting ground with no single tribe settling there.

The middle Tennessee region remained unsettled by European colonists until approximately the 1760s, but was visited by explorers, hunters, trappers, and fur traders prior to that time. A trading post was established at French Lick (later Nashville) in 1710, and the first permanent settlement was established in the Nashville area in 1779–1780. The settlement survived despite attacks by Native Americans on the ungarded settlers. In 1783, Davidson County was created by an act of the legislature of North Carolina, incorporating what was later to become Rutherford County. Attempts to establish permanent settlements in the county were initially unsuccessful because of hostile Native Americans, although the area had been explored by non-native hunters as early as 1767.³ The first permanent settlement in the county was probably established on the upper banks of Stones River in 1797.⁴

In 1786 forty grants of land were made in the Stones River tract, many in return for military service, although some recipients never settled on or even visited the land they had been granted. North Carolina issued titles to land in

the area well after that state ceded its claim and after Tennessee became the sixteenth state in the Union on June 1, 1796. In 1795, signing of Pinckney's Treaty ended Spanish attempts to control the Mississippi River and Spanish encouragement of Native American attacks on settlers in the region ended as well, further encouraging additional settlement. Among the earliest settlers in the area of Stones River were Samuel Wilson, who was probably granted land by North Carolina as a result of service in the army, and Nimrod Meniffee, who owned the land that was to become the site of the national cemetery.⁵ After 1805, when treaties were signed with the Cherokee, increased settlement occurred in middle Tennessee.

Rutherford County was organized by the Tennessee General Assembly on October 25, 1803. The county was named in honor of General Griffith Rutherford, a Revolutionary War hero who also fought Native Americans within the region.⁶ By 1836, the boundaries of the county were amended to reach their present extent.⁷ The Rutherford County seat remained at Jefferson, between the forks of the Stones River, until 1812 when it was moved to Murfreesboro. The town was first named Cannonsburg after Tennessee governor Newton Cannon, and renamed Murfreesboro after Captain Matthew Murfree on November 19, 1811.⁸ Murfreesboro was incorporated in 1817 and served as the capital of Tennessee from 1819 until 1826. At that time, Nashville was established as the state capital because of its favorable location on the Cumberland River.

To facilitate commerce, the state of Tennessee had constructed several macadamized roads in

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2. Anne Wilson Willett, *A History of the Stones River National Military Park*, Thesis for Master of Arts degree (Murfreesboro, Tennessee: Middle Tennessee State College), August 1958, 10.
 3. Carlton C. Sims, ed. *A History of Rutherford County* (Murfreesboro, Tennessee: Rutherford Courier, 1947), 11.
 4. Ibid.

5. Ibid., 16.

6. Ibid., 25.

7. Sean M. Styles, with Miranda Fraley, Mary O. Ratcliffe, and Robert W. Blythe, eds. *Stones River National Battlefield Historic Resource Study* (Atlanta, Georgia: Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service, 2004), 17.

8. *Rutherford County. History of Tennessee* (Chicago and Nashville: The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1887), 815.

the 1830s, including the Nashville, Murfreesboro and Shelbyville Turnpike (referred to as the Nashville Pike). The state roads had a convex roadbed overlain with crushed stone, topped with stone dust, and compacted with water; the Nashville, Murfreesboro and Shelbyville Turnpike had a graded roadbed at least thirty feet wide. The turnpike had a toll gate every five miles, with toll houses for the gatekeepers who collected fees from persons using the road. The turnpike and its related structures were completed by 1842, providing a high quality road that was later used by military forces for transport of supplies.⁹

The first railroad in the state, the Nashville & Chattanooga, was chartered in 1845 and began service from Nashville to Murfreesboro on July 4, 1851. The line was completed to Chattanooga in February 1854. The railroad linked middle Tennessee with the ports of Charleston and Savannah, as well as the Ohio River at Louisville, Kentucky, and thus the Midwest. A workforce of slaves owned by the Nashville & Chattanooga, together with Irish immigrant labor, completed construction of the railroad through Rutherford County. The lines of the Western Union Telegraph Company followed the railroad, and telegraph operators had offices at intervals along the rail system. During the Civil War, federal forces sought to control the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad as part of a campaign to capture Confederate-held Chattanooga. Both armies used the telegraph for communications, and during the war these lines were vulnerable to attack by cavalry patrols, which intercepted dispatches and cut lines in enemy-held territory.

In 1860, the population of Rutherford County was 27,918 persons, of whom nearly half were slaves. Tennessee was the second largest corn producing region in the Confederacy east of the Mississippi River, and Rutherford County alone provided more than a million and a half bushels of corn annually. The county also provided 150,401 bushels of wheat each year; more than fifty tons of sweet potatoes and Irish potatoes in

1860; and was also significant for production of hogs, horses, and mules.¹⁰ The site of Stones River National Battlefield was occupied by scattered farms and woodlands including eastern red cedar growing in dense thickets or “cedar brakes.” Each farm typically consisted of a farmhouse, barn, and outbuildings including corn cribs and shelters for cotton gins. Woodland boundaries were rectilinear and bordered by rail fences and cultivated fields of corn or cotton. The ground on the battlefield consists of shallow soils overlaying limestone and shale bedrock, pitted with sinkholes caused by surface and underground water sources dissolving the limestone. These geological features would prove to be significant in the Battle of Stones River.

As conflict loomed and other states seceded from the Union, secession meetings were held in Tennessee. In a referendum on February 9, 1861, the state voted against secession.¹¹ Unlike east Tennessee, where pro-Union sentiment was strong, west and middle Tennessee, including Rutherford County, initially supported slavery but wanted to remain neutral and part of the Union. However, as pressure increased to support the Union cause, in a referendum on June 8, 1861, Tennessee voted to secede—the last state in the Union to do so.

In its central position within the state, Rutherford County provided a strategic location for control of roads, railroads, and access to the food production of Tennessee. The Union army occupied Murfreesboro from February through September 1862, except for a period of two days when General Nathan Bedford Forrest and 1,400 Confederate cavalry captured and held the Union garrison in mid-July.¹² In October, the Union army concentrated at Nashville and the Confederates moved north from Chattanooga to Murfreesboro.

9. Styles, 26. See also Edward C. Annable, Jr., *A History of the Roads of Rutherford County, Tennessee, 1804–1878: Historic Road Research, and Its Applications for Historic Resource Surveys and Local History* (Thesis for Master of Arts degree, Middle Tennessee State University), 159–162.

10. Styles, 28, citing the United States Bureau of Census, *Population of the United States in 1860: Compiled from the Original Returns of the Eighth Census* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1864), 136, 459.

11. Anne Willett, 24, citing Carter Patten, *A Tennessee Chronicle* (Chattanooga, Tennessee: 1953), 185.

12. Robert Selph Henry, ed., *As They Saw Forrest* (Jackson, Tennessee: McCowat-Mercer Press, 1946), 40.

The Battle of Stones River, December 31, 1862, to January 2, 1863

Murfreesboro in late 1862 was the base of operations for the Army of Tennessee, the Confederacy's principal western army, commanded by General Braxton Bragg. From Murfreesboro, the Confederate cavalry staged raids against Union supply lines in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama. The proximity of Murfreesboro to Nashville, controlled by Union forces and used as a forward supply depot, made control of Murfreesboro essential to the Federal 14th Army Corps.¹³ Control of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad was necessary to supply Union forces in a campaign to take Chattanooga. In addition to practical considerations, the Union was anxious for a military victory to boost morale after the disappointing Maryland and Kentucky campaigns. A demoralizing defeat at Fredericksburg, Virginia, in mid-December amplified the need for military success. President Abraham Lincoln also hoped a victory in late 1862 would make his recently issued Emancipation Proclamation an effective tool for ending the possibility of foreign recognition and support of the Confederacy.

On October 30, 1862, Major General William S. Rosecrans assumed command of the Union forces in Bowling Green, Kentucky, sixty miles north of Nashville. In response to the proximity of the Army of Tennessee to Nashville, Rosecrans moved the Union army to the Tennessee capital in early November. He then reorganized his force into three wings, commanded by Major Generals Thomas L. Crittenden, Alexander M. McCook, and George H. Thomas.¹⁴ On December 26, Rosecrans sent the three wings of his army along different routes toward the Confederate army: Thomas toward Franklin, McCook toward Nolensville, and Crittenden toward Murfreesboro.¹⁵

Bragg had spent the fall of 1862 foraging the region around Murfreesboro for supplies and recruiting troops, with divisions of the Army of Tennessee billeted in Murfreesboro and surrounding towns. The army's cavalry was organized in commands under Brigadier Generals Nathan B. Forrest and John H. Morgan. Forrest's troops had attacked the Mobile & Ohio Railroad, which supplied Brigadier General Ulysses S. Grant's army in Mississippi, and Morgan's troops attacked the Louisville & Nashville in Kentucky, which supplied General Rosecrans's army in Nashville. A third of the cavalry remained under Brigadier General Joe Wheeler for picket duty. Bragg's lack of concern about the threat of a Union offensive led to Major General Carter Stevenson's division being detached from the Army of Tennessee and sent to Vicksburg.¹⁶ Stevenson's departure and the absence of Forrest's and Morgan's forces prompted Rosecrans to move against the weakened Confederates. It took four days for the entire Union army to unite west of Murfreesboro, delayed by cavalry resistance and rain, sleet, fog, and mud.

Both Bragg and Rosecrans chose to attack the right flank of the enemy and cut off their supply line and escape route. Rosecrans's plan called for Crittenden's wing to leave its position on the west bank, ford Stones River, and attack Bragg's right the following morning. Rosecrans deployed the wings of McCook and Thomas on the west

Stones River National Battlefield. Styles references the following sources of information relative to the campaign: Charles M. Spearman, *The Battle of Stones River*; Peter Cozzens, *No Better Place to Die: The Battle of Stones River*; from the Confederate perspective: Stanley F. Horn, *The Army of Tennessee: A Military History*; Thomas L. Connelly, *Autumn of Glory: The Army of Tennessee, 1862–1865*; from the Union perspective: Thomas B. Van Horne, *History of the Army of the Cumberland: Its Organization, Campaigns, and Battles* and William Bickham's *Rosecrans' Campaign with the Fourteenth Army Corps, or the Army of the Cumberland: A Narrative of Personal Observations . . . with Official Reports of the Battle of Stone River*. Styles notes the limitations of the latter two documents and indicates the need for a new study of the Army of the Cumberland. Such a study, *Days of Glory: The Army of the Cumberland, 1861–1865*, by Larry Daniel, was published in 2004.

13. Styles, 24. Soon after the Battle of Stones River, the 14th Corps was renamed the Army of the Cumberland. At that time, each wing became a corps. Citing Peter Cozzens, *No Better Place to Die: The Battle of Stones River* (Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1991), 14–15.

14. Styles, 24.

15. The synopsis of the battle history is adapted from that presented in the *Historic Resource Study* for

16. Styles, 24. Citing Thomas L. Connelly, *Autumn of Glory: The Army of Tennessee, 1862–1865* (Baton Rouge, Louisiana: Louisiana State University Press, 1971), 41.

bank of the river, on his right and center respectively. Bragg had the same plan of attack, calling upon General John C. Breckinridge's Division to hold his right flank on the river's east bank, while assaulting with Lieutenant William Hardee's Corps on the left.¹⁷

On the evening of December 30, the military bands of both armies began to play. As described by a soldier present at the battle:

The still winter night carried their strains to great distance. At every pause on our side, far away could be heard the military bands of the other. Finally one of them struck up "Home Sweet Home." As if by common consent, all other airs ceased, and the bands of both armies as far as the ear could reach, joined in the refrain. Who knows how many hearts were bold next day by reason of that air?¹⁸

At dawn on December 31, 1862, Bragg's troops stormed across the fields to attack the Union right flank, hoping to drive the Union forces back to the river while cutting off their main

supply routes at the Nashville Pike and the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. The Union forces were cooking breakfast when the Confederate forces swept in. Union commanders tried to halt and resist but the attack was too powerful. The rocky ground and cedar forests blunted the assault to some extent, although the Army of the Cumberland's right flank was in shambles by 8:00 a.m. Confederate units to the north began attacking the enemy in their front, to hold the Union units in place as the flanking attack swept up behind them. General Philip Sheridan's troops were able to repulse the first enemy attack, but had to reposition themselves to maintain their escape routes. Confederate troops assaulted the federals without coordination, with communication made difficult by the terrain. With great losses, the Union forces slowed the Confederate assault. The terrible carnage among the rocks and trees of this area prompted soldiers to name it "the Slaughter Pen."

General Rosecrans cancelled the attack across the river and brought his reserve troops into the fight. With General George Thomas, Rosecrans rallied fleeing troops and formed a new line backed by artillery along the Nashville Pike. The horseshoe shaped line provided better

17. Ibid., 29. Citing Connelly, 51–54.

18. Sam Seay, First Tennessee Infantry. Quoted in "The Union Approach," Stones River National Battlefield internet site, History & Culture section, <http://www.nps.gov/stri/>



FIGURE 1. Troops in General Samuel Beatty's Union brigade repel attacking Confederates at about noon on the first day of the battle, in this drawing by Private Alfred E. Mathews of the 31st Ohio Volunteers.



FIGURE 2. Union cavalry in pursuit during the battle, from a painting by William T. Trego.

communication, and the Union cannon covered the open fields between the cedars and the road. The woods and rocky ground helped the Union. Confederate organization fell apart during the struggle through the cedars, and the Confederate artillery was unable to penetrate the forest with its dense growth and uneven terrain. As night approached, the Union army retained control of the turnpike, its lifeline to Nashville, with access to supplies to continue the fight.

The Round Forest, located between the Nashville Pike and Stones River, anchored the left of the Union line. At 10:00 a.m. on December 31, General James Chalmers' forces advanced across the fields in front of General William B. Hazen's men. The partially-burned Cowan house and outbuildings forced Chalmers' men to split just before they came within range, and General Chalmers was wounded as his line wavered and broke. Despite a following attack by General Daniel Donelson's Brigade through Cruft's Brigade south of the pike, Hazen's Brigade was able to hold to the north. During the afternoon of December 31, Colonel Hazen's Brigade held against four Confederate attacks and provided an anchor for the Nashville Pike

line of supply to the Union forces. Hazen's Brigade was the only Union unit not to retreat on that day, but the carnage in this fighting prompted soldiers to name the field Hell's Half Acre.¹⁹

After spending January 1, 1863, reorganizing and caring for the wounded, the two armies engaged again on the afternoon of January 2. General Breckinridge attacked General Horatio Van Cleve's Division on a hill overlooking McFadden's Ford on the east side of the river at 4:00 p.m. The Confederate forces took the hill and continued on towards the ford, but came within range of fifty-seven Union cannon massed on the west side of the Stones River. In forty-five minutes more than 1,800 Confederates were killed or wounded, and the Union counterattack that followed pushed Breckinridge's Division back to Wayne's Hill.²⁰

Beginning on January 1 and continuing to January 3 or 4, the Union Pioneer Brigade dug earthworks parallel to the Nashville Pike for the Chicago Board of Trade Battery and rebuilt the

19. Styles, 33–34.

20. Ibid.

trestle over the river that the Confederates had destroyed.²¹ With the approach of Union reinforcements, the Army of Tennessee withdrew to the Duck River, twenty-five miles to the south, on the evening of January 3, 1863. On January 5, the Union army marched into Murfreesboro.

The Battle of Stones River was one of the bloodiest of the war: the Confederate casualties numbered 10,266 of the 37,700 engaged, and the Union casualties were 13,259 of the 43,400 present. In all, more than 3,000 were killed and nearly 16,000 were wounded; some of the wounded spent as many as seven days on the field before help could reach them.²² The Army of Tennessee lost control of the rich farmland of middle Tennessee, which would now be available to support the Union, and dissent was generated within its command.

Landscape Character: 1863

Refer to the Period Plan for 1863 (Fig. 3). Prior to the Battle of Stones River, the landscape over which the battle occurred was characterized by irregularly ordered stands of cedar forest or “cedar brakes,” mixed stands of cedars and hardwoods, and open agricultural fields utilized to grow primarily corn, cotton, and hay, or as pastures for livestock. Farmsteads dotted the landscape in a dispersed pattern; many were sited along the major road corridors in existence at the time. Farmsteads typically consisted of a dwelling house, a small grouping of outbuildings nearby, and fenced crop fields. At least one of the local farmsteads is known to have included a peach orchard in close proximity to the Nashville Pike.

The primary circulation corridors that traversed the landscape in the mid-nineteenth century included the Nashville Pike and the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad tracks. The lesser roads included McFadden’s Lane and the Wilkinson Pike. A ford crossing of Stones River existed north of the McFadden Farm near the end of McFadden’s Lane. Post and rail fences

lined the Nashville Pike, a toll house and gate stood along the pike, and a block house was located along the rail line. Other important landscape features present at the time of the battle included bridges across Stones River: one for the Nashville Pike and one for the rail line. Local industries, most on a very small scale, included brick plants, cotton processing, and mills that relied on the water power generated by Stones River.

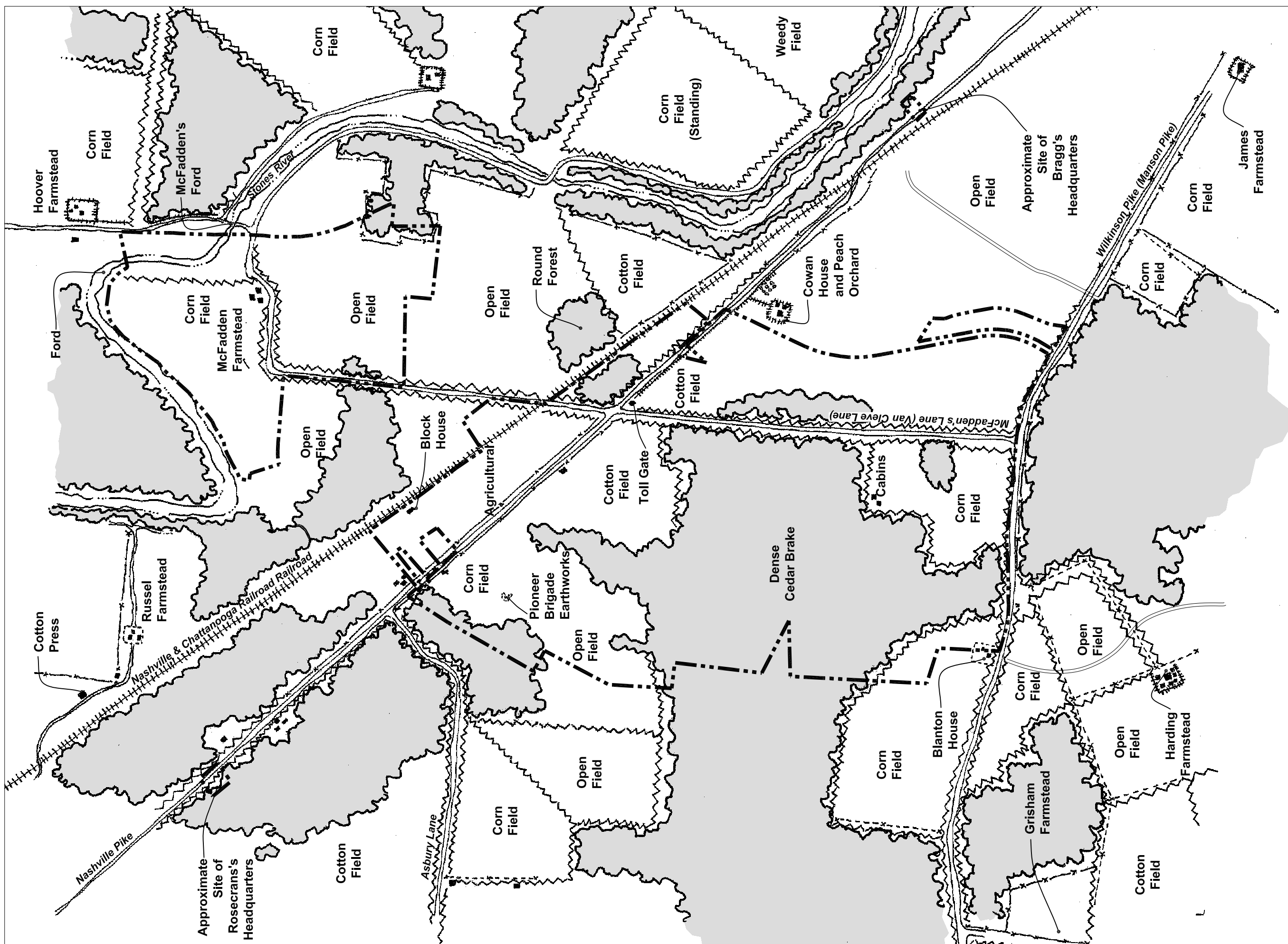
The site of General Rosecrans’s Headquarters was a small cabin along the Nashville Pike. The cabin was surrounded by woods. In the decades after the war, the cabin was apparently used as a church by an African American congregation. The site of General Bragg’s Headquarters was an open field just south of the location where the Nashville Pike crossed over the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. Trees and other vegetation lined Stones River just northeast of the site. The headquarters likely occupied a tent or temporary building on the site.

The three-day battle that was waged across the agricultural landscape was heavily influenced by the local terrain and land cover. Because the battle occurred in winter, there were no crops growing; however, it is likely that corn and cotton stalks remained standing in the fields. Outcroppings of limestone, dense stands of cedar trees, and knolls with commanding views played key roles in the tactics and outcome of the battle. The dense cedar brakes and limestone outcroppings in the vicinity of present-day Wilkinson Pike and Van Cleve Lane blunted the initial Confederate attack on the Union forces, and later slowed the Confederates as they attempted to attack again across the Wilkinson Pike. Union occupation of the high ground overlooking the western banks of Stones River near the McFadden Farm was another key factor in the Union deflection of Confederate attack.

The Battle of Stones River left a lasting impression on the local landscape. Artillery fire damaged, denuded, and killed many of the trees within the woodland areas. Both armies appropriated features of local farmsteads for use, particularly the wooden rail fences, which would have been used for firewood. Existing woodland was also likely cut over for the same purpose. During the later Battle of the Cedars, the soldiers used rail fences and woodland trees for

21. Battle Reports, December 26, 1862, to January 5, 1863. Battle Report No. 10, Report of Capt. James St. Clair Mortor, U.S. Engineers, commanding Pioneer Brigade. O.R., Series I, vol. XX, pt. I, sec. 29.

22. Styles, 34, Citing Charles M. Spearman, *The Battle of Stones River* (Columbus, Ohio: Blue & Gray Enterprises, Inc., 1993), 27; Cozzens, 201; casualties from Official Records, vol. XX, 215, 261.

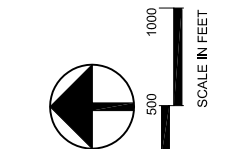


Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Period Plan - January 1863

Figure 3



Sources
1962 Historical Fence and Groundcover Map; Topographical Sketch of the Battle Field of Stones River, surveyed under the supervision of Capt. Michler.

temporary protective field cover. Military personnel appropriated food stores from residents' barns and storage structures. After the battle, the many dead are known to have been buried on the battlefield, leaving the local landscape riddled with the burial trenches holding more than 3,000 corpses. Finally, soon after the battle, as a direct result of the engagement, the Hazen Brigade Monument was erected on the high ground overlooking the rail line and near the Nashville Pike, standing as a constant reminder of the events of December 31, 1862–January 2, 1863.

Union Occupation and Reconstruction

Following the battle, the Army of the Cumberland was established as an “immovable defensive force,” and Union forces, with the help of former slaves, constructed Fortress Rosecrans, an earthen fortification that served as a supply depot and base of occupation for the Union for the duration of the war.²³ This large enclosed earthen fortification was designed by James St. Clair Morton, Chief of Engineers of the Army of the Cumberland, and was intended to provide a forward supply depot and a refuge in case of a future defeat.²⁴

Fortress Rosecrans was sited atop several low hills for the defense of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, and encompassed the river crossings of both the railroad and the Nashville Pike. (Raids by Confederate cavalry often targeted bridges, the destruction of which offered an easier way to disrupt supply lines than attacks along the route.) Construction of Fortress Rosecrans began on January 23, 1863. Union troops worked seven days a week on the earthworks from January to April 1863. General Rosecrans reported in March, “Our depots and defenses are being pushed forward here with almost 4,000 men daily at work.”²⁵ A railroad

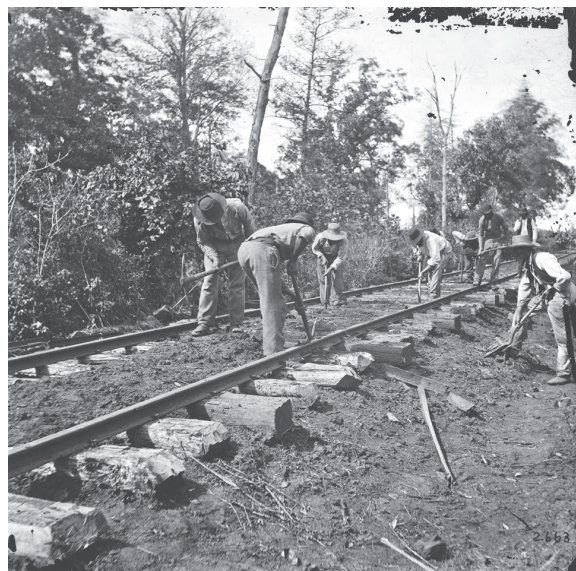


FIGURE 4. Workmen repair the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad near Murfreesboro after the battle, 1863.

spur 1,200 feet long and crossing the Nashville Pike was built within the fortress to help supply the troops building the fortress; the first supply train arrived in February 1863.

As completed by the end of April 1863, the earthworks measured 1,250 yards from north to south and 1,070 yards east to west, creating an enclosure of about 200 acres surrounded by a line of curtain walls, lunettes, and rifle pits. Both the railroad and the pike bisected the fort, with openings in the fortress walls to allow passage on these arteries.²⁶ Trees and brush around the fort were cleared and ditches constructed fronting the lunettes and curtain walls. Four earthwork redoubts—each constructed on a hill and containing artillery, a powder magazine, and a wooden blockhouse—were intended as a last line of defense in case the lunettes were overrun. One of these, Redoubt Brannan, was built across the Nashville Pike to guard the rail and road bridges. The smaller section of the fortress, northwest of Stones River, encircled four sawmills along the river and two railroad freight depots. The larger section of the fortress, southeast of Stones River, contained the bulk of the warehouses and barracks, which were located near the railroad for easy supply.

23. Gavin and Styles, 8-5.

24. Styles, 34. Styles notes that the design of the fort was probably based on the *Treatise on Field Fortifications*, written by Dennis Hart Mahan, the former commandant of West Point. (Citing O. R., Series I, Vol. XXIII, pt. II, 81.)

25. Quoted by Edward C. Bearss, *The History of Fortress Rosecrans* (Stones River National Military Park, 1960), Chapter 1: 3, citing O.R., Series I, Vol. XXIII, pt. II, 154.

26. Styles, 36. Citing O. R., Series I, Vol. XLIX, pt. II, 502; Edwin C. Bearss, *The History of Fortress Rosecrans* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1960), 4.



FIGURE 5. The Hazen Brigade Monument, shortly after its construction.

During the summer of 1863, members of the Hazen Brigade were detailed to construct a monument to their unit's heroism at Stones River. The site selected for the monument was an area in the Round Forest containing the graves of forty-five of the brigade's fallen. Lieutenant Edward Crebbin of the Ninth Indiana Volunteers supervised construction of the monument from June to November 1863.²⁷ Crebbin's crew was threatened by the appearance of Confederate cavalry in October 1863. The Union Army of the Cumberland was besieged within Chattanooga, and Wheeler's Confederate command had been

ordered to break the railroad line at Murfreesboro, but the proximity of Fortress Rosecrans discouraged an assault.

The Hazen Brigade Monument consisted of an eleven foot tall square limestone mass. The monument and adjacent cemetery were enclosed by a four foot tall, dry laid stone wall, with access through three steps on the south side. In November 1863, the 115th Ohio Regiment was transferred to Murfreesboro. Two experienced stonemasons from the regiment, Sergeant Daniel C. Miller and Private Christian Bauhoff, were employed to inscribe the monument during the spring of 1864.²⁸

27. Ibid., 38. Citing Daniel A. Brown, *Marked for Future Generations: The Hazen Brigade Monument 1863–1929* (Murfreesboro, Tennessee: National Park Service, 1985), 7–8.

28. Ibid., 39. Citing Brown, 11–19.

By June 1863, General Rosecrans began to move troops forward in the campaign to capture Chattanooga. With the fortress completed, its defense was left to a few thousand convalescent troops, supported by other army reserve divisions throughout the summer and fall. Throughout the Tullahoma and Chattanooga campaigns, Fortress Rosecrans served as a critical link in the supply chain for the Union army.

Following the battle of Chickamauga on September 19 and 20, the Confederate army pushed forward toward Chattanooga. With their control of middle Tennessee threatened, Union reinforcements were sent by train from Nashville to supplement the defense of Fortress Rosecrans. The troops arrived at the fortress on the morning of October 5. Seeing the Union defensive strength of the fortress, Confederate cavalry under Major General Wheeler instead attacked and destroyed the railroad bridge on the Middle Fork of Stones River, about three miles south of Murfreesboro.

Following the Battle of Missionary Ridge at Chattanooga, Tennessee, on November 25, 1863, the main Confederate army withdrew to Georgia. Fortress Rosecrans remained a vital link in the Union supply chain as General Sherman began the campaign through Georgia in 1864.²⁹

On March 29, 1864, General Horatio Van Cleve was asked to select a site for the founding of a national cemetery.³⁰ Van Cleve detached Captain John A. Means of the 115th Ohio for duty as a topographical engineer. Means oversaw the cemetery's layout from June 2, 1864, until his discharge on April 25, 1865.³¹ The site of the National Cemetery was located between the Nashville Pike and the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, on a slight rise where Union artillery had repulsed Confederate attacks on the afternoon of December 31, 1862. The burials in the National Cemetery were arranged in a trapezoidal pattern centered on a gravel carriage path leading to a square with a flagpole.

Fortress Rosecrans again showed its importance when General Hood's Confederate Army of Tennessee invaded middle Tennessee from Alabama in November 1864, with the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad as its target. A Confederate force of about 1,600 men advanced to within six miles of Murfreesboro on December 2. But with several thousand Union troops encamped at Fortress Rosecrans, a direct assault was not possible. On December 5, the Confederates attacked Union defenses along the Nashville Pike at Overall Creek, about four miles northwest of the fortress. Union troops dispatched from Fortress Rosecrans fought the Confederate raiders in an engagement known as the Battle of the Cedars on December 7. Most of the fighting occurred several miles west of the fortress where the Wilkinson Pike crosses Overall Creek. Meanwhile, the main Confederate force was attempting to overcome the Union defenders of Nashville. When news of the destruction of the Army of Tennessee at Nashville reached the Confederate forces near Murfreesboro on December 16, they were forced to withdraw, ultimately retreating back to Alabama. By December 24, 1864, the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad was again open for Union supply trains between Nashville and Murfreesboro.³²

After the surrender of General Robert E. Lee in Virginia, on April 9, 1865, the remnants of the Army of Tennessee in North Carolina surrendered in May 1865. At that time, most of the Union occupation forces at Fortress Rosecrans were mustered out of service and Chaplain William Earnshaw was designated to oversee the completion of Stones River National Cemetery. The Union dead buried throughout middle Tennessee were reinterred at the cemetery, while many of the Confederate dead remained buried where they had been interred, or were removed to local family plots.

Many Confederate sympathizers had moved south after the defeat at Stones River. After the war, veterans and their families returned to their homes and farms in Rutherford County. Buildings that had been abandoned or demolished during the fighting or subsequent Union occupation were salvaged for lumber. When the Union occupation troops left in 1866,

29. Bearss, Chapter 2: 10.

30. Styles, 39. Citing Brown, 19.

31. Ibid. Report of Chaplain William Earnshaw to Brevet Major General J.L. Donaldson, Chief Quartermaster of the Department of Tennessee, October 5, 1866, 229.

32. Bearss, Chapter 7: 17.

the buildings of Fortress Rosecrans were sold at auction and the earthworks left to continue to erode or to be used as fill in construction.³³

Fortress Rosecrans Landscape Character: 1863

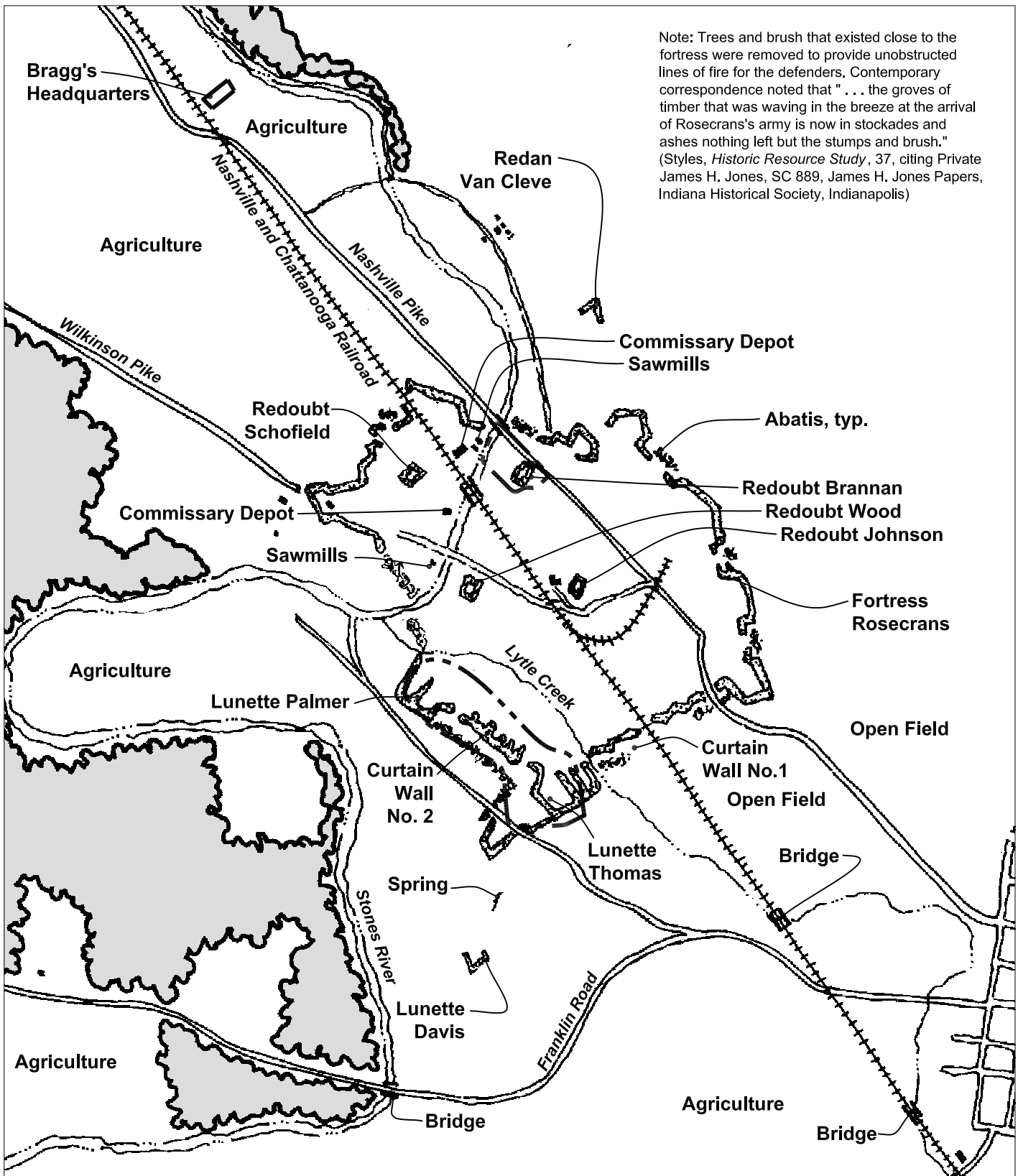
Refer to the Fortress Rosecrans Period Plan for 1863 (Fig. 6). Fortress Rosecrans, a series of earthen fortifications and abatis enclosing a central supply depot, was constructed east of the battlefield in 1863 after the Battle of Stones River. Beginning on January 23, 1863, federal troops occupied Murfreesboro and adjacent lands and constructed the fortress to protect the two important local bridge crossings of Stones River along the Nashville Pike and the rail line, and supplies stored within the large fortress, from Confederate attack. Work on the fortress continued for six months, and included rock blasting and earth moving.

Fortress Rosecrans extended to either side of Stones River, and measured 1,250 yards from north to south and 1,070 yards from east to west. It included four redoubts, or rectangular defensive structures, and nine lunettes, or angled forms, connected by linear systems (curtain walls) of earthworks. The lunettes and curtain walls included traverses behind their walls, and were fitted with embrasures, or openings, through which the defenders could fire their cannon. Gabions (earth filled baskets) were placed outside the embrasures for extra protection against incoming artillery fire. Artillery emplacements were sited near the breaks in the fortification where the rail line and Wilkinson Pike extended into the fortress. The redoubts, sited on the hills, were supported by powder magazines and blockhouses.

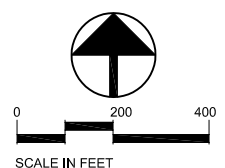
The landscape in the vicinity of the fortification was heavily impacted by the earth moving associated with establishment of the system of parapet walls, ditches, fields-of-fire, glacis, traverses, and redoubts. The troops cleared trees within 1,000 yards of the fortification to establish a clear and unobstructed field of fire for the artillery. Felled trees were utilized to form abatis, or obstructions to slow attackers. The troops also used the trees to construct housing and

necessary military structures. Local circulation systems were disrupted as well. The Wilkinson Pike was terminated at the walls of the fortification, blocking the connection to Murfreesboro.

33. Lenard Brown, "Fortress Rosecrans: A History, 1865 – 1990," *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* 50, no. 3 (1991), 139.



Sources: *Topographical Sketch of Fortress Rosecrans Near Murfreesboro, Tenn.*, Surveyed by...John Rzila [sic], April 1865; *Topographical Sketch of the Battle Field of Stones River...* Surveyed Under the Direction of Capt. N. Michler; *Map No. 5 Battle Field of Stone [sic] River...* Captain Francis Mohrhardt, U.S.V., Sept. 1865; ORA Atlas Plate CXII.



Continued Agricultural Use of the Site and Early Commemoration

In 1878, four structures standing on the battlefield at the time of the battle—the Burris, Gresham, Harding, and Jenkins houses—were still present. Other houses on the battlefield included the Hord House, McCullough House, Blanton House, James House, and MacGregor House. In addition, dwellings existed along McFadden Lane and the Wilkinson Pike. A cabin along the Nashville Pike that had served as General Rosecrans's headquarters during the battle had become an African American church by that date.³⁴

After the battle, a total of 11,933 acres of land in Rutherford County was either abandoned by its owners or confiscated by the federal government when the owners left voluntarily to aid the Confederacy. During the war this land was distributed to freedmen, but when President Andrew Johnson pardoned former Confederates after the war much of the land was returned to its previous owners and was used for farming corn and cotton. Most of the Stones River battlefield remained in private hands from the conclusion of the battle in 1863 until 1928, when the War Department began to acquire land to establish a battlefield park.

The first established unit of what would become the national cemetery system was the soldiers' cemetery at Gettysburg, laid out by the State of Pennsylvania in 1863. On Christmas Day 1863, Major General George H. Thomas ordered the establishment of a national cemetery at Chattanooga. Orders to establish a national cemetery at Stones River were issued in 1864. Work at the site began in June 1865 with interments beginning in October of that year. Work on the cemetery was mainly completed by 1869.

In 1867, the federal government established twenty-six additional national cemeteries on or



FIGURE 7. The Nashville Pike near the Stones River National Cemetery, circa 1890s.



FIGURE 8. Farmers on the battlefield in the 1890s.



FIGURE 9. The Hazen Brigade Monument, circa 1890s.

34. Styles, 56. The *Historic Resource Study* cites the D.G. Beers & Company *Map of Rutherford County, Tennessee from New and Actual Surveys*. (Compiled and Published by D.G. Beers & Company, Philadelphia, 1878.). See Fig. 11.

near Civil War battlefields. The national cemeteries became central to memorial services, first with the holiday known as Decoration Day, which initially recognized the Union dead, and later when that holiday became Memorial Day.

During the war, Confederate dead were commonly buried on the battlefield or in a nearby cemetery, or were sent home in sealed coffins. Unlike their Union counterparts, the Confederates had no systematic method or the resources for burying their dead. After the war, local “ladies’ memorial associations” were formed in the South, some originating in wartime women’s aid societies that were organized to perform hospital and relief work. At Stones River following the war, local women formed the Memorial Society of Murfreesboro to purchase land for a cemetery. The Confederate cemetery was located one-and-a-half miles south of Murfreesboro, between the railroad and the Shelbyville Pike. On April 3, 1873, the city of Murfreesboro bought twenty acres of land for the creation of Evergreen Cemetery with the intention of moving the dead from the Confederate cemetery.³⁵

In the North, several veterans’ organizations formed in the wake of the national cemetery movement. The largest and most influential of these was the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), founded in Springfield, Illinois, in 1866. From 25,000 members in 1877, the organization grew to 409,000 members by 1890 and offered benefits including funeral services for members and admission to old soldiers’ homes run by the organization.³⁶ Numerous other veterans’ groups consisting of Union and Confederate veterans also appeared in the decades following the war. In the South, these included the Southern Historical Society, founded in 1869 by veterans including General Bragg; the Association of the Army of Northern Virginia (AANV), founded in 1870; and the Association of the Army of



FIGURE 10. Interpretive sign on the battlefield, circa 1890s.

Tennessee, founded in 1871.³⁷ Several local women’s groups banded together to form the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) in September 1894.

The movement toward sectional reconciliation that marked the 1880s and 1890s, as expressed in joint reunions of Union and Confederate veterans, focused on battlefield bravery and sacrifice.³⁸ Confederates participated in reunions after 1880, and in 1888, a watershed gathering of both Union and Confederate veterans occurred at the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

The GAR was involved in preservation of the Gettysburg battlefield as a memorial to the men who fought in the battle,³⁹ and also in preserving the battlefield of Vicksburg. The Societies of the Army of the Cumberland and the Army of Tennessee also urged the creation of parks, the former to preserve the battlefields of Chickamauga and Chattanooga and the latter to preserve the battlefield of Shiloh. A bill was submitted in early 1890 to create a national park at Chickamauga and Chattanooga that would mark the lines of both sides and interpret the tactical aspects of the battles with strategically placed observation towers. These two clashes engaged troops from every southern state, eighteen northern states, and involved famous

35. Ibid., 63. Citing Mabel Pittard, *Rutherford County* (Memphis, Tennessee: Memphis State University Press, 1984), 96; John C. Spence, *Annals of Rutherford County 2* (Murfreesboro, Tennessee: Rutherford County Historical Society, 1991), 257–58; *Murfreesboro Monitor*, 7 December 1867 and 18 June 1874.

36. Wallace E. Davies, *Patriotism on Parade: the Story of Veterans’ and Hereditary Organizations in America, 1783–1900* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1955), 31–35.

37. Styles, 60. Citing Foster, 50–54, 91.

38. James M. Mayo, *War Memorials as Political Landscape* (New York: Preager Publishers, 1988), 256; McConnell, 213–18; Foster, 79–87.

39. Styles, 62. Citing Ronald F. Lee, *The Origin and Evolution of the National Military Park Idea* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Office of Park Historic Preservation, 1973), 22–26; Davies, 28.



FIGURE 11. Detail of “Map of Rutherford County, Tennessee” (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: D.G. Beers & Co., 1878). Van Cleve Lane is shown as a dashed line connecting the Wilkinson Pike to the Nashville Pike.

generals as commanders on both sides. Realizing the national significance of the battlefield, Congress established a national military park at Chickamauga and Chattanooga on August 18, 1890, two years after the Gettysburg reunion. Congress later passed legislation that created national military parks at Antietam in 1890, Shiloh in 1894, Gettysburg in 1895, and Vicksburg in 1899.⁴⁰

The Stones River Battlefield and Park Association, chartered on April 28, 1896, included both Union and Confederate veterans. The association secured options for the purchase of property connected with the battle, reportedly 2,400 acres in January 1897, and 3,400 acres in June of that year.⁴¹ Members erected wooden signs to mark and interpret specific locations on the battlefield. The secretary of the Stones River Battlefield and Park Association wrote: “The association has placed upon the battlefield a

large number of substantial wooden tablets, marking points of special interest and importance, such as headquarters of Federal and Confederate commanders, McFadden’s Ford on Stone’s River, places where distinguished officers were slain, and many other important localities.”⁴²

In December 1895, Tennessee Congressman James D. Richardson introduced legislation to establish a national military park at Stones River. The bill initially proposed the acquisition of 1,000 acres in addition to the existing national cemetery, while later versions proposed acquiring 3,100 acres. When these bills were not secured, the association instead lobbied to have markers erected on the field. Senate Bill 4818 and House Resolution 18713, introduced in 1912, were meant “to establish an accurate system of markers on the battle field of Stones River, in Tennessee.” The Commissioner of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park, Charles H. Grosvenor, argued against the establishment of a park at Stones River, stating, “More than fifty years have elapsed since the battle of Stone’s

40. Ibid. Citing John C. Paige and Jerome A. Greene, *Administrative History of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park* (Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1983), 9–10; Lee, 28–32.

41. Ibid., 65.

42. Ibid.

River and the marks, locations, earth works, or whatever else there was there are entirely obliterated. . . . The Commission is of the opinion that the bill should not pass.”⁴³

Creation of a park at Stones River was delayed after the turn of the century because of numerous requests for establishment of military parks nationwide. The establishment of new military parks was also postponed around 1902 until a survey of sites could be completed.⁴⁴ The commissions that oversaw the first four military parks were phased out by the Sundry Civil Bill of 1912, and responsibility for all military parks was shifted to the Secretary of War to administer through the War Department. When legislation in 1916 created the National Park Service, this new agency had jurisdiction over national parks and monuments within the Department of the Interior but no authority over military parks. After World War I, Congress authorized a survey under the 1926 Act for the Study and Investigation of Battlefields. This study classified Stones River as a Class IIA battlefield worthy of some kind of monument or marker, resulting in the establishment of Stones River National Military Park by Congress on March 3, 1927.⁴⁵

Landscape Character: 1926

Refer to the Period Plan for 1926 (Fig. 12). After the Civil War, the landscape associated with the Stones River battlefield returned to agricultural use, land owners returned to their farmsteads and rebuilt their homes, and new residents began to settle in the area. The majority of the area was utilized for agriculture, and little tree cover or woodland was present during this period. In addition, the landscape began to change due to increasing subdivision. As parcels changed hands, they were often broken into smaller lots. One area that changed dramatically was the central section of the battlefield west of the Nashville Pike and the Hazen Monument. Here, a small community became established. By the time of park establishment, the community featured two primary roads lined with houses, at least two churches, and likely small businesses.

The community was composed primarily the homes of African American families.

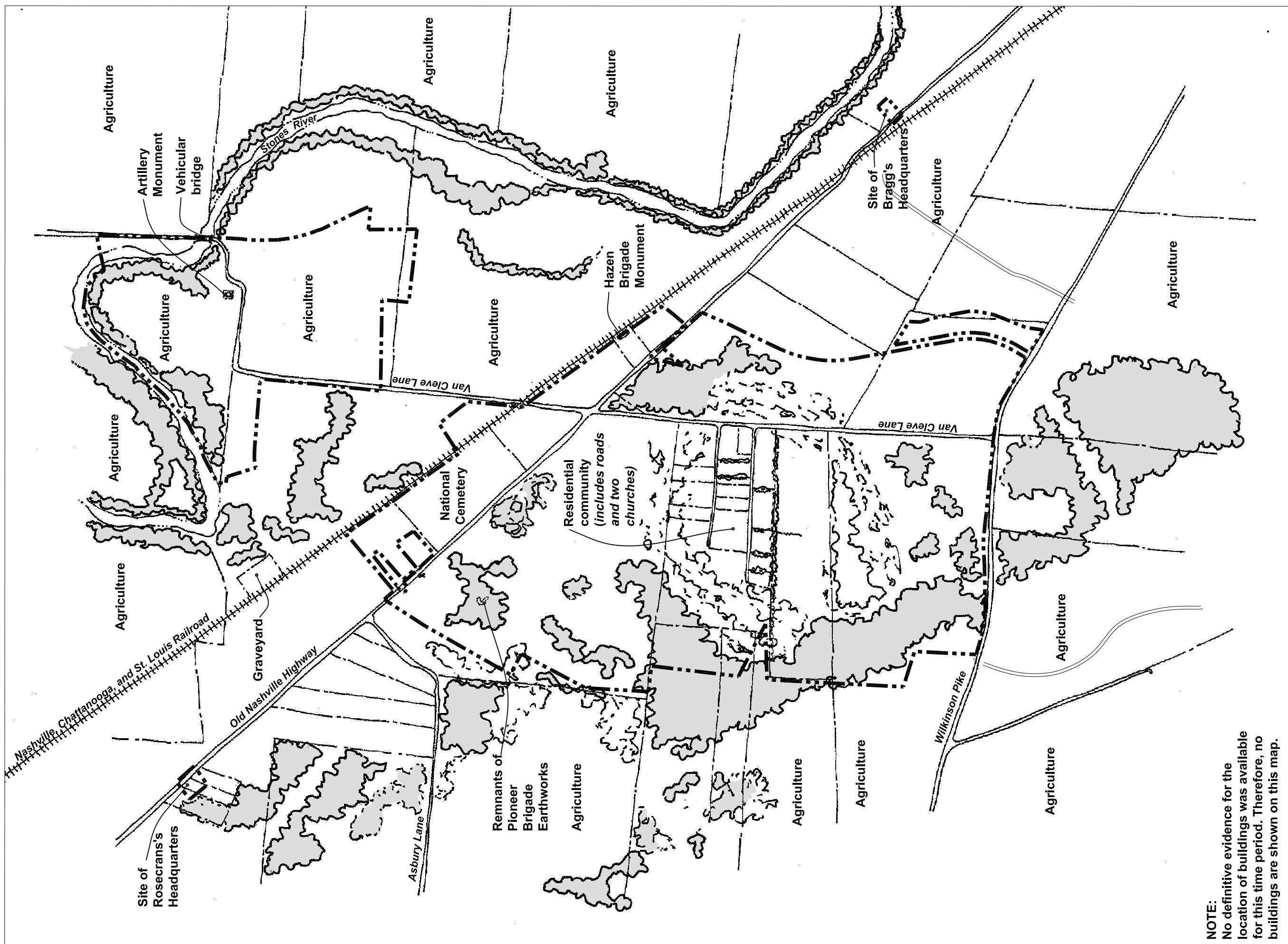
Other post-battle additions to the landscape included the Hazen Brigade Monument, completed in 1863; the National Cemetery, completed in 1865; the U.S. Regulars Monument in 1882; and the Artillery Monument placed in 1906. Commemoration of the Battle of Stones River most likely led to an increase in visitors to the region, including veterans and the families of those buried in the cemetery.

Little if anything is known about the condition and character of the Fortress Rosecrans site at this time. Agricultural use of the landscape and erosion likely claimed portions of the earthen fieldwork. Successional woodland also probably obscured other portions. It is known that the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway owned Redoubt Brannan in 1926.

43. Ibid., 66.

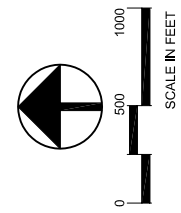
44. Ronald F. Lee, *The Origin and Later Evolution of the National Military Park Idea* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Office of Park Historic Preservation, 1973), accessed at http://www.nps.gov/history/online_books/history_military/

45. Anne Willett, 61.



NOTE:
No definitive evidence for the location of buildings was available for this time period. Therefore, no buildings are shown on this map.

- Legend**
- Current Park Boundary
 - - - Plat Boundaries
 - ☁ Tree Cover
 - Roads
 - Water
 - ++++ Railroad Tracks



Stones River National Battlefield Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Federal Stewardship

War Department Administration, 1927–1933

Portions of the Stones River battlefield were designated a national military park under the control of the War Department on March 3, 1927. Legislation to create a park at Stones River had been introduced to Congress several times during the early twentieth century, but it was not until 1928 that acquisition of property for the park began. The War Department appointed a three-member commission to research troop movements and inspect the battlefield. The commission consisted of Major John F. Conklin of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Union veteran John D. Hanson, and Confederate veteran Sam H. Mitchell.⁴⁶ A study was completed by Lt. Col. H.L. Landers of the Army War College to support the commission's work, including preparation of maps of the battlefield and troop movements.

Prior to 1928, land set aside to commemorate the Battle of Stones River included the Stones River National Cemetery and the Hazen Brigade Monument, both owned and administered by the War Department since the time of the Civil War. Two additional commemorative sites were owned by the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway, formerly known as the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. In addition to the Hazen Brigade Monument and the monuments within the national cemetery, other monuments erected at the battlefield included the U.S. Regulars Monument, a fifteen foot tall sandstone column erected in 1882 in the Stones River National Cemetery, and the Artillery Monument, a thirty-four foot tall concrete obelisk designed by Hunter McDonald and built by the shops of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway, and erected in 1906.

In 1928, the commission submitted its report with recommendations for land acquisition and park development. Following approval by the acting secretary of war, the commission was directed to

oversee implementation of the plan and the State of Tennessee ceded jurisdiction over lands that would be included in the park.⁴⁷ The commission identified for acquisition a 325-acre tract considered to have encompassed most of the battle's heaviest action, with boundaries of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway right-of-way on the north; Wilkinson Pike on the south; Van Cleve Lane on the east; and a line parallel to and less than half a mile from the eastern boundary on the west. Acquisition of two separate privately-owned quarter-acre tracts was also recommended. These tracts included the locations of the headquarters sites of Generals Bragg and Rosecrans.⁴⁸ The commission did not recommend acquiring land north of Stones River, where fighting occurred on January 2, noting that "... at the present time this land is very inaccessible. There are now no bridges across Stones River in the vicinity of the battle field; the battle field north of Stones River can only be reached by poor county roads leading from the vicinity of Murfreesboro."⁴⁹ The War Department also did not acquire seven, one-eighth-acre parcels recommended by the commission for placement of interpretive markers.

Only a portion of the approximately 4,000-acre battlefield could be obtained; the commission noted that "the 325 acre tract of land that it is proposed to acquire by no means covers fully the entire site of the hardest fighting of the battle of Stones River, but with the funds available it is believed to be the best selection possible under the circumstances."⁵⁰ The recommended land was described by the commission as a nucleus for future acquisition, should funding become available.⁵¹

Between 1928 and 1934, land including the Artillery Monument (Monument Lot) and Redoubt Brannan at Fortress Rosecrans (Old Fort Lot) was acquired by donation from the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway. The Hazen Brigade Monument and Stones River National Cemetery, both of which predated the 1927 establishment act, were already federally

46. "Report of the Inspection of Battlefield of Stones River, Tennessee," typescript submitted to the Secretary of War, July 17, 1928; *Daily News Journal* (Murfreesboro), April 23, 1929.

47. Anne Willett, 62, 75.

48. *Ibid.*, 64–65.

49. "Report on Inspection of Battlefield of Stones River, Tennessee," July 17, 1928, to the Secretary of War.

50. *Ibid.*

51. Anne Willett, 65–73.



FIGURE 13. Farmhouses on the battlefield, 1928.

owned. Administration of these sites was transferred to the park. The commission also recommended that thirty-five interpretive markers be erected within the park, two at the Artillery Monument, and one at Redoubt Brannan. Seven additional tablets were to be erected on parcels of land to interpret and mark specific events of the battle, although these seven one-eighth-acre parcels were the only tracts recommended by the commission that were not eventually purchased for the park.

Although title to all forty-six properties slated for procurement had not yet been acquired, the War Department began rehabilitation and alteration of the grounds in July 1930. All existing domestic and agricultural structures on park property, particularly along Van Cleve Lane, were determined to postdate the battle and were subsequently removed. The commission recommended removal of the dwellings of African American households that lined Van Cleve Lane during the 1920s, with one structure retained for future use as a museum.⁵²

52. Styles, 47. A 1931 newspaper account mentions a "Negro settlement" along Van Cleve Lane. One of these dwellings was retained for future use as a museum for the United Daughters of the Confederacy. This cabin was destroyed by a severe storm on March 25, 1935. Letter from superintendent Richard B. Randolph to Director Cammerer, March 28, 1935.



FIGURE 14. Farmhouse and the Artillery Monument, 1929.

When the administrative functions of the military park and the national cemetery were consolidated in 1927, visitor contact, administrative, and utility functions continued to operate out of the superintendent's lodge and dependencies at the cemetery. The two roads that existed at the time of the battle, Nashville Pike and Van Cleve Lane, were widened, graded, and graveled where they passed through the park. A new tour road was constructed leading south through the park from Nashville Pike and turning east to Van Cleve Lane.

From the initial development of the battlefield until the early 1960s, there were four entrances into the main park area. Vehicular entrance from



FIGURE 15. Van Cleve Lane south of the Nashville Pike was almost impassable in January 1931.



FIGURE 16. Van Cleve Lane in February 1931, after re-grading and surfacing by the War Department. This view is looking south across the Nashville Pike intersection.

the Old Nashville Highway was through the main entrance and at the intersection of Old Nashville Highway and Van Cleve Lane. Each of these entrances was marked with stone pillars. The first park tour road also connected with Van Cleve Lane.⁵³ A local stone mason, Herbert Smith, constructed the stone pillars at the two primary entrances. He was later hired to create entrances at the national parks at Fort Donelson and Shiloh.⁵⁴

In October 1931, a ceremony was held at the main entrance gate located across from the staff residence. Sam Mitchell, the Confederate veteran who had served on the Battlefield Park Commission, raised an American flag near the ranger station, which was located in the center of the main entrance drive near the stone pillars.⁵⁵ Three cannon from Redoubt Brannan and a flagpole were erected adjacent to the northern entrance gate.⁵⁶ The park was officially dedicated in July 1932.⁵⁷

53. Styles, 68.

54. Ibid.

55. Ibid.

56. Ibid.

57. "Elaborate Event with Colorful Exercises Will Mark

In the commission's 1928 inspection of the site, the northern section of the 325-acre tract was described as open and under cultivation, while the central and southern portions of the field, north of Manson Pike, were described as rocky and wooded with cedar. Immediately following acquisition by the War Department, local farmers plowed and seeded the open areas of the tract with fall oats; in return for which they were to receive the harvest for their work.⁵⁸ Landscape changes were made under the direction of Captain. H. J. Conner. In October 1931, a newspaper reported that, "acres and acres of dense underbrush have given way to carefully cleared land and many of the huge rocks, which dotted the landscape, have been removed, however leaving a sufficient number to add greatly to the attractiveness of the park."⁵⁹ Other War Department alterations included construction of a median at the park roads to

Dedication of Stones River Park Tomorrow," *Rutherford Courier* (Murfreesboro, Tennessee), July 14, 1932, 1.

58. Anne Willett, 75.

59. Styles, 68.

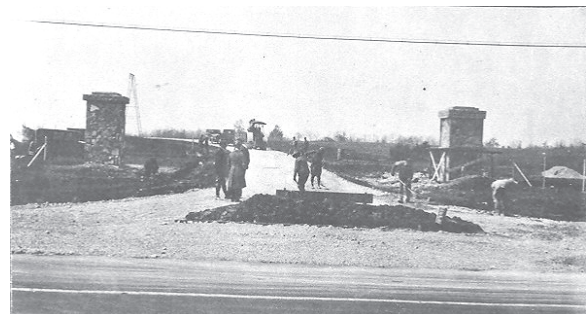


FIGURE 17. The main entrance to the park under construction in 1931.

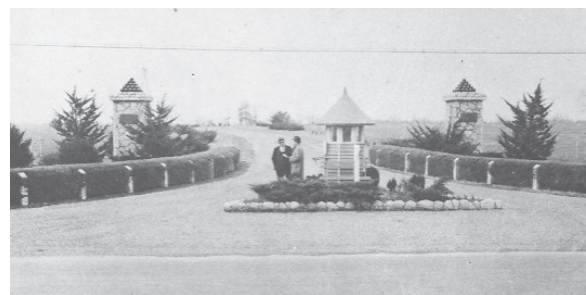


FIGURE 18. The completed main entrance to the park, 1932.

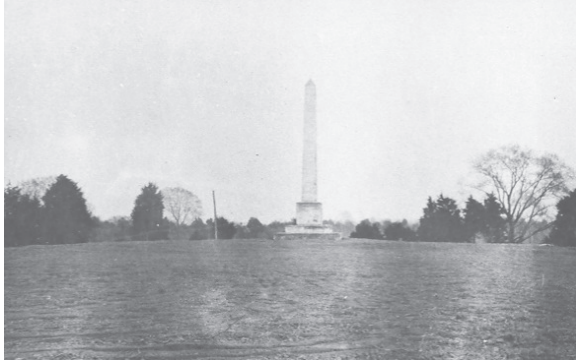


FIGURE 19. The Artillery Monument in 1931, after repainting by the War Department.

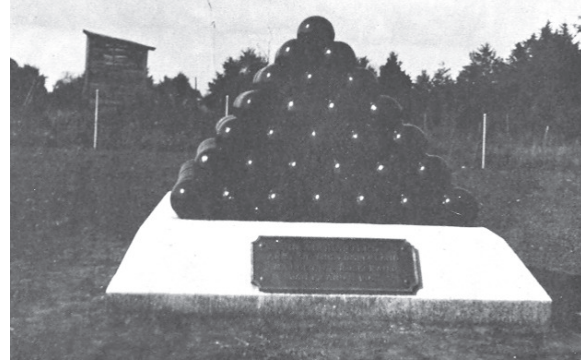


FIGURE 20. The General Bragg Headquarters Site marker immediately after its completion in 1931.

create a boulevard, preparation of landscape plans, and planting of 2,500 trees, plants, and shrubs.⁶⁰ Maps developed by the NPS after 1933 document the formal landscape treatments created during the War Department tenure of the site, including formal plantings of exotic flowering trees and shrubs along Nashville Pike and along the tour road at park entrances. Flowering trees and shrubs were planted at the park entrance and along sections of the park tour road, including roses, arborvitae, wisteria, holly, chokeberry, dwarf spirea, maple, peach, juniper, and a magnolia.⁶¹

Fortress Rosecrans Landscape Character: 1938

Refer to the Fortress Rosecrans Period Plan for 1938 (Fig. 21). Little is known about the specific evolution of the site of Fortress Rosecrans between the end of the war and acquisition of portions of the site by the federal government in the 1920s and 1930s. After the Civil War and the abandonment of Fortress Rosecrans, the City of Murfreesboro began to expand. While much of the area remained in agricultural use, new residential development also occurred. Both of these activities likely contributed to the deterioration of the earthen fortifications of

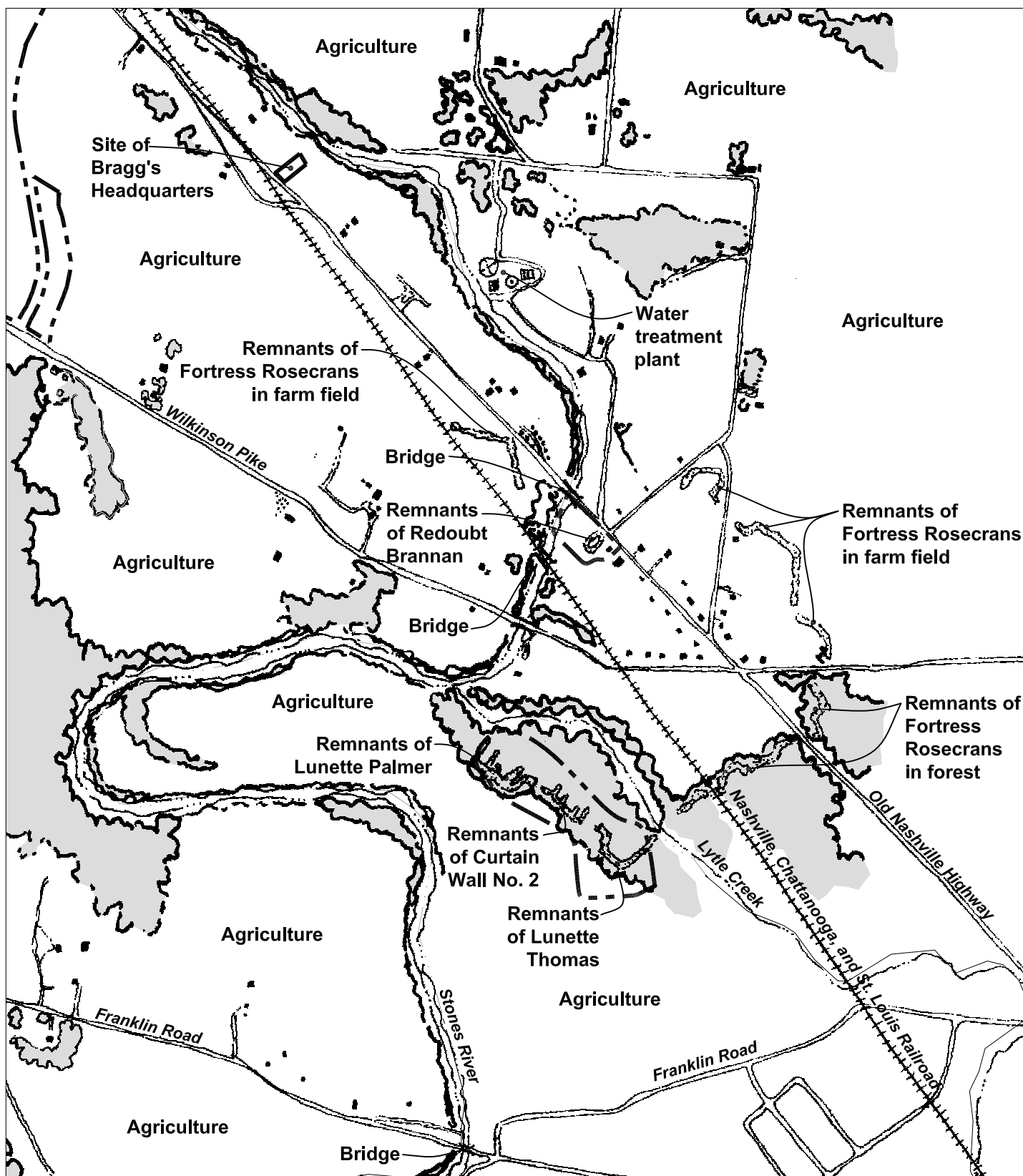
Fortress Rosecrans, which began to erode or be incrementally plowed under or built upon with roads and dwellings. Areas that were not developed or farmed were left unmanaged, and woodlands began to colonize the earthworks. The structures associated with the fortress' interior were likely dismantled and the materials reused in other construction projects.

Between 1928 and 1934, the War Department slowly acquired parcels related to the Battle of Stones River. A four-acre parcel encompassing Redoubt Brannan was acquired by the War Department in 1928 from the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway as part of the original establishment of the park, but there was no interpretation or public access to the site.⁶² The Lunettes and Curtain Wall parcel remained in private ownership throughout this period.

60. Anne Willett, 73–76.

61. James Garland, "Stones River National Military Park: Approximate Location of Exotic Plants with Number & Variety, March 17, 1934," NPS map number 327-1063; and Garland, "Stones River National Military Park: Entrance and Drive to Park and Cemetery, March 12, 1934," NPS map number 327-1064

62. *Preservation and Visitor Use Plan and Environmental Assessment: Remnants of Fortress Rosecrans: Redoubt Brannan*. National Park Service Southeast Region, March 1995.



Sources: STRI 1938 aerial photographs AEY-8-191; 1916 Rutherford County Atlas.

Legend

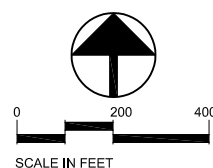
- Current Park Boundary
- Tree Cover
- Buildings
- Roads
- +++++ Railroad Tracks

Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Fortress Rosecrans Period Plan - 1938

Figure 21



Early National Park Service

On August 10, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 6166, through which the National Park Service gained jurisdiction over all historic sites, battlefields, monuments, and parks previously administered by the War Department, the Department of Agriculture, and the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capitol.⁶³ With transfer of administration to the NPS, Stones River was expanded to include an additional 65.6 acres of land in the Nashville Pike unit. This addition to the park boundaries had been authorized for acquisition by the War Department but not yet officially transferred to the government. The tracts were acquired through deeds by the NPS. The total park acreage was brought to 344.69 acres by this acquisition.

Much of the development of Stones River in the 1930s occurred through the efforts of the new federal public works agencies established under the National Industrial Recovery Act of June 1933, which provided unemployment relief and helped to conserve land and water resources. Agencies whose efforts benefited the national parks included the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the Public Works Administration (PWA), and the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Projects in the national parks involved land reclamation and park development, with \$40 million allocated by the PWA from 1933 to 1937 to fund road and trail construction, campground development, museum construction, and restoration of historic structures.⁶⁴

From 1933 until 1955, the park was administered by Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, after which Stones River was assigned its own superintendent. From 1933 through 1935, PWA workers made improvements to the main battlefield and erected a wire fence around the park perimeter to keep out livestock from adjacent farms. In 1933 and 1934, the tour road and Nashville Pike were re-graded. Vegetative buffers were planted along portions of

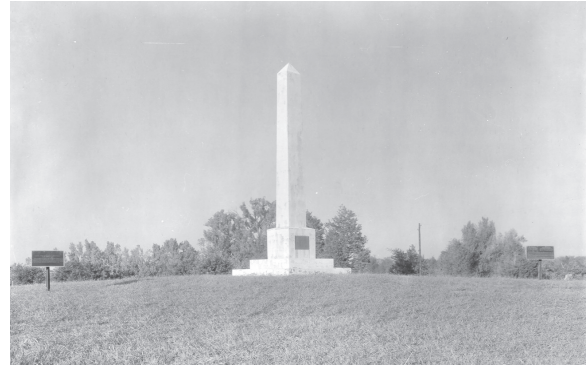


FIGURE 22. View of the Artillery Monument, September 1935.



FIGURE 23. The main entrance to the park, 1937.



FIGURE 24. Van Cleve Lane, view south from the Nashville Pike, 1937.



FIGURE 25. View northwest toward the filling station just beyond the park boundaries, showing screen planting implemented in 1934.

63. Styles, 69. Citing Barry Mackintosh, *The National Parks: Shaping the System* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, 1991), 24; Unrau, 43.

64. Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., *The Coming of the New Deal* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1959), 284–288; Unrau, 96–101.



FIGURE 26. Informational sign at the General Bragg's Headquarters site, 1930s. The marker is visible in the background at left.



FIGURE 27. Park entrance, 1930s.



FIGURE 28. Roadside markers and directional signage along Old Nashville Highway, 1930s. Also note the overhead electrical lines and wood utility poles along the road.



FIGURE 29. Park entrance, 1930s.

the park's perimeter, and the open fields were harrowed, fertilized, and graded. Severe storms on March 25, 1935, uprooted more than one hundred large trees, damaged many smaller trees and the wire fence, and severely damaged the United Daughters of the Confederacy cabin along Van Cleve Lane, which was not rebuilt.⁶⁵

The exotic flowering plantings at the entrances and along the tour road that had been planted during the War Department era were likely removed prior to 1962.⁶⁶ By 1938, most of the park, aside from areas along the western

boundary, did not contain dense foliage, except for isolated trees and small stands. The dense cedar brakes of the battle era were no longer present.⁶⁷ Visitor access to the site changed when the New Nashville Highway (U.S. Route 41) was built north of the railroad in 1950–1952.⁶⁸

The National Park Service prepared several master plans for the park between the late 1930s and the late 1950s. These plans, some of which were not implemented due to lack of funding, all addressed the rehabilitation of the park through physical development. Recommendations

65. Richard B. Randolph, Superintendent, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, Superintendent's Narrative Report, March, 1935, CHCH park archives. Refer also to Garland maps cited in note 59.

66. Styles, 70. He notes that these plantings were not recorded on the park maps drawn in 1962, and comments on a trend toward the removal of exotic plantings and the reintroduction of native species to historical parks during the 1930s and 1940s.

67. Ibid., citing Record Group 145, Records of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Can #2281, AEY-8-69, National Archives and Records Administration, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, College Park, Maryland. Refer also to aerial photograph of the park taken in April 1938.

68. John T. Willett, *Master Plan for Preservation and Use of Stones River National Military Park* (Murfreesboro: National Park Service, 1960), vol. III, sec. C, p. 2.

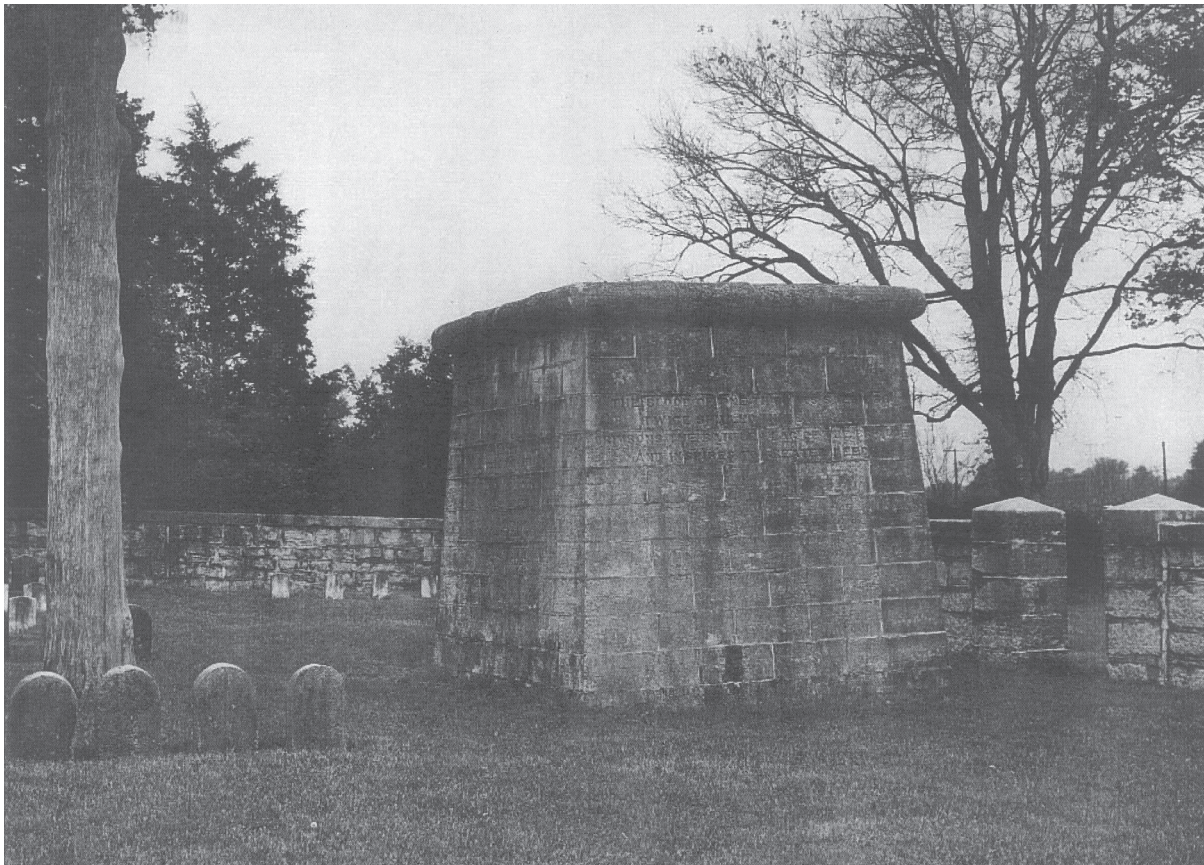


FIGURE 30. View of the Hazen Brigade Monument, April 20, 1960.

included construction of a new visitor center, relocation of the tour road and entrance gates, and acquisition of an additional 1,000 acres to connect the various tracts within the park and increase the percentage of the original battlefield under federal protection. Limited funding made only minor improvements possible in response to these plans. In the 1940s and 1950s, this work included the resurfacing of the tour road and Van Cleve Lane.⁶⁹

Landscape Character: 1955

Refer to the Period Plan for 1955 (Fig. 31). By the mid-1930s, the park included land on both sides of the Nashville Pike, encompassing the Stones River National Cemetery and the Hazen Brigade Monument, and south to Wilkinson (Manson) Pike and east to Van Cleve Lane. The park also included lands associated with the McFadden Farm and the Artillery Monument, two small parcels marking the sites of the headquarters of the generals of the opposing forces, as well as the Redoubt Brannan parcel of Fortress Rosecrans.

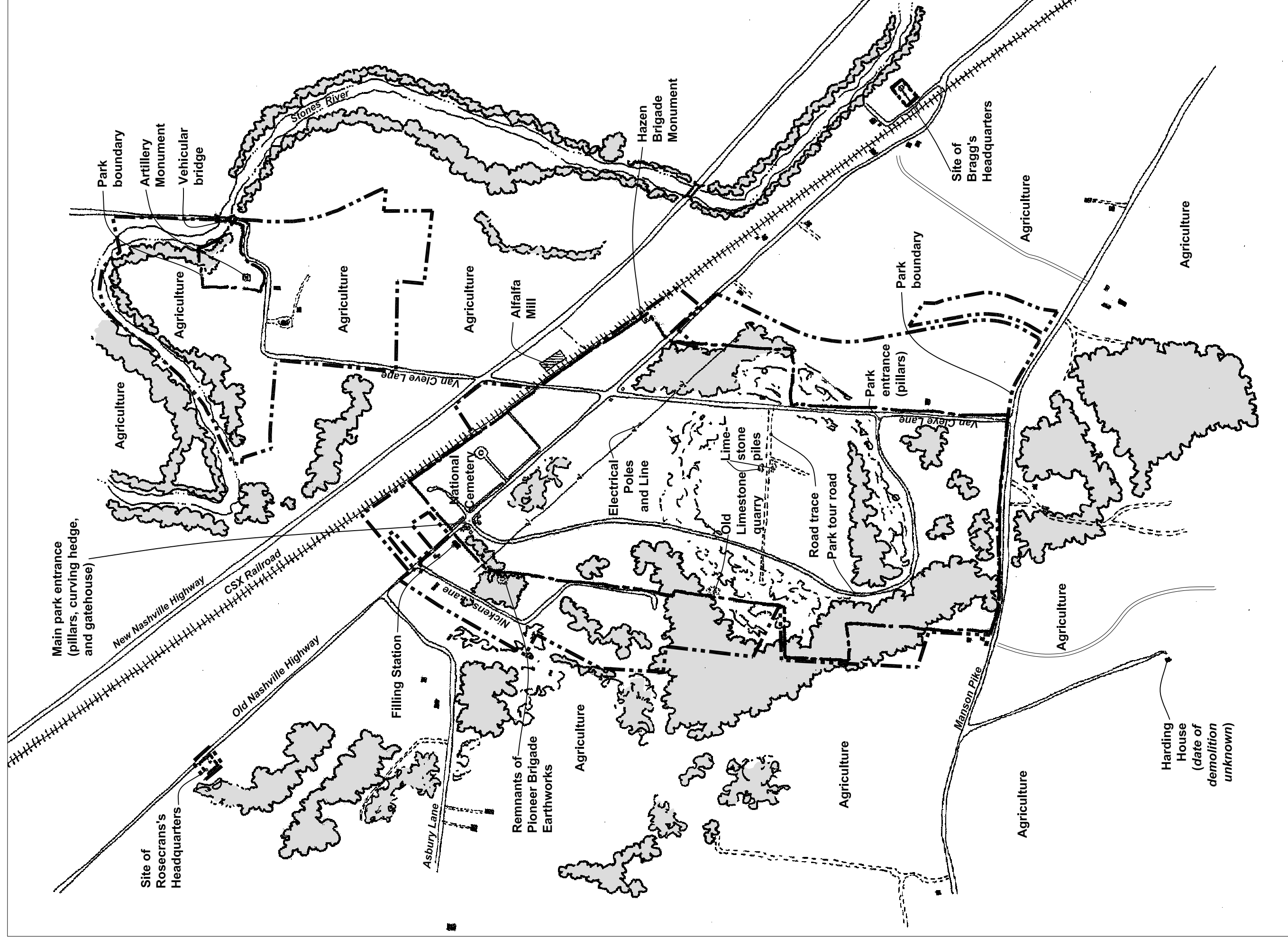
Throughout the 1930s, the War Department managed the landscape associated with the park to approximate the mid-nineteenth century conditions of the battlefield, and to enhance the experience for the visitor. The park established new entrance features, including stone pillars, fences, gatehouses, and ornamental plantings, along the Nashville Pike and Van Cleve Lane. The entrances were linked through construction of a new tour road. The War Department also erected a series of painted cast iron tablets that described the key events of the battle. These were similar to those utilized at other National Military Parks such as Vicksburg, Chickamauga and Chattanooga, and Shiloh. Concrete boundary markers and directional signs were established as part of the development of the park. The War Department also erected cannonball monuments at the sites of the headquarters of Generals Rosecrans and Bragg. As part of park development, existing residences and institutions located within the boundary were demolished, including the buildings of the existing African American community.

During the 1930s, as part of the national work programs established by the federal government

in response to the public need during the Great Depression, Civilian Conservation Corps workers planted trees and shrubs in order to diminish the open nature of the park landscape, and to enhance the character of the cemetery, park entrances, and park margins. They also conducted erosion control measures along the Nashville Pike and in other areas undergoing soil erosion.

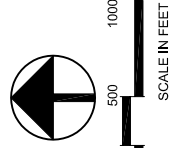
Changes that occurred within the landscape adjacent to the park included the construction of the New Nashville Highway (U.S. Route 41) north of the railroad tracks, a vehicular bridge over Stones River near McFadden Ford, and a filling station at the edge of the park near the National Cemetery. Overhead electrical lines and utility poles were also placed along the Old Nashville Highway (formerly called the Nashville Pike). Despite these changes, much of the region's economy continued to rely upon agricultural activities, and farmsteads and farm fields were an ongoing presence within the Stones River landscape.

69. Anne Willett, 87.



Legend

- Current Park Boundary
- 1927 Park Boundary
- Tree Cover
- Buildings
- Roads
- Unimproved Roads
- Railroad Tracks
- Water



Stones River National Battlefield Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Period Plan - 1955
Figure 31

Sources
1938 aerial photograph for vegetation; 1936 Stones River NMP Topography Plan; 1950 Road System Plan.

Mission 66 Development

The National Park Service Mission 66 program was developed to provide funding to revitalize the national parks over a ten year period concluding in 1966, to coincide with the agency's fiftieth anniversary. During and following World War II, limited funding and deferred maintenance had contributed to deterioration of the parks' infrastructure. At the same time, park visitation had increased as Americans had more income, leisure time, and access to automobiles for transportation.

Conrad L. Wirth, an NPS landscape architect who had overseen recreational planning and state park development during the 1930s, was appointed director of the NPS in 1951. In January 1956, Wirth proposed the Mission 66 program, supporting the concept with a slide show depicting the poor conditions of the parks that was presented to President Dwight D. Eisenhower and his cabinet. The multimillion-dollar Mission 66 program involved improvements to roads, expansion of park facilities, and repair of existing infrastructure.⁷⁰

The Mission 66 report for Stones River notes:

As the fighting actually occurred over a general area some four or five miles in diameter, the present park embraces only a small portion of the original battlegrounds. The historic remains, besides the fields, woodlands and streams (which may be considered historic because of the events associated with them) are few in number.⁷¹

In support of the park improvements proposed for Mission 66, Park Superintendent Victor H. Shipley noted that:

The National Park Service is, without doubt, the greatest experiment of its kind in the whole world. Begun in 1916, with the ten or twelve parks then in existence, the Service has expanded until we find some part of it in every section of our great country. This vast empire-for-pleasure has been put together and maintained by those who believe in the philosophical principle that true patriotism

has, among its many component parts, the two indispensable qualities which are known as pride and appreciation and that this pride in and appreciation for our native land can be increased by making it possible for any and all of us to make some sort of contact with these certain geographical sections which have, in some peculiar way, become a definite part of the American heritage. This philosophy, then, presupposes that these certain geographical sections which have been set aside as parks, monuments, military parks, etc., should be developed to the extent that all our people may have the opportunity to visit and become acquainted with them . . . Development of a new entrance road, headquarters area and interpretation center, other facilities for visitor comfort and experience, and proper staffing as set out in Mission 66 for Stones River will permit this area to take its rightful place as one of the most important memorials of the American heritage.⁷²

Mission 66 work at the park was guided by the 1960 Master Plan for Stones River National Battlefield, including the historic fence and

72. Victor H. Shipley, Superintendent, Stones River National Park, Memorandum to Director, NPS, 10 February 1956. See section on "Philosophy and Accomplishments Proposed (Mission 66)."

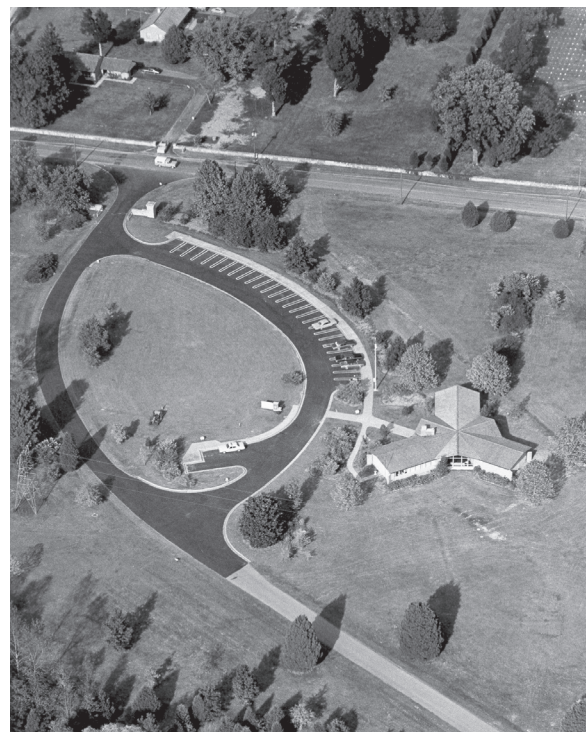


FIGURE 32. Aerial view of the newly-constructed visitor center, 1963.

70. Conrad L. Wirth, *Parks, Politics, and the People* (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980), 111; Unrau, 59–62.

71. *Mission 66 for the Stones River National Military Park* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, 1957), 1.

ground cover map prepared by NPS historian Edwin C. Bearrs.

On April 22, 1960, the park was redesignated as Stones River National Battlefield (74 Stat. 82), part of a larger reorganization of NPS administration and nomenclature. The Secretary of the Interior was directed to administer, protect, and develop the battlefield in accordance with the provisions of the National Park Service Organic Act of August 25, 1916. Also, the park boundary was expanded to include approximately seven additional acres at the McFadden Farm unit. The land acquired extended this unit northward to the banks of Stones River.

Construction in the early 1960s included a new visitor center with parking lot. The visitor center, constructed in 1961–1963, was designed by Donald F. Benson of the NPS Eastern Office of Design & Construction. The original plan included three equal wings at 120-degree angles arranged around a central hexagonal lobby

space. It incorporated offices, a museum, and related interpretive facilities.⁷³

In the summer and fall of 1963, landscape and site work related to the new visitor center was implemented, including concrete sidewalks at the visitor center and staff residences, a new culvert at the entrance roadway, brick and redwood (not cypress as originally specified) park signs, and replanting of the ground areas disturbed by the visitor center project. Small features built at this time included a flagpole and drinking fountain. At the main entrance to the park, the stone walls extending from each of the pillars and the wooden gates were also constructed as part of this work.⁷⁴

The Mission 66 program for Stones River National Battlefield emphasized the need for an improved vehicular approach and circulation.

73. Sara Allaback, Ph.D., *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 2000), Appendix I.
74. Darren H. Bohnet, Project Supervisor, "Narrative to Accompany the Completion Report of the Landscape Construction" (Murfreesboro, Tennessee: Stones River National Battlefield, 1964).

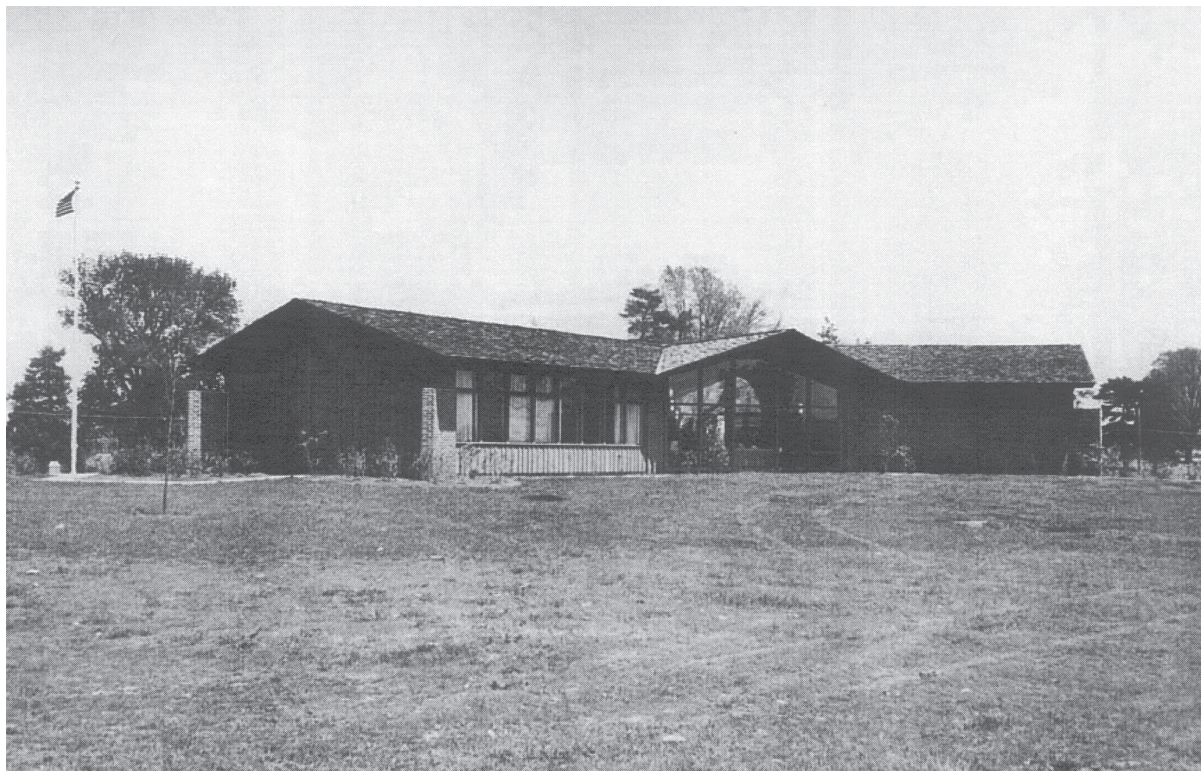


FIGURE 33. View of the newly completed Visitor Center, June 1, 1966.

The need to establish a new entrance approach was given particular emphasis, as the existing county road leading to the site reportedly was low, prone to flooding, and involved a hazardous railroad crossing. In the prospectus, a discussion of land and water rights noted:

A modest amount of additional land will be required for a protected right-of-way for a suitable park entrance road from the new four-lane highway location. This will necessitate acquiring some 8.5 acres of land in six private ownerships at a total estimated cost of approximately \$28,000.⁷⁵

Improvements included conversion of the existing tour road into a closed-loop road with a single entrance on the Nashville Pike. Alterations were also made to entrance gates from Nashville Pike to the tour road. Other components of the plan included construction of two residences for site personnel (a third house was added to the plan and completed in 1963); installation of outdoor exhibits and markers; and additions to staffing and seasonal personnel (tour leaders). A total cost of \$246,000 was estimated for physical improvements.

In 1966, the city of Murfreesboro acquired fifty acres at the site of Fortress Rosecrans and established Old Fort Park. The new park included Lunette Palmer, Curtain Wall No. 2, and Lunette Thomas.⁷⁶ The city considered Old Fort Park primarily a recreational area, and little effort was made to protect and interpret the remains of Fortress Rosecrans as a cultural resource. In 1976, one observer noted:

The city owns a cycle park immediately contiguous to the fortification [Lunette Palmer], and apparently little or no effort has been made to prevent the cyclists from using the steep earthen banks for their entertainment. Road cuts through the embankments are common . . . Portions of the fortification contain trash . . . [The city] proposes building a golf course up to the very edge of the lunette . . .⁷⁷

75. *Mission 66 Prospectus, Stones River National Military Park, Tennessee* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, April 1956), 14.

76. Mike West, "The Post's Top 10 Historic Sites," *The Murfreesboro Post*, www.murfreesboropost.com.

77. Catherine H. Blee, "An Assessment of the Cultural Resources of Stones River National Battlefield and the Proposed Development Impacts on Them" (Denver Service Center, National Park Service, January 1976), 19.

Contemporary National Park Service

The battlefield's authorized boundary was expanded in 1987 (Public Law 100-205) and again in 1991 (Public Law 102-225). The 1987 boundary increase added two parcels along the western side of the Nashville Pike unit and one smaller parcel at the eastern side along Old Nashville Highway; and additional land at the McFadden Farm unit. The 1987 boundary increase also incorporated the Fortress Rosecrans Curtain Wall No. 2 and Lunettes Palmer and Thomas parcel owned by the city of Murfreesboro into the authorized boundary. The 1991 boundary expansion increased the park to its current limits, with additional parcels added to the east and west sides of the Nashville Pike unit, an expansion of the McFadden Farm unit, and an expansion of the Redoubt Brannan parcel.

In the early 1990s, Thompson Lane was extended south from the New Nashville Highway to connect with Wilkinson Pike and Tennessee Highway 96, Old Fort Parkway. This project included the construction of an overpass to carry Thompson Lane over the CSX railroad and Old Nashville Highway. The new overpass and associated embankments greatly affected viewsheds from the park eastward.

The National Park Service began to address the condition and interpretation of the Redoubt Brannan and the Curtain Wall No. 2 and Lunettes Palmer and Thomas parcels in the early to mid-1990s. These features were described as "preserved under a forest cover" in a 1991 study.⁷⁸ The woodland cover was also described as having a well-developed understory and dense communities of invasive species such as privet and honeysuckle.⁷⁹ Visitor use of the former Old Fort Park had led to the establishment of hard-packed earth trails along the top of the parapet walls and within the fortifications. These conditions were subsequently addressed by the National Park Service through removal of hazard trees and invasive species, the addition of soil to

78. National Park Service, *Preservation and Management Plan; Environmental Assessment; Remnants of Fortress Rosecrans: Lunettes Palmer and Thomas; Old Fort Park; Murfreesboro, Tennessee* (Atlanta: Southeast Regional Office, 1991), iii.

79. *Ibid.*, 11.

compacted trail prisms, removal of trash, and the establishment of new visitor access and interpretive improvements. A boardwalk and interpretive trail was established and a parking lot was constructed to enhance the visitor experience.

In 2003–2004, the visitor center was extensively expanded and remodelled. The work included several additions and replacement of all exterior materials.

Planning is under way to change the route of the tour road through the park. The Environmental Assessment for this project has been completed. New wayside exhibits are planned for the battlefield. Installation of these exhibits is planned for late 2008 or early 2009.

Control and monitoring of invasive and alien plant species is ongoing, and limited areas that were historically open fields are being converted to native grasses. A draft plan for vegetation management is under development. Also, a fire management plan was completed in 2003 and is scheduled to be updated in 2008.

To maintain open field areas, selected areas that were fields at the time of the battle have been farmed since at least the early 1970s by a number of different farmers. Crops included soybeans and hay, as well as wheat, corn, cotton, milo, and millet. This arrangement ended in 2004. During 2005 and 2006, the School of Agribusiness and Agriscience at Middle Tennessee State University planted and harvested these fields. Another local farmer may be interested in continuing to farm these fields in the future, but this has not been resolved. (At the time of the Civil War, the dominant crops were corn and cotton. Livestock roamed freely in the woods and pastures, which were bounded by fences to contain the farm animals.)

The Medical Center Parkway connecting to a new interchange on Interstate Highway 24, completed in 2005, has led to many development proposals for historic battlefield lands south of the park boundaries. This planned development includes a multi-story hospital, a Chamber of Commerce visitor center, a conference center, and a shopping center. The potential to screen this new development from view needs to be



FIGURE 34. The Thompson Lane overpass at the Old Nashville Highway under construction, early 1990s.

considered. Another new street, Garrison Drive, was completed in 2006, connecting from Wilkinson Pike to West College Street east of Thompson Lane.

In addition to fallow agricultural land and former landfill sites, newly acquired park lands also include dump sites, home sites, non-historic farm outbuildings, animal pens, fences, and business sites. Planning for the long term cleanup and restoration of these lands needs to be undertaken. The ecologically significant cedar glades ecosystem within the park boundaries contains two federally endangered plant species: the Tennessee coneflower (*Echinacea tennesseensis*) and Pyne's ground plum (*Astragalus bibullatus*).⁸⁰ The cedar glade area is currently divided by the park tour road. Reduction of one leg of this road is part of the planned change to the tour route.

Landscape Character: 2005

Refer to the Period Plans for 2005 (Figs. 35 and 36). Between 1956 and 2006, the Mission 66 program, property acquisitions, and a move toward balancing cultural and natural resources greatly altered the appearance and composition of the park landscape. Mission 66-era additions included a visitor center, a parking lot, the conversion of the existing tour road to a single-entry closed-loop road, interpretive stops along the loop road, and the installation of several wayside exhibits. In 2005, with the exception of some of the wayside exhibits, the addition of new trails and signage, and alterations to the visitor center, all of these elements remain intact and little changed.

Since 1955, the park has worked to better approximate land cover conditions at the time of the battle. Trees have been planted in areas that were wooded at the time of the battle, and agricultural fields have been approximated, either through limited cropping or through the establishment and maintenance of warm season grass fields in historic locations. In some areas, woodland cover now exceeds the historic

conditions, for example at the McFadden Farm property, along the park's southern boundary, and west and southwest of the Visitor Center. Woody growth has increased in part due to diminished maintenance funding. Areas that are less wooded than at the time of the battle include the northwestern edge of the park's Nashville Pike unit.

During this period the park has grown, encompassing a larger portion of the battlefield and affording the park the opportunity to increase its interpretation of the events of December 1862–January 1863. The landscape surrounding the park has changed dramatically, affecting the park's setting and the visitor experience. Many of the roads that connect the various park units, particularly U.S. Highway 41, are now lined with commercial businesses and light industrial facilities. The construction of a factory nearby and the Thompson Lane overpass has heavily impacted the setting of the Hazen Brigade Monument. Finally, agricultural activities on the lands surrounding the park continue to diminish, and are increasingly being replaced by residential subdivisions.

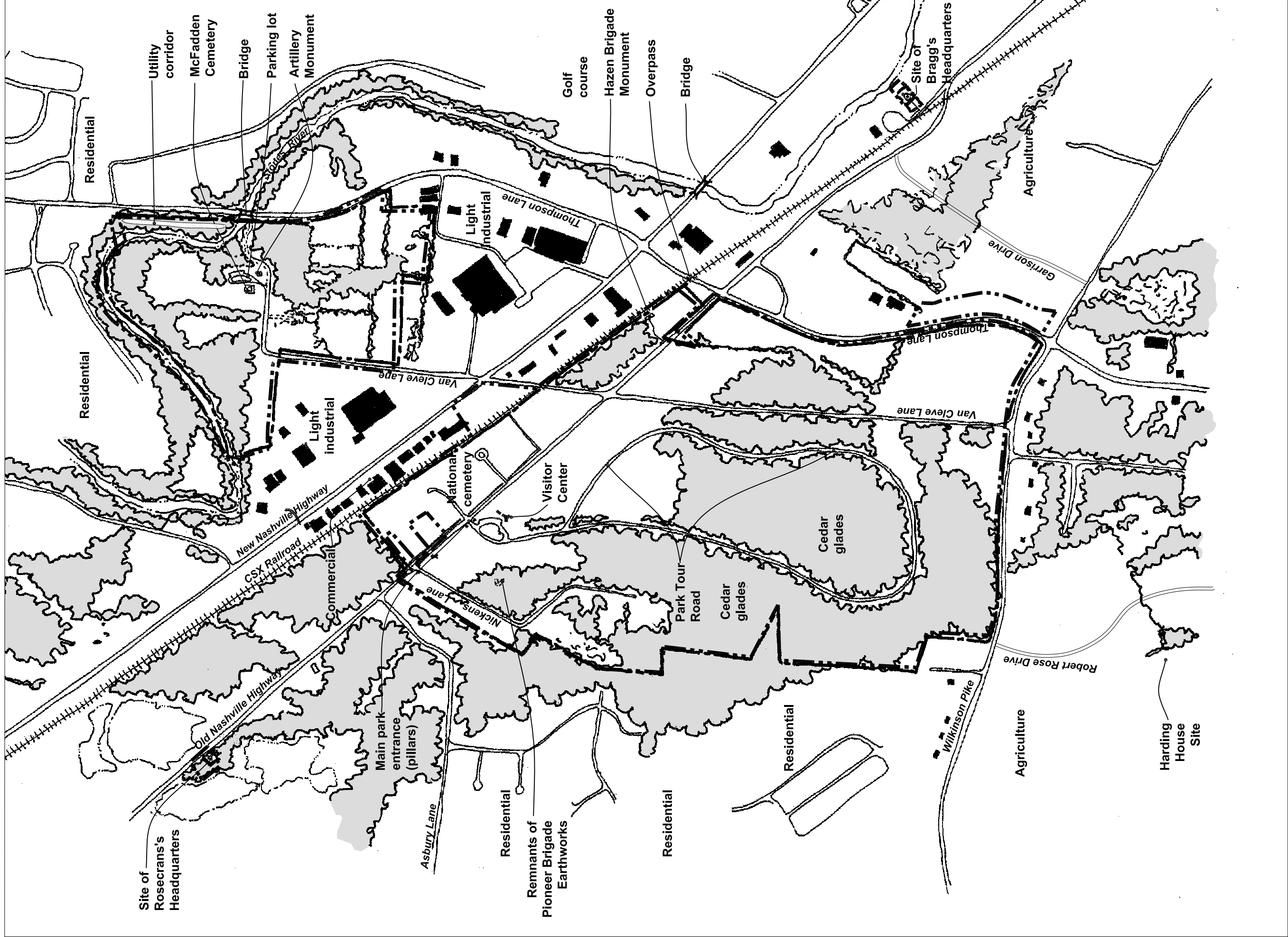
The construction in the 1990s of the Thompson Lane connector and overpass has had a dramatic impact on the historic landscape. Located east of Van Cleve Lane, the road corridor is visible from the eastern portion of the Nashville Pike Unit and the Hazen Brigade Monument. The large concrete structure that carries the road corridor across Old Nashville Highway and the rail line is particularly visible from these areas. In addition to the impact this roadway has had on the visual quality of the park, the road has changed local circulation patterns, due to its bypassing of the Old Nashville Highway. In fact, the Old Nashville Highway has become obsolete for most travelers with the exception of local residents and park visitors.

The Fortress Rosecrans earthworks are maintained under a variety of vegetative cover, including dense forest, light forest, and tall grass. The focus of vegetation management has been the removal of exotic and hazardous vegetation, and the establishment of native plants with “the least amount of intervention and ground

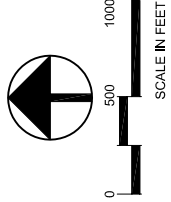
80. Tennessee coneflower was planted in the cedar glades in the 1970s by Professor Thomas Hemmerly of Middle Tennessee State University. Pyne's ground plum was planted by the National Park Service. No intentional plantings within the cedar brakes have been documented.

disturbance.”⁸¹ Vegetation has also been managed to stabilize the slopes leading to Lytle Creek. Currently, woody vegetation obscures some of the historic views of the river that help connect the fortification to its historic use.

81. National Park Service, *Preservation and Management Plan*, 16.



- Legend**
- Current Park Boundary
 - Tree Cover
 - Buildings
 - Roads
 - Water
 - Railroad Tracks

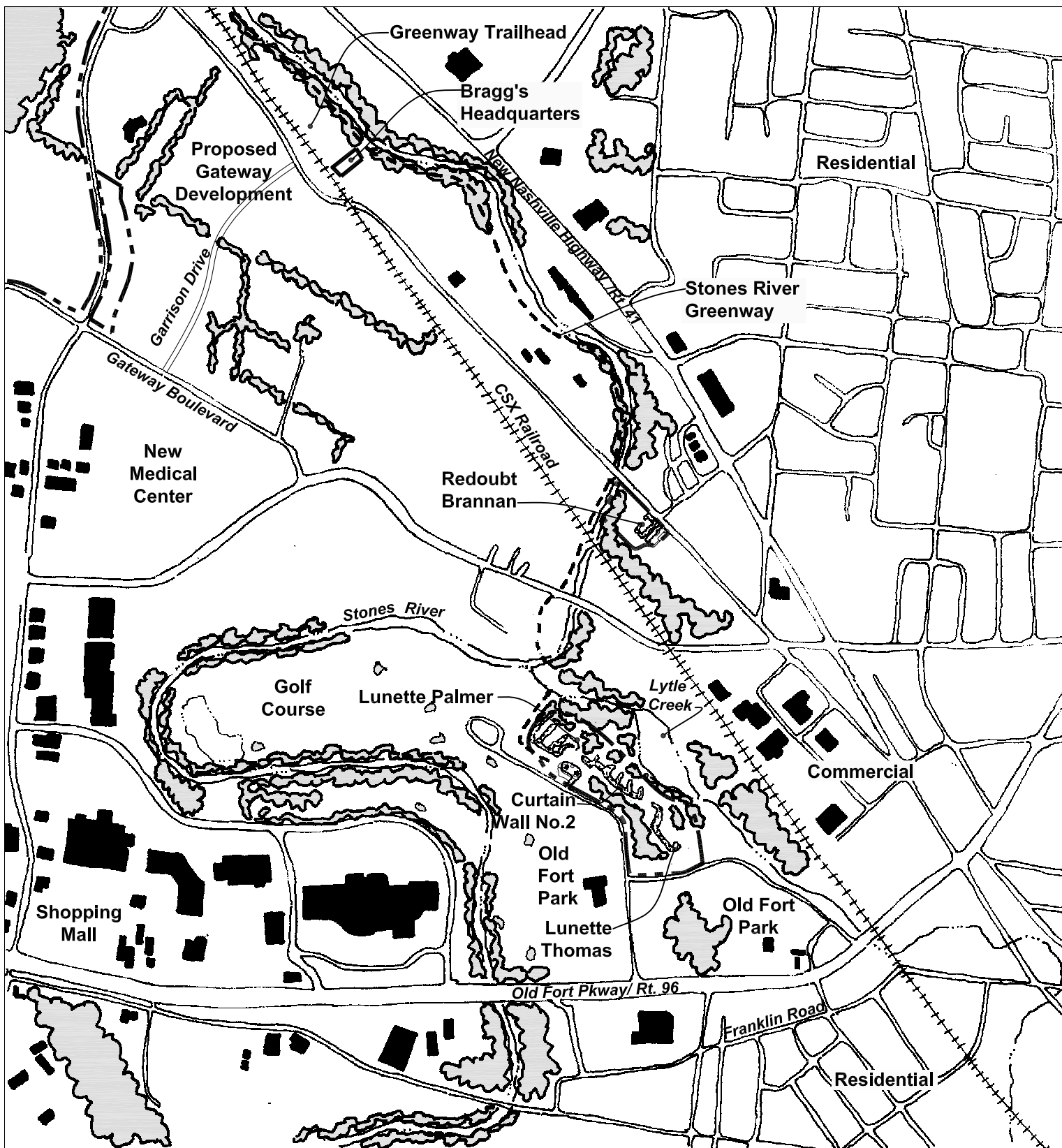


Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Period Plan - 2005
Figure 35

Sources
GIS data provided by NPS and converted into AutoCAD; digital ortho quads provided by NPS.



Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.

Legend

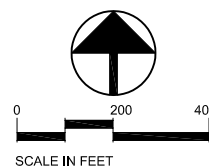
- Current Park Boundary
- ☁ Tree Cover
- Buildings
- Roads
- + + + + + Railroad Tracks

Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Fortress Rosecrans Period Plan - 2005

Figure 36



Evaluation of Significance

Stones River National Battlefield maintains significance in military history, landscape architecture (National Cemetery), African American ethnic heritage, and commemoration. The park's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places documents this significance by describing how the site's history and associations meet the terms of Criteria A, B, C, and D.

Per Criterion A, the battlefield is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history: generally, the Civil War, and specifically, the Battle of Stones River that occurred from December 31, 1862, to January 2, 1863. Per Criterion B, the battlefield is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, particularly Union Major General William S. Rosecrans, commander of the Army of the Cumberland; Brigadier General Philip H. Sheridan; and Confederate General Braxton Bragg, commander of the Army of Tennessee. Per Criterion C, the battlefield (National Cemetery) embodies the distinctive characteristics of a period of landscape design and possesses high artistic values. Finally, per Criterion D, preliminary archeological investigations performed by the National Park Service indicate that areas of the battlefield are likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

The National Register Nomination (Additional Documentation) for Stones River National Battlefield notes that the property is eligible for listing under Criterion A for national and state significance in the military history of the Civil War, and for national and state significance in commemoration due to the design and historical associations of the Hazen Brigade Monument and Stones River National Cemetery; for local significance under Criterion A in African American ethnic heritage; for its local significance under Criterion C in landscape architecture; and for local significance under Criterion D.⁸²

82. Gavin and Styles.

Military History

The Stones River National Battlefield is nationally significant under Criterion A because it contains a large portion of the area where the most intense fighting during the Battle of Stones River occurred. Over the course of three days, from December 31, 1862, to January 2, 1863, Union and Confederate armies fought at Stones River to determine control of the rich agricultural region of middle Tennessee and its turnpikes, rivers, and railroads. In 1862, the Confederate Army of Tennessee was headquartered in Murfreesboro, from which the Confederates contested Union control over agricultural resources and sent cavalry raids against Union supply lines. Twenty-five miles northwest of Murfreesboro, Nashville served as supply base to the Federal 14th Army Corps (the Army of the Cumberland). In terms of supplying Union forces, capture and control of Murfreesboro and the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad was essential to the Union goal of moving from Nashville toward Chattanooga.

The outcome of the Battle of Stones River was important in the direction of the war. It was a major battle in the Union's effort to divide the southeastern Confederacy.⁸³ In addition, the battle provided an important victory for the North at a time when defeat might have brought England and France into the war on the side of the Confederacy.⁸⁴ Finally, the loss at Stones River prevented the Confederacy from taking the strategic initiative in the Western Theater, affecting the outcome of the entire war.⁸⁵

The Battle of Stones River also served an important role in the future of both armies. As noted in the National Register Nomination—Additional Documentation:

The ability of Rosecrans's army to withstand Bragg's furious assault without breaking established the Army of the Cumberland's reputation as an immovable defensive force. This defensive resiliency would resurface again in battle at Chickamauga, Atlanta, and

83. James L. McDonough, *Stones River: Bloody Winter in Tennessee* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1980).

84. Cozzens.

85. Earl Hess, *Banners to the Breeze: the Kentucky Campaign, Corinth, and Stones River* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2000).

Franklin, but it was forged at Stones River. Likewise, the Battle of Stones River typified the Army of Tennessee's fate as a hard-luck loser and produced dissent within its command structure that reduced its effectiveness for the balance of the war.⁸⁶

Fortress Rosecrans, including the Curtain Wall, Lunettes, and Redoubt Brannan, is significant for several reasons. First, the fort provided an important supply depot for the Army of the Cumberland and a means of protecting the critical resource of the railroad. Fortress Rosecrans was the largest enclosed earthwork of the war, encompassing the river crossings of both the Nashville Pike and Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad and protecting the large bridge and railroad trestle spans between Nashville and Murfreesboro. The surviving remnants of Fortress Rosecrans and Redoubt Brannan are nationally significant under National Register Criterion A for their association with the post-battle Union occupation of Murfreesboro; under Criterion C because they represent advanced nineteenth-century military fortifications, and convey significant information about the immense logistical network that allowed the Union to prevail in the Civil War; and under Criterion D because they may possess information that could increase our understanding of nineteenth-century earthen fortifications.

Landscape Architecture

Stones River National Battlefield is considered significant in terms of landscape architecture with specific reference to the Stones River National Cemetery. The National Register Nomination (Additional Documentation) ascribes local significance to the cemetery for its formal geometric plan (circa 1892) and funerary sculpture. The cemetery design is a departure from the popular Victorian style of winding paths and naturalistic plantings, instead following a formal design with rows of simple grave markers. The Stones River National Cemetery exemplifies the style selected for national cemeteries to create a character of "simple grandeur" rather than Romanticism.

Commemoration

The battlefield is significant in terms of commemoration, as represented first by construction of the Hazen Brigade Monument in 1863. The Hazen Brigade Monument, constructed as the war was still in progress, is the oldest Civil War monument in the United States still extant at its original location. Other commemorative structures including the U.S. Regulars Monument (1882) and the Artillery Monument (1906) were later added to the landscape of the battlefield.

Commemoration also occurred through establishment of the Stones River National Cemetery, created in 1864 as part of the system of national cemeteries authorized by Congress on or near Civil War battlefields. The battlefield was the site of memorial celebrations by the GAR and other organizations over the next several decades, and the subject of tourism encouraged by the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway.

Establishment of a park in commemoration of the battle began with chartering of the Stones River Battlefield and Park Association in 1896, and continuing through acquisition of property and placement of markers. Congress did not join in the effort to establish the park until the 1926 Act for the Study and Investigation of Battlefields recommended commemoration of the Battle of Stones River. This recognition resulted in the establishment of the Stones River National Military Park on March 3, 1927.

Ethnic Heritage

Stones River National Battlefield is considered significant in terms of African American ethnic heritage in that African Americans played an important role in the construction of Fortress Rosecrans during the war and in building the National Cemetery after the war. The National Cemetery houses the remains of members of the United States Colored Troops (USCT) and is the largest burial ground for USCT veterans in the country. African American soldiers carried out the dangerous task of transferring the remains of the Union dead from other battle sites and re-intering them at Stones River. William Holland, a USCT veteran, is buried in the Harlan/Holland family cemetery (circa 1909) adjacent the walls of

86. Gavin and Styles, 8-5.

the Hazen Brigade Monument cemetery. In addition, an African American community known as Cemetery existed near the battlefield from 1863 until the 1930s.

Period of Significance

The National Register Nomination (Additional Documentation) defines the period of significance of Stones River National Battlefield as 1862–1931.⁸⁷ Primary dates and periods of importance associated with the site include the dates of the battle itself (December 31, 1862–January 2, 1863); the period in which Fortress Rosecrans was in use (January 1863 through May 1865); the overall period of the Civil War (1861–1865); and the decades of the early park development period (1927–1931).

The significance of the primary character areas of the battlefield is related to the period of the battle and the period of early park development. The Nashville Pike unit, McFadden Farm, General Rosecrans’s Headquarters Site, and General Bragg’s Headquarters Site are all significant in terms of the dates of the battle. The Hazen Brigade Monument, although constructed after the battle, is a memorial of the battle and is associated with the broader Civil War period. Fortress Rosecrans, including the Curtain Wall and Lunettes as well as Redoubt Brannan unit, is associated with the broader Civil War period and particularly with the dates of the construction and active use of the fortress.

The integrity of each character area of the battlefield landscape is assessed in the Existing Conditions and Analysis chapter, following the condition assessment and comparative analysis of the landscape in each area.

87. Ibid.

Existing Conditions and Analysis

Introduction

This chapter of the Stones River National Battlefield Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) is intended to provide a detailed understanding of the park's landscape as it currently exists, and compare that understanding with historic conditions during National Register periods of significance.

The purpose of documenting the park's existing landscape is threefold. The most important goal of the documentation is to understand the range and breadth of landscape features, to identify them by name, describe them, and locate them on a map to serve as a reference and a baseline of information for the rest of the document. The second goal of the existing conditions documentation is to generate an inventory list of park features to which several analyses may be applied. These include a condition assessment, identification of their date and period of origin and therefore connection to National Register periods of significance, and consideration of how much the landscape reflects its character during these periods of significance through an integrity assessment. The final reason for preparing existing conditions documentation is to provide a record of the landscape that may prove useful to future research efforts.

The existing conditions information comprises written, graphic, and photographic documentation of the current landscape conditions associated with the Stones River National Battlefield (Refer to Fig. 37). The documentation was derived from on-site visits conducted by project team members in October 2005 and April 2006 and existing conditions source material, such as aerial photographs and GIS mapping, provided by park staff.

The information presented below is organized by character area—which are based primarily on the individual units or parcels that comprise the park—although a description of the park as a whole and its relationship to surrounding areas and adjacent features introduces the parcel-specific sections. The character area designations

deviate from the park's unit designations in two ways: the National Cemetery is not included in this study; and the Hazen Brigade Monument, technically a part of the Nashville Pike unit, has been treated as a separate character area due to the fact that it is located across the Old Nashville Highway from the rest of the unit. The character areas utilized to describe the landscape as part of this study include the following (Refer to Fig. 38).

- Nashville Pike (or Main) unit
- McFadden Farm unit
- General Rosecrans's Headquarters Site
- Hazen Brigade Monument
- General Bragg's Headquarters Site
- Fortress Rosecrans: Curtain Wall No. 2 and Lunettes Palmer and Thomas
- Fortress Rosecrans: Redoubt Brannan

For each of these areas, short descriptions of the overall character area landscape precedes a more detailed discussion of their individual features. Landscape features are classified and described using the categories indicated in *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports*, one of the standard methodologies used to prepare cultural landscape reports.⁸⁸ The letters in parentheses following each category refer to the abbreviations used on the existing conditions maps to identify features.

- Natural Systems and Features (N)
- Spatial Organization (SO)
- Land Use (not mapped)
- Circulation (C)
- Vegetation (Ve)

88. Cathy Gilbert, Robert R. Page, and Susan Dolan, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1997).

- Buildings and Structures (B, S)
- Views and Vistas (V)
- Small-scale Features (SS)

Each character area section also includes a comparative analysis of historic and existing conditions, resulting in an integrity assessment for the area. Based upon identification of the park's significance, and the period during which it is significant, the CLR indicates the degree to which the park and its resources today reflect their character and appearance during the period of significance. The comparative analysis narrative generally focuses on two discrete time periods that fall within the overarching period of significance for the park: the Battle of Stones River (December 31, 1862–January 2, 1863) with commentary regarding the Civil War era in its entirety (1861–1865); and the early park development period (1927–1931). Graphic documentation, in the form of maps and photographs, is found at the end of each character area section. Each inventoried feature is located on a map. All photographs used to illustrate existing conditions are coordinated with photographic station point maps found at the end of this chapter (Figs. 178 through 180).

The character area sections are followed by an inventory of park landscape features, which identifies which features are contributing, non-contributing, and missing from the historic landscape, and also provides condition information for each existing inventoried feature. Resources that survive from the period of significance are referred to as contributing features. Resources that originated after the period of significance are identified as non-contributing features. The condition assessments included with the general description of each feature describe the physical condition of landscape features within Stones River National Battlefield landscape using standards established by the National Park Service in *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports*. Features are described as being in good, fair, poor, or unknown condition based on the following criteria:

Good. Indicates the cultural landscape shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human

forces. The cultural landscape's historical and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate action is required.

Fair. Indicates the cultural landscape shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within three to five years to prevent further harm. If the current condition is not corrected, the landscape will deteriorate into a poor condition.

Poor. Indicates the cultural landscape shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural areas.

Unknown. Indicates that not enough information is available to make an evaluation.

Features categorized as fair, poor, or unknown are accompanied by a brief annotation to explain the rating. Throughout the text, LCS identification numbers for individual structures are provided, as applicable.⁸⁹

Each character area section ends with a brief assessment of integrity. The comparative analysis discusses which features have changed, been added, remained intact, or are missing in relation to the historic landscape. These analyses serve as the basis for the integrity assessments. The primary objective of each integrity assessment is to determine to what degree the park retains its ability to convey conditions during the identified period of significance and continues to convey

89. The List of Classified Structures (LCS) is a computerized inventory of all historic and prehistoric structures, in which the NPS has, or plans to acquire, any legal interest. These structures must have historical, architectural, or engineering significance. Structures listed on the LCS must meet one of the following criteria: either the structure is listed individually or is eligible for the National Register or the structure is a contributing element of an historic site or district that is listed or is eligible for the National Register. In addition, the LCS includes other structures: moved, reconstructed, and commemorative structures, and structures which have achieved significance within the last fifty years that are managed as cultural resources.

its historical associations with a significant event in American history. While integrity assessments are generally conducted by considering the seven aspects of integrity identified by the National Register—location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association—National Register Bulletin 40, *Guidelines For Identifying, Evaluation, and Registering America's Historic Battlefields*, suggests that “the most important aspects of integrity for battlefields are location, setting, feeling, and association.”⁹⁰ The bulletin discusses an approach to assessing overall integrity for battlefields that is relevant to this study, and has been taken into consideration as part of the development of the integrity assessment that follows:

Battlefields cannot be frozen in time . . . Even where efforts to preserve the battlefield were initiated almost immediately, as at Gettysburg, it proved impossible to perpetuate the scene in the exact form and condition it presented during the battle. Instead, Gettysburg presents several layers of history, including its post-battle memorialization. The best-preserved battlefields appear much as they would have at the time of the battle, making it easy to understand how strategy and results were shaped by the terrain. All properties, however, change over time and nearly all battlefields will contain non-contributing properties. The impact of non-contributing properties on a battlefield as a whole depends not only on their number, but also on their nature and location and the size and topography of the battlefield. While this is a subjective judgment, there are some general principles for assessing integrity. If the type of non-contributing property reflects a continuing layer of development of traditional land use, then the impact of these properties may not be as great as that of modern properties that do not reflect the historic use of the land. For example, in battlefields located in rural or agricultural areas, the presence of farm related buildings dating from outside the period of significance generally will not destroy the battlefield's integrity. It is important that the land retain its rural or agricultural identity in order for it to convey its period of significance. The

impact of modern properties on the historic battlefield is also lessened if these properties are located in a dispersed pattern. If a battlefield is characterized by rolling topography, the impact of later non-contributing properties may also be lessened. The covering of former open fields with trees is a natural and reversible alteration to the landscape. If it can be demonstrated that, despite the forestation of an area, the battle took place in that particular spot, then the battlefield retains integrity of location.⁹¹

Project Area Overview

Stones River National Battlefield protects a portion of the area over which the Civil War Battle of Stones River was contested. The battle, which occurred between December 31, 1862, and January 2, 1863, was a key event in the struggle for middle Tennessee, and ultimately resulted in the Union Army assuming control over the region.⁹²

When first established in 1927, the park encompassed approximately 325 acres of the battlefield land where some of the fiercest fighting occurred. Today, the park's authorized boundary extends over some 712 acres, of which the NPS currently owns approximately 650 acres. The park includes much of the core area of the battlefield,⁹³ but encompasses only a small percentage of the nearly 4,000 acres considered to constitute the battlefield in its entirety. The park comprises six units: the Nashville Pike unit, which includes Stones River National Cemetery and the Hazen Brigade Monument; McFadden Farm unit; the Rosecrans's Headquarters site;

91. *Ibid.*, 11–12.

92. Much of this overview was adapted from the *Final General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* for Stones River National Battlefield, November 1998, 77–83.

93. Civil War Sites Advisory Commission *Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields* (Washington: National Park Service, 1993), 22. **Core areas** are within the study area of a battlefield and include only those places where the combat engagement and key associated actions and features were located. Core areas include, among other things, what often is described as “hallowed ground.” **Study areas** include all places related or contributing to the battle event: where troops deployed and maneuvered before, during, and after the engagement. They are the maximum delineation of the historical site and provide more of the tactical context of a battle than do the core areas.

90. Patrick W. Andrus, National Register Bulletin 40: *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America's Historic Battlefields* (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1992), 11.

Bragg's Headquarters site; Fortress Rosecrans; Redoubt Brannan; and Fortress Rosecrans: Curtain Wall No. 2 and Lunettes Palmer and Thomas. The largest of these is the Nashville Pike unit. This 480-acre parcel is located primarily south of the Old Nashville Highway, and encompasses the landscape where General Bragg's Confederate forces turned the Union flank and were in turn checked by massed Federal artillery. The park also includes two tiny parcels that mark the headquarters sites of the two commanders—Generals Bragg and Rosecrans—and a portion of high ground near McFadden's Ford—the McFadden Farm unit—where much of the Union artillery was stationed. In addition, the park contains fragments of Fortress Rosecrans—the largest enclosed earthwork built during the Civil War—and Stones River National Cemetery, documentation and analysis of which is not included in this study. For the purposes of this study, the Hazen Brigade Monument is addressed as a separate character area due to the fact that it is located across Old Nashville Highway from the rest of the Nashville Pike unit.

Stones River National Battlefield is located in Rutherford County, Tennessee, three miles northwest of downtown Murfreesboro and twenty-eight miles southeast of Nashville. It is adjacent to and within a major northwest-to-southeast transportation corridor consisting of the CSX Corporation railroad tracks, the Old Nashville Highway, and the New Nashville Highway (U.S. Highway 41/70S). The McFadden Farm unit is located between Thompson Lane and Van Cleve Lane. General Rosecrans's Headquarters Site is located northwest of the Nashville Pike Unit. The Hazen Brigade Monument is located along the Old Nashville Highway, across from the Nashville Pike Unit and east of Van Cleve Lane. The General Bragg Headquarters Site is found southeast of the Nashville Pike Unit and adjacent to the Stones River Greenway's General Bragg trailhead and parking lot. The remnants of Fortress Rosecrans—Lunettes Palmer and Thomas, Curtain Wall No. 2, and Redoubt Brannan—are located just northwest of downtown Murfreesboro amidst a relatively heavily developed area. Lunettes Palmer and Thomas and Curtain Wall No. 2 abut the City of Murfreesboro's Old Fort Park located near the intersection of Routes 96 and 99. Redoubt

Brannan sits directly north of the Lunettes and Curtain Wall parcel and is accessed by West College Street.

The park lies within a Tennessee physiographic region known as the Inner Basin, a gently rolling area of about 600 square miles surrounded by steeper hills. Much of the region is characterized by karst topography, with outcroppings of thickly-bedded Ridley limestone occurring within the Nashville Pike unit and along the two forks of the Stones River. These outcroppings played an important role during the battle: the thickly-bedded limestone outcroppings provided cover for the troops, yet prevented the movement of artillery pieces and wagons. The McFadden Farm unit and General Bragg Headquarters site are underlain by Pierce and Murfreesboro limestones that form outcrops along the banks of Stones River. Most of the groundwater in the region is found in solution cavities and cracks in limestone bedrock, and at least one cave and a number of sinkholes—typical of karst topography—are found within the park's boundaries.

In general, the park occupies level or gently rolling land that drops steeply along the banks of Stones River. Elevations range from about 520 feet to 600 feet above sea level. Stones River flows east along much of the park, yet also forms the northern edge of the McFadden Farm unit and runs west of the Fortress Rosecrans units. The banks of Stones River rise to a height of forty feet above the stream corridor in several places. It was the high ground along the western edge of Stones River that gave Union artillery the advantage over Confederate soldiers who approached from the east in the final battle action. Except for these areas of high ground, much of the park lies within the Stones River 100-year floodplain.

The park is encompassed within Braun's (1950) Western Mesophytic Forest Region. Overall, the park contains more than 500 species of plants, which not only promote vegetative diversity but also create and support wildlife habitats. According to the 1998 General Management Plan (GMP), the woody vegetation of the Nashville Pike unit consists of open farmland and scattered forests of mixed hardwood and cedar, similar to the vegetative composition that existed during the battle. In the vicinity of the visitor center,

much of the landscape is maintained in mown lawn, which is a deviation from the Civil War period. The park has worked diligently to manage vegetation to approximate 1863 conditions. However, invasive alien plant species such as privet and Japanese honeysuckle, which are difficult to control, have become an integral part of these communities, altering their character from mid-nineteenth century conditions.

Woodlands at Stones River include cedar forests, and mixed hardwood and cedar forests in various stages of secondary succession. Some of the cedar stands are very dense, as during the Civil War period. Red cedar is a shade intolerant species that can be replaced by hardwoods over time. The principal hardwood species that can be found within the area include chinquapin oak, black and northern red oak, white and blue ash, elm, honeylocust, American beech, sweetgum, hackberry, and hickory. Stream and river margins are typically colonized by hardwood communities of river birch, black willow, and cottonwood.

An important and distinctive environmental feature of the park's landscape is its approximately forty-three acres of limestone glade community. Glades are found within the Nashville Pike, McFadden Farm, and Fortress Rosecrans units of the park. A 185-acre area that encompasses the heart of the cedar glade ecosystem in the park was officially designated a Tennessee State Natural Area in 2003.⁹⁴

Glades form in areas where limestone is at or near the ground surface on southern, western, and northwestern facing slopes. The plant communities that colonize the shallow soils of the glades are primarily herbaceous—annuals and perennials—and require high light conditions. Some species are allelopathic—they emit compounds that leach into the soil around them that inhibit the growth of other species. Adapted to the deeper soil pockets and vertical crevices in the rock outcrops is Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), which often occurs in

conjunction with glade privet (*Forestiera ligustrina*) and aromatic sumac (*Rhus aromatica*). Where soil over the local Ridley limestone is very shallow, permanent and substantive tree growth is precluded. The plants that are adapted to the mass-heat relationships of the exposed bedrock and the alkaline properties of the limestone are relatively rare and unique to the glade ecosystem. Many of these plant species are listed as endangered or threatened because their habitat is limited, very fragile, and diminishing. Shading out of the glade species by Eastern red cedar trees is often a factor in glade habitat deterioration; the trees shade the herbaceous plants around them to the point where they can no longer survive, and cools the substrate below, and the leaf litter further affects the glade-adapted species by altering the soil pH. Eastern red cedar is highly sensitive to fire and would have been kept in check naturally by drought and fire.

Over the course of the year, ephemeral species come and go in response to climate and moisture conditions. Beginning as early as mid-February, glade cress dominates wet areas within the glades. By the time summer arrives, these plants have set seed and died back. As spring progresses, a host of deep rooted perennial species—many of which are endemic to the glades—blossoms. They include Nashville breadroot (*Pedimelum subacaulis*), glade scorpion-weed (*Phacelia dubia*), Tennessee milk-vetch, and Gattinger's prairie-clover (*Dalea gattingeri*). A different suite of species is evident in the summer. The summer flowers include the Tennessee purple coneflower and limestone fameflower. Annual and perennial grasses are also notable during the summer. These include Elliot's broomsedge (*Andropogon gyrans*), splitbeard broomsedge (*Andropogon ternarius*), slimspike three-awned grass (*Aristida longespica*), and poverty grass (*Sporobolus vaginiflorus*). During dry periods, prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia humifusa*) and other xerophytes become more prevalent.

Glades throughout the middle Tennessee region are threatened by development, rendering these communities rare and worthy of protection beyond the presence of their listed species. They are typically delicate and can easily be damaged by cultural activities and grazing livestock.

94. "Stones River Cedar Glade and Barrens Class II Natural-Scientific State Natural Area," Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Natural Areas, <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/natareas/stonesriver/> (accessed May 24, 2006).

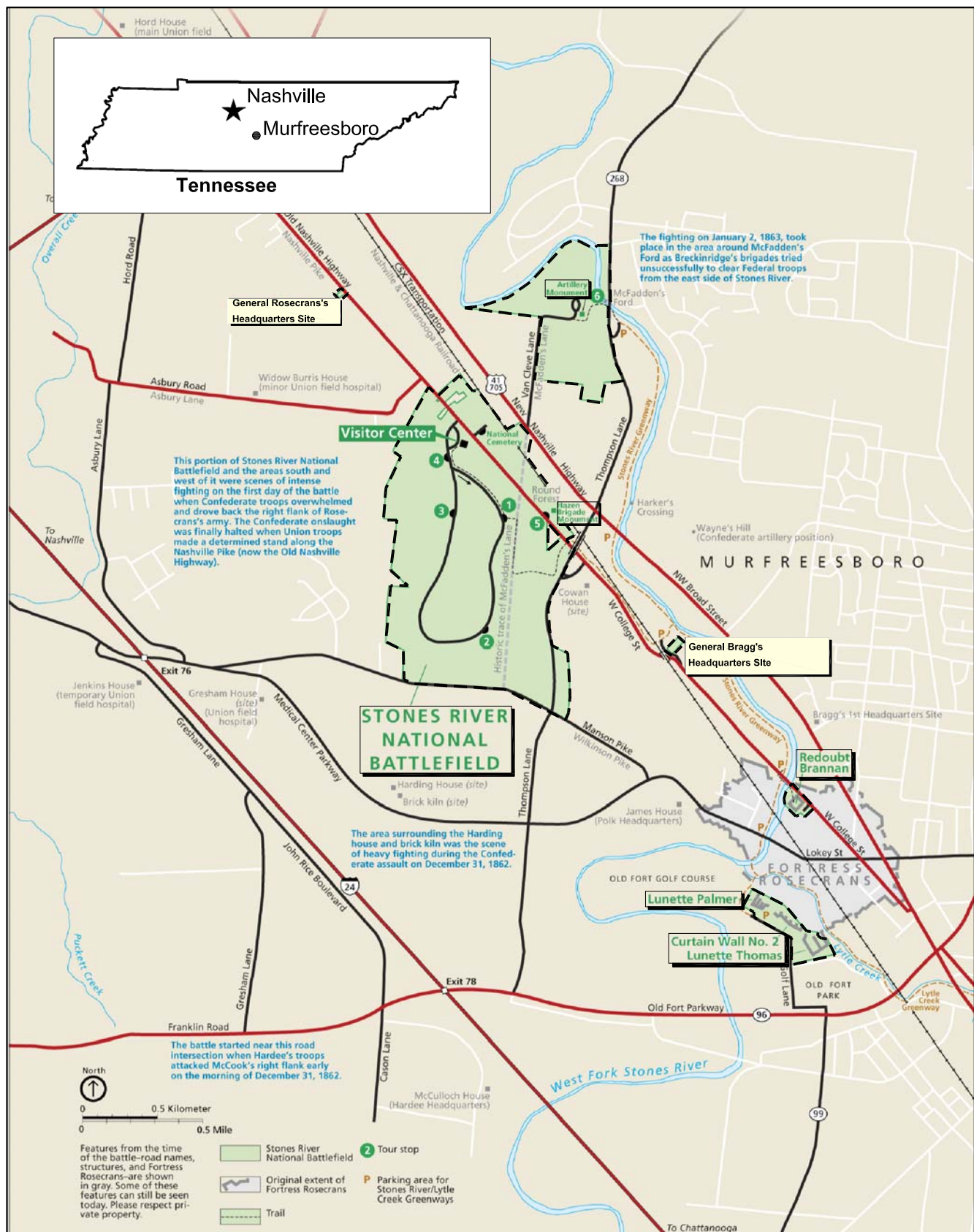
The Federally-listed endangered plant species found in the park include:

- Tennessee purple coneflower (*Echinacea tennesseensis*)
- Pyne's (Guthrie's) ground-plum (*Astragalus bibullatus*)

In addition, the following plant species are listed as threatened or of special concern by the State of Tennessee and have been documented in the park:

- Eastern blue-star (*Amsonia tabernaemontana* var. *gattingeri*)
- Western hairy rockcress (*Arabis hirsuta*)
- Tennessee milk-vetch (*Astragalus tennesseensis*)
- Evolvulus (*Evolvulus nuttalianus*)
- Tennessee glade cress (*Leavenworthia exigua* var. *exigua*)
- Limestone fame-flower (*Talinum calcaricum*)

The features and facets described above combine to make Stones River National Battlefield a place of both historical and ecological importance. Through the physical conditions that exist at present, visitors have the potential to understand the key events of the battle, as well as learn about and enjoy the natural features that affected the battlefield during the war and today.



Source: Park Map available at <http://www.nps.gov/stri/pphtml/maps.html>.

Stones River National Battlefield

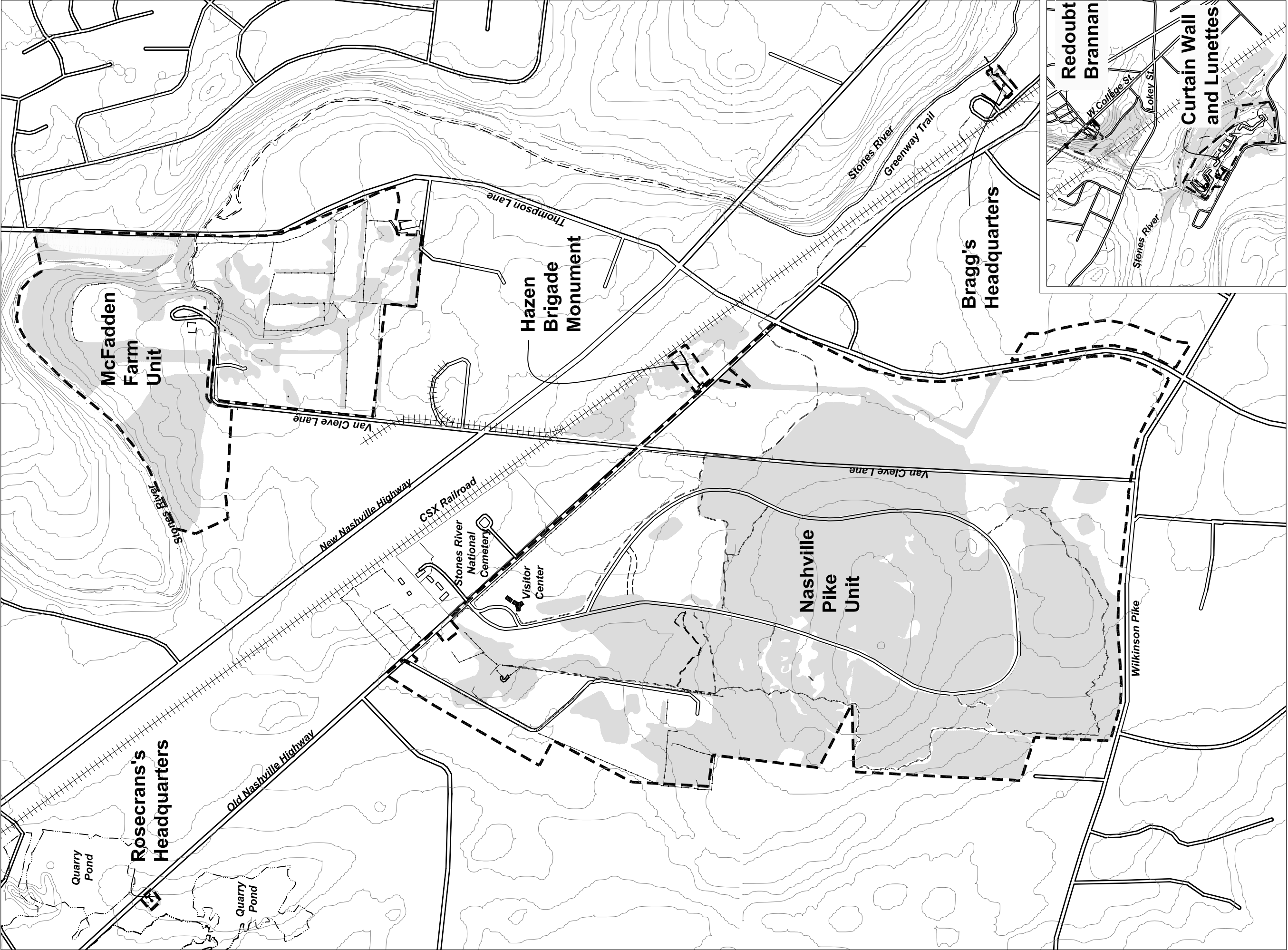
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Context and Location Map

Figure 37



NOT TO SCALE



Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Character Area | Roads |
| Boundary | Trails |
| Tree Cover | Railroad |
| Buildings/Structures | River |
| Fences | Topography |

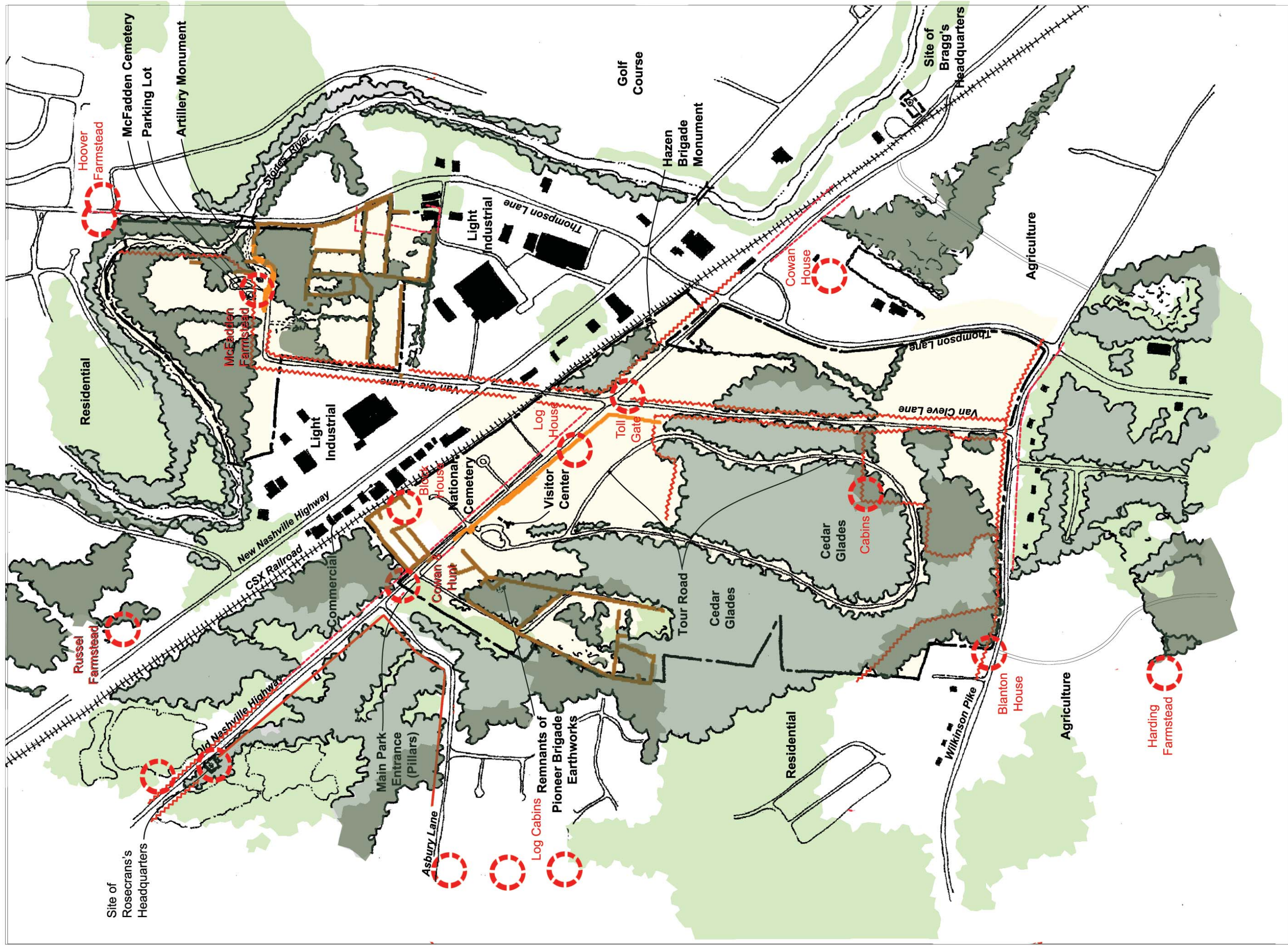
Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Character Areas Map
Figure 38



NOT TO SCALE



Legend

- Buildings
Roads
Water
Railroad Tracks
- Contributing Tree Cover
Non-contributing Tree Cover
Missing Tree Cover
Missing Feature
Park Boundary

- Contributing Fencelines
- Non-contributing Fencelines
- Missing Fencelines



Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Comparative Analysis

Figure 39

Sources:

Comparative overlay derived from Figures 3 and 35.

Existing Conditions and Analysis

This section of the chapter provides a detailed description of existing landscape features and conditions found within the project boundaries, and is organized by the character areas listed above. This section is written with an emphasis on features that support and define the historic character of the park. Contemporary site functions, visitor services, and natural resources are described to the extent that they contribute to or influence the character of the landscape and treatment recommendations made in the Treatment Plan chapter of this report.

Nashville Pike Unit

The Nashville Pike unit character area is the main unit of the park, and encompasses approximately 480 acres of land (Refer to Fig. 81). It is generally surrounded by post-Civil War residential, industrial, and commercial development on all sides, except for the Stones River National Cemetery and Hazen Brigade Monument across the pike. This character area receives the majority of visitors and contains the primary point of visitor contact: the visitor center. It includes various interpretive opportunities including a tour road with interpretive nodes, interpretive trails, and various waysides, as well as the visitor center. Special programs are often held at the park within the Nashville Pike unit.

Natural Systems and Features

The Nashville Pike unit character area is comprised of relatively level and gently rolling topography. The character area is dominated by a broad, circular knoll near its center, which is edged by the park tour road. Limestone underlies much of the character area; the landforms associated with the local geology—known as karst—are the result of weathering and dissolution of the underlying calcium-rich limestone. Over time, the ground water that percolates through fractures in the limestone has slowly dissolved and enlarged the fractures to form caves and tunnels. The limestone geology is also prone to the development of sinkholes, or depressions formed by the solution and collapse of underlying beds of limestone. Sinkholes, at



FIGURE 40. Limestone outcroppings near the Slaughter Pen.

least one cave, and limestone outcroppings are present within the Nashville Pike unit. Limestone outcroppings are particularly noticeable along the trail leading to the Slaughter Pen, where General Sheridan made a stand against Confederate forces (Fig. 40).

Several slope and depressional wetlands are found within this character area, mainly to the north, west, and east of the knoll. Depressional wetlands occur in topographic depressions, and retain water from precipitation, groundwater discharge, and interflow; these wetlands are found close to the area's western boundary and between Van Cleve Lane and Thompson Lane. Slope wetlands typically occur on sloping land where groundwater is discharged to the land surface. These wetlands are found along the tour road in closer proximity to the visitor center. Further information on the park wetlands is provided in Thomas H. Roberts and Kenneth L. Morgan, *Inventory and Classification of Wetlands at Stones River National Battlefield, Murfreesboro, Tennessee*.

Spatial Organization

At a broad level, the Nashville Pike unit character area is spatially divided into areas of field and forest. Much of this character area is covered in woodlands, but many important viewsheds and historically-farmed fields are maintained in open cover for interpretation purposes. Open fields are most prevalent along the northern, eastern, and southern edges of the character area. Fence lines also contribute to patterns of spatial

organization. Fences occur along boundaries of Federal ownership as well as to convey historic fence lines known to have existed during the Civil War.

Vehicular circulation features also help define space within and around the character area. The most obvious edge is formed by the Old Nashville Highway, which edges the unit to its north.⁹⁵ To the east, Thompson Lane edges much of the character area, except for a thin strip of land that falls to its east in the far southeastern corner of the park. Wilkinson Pike forms the area's southern boundary.

Within the Nashville Pike unit, the park tour road creates a vehicular corridor through wooded areas. Van Cleve Lane—a road that was present during the battle but is now closed to public vehicular traffic—splits the Nashville Pike unit along a north/south line east of the tour road.

The visitor center and adjacent parking lot and loop road form a space or place that conveys a feeling that is unique to the unit. This space is defined by mown turf dotted with shade and ornamental trees edged by woodland to the west, a cedar grove to the south, and the Old Nashville Highway to the north and east.

The Pioneer Brigade earthworks parcel is also unusual in its spatial character due to its relative isolation from the remainder of the Nashville Pike unit and deciduous hardwood cover.

The toll house site comprises a third place or space within this character area (Fig. 41). The toll house site is marked by a break in the picket fence along Old Nashville Highway and by four small markers that denote the corners of the missing building.

Land Use

Land uses within this character area consist of museum/education, including various interpretive activities within the visitor center



FIGURE 41. Toll house site on Old Nashville Highway.



FIGURE 42. Park tour road as it curves near Tour Road Stop Two.

and the battlefield landscape; recreation, such as jogging, biking, picnicking, and hiking; administration, through the use of the visitor center as the park headquarters; and agriculture, comprised of hay cut and harvested, and crop fields planted and harvested. Scientific research and conservation also occur in association with the cedar glade areas and the park's protection of threatened and endangered species.

Circulation

Both pedestrian and vehicular circulation are accommodated within the Nashville Pike unit. The primary vehicular circulation features are associated with the visitor center and the paved tour road that begins and ends at the facility, forming an oblong loop through much of the

⁹⁵ Old Nashville Highway forms the northern boundary of the character area within this report. The official northern boundary is formed by the CSX Corporation railroad tracks that edge Stones River National Cemetery.

character area (Fig. 42). There are five designated tour stops along the tour road, four of which are associated with short trails. The first tells the story of the “Eve of the Battle,” the second of the “Slaughter Pen,” the third focuses on the “Cotton Field” where retreating Union troops established a last line of defense along the railroad and turnpike, and the fourth depicts the “Defense of the Nashville Pike.” These stops are marked by small asphalt-paved parking areas (Fig. 43). These parking areas are associated with interpretive opportunities composed either of wayside exhibits that describe the importance of the various landscapes adjacent to the stop, or trailheads for pedestrian routes that provide connections to interpretive areas located farther away. Additionally, there is a parking area located along the southwestern margin of the tour road that provides access to the Boundary Trail. It includes a picnic area. The tour road as it currently exists was developed during the Mission 66 era. It overlays a portion of the original park tour road established in the late 1920s and early 1930s. The tour road is generally in good condition, but reconfiguration of its orientation and alignment is currently under consideration to enhance park interpretation and to direct visitors away from the sensitive cedar glades.

Van Cleve Lane (LCS ID 007036), also known as McFadden’s Lane or Bowen Lane, is a historic route that was present at the time of the Battle of Stones River. Van Cleve Lane is closed to public vehicular traffic but is used as an access route for park personnel (Fig. 44). The road extends north/south between the Wilkinson or Manson Pike and the Old Nashville Highway. The northern entrance from the Old Nashville Highway (LCS ID 007037) is blocked by worm rail fencing, while the southern entrance along Wilkinson Pike is gated. Currently surfaced in chip-and-seal, the historic road is in fair to poor condition. A portion of the road is caved in due to a sinkhole and the road margins are eroding. Another section of this historic route extends north of U.S. Highway 41/70S and provides access to the McFadden Farm unit.

A second vehicular road provides access to the earthwork located on the Pioneer Brigade parcel (Fig. 45). This gravel road, known as Nickens Lane, is also closed to public vehicular use. It is in fair condition, with some vegetation growing



FIGURE 43. Small parking lot along the tour road.



FIGURE 44. Van Cleve Lane as it runs through the Nashville Pike Unit. Note poor road edge conditions.



FIGURE 45. Gravel road that accesses and extends through the Pioneer Brigade parcel in the northwest corner of the character area.

in the road prism. The date of origin of this road is not currently known, but it does not appear on maps of the site during the period of significance and is not likely a historic feature.

The pedestrian circulation within the character area includes two official trail systems, as well as walks associated with the visitor center and connections to the cemetery across the street and the interpretive nodes at tour road stops. There are also numerous unofficial social trails that lead through portions of the park. The official trails are the unpaved Boundary Trail and the asphalt-surfaced Cotton Field Trail. The three-and-one-half mile Boundary Trail leads from Tour Road Stop Two along the southern and western portions of the park's boundary before ending at the visitor center (Fig. 46). Connections to the trail are afforded, as noted above, from the small parking area in the southwestern corner of the park, and from Tour Stop Three. Trails extend west from Tour Stop One, and between the visitor center and Tour Stop One. The Boundary Trail and Cedar Trail were established circa 1970s and are generally in good condition.

The Cotton Field Trail, established 1998–1999, begins at the visitor center, extends eastward along the tour road, across Van Cleve Lane and an agricultural field. This trail links to a larger trail system that follows the Old Nashville Pike before providing a spur trail connection to the City of Murfreesboro Stones River Greenway Trail. It is also generally in good condition.



FIGURE 46. The Boundary Trail.

Although difficult to quantify, there are a number of social trails that occur within the wooded areas of the park (Fig. 47). Park staff have observed evidence of foot traffic, vandalism, and bicycle use in association with these trails. Of particular concern are the trails that run through sensitive ecological environments such as the cedar glades. The date of origin of these trails is not known, but they certainly post-date the period of significance. Further use of these features should be discouraged, and therefore their condition is not under consideration.

At the visitor center, concrete sidewalks edge many of the parking spaces and lead to the entrance of the building. The parking lot and sidewalks were initially developed in 1963 as part of the construction of the visitor center, and the sidewalk was reconstructed on its original location in 2004 as part of the renovation of the visitor center.

The final circulation feature associated with the unit is a mulch trail that leads from the parking area through an opening in the four-rail worm fence that edges the unit along the Old Nashville Pike and provides a pedestrian connection to the National Cemetery entrance. The date of origin of this feature is not currently known, but it post-dates the period of significance.

Vegetation

The Nashville Pike unit includes a wide range of vegetation types and communities. In association



FIGURE 47. Social trail located within the tour road loop.

with the visitor center, native plantings are primarily of cultural origin and ornamental in their intent. The unit also includes large expanses of open fields used to interpret agricultural conditions and spatial patterns at the time of the battle. These are maintained variously in exhibit crop fields and warm-season grass fields. Much of the remainder of the park is wooded. Woodlands are a combination of secondary and tertiary successional growth of deciduous hardwoods and groves of Eastern red cedar trees. Cedar glades occur in areas where limestone bedrock is nearly exposed. Invasive alien plants are present in many of the naturally occurring and succeeding areas. Some are of particular concern for the threat they pose to native species, the manner in which they limit Civil War era restoration attempts, and the difficulty and expense their control poses.

In the vicinity of the visitor center, the majority of the plantings are designed and ornamental in nature, and set within an overall expanse of mown turf. The palette is primarily native deciduous trees and shrubs used in association with the entrance, parking lot, and around the foundation of the building. Plantings also include a few evergreen shrubs and trees, and flowering perennials. Tree species include: redbud (*Cercis canadensis*); dogwood (*Cornus florida*); black cherry (*Prunus serotina*); sycamore (*Platanus sp.*); tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*); sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*); sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*); oaks (*Quercus spp.*); southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*); Eastern red cedar; American holly (*Ilex americana*); hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*); and red maple (*Acer rubrum*). Juniper shrubs (*Juniperus sp.*) adorned the entrance gates but were removed in late 2006. Perennials and ornamental grasses include black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia sp.*); Tennessee purple coneflower; glade phlox (*Phlox bifida*); and river oats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*). The ornamental plantings in the vicinity of the visitor center are generally in good condition.

In the 1970s, a dense linear grove of Eastern red cedar was planted between the visitor center and Tour Road Stop Three (Fig. 48). The plantings were intended to recreate an important battle landscape feature as identified in Edwin Bearss' "Fence and Ground Cover Map," which interprets the landscape at the time of the battle.



FIGURE 48. Dense cedar plantings found on the northbound portion of the tour road, close to the visitor center.

Today, the trees help to screen views of the visitor center from a portion of the tour road.

The wooded portions of the Nashville Pike unit character area include a range of vegetation classification categories, primarily Temperate Needle-Leaved Evergreen Forests, Submontane Cold-Deciduous Forest, and Cedar Glades and Barrens Complex. Within these categories are Eastern red cedar successional forest, Southern Interior Low Plateau Chinquapin Oak/Redbud/Rusty Blackhaw Forest, Nashville Basin Shumard Oak-Chinquapin Oak forest, and a range of communities associated with the cedar glades and barrens complex. Hardwood stands are typically dominated by oaks, hickories, winged elm, hackberry, and white ash. Hardwood and mixed forest stands were present at the time of the battle, but their current configuration and composition is not consistent with historic conditions. The woodlands are downgraded to fair condition due to the presence of invasive species such as Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), and Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*). Eastern red cedar forests are also known to have existed at the time of the battle, and played an important role in the events of the battle. The exact configuration and composition of red cedar stands during the battle is closely, but not exactly, represented in the park today. The red cedar forests are currently in fair condition due to problems associated with invasive alien plants.

Cedar glades dot the Nashville Pike unit, but are particularly prevalent in the southern half of the



FIGURE 49. Cotton growing in a field used to interpret historic field and forest patterns.

unit near its center. As described above, the glades are natural openings in Eastern red cedar successional forests that have limestone bedrock at or near the surface of the ground. The rock is bare or covered with thin soil and populated by herbaceous plants.⁹⁶ The glades support a community of specially-adapted plant species, many of which are found only in glade habitat. State and federal lists of threatened and endangered plants include two known to exist within the park: the Tennessee coneflower and Pyne's (Guthrie's) ground-plum, both of which were planted.⁹⁷ Glades were present at the time

of the Battle of Stones River. The glades are also in fair condition, currently suffering from pedestrian use and shading by encroaching cedars, and possibly from changes in hydrology caused by construction of the tour road in the 1930s by the War Department.

Agricultural crop fields are also present within the Nashville Pike unit. A number of fields are planted with soybeans, cotton, or warm-season grasses to interpret historic field patterns as they existed during the Civil War battle (Fig. 49). Many of the fields that are not maintained in crop cover contain tall fescue (*Festuca arundinaceae*) and other exotic and native grasses and forbs, such as Johnson grass (*Sorghum halapense*).⁹⁸ The park's conversion of former crop fields to native warm-season grass fields is relatively recent. The agricultural fields are generally in good to fair condition. The

96. Dennis Horn and Tavia Cathcart, eds., *Wildflowers of Tennessee, the Ohio Valley, and the Southern Appalachians* (Auburn, Washington: Lone Pine Publishing and the Tennessee Native Plant Society, 2005), 34.

97. National Park Service, "Natural Resources: Cedar Glades." National Park Service Stones River National Battlefield, http://www.nps.gov/stri/natural_cedarglades.htm (accessed December 12, 2005)

98. NPS Vegetation Map from GIS.

presence of invasive plants, such as Johnson grass and musk thistle, diminishes the rating to fair when present.

Invasive plant species clearly pose a problem in this character area. Those of particular concern include Chinese privet, musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*), Japanese honeysuckle, bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), winter honeysuckle (*Lonicera fragrantissima*), climbing euonymus (*Euonymus fortunei*), and Johnson grass. Also of concern are the large stands of poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) located throughout the park, particularly along the trails and in other areas frequented by visitors.

Buildings and Structures

Several buildings and structures exist within the Nashville Pike unit character area. These range from the visitor center, to earthen fortifications built during the Civil War, and stone entrance piers and culverts associated with the park tour road.

The primary building within the park is the visitor center (Fig. 50), which contains interpretive and museum displays, a cooperating association store, restrooms, and park offices. The visitor center was constructed in 1961–1963 as a Mission 66 project. The original plan included three equal wings at 120-degree angles arranged around a central hexagonal lobby space. The visitor center was greatly remodeled

and expanded in 2003–2004. As remodeled, the visitor center is a one-story building with a partial basement. Each of the original three wings was extended to form an irregular plan. All exterior materials were replaced as part of this work; the building is now clad with limestone veneer and a synthetic stucco exterior insulating finish system (EIFS), and the roof is standing seam sheet metal. The building is generally in good condition.

The Pioneer Brigade earthwork is located within the woodlands west of the visitor center (Fig. 51). This Civil War era earthen fortification structure is not currently interpreted. It consists of shallow entrenchments—used as a rifle pit to reinforce an artillery battery located to the rear—forming an angled shape with the narrow end pointing toward the west. The rifle pit is currently covered in leaf litter from the deciduous hardwood trees growing in and around the structure. This feature is in fair condition due to signs of soil erosion. Within and around the structure, trash, including bottles and cans, was observed during 2005 field investigations.

The vehicular entrance to the park and visitor center is marked by a pair of entrance piers and gates (Fig. 52). Constructed in the early 1930s, the piers are tall, square structures constructed of limestone block with pyramidal cannonball caps. Low limestone block wing walls extend from the interior of the pillars toward the entrance road; these were added to the piers as part of the



FIGURE 50. View of the visitor center from the southeast.



FIGURE 51. Section of the Pioneer Brigade earthworks.

Mission 66-era visitor center improvements (Figs. 77 and 78). Swinging wood gates block the entrance to the park during off-hours. The entrance piers are in good condition; the gates are in fair condition.

Culverts are utilized along the tour road to permit passage of water beneath the road. Just past the area where the tour road begins to be one-way, there are two large, round, corrugated metal culverts. Stone headwalls are located on either side of the road and at the ends of the culverts (Fig. 53). These large culverts carry water from a wide drainage swale established in the 1970s that was extended in association with the construction of the Cotton Field trail in 1998–1999. The culverts may have been established in conjunction with the tour road improvements conducted in 1963. A second, smaller corrugated

pipe culvert with a stone headwall is located closer to Tour Road Stop One (Fig. 54). It is in good condition. Its date of origin is not currently known. Nearby is a rectangular stone pit filled with limestone rubble (Fig. 55). This feature may have been a drainage structure. Its date of origin is not currently known. The feature is in poor condition. Additional culverts are located along the tour road once it enters the wooded portion of the park. These structures typically consist of corrugated metal pipe edged by battered stone headwalls (Fig. 56). These culverts were likely constructed as part of the Mission 66-era tour road improvements. They are generally in fair condition due to the presence of a fair amount of organic growth. Finally, an L-shaped culvert and concrete headwall is found near Tour Road Stop Two (Fig. 57). The date of origin of this feature is not currently known, but it most likely post-



FIGURE 52. Limestone entrance piers and wooden gates designating the park's public entrance.



FIGURE 53. Large corrugated pipe culverts with a stone headwall.



FIGURE 56. Corrugated pipe culvert with a battered stone headwall. Note large amount of organic growth on the stones.



FIGURE 54. Small corrugated pipe culvert with a stone headwall.



FIGURE 57. Pipe culvert and L-shaped concrete headwall near Tour Road Stop Two.



FIGURE 55. Open drainage structure found along the southbound portion of the tour road.

dates the period of significance. It is in fair condition due to some erosion and deposition issues associated with intake and outflow.

Views and Vistas

The most prominent views and vistas within the Nashville Pike unit landscape are those available when looking across the open fields. The low height of the warm-season grasses and crops, and the broad, level topography, afford expansive views. The views from the tour road—both northbound and southbound—looking across the former cotton fields are particularly striking (Fig. 58 and 59). These views also show glimpses of the railroad tracks to the north and east that would have been available during the battle. The view from the end of the Tour Road Stop Two trail toward Wilkinson Pike is also compelling, particularly as the vista opens up at the edge of the woodland (Fig. 60).

Recent removal of exotic species from the park has served to open the understory of the woodlands in some areas. Portions of the cedar glades are relatively free of woody vegetation, affording some more open views, particularly in winter.

Views across Old Nashville Highway and Wilkinson Pike include commercial and residential development (Fig. 57 and 60) and are therefore in fair to poor condition.

Small-scale Features

Small-scale features located within the Nashville Pike unit include signage, site furnishings, fencing, interpretive exhibits, and utility lines and poles. These features all post-date the period of significance and relate to Mission 66 park improvements, or later programs.

At the visitor center, small-scale features support visitor uses, safety, and comfort. Picnic tables allow visitors to eat meals within the park, while bicycle racks provide a place to store and lock bicycles. Brown-painted wood benches and stone seat walls provide seating (Fig. 61 and 62). Two types of trash cans provide containers for refuse (Fig. 63 and 64). These include a wood-slat model and a green metal model. A flagpole stands close to the visitor center. All of these features are in good condition.



FIGURE 58. View across open fields within the Nashville Pike Unit. View shows Old Nashville Highway, railroad tracks, and industrial development in the distance.



FIGURE 59. View across open fields from the northbound portion of the tour road.

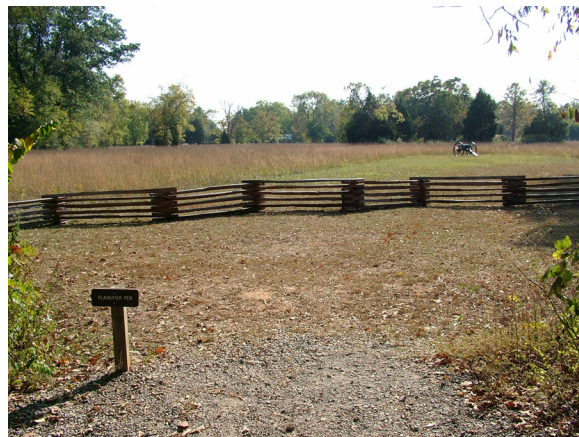


FIGURE 60. Vista into the Slaughter Pen field after the trail exits the woods.



FIGURE 61. View across field toward development. Note large church complex in background.



FIGURE 62. Wood bench found at the visitor center.



FIGURE 63. Stone seat walls in front of the visitor center.



FIGURE 64. Wood-slat trash can at the visitor center.



FIGURE 65. Green metal trash can at the visitor center.



FIGURE 66. Contemporary park sign near the front of the visitor center.

Multiple types of signage exist throughout the Nashville Pike unit character area. The largest signs are the two NPS park identity signs. The older park sign was installed in 1963 and consists of a square brick pier placed at one end of a rectangular wooden signboard; a new signboard was installed circa 1992. The wooden sign rests on a low brick base. A compartment in the rear of the sign holds a functional traffic counter and a water hook-up that no longer works. This sign is in fair condition. The second park identity sign was installed in 2004 and is located next to the visitor center (Fig. 65). This brown, rectangular sign is supported by two posts. It is in good condition.

Also near the visitor center is a small, brown, plastic directional sign that points the way to the Cotton Field Trail. Small, wooden signs with routed letters designate “Areas Closed For Restoration” along the tour road. These wood signs also denote special areas of the park, such as “Slaughter Pen” and “Eve of Battle.” Painted metal elongated-hexagonal wayside exhibits placed in the mid-1960s describe events of the battle as they relate to the surrounding landscape (Fig. 66). These signs are found at each tour stop. All of the park’s interpretive and directional signs are in good condition except the hexagonal wayside exhibits, which show evidence of deterioration and vandalism and are therefore in



FIGURE 67. Typical hexagonal metal interpretive sign found throughout the park. Note damaged photograph.



FIGURE 68. Worm rail fencing found throughout the park, typically along park boundaries. Visible in the distance is one Civil War-era cannon and one replica cannon.



FIGURE 69. Rustic picket fence found along Old Nashville Highway east of Van Cleve Lane.



FIGURE 70. Worm rail fence blockades used to prohibit access to certain areas of the park. This blockade is found at the southern intersection of Van Cleve Lane and Old Nashville Highway.



FIGURE 71. Two-post and rail wood fence found between Van Cleve Lane and the visitor center.



FIGURE 72. Civil War-era cannon are used throughout the park to interpret the battle.



FIGURE 73. Large drain inlet found at the intersection of Van Cleve Lane and Wilkinson Pike. The spacing of the bars that create the inlet grate may be too wide and pose a hazard to the public.

fair physical condition. The park rates their condition as poor due to the outdated nature of the interpretive material.

At least three types of fencing are found within the character area.⁹⁹ Wooden worm rail fencing is the most prevalent, edging most of the park's boundaries and tour stops (Fig. 68). A picket fence edges the southern side of Old Nashville Highway east of Van Cleve Lane (Fig. 69). Four-rail-high worm rail fencing is used to prevent access to certain portions of the park, such as Van Cleve Lane (Fig. 70). Post and rail fencing lines the southern edge of Old Nashville Highway between Van Cleve Lane and the visitor center (Fig. 71). Worm rail fences intended to represent historic fence lines are typically six rails high, while four-rail-high worm fence is used to demarcate park boundaries. Fencing is generally in good condition.

Civil War-era cannon are used throughout the Nashville Pike unit to help visitors understand the positions of soldiers and artillery during the battle (Fig. 72). Most of the cannon within this character area are original, although the carriages are reproductions.¹⁰⁰ There is one non-original cannon located south of the cemetery along Old Nashville Highway. These cannon are in good condition. Near the Slaughter Pen, two purposefully damaged cannon help illustrate the difficulty of moving wheeled cannon and caissons through the limestone outcroppings.

Utility lines and poles stretch across the visitor center node and the southeastern agricultural field. These utility systems are generally in good condition. Large drain inlets are found at the intersection of Van Cleve Lane and Wilkinson Pike (Fig. 73). These inlets are in fair condition

99. The terms *picket fence* and *post and rail fence* were taken from Edwin Bearss' "Fence and Ground Cover Map." In this report, the term *worm rail fence* is used instead of Bearss' term *rail fence*.

100. Possibly, most of the Civil War-era cannon displayed in the park were placed on the site in the 1940s. Refer to the memorandum by George F. Emery, Assistant Historical Technician, National Park Service, "Artillery Needs, Stones River National Military Park," January 6, 1941, which includes a list of types of cannon to be provided to the park.

due to the presence of vegetation growing in them, which potentially blocks the intake system.

Comparative Analysis

The Nashville Pike unit retains features and characteristics of the landscape that existed at the time of the Battle of Stones River, including its landform and topography; broad patterns of spatial organization relating to landform and landcover derived from field and forest areas; broad views of open spaces within park boundaries and toward the railroad; limited views of open space located on nearby properties; Van Cleve Lane; and the Pioneer Brigade earthworks, constructed during the Civil War. Buildings and structures that are missing from the historic battlefield landscape include a toll gate along the Nashville Pike, cabins, and a log house. Also missing are some of the field patterns, fencelines, and some of the woodland

that existed at the time of the battle.

Commemorative era features that survive from the early park development period (1927–1931) that contribute to the site’s history include the entrance piers along the Old Nashville Pike, and a portion of the original tour road. Additions to the landscape that post-date the period of significance include the visitor center, portions of the tour road and its associated parking pull-offs, park site furnishings, fencing, signage, trails, utility poles and lines, and limited areas of woodland and fields or mown turf that are not consistent with historic patterns of spatial organization (Fig. 39). One of the features missing from the early park development period is the pair of entrance pillars, similar to those that survive along Old Nashville Highway, placed at the second park entrance along Van Cleve Lane. Patterns of spatial organization and land cover associated with the early park development period are not considered in this comparative analysis, although they are a key



FIGURE 74. Proposed mixed used developments adjacent to the park boundaries. The Nashville Pike unit is the wooded area at top center. The purple line at center is a proposed road intersecting the recently completed Medical Center Parkway.

element of the comparison of battle conditions with conditions present today.

The major periods of change associated with the landscape of the Nashville Pike unit character area includes the late nineteenth/early twentieth century establishment of a small African American community along the Old Nashville Pike, establishment of the park between 1927–1931, and the Mission 66 period, circa 1956–1966, which resulted in the construction of the visitor center and tour road. Changes to the unit's setting have been dramatic with industrial, commercial, transportation, and residential development heavily altering views from the park. This development is anticipated to continue in the future. For example, one road, Garrison Drive, was constructed in the vicinity of the park's eastern boundary in 2006, and there are plans to build a second road as well as a mixed-use development south of the park (Fig. 74).

Changes wrought on behalf of development of the park in the 1930s included removal of the African American community along the Nashville Pike, and manipulation of land cover to approximate more closely battlefield conditions but also to enhance the appearance of the park. Work conducted by the Public Works Program in 1934 and 1935 describes planting and clearing efforts undertaken at the park based on this original proposal:

Exotic plant material should be removed from within the Park and re-grouped in mass plantings within the Cemetery, and around the various entrance: . . . the shrubbery along the Highway should be taken up and re-grouped: . . . native intermediate and low shrubs [should] be purchased or collected, and planted near the Park drives to break up the fence row lines, and to underplant existing wooded areas; . . . deciduous and evergreen trees [are] needed in the large open fields and meadows to relieve the barrenness and to add more interest.¹⁰¹

Later, a more scientific approach to approximating the character of the historic battlefield landscape was considered necessary.

101. Letter from Richard B. Randolph to the Director, National Park Service regarding completion of PWA work at Stones River National Battlefield, January 25, 1935.

In 1961, National Park Historian Ed Bearrs developed a thorough and detailed “Fence and Ground Cover Map” of the Stones River battlefield consistent with his work relating to other battlefields for parks around the country. Bearrs utilized historic maps and first hand accounts of the battle to locate the fields, woods, natural resources, fencelines, buildings and structures, and roads present and influential to the events of the battle. The primary source of reliable information was a map prepared by Federal Topographical Engineer Nathaniel Michler after the war. The plan identified crop field locations, areas of tree cover and their general composition, fencelines, roads, and dwelling complexes and other buildings. For many parks, Bearrs's maps are generally considered an exceptional source of historic period information that registers historic maps of varying scales and degrees of detail to current conditions.

In 1983–1984, however, a study prepared by the Department of Geography and Geology at Middle Tennessee suggested that vegetation restoration efforts undertaken in the 1970s resulted in gross inaccuracies of landcover due to the use of an 1862 map of poor quality. Work conducted on behalf of this CLR has not determined why Bearrs's map was not utilized in these vegetation reconstruction efforts, but the 1984 study suggested that wooded areas such as the “Finger of Woods” and “Round Forest” had been inadvertently altered from their 1862 configuration based on inaccurate interpretation of historic mapping.¹⁰² More recent analysis using GIS overlay mapping, however, suggests that the existing replanted woodland area may be more accurate than previously thought, and should continue to be treated as an interpretive asset.

Since the 1980s, attempts have been made at the park to restore vegetative field-and-forest patterns using first-hand soldier accounts and maps to approximate the spatial character that existing during the battle. While the locations of the fields and forest are likely very similar to those that existed during the battle, there remain

102. Karen Joyce Ridolfo, student cartographer, “1983–1984 Stones River National Battlefield Vegetation Reconstruction Project,” Middle Tennessee State University, December 1983. The map that is described as accompanying this report was not available at the time this material was prepared.



FIGURES 75 AND 76. Stones River National Battlefield, as it was called after 1960, gained a new visitor center during the Mission 66 era of National Park Service development. Along with the visitor center, the park received a new identity sign with two faces. The sign was similar in design to those found at many other national park units around the country. Today, the sign frame remains but the rear text panel has been removed.



FIGURES 77 AND 78. The primary park entrance has been marked since the 1930s by stone pillars flanking the park road. The pillars, which were also used at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, survive from their original installation. Other elements of the original design composition associated with the pillars have been altered, as seen in these comparative views from 1934 and 2005. The central island that included a gatehouse and plantings has been removed. The plantings and fencing features that lined the road have been replaced with worm fencing. Beyond the gate, ornamental and shade trees have replaced the formerly open landscape.

inconsistencies as identified in comparing historic and contemporary mapping (Fig. 39). Also of interest is the composition and density of the forests. Dense, almost impassable, groves of cedar, referred to as cedar brakes in Civil War accounts, were an important component of the battle. At present, the understory of most park cedar groves is moderately dense but contains numerous exotic and invasive plant species that, once removed, will affect the density of the stands. Due to the fact that Eastern red cedar is a shade intolerant species, replicating the Civil War era density will not be possible without cutting and regenerating the stands from young trees. Elsewhere, particularly in hardwood stands

where livestock is known to have grazed, the understory is typically denser than during the Civil War period, diminishing the ability to interpret the historic scene and events.

Open fields and crop fields—historically corn, cotton, and hay—generally approximate their day-of-battle locations, and provide broad views and direct lines-of-sight at present as they did historically. Differences that exist in the landcover include native warm-season grass fields in locations of former crop fields or hayed or grazed meadow areas, and less extensive areas in crop fields.

Several farmsteads and a toll house were present on the battlefield within the Nashville Pike unit landscape during the battle. These are mentioned in soldier accounts and are shown on period maps. Specifically, cabins were located west of Van Cleve's Lane near the park's center and southern boundary, a toll gate was located near the intersection of the Nashville Pike with Van Cleve's Lane, a log house existed near the pike, and another in the far northwestern corner of the unit. Nearby, a Block House existed along the railroad tracks in the northwestern corner of the unit, the Blanton House existed just outside of the current park property near its southwestern corner, and the Cowan House stood near the Nashville Pike just east of the park's eastern boundary. The buildings and structures associated with these farmsteads were utilized as field hospitals or headquarters, or received collateral damage from gun and cannon fire. None of these features remain in the landscape today. The only building constructed since the battle that is extant is the 1960s visitor center, which was enlarged in 2004. In the 1920s and 1930s, an African American community evolved to the west of Van Cleve Lane near the center of the character area; the residences, churches, and roads associated with the community were removed when the land was purchased by the federal government for creation of the park.

Finally, circulation patterns have also changed a great deal since the nineteenth century, although most historic roads present at the time of the battle survive today. In 1862, the Nashville Pike was the primary circulation route between Nashville and Murfreesboro (Figs. 79 and 80). Van Cleve Lane and Wilkinson Pike were secondary, but still important, routes to the west and north of Murfreesboro. These survive today. Little or nothing is currently known about unimproved roads providing access to residential dwelling or agricultural complexes, or field or farm roads during the Civil War period. None survive today.

Beginning in the late 1920s, roads were developed to afford access to the battlefield for visitors. The first tour road constructed through the battlefield began across the Old Nashville Pike from the cemetery, and generally followed the western edge of the park before curving eastward in the lower third of the park to connect with Van Cleve Lane. The tour road was

modified in the 1960s to avoid the use of Van Cleve Lane; rather than exiting into the lane, the road was reoriented to form a loop that followed the park's eastern margin, and reconnected with the western lane just south of the visitor center. The tour road currently follows the 1960s alignment, but this route is being reconsidered at present.

The New Nashville Highway/U.S. Highway 41 was completed in the 1940s and became the primary circulation artery for the region, thus reducing the importance of the Nashville Pike. The role of the railroad for travel diminished during the twentieth century as the automobile became more available and affordable. Thompson Lane, begun in the 1960s and completed in 1994, vastly changed the physical character of the regional landscape and flow of traffic. The bridge is highly visible from the eastern end of the park, and the road allows traffic to completely bypass the park. At present, the Old Nashville and Wilkinson Pikes are used by commuters and for local transportation.

Evaluation of Integrity

The integrity of Stones River National Battlefield is assessed below for both the Civil War and early park development periods. The primary objective of the integrity assessment is to determine whether the landscape retains the ability to convey the story of the battle through its existing physical features. The integrity assessment will focus on the four primary aspects of integrity most important to battlefield assessment: location, association, setting, and feeling.

The Nashville Pike unit continues to be situated just northwest of Murfreesboro, and therefore retains integrity of location.

The character area also retains integrity of association due to the continued link between the existing landscape and the historical events of the battle. The vegetation and field patterns that currently exist approximate the day-of-battle appearance closely enough to relate the story of troop movements to visitors. The field patterns also convey the fact that the battlefield was an agricultural landscape at the time of the battle. The limestone formations in this area are still visible and provide a deeper understanding of



FIGURES 79 AND 80. The Old Nashville Highway exists in a similar alignment to that which existed at the time of the Battle of Stones River. The surface material has changed from hard-packed earth or gravel to asphalt, and the fence types along the roadway have changed over time, but the road remains similar in many locations to its historic character.

how difficult traveling across this landscape must have been and why certain routes and offensive or defensive maneuvers were chosen over others.

Integrity of feeling is the ability of the landscape to convey an historic period of time. Within this character area, the feeling of being on a rural battlefield in 1862–1863 is diminished by views to adjacent non-contributing features such as twentieth and twenty-first century residences, businesses, and churches, and roads and highways, and the loss of farmsteads and other historic buildings that are known to have been present at the time of the battle. Nonetheless, the existing field and woodland patterns and large expanses of undeveloped park land provide sufficient integrity of feeling to support the park's ability to convey this important quality of integrity.

The Nashville Pike unit does not retain integrity of setting, however, due to the loss of much of the area surrounding the park to residential, commercial, and industrial development that post-dates the period of significance. Not only have the surroundings been irreversibly altered, but much of the original battleground has been lost to development. Within the character area, the level of integrity of setting is much higher, owing to the restoration of the field and vegetation patterns. However, it is the overall setting of the park and its surroundings that no longer lends itself to conveying the breadth and scope of the battle. Overall, the Nashville Pike unit is still able to convey the events of the Battle of Stones River, and therefore retains integrity for the Civil War period.

The character area possesses integrity for the early park development period due to the continued presence of features developed to support its initial development, such as the entry gates and much of the tour road. Features that post-date the period of significance, such as the Mission 66-era additions including the Visitor Center and revised tour road, as well as later changes to these features to support interpretation and visitor use, diminish to a degree the integrity of both periods of significance due to their modern character.

Table 1. Nashville Pike Unit Landscape Features

CLR#	Landscape Feature	Condition	Signif.*	Date	Comment
N-1	Slaughter Pen limestone beds	Good	C-B	by 1863	
N-2	Wetlands	Good	U	by 1863	Some invasives present
SO-1	Field and forest patterns	Good	U	by 1863	Field and forest patterns vary in their date of origin; many were present at time of the battle; refer to Fig. 39
SO-2	Visitor Center environs	Good	NC	1963/2004	
SO-3	Pioneer Brigade earthworks	Fair	NC	1863	The node no longer retains its setting
SO-4	Toll house site	Good	NC	ca. 1842	
C-1	Park tour road	Good	C-P	1927/1963	Portion of road built in 1927 is extant and connected to Mission 66 loop road
C-2	Tour road stops	Good	NC	1963	
C-3	Van Cleve Lane (McFadden Lane)	Poor	C-B	by 1863	Road open to pedestrians and bicyclists, sections deteriorating north of battlefield, sinkhole damage within battlefield, eroding edges
C-4	Nickens Lane	Fair	NC	unknown	Some vegetation growth through gravel, not a historic road
C-5	Walking trails	Good	NC	1970s; 1999	Boundary and Cotton Field Trails
C-6	Social trails	Good	NC	20th c.	
C-7	Concrete sidewalks	Good	NC	1963/2004	
C-8	Mulch path from Visitor Center to cemetery	Good	NC	20th c.	
Ve-1	Visitor Center ornamental vegetation	Good	NC	1963/2004	
Ve-2	Mown turf	Good	NC	after 1931	
Ve-3	Cedar plantings	Good	NC	1970s	
Ve-4	Woodlands	Fair	C-B	varies	Contain invasive plant species. Refer to Fig. 39
Ve-5	Cedar glades	Good	U	varies	Being shaded by cedar and trampled by visitors. Refer to Fig. 39
Ve-6	Crop fields	Good	C-B	1970s	Soybeans, cotton in exhibit area established by park
Ve-7	Open fields	Fair	C-B	1930s-2006	Contain some invasive exotic plant species
B-1	Visitor Center	Good	NC	1963/2004	
S-1	Pioneer Brigade earthworks	Fair	C-B	1863	Erosion, exposed earth, litter
S-2	Entrance piers and gates	Good/Fair	C-P	1931/1963	Gates are in fair condition
S-3	Large stone culverts	Good	NC	1990s	
S-4	Drainage swale	Good	NC	1970s	
S-5	Small stone culverts	Good	NC	1963	

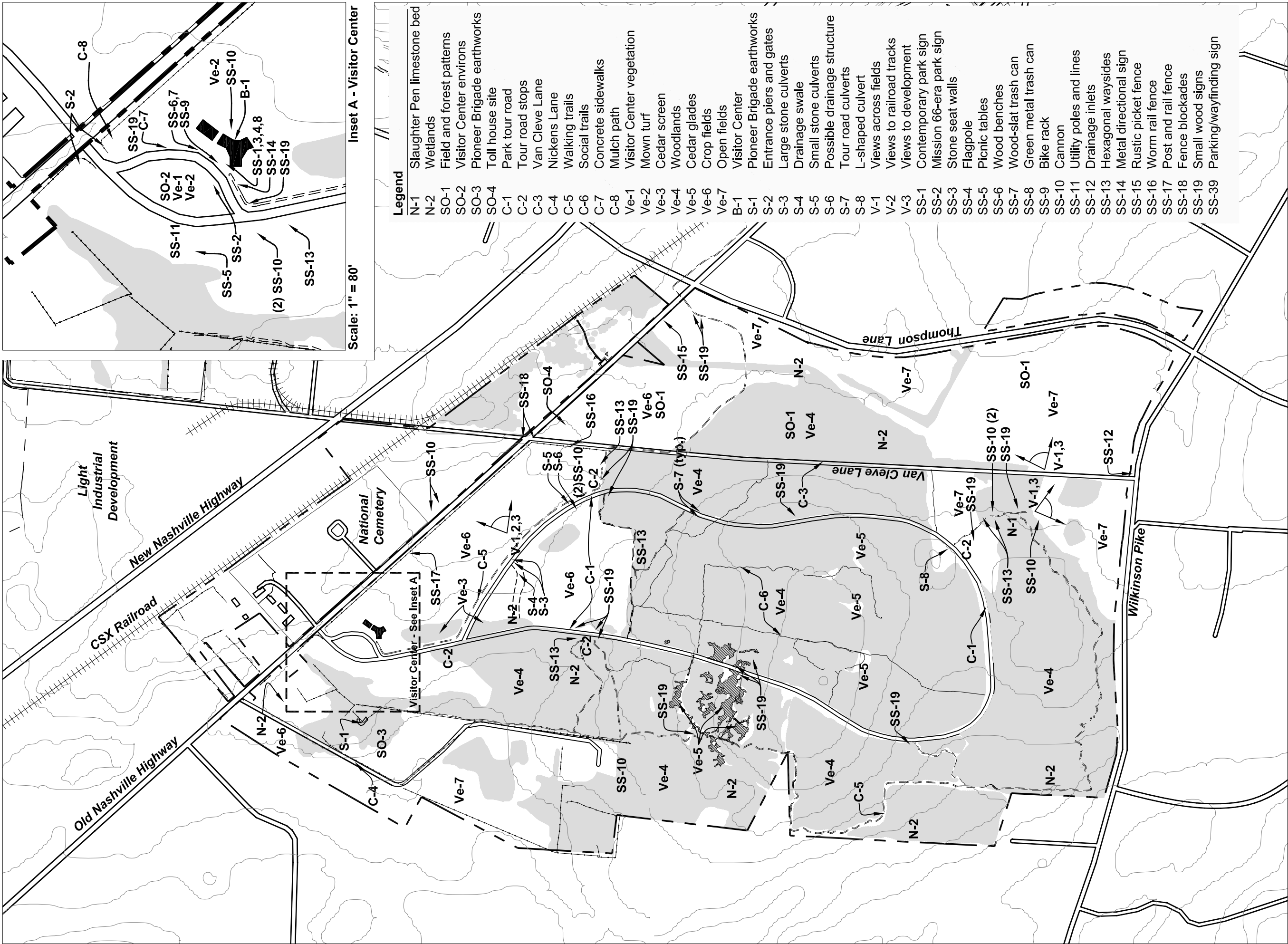
* The following abbreviations are used: C-B = Contributing to the Battle Period, 1862–1863; C-P = Contributing to the Early Park Development Period, 1927–1931; NC = Non-Contributing; U = Undetermined.

** Thomas H. Roberts and Kenneth L. Morgan, *Inventory and Classification of Wetlands at Stones River National Battlefield, Murfreesboro, Tennessee* (Cookeville, Tennessee: Center for the Management, Utilization, and Protection of Water Resources, Tennessee Technological University, report prepared for the National Park Service, December 2006). The report describes fifteen wetlands of various characteristics and conditions with the park.

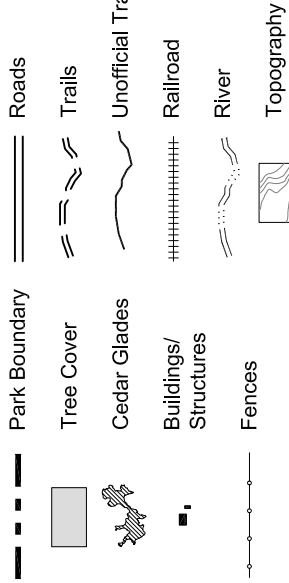
CLR#	Landscape Feature	Condition	Signif.	Date	Comment
S-6	Possible drainage structure	Poor	NC	1963	No longer functioning
S-7	Tour road culverts	Fair	NC	1963	Exhibit a great deal of organic growth
S-8	L-shaped concrete culvert	Fair	NC	1963	Some erosion and soil build-up
V-1	Views across fields	Good	C-B	by 1863	Views to development are not screened
V-2	Views to railroad tracks	Good	C-B	by 1863	
V-3	Views to residential, commercial, and industrial development	Fair	NC	20th c.	
SS-1	Contemporary park sign	Good	NC	2004 (?)	Located near Visitor Center
SS-2	Mission 66-era park sign	Fair	NC	1963/1992	Base constructed 1963, new sign installed circa 1992. Water hook up non-functioning.
SS-3	Stone seat walls	Good	NC	2004	
SS-4	Flagpole	Good	NC	1963	
SS-5	Picnic tables	Good	NC	after 1963	
SS-6	Wood benches	Good	NC	after 1963	
SS-7	Wood-slat trash can	Good	NC	after 1963	
SS-8	Green metal trash can	Good	NC	after 1963	
SS-9	Bike rack	Good	NC	after 1963	
SS-10	Cannon	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-11	Utility poles and lines	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-12	Drainage inlets	Fair	NC	unknown	Intersection of Van Cleve Lane and Wilkinson Pike; some vegetation overgrowth, may pose a hazard to public due to wide grate spacing
SS-13	Hexagonal wayside exhibit	Fair	NC	1963	Some signs show evidence of deterioration and vandalism
SS-14	Plastic directional sign	Good	NC	1999	Sign to Cotton Field Trail
SS-15	Picket fence	Good	NC	unknown	Southern edge of Old Nashville Hwy.
SS-16	Worm rail fence	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-17	Post and rail fence	Good	NC	unknown	Near Visitor Center
SS-18	Fence blockades	Good	NC	unknown	Van Cleve Lane
SS-19	Small wood signs	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-39	Parking/wayfinding sign	Good	NC	unknown	

Missing Features

Block House	Toll Gate
Cabins along Van Cleve Lane	Cabin along Nashville Pike
Cotton Fields along Nashville Pike	Corn Field along Nashville Pike
Corn Field associated with Blanton House (off-site)	Corn Field associated with Cabins
Open Field southwest of Pioneer Brigade Earthworks	Fencing along Van Cleve Lane
Fencing around Cabins and Corn Field near Van Cleve Lane	Fencing along Nashville Pike
Fencing around Corn Field associated with Blanton House	Ranger Station and flagpole near park entrance
Fencing associated with Cotton Field near Nashville Pike	United Daughters of the Confederacy cabin
Ornamental plantings along the tour road and at park entrances	
Stone entrance gates located at the intersection of Old Nashville Highway and Van Cleve Lane	



Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.

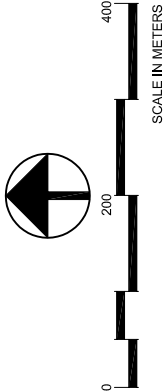


Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Nashville Pike Unit Existing Conditions Map

Figure 81



McFadden Farm Unit

The McFadden Farm unit character area is located to the north of the Nashville Pike unit, and is the park's second largest parcel at approximately 135 acres (162 acres within the authorized boundary) (Refer to Fig. 111). Visitors can ascertain the importance of the high ground overlooking Stones River to the Union's defensive efforts and ultimate success in the final throes of the Battle of Stones River. They can view the Artillery Monument, erected in 1906 by the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad. They can also view the McFadden Cemetery, which is the last remnant of the McFadden family's ownership of this land. Natural resources within and abutting this character area are also of interest, particularly the river. One of the problems with this unit is its close proximity to light industrial, commercial, and residential development, and the fact that the access road to the unit passes by these elements.

Natural Systems and Features and Responses to Natural Resources

Natural systems and features are key character-defining features of this character area. The variable topography of the unit, which includes both gentle slopes leading to the river and high river-edge bluffs, as well as the river corridor and its broad upland plateau are important elements in the interpretation of the unit's role in the battle. The topography was important in the battle due to the Union artillery's utilization of the higher elevation to fire upon Confederate troops attacking from the eastern side of Stones River. The site's natural resources are also of interest for educating visitors about local heritage (Fig. 82).

Other natural resource features, many of which post-date the battle period, include depressional and riverine wetlands. Depressional wetlands occur in topographic depressions and accrue water primarily from precipitation, groundwater discharge, and interflow from adjacent uplands. These wetland types occur south and west of the McFadden Farm unit parking lot. Riverine wetlands occur in floodplains and riparian corridors and accrue water from overbank water flow and adjacent groundwater flow. Within this character area, riverine wetlands occur east of



FIGURE 82. Stones River and high limestone bluffs, looking north.

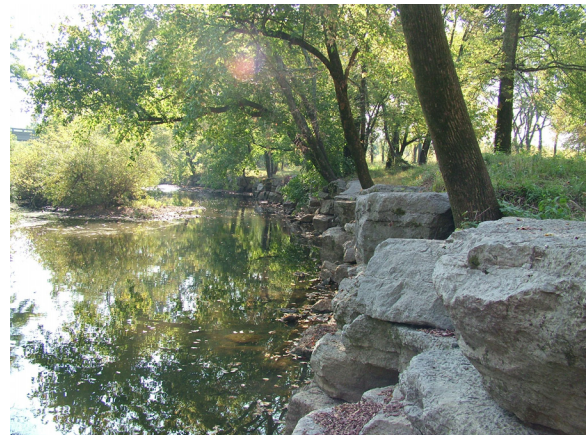


FIGURE 83. Limestone boulders placed in the 1970s to prevent flooding. Note how well the limestone blends with the native landscape.

the McFadden Farm unit interpretive area, and just north of the Thompson Lane bridge. For further information, see Roberts and Morgan, *Inventory and Classification of Wetlands at Stones River National Battlefield, Murfreesboro, Tennessee*. In addition, this character area contains at least one spring that is still active. It is located along the river's edge near the park's connection to the Stones River Greenway Trail.

Cultural responses to natural features are also present within the character area. These include rock work that protects the river bank from erosion, a channeled ditch along the Stones River Greenway, and rock work associated with the spring near the river's margin. The rock wall facing Stones River was constructed in the 1970s.



FIGURE 84. Eroded, deeply-channeled ditch near the Stones River Greenway.



FIGURE 85. Field and forest pattern near the Artillery Monument and parking lot.



FIGURE 86. Former house site southwest of the parking lot. Note views to development in the background.

Limestone boulders were added to reduce bank erosion from flooding (Fig. 83). Although the limestone boulder wall is not a natural feature, it appears to have been placed in such a way as to blend with existing limestone bluffs. Stacked stone has been used to channel and contain the spring located along the river bank. This feature is discussed in further detail under the “Buildings and Structures” section below. The deeply-channeled ditch located along the Stones River Greenway, close to the Thompson Lane bridge is badly eroded. Its origin is unknown (Fig. 84). The majority of these features are in good condition, with the exception of the ditch which is in fair condition due to erosion problems.

Spatial Organization

At a broad scale, the spatial organization of the McFadden Farm unit character area is defined by property lines, Stones River, and roads. Thompson Lane and a cleared electrical utility corridor define the eastern edge of the character area, while boundary fences separate NPS property from the light industrial development to the south. Van Cleve Lane (formerly McFadden Lane) and boundary fences serve as the unit’s western edge, while Stones River edges the unit to the north.

Within the character area, space is defined by fields and woodlands (Fig. 85). Open fields, including the remnants of former agricultural fields and house sites, are generally edged by hedgerows and woodlands (Fig. 86). Open fields occur in the northern portion of the character area, south of Van Cleve Lane, and west of the river in the southern portion of the unit. There is also an open area associated with the parking lot, Artillery Monument, and McFadden Cemetery, which is maintained in mown turf (Fig. 87). The fields and woodlands are generally in good condition, although a former farmstead site south of Van Cleve Lane has been colonized by invasive alien plants and is undergoing succession.

To the west is an abandoned landfill site that was recently acquired by the NPS. The site is partially wooded but also includes an open expanse associated with the landfill (Fig. 88). This area is in poor condition due to the large amount of construction debris stockpiled there.



FIGURE 87. Artillery Monument and parking lot node. Note cannon and mown turf.



FIGURE 89. McFadden cemetery space west of the parking lot. Note large hackberry tree in the center of the space.



FIGURE 88. Recently-purchased landfill site to be rehabilitated and blended with the character area.



FIGURE 90. Van Cleve Lane north of Old Nashville Highway, as it runs along the western edge of the character area.

The McFadden family cemetery is a small, intimate space marked by concrete posts and a large hackberry tree located near the McFadden Farm unit parking lot (Fig. 89). This area is kept mown and well maintained, and is in good condition.

Land Use

Land uses within this character area consist of recreation, such as jogging, biking, picnicking, and hiking; museum/education; commemoration; utility; and agriculture. Secondary uses include scientific research and natural resource conservation. A portion of this character area was once used to dispose of solid waste and still contains land fills, dump sites,

rubbish piles, and borrow pits, and will most likely be remediated in the future.

Circulation

Both pedestrian and vehicular circulation features exist within this character area. Vehicular circulation includes Van Cleve Lane, which provides access to the site, and the parking lot, as well as farm lanes and road traces that provide access to the fields and former homesteads north of the Artillery Monument, and south of Van Cleve Lane. Pedestrian circulation includes the McFadden Lane Trail.

The primary entrance to the character area occurs along Van Cleve Lane from the New Nashville Highway/U.S. Highway 41/70S. Van



FIGURE 91. Two-track road trace leading to the former house site. Note how vegetation is beginning to obscure the road trace.

Cleve Lane is part of the Civil War-era road that runs through the Nashville Pike unit character area to the south (Fig. 90). The road ends in a turnaround loop at the unit's parking lot located near the Artillery Monument. The parking area accommodates approximately seventeen vehicles, depending on their size. The lane and parking lot are in good condition.

A two-track road trace runs from Van Cleve Lane to a former house site west of the Artillery Monument (Fig. 91). Wooden worm fencing limits vehicular access to the trace. Vegetation is beginning to colonize the road trace, which is in fair condition. Another gated road trace is found just to the west, running north from the bend in Van Cleve Lane (Fig. 92).

A third road trace was converted into a trail and paved with asphalt with a chip seal coat in 1999. This trail—called the McFadden Lane Trail—runs south of the Artillery Monument, between Van Cleve Lane and Stones River (Fig. 93). This follows the extension of historic McFadden Lane as it led towards the river, which was present during the Civil War and appears as a road or lane on historic maps. Tour Stop Six along this trail interprets the McFadden Ford site. It is currently in fair condition due to some cracking and erosion of the pavement and its margins.

Social trails also criss-cross the site. An unpaved social trail extends from the parking lot to the river (Fig. 94). A second social trail follows the river's edge atop the limestone bluffs (Fig. 95). This trail eventually intersects the Stones River



FIGURE 92. Gated road trace found west of the parking lot.

Greenway to the east, yet also leads into the woods to the north of the parking lot. These unofficial trails are not assessed for their condition due to the fact that they are undesirable elements within the park landscape.

Vegetation

Vegetation within this character area is a mix of native and exotic plants; grasses, forbs, and woodlands; individual shade trees; agricultural crops; and cultural vegetation.

Hay fields border Van Cleve Lane to the east as it approaches the Artillery Monument location. These fields are edged by hedgerows of early successional invaders. Hedgerows throughout the character area include a mix of sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*); common hackberry; elms (*Ulmus spp.*); black walnut (*Juglans nigra*); osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*); and Eastern red cedar. These hedgerows are generally in fair to poor condition due to the high number of invasive plant species. Also present within this area are a small stand of Eastern red cedar successional forest-glade complex, stands of old field vegetation, and a pond.

The utility line corridor that parallels Thompson Lane is maintained as a mown field that edges successional woodland along the park's eastern boundary north of Stones River.

In the vicinity of the monument, vegetation primarily consists of mown turf and hay fields edged by stands of Eastern red cedar



FIGURE 93. Trace of a former road or lane, now used as a trail. A row of hackberry trees lines the northern edge of the trail. These trees may be volunteer plants or may have been purposefully planted.



FIGURE 94. Social trail from the parking lot to the river. Note the savanna-like vegetation of tall trees growing amidst short grasses with little to no understory trees or shrubs.



FIGURE 95. Social trail following the river's edge.

successional forest to the west, north, and east. The mown turf areas are generally in good condition. The river margins are characterized by species associated with the Nashville Basin Sugarberry, Northern Hackberry, Elm, Black Walnut Successional Forest. The woodland areas are generally in fair condition due to the presence of invasive plant species.

Floodplain along the river is characterized by Southern Interior Box Elder Riparian Forest. Carolina willows (*Salix caroliniana*) are present on a sandbar within Stones River near the park's junction with the Greenway trail (Fig. 96). Although this plant community is not rare according to state and federal guidelines, it is the only example of this type within the park.

The park is in the process of converting many of the unit's hay fields to native warm-season grass fields, specifically those located north of the Artillery Monument and adjacent to Van Cleve Lane (Fig. 97). At present these fields contain little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), and Virginia wildrye (*Elymus virginicus*); weedy native and non-native forbs; and invasive non-native grasses such as Johnson grass and foxtail (*Setaria spp.*). These fields are in fair condition due to the presence of invasive alien species. The fields located to the south of the Artillery Monument are mostly hayfields which contain various species of tall fescue and the invasive forb sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*).

A savanna-like plant community grows between the parking lot and river (Fig. 94). This landscape consists of open grown deciduous shade trees and an herbaceous layer of grasses and forbs. The grasses and forbs are maintained through semi-annual mowing. This area plays an important role in the park: it helps to visually separate the developed areas from the river; aids in flood control; shades the river's edge; and the roots of the plants help to stabilize the slope and river bank.

Hackberries are very prevalent within this unit. A single large hackberry marks the McFadden family cemetery. This tree appears to be in good condition. A row of trees dominated by hackberries edges much of gravel trail found to the south of the Artillery Monument (Fig. 93).



FIGURE 96. Carolina willow plant communities growing in a sandbar within Stones River.

These plants may be volunteers, grown from seeds dropped by birds as they sat on an old fence or trees within the hedgerow, or may have been planted at some time to define the edge of the road.

Numerous invasive plant species are found throughout this character area. These include sericea lespedeza; tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*); Chinese privet; Johnson grass; multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*); bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*); and Japanese stilt grass (*Microstegium vimineum*). All of these plants are considered severe threats to Tennessee's native plant communities, according to the Tennessee Exotic Plant Pest Council. Johnson grass is prevalent in the field behind the parking lot. The presence of Japanese stilt grass is enabled by mowing the area between the parking lot and river.

Buildings and Structures

There are three structures and no buildings located within this unit. The structures include the Artillery Monument, the spring box discussed above, and a wooden footbridge.

The Artillery Monument (LCS ID 007034) is located just south of the parking lot (Fig. 98). It is composed of a thirty-four-foot tall, white coated concrete obelisk elevated on a fifteen-foot-square stepped base. A metal plaque is attached to the south face of the monument. This feature is in fair condition, due to concrete and coating



FIGURE 97. Old agricultural field adjacent to Van Cleve Lane contains warm-season native grasses, weedy native and non-native forbs, and invasive non-native grasses.

deterioration. The monument was erected in 1906.

The spring box comprises a narrow alcove, about two feet in width and six to seven feet high, incised in the earth behind the limestone retaining wall (Fig. 99 and 100). The alcove is lined with mortared stacked stone. Near the terminus of the alcove is a set of simple steps curving upward from the floor of the alcove to the top of the bluff. A sign, stenciled in black paint on a rock at the floor of the alcove, states "No Lurking About." A wooden footbridge extends the river-edge trail across the alcove. The spring box and the wooden footbridge likely were constructed at the same time as the rock wall in the 1970s. They are in good condition.

Views and Vistas

This character area affords numerous bucolic views of open fields, woodlands, and the riparian corridor. Light industrial development, a utility corridor, and major roads and highways edge the character area, and are visually intrusive from the entrance drive and along the river trail (Fig. 101).

Small-scale Features

Small-scale features in the McFadden Farm unit character area support visitor safety, interpretation, and utility functions. They include battlefield markers, cannon, cemetery headstones, utility poles and lines, drain inlets, concrete culverts, and signage. All of these features post-date the period of significance,



FIGURE 98. Artillery Monument, built in 1906.



FIGURE 99. Stacked stone alcove containing a spring. Note the wood footbridge that carries the river's edge trail across the alcove.



FIGURE 100. Curving steps that lead into the alcove.



FIGURE 101. Views to development from Van Cleve Lane.



FIGURE 102. Concrete War Department boundary marker.



FIGURE 103. McFadden cemetery headstones. Note the poor condition of all of the headstones.

with the exception of the McFadden Cemetery headstones and a few surviving War Department boundary markers. These markers, found in the McFadden cemetery and on the McFadden Lane Trail, are concrete obelisks placed by the War Department in the early 1930s to demarcate park boundaries (Fig. 102). One of the boundary markers lies broken on the side of the trail and is in poor condition. The others are in fair condition. The cemetery headstones, some of which are broken, are in poor condition (Fig. 103).

Five cannon are on display within the area. Two are located in the parking lot median, and three are sited in the open fields to the west. These cannon represent the extent of the line of fifty-seven guns of Union artillery engaged on January 2, 1863. The cannon are in good condition.

Iron drain inlets carry stormwater associated with the McFadden Lane Trail (Fig. 104). Two such drains were added along the trail during construction in 1999. Some of these drains are in poor condition as they have become partially buried under soil and vegetation. There is also a concrete culvert located along the road as it approaches the parking area. The culvert is in fair condition due to the fact that it is partially buried under deposited soil.

Two types of wood fencing are found within this area. Wooden worm fencing demarcates NPS property along Van Cleve Lane as far as the parking area loop. The McFadden Lane Trail is also edged to either side by wooden worm fencing (Fig. 105). The style represented is known as Virginia worm rail fencing and has wooden cross-members that form an X at regular intervals as an added measure of stability. This fencing is in good condition.

The NPS installed a new wayside exhibit near the parking lot in 2005 (Fig. 106). Other signage includes brown, metal NPS signs; small wood signs with white, routed letters; hexagonal wayside exhibits; and traffic signs. The signage is generally in good condition.

Within the area there is a major electric utility corridor running north-south parallel to Thompson Lane. The corridor is maintained in open vegetative cover. Finally, there are utility

poles and lines associated with the former homestead property south of the Artillery Monument. These are in fair to poor condition based on the fact that they are no longer serviceable, there are wires hanging down to the ground, and some of the poles are leaning.

Comparative Analysis

The McFadden Farm unit retains features and characteristics of the landscape that existed at the time of the Battle of Stones River, including its landform and topography, relationship to the river, Van Cleve Lane, the McFadden family cemetery, and the site of the homestead with which it was associated. Features that are missing from the historic battlefield landscape include the McFadden farmstead, fencelines, and portions of crop fields and the generally open character that was historically associated with the unit. Features that survive from the early park development period include the Artillery Monument and War Department markers. Additions to the landscape that post-date the period of significance include the loop road and parking extension of Van Cleve Lane, the river trail, large areas of successional woodland and tree cover, fencing, signage, and utility poles and lines. Patterns of spatial organization and landcover associated with the early park development period are not considered of importance to this comparative analysis, although it is a key element of the comparison of battle conditions with conditions present today (Figs. 107 through 110).

The most evident change when comparing the present-day McFadden Farm unit to its appearance during the Civil War period is the extent of woodland vegetation that now populates the unit, occupying formerly open crop and hay fields. Civil War-era maps and photographs from the 1930s show much less woodland vegetation and many more open and farmed fields in the area. Aerial photographs from the 1930s show fewer, and less vegetated, fence rows, and crop fields that extend to the edge of Stones River.

At present, much of the northern portion of the character area is wooded and there is a wide vegetated strip between the northernmost agricultural field and the river. Non-contributing woodland and successional growth occupies the



FIGURE 104. Partially buried drain inlet found along the trail south of the Artillery Monument.



FIGURE 105. Virginia worm rail fence running along both sides of the trail south of the Artillery Monument.



FIGURE 106. Contemporary NPS interpretive wayside exhibit.

center of the unit between the road trace and the park boundary. The fields located south of Van Cleve Lane are generally small and divided by hedgerows that were not present during the Civil War period.

The parking lot, installed in the 1960s as part of the Mission 66-era development, is a feature that post-dates the period of significance. Also established after the park's early development is the 1970s-era limestone block wall that edges the riverbank. Although non-contributing due to its date of construction, this feature is generally visually compatible with the character of the landscape and other rock outcroppings in the vicinity. The feature does have a negative impact on interpretation of the river crossing and the

events of the battle that occurred nearby, however. Finally, the utility corridor that parallels Thompson Lane negatively impacts the character of the battlefield landscape.

Features that survive from the Civil War period include the river, Van Cleve Lane, and the topography of the character area that serves to convey the strategic advantage of the high ground gained by the Union artillery who massed there to fire upon the attacking Confederate soldiers. The field of fire, however, is obscured due to the growth of vegetation between the river and Thompson Lane. The McFadden Cemetery also survives from the battlefield period, although its physical context and setting has changed. The alignment of Van



FIGURES 107 AND 108. The Artillery Monument has changed little since its construction in 1906. Its setting, however, has been altered over the years by park development and an increase in woodland. A 1920 view of the monument illustrates that a building was located near the monument at that time, that the land in close proximity to the monument was being used for agriculture, and that a rustic wood fence edged a road (Van Cleve Lane) near the monument. Today, the building is missing, the land is no longer utilized for agriculture, and the road is now a paved six foot wide trail constructed in 1998 and edged by wooden worm fencing.



FIGURES 109 AND 110. A pair of photographs of the Artillery Monument dated 1935 and 2005 illustrate that the monument continues to be sited on a knoll overlooking Stones River, but that tree cover has increased dramatically over the seventy year period between photographs. Bronze tablets erected by the War Department to mark the site shown in the 1935 view are not present in the 2005 photograph.

Cleve Lane also remains intact, although its width and surface material have changed. A portion of the road corridor, extending between the Artillery Monument and the river, was converted to a six-foot-wide paved trail in 1998. The historic route retains more integrity here than the access road, which has been widened and paved for automobile traffic.

Very few historic features are missing from this character area. They include the McFadden farmstead, the exact location of which is unknown, and McFadden's Ford.

Evaluation of Integrity

The McFadden Farm unit character area retains integrity of location, feeling, and association. Integrity of setting, however, is greatly diminished due to development along the periphery of the unit.

The character area retains integrity of location as both the site of the battle and the efforts to commemorate it. In addition, the associations between the physical landscape, the battle, and commemorative events remain strong and discernible. As with the Nashville Pike unit, integrity of feeling is diminished by adjacent development and views to non-contributing features, such as the Thompson Lane bridge. However, the presence of fields, fence lines, the river, and the former road trace help to convey the feeling of being in this landscape in 1862–1863.

The character area does not retain integrity of setting due to the intense residential, industrial, and commercial development that has occurred on adjacent parcels. Even within the character area, the setting has been altered by an increase in woodland vegetation, subdivision of fields, and the addition of landfills and borrow pits.

Table 2. McFadden Farm Unit Landscape Features

CLR#	Landscape Feature	Condition	Signif.*	Date	Comment
N-3	Variable topography	Good	C-B	by 1863	
N-4	Stones River	Good	C-B	by 1863	
N-5	Wetlands	Good	U	by 1863	Some invasives present
N-6	Spring	Good	C	by 1863	
N-7	Ditch	Fair	NC	unknown	
SO-5	Field and forest patterns	Unknown	U	by 1863	Field and forest patterns vary in their date of origin; many were present at time of the battle; refer to Fig. 39
SO-6	Artillery Monument and parking lot node	Good	NC	1964	
SO-7	Recently-purchased landfill	Poor	NC	20th c.	Large amount of construction debris including concrete, asphalt, and gravel
SO-8	McFadden cemetery node	Good	C-B	by 1863	Grave markers from mid-1850s
SO-9	Electrical utility corridor	Good	NC	unknown	A wide swath of vegetation is cleared in association with corridor.
C-9	Van Cleve Lane	Good	C-B	by 1863	
C-10	Parking lot and loop road	Good	NC	1964	
C-11	Road trace to former house site	Fair	NC	unknown	Vegetation is beginning to obscure the trace.
C-12	Gated road trace	Unknown	NC	unknown	The trace was inaccessible during fieldwork.

* The following abbreviations are used: C-B = Contributing to the Battle Period, 1862–1863; C-C = Contributing to the Early Commemoration Period, 1863–1926; C-P = Contributing to the Early Park Development Period, 1927–1931; NC = Non-Contributing; U = Undetermined.

** Thomas H. Roberts and Kenneth L. Morgan, *Inventory and Classification of Wetlands at Stones River National Battlefield, Murfreesboro, Tennessee* (Cookeville, Tennessee: Center for the Management, Utilization, and Protection of Water Resources, Tennessee Technological University, report prepared for the National Park Service, December 2006). The report describes fifteen wetlands of various characteristics and conditions with the park.

CLR#	Landscape Feature	Condition	Signif.	Date	Comment
C-13	Road trace/trail south of Artillery Monument	Fair	C-B	by 1863	
C-14	Social trails	Good	NC	20th c.	
Ve-2	Mown turf	Good	NC	after 1931	
Ve-9	Woodlots and fence rows	Poor	U	by 1863	Field and forest patterns vary in their date of origin; many were present at time of the battle; refer to Fig. 39. High number of invasive plant species, numerous dump sites, borrow pit, and non-historic fences and outbuildings.
Ve-10	Field vegetation	Fair	U	by 1863	Field and forest patterns vary in their date of origin; many were present at time of the battle; refer to Fig. 39. Some invasive plant species.
Ve-11	Vegetation between parking lot and river	Fair	U	20th c.	Possibly some invasive plant species
Ve-12	Carolina willows	Unknown	U	N/A	
Ve-13	Hackberry	Good	U	unknown	
Ve-14	Row of hackberries along trail	Good	U	unknown	Former road south Artillery Monument
S-9	Spring box	Good	NC	1970s	
S-10	Wood footbridge	Good	NC	1970s	
S-11	Artillery Monument	Good	C-C	1906	
S-18	Stonework along river bank	Good	NC	1976	
V-4	Views to river from parking	Good	C-B	by 1863	
V-5	Views to river from bluffs	Good	C-B	by 1863	
V-6	Views to development from Van Cleve Lane	Poor	NC	20th c.	
SS-10	Cannon	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-11	Utility poles and lines	Poor	NC	unknown	No longer functioning, may pose hazard to visitors
SS-13	Hexagonal sign	Good	NC	1963	
SS-14	Metal directional signs	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-16	Worm rail fence	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-19	Small wood signs	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-20	Drain inlet	Poor	NC	unknown	Partially buried with soil and vegetation
SS-21	Virginia worm rail fence	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-22	War Department boundary markers	Fair	C-P	1927–1931	One marker broken in half
SS-23	Vertical wayside exhibit	Good	NC	2005	
SS-24	McFadden headstones	Poor	C-B	by 1863 (?)	Broken, toppled
SS-25	Concrete culvert	Fair	NC	unknown	Partially buried by soil

Missing Features

McFadden Farmstead, including dwelling and two outbuildings	Fencing associated with farmstead
Fencing along Van Cleve Lane leading to farmstead	Fencing along road leading to river
Two fords at river	Corn field near farmstead
Open fields east of Van Cleve Lane	
Fencing associated with open fields east of Van Cleve Lane	
Small woodlots edging fields east of Van Cleve Lane	

Legend		
N-3	Variable topography	Ve-13 Hackberry
N-4	Stones River	Ve-14 Rows of hackberries
N-5	Wetlands	S-9 Spring box
N-6	Possible spring	S-10 Wood footbridge
N-7	Eroded swale	S-11 Artillery Monument
SO-5	Field and forest patterns	S-18 Stonework along river bank
SO-6	Monument/parking lot node	V-4 Views to river from parking
SO-7	Recently-purchased landfill	V-5 Views to river from bluffs
SO-9	Utility corridor	V-6 Views to development
C-9	Van Cleve Lane	SS-10 Cannon
C-10	Parking lot/loop road	SS-11 Utility poles and lines
C-11	Road trace to former house	SS-13 Hexagonal sign
C-12	Gated road trace	SS-14 Metal directional signs
C-13	Road trace/trail	SS-16 Worm rail fence
C-14	Earthen trails	SS-19 Small wood signs
Ve-2	Mown turf	SS-20 Drain inlet
Ve-9	Hedgerows and successional stands	SS-21 Virginia worm rail fence
Ve-10	Field vegetation	SS-22 War Department boundary markers
Ve-11	Parking lot/river vegetation	SS-23 Vertical wayside exhibit
Ve-12	Carolina willows	SS-24 McFadden headstones
		SS-25 Concrete culvert



General Rosecrans's Headquarters Site

The Rosecrans's Headquarters site parcel is the smallest unit of the park. Located along the Old Nashville Pike northwest of the Nashville Pike unit, the unit is approximately three-tenths of an acre in size (Refer to Fig. 122). This square-shaped site is surrounded by private property and the Old Nashville Pike.

Landscape Features

This unit represents the site of the battle headquarters of Union commander Major General William S. Rosecrans. Features associated with the unit include a parking lot, concrete walks, a monument, signage, a shrub hedge, mown turf, and an enclosing fence edged by volunteer vegetation.

A five-car parking lot accessed directly from the Old Nashville Pike fronts the headquarters site (Fig. 112). The parking lot is generally in good condition. A concrete sidewalk edges the parking lot, and another leads to a commemorative monument featuring Civil War-era cannonballs. These features are generally in good condition. A clipped privet hedge edges the parking lot to either side (Fig. 113). It is also in relatively good condition. Built in 1931 by the War Department, the Rosecrans's Headquarters monument (LCS ID 007039) is a four-foot-high pyramid of Civil War ordnance resting on a six-inch-square beveled granite base (Fig. 115). The LCS identifies the feature as in good condition, but large cracks in the base and the loss of original fabric suggest that a more appropriate rating would be fair. The LCS description for this feature states that some of the original cannon shot were stolen and replaced with cast concrete shot. The monument sits at the center of a circular concrete pad. The concrete pad is edged by mown turf that is generally in good condition. A chain-link fence marks the boundary of the federally-owned property. Holes have been cut in the fence to facilitate non-sanctioned access to the quarry behind. The fence is in fair condition. Weedy, overgrown woody vegetation, including Eastern red cedars, hackberries, elms, greenbrier (*Smilax sp.*), and invasive alien plants such as Japanese honeysuckle and privet enclose the site beyond the fence (Fig. 114).



FIGURE 112. Rosecrans's Headquarters parking lot and site.



FIGURE 113. Manicured privet hedge found at each side of the parking lot.

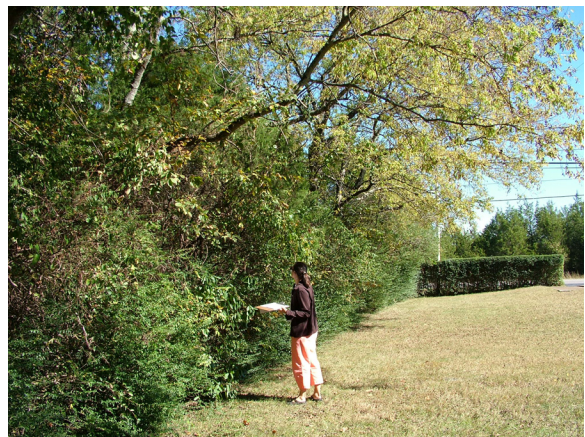


FIGURE 114. Vegetative buffer surrounding the site.



FIGURE 115. 1931 Rosecrans's Headquarters cannonball pyramid monument.

A tall, earthen mound of quarry tailings surrounds the site, adding to the sense of enclosure formed by the vegetation beyond the fence. The mound is the result of former quarry operations that once took place around the site. Social trails run up and down the mound; people use these trails to gain illegal access to the quarry through the Headquarters site.

Views associated with the parcel are limited given the small size of the property and the enclosure provided by woody vegetation on three sides. The view afforded to the northeast across the Old Nashville Highway consists of volunteer Eastern red cedars and piles of construction materials, such as gravel (Fig. 116). This view detracts from the historic character and feeling of the site and is in fair condition.

An NPS wayside exhibit was placed near the parking lot in 2005 (Fig. 117). Other signage consists of a hexagonal marker, traffic signs, and a sign located at the back of the site that states "Posted Private Property." These are generally in good condition. An NPS sign placed on the south side of the site alerts traffic to the

upcoming monument; there is no sign marking the site for traffic traveling southeast.

Comparative Analysis

The Rosecrans's Headquarters site character area no longer retains any of the features and characteristics of the landscape that existed at the time of the Battle of Stones River. However, it does retain features established as part of the 1927–1931 early park development period, including its level landform and topography, grass plane, connection to the Old Nashville Highway, and most importantly the cannon ball monument marking the site of Rosecrans's Headquarters. Additions to the landscape that post-date the period of significance include the parking area, privet hedge, and chain-link fencing. The landscape surrounding the character area has changed dramatically, with topographic modifications resulting from quarrying activities edging the site on three sides and a heavy growth of weedy woody vegetation colonizing the disturbed earth (Figs. 118 through 121).



FIGURE 116. View across Old Nashville Highway to eastern red cedars and material piles.



FIGURE 117. View toward the monument from the parking lot, showing the new NPS wayside exhibit erected in 2005.

The Rosecrans's Headquarters site unit and monument mark the approximate location of where Union General William Rosecrans used an existing cabin for his headquarters during the Battle of Stones River. This cabin was located along the Old Nashville Pike and, according to historic maps, tucked into woods that lined the pike. After the war, the cabin was apparently used as an African American church.¹⁰³

In the late 1920s, the War Department acquired the land upon which the cabin was located in order to commemorate the headquarters site. It is not known whether the cabin was still standing at this time. In 1931, the pyramidal marker and a concrete walk to and around it were erected using actual Civil War-era cannon shot. The configuration of the unit, grass plane, and the pyramidal cannonball monument survive from the early park development period. In 1935, the site was described:

This reservation is located on Highway No. 41, 0.7 miles north of the Park, and is also enclosed by wire fence and marked by a cannon ball pyramid. The wide grassy shoulder of the highway, which is at a slight crest here, offers at present sufficient opportunity to stop and park.¹⁰⁴

It thus appears that the parking area, concrete sidewalk adjacent to it, the chain-link fence, and privet hedge all post-date the period of significance.

103. Styles, 56.

104. 1939 Plan, "Stones River National Military Park and Cemetery," 3.

Evaluation of Integrity

The Rosecrans's Headquarters site character area landscape does not retain integrity to the Civil War, but does retain integrity to the early park development period (1927–1931).

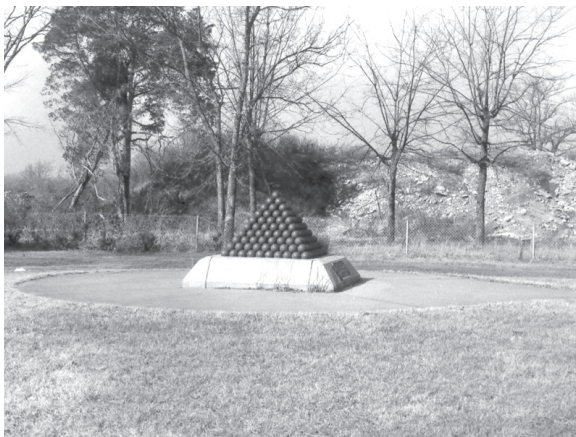
For the earlier battle period, the landscape retains integrity of location for its association with the headquarters. However, integrity of setting, feeling, and association are lacking or highly diminished due to the loss of the cabin and subsequent additions and changes to the landscape and context. The setting in particular has been greatly altered by use of adjacent lands for quarrying activities. The woods that once surrounded the cabin, as well as the cabin itself, are missing. At present the feeling of the landscape is one of a park, not a battlefield landscape or the site of a general's headquarters. Lastly, integrity of association is lacking. The original cabin would have served as a direct link between the battle events and the site of General Rosecrans's headquarters. Again, because the cabin is missing and both the commemorative landscape and adjacent lands have been highly altered, this association has been lost.

For the early park development period, the character area retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The headquarters monument and parcel layout and configuration remain in their original 1931 location. The original design, materials, and workmanship are generally still intact, but are diminished by the later

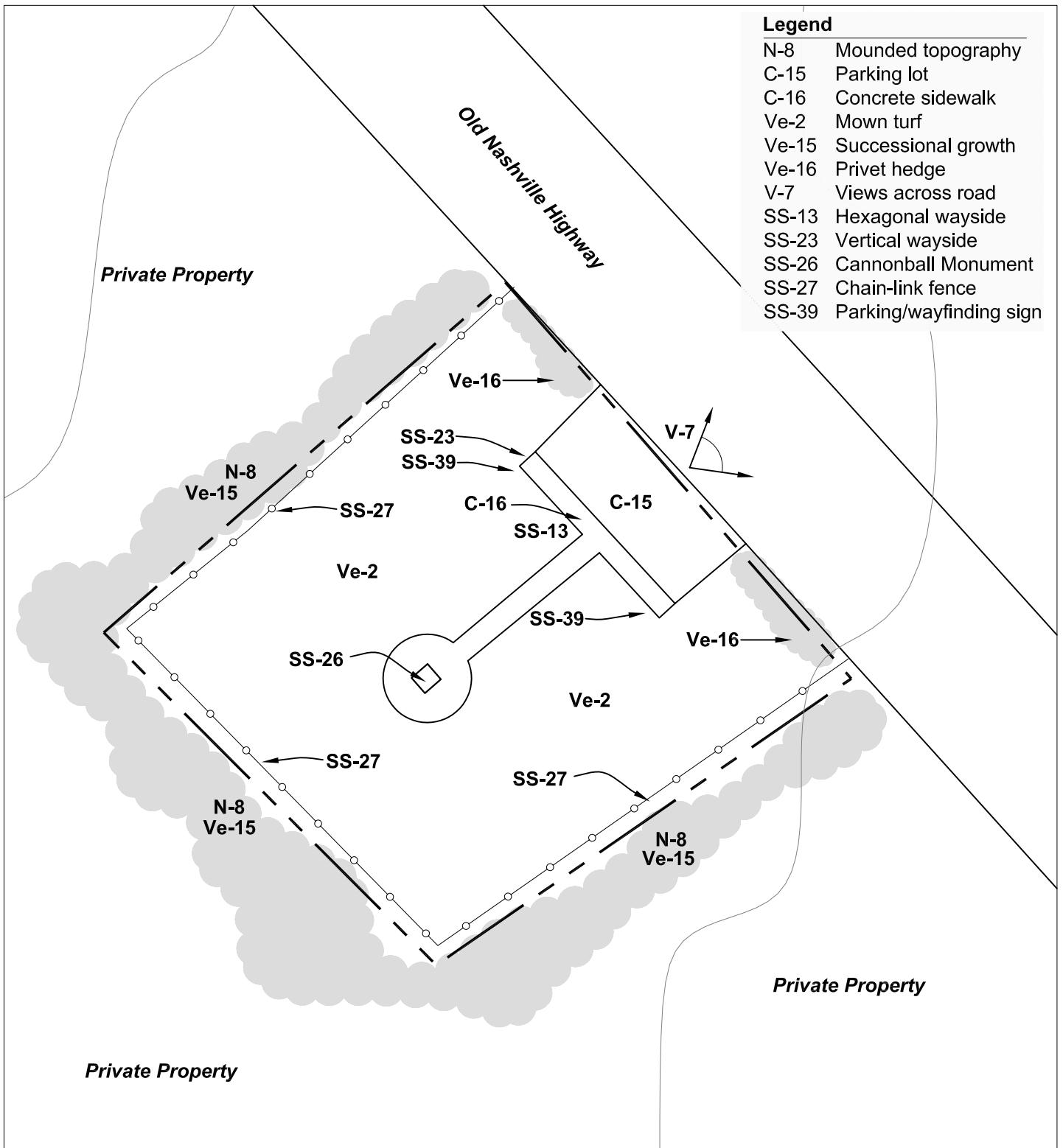
replacement of some of the original cannon shot, and the addition of the asphalt parking area and associated sidewalk, and chain-link fencing. Photographs from the mid-1970s show that the character area was once set in a level, open landscape with only a fence and minimal vegetation surrounding it. Adjacent lands appeared to be used for agriculture. Given the large mounds of quarry tailings that surround the site at present, and the dense vegetation that grows along the fence, this character area does not retain integrity of setting for the early park development period.



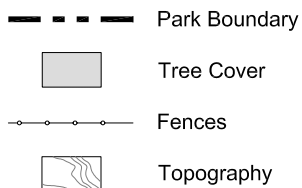
FIGURES 118 AND 119. The Rosecrans's Headquarters Monument itself has changed little since its construction. Fig. 118 is a 1975 photograph of the monument taken for the National Register nomination. The setting of the monument has changed dramatically since the 1970s as chain link fencing has replaced wire fencing, and successional growth of trees and shrubs now forms a hard edge around three sides of the site. The growth hides evidence of a quarry beyond that has heavily altered the surrounding landform and topography.



FIGURES 120 AND 121. A concrete walk historically led to and encircled the monument from a grassy pull-off along the Nashville Pike. A similar walk continues to characterize the site. Today, a parking lot edges the road, with a sidewalk providing a connection to the concrete walk. Some of the monument's cannonballs were stolen in past decades and have been replaced. Wood fencing has replaced the chain link fencing seen in the 1975 photograph (Fig. 120).



Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.



Stones River National Battlefield Murfreesboro, Tennessee **Rosecrans's Headquarters Existing Conditions Map** **Figure 122**

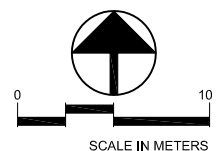


Table 3. General Rosecrans's Headquarters Site Landscape Features

CLR#	Landscape Feature	Condition	Signif.*	Date	Comment
N-8	Mounded topography	Fair	NC	20th c.	Some erosion and much litter
C-15	Parking lot	Good	NC	unknown	
C-16	Concrete sidewalk	Good	C-P	unknown	
Ve-2	Mown turf	Good	C-P	1931	
Ve-15	Successional growth	Poor	NC	unknown	Contains numerous invasive plant species
Ve-16	Manicured privet hedge	Poor	NC	unknown	
V-7	Views across Old Nashville Highway	Fair	NC	20th c.	Views across road detract from setting
SS-13	Hexagonal wayside exhibit	Good	NC	1963	Park considers these features to be in poor condition due to their outdated interpretive content.
SS-23	Vertical wayside exhibit	Good	NC	2005	
SS-26	Cannonball pyramid monument	Fair	C-P	1931	LCS lists monument in good condition but deterioration suggests fair rating.
SS-27	Chain-link fence	Fair	NC	unknown	
SS-39	Parking/wayfinding sign	Good	NC	unknown	

Missing Features

Dwellings and outbuildings appropriated for use as General Rosecrans's Headquarters.

* The following abbreviations are used: C-B = Contributing to the Battle Period, 1862–1863; C-P = Contributing to the Early Park Development Period, 1927–1931; NC = Non-Contributing; U = Undetermined.

Hazen Brigade Monument

The Hazen Brigade Monument character area comprises a one-and-one-half acre parcel located north of the Old Nashville Highway, east of its intersection with the Van Cleve Lane trace (Refer to Fig. 135). It is bordered by woods and the CSX railroad tracks to the north. The main feature of the site is the Hazen Brigade Monument, a twelve foot high limestone block monument surrounded by the graves of Union soldiers who died during and after the battle, and an enclosing limestone wall. A small visitor parking area that can accommodate five cars edges the highway, and a concrete walk leads through a grove of ornamental and shade trees to the monument.

Landscape Features

The Hazen Brigade Monument (LCS ID 007033) is located on a long, narrow, rectangular site accessed directly from the highway. A five-car parking lot serves the monument (Fig. 123). The parking lot is in good condition. A concrete sidewalk edges the parking lot, while a second sidewalk gently curves between the parking lot and the monument. These concrete walks are in good condition. A wide, unpaved trail leads to a woodlot found northwest of the monument (Fig. 124). The trail is in good condition. Tour Stop Five is located at the monument. It interprets the “Fight for the Round Forest,” a forested area that once stood to the north of, and may have encompassed, the monument.

Site vegetation consists of mown turf dotted with ornamental and shade trees (Fig. 125), all in good condition. Tree species include Eastern red cedar, black walnut, post oak (*Quercus stellata*), hickory (*Carya spp*), red maple, sugar maple, Southern red oak (*Quercus falcata*), pecan (*Carya illinoensis*), and dogwood (*Cornus florida*). These trees both provide shade and ornamental interest for the site. During 2005 field investigations, park personnel noted the presence of a productive butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) tree in this area; this species is listed as endangered in the State of Tennessee.

The monument itself is located in the northeastern portion of the site near the CSX railroad tracks (LCS ID 090232) (Fig. 126).



FIGURE 123. Hazen Brigade Monument parking lot and concrete sidewalk.



FIGURE 124. NPS trail leading to the woodlot northwest of the monument.



FIGURE 125. Landscape leading up to the Hazen Brigade Monument. Note the mown turf, ornamental trees, and curving sidewalk.



FIGURE 126. CSX Corporation railroad tracks behind the monument wall, looking northwest.

Constructed in 1863 by Union soldiers and veterans of the Battle of Stones River, the monument is a four-sided, battered-wall, coursed limestone block structure approximately twelve feet in height. The top of the monument consists of a hipped cap with rounded, mitered coping (Fig. 127). Each elevation has inscriptions. The monument has been repaired at various times during its history.

Masonry work on the Hazen Brigade Monument was most recently performed in 2003. As part of the work, all mortar was removed from the joints using hand tools. The stone was then cleaned using a twenty percent bleach solution. Finally, the joints were pointed with mortar composed of one part hydraulic lime and three parts sand.¹⁰⁵ Photographs accompanying the treatment record for this work show that the joints between

limestone units had previously been inappropriately routed out and widened.

The monument is listed in good condition on the LCS, but minor staining and the degree of weathering of the stone suggest that a more appropriate condition rating is fair. The newly pointed mortar joints are intact. There is some minor staining on the stone surfaces of the monument, but the staining is less significant than prior to the 2003 work. Staining and lichen growth is concentrated at the cap of the monument. The limestone used for the monument is relatively coarse and has weathered preferentially along planes which are coincident with the natural bedding layers, creating the potential for fragments of stone to spall.

The monument is enclosed by a five-foot-high, coursed limestone-block wall (LCS ID 090225). The wall is listed in good condition on the LCS, but deterioration of the masonry suggests that a more appropriate condition rating is fair. It was repaired and its design altered in 1895. A metal

105. *Preservation of the Hazen Brigade Monument: Historic Structures Record of Treatment* (Frederick, Maryland: National Park Service Historic Preservation Training Center, 2003).



FIGURE 127. Hazen Brigade monument, limestone wall, and metal gate at entrance.

gate provides access to the monument through the wall. Included within the confines of the perimeter wall are fifty-five headstones (LCS ID 090224) that mark the graves of fallen Union soldiers (Fig. 128). These include twenty-nine limestone headstones (20 inches high by 13 inches wide by 5 inches thick) and up to twenty-six marble headstones (16-1/2 inches high by 10 inches wide by 4 inches thick, and 15-1/2 inches high by 10 inches wide by 2 inches thick).¹⁰⁶ Some of these headstones are deteriorating. They are listed in good condition on the LCS; however, their condition suggests a rating of fair.

Outside of the wall and to the southeast of the enclosure are two additional marble headstones marking the graves of William Holland (died 1909) and William Harlan (died 1979) (Fig. 129). Holland was a former slave who purchased a tract of land adjacent to the Hazen Brigade

Monument site. Harlan was a descendant of Holland.

Views to the railroad tracks to the north are afforded from the monument, and are consistent with those present at the time of the monument's construction, since the railroad tracks were in place prior to the battle. This view is in good condition. The view to the northwest, however, has been negatively impacted by a twentieth century cement factory; little screening vegetation currently exists to diminish the impact of this view on the historic setting. From the southwestern corner of the character area, views across to the large expanse of the Nashville Pike unit are afforded that help provide a connection between the Hazen Brigade Monument and the battlefield landscape. These views are in good condition. Also evident in this location are views to the Thompson Lane Bridge as it passes over the Old Nashville Highway (Fig. 130). These views are generally incompatible with the historic setting of the Hazen Brigade Monument.

106. Height is measured from the average ground plane to the top of the stone. Typically, at least two-thirds of the stone is underground.



FIGURE 128. Headstones located within the monument wall.



FIGURE 129. Headstones of William Harlan and William Holland located outside of the monument wall.



FIGURE 130. View looking southeast toward Thompson Road bridge from the Hazen Brigade Monument parking lot.

Small-scale features within the character area are limited in number. They include hexagonal and vertical wayside exhibits placed at the monument and along the walk leading to the monument from the parking area; worm fencing placed along the road near, and edging, the parking area; and cannon along the walk leading to the monument. These features are generally in good condition.

Comparative Analysis

The Hazen Brigade Monument character area retains features and characteristics of the landscape that existed at the time of the Battle of Stones River, including its landform and topography and its visual and physical relationship to the Old Nashville Highway, the battlefield, and the railroad line. Constructed after the battle in 1863, the monument was completed while the region, including Fortress Rosecrans, was still occupied by Union forces, and while the war continued to rage. The parcel upon which the monument stood was administered by the War Department after its construction in 1863, and remained in federal ownership until, and after, the park was established. Although the Hazen Brigade Monument was likely the second or third Civil War monument erected in the United States, it is likely the oldest surviving monument today.¹⁰⁷ Features associated with its original construction continue to survive, including the monument, headstones, and enclosing limestone wall. Some of the original headstones have since been replaced with concrete replicas. Missing is the Round Forest referred to in various period accounts. Later additions that relate to or were present by the early park development period include repair of the limestone enclosing wall in 1895, placement of a gravestone for William Holland outside the wall, the parking lot, and possibly the sidewalk. The date of origin of the ornamental and shade tree plantings and the grave of William Harlan appears to post-date the commemorative period of significance, as does existing signage (Figs. 131 through 134).

107. Sean M. Styles, *Stones River National Battlefield Historic Resource Study* (Atlanta, Georgia: National Park Service, February 2004), 72. Two older gravestone-like monuments are known, one at Manassas, Virginia (no longer in existence), and one at Munfordville, Kentucky (relocated).



FIGURES 131 AND 132. The Hazen Monument was erected in 1863. The monument is comprised of a limestone block and surrounding perimeter limestone wall. Inside the wall, more than fifty soldiers are thought to be buried. The monument appears very much as it did when first constructed as seen in these two photographs, with the addition of interpretive signs and markers in the later photograph.



FIGURES 133 AND 134. The primary change to the monument occurred after 1888 when the enclosing wall was rebuilt and made taller. Today the setting of the monument is altered by views of a nearby factory, as seen in the contemporary image.

According to the Stones River National Battlefield Historic Resource Study, the Hazen Brigade Monument was constructed in “an area in the Round Forest containing the graves of forty-five of the brigade’s fallen.”¹⁰⁸ Historic photographs, however, consistently show the monument with little to no vegetation nearby. In reviewing current topographical maps, and with the knowledge that the Round Forest was located atop a hill, it appears that the Hazen Monument may have actually been located on the edge of the forest, rather than within it, although it is possible that the Round Forest was cut down after the battle for construction materials and firewood.

In comparing today’s landscape to that present during the Civil War, and later during the early park development period, little has changed. The landscape currently has a more manicured appearance and contains more deciduous woody vegetation than historically, but the general character of the site is intact. However, if future research shows that the Hazen Brigade Monument was indeed built within the Round Forest and was surrounded by a cedar thicket, than the historic scene will have changed to a greater degree.

While views to the railroad are still available, industrial and commercial features, as well as the Thompson Lane bridge, are also visible. These features post-date the commemorative period of

108. Ibid., 38.

significance and detract from the monument's setting.

Evaluation of Integrity

The Hazen Brigade Monument character retains all seven aspects of integrity for both the Civil War and early park development periods, although the monument was built after the battle and pertains to the broader Civil War period rather than the battlefield. The monument possesses integrity of location for its continued presence on this site, integrity of design for its

ongoing existence and general maintenance in its original form; integrity of materials and evidence of workmanship for the same reason; integrity of feeling due to the fact that it is still able to express the feeling of the 1863 post-battle aesthetic; and integrity of association based on its connection with the Civil War soldiers who constructed the monument. Integrity of setting is diminished by the intrusive views of nearby industrial and commercial development.

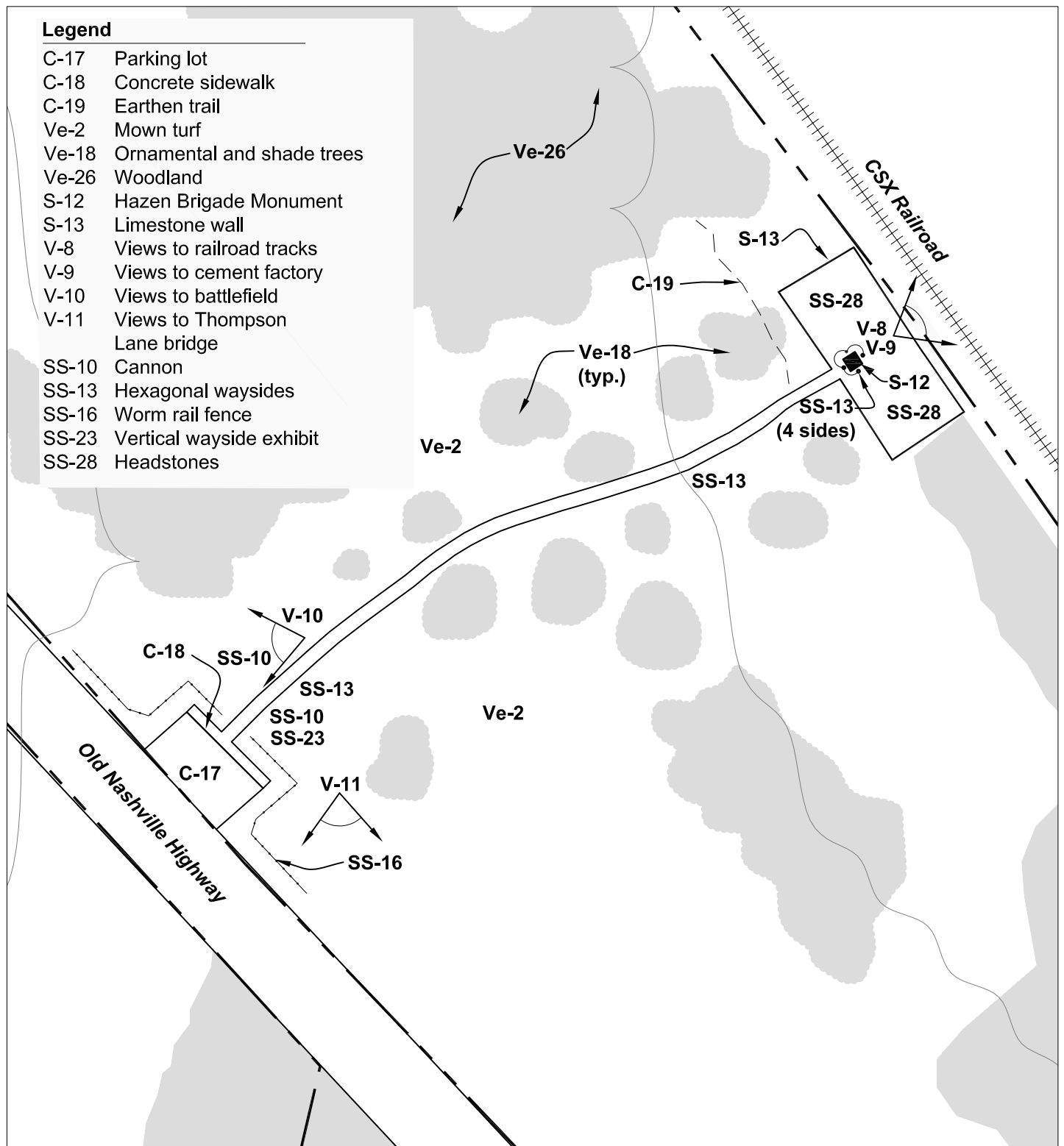
Table 4. Hazen Brigade Monument Landscape Features

CLR#	Landscape Feature	Condition	Signif.*	Date	Comment
C-17	Parking lot	Good	U	unknown	
C-18	Concrete sidewalk	Good	U	unknown	
C-19	Earthen trail	Good	NC	unknown	
Ve-2	Mown turf	Good	C-P	1931	
Ve-18	Ornamental and shade trees	Good	U	unknown	
Ve-26	Woodland at Round Forest	Good	U	unknown	
S-12	Hazen Brigade Monument	Fair	C-C	1863	LCS suggests monument is in good condition, but some limestone deterioration observed
S-13	Limestone wall	Fair	C-C	19th c.	LCS suggests wall is in good condition, but some limestone deterioration observed
V-8	Views to railroad tracks	Good	C-B	by 1863	
V-9	Views to cement factory	Fair	NC	20th c.	Views of factory detract from setting
V-10	Views to battlefield landscape	Good	C-B	by 1863	
V-11	Views to Thompson Lane bridge	Fair	NC	1990s	Views of bridge detract from setting
SS-10	Cannon	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-13	Hexagonal wayside exhibits	Good	NC	1963	The park considers these features to be in poor condition due to their outdated interpretive information
SS-16	Worm rail fence	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-23	Vertical wayside exhibit	Good	NC	2005	
SS-28	Headstones	Fair	C-C	19th c.	LCS suggests good condition, but deteriorating marble and limestone suggest fair condition

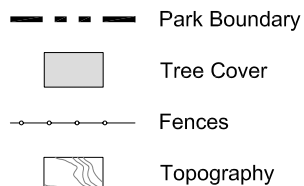
Missing Features

Portions of the Round Forest

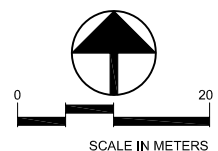
* The following abbreviations are used: C-B = Contributing to the Battle Period, 1862–1863; C-C = Contributing to the Early Commemoration Period, 1863–1926; C-P = Contributing to the Early Park Development Period, 1927–1931; NC = Non-Contributing; U = Undetermined.



Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.



Stones River National Battlefield Murfreesboro, Tennessee **Hazen Brigade Monument Existing Conditions Map** **Figure 135**



General Bragg's Headquarters Site

The General Bragg's Headquarters site character area occupies approximately three-quarters of an acre (seven acres within authorized boundary) south of the Nashville Pike unit (Refer to Fig. 149). It is found north of West College Street and the CSX railroad tracks, between West College Street and Stones River (Fig. 136). West College Street becomes the Old Nashville Highway closer to the park's Nashville Pike unit. The unit abuts the Stones River Greenway's General Bragg trailhead and parking lot. The City of Murfreesboro plans to alter the road and parking area associated with the site to facilitate access to both features. A fenced dog park was constructed adjacent to the site in 2006.

Landscape Features

Visitors to the General Bragg's Headquarters site leave their vehicles in the Stones River Greenway parking lot and follow a concrete sidewalk to the Bragg's Headquarters site. A section of this concrete sidewalk extends into the site to provide access to the actual monument, while another section leads to the Greenway trail northeast of the monument (Fig. 137). The sidewalk is in good condition.

The Bragg's Headquarters site character area is a long, rectangular parcel that stretches from the greenway trailhead access road almost to Stones River. The interior of the site is dominated by mown turf. The site is edged by rows of trees. The southeastern row of trees is comprised primarily of Eastern red cedars, although there are also two hackberry trees included in the row. The northwestern row of trees contains both hackberry trees and Eastern red cedars (Fig. 138). A single Eastern red cedar tree grows behind the monument. The mown turf and the trees are generally in good condition, but the rows appear to have lost some of the individuals, and others are in decline.

The parcel boundaries are marked by wood fencing (Fig. 139). The fencing is composed of stacked, hewn rails supported by two tall posts. The lowest railing in each section rests on a rock to limit contact with the ground and slow



FIGURE 136. Bragg's Headquarters site. Note open lawn and concrete sidewalk leading to the marker.



FIGURE 137. NPS sidewalk as it intersects the Stones River Greenway. Stones River is in the background.



FIGURE 138. One of two rows of trees that bound the site.



FIGURE 139. Close view of the two-post and stacked rail fence that bounds the site.



FIGURE 142. View to the Stones River Greenway trailhead and parking lot.



FIGURE 140. 1931 Bragg's Headquarters cannonball pyramid marker.



FIGURE 143. View to the adjacent field southeast of the site.



FIGURE 141. Vertical NPS wayside exhibit erected in 2005.



FIGURE 144. View looking southwest from Bragg's Headquarters site to the road and railroad tracks.



FIGURE 145. View from the Bragg's Headquarters site to the fenced dog park recently established by the city of Murfreesboro.



FIGURE 146. View from the dog park to the Bragg's Headquarters site.

moisture-related deterioration. The fencing is generally in good condition.

The monument that marks the site of General Bragg's Headquarters is a pyramidal cannon ball monument similar to the one that marks General Rosecrans's Headquarters site (LCS ID 007038). Built in 1931, the monument is a four-foot-high pyramidal stack of cannon shot resting on a six-foot-square granite base set in a circle of mown turf (Fig. 140). The aforementioned concrete sidewalk encircles the monument. The monument is in good condition.

An NPS wayside exhibit was erected near the parking lot in 2005 (Fig. 141). It replaced a Mission 66-era hexagonal sign interpreting the site that was stolen in the 1990s. The new sign is in good condition.

From the site, views are available in many directions due to the relative lack of development and the openness of the adjacent field and parking lot (Fig. 142 and 143). Views to the south, toward the railroad tracks and road, detract somewhat from the feeling and character of the site (Fig. 144). In 2006, the city constructed a post and wire fence-enclosed dog running area on the city owned parcel southeast of the Bragg's Headquarters site (Figs. 145 and 146). The city has also proposed constructing a new access road to the unit, which would circle behind an adjacent private residence before connecting to West College Street. These recent changes have a visual impact on the site.

Comparative Analysis

The Bragg's Headquarters site character area no longer retains any of the features and characteristics of the landscape that existed at the time of the Battle of Stones River. However, it does retain features established as part of the 1927–1931 early park development period, including its level landform and topography, grass plane, connection to the Old Nashville Highway, and most importantly the cannon ball monument marking the site of Bragg's Headquarters. Additions to the landscape that post-date the period of significance include the concrete walk, wood fencing, and rows of trees that mark the edges of the parcel. The landscape surrounding the character area has changed with the addition of the greenway and associated parking lot, and the loss of agricultural land uses within view of the monument (Figs. 147 and 148).

During the battle, this landscape was used as Confederate General Bragg's second headquarters. It is not known if General Bragg occupied a building or a tent in this location. Historic maps show that the second headquarters site was most likely a farm field or open field during Bragg's occupation and was located directly adjacent to the intersection of Old Nashville Pike and the railroad. Images from the 1930s show that little had changed in regard to adjacent lands by this time: the landscape surrounding the site continued to be used for agriculture.

Alterations to the headquarters site came in the 1930s when the War Department constructed the cannonball pyramid monument. In addition to the monument, a sidewalk and wire fence were erected. The wire fence is no longer present. The concrete walk at the site was replaced in the late 1990s. During that time, the original parking area was also removed. Also as part of the late 1990s work, new sidewalks were added connecting northwest to the adjacent city-owned trailhead parking lot and northeast to the Stones River Greenway trail.

Evaluation of Integrity

The Bragg's Headquarters site character area retains the four key aspects of integrity—location, setting, feeling, and association—for the battle period of 1862–1863 and all seven aspects of integrity for the early park development period of 1927–1931.

The headquarters site retains integrity of location as the site of the headquarters during the battle and the site of the monument during the early park development period. The integrity of design, materials, and workmanship of the cannonball monument are fairly intact. The setting of the character area is diminished for the battle period, owing to the presence of the greenway trailhead to the west, the dog park to the southeast, and the presence of the hedgerows and fences that delineate the site. However, the site possesses integrity of setting because the trailhead is not overly intrusive, a field still remains to the east of the character area, and the site retains its relationship to the river, road, and railroad. The integrity of setting is somewhat diminished by the fenced dog park that was established near the site in 2006. Integrity of feeling is also somewhat diminished due to the trailhead and dog park, yet the site's context remains open and it is easy to imagine how the landscape might have appeared when agricultural fields surrounded the headquarters. The character area retains integrity of association for conveying the link between this particular piece of land and its use as a military headquarters.



FIGURES 147 AND 148. The setting of the Bragg's Headquarters Monument has changed slightly since the monument was constructed in 1931. Worm fencing and tree plantings have been added along portions of the perimeter of the site. Fig. 147 shows that a curving concrete walk evident in this 1975 image has since been replaced with a straighter walk. The setting of the monument has been altered by the addition of a local trailhead and the loss of agricultural land uses around the monument.

Table 5. General Bragg's Headquarters Site Landscape Features

CLR#	Landscape Feature	Condition	Signif.*	Date	Comment
C-20	Concrete sidewalk	Good	NC	2004 (?)	
Ve-2	Mown turf	Good	C-P	1931	
Ve-19	Rows of trees	Fair	NC	unknown	Some of these trees are in decline or missing
V-12	Views to adjacent parking lot	Good	NC	20th c.	
V-13	Views to adjacent field	Good	NC	20th c.	
V-14	Views toward road	Fair	NC	20th c.	Views of road detract from setting
V-21	Views to dog park	Fair	NC	2006	
SS-19	Small wood sign	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-23	Vertical wayside exhibit	Good	NC	2005	
SS-29	Two-post, stacked rail fence with stone support	Good	NC	unknown	
SS-30	Cannonball pyramid monument	Good	C-P	1931	
SS-39	Parking/wayfinding sign	Good	NC	unknown	

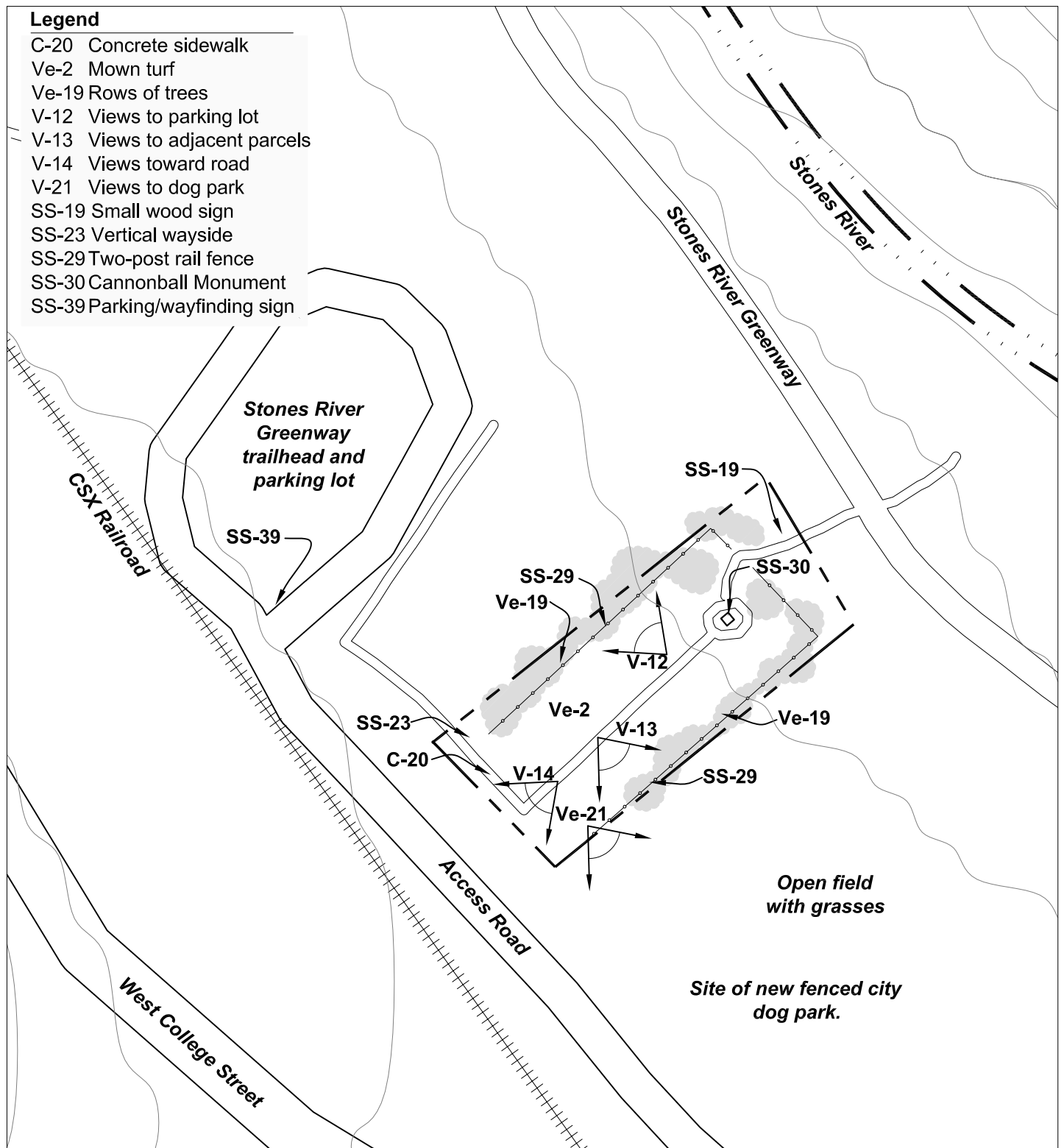
Missing Features

Features associated with use of site as General Bragg's Headquarters

- * The following abbreviations are used: C-B = Contributing to the Battle Period, 1862–1863; C-C = Contributing to the Early Commemoration Period, 1863–1926; C-P = Contributing to the Early Park Development Period, 1927–1931; NC = Non-Contributing; U = Undetermined.

Legend

- C-20 Concrete sidewalk
- Ve-2 Mown turf
- Ve-19 Rows of trees
- V-12 Views to parking lot
- V-13 Views to adjacent parcels
- V-14 Views toward road
- V-21 Views to dog park
- SS-19 Small wood sign
- SS-23 Vertical wayside
- SS-29 Two-post rail fence
- SS-30 Cannonball Monument
- SS-39 Parking/wayfinding sign



Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.

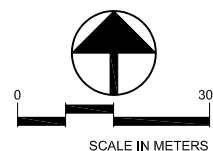
- Park Boundary
- Tree Cover
- Fences
- Topography
- River

Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Bragg's Headquarters Site Existing Conditions Map

Figure 149



Fortress Rosecrans: Curtain Wall No. 2 and Lunettes Palmer and Thomas

The surviving Fortress Rosecrans Curtain Wall No. 2 and Lunettes Palmer and Thomas earthworks are located southeast of the Nashville Pike unit and adjacent to the City of Murfreesboro's Old Fort Park (Refer to Fig. 168). The site is bounded to the north by Lytle Creek, to the west by the Stones River Greenway Trail, to the south by Golf Lane/Route 99, and to the east by Old Fort Park. Once part of the 200-acre earthen fortification known as Fortress Rosecrans, built immediately after the Battle of Stones River in 1863, the earthworks that survive today are some of the last remaining portions of a once-massive fortress/supply depot structure, and exist within a twenty-six-acre parcel that is administered as part of Stones River National Battlefield. Access to the earthwork occurs by way of an asphalt trail and boardwalk circulation network that also includes interpretive wayside exhibits. A second remnant earthwork—referred to as Redoubt Brannan—is also protected within the park. Redoubt Brannan is located north of the Curtain Wall No. 2 and Lunettes parcel, and is described later in this section.

Landscape Features

Curtain Wall No. 2 (LCS ID 090231), Lunette Palmer (LCS ID 090229), and Lunette Thomas (LCS ID 090230) comprise the last 2,500 feet of the southwest section of Fortress Rosecrans—roughly 17 percent of the original 14,600 linear foot earthwork structure that comprised the fortification. Fortress Rosecrans, built by Union soldiers to either side of the river in 1863, was originally constructed to serve as a supply depot for the Union army and to defend the critical bridge crossings of the railroad and Wilkinson Pike over Stones River. The fortification formed a loose oval covering some 200 acres. The fortress consisted of several types of earthen structures, supported by wooden planking and wire, placed to support each other and maintain a military advantage against attack. These structures were designed in accordance with the standards

established by West Point commandant Dennis Mahan in his *Treatise on Field Fortifications*.

A line of curtain walls, lunettes, and rifle pits 14,600 feet in length formed the fort's outer perimeter. The nine lunettes were fieldworks that consisted of two faces forming a salient angle with two parallel flanks that opened to the interior of the fort. Each lunette was named for a general officer assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. . . . [A] line of earthworks known as Curtain Wall No. 2, ran between Lunettes Thomas and Negley on the fort's southwestern face. Because Lunettes Negley, Thomas, and Curtain Wall No. 2 could be enfiladed by artillery on the west bank of the river, traverses set at right angles were constructed behind their walls. The lunettes and curtain walls were fitted with embrasures, V-shaped openings in the



FIGURE 150. Interior of Lunette Palmer with magazine in center.



FIGURE 151. Western edge of Curtain Wall No.2.

earthwork through which defenders fired their cannon. Large earth-filled wicker baskets called gabions were placed outside the embrasures for extra protection. Gabions were much larger than sandbags, portable, and would absorb several incoming Confederate rounds before splintering. Both the railroad and the pike bisected the fort, with openings in the fortress walls to allow passage on these arteries. . . .

Trees and brush within a thousand yards of the fort were cleared to provide unobstructed lines of fire for the defenders. Abatis, felled trees laid with their branches pointed outward, were placed between the lunettes and in the marshy ground where Lytle Creek and the river crossed the fort. . . .

Lunettes Palmer and Thomas and Curtain Wall No. 2 were constructed on the south bank of Lytle Creek to guard the Franklin Road.¹⁰⁹

The design of the system was intended to provide for cross fire and direct fire of both artillery and infantry on all of the possible approaches. Features such as bastions, redoubts, redans, lunettes, demilunettes, traverses, curtains, gabions, scarps, and embrasures were sited to accommodate the placement of artillery and the movement of equipment and personnel. Batteries were placed at various locations, and were typically associated with a magazine. Inside the fortification were blockhouses, huts, storage structures, stables.

The two earthwork components that survive at this site are curtain walls and lunettes (Figs. 150 and 151). Lunette Palmer today includes approximately 400 feet of parapet wall, 10 feet in height, a forward trench or ditch, a double traverse, and a third traverse and parapet that intersects with the curtain wall. The remains of a powder magazine are also present. Lunette Thomas, located along the southwestern end of the fortress, also consists of 400 feet of parapet wall, 10 feet in height, with a forward trench or ditch. Half of the lunette, along the side connecting to the curtain wall, has been lost. Curtain Wall No. 2 extends between Lunettes Palmer and Thomas. It includes 650 feet of parapet wall, approximately ten feet in height, a forward trench or ditch, and five traverses.



FIGURE 152. View from Lunette Palmer to parking lot and athletic complex beyond.



FIGURE 153. View from Lunette Thomas to golf course.



FIGURE 154. Asphalt parking lot with native plantings.

109. *Ibid.*, 35–37.

Currently, the earthworks parcel is edged to one side by a golf course and to the other by Lytle Creek (Figs. 152 and 153). These features serve to surround the site with open space and woodland, protecting it from views of nearby residential and commercial development. Views afforded from the site include the golf course and associated athletic complex, a smokestack, and the access road to the unit.

An asphalt parking lot that can accommodate twenty-seven cars serves both the NPS property and the city of Murfreesboro's Stones River Greenway Trail, which runs along the western edge of Lunette Palmer (Fig. 154). The parking lot is in good condition. Native plantings of shrubs, forbs, and grasses in the curbed islands lend an informal appearance to the parking lot. Species include aromatic sumac, shrubby St. John's wort (*Hypericum frondosum*), switch grass, whorled milkweed (*Asclepias verticillata*), false blue indigo (*Baptisia australis*), Tennessee purple coneflower, gay-feather (*Liatris spicata*), aromatic aster (*Aster oblongifolius*), prairie phlox (*Phlox pilosa*), and prairie coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*). These plantings are in good condition.

Social trails lead down the sloped topography of the site to access Lytle Creek (Figs. 155 and 156). These trails are in fair condition, with soil erosion of their hard-packed earth surface. A crevasse-like sinkhole sits near the western edge of Lunette Palmer. The sinkhole is covered with a metal grate and surrounded by wooden worm fencing to protect visitors from falling into the opening (Fig. 157).

The earthworks are maintained primarily in warm-season native grass cover including broomsedge (*Andropogon virginicus*), little bluestem, side-oats gramma-grass (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), Indian grass, and switch grass. This cover is generally in good condition, although there is also a great deal of poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) present on the earthworks and in surrounding areas.

Some trees are currently growing on the tops and sides of the fortification, primarily on Lunette Palmer and Curtain Wall No. 2. Predominant species include Eastern red cedar, Shumard oak (*Quercus shumardii*), winged elm (*Ulmus alata*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*), common hackberry,



FIGURE 155. Worm rail fence-edge social trail leading from path near Lunette Palmer to Lytle Creek.



FIGURE 156. Lytle Creek, looking northwest, with Greenway Trail pedestrian bridge in background.



FIGURE 157. Sinkhole covered with a grate and surrounded by worm rail fence.



FIGURE 158. Mature trees growing atop Lunette Palmer.



FIGURE 161. Asphalt path and typical wayside exhibit running along the northern edge of Curtain Wall No. 2.



FIGURE 159. Erosion and exposed earth on a segment of Lunette Palmer.

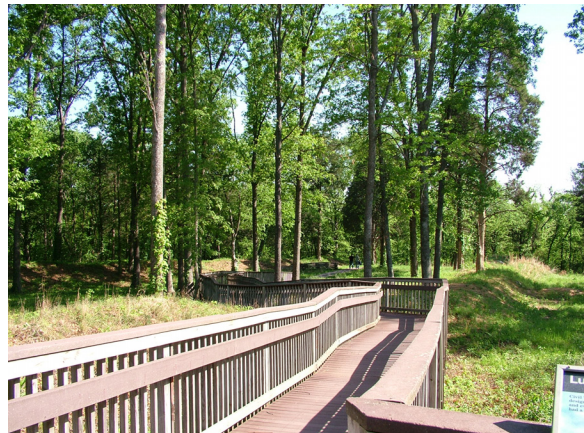


FIGURE 162. Recycled wood and plastic boardwalk at Lunette Palmer.



FIGURE 160. Erosion and an animal burrow on a segment of Lunette Palmer.



FIGURE 163. Boardwalk providing access to the parapet of Lunette Thomas.



FIGURE 164. Social trail near the eastern end of Curtain Wall No. 2 that connects the NPS trail with the parallel Greenway Trail.



FIGURE 165. Wood bench between Lunette Palmer and Curtain Wall No. 2.



FIGURE 166. Cannon and wayside exhibit. Cannon is pointed in the direction of the Rutherford County courthouse.

sugarberry, black walnut, and black cherry (*Prunus serotina*). These trees are generally small, although a few are larger than twelve inches diameter at breast height. The shade provided by these trees is a welcome addition for visitors (Fig. 158). Lunette Thomas has been cleared of trees and has a more open character.

Portions of the earthworks exhibit damage from erosion and animal burrows (Figs. 159 and 160); however, they are generally in good condition. It is not currently known to what degree the animal burrows have affected the root system of plants growing on the earthworks.

Visitors traverse the site along a six-tenths-mile network of asphalt paths and Trex recycled lumber boardwalks (Figs. 161 and 162). The asphalt paths direct visitors around the earthworks in a series of loops, while the boardwalks provide opportunities for getting closer to the earthworks and prevent the public from touching or walking on the fortifications (Fig. 163). The asphalt trails and recycled material boardwalks are in good condition. In addition to the social trails leading to Lytle Creek, social trails also cross the landscape between the NPS path and the recently-installed greenway trail, both located between the northern edge of the earthworks and Lytle Creek (Fig. 164).

Small-scale features associated with the site include wood benches (Fig. 165) and one recycled plastic bench along the boardwalk at



FIGURE 167. Present-day view from cannon location to Murfreesboro.

Lunette Palmer; wooden worm fencing; wayside exhibits; small, brown, wooden signs reminding visitors to stay off of the earthworks or denoting revegetation areas; one replica cannon; and wooden posts marking the northern boundary of NPS land. All of these features are in good condition. The cannon is not in an original artillery position, but was placed here to allow visitors to sight down the tube toward the courthouse (Figs. 166 and 167). During the Civil War, at least three cannon were trained on the courthouse from Fortress Rosecrans; the courthouse cupola is not visible from the fort at present.

Comparative Analysis

The Curtain Wall and Lunettes character area continues to retain evidence of the features and characteristics established after the Battle of Stones River by the Union Army to maintain control of two river crossings and a large supply depot. Although the earthen fortification is only partially represented and has lost some of its height and breadth, exterior cladding, interior structures, rifle pits, abatis, and circulation routes, the earthen remains are generally well-preserved from the Civil War. There are no features representative of the early park development period associated with the site. There are, however, later NPS access and interpretive features, such as waysides, benches, trails, and boardwalks that post-date the period of significance. The landscape in and around the fortification has been altered to a great degree, to now include woodland and grass cover, a golf course, and other twentieth century development.

During the Fortress Rosecrans-specific period (1863–1865), the curtain wall and lunettes were part of an immense supply depot—the largest enclosed earthwork constructed during the Civil War. Construction of the fortress resulted in the deforestation of large swaths of the surrounding area to place abatis, secure building materials and firewood, and establish a field of fire. The land surrounding the fortress likely looked as if it were part of a battle, with burned and cut tree stumps and little vegetation. The earthen walls of the fortification were highly erodible, and had to be maintained throughout the war. Within the fortress there were numerous buildings,

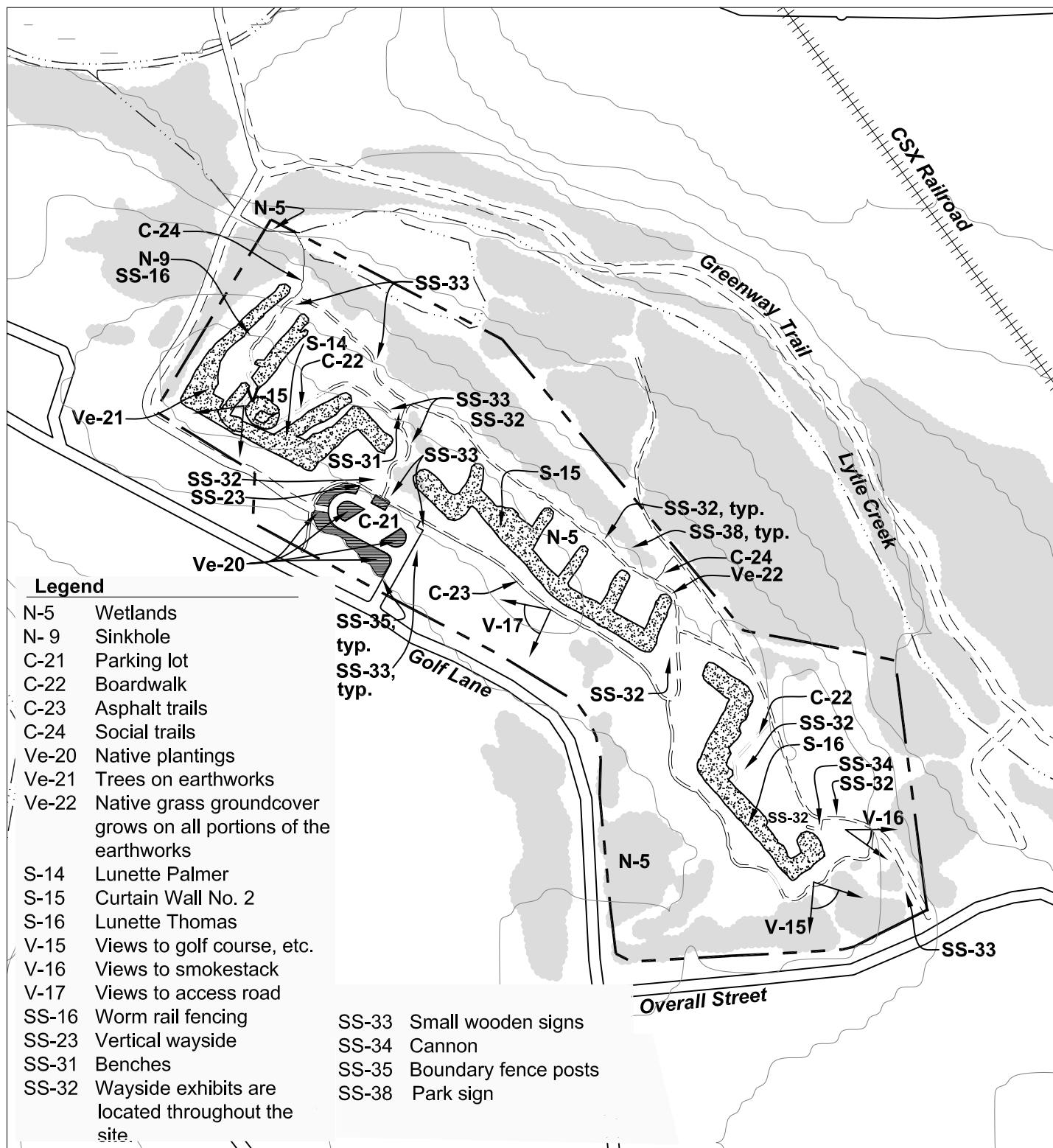
including blockhouses, sawmills, and various depots and warehouses, none of which survive.

The surrounding region is much changed, with commercial, residential, and light industrial development both altering the physical context of the landscape and breaking the once continuous fortress into discontinuous parcels. Old Fort Park, which fronts the curtain wall and lunettes, has helped to protect the parcel's setting to a degree. Long views from Lunette Palmer across the golf course continue to give an idea of the breadth of the field of fire.

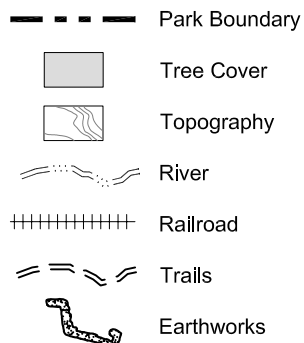
Evaluation of Integrity

The CLR team concurs with the integrity assessment included in the *Stones River National Battlefield Historic Resource Study*, which notes “Although most of Fortress Rosecrans is now gone, the elements that remain are substantial enough to convey the fort’s massiveness as well as its purpose and significance.”¹¹⁰

110. Ibid., 44.



Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.



Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Curtain Wall and Lunettes Existing Conditions Map

Figure 168

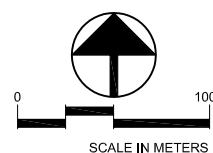


Table 6. Fortress Rosecrans Curtain Wall No. 2 and Lunettes Landscape Features

CLR#	Landscape Feature	Condition	Signif.*	Date	Comment
N-5	Wetlands	Good	U	unknown	Some invasives present
N-9	Sinkhole with metal grate protective covering and worm rail fencing	Good	U	1994/?	Grate placed over sinkhole to protect visitors in 1994; fencing a later addition
C-21	Parking lot	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
C-22	Boardwalk	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
C-23	Asphalt trails	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
C-24	Social trails	Fair	NC	1990s (?)	Bare earth is susceptible to erosion, may impact adjacent lands
Ve-20	Native plantings in parking lot	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
Ve-21	Trees on earthworks	Fair	NC	unknown	Larger than 12 inches dbh trees pose windthrow/toppling hazard
Ve-22	Native grass groundcover	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
S-14	Lunette Palmer	Fair	C-F	1863	Erosion, animal burrows, large trees on slopes
S-15	Curtain Wall No. 2	Fair	C-F	1863	Erosion, animal burrows, large trees on slopes
S-16	Lunette Thomas	Good	C-F	1863	
V-15	Views to golf course and athletic complex	Good	NC	1970s	
V-16	View to smokestack	Fair	U	20th c.	Viewshed thinning may allow views of Rutherford County courthouse
V-17	View to access road	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
SS-16	Worm rail fencing	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
SS-23	Vertical wayside exhibit	Good	NC	2005	
SS-31	Benches	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
SS-32	Wayside exhibits	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
SS-33	Small wooden signs	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
SS-34	Cannon	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
SS-35	Boundary fence posts	Good	NC	1990s (?)	
SS-38	Park sign	Good	NC	1990s (?)	

Missing Features

Barracks, warehouses located within Fortress Rosecrans

Evidence of former magazine exists near Lunette Palmer

Half of Lunette Thomas

* The following abbreviations are used: C-F = Contributing to the Fortress Rosecrans Period, 1863–1865; NC = Non-Contributing; U = Undetermined.

Fortress Rosecrans: Redoubt Brannan

Redoubt Brannan, like Curtain Wall No. 2 and the Lunettes, is one of the last remaining portions of the earthworks that comprised the larger Fortress Rosecrans structure. It was the last of four redoubts constructed within the fortress (Refer to Fig. 177). The redoubt occupies approximately seven acres near where West College Street passes over Stones River, and is located north of the Curtain Wall and Lunettes character area. During the Civil War, the redoubt occupied a key observation and protective position, with views of the railroad, river, and the Nashville Pike as they entered and ran through the fortress.

Landscape Features

Supporting the lunettes and curtain walls within Fortress Rosecrans were four redoubts meant to provide the last line of defense if the lunettes were breached. The redoubts were named Schofield, Brannan, T.J. Wood, and Johnson. Each was a rectangular earthwork containing artillery, a powder magazine, and a wooden cruciform blockhouse. Every redoubt was constructed on a hill and all were within 350 feet of the railroad. In addition, Redoubt Brannan was built astride the Nashville Pike and was the guardian of the wood-trussed rail and road bridges.¹¹¹

Redoubt Brannan is representative of many Civil War era redoubts; when constructed, Redoubt Brannan was a rectangular-shaped earthen berm 1,980 feet by 1,320 feet in size and between 10 and 20 feet tall. The earthen berm, or parapet wall, was fronted by a forward trench or ditch. The fortification included a sally port, or entrance, on the northwest side, a blockhouse in the center, and ramps and artillery platforms along the interior (LCS ID 007035).

The remains of Redoubt Brannan sit high on a bluff above Stones River; this position affords views to the river and the railroad bridge over the river to the west. Today, it also affords views to commercial and residential development to the south and east (Figs. 169, 170, and 171). The remnants of the cross-shaped blockhouse



FIGURE 169. View from Redoubt Brannan path to Stones River, looking west.



FIGURE 170. View from Redoubt Brannan to railroad bridge, looking southwest.



FIGURE 171. View from Redoubt Brannan to nearby commercial development, looking north.

111. Ibid., 37.



FIGURE 172. Asphalt parking lot.



FIGURE 173. Recycled wood and plastic boardwalk leading into the redoubt.



FIGURE 174. Concrete sidewalk which leads over Stones River along West College Street and to Redoubt Brannan.

foundation are still visible inside of the redoubt. Other features that survive of the original structure include the parapet wall, forward trench, ramps, and artillery platforms. The fortification remnant is generally in good condition.

The NPS has constructed a small asphalt parking lot southeast of the earthwork (Fig. 172). The parking lot is in good condition. As with the Curtain Wall No. 2 and Lunettes character area, the NPS has installed native ornamental plantings including aromatic sumac, shrubby St. John's wort, little bluestem, false blue indigo, Tennessee purple coneflower, and glade phlox (*Phlox bifida*). Native plantings in the parking lot area are in good condition. Visitors leave the parking lot and access the interior of the redoubt by following an asphalt and gravel path which becomes a recycled wood and plastic boardwalk (Fig. 173). The asphalt and gravel path is in fair condition due to the loose gravel, which is a slipping hazard. This boardwalk enters through the former sally port, turns southward, and ends; visitors return via the same route. The boardwalk is in good condition. A secondary means of access is available for people walking the greenway north from the Curtain Wall and Lunettes. Visitors walk up a short, paved connector trail from the greenway to a parking lot adjacent to Old Nashville Highway. After crossing the road, visitors then follow a sidewalk along a vehicular bridge to reach the site (Fig. 174).

Redoubt Brannan is maintained under native, warm-season grass cover, including broomsedge, big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), little bluestem, side-oats gramma-grass (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), Indian grass, and switch grass (Fig. 175). The grass cover is generally in good condition. There are just a few mature trees growing on the earthwork, and the redoubt is generally open in character. The slopes leading down to the river, however, are vegetated with trees, shrubs, and groundcovers such as grasses and forbs. This vegetation is in fair condition due to the presence of invasive alien plants.

Views to the railroad track and bridge were available from the redoubt during April 2006 fieldwork. It is likely that these views are not as apparent when the deciduous plants are in leaf. There are few small-scale features within this

site. They include wayside exhibits, stone entry gate pillars, and a park entry sign consisting of a stone pillar and foundation supporting a wood park sign (Fig. 176). These features are generally in good condition.

Comparative Analysis

The Redoubt Brannan character area continues to retain evidence of the features and characteristics established after the Battle of Stones River by the Union Army to maintain control of river crossings and a large supply depot. Although the earthen fortification is only partially represented, and has lost some of its



FIGURE 175. Interior view of Redoubt Brannan and earthwork vegetation.



FIGURE 176. NPS entrance sign and gate pillar.

height and breadth, exterior cladding, rifle pits, abatis, and circulation routes, the earthen remains are generally well-preserved from the Civil War period. There are no features representative of the early park development period associated with the site. There are, however, later NPS access and interpretive features, such as waysides, signs, stone entry gate pillars, trails, and boardwalks that post-date the period of significance. The landscape in and around the fortification has been altered to a great degree, to now include twentieth century commercial development to the north, east, and northwest.

Between 1863 and 1865, Redoubt Brannan—like Curtain Wall No.2 and Lunettes Thomas and Palmer—was part of the extensive system of earthworks collectively known as Fortress Rosecrans. Redoubt Brannan was constructed on a hill, within 350 feet of the railroad, and astride the Nashville Pike; Redoubt Brannan was therefore the “guardian of the wood trussed rail and road bridges.”¹¹² Given its strategic position, Redoubt Brannan had good views of the railroad, river, and the Nashville Pike bridge. Within the redoubt were artillery, a powder magazine, and a wooden, cruciform blockhouse, none of which survive.

At present, the surviving earthen parapet, dry ditches, ramps, and platforms of the redoubt remain in relatively good condition. The redoubt retains many of its original views, particularly to the railroad and vehicular bridges and river. Views to the river, however, are somewhat obscured by understory vegetation. Views to the commercial development to the north, east, and across the river to the northwest are intrusive and incompatible with the character of the site.

Evaluation of Integrity

The CLR team concurs with the assessment of integrity found in the *Stones River National Battlefield Historic Resource Study*: “Although most of Fortress Rosecrans is now gone, the elements that remain are substantial enough to convey the fort’s massiveness as well as its purpose and significance.”¹¹³ In addition, the CLR team agrees that “the setting of Redoubt Brannan

112. Ibid.

113. Ibid., 44.

has been somewhat compromised by adjacent commercial construction.”¹¹⁴ The character area’s assessment of integrity is bolstered by the retention of views to the railroad bridge and the redoubt’s continued relationship to the river and West College Street bridge.

114. Ibid.

Table 7. Fortress Rosecrans Redoubt Brannan Landscape Features

CLR#	Landscape Feature	Condition	Signif.*	Date	Comment
C-25	Parking lot	Good	NC	1990s	Clogged drainage grate
C-26	Asphalt-gravel path	Fair	NC	1990s	Loose gravel causing slipping hazard and may not be universally accessible
C-27	Boardwalk	Good	NC	1990s	
Ve-23	Native grass groundcover	Good	NC	1990s	
Ve-24	Vegetation on slope to river	Fair	U	1990s	
Ve-25	Native plantings in parking lot	Good	NC	1990s	
S-17	Redoubt Brannan	Good	C-F	1863	
V-18	Views to development	Fair	NC	20th c.	The high berm of the redoubt blocks some of the incompatible views
V-19	Views to the river	Fair	C-F	by 1863	Understory vegetation may block historic viewsheds to the river
V-20	Views to the railroad tracks	Good	C-F	by 1863	
SS-19	Small wood sign	Good	NC	1990s	
SS-36	Wayside exhibit	Good	NC	1990s	
SS-37	Stone entry gate pillars	Good	NC	1931 (?)	
SS-38	Park sign	Good	NC	1990s	

Missing Features

Powder magazine

Wooden blockhouse

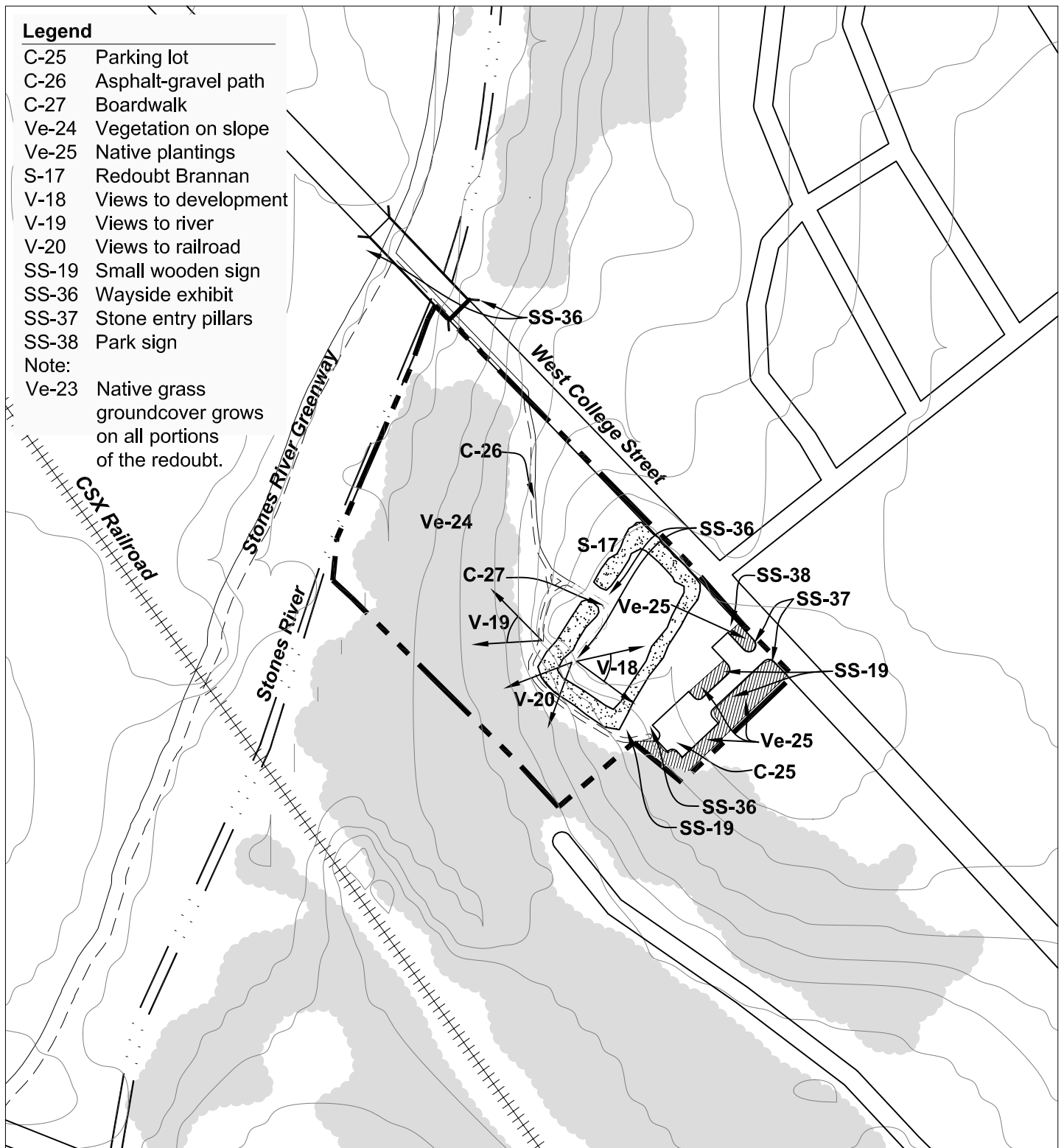
* The following abbreviations are used: C-F = Contributing to the Fortress Rosecrans Period, 1863–1865; NC = Non-Contributing; U = Undetermined.

Legend

- C-25 Parking lot
- C-26 Asphalt-gravel path
- C-27 Boardwalk
- Ve-24 Vegetation on slope
- Ve-25 Native plantings
- S-17 Redoubt Brannan
- V-18 Views to development
- V-19 Views to river
- V-20 Views to railroad
- SS-19 Small wooden sign
- SS-36 Wayside exhibit
- SS-37 Stone entry pillars
- SS-38 Park sign

Note:

- Ve-23 Native grass groundcover grows on all portions of the redoubt.



Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.

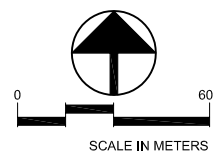
- Park Boundary
- Tree Cover
- ▭ Topography
- ~ River
- ++++ Railroad
- == Trails
- ⚡ Earthworks

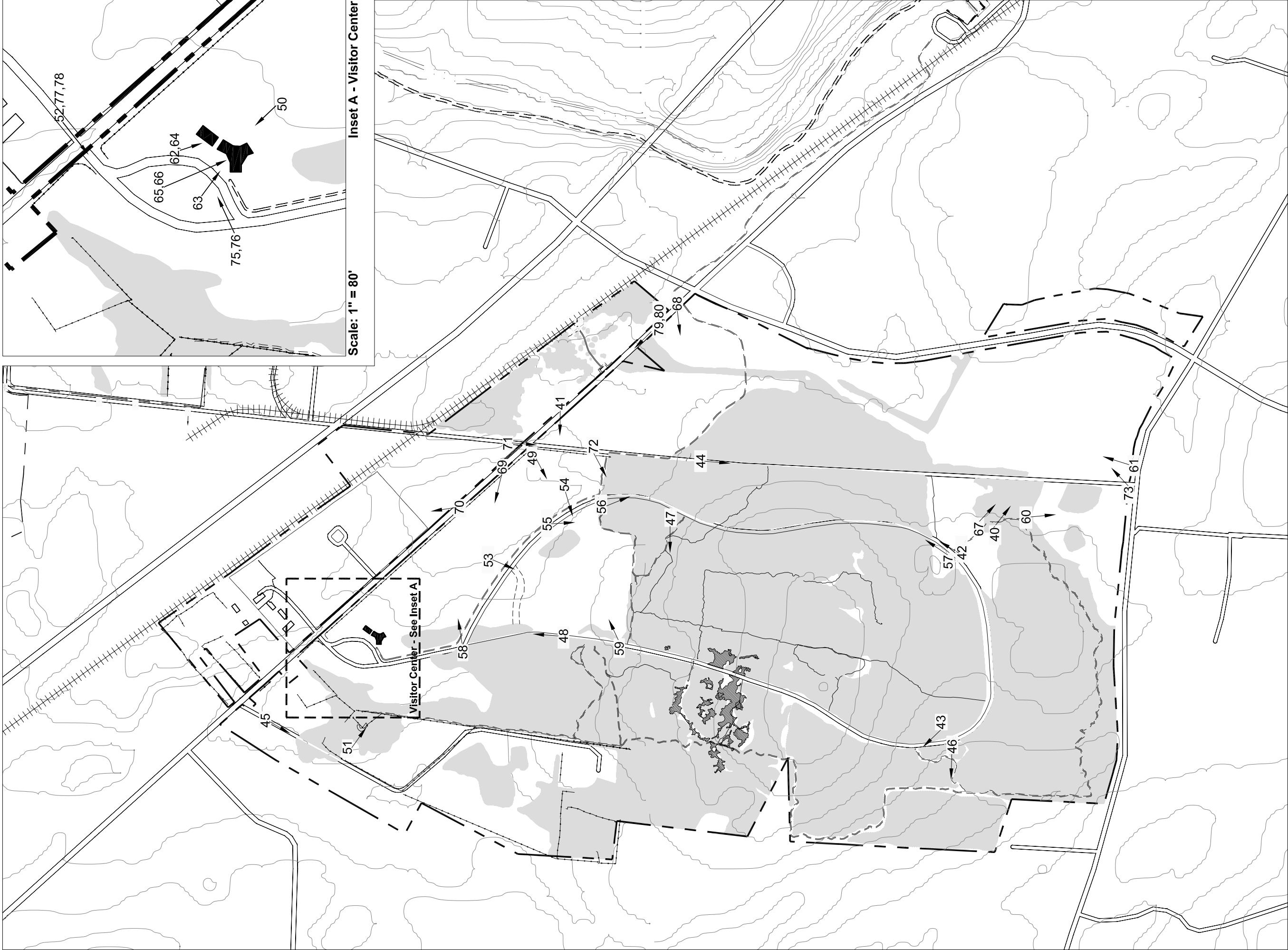
Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Redoubt Brannan Existing Conditions Map

Figure 177





Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|-------------------|
| | Park Boundary | | Roads |
| | Tree Cover | | Trails |
| | Cedar Glades | | Unofficial Trails |
| | Buildings/ Structures | | Railroad |
| | Fences | | River |
| | | | Topography |

Stones River National Battlefield

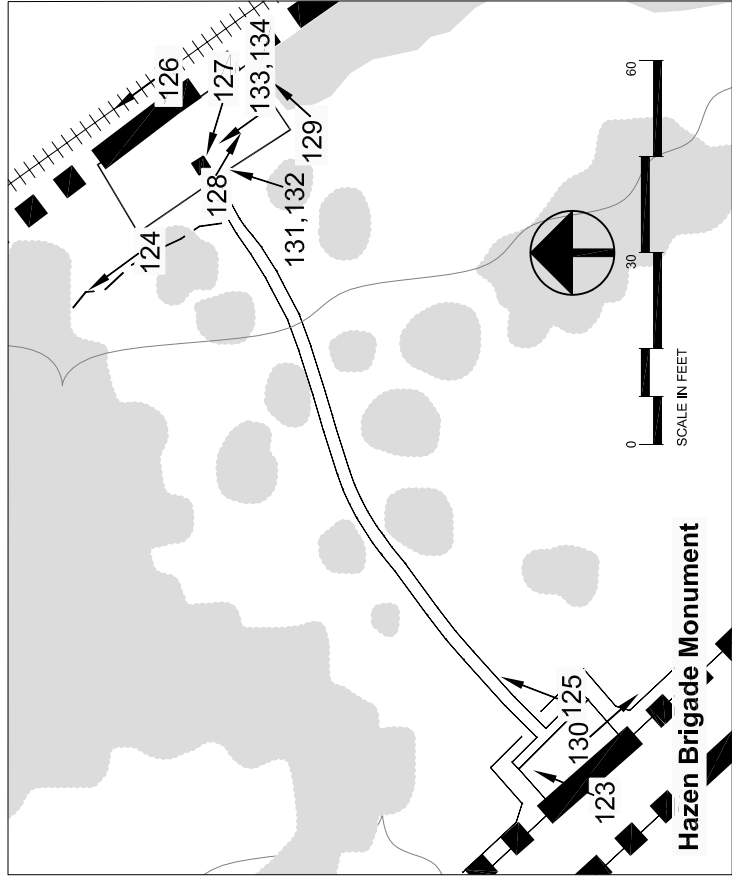
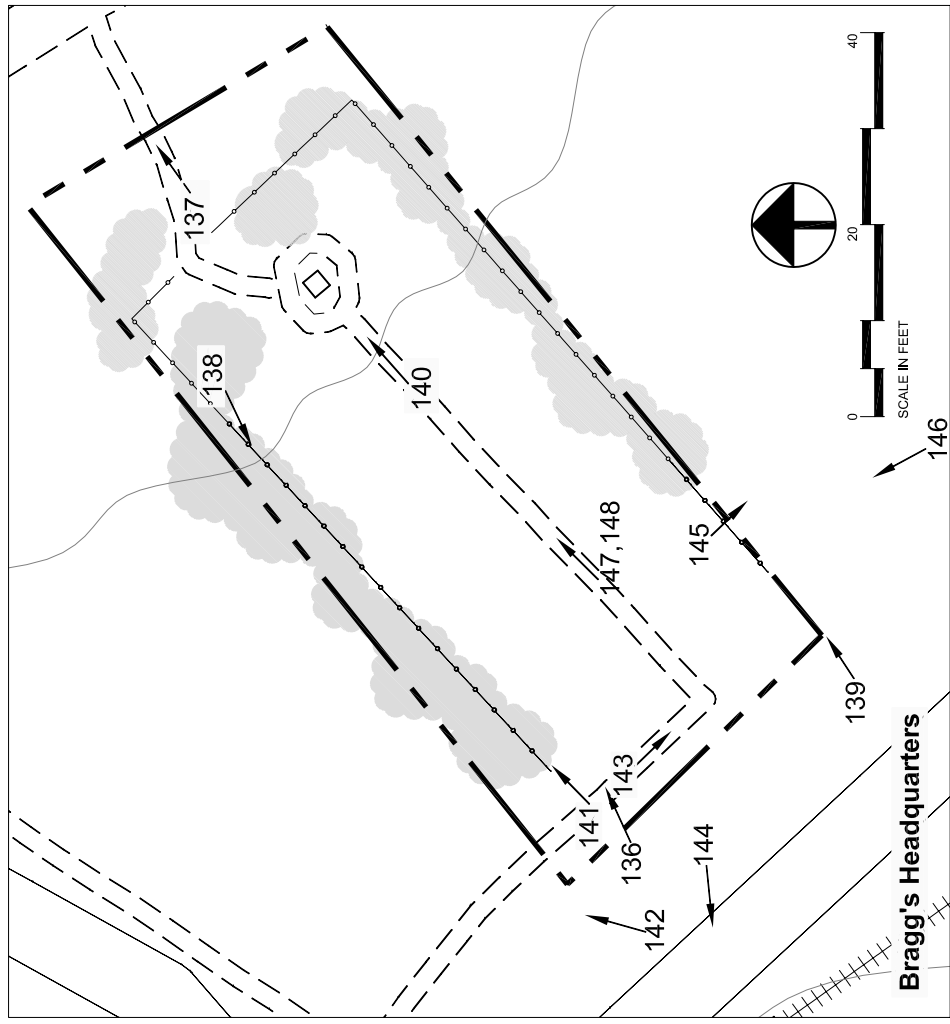
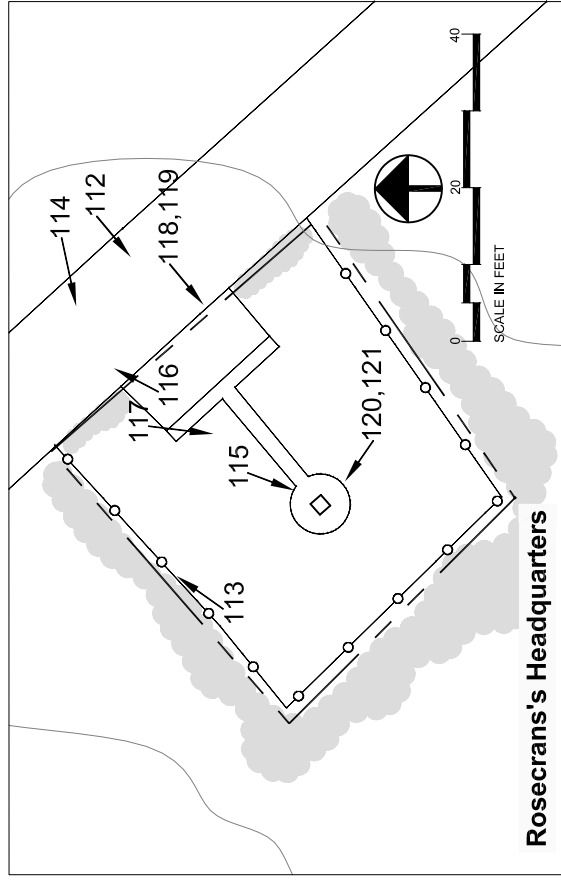
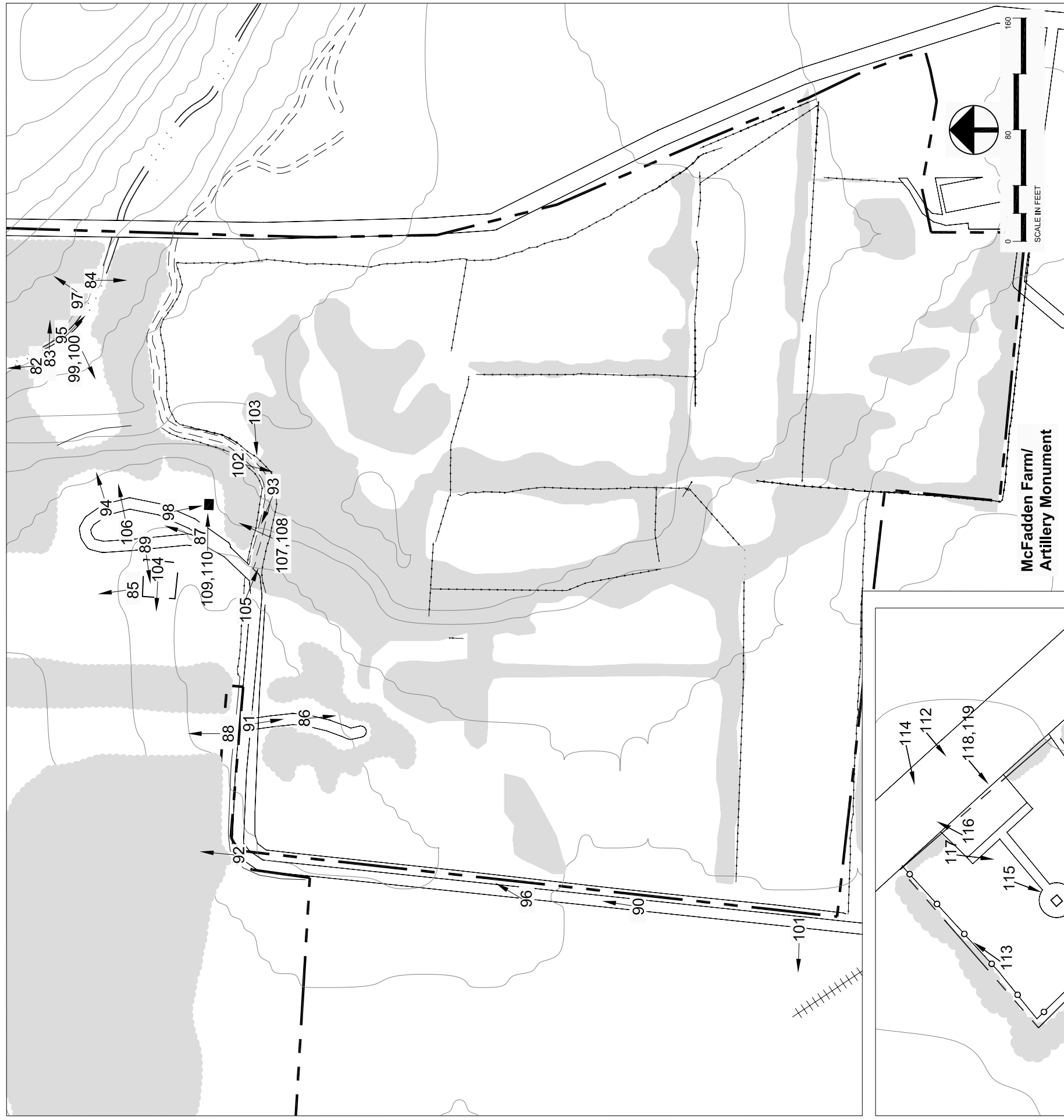
Nashville Pike Unit

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Photographic Station Points Map
Figure 178



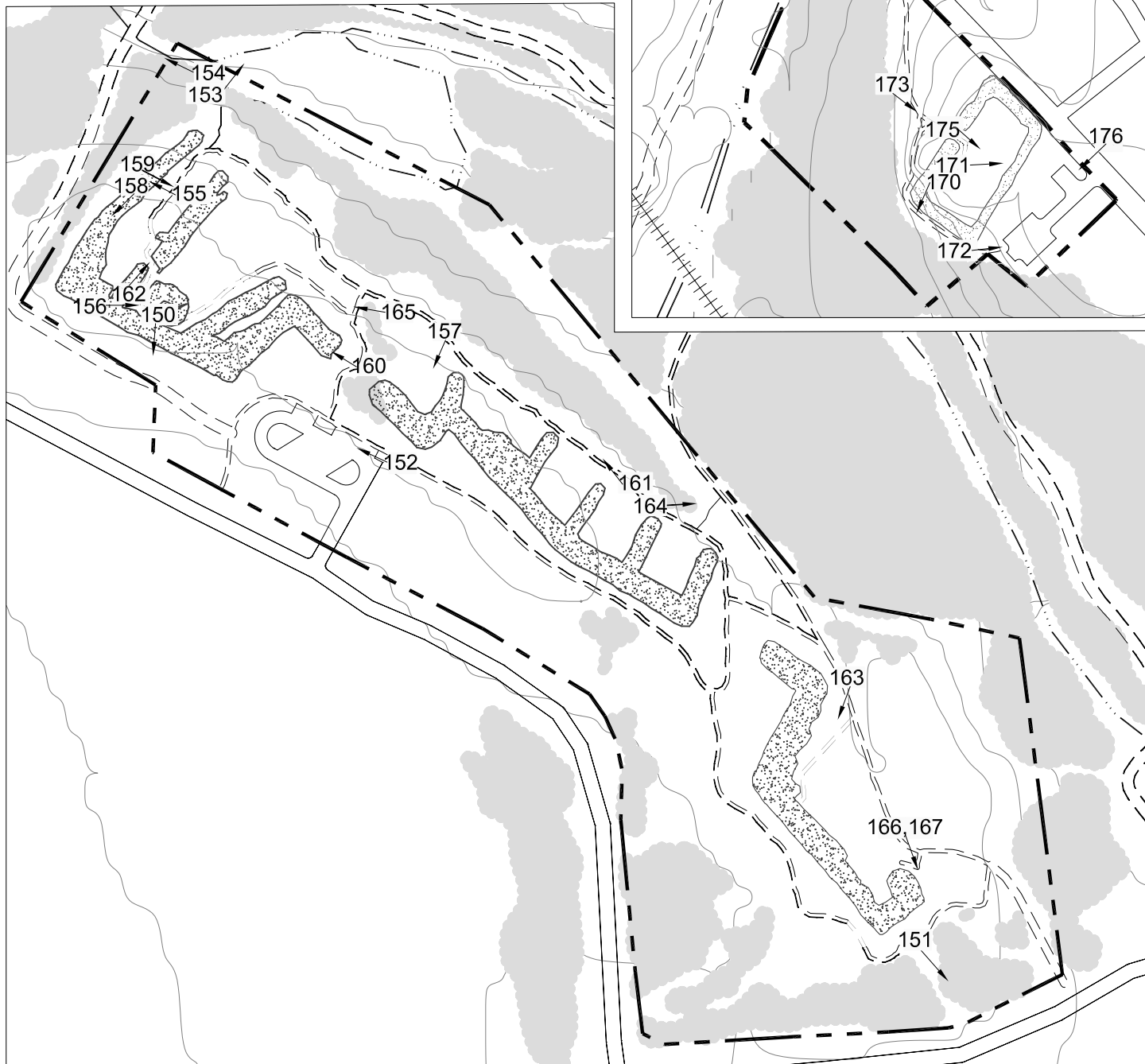
SCALE IN FEET







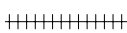
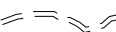

Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.



Figure 179

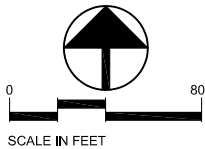


Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.

-  Park Boundary
-  Tree Cover
-  Topography
-  River
-  Railroad
-  Trails
-  Earthworks

Stones River National Battlefield Murfreesboro, Tennessee

**Curtain Wall #2, Lunettes Palmer and Thomas,
 and Redoubt Brannan**
Photographic Station Points Maps
Figure 180



Treatment Plan

Introduction

The treatment recommendations and guidelines that comprise this chapter were prepared to provide Stones River National Battlefield with an overall vision for the park's cultural landscape that will sustain long-term management and interpretation. They arise from a synthesis of work undertaken by the project team to prepare this Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), and consideration of the park's General Management Plan (GMP). The treatment recommendations also address the needs and recommendations identified in various park planning documents, including the *Development Concept Plan and Environmental Assessment for Improvements to the Self-guiding Tour Routes* (2005), *Fire Management Plan* (2003), and the management issues outlined for the CLR team by park personnel during the April 2006 meeting.

This treatment chapter is organized into the following six sections:

1. **Management Issues, Goals, and Objectives** provides an outline of the management issues collected by the CLR team from various sources, including the GMP, various environmental assessments and planning documents, and park personnel.
2. **Recommended Landscape Treatment Approach** outlines the four alternatives recognized by the Secretary of the Interior for treating historic landscapes and identifies the most appropriate approach for the park, as well as communicates an overarching philosophy that guides the recommendations and guidelines that comprise the treatment plan for the Stones River National Battlefield landscape. It also provides the rationale for the selection and describes why the other alternatives were not selected.
3. **Treatment Concept** outlines the overarching philosophy or approach that drives the treatment recommendations,

guidelines, and their implementation. The treatment concept is illustrated on the Treatment Concept Plan. Refer to Fig. 181.

4. **Treatment Considerations by Landscape Characteristic** describes the management issues associated with each landscape characteristic and presents an overarching recommended approach to their consideration.
5. **General Treatment Guidelines** identifies the guidelines that apply to the park as a whole, regardless of any alternatives-based choices that are made by the park.
6. **Treatment Recommendations by Character Area** identifies the treatment recommendations that apply to each character area of the park.

Management Issues, Goals, and Objectives

The park's purpose, as stated in the GMP, is "to preserve and interpret the battlefield of Stones River, to mark the significant sites, and to promote understanding and appreciation of the battle and related events."¹¹⁵ The park's vision for its future is a non-distracting environment where visitors can:

- contemplate the sacredness of the battlefield;
- understand and appreciate the Battle of Stones River and its significance; and
- experience a personal connection with this past human conflict.¹¹⁶

Taking these broad purpose and vision statements into consideration, of particular importance for developing a treatment plan for Stones River National Battlefield are the management objectives identified by the park in

115. National Park Service, *Stones River National Battlefield Tennessee: Final General Management Plan/ Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, November 1998), 11.

116. Ibid.

developing the GMP. These include the following:

Interpretation

- Interpret the Battle of Stones River within the context of the Western Theater and the Civil War.
- Provide visitors the opportunity to understand the objectives, strategies, and tactics of the battle.
- Provide an atmosphere at a series of vignettes/sites that allows the visitor to visualize the rural setting at the time of the battle, understand the battle events, and contemplate the sacredness of the ground.

Cultural Landscape

- Preserve a core segment of the Stones River battlefield, representative of major battle action, in a way that allows visitors to visualize and imagine the influence of landscape features on the strategy and outcome of the battle.
- Preserve, to the greatest extent practicable, and restore to a general 1860s appearance the land within the authorized boundary of the national battlefield.
- Maintain the open space and mark the sites of Rosecrans's and Bragg's headquarters.
- Preserve the 1892 design of the national cemetery's landscape and the 1860s design of the Hazen Brigade Monument, and maintain a quiet, reflective, and reverent atmosphere.
- Preserve and stabilize remnants of Redoubt Brannan, Lunettes Palmer and Thomas, and Curtain Wall No. 2.
- Provide controlled access to earthworks to interpret the fort (Fortress Rosecrans) and allow visitors to understand the extent of the fortifications and their significance.

Adjacent Lands

- Develop preservation/mitigation strategies with landowners and local governments to

achieve the general appearance of an agricultural landscape as viewed from interpretive areas within the national battlefield.

- Encourage creation of a park-like experience in corridors linking noncontiguous units.
- Encourage interpretation of the greater battlefield through cooperation with landowners and local government agencies.¹¹⁷

The planning issues and concerns associated with long-term management of the park's lands and its resources are documented in the GMP as follows:

- Plans for resource protection/management, visitor use, interpretation, and facility development for much of the land within recently authorized and expanded park boundaries do not exist.
- Visitors leave the park and its environs with a poor understanding of the battle for a number of reasons:
 - The tour route overlooks important resources, bears little relationship to the battle sequence, and lacks a coherent interpretive purpose or theme.
 - Informational and interpretive signs in the park are inadequate, and wayside exhibits are obsolete, inaccurate, ineffective, and incomplete.
 - The audiovisual program is outdated.
- Although the authorized boundary encompasses 712 acres, only about 520 acres are federally owned and publicly accessible, thus limiting opportunities for NPS on-site interpretation. Of that figure, only 489 acres, or twelve percent of the original battlefield, are federally owned.
- Park lands are not contiguous. From one unit to the next, major discontinuities in land use affect the visitor experience.

117. Ibid., 12.

- Much of the landscape outside the park has changed significantly since the battle, even in agricultural areas. Patterns of field/forest have changed. Land use is changing from rural to urban and commercial. This diminishes the battlefield's integrity and makes it difficult for visitors to understand the battle.
- The need for more community "green space" leads to increased demand for the national battlefield to accommodate activities such as jogging, picnicking, camping, sunbathing, group bike touring, weddings, and kite flying. The sum of these activities is incompatible with the park purposes of interpretation and resource protection.
- Non-native species such as bush honeysuckle, Chinese privet, and kudzu are detracting from the ability to interpret and preserve battlefield resources, including earthworks, inducing change in the cultural landscape, and may be adversely affecting cedar glade habitat and threatened or endangered species such as the Tennessee coneflower.
- River flooding results in resource alteration and damage to facilities, such as the stone wall at the Artillery Monument. The stone wall and spring box are modern intrusions constructed during the 1970s, and are inappropriate components of the cultural landscape. These modern elements make it difficult to interpret the battle story at this location.
- The protection, display, storage, preservation, and documentation of park collections are inadequate.
- Access to parking areas at noncontiguous sites such as the Rosecrans Headquarters site, the national cemetery, and the Hazen Brigade Monument is unsafe due to the volume of feeder road traffic. Heavy traffic also makes pedestrian crossings on Old Nashville Highway increasingly unsafe.
- Thompson Lane provides greater access to battlefield lands for development and will increase the level of traffic along feeder roads, particularly Wilkinson Pike and Old Nashville Highway. State Highway 840 will promote commercial and industrial development along U.S. Highway 41/70S. In addition, increasing urban development south and west of the park and Interstate Highway 24 is expected to significantly increase traffic along Wilkinson Pike. This potential increase in development and traffic could have an adverse effect on resources, air quality, the visitor experience, and safety as historic corridors continue to lose their integrity.
- While some land uses surrounding the park are incompatible with park objectives for preserving the historic scene and providing a quality visitor experience, there are lands in the original battlefield that retain integrity, and if protected, could enhance interpretation and the visitor experience. In addition, new highway construction and other factors are increasing the pressure for development of those lands within the original battlefield that retain integrity. With respect to land use and development design guidelines, the park, county, and city do not have a comprehensive approach to conserving the battlefield and related resources in the face of rapid land use change.
- Increased commercial and residential use on lands adjacent to the park boundary would result in noise levels that could adversely affect the visitor experience within the park. The solitude that is desirable for visitors at the Hazen Brigade Monument and the national cemetery is continuously interrupted by the sights and sounds of adjacent land use.
- A telecommunications tower was recently constructed along Wilkinson Pike and is visible from Redoubt Brannan and the southeast corner of the main section of the park. Another tower, which might also be in the park's viewshed, has been proposed along Old Nashville Highway. There is a potential for more such structures to be constructed near the park, resulting in adverse impacts on park values as additional modern intrusions on the historic scene.¹¹⁸

118. Ibid., 15–16.

The proposed action alternative of the GMP focused on preserving a “larger area of the original battlefield and creating a sense of place where visitors can better understand and appreciate the battle and its role in the Civil War.”¹¹⁹ By emphasizing the available long vistas across which the battle occurred, the proposed action would “allow visitors to appreciate the immense scale of the Battle of Stones River and to understand the battle in a more holistic way than is possible at present. This proposed action would be accomplished through boundary expansion and land acquisition, restoration to a general 1860s era landscape, new exhibits, and a new tour route.”¹²⁰ The land acquisition strategy identified five parcels that were of interest to the park and eight areas that were studied for appropriate protection strategies. It should be noted that by 2005 the acquisition of lands south of Wilkinson Pike was deemed no longer viable because the city constructed a four-lane divided road, Medical Center Parkway, through this area. Because of this and other new development in this area, some of the lands proposed for acquisition are now unattainable. As such, the GMP’s preferred alternative for the self-guided tour route was not considered a viable option for the 2005 DCP/EA, which analyzed alternatives for improvements to the tour route. While there are a few parcels within the current authorized park boundary that NPS could acquire, an expansion of the authorized boundary as proposed by the GMP would require an act of Congress.

The GMP also discusses the park’s approach to cultural resource management. It notes:

On lands outside park boundaries, park management would encourage neighbors to maintain a general appearance of an agricultural landscape, or at a minimum, open space. Within the park boundaries, cultural landscape reports would be produced that would prescribe how the landscape should be modified to approximate an 1860s era appearance . . . As part of this landscape modification, post-war structures would be removed and safety hazards would be eliminated . . . In the case of degraded lands, cultural landscape reports would prescribe the level of treatment in

terms of landforms, vegetation, and facilities necessary to have the property approximate its appearance at the time of the battle.¹²¹

As identified in the CLR project scope of work,

During the last thirty years threats to the historic integrity of the [park’s cultural landscapes] have increased. Some battlefield landscapes no longer reflect the 1862 appearance. Previously clear areas are now overgrown with woods; previously forested areas have thinned or receded. Additionally, residential and commercial development has occurred on the battlefield as Murfreesboro has expanded. An increase in traffic along the park’s boundary prompted the construction of the intrusive Thompson Lane Connector by the Tennessee Department of Transportation across a section of the original battlefield adjacent to the park. Development has also introduced light and noise pollution to the park, including the floodlights of nearby automobile dealerships and traffic noise from as far away as Interstate 24 to the southwest. Other threats include in-house transportation and infrastructure projects and associated development, such as current planning for the alteration of the existing tour road.

Completion of a cultural landscape report (CLR) is needed to support informed planning for future development and identify possible mitigation strategies to ensure protection of the significant resources at Stones River. Treatment guidelines provided in the CLR would also allow the park to plan projects that would improve the condition of the landscapes to meet their strategic plan goals.¹²²

The management objectives of the CLR treatment plan were derived from discussions with park personnel at the project start-up meeting in October 2005, in subsequent discussions about the project in April 2006, and as a result of the research and analysis conducted on behalf of this study. The most important

119. *Ibid.*, 19.

120. *Ibid.*

121. *Ibid.*, 25.

122. National Park Service, “Project Agreement / Scope of Work; Cultural Landscape Report, Stones River National Battlefield: Core Battlefield, Artillery Monument, General Bragg’s Headquarters, and General Rosecrans’s Headquarters” (Atlanta, Georgia: Southeast Regional Office, June 2005), 2.

objectives of the CLR are to provide treatment recommendations and guidelines concerning:

- Vegetation management
- Changes in land cover to more closely approximate field and forest patterns at the time of the battle
- Protection of the cedar glades from visitor access
- Monitoring and control of invasive alien species
- Views within the park
- Protection of the park visitor experience and viewsheds from adjacent development
- Development of preservation/mitigation strategies with landowners and local governments to achieve the general appearance of an agricultural landscape as viewed from interpretive areas within the national battlefield
- Enhancement of the interpretive experience
- Encouragement of a park-like experience in corridors linking noncontiguous units of the park
- Encouragement of interpretation of the greater battlefield through cooperation with landowners and local government agencies
- Enhancement of opportunities for contemplation and reflection within the battlefield
- Recommendations for interpreting features missing from the Civil War era landscape
- Improvement of the effectiveness of the self-guiding interpretive program
- Enhancement of ADA/ADAAG accessibility of interpretive resources and programs
- Protection strategies for earthworks
- Review of the proposed new tour road alignment and trails for their potential impact on the cultural landscape; provision

of recommendations to mitigate any anticipated impacts

- Review of the proposed concept plan for the McFadden Farm site
- Use of the newly acquired parcel near the McFadden Farm site as a natural resource interpretive trail/bird watching area
- Consideration of vegetative cover type(s) for interpreted open fields
- Recommendations for improving interpretation of the Pioneer Brigade earthworks
- Recommendations for improving the consistency and compatibility of site furnishings and objects within the park, including signage
- Recommendations for improving the historical accuracy of interpreted fences

Recommended Landscape Treatment Approach

The Secretary of the Interior currently recognizes four primary treatment alternatives for historic properties: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. These are defined and discussed in the NPS guidance document, Director's Order No. 28: *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, as well as *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*, as follows:

Preservation is the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of a historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.

Rehabilitation is the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.

Restoration is the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by removing features from other periods in its history and reconstructing missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project.

Reconstruction is the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a

specific period of time and in its historic location.

Based upon the park's need to meet current and projected future interpretive, functional, and management goals, **rehabilitation** is recommended as the appropriate treatment alternative for the Stones River National Battlefield landscape. Because rehabilitation is defined as "the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property," this approach will allow for protection of the site's historic character and resources while carefully addressing the needs for enhancement of interpretive opportunities and circulation routes, ecological maintenance and restoration, and the improvement of visitor amenities as outlined in the GMP.

Under the rehabilitation treatment alternative, stabilization, protection, and preservation of historic and natural resources are actions that must occur in order to allow for the limited accommodation of new uses. As part of the treatment recommendations, those resources and systems at Stones River National Battlefield that are to be the focus of stabilization, protection, and preservation are noted, as are the aspects or areas of the battlefield landscape that are particularly sensitive to change and disturbance. Sensitive habitats and biotic resources, as well as sites of known and potential archeological resources, for example, should be treated with great care. In general, the CLR recommends preservation of archeological resources unless a compelling research question or informational need justifies disturbance or excavation or unless mitigation to accommodate unavoidable change is necessary.

In considering the other treatment alternatives recognized by the Secretary of the Interior for the Stones River National Battlefield landscape, the CLR found them inappropriate for the following reasons. **Preservation** is overly restrictive because it does not allow for the enhanced interpretation and site access recommended in the GMP. **Restoration** and **reconstruction** are inappropriate for the Stones River National Battlefield landscape because they assume, as a prerequisite, that sufficient documentation exists to accurately portray a lost historic condition. At this time, it does not

appear that documentary sources detailed enough to support restoration or reconstruction of the Stones River National Battlefield cultural landscape exist.

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

The following section summarizes the standards for rehabilitation espoused by the Secretary of the Interior for historic properties. The ten basic principles that comprise the standards are intended to help preserve the distinctive character of a site, while also allowing for reasonable change to meet new needs. The standards (36 CFR Part 67) apply to historic properties of all periods, locations, sizes, conditions, and uses. These standards create a baseline of guidance to which intended changes to the historic landscape must be compared. These standards are neither technical nor prescriptive, but promote responsible preservation practices as follows:

1. A property will be used as it was historically, or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.
2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.
4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.
7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Treatment Concept

The treatment plan for Stones River National Battlefield provides a vision for the site as a whole, as well as site-specific guidance for individual resources. This section is intended to convey the overarching vision or concept for treatment, within which the more specific recommendations that follow can be understood. Refer to Fig. 18I, Treatment Concept Plan.

The park is already successfully managing the cultural landscape of the battlefield and balancing cultural and natural resource values. The park has recognized the need to protect and enhance the rare cedar glade habitats, to more closely approximate historic field and forest patterns, and to provide better interpretation through signage, waysides, selective screening and clearing for views, and better connections between battlefield resources, some of which occur on noncontiguous parcels. To assist the park in these goals, the CLR treatment plan concept is as follows.

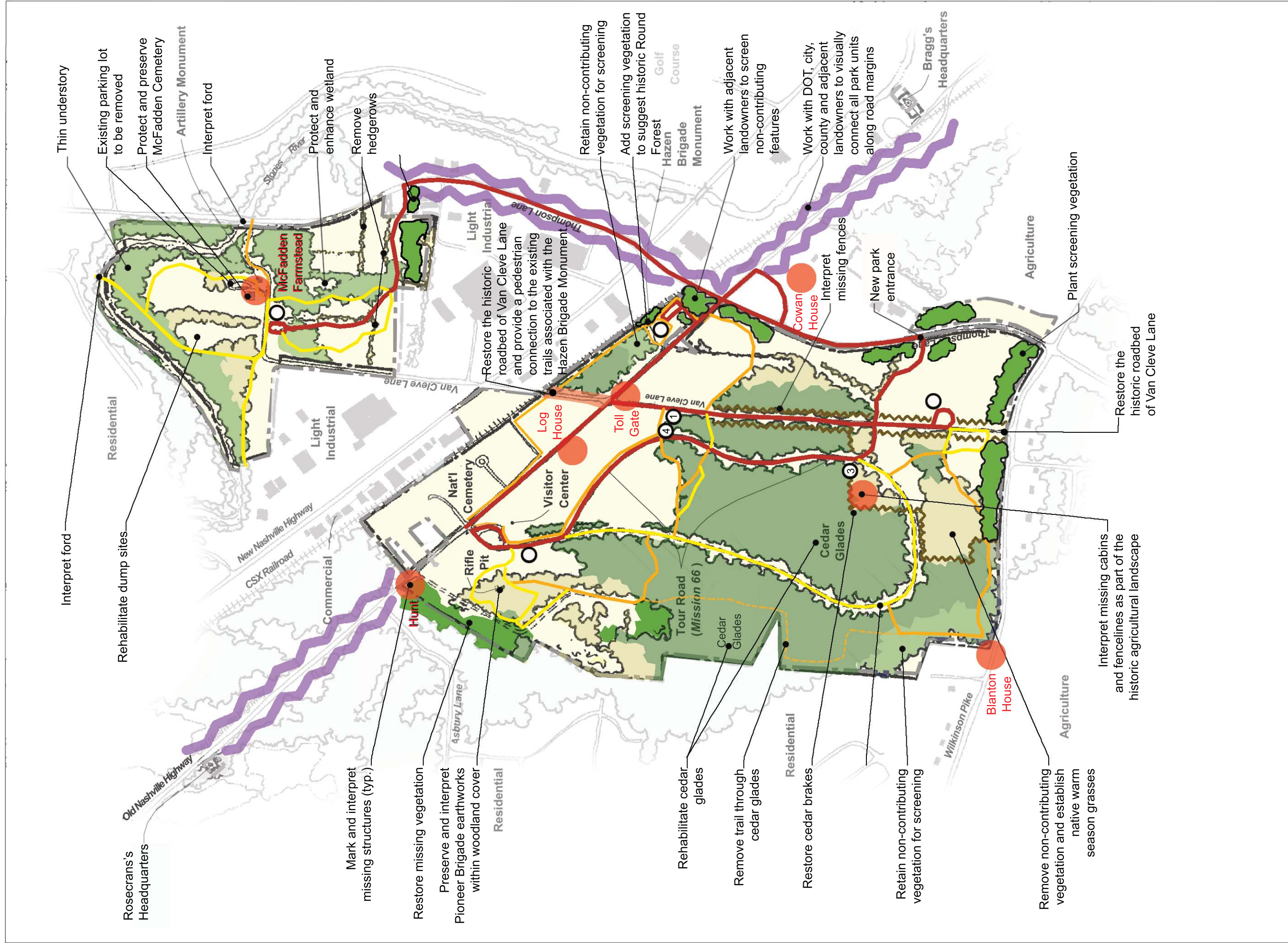
The overarching concept for cultural landscape treatment at Stones River is to balance the protection and enhancement of the battlefield's historic integrity with contemporary park visitor access and interpretation requirements and sustainable land management practices. Many of the specific landscape treatment actions are intended to help convey the story of the battle by reinstating historic conditions or establishing aids to interpret missing battlefield features. The concept also takes into consideration contemporary land ownership issues, which include a park composed of numerous noncontiguous parcels linked by public road corridors and edged by developments that are often inconsistent with the character of the landscape at the time of the battle. Finally, the concept also recognizes the value of post-battle commemoration and seeks to reconcile commemorative features with features that relate directly to the battle.

Vegetation and natural resource management, interpretation, and consideration of the overall visitor experience are the main focus of the treatment plan, as they are the highest-priority needs identified by the park in its GMP. The

recommended approach to vegetation management will also support a crucial interpretive goal at the park: enhancement of visual accessibility. Removal of the existing non-contributing woodland areas, control of invasive alien plants, and restoration of the historic character of woodlands important to the events of the battle will serve to better interpret the events of the battle in many key locations.

Rehabilitation of existing vegetation communities focuses on the interpretation of historic land cover for open fields, including a combination of native warm-season grass fields with enhancements to increase biodiversity, further conversion of fescue fields wherever possible to support sustainability goals, and establishment or maintenance of limited crop field areas for interpretation. The treatment recommendations and implementation projects included herein provide the means for enhancing the viability and health of the cedar glade communities, and suggest relocating most interpretive programs and other incompatible visitor and park uses away from these sensitive areas as a protective measure. Rehabilitation of cedar glades includes removal of encroaching stands of invasive plants such as Chinese privet, bush honeysuckle, and Eastern red cedar to prevent the shading out of glade endemics and limiting visitor access to these areas. Where visitors come into contact with glade communities, the treatment plan recommends the park provide educational materials that convey the sensitivity and fragility of these communities, including signs that engender stewardship. Rehabilitation of woodland vegetation includes clearing, thinning, and/or rehabilitating existing woods to more closely approximate historic conditions. In all cases, control of invasive alien species will be a high priority for park management. The treatment plan also addresses ecologically sensitive rehabilitation of the Stones River banks and the newly acquired property located near the McFadden Farm.

In addition to vegetation and natural resource management, the treatment recommendations also address trail and exhibit development. Using the preferred alternative adopted in the DCP/EA for *Improvements to the Self-guiding Tour Routes* (2005) as a point of departure, the CLR recommends further enhancements to this tour

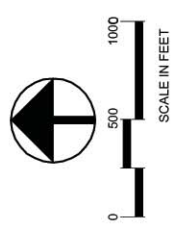


Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Treatment Concept Plan

Figure 181



route and wayside plan that will reinforce the interpretation of the historic landscape and its conditions at the time of the battle. Included in this recommendation is the enhancement of the connections between the Nashville Pike unit and Bragg's Headquarters, Rosecrans's Headquarters, Redoubt Brannan, and the McFadden Farm unit in order to reinforce the visitor's understanding of these areas of the park as part of the larger battlefield.

The CLR also recommends weaving interpretation of all significant layers of history that have occurred on the site—including residential use and post-battle commemoration—into these experiences. Also proposed is the enhancement of the program of contemplative nodes located along the trail system at the sites of important locations associated with the battle. These features are intended as quiet refuges, with comfortable seating areas provided for visitors. The treatment recommendations also suggest general guidelines for establishing, altering, and adjusting the existing circulation systems at the park.

While the opportunities to interpret sites of missing structures and farmsteads is limited (many farmsteads present during the battle lie outside of park property), seven buildings and structures that have been identified by Bearss (1962) lie within the bounds of the park. Because the battle was fought within an agricultural landscape inhabited by families whose lives were forever altered by the event, the treatment plan provides recommendations for interpretation of these sites, as well as alternatives for enhancing the existing interpretation of the toll house site.

Treatment Considerations by Landscape Characteristic

This section summarizes the treatment issues that pertain to different landscape characteristics and management concerns within the park. The opportunities and constraints associated with each of the landscape characteristics addressed as a part of this study are described, as well as the issues that have influenced the development of the more specific management guidelines and treatments included later in this chapter.

Spatial Organization

Rehabilitating the spatial organization of the park to its appearance during the Battle of Stones River is a key component of the park's interpretive vision. Rehabilitation of 1860s field and fence patterns, woodlands, crop fields and other agricultural fields, circulation corridors, and the identification of missing farmstead clusters will engender for visitors a greater understanding of the battle and the key connections between military tactics and the nineteenth century cultural landscape.

Natural Systems and Features

Stones River National Battlefield contains important natural systems and features including limestone outcroppings, caves, sinkholes, springs, access to Stones River, and most importantly the cedar glades. Some of these features, such as the glades and the Stones River watershed, have recently begun to suffer from degradation due to visitor access and the degree of development occurring outside the boundaries of the park. In some cases, the park's natural systems and features need to be stabilized. In others, adaptive management principles need to be applied so that the natural systems can undergo a process of recovery. Adaptive management recognizes that natural systems are constantly changing and that to achieve the highest level of health and stability, land managers must adapt their practices to these changes.

The park's ultimate goal of scene rehabilitation must be achieved through the continued application of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for natural resources. For example,

water resources need to be managed to prevent erosion and sedimentation. Fallow fields, scrubby woodlands, and colonies of invasive alien species need to be rehabilitated to support healthy communities of native plants. The sensitive habitats of endangered plant species, such as the glade endemics, need to be protected and enhanced. Also critical is the protection of the park's contributing topographic features—including the knolls associated with the Artillery Monument and the Hazen Brigade Monument, the rock outcrop areas, and the level open fields of the Nashville Pike and McFadden Farm units—which played key roles in the Battle of Stones River. In addition to protection of these key land forms, providing visual accessibility for visitors is a primary objective of treatment.

Vegetation

Sensitive rehabilitation of vegetation communities in the park is a necessary component of historic scene enhancement. The GMP and CLR both suggest that vegetative composition and density are not entirely consistent with the 1860s period of significance. The implementation guidelines included herein provide suggestions for enhancing the historical accuracy of the character of cedar brake communities within view of interpreted areas by removing non-native plants and planting cedars to make the stands denser. They also guide clearing and thinning operations to return mixed woodlands to a more open character and to convert fescue fields to native warm-season fields; provide specific recommendations for crop field exhibits; and outline the potential enhancement of prescribed fire activities. Several glade areas exist that are irreplaceable and there are specific treatment recommendations that support their protection.

Circulation

Circulation features located within the park include Van Cleve Lane—a battle-era route—and park roads and trails established and developed during the twentieth century. A portion of the tour road alignment survives from the early park development period and is therefore a contributing landscape resource. Adjacent circulation routes also survive from the period of significance: the Old Nashville Highway, Asbury Lane, Wilkinson Pike, and the

Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad line. Treatment recommendations focus on the retention, restoration, and maintenance of contributing historic routes and carefully considered changes to the existing non-contributing park tour and trail system that address a better understanding of the battle.

Buildings and Structures

Very few buildings and structures survive within the park from either the battle or early park development periods. Contributing structures include the Pioneer Brigade earthwork, surviving Fortress Rosecrans earthworks, Artillery Monument, Hazen Brigade Monument and associated stone wall, and the pair of stone entrance gates along the Old Nashville Highway. Buildings and structures that existed at the time of the battle, as well as during the years between the battle and development of the park, are not currently interpreted to the public except in a very basic manner. Buildings and structures associated with the African American community between the late nineteenth century and 1928 played an important part in the evolution of the landscape, even though they were not associated with the battle. Although restoration or reconstruction of the community is not appropriate, the park interpretive plan could consider other means of conveying this aspect of the history of the landscape to the visitor. The treatment plan discusses methods for interpreting sites of missing features, how to weave these into the visitor tour route, and their value to the park's interpretive program. Interpretation of missing buildings and structures needs to be undertaken appropriately and without the use of conjecture. Interpretive exhibits should be established based on evidence identified through documentary and archeological research.

Views

Views are another key interpretive element of Stones River National Battlefield, as viewpoints associated with knolls and elevated landforms were a critical component of the tactics used by Civil War-era military commanders. Views to and from the McFadden Farm site are crucial to interpreting the battle events and should be rehabilitated, while sightlines through the farm fields located in the northern, southern, and

eastern portion of the park should be protected and maintained. Viewshed rehabilitation should be an integral part of the park's scene rehabilitation efforts.

Screening of Incompatible Views

While the focus of treatment regarding views is scene rehabilitation to approximate the landscape's 1862–1863 appearance, mitigation of intrusive views is also important. Views from the park to adjacent properties are potentially not compatible with the park's goals of reflection, contemplation, interpretation, and commemoration of the Battle of Stones River, and intrusive views should be mitigated using tools such as vegetative screen plantings.

Small-scale Features

There are no small-scale features known to survive from the Civil War period of significance except for the headstones associated with the McFadden family cemetery and other headstones located in the northwestern corner of the Nashville Pike unit near the railroad tracks that are associated with the Hazen Brigade Monument. The headstones associated with the monument are known to post-date the battle. The only small-scale features surviving from the early park development period include the Rosecrans and Bragg Headquarters monuments, and possibly some of the stone culvert headwalls along the tour road. For contributing or potentially contributing small-scale features, a conservative approach to their treatment is recommended, including retaining and maintaining these resources to protect their cultural resource values.

The park currently interprets missing small-scale features, namely field and farm precinct fencing through reconstruction of historic fencelines using somewhat historically accurate styles. More definitive information about the character and composition of mid-nineteenth century fences is needed for the park. Reestablishment of historic fence patterns would enhance interpretation of the battlefield landscape; currently, however, it would be difficult to reconstruct additional missing small-scale features without introducing conjecture. Reestablishment of historic fencelines should be depicted differently from contemporary fencing

to reflect park boundaries and other areas requiring fencing. Marking of missing features, boundaries, visitor tour routes, and controlled access points should be effected through a compatible non-historic vocabulary that marks locations for interpretation or wayfinding but does not introduce features that might be misinterpreted as being historic.

Archeological Resources

The entire park should be considered an archeological resource, and any proposed or potential ground disturbance should be examined by archeologists on a case-by-case basis. Appropriate compliance should be conducted prior to implementation of any landscape treatment recommendations that require ground disturbance, including trail establishment or realignment, vegetation changes, or interpretive exhibit development. Subsurface archeological investigations should only be undertaken to address a specific goal or question about the historic landscape.

Earthworks

The earthen fortifications surviving at Fortress Rosecrans and within the Nashville Pike unit are, or will become, an important focus of interpretation at the park. It is important that interpretive trails provide opportunities for understanding the mechanics and engineering of these fortifications without encouraging or allowing visitors to access the fragile soil resources. The slopes of earthen fortifications should be maintained either in tall grass cover that enhances visual accessibility, dissuades physical accessibility, yet limits the potential for soil erosion; or under forest cover that generates leaf litter that protects the earthen resources from soil erosion. Under forest cover, special attention is needed to protect the earthworks from visitor access. Trees and invasive species should always be carefully removed from the ditch, parapet, and other sloped features of the earthworks to limit the hazard of windthrows, and animal burrows need to be repaired and future burrow use discouraged.

Partnering

It will be critical to address the need for partnering and cooperative efforts with local agencies, organizations, and property owners in achieving the park's vision and goals. The CLR recommends fostering relationships with adjacent landowners, local city and county governments, and state and federal Departments of Transportation. Partnering with these entities will be beneficial in terms of coordinating easements, fitting park development goals with municipal comprehensive plans, and influencing the location and design of future roads. Working with adjacent landowners to help secure and stabilize the watershed is one example of an important partnering effort that should be explored. Working with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, City of Murfreesboro, and Rutherford County to consider the establishment of roadside elements that help to connect the noncontiguous units of the park for visitors is another potential partnering effort to consider.

New Design and Construction

The CLR includes treatment guidelines and recommendations that address appropriate implementation of the proposed new tour road and trail projects so that they are compatible with the historic character of the landscape and easily distinguishable as contemporary additions; how and where to locate new development; how to guide development on adjacent lands; and to what level new additions can be made without adversely affecting the resources and scene restoration. Sustainability and means for promoting infiltration of precipitation and overland flow of stormwater should be considered an integral component of all new construction efforts.

General Treatment Guidelines

The general management guidelines and recommendations that follow pertain to Stones River National Battlefield as a whole and should be used when planning for any future landscape change. They are intended to support all landscape treatments proposed herein and should be considered in conjunction with any project or treatment alternative that is undertaken at the park. These guidelines relate to a philosophy of cultural landscape treatment based on NPS Director's Order No. 28: *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, and the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*.

Spatial Organization

- Restore field and forest to the patterns of the battle period of significance using ecologically sound techniques and BMPs.
- Avoid conjecture when rehabilitating historic spatial organization patterns. Rely on documentary evidence and archeological survey data rather than circumstantial evidence.

Natural Systems and Features

- Develop BMPs and approaches to Stones River watershed remediation on lands that fall within the park, and recommend remediation strategies for receptive neighbors within the watershed.
- Work with neighboring landowners and local agencies to diminish the amount of run-off entering the river.
- Rehabilitate native landscapes within the park to reduce run-off and enhance infiltration of precipitation into the park's groundwater resources.
- Continue, develop, and broaden the current native warm-season grass field conversion program.

- Establish filter strips, vegetated swales, and other BMPs for land maintained under crop cover to protect against soil erosion.
- Establish or continue an existing program for the control of the specific invasive species that threaten the rehabilitation process.
- Establish performance criteria for each rehabilitation and restoration effort and develop a monitoring protocol that measures the extent to which these criteria are being achieved.
- Monitor the progress of restoration and rehabilitation activities using the monitoring protocol established for the park. Adapt the techniques and approaches to restoration and management based upon evaluation of the monitoring efforts.
- Continue to practice integrated pest management (IPM) in accordance with NPS policies. Avoid the use of pesticides and herbicides unless absolutely necessary. If chemical controls are used, apply the minimum necessary to achieve the proposed effect. Allow only qualified applicators to apply chemicals.
- Avoid altering topography in the park. Minimal grading for new trails is acceptable while alterations to the knolls, gently rolling open fields, and rock outcrops are not appropriate.
- Protect slopes from erosion by maintaining a healthy vegetative cover on all slopes.

Vegetation

- Rehabilitate the cedar glade communities by removing Chinese privet. Remove Eastern red cedar to prevent shading when it encroaches on the glade habitat by colonizing soil pockets.
- Employ BMPs for thinning and clearing mixed woodlands. Undertake clearing and thinning operations with the goals of reducing fuel loads, opening viewsheds, and returning the woodland to its approximate composition during the 1860s. Additional investigation into the composition of local

woodland areas during the 1860s will be required to achieve this goal. Consider using nearby good quality woodlands, such as Flatrock Cedar Glades and Barrens State Natural Area as references in developing a restoration plan in support of this recommendation.

- Mark all vegetation to be thinned or cleared prior to beginning work. Employ an arborist, natural resource manager, and/or landscape architect familiar with the park to mark the vegetation to be removed or thinned.
- Restore cedar brake communities by removing invasive alien species and consider alternatives for reestablishing the density characteristic of these stands during the battle period.
- Continue to identify, control, and remove invasive plants.
- Continue monitoring and recording populations of invasive plants within the park and utilize data collected to inform ongoing maintenance procedures.
- Continue to maintain and enhance the health and diversity of vegetation in sensitive or remnant communities, particularly the cedar glades.
- Continue to periodically document the condition of the landscape through photopoint photography.

Circulation

- Ensure that no new trails or roads are planned or built within or through any of the ecologically sensitive communities, particularly the cedar glades. Consider removing existing trails and roads from these sensitive communities, or reduce their impact by lowering the surface to match the height of the surrounding landscape.
- Avoid altering existing circulation routes or establishing new circulation routes until after compliance has been completed.
- Minimize the visual impacts of vehicles and vehicular access systems. Consider the potential impact on views when planning to add or change circulation systems.
- Make vehicular access as unobtrusive as possible. Consider noise and other impacts when siting roads, trails, and parking.
- Consider the possibility of providing a shuttle/bus tour system on peak weekends if traffic and parking become concerns in the future. Direct visitors to park at the main parking area and ride a small, environmentally friendly bus or van along the tour loop on guided or unguided tours, thereby reducing the amount of traffic on the tour road and throughout the park.
- Encourage pedestrian or bicycle circulation as an alternative to vehicular access.
- Minimize the visual impacts of pedestrian access systems.
- Take advantage of existing road traces and trail systems whenever possible to avoid disturbance of the historic landscape.
- Design interpretive trail systems to follow the routes of historic road traces and alignments whenever practicable. Consider, however, the potential impacts of new trails following these routes. Assess the following: the visual impact of a trail on important viewsheds; potential impact on sensitive natural and archeological resources; accessibility issues such as slope; potential for erosion; and overall interpretive value. If issues of concern cannot be mitigated, consider using a different alignment for the trail that fulfills related goals.
- Avoid regrading that will damage historic road traces when establishing new trails along historic routes. Whenever regrading is necessary, use fill that is distinguishable from the existing grade rather than cut, which will destroy the resource.
- Consider alternative interpretive trail alignments if documentary and archeological evidence is insufficient to determine the precise routes of historic roads.

- Ensure that the removal of non-historic park trails is undertaken with minimal impact on adjacent features; that visitor maps, signage, and other indications of trail layout are updated to reflect the removal; and that former trail surfaces are seeded or otherwise appropriately revegetated.
- Route visitor circulation away from sensitive archeological resources, cultural sites, and endangered species habitat areas.
- Follow the regulations stipulated in the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standard (UFAS) and Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) for trails and paths when establishing universally accessible circulation that may be designated as “improved.” Avoid steep slopes, ensure that trail widths meet regulations, and take other precautions to make these trails accessible to all visitors.
- Provide universally accessible routes to primary interpretive elements. Strive to accommodate universal accessibility to all interpreted features. Provide alternative interpretive experiences where accessibility is not possible or reasonable.

Buildings and Structures

- Consider the interpretive value of non-intrusive, non-contributing buildings and structures.
- Consider the removal of non-contributing structures that are intrusive to the historic landscape.
- Remove buildings and structures that post-date the period of significance only if they have a negative impact on the historic character and integrity of the park landscape. Document thoroughly all buildings and structures before removal.
- Avoid conjectural reconstruction of missing historic buildings and structures.

Views

- Consider scenic easements on tracts of land adjoining park boundaries as a method of viewshed and resource protection and an alternative to fee-simple land acquisition.
- Minimize the visual impact of pedestrian and vehicular access systems. Consider using techniques such as establishing vegetative screens, evaluating the potential for new trails to be invisible from key viewpoints, and minimizing the amount of signage, seating, and other small-scale features associated with these access systems in their design.
- Communicate with utility providers regarding future plans to upgrade telephone and utility lines within the park. Suggest that future lines be placed underground and contained within existing easements and right-of-ways.

Small-scale Features

- Provide minimal site furnishings to accommodate visitors, such as benches. Use site furnishings that are compatible with the character of the park in connection to the park’s theme and concept and materials. Ensure that the style of site furnishings is uniform throughout the park.
- Keep the number of contemporary small-scale features to the minimum required for visitor and staff comfort and safety.
- Avoid establishing any new small-scale features that may be mistaken for historic resources.
- Convey interpretive information to visitors primarily through the use of graphically rich waysides that are durable, contemporary in form and character, muted in color, and composed of simple materials.

Partnering

- Consider working with adjacent willing landowners to place conservation easements on tracts of land adjoining park boundaries to protect natural and cultural resources, and

as an alternative to fee-simple land acquisition.

- Partner with landowners and local, state, and federal agencies to secure and stabilize the watershed associated with Stones River. Promote the implementation of BMPs on private parcels associated with the Stones River watershed and the establishment of vegetation communities and other features that encourage infiltration of precipitation and overland flow of stormwater.
- Partner with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, City of Murfreesboro, and Rutherford County to enhance the physical connections between noncontiguous park units through the establishment of new features along the roadside.
- Coordinate with local city and county governments to ensure that comprehensive and municipal development plans take into account park policies and goals. In addition, work with the appropriate city and county agencies to develop a plan for private lands adjacent to the park that supports the protection of conservation easements and management of open space and agricultural land uses.
- Coordinate with local, state, and federal departments of transportation to ensure that new roads, or alterations to existing roads, will not adversely impact Stones River National Battlefield.
- Consider using transfers of development rights as a conservation tool.
- Employ strategies for land conservation and partnerships found in *Saving America's Countryside*, a handbook for land development.¹²³
- Apprise neighboring property owners of prescribed fire schedules.

123. Samuel N. Stokes, et al., *Saving America's Countryside: A Guide to Rural Conservation*, 2nd ed. (Baltimore, Maryland: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997).

Land Uses

- Consider both natural and cultural features in treatment and land-use decisions.
- Avoid land-use activities, permanent or temporary, which threaten or impair known or potential archeological resources.
- Monitor and regulate use of the landscape to minimize immediate and long-term damage to cultural resources.
- Consider carefully the appropriateness of any proposed or existing recreational uses. For existing uses, determine what impact the recreational uses are having on natural and cultural resources. A finding of negative impacts should suggest the need for further study and the development of mitigation measures. For any proposed new use, consider the impact on natural and cultural resources, as well as traffic and parking. Avoid introducing recreational uses that require extensive grading, the introduction of non-native grasses, intensive maintenance, an increase in parking, or the addition of vertical features or lighting.
- Avoid permitting recreational uses that may endanger visitors, cultural resources, or sensitive ecosystem areas; that require extensive facility development; or that conflict with resource protection goals. Examples of incompatible activities include organized field sports, horseback riding or mountain biking, ATV use, and sport hunting.
- Limit, monitor, and control access to areas that are vulnerable to damage from human access or use.

New Design and Construction

- Design new construction taking into consideration the BMPs established for the park. In particular, design new construction using green building techniques, and incorporate technologies such as those described by LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing sustainable building.

- Undertake sufficient study and recordation of landscape features that require modification, repair, or replacement before work is performed to protect research and interpretive values.
- Locate any necessary new features supporting visitor services and administrative, operations, and maintenance functions in the existing Visitor Center and maintenance areas whenever possible. If these facilities are found to be insufficient for projected needs, consider a location for housing new facilities that is outside of the battlefield landscape.
- Design and situate additions or alterations to the landscape in such a way that they do nothing to destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the cultural landscape.
- Introduce new buildings and structures to facilitate access and interpretation while minimizing adverse impacts on the historic character and features of the landscape.
- Ensure that new construction is compatible with existing historic resources in materials, size, scale and proportion, and massing. Differentiate new work from existing resources.
- Design and situate new additions and alterations to the landscape in such a way that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the landscape would be unimpaired.
- Design new construction to have muted, neutral, earth-tone colors and materials that serve to make new facilities compatible with the historic and natural context.
- Ensure that the location, design, and construction of new facilities and systems are subordinate to the surviving cultural and natural landscape. New design and construction should be as visually unobtrusive as possible without sacrificing functionality.
- Avoid siting new buildings and structures in floodplains or in any of the primary viewshed areas.

Interpretation

- Consider means for interpreting significant historic features not associated with the Civil War Battle of Stones River that do not alter the character of the landscape within the park interpretive plan. To interpret features such as the African American community that once existed to the west of Van Cleve Lane, consider methods such as written interpretive information, site bulletins, web site interpretation, personal service interpretation, and audio tour information rather than physical changes to the landscape.
- Provide an alternative means for interpretation, such as additional waysides or a Visitor Center exhibit, for those features located in areas that cannot be made universally accessible.
- Consider carefully any proposals to restore or reconstruct missing Civil War-era features. Prior to undertaking restoration or reconstruction efforts, carefully weigh the financial costs of both the initial effort and the subsequent maintenance costs; the ultimate benefit to be gained for interpretation; and the accuracy with which the feature could be reestablished.
- Consider providing sensitively placed benches to allow for quiet sitting and reflection of the battlefield landscape at important interpretive nodes.

Prescribed Fire

Stones River National Battlefield currently uses prescribed fire as a landcover management tool. To guide these efforts, a fire management plan was developed for the park in 2003. The preferred alternative (Alternative 3) recommends management activities that will “restore and maintain native plant communities in the park, mimic the natural ecological processes, and help protect park resources and adjacent lands from the threat of wildfires.”¹²⁴ This document prescribes measures to prevent and/or mitigate

124. National Park Service. *Stones River National Battlefield Fire Management Plan, Environmental Assessment* (Atlanta, Georgia: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2003).

adverse environmental impacts that may occur from fire management activities. Under the preferred alternative, the *Fire Management Plan* calls for the suppression of all wildland fires, provides for prescribed fires, and allows for manual/mechanical treatments. Stones River National Battlefield contains two fire management units (FMU). All of the open areas and fields in the park are contained in FMU No. 1, which totals approximately 305 acres. The national cemetery and primary park development/infrastructure are also located within FMU No. 1. The remaining 407 acres in the park, consisting of mixed hardwood, Eastern red cedar stands, and cedar glades, are contained in FMU No. 2. Each unit of the park includes both FMUs according to existing vegetative cover. Under this plan, all wildland fires in the park, human-caused fires and naturally-ignited fires (e.g., lightning), are to be declared wildfires and suppressed in a manner that minimizes negative environmental impacts of suppression activities.

All wildfire suppression activities are to adhere to Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) guidelines, as outlined in the *Fire Management Plan*.¹²⁵ These guidelines should be followed when undertaking any prescribed fire activities. Manual and mechanical thinning (e.g., chainsaws, bush hogs) in the prescribed fire units are to involve limited, selective thinning of hardwoods and cedars encroaching upon xeric limestone prairies, meadows, open fields, and earthworks, as well as any hazard trees. While a few large-diameter trees may be cut, thinning efforts are to focus primarily on small diameter woody shrubs and trees. Mechanical thinning efforts are also to include cutting hay and mowing. Thinning treatments may occur any time of the year. Initial fire return intervals would be between two and five years. Those prescribed fire units on a two-year cycle would need more frequent prescribed fires to combat exotics and reduce competition. Once the park reaches fire management goals and objectives for a particular prescribed fire unit, it is to implement a maintenance program for the unit that involves a prescribed fire return interval of three to five years.

125. Ibid., 2–8.

Treatment Recommendations by Character Area

Within the overall framework of rehabilitation, a resource-driven approach to landscape management is provided for each unit or character area of the park below; specific treatment recommendations are then provided to support site specific or resource specific management. In many cases alternatives for treatment are provided that offer a range of options for the park and can be considered in conjunction with available levels of funding and maintenance capabilities.

Some of the recommendations conveyed below make reference to the Implementation Guidelines chapter. The implementation projects provide specific guidance regarding the actions required to implement the treatment plan.

Nashville Pike Unit

The goal of treatment in this area is to replicate as closely as possible the spatial organization and character of the battlefield as it appeared in 1862, primarily through the rehabilitation of vegetation, interpretation of missing features, and enhancement of the legibility of resources surviving from the Civil War era. Within this character area, visitors will have an opportunity to become oriented to the park and its interpretive program, determine a course for experiencing the unit's resources, follow that course, and be provided with information sufficient to make an informed decision about how to approach the park's other units and resources and to place these within an overall interpretive and spatial context. This character area will provide opportunities for all visitors to gain a comprehensive understanding of the battle and its role within the events of the Western Theater and will offer opportunities for resource-based interpretation at various tour stops. The unit will also provide opportunities for contemplation, commemoration, and access to educational and interpretive features, with the Battle of Stones River as a primary focus.

Specific treatment recommendations are as follows:

Spatial Organization

- Remove existing non-contributing forest stands south of the existing tour road and west of the Visitor Center as possible, taking into consideration natural resource values such as the high quality of the stand located southwest of the Michigan marker fields and tour loop. One of the non-contributing stands west of the Visitor Center may harbor a rare woodland vine. If this vine is determined to be present, mitigation could include planting in other locations.
- Reestablish areas of missing forest cover along the western boundary of the unit. This will enhance the interpretation of the Pioneer Brigade earthwork by recreating its historic viewshed, and also help screen incompatible views of adjacent development.
- Further reestablish historic fence lines to delineate historic patterns of spatial organization, particularly along the southern ends of Van Cleve Lane and the nearby farm fields recommended for reestablishment.
- Consider creative ways of depicting the spatial qualities of missing farmsteads and commercial buildings. For example, mark missing house or outbuilding locations on the ground, create three-dimensional frame (ghost) structures, or mow former farmyard areas in a distinctive fashion. Farmsteads and commercial buildings to be depicted in this manner might include the cabins in the southern portion of the unit, the toll house/gate, the Hunt House, and the log house located along the Old Nashville Highway. The sites of the Cowan and Blanton Houses lie outside of the current park boundaries but could be interpreted from within the park. An improved interpretive wayside is already planned for the toll house site, and the park has developed an initial wayside exhibit proposal that considers the most significant battlefield features for interpretation. Before undertaking any new

interpretive measures that depict missing spatial qualities, ensure that sufficient documentation is available to accurately depict their character and location. Conduct archeological surveys before undertaking ground-disturbing activities for installation of interpretive features depicting historic patterns of spatial organization of elements such as foundation remains, road traces, and fence lines.

Natural Systems and Features

- Consider immediate stabilization actions for the cedar glades to prevent further decline. Immediate stabilization would entail removal of all Chinese privet and any other identified invasives and thinning of Eastern red cedar populations where they have encroached upon the glades.
- Develop a long-term treatment plan for the park's cedar glades. Of critical concern is removing non-native species and encroaching trees and shrubs to enhance the ecological health of cedar glade communities. Consider carefully the potential for using fire as a vegetation management tool in the surrounding communities, including cedar woodlands, mixed hardwood forest, and xeric limestone prairie.
- Protect the native plant populations of the glades, which are susceptible to damage from foot and/or equipment traffic.
- Educate visitors and hikers about the sensitive nature of the glade communities and the damage that foot traffic can cause.
- Limit pedestrian access to the glades. Consider re-routing the Boundary Trail around the glades but allow visitors to view into at least one glade from the edge to afford interpretive opportunities.
- Avoid using mowers, tractors, and other heavy equipment in and around glades.
- Develop and implement a protocol for periodic monitoring of the condition of the glades. Include the existing protocol for biological and photographic monitoring.

Vegetation

- Remove invasive plant species from cedar brakes and rehabilitate the margins of these communities along interpretive routes to approximate the landscape conditions during the battle. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance. In particular, increase the density of Eastern red cedars within the core of the unit in areas where they will be most highly viewed by visitors (along the tour road and particularly near the proposed Tour Stop No. 3). Where this objective conflicts with glade restoration, focus cedar infill only along forest edges where interpretive tour stops occur.
- Control growth of invasive species such as Chinese privet. (Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.)
- Continue the native warm-season grass conversion process already begun, and ensure that newly reestablished fields are also planted with native warm-season grasses. This program could include the activities and techniques described below:
 - Refer to the latest literature for guidance regarding appropriate methods for enhancing diversity in native plantings.
 - Continue prescribed fire activities and attempt to burn annually or as frequently as fuel loads and/or park resources permit, following the park's *Fire Management Plan*.
 - Remove, mechanically or by hand, shrubs that cannot be controlled by fire. Shrubs will become less of an issue with more frequent prescribed fire use. Coordinate herbicide applications as necessary to augment mechanical removal.
 - Continue efforts to control the growth of invasive species, particularly Johnson grass (*Sorghum halpense*) and sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*).
- Consider establishing new crop exhibit areas in association with the interpretation of the

missing cabins and fencing in the southern portion of the unit.

Circulation

- Rehabilitate the eastern portion of the existing tour road that will be integrated into the new tour route by reestablishing natural hydrological processes that are currently impeded by the road corridor. Utilize pervious or porous pavement wherever possible, design the road grades to conform to the site's inherent hydrology, and establish filter strips and vegetated swales to promote infiltration of stormwater at the margins of the road corridor.
- Consider alternatives for the surfacing of Van Cleve Lane to accommodate the new tour road route that are as visually and environmentally sensitive as possible. Consider a range of paving materials that are more compatible with the historic scene than traditional asphalt. Avoid paving Van Cleve Lane in a manner that is consistent with the character of the surrounding public road corridors, particularly blue-hued asphalt. Consider selecting paving materials or finishes that are warm-hued and muted in color. Alternatives include stabilized soil, which entails adding a binding agent to soil; porous pavements, such as crushed stone, which minimize run-off by allowing water to percolate into the ground; unit pavers, which can serve as a pervious pavement when set in sand; resin-based pavement that utilizes non-petroleum-based resin to bind any color of aggregate into a hard-surface pavement; or exposed-aggregate finished concrete. Establish the narrowest width necessary for the road corridor to accommodate visitor access and safety needs to limit its visual intrusion on the historic scene. Avoid curb and gutter and ditching to manage stormwater associated with the road corridor. Wherever possible, direct stormwater to flow across broad, shallowly-sloped field and meadow areas to encourage infiltration into the ground.
- Consider removing the existing surface material from the unused portions of Van Cleve Lane and restoring the historic roadbed. Continue to maintain the margins of the trace for three feet to either side by cutting vegetation to the height of a brushhog blade. Avoid managing the trace with a manicured appearance. Repair drainage and erosion problems and uneven surfacing to ensure their suitability for pedestrian use.
- Consider restoring the segment of Van Cleve Lane located to the north of the Old Nashville Highway and within the park boundaries. Conduct archeological investigations to determine the historic alignment of the road corridor. Evaluate the stone-lined ditches to either side of the road to determine their date of origin. Follow the recommendations included herein for restoring the historic roadbed of Van Cleve Lane to the south in order to similarly restore this portion of the road corridor. Retain and maintain the ditches as part of the restoration of the road if they are found to contribute to its historic significance.
- Consider removing unnecessary asphalt from the edges of the existing tour road when the new route is established, and convert the western segment into an eight-foot wide paved pedestrian trail. Reduce the height of the current roadbed that is to be converted to a trail to that of the surrounding landscape. Refer to the "Tour Road Plan" for more specific guidance on this issue.
- Consider various options for accessing the Pioneer Brigade Earthworks, including converting Nickens Lane or one of the other existing access drives in the area to a pedestrian trail as part of a loop trail that connects to a trail leading to the Visitor Center. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance. Refer to the "Tour Road Plan" for more specific guidance on this issue.
- Ensure that any new trail segments recommended in the 2005 DCP/EA have as minimal an impact on the landscape as possible. The trails should be accessible only to pedestrians and persons with disabilities. The trail system should include a series of universally accessible interpreted segments

tied to parking areas and to the less formal back-country trail beyond.

- Engage an archeologist to conduct on-site investigations to determine any potential impact on cultural resources prior to construction of new trails.
- Consider minor adjustments to the DCP/EA preferred alternative tour route (Alternative C) to better utilize the features and characteristics of the cultural landscape for interpretation. Recommendations are as follows:
 - After reestablishing the density of the cedar forest and reestablishing the historic field patterns on the south end of the unit, utilize Tour Stop No. 3 to interpret the dense cedar brake vegetation encountered by the troops in this location, the cabins and corn fields that comprised the agricultural landscape that became the battlefield, and the limestone outcropping and terrain influences.
 - Consider adding another wayside along Van Cleve Lane to interpret the African American community established here after the Civil War.

Buildings and Structures

- Consider as part of the park interpretive plan various means for interpreting the buildings and structures that were present at the time of the battle but are no longer extant: the toll house/gate, cabins in southern portion of the park's Nashville Pike unit, log house along the pike, Hunt House, Blockhouse, Cowan House, Blanton House, and the peach orchard through various means, including foundation outlines, wayside exhibits, ghost structures, holograms, historic photographs, or illustrations depicting an artist's rendering of the character of these former structures. Some of these buildings and structures were located outside of the current park boundaries; interpretation could occur from adjacent locations on park property. Avoid reconstructing these features unless specific information about their appearance at the

time of the battle is acquired through documentary or archeological research.

Views

- Install 50- to 100-foot-wide vegetative buffers comprised of a layered, informal but relatively dense, planting of native evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs to screen incompatible views of modern development from the Tour Route and tour stops. In particular, screen specific incompatible views along the south park boundary at Wilkinson Pike, along either side of the Old Nashville Highway west of Thompson Lane, and along the northwest property line. Maintain open site lines where interpretation is desirable and views are compatible with the historic scene, such as the view south to the Wilkinson Pike. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.
- Reestablish the important viewshed looking north/northwest from the future Tour Stop No. 2 (Slaughter Pen/Sill's Death—Confederate Views) to provide interpretation of sight lines integral to the battle events of December 1862–January 1863.
- Protect open views available from within the Nashville Pike unit towards and along the Old Nashville Highway. Undertake periodic maintenance to prevent vegetation from obscuring views.

Small-scale Features

- Reestablish, once historic field patterns are reintroduced, worm rail fences that were present in 1863 along both sides of Van Cleve Lane and within the south end of the unit just to the west of Van Cleve Lane. Ensure, before establishing these fences, that sufficient documentation is available to replicate their appearance and locations in 1863 and sufficient funding is available for their upkeep and maintenance. Where insufficient documentation exists to accurately depict the missing fence lines, consider the following alternatives: mark fencelines with simple bollards or posts; mark fencelines with a planting that establishes a contrasting texture or color to

surrounding vegetation; or mark fencelines with a linear system of simple, low, masonry features or stone.

- Replace worm rail fencing currently being used to delineate park boundaries and/or as traffic control devices where historic fencing is known not to exist as these features are misleading to the visitor. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.
- Establish new waysides in the least intrusive manner possible to fulfill proposed new interpretive goals.
- Consider placing additional cannon, or metal silhouettes similar to those used at Cowpens National Battlefield, at sites where artillery is known to have been utilized during the battle and primary trails or roads provide access to the location.
- Develop a consistent design palate for site furnishings within the park to unify the character of the park landscape. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for more information.
- Protect and interpret the Pioneer Brigade earthworks by removing large trees (twelve inches or more in diameter measured at breast height) from the parapets and ditches of earthworks. Retain large trees located around its immediate perimeter to provide ample leaf litter for protection from soil erosion. Refer to the Earthworks Management Guidelines for the Fortress Rosecrans unit at the end of this chapter and the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.

Interpretation

- Consider interpreting missing land uses, such as agriculture, throughout the park, as delineated in the park's interpretive plan.
- Interpret a new exhibit of the cabin site and the fencing that encompassed the dwelling precinct, as delineated in the park's interpretive plan.

- Create an interpretive exhibit that conveys the history of the former toll house, as delineated in the park's interpretive plan.
- Interpret the African American community that was established after the Civil War and which was subsequently removed as part of the establishment of the park.

Visitor Center and Environs

This part of the park is the primary interface between the NPS and the visitor. In addition to visitor services, this character area houses park administration and maintenance functions. A host of activities and functions occur within this part of the park that require a unique graphic identity to help direct visitors, accommodate their needs, and facilitate park administration and maintenance. The recommended treatment for this area is to ensure that it remains a well-designed facility that accommodates all current and anticipated needs, using a palette of materials that is simple, contemporary, a product of its own time, and reflective of local and regional character. Development within this area should conform to NPS standards, yet convey a unique graphic identity that can be utilized in the design of all contemporary additions to the park.

Developed during the Mission 66 era, when locating the primary visitor contact facility to include a view of the most important park resources was a highly desirable condition, the visitor center has the potential to interfere with the legibility and interpretation of the battlefield. Diminishing its visual impact on the tour road and key interpretive tour stops is a desired condition. Another goal for this area is to limit the environmental impact of this developed area on nearby natural resources. To this end, the consideration of sustainability and the promotion of green principles in the design and maintenance of the complex are recommended.

Spatial Organization

- Allow for views of the surrounding battlefield but diminish the impact of the Visitor Center on views from the Old Nashville Highway and tour road through screening and other means.

Natural Systems and Features

- Control stormwater run-off from existing and future parking areas. Consider utilizing vegetated swales, planted filter strips, rain gardens, and other environmentally friendly means for reducing run-off and pollution and promoting stormwater infiltration on site rather than using a closed system of pipes that direct water to drainage corridors.
- Explore the option of using permeable materials for paving parking areas and all pedestrian circulation routes to minimize run-off and enhance infiltration of stormwater.
- Minimize soil disturbance and grading when introducing new site developments such as parking, paths, and trails.
- Mitigate the impact of grading for new facilities by conducting archeological investigations prior to construction.

Vegetation

- Replace existing plantings associated with the Visitor Center that depend on irrigation, fertilizer, or pesticides.
- Diminish the area around the Visitor Center maintained in cool season turf grass. Replace with warm season grass fields.
- Maintain lawn areas with less frequent, higher mowings to allow for better infiltration.
- Plant only native species in this zone. Avoid fescue turf and replace if possible. Consider suitable non-invasive species as alternatives to fescue to minimize the introduction of invasive plants and reduce mowing costs.
- Assess the condition of trees within this zone in consultation with a certified arborist. Determine whether they pose any threat or hazard to individuals or the buildings. Remove hazardous plants and those that may threaten the stability of buildings.

Circulation

- Retain the park's primary visitor parking area in association with the Visitor Center.
- Minimize the impermeable paved surface area of any parking and access routes. Whenever possible, utilize materials such as gravel, stabilized stone dust, stabilized turf, and permeable paving that reduce stormwater by allowing modest infiltration.
- Investigate the use of stabilized gravel for vehicular access surfaces.
- Mitigate the potential increase in stormwater run-off associated with parking area expansion using filter strips, grass swales, or other means that limit the use of closed systems that concentrate flow and increase direct flow into stream corridors. Encourage infiltration of stormwater wherever possible.

Views

- Add new features in such a way as to be as unobtrusive as possible. Consider views from the battlefield core area in their design and siting.
- Consider carefully the extent of the screen planting between the Visitor Center/parking area and the beginning of the tour road to determine how well it is screening views. Reduce the area of this screen planting if it is found to be unnecessarily large.

Small-scale Features

- Use site furnishings that are compatible with the character of the park in design and materials. Ensure that the style of site furnishing is uniform throughout the park to avoid a disjointed appearance. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.
- Keep signage minimal and unified in style. Most of the signage in this zone will relate to the park's identity or be directional and regulatory in nature. Any interpretive waysides should follow the same guidelines as set forth in the Nashville Pike unit section.

McFadden Farm Unit Character Area

The goal of treatment in this area is to replicate as closely as possible the spatial organization and character of the battlefield as it appeared in 1862, while at the same time balancing the needs for natural resource protection. Because much of this unit lies within the Stones River floodplain, it is neither feasible nor recommended that historic land cover conditions be completely reestablished in this unit, even though this area was entirely maintained as cleared agricultural land during the battle. Clearing the existing tree cover would remove important riparian vegetation that protects the soils from erosion, acts as a buffer to protect water quality, and provides important wildlife habitat. As two small depressional wetlands also exist within this area, the opportunity exists to further enhance their ecological value by improving the quality of vegetation around them and reinforcing their connection to the larger hydrologic system.

In areas where non-contributing vegetation serves less of an ecological function, it is recommended that it be removed, and open field conditions be reestablished to more accurately reflect conditions at the time of the battle. This includes wooded areas located around the dump sites on lands recently acquired by the park, as well as the remnant hedgerows at the southern end of this unit.

The treatment concept for this unit also seeks to better interpret missing features from the battle period. These include the McFadden farmstead, as well as the historic road corridor, now a paved trail, leading north from Van Cleve Lane to an unnamed ford across Stones River. The specific treatment recommendations outlined below build upon the preferred alternative outlined in the DCP/EA, as well as subsequent updates to the concept plans for parking and circulation.

Spatial Organization

- Remove the existing (non-contributing) hedgerows south and east of Van Cleve Lane, as well as stands of non-contributing vegetation surrounding the dump site, once this feature has been remediated. Reestablish these areas in native grasses and forbs to interpret historic agricultural fields at the

time of the battle. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.

Natural Features and Systems

- Retain a 100-foot minimum buffer of the existing forest cover edging the river as a riparian buffer. Remove invasive species. Where view corridors are desirable for interpretation, limb up existing trees, and/or remove smaller trees and shrubs to establish limited, specific viewing opportunities.
- Maintain a 50-foot minimum buffer along the perimeter of the depressional wetlands and ensure connectivity of these areas with the riparian buffer and riverine wetlands along the river. Rehabilitate the vegetation within this zone by removing and managing invasive exotic species and planting native wetland plants. This recommendation has already been approved for PMIS funding in 2008.

Vegetation

- Continue to work to control invasive plant species within the unit. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.
- Remove non-contributing woodland that does not serve as riparian buffer or another role in the protection of natural resources.
- Maintain a riparian buffer that includes trees and shrubs in association with the pond located within the McFadden Farm unit.
- Continue the native warm-season grass conversion process already begun, and ensure that newly reestablished fields are also planted with native warm-season grasses. This program could include the activities and techniques described below:
 - Seed regularly with wildflowers and other forbs. It is recommended that the program include regular enhancement seedings (even if relatively small in quantity) rather than an occasional mass enhancement seeding.

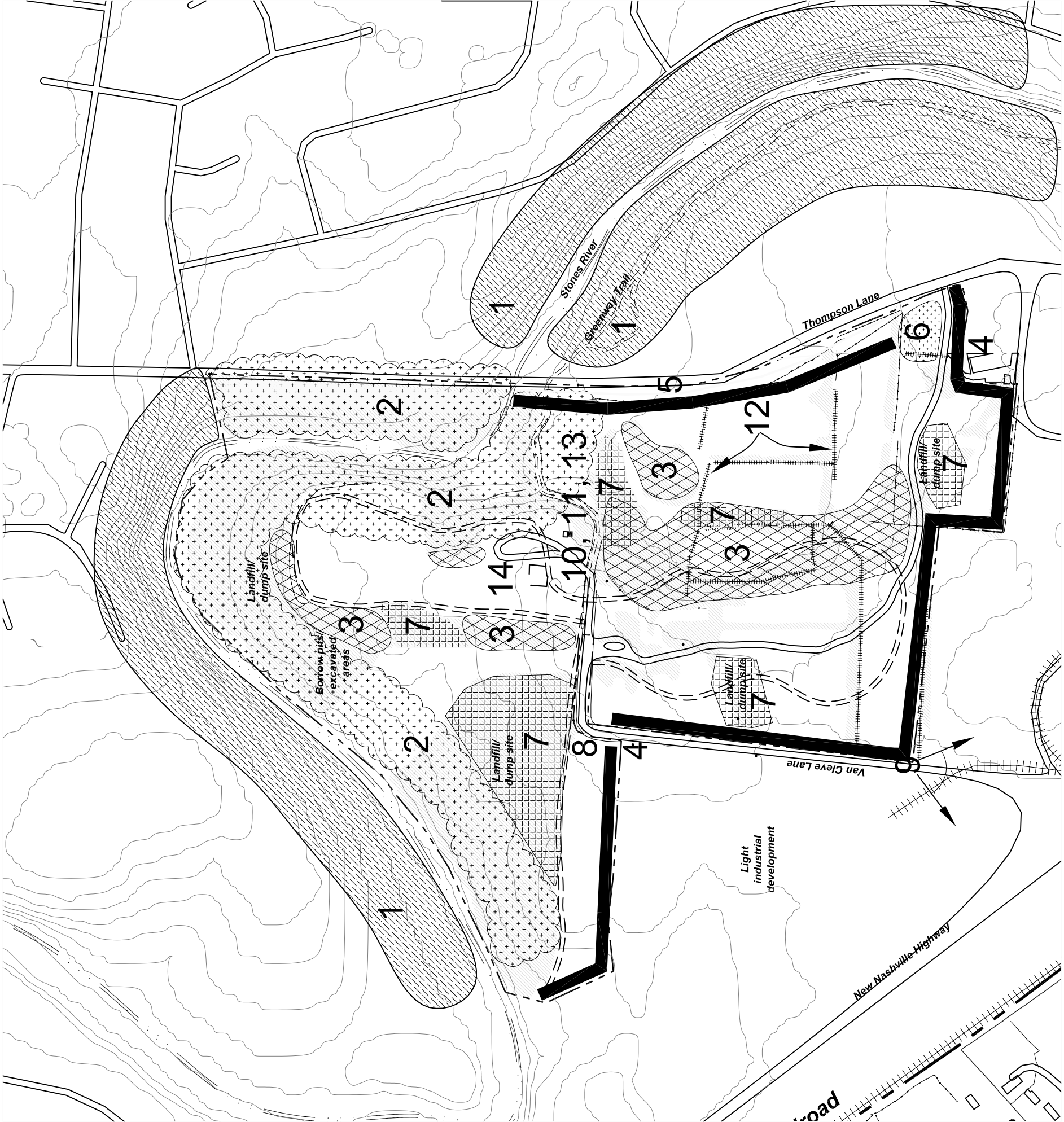
- Continue prescribed fire activities and attempt to burn annually or as frequently as fuel loads and/or park resources permit, following the park's *Fire Management Plan*.
 - Remove, mechanically or by hand, shrubs that cannot be controlled by fire. Shrubs will become less of an issue with more frequent prescribed fire use. Coordinate herbicide applications as necessary to augment mechanical removal.
 - Continue efforts to control the growth of invasive species, particularly Johnson grass (*Sorghum halpense*) and sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*).
 - Consider establishing new crop exhibit areas in association with the interpretation of the missing McFadden Farmstead and fencing within the unit.
 - Diminish the area maintained in cool season turf grass. Replace with native species as possible.
 - Maintain turf areas with less frequent, higher mowings to allow for better infiltration.
 - Plant only native species in this zone. Avoid fescue turf and replace if possible. Consider suitable non-invasive species as alternatives to fescue to minimize the introduction of invasive plants and reduce mowing costs.
 - Assess the condition of trees within this visitor use area in consultation with a certified arborist. Determine whether they pose any threat or hazard to individuals or the monument. Remove trees determined to pose a hazard or threat.
- location of and reestablish the historic unimproved road trace north of the bend in Van Cleve Lane. Reestablish the route as a pedestrian trail connection to the greenway. Consider interpreting the ford historically located in this vicinity.
- Minimize the impact on the landscape of any new trail segments recommended in the 2005 DCP/EA. The trails should be accessible only to pedestrians and persons with disabilities. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.
 - Establish native grasses and forbs on the site of the existing parking area north of the Artillery Monument after the proposed new parking area is established. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.

Buildings and Structures

- Preserve, protect, and maintain the Artillery Monument, which survives from the commemorative period of significance.
- Implement a treatment plan to address the deteriorated coating and concrete on the monument. Short term repairs may include cleaning and localized repair and recoating of the monument shaft, and removal and replacement of severely cracked concrete at the monument base. Long term repairs, to be determined by a close-up inspection, may include removal of the existing coating from the monument shaft; repair of cracks; repair of spalls using formed patches; and installation of a new coating system.
- Interpret the missing buildings, structures, and the agricultural/domestic landscape associated with the McFadden farmstead through enhanced wayside exhibits or waysides depicting an artist's rendering of the character of these former structures. As this site has been heavily modified by the construction of the Artillery Monument, no three-dimensional representation or reconstruction of these missing features is recommended.

Circulation

- After the new tour road is constructed, remove the asphalt surface from Van Cleve Lane within the park boundary and rehabilitate the corridor to reflect the character found along the historic road trace leading to the river.
- Remediate the existing dump site. Conduct archeological investigations to determine the

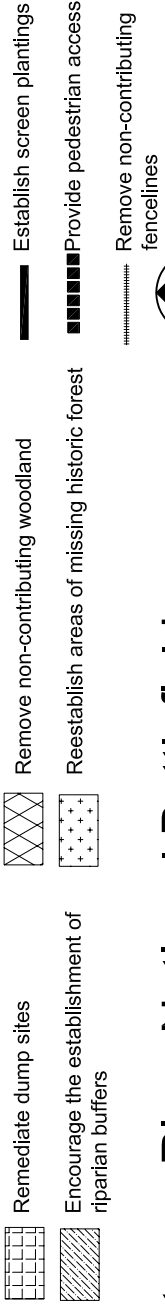
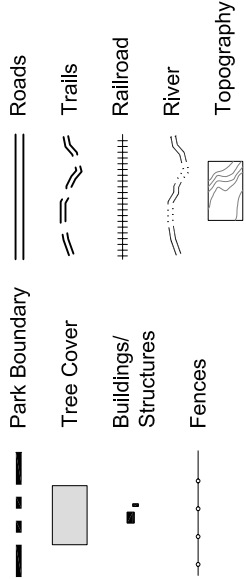


- 1 Encourage adjacent landowners to establish and maintain riparian buffers along Stones River.
- 2 Maintain existing woodland within 100 feet of Stones River. Remove invasive species. Enhance the woodland as necessary to serve as a riparian buffer. Establish a view to the eastern bank of the river and Confederate artillery positions.
- 3 Remove non-contributing woodland as shown. Replace with native warm-season grass fields.
- 4 Establish a 50- to 100-foot-wide vegetative screen along property boundaries that abut incompatible uses and views.

- 5 Consider the need for a vegetative screen along Thompson Lane.
- 6 Reestablish historic woodland areas.
- 7 Remediate dump sites, landfills, borrow pits, and excavated areas. Subsequently remove non-contributing woodland and replace with native warm-season grass fields.
- 8 Remove the asphalt surface from park-owned sections of Van Cleve Lane and rehabilitate the historic corridor to better reflect its historic appearance. Maintain the worm fencing that edges the road corridor.
- 9 Maintain a view along the segment of historic Van Cleve lane that is located outside of park boundaries.
- 10 Interpret the missing features of the McFadden Farmstead.

- 11 Continue to maintain the features of the McFadden Cemetery as a courtesy even though it is not owned by the park.
- 12 Remove non-contributing fencing.
- 13 Preserve and maintain the Artillery Monument.
- 14 Replace fescue with a native turf grass as possible.

Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.



Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

McFadden Farm Unit Treatment Recommendations

Figure 183

Views

- Continue to remove invasive species to afford more opportunities for visitors to view the river. Maintain the integrity of the existing woody riparian buffer. As noted above, consider establishing specific view areas by thinning understory vegetation, limbing up trees, and, as a last resort, selectively removing trees to open up views of the river. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.
- Screen the proposed parking area, to be established south of Van Cleve Lane, from important views available from north. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.
- Screen the existing industrial buildings located to the south of the unit boundary as this will become the primary entrance zone. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.
- Engage an archeologist to conduct on-site investigations to determine any potential impact on cultural resources prior to construction of new trails.

Small-scale Features

- Continue to preserve and maintain, as a courtesy and as possible, the features associated with the McFadden family cemetery, including the headstones and the tree, which are not owned by the park. Repair any condition-related problems associated with the headstones.
- Develop a consistent design palate for site furnishings within the park to unify the character of the park landscape. Refer to the implementation recommendations for more information.
- Place additional cannon, or metal silhouettes, within this character area to represent important artillery positions during the Battle of Stones River.

Archeological Features

- Continue to preserve and protect, as a courtesy and as possible, the archeological resources associated with the McFadden family cemetery, which is not owned by the park.

General Rosecrans's Headquarters Site

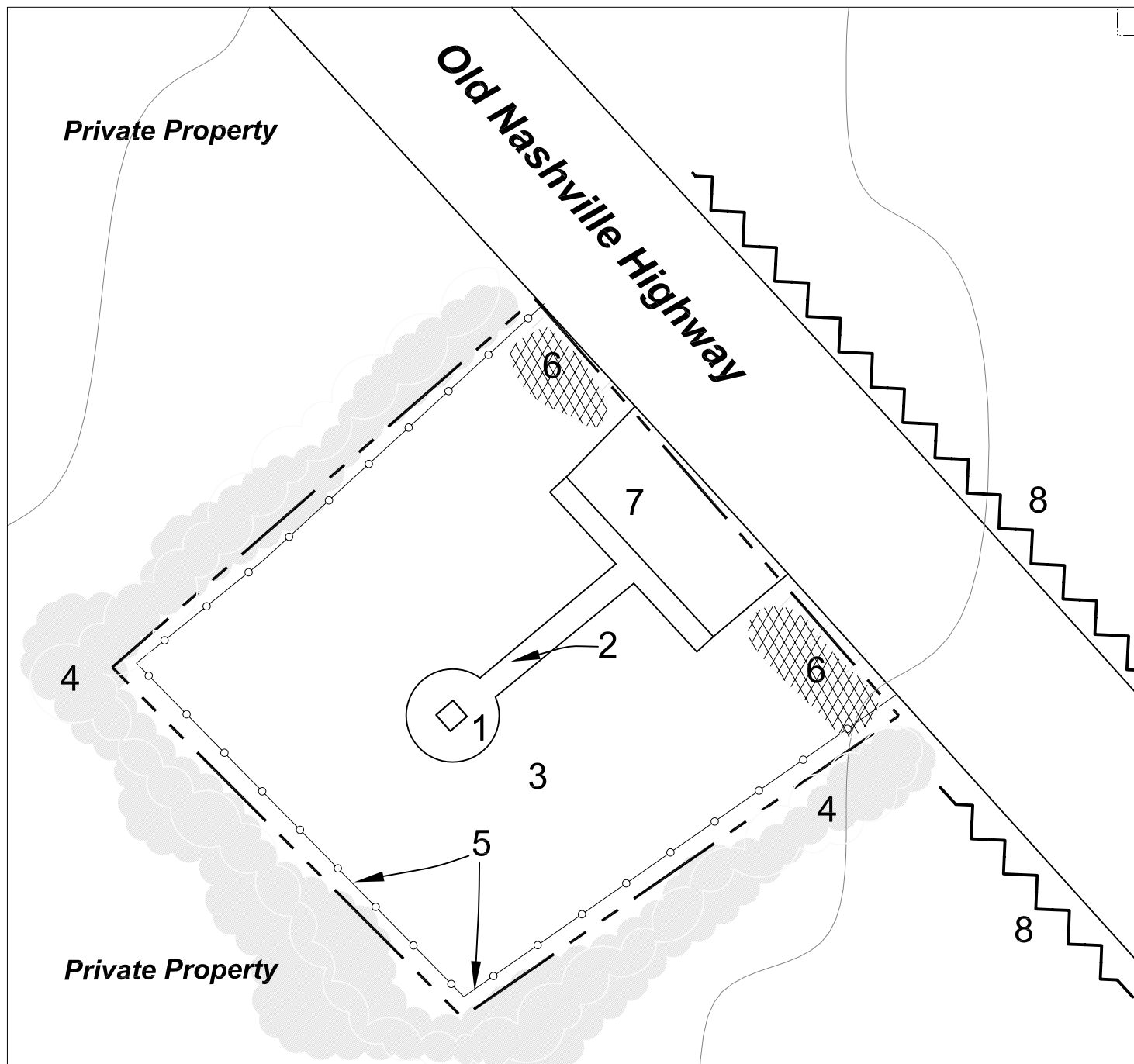
The goal of treatment in this small parcel is to retain and maintain features established to mark and commemorate the location of Union General Rosecrans's Headquarters during the Battle of Stones River. Another goal of treatment is to diminish the visual impact of the various non-contributing features and land uses on adjacent parcels and to provide opportunities for contemplation, commemoration, and access to educational and interpretive features, with the Battle of Stones River as a primary focus. Treatment recommendations suggest that the park consider enhancing interpretation within this area.

- Preserve and maintain the pyramidal cannonball monument that marks the site of Union General Rosecrans's Headquarters during the Battle of Stones River.
- Preserve and maintain the concrete walk to and around the monument.
- Preserve and maintain the open character of the parcel established through mown grass ground cover.
- Consider replacing existing fescue turf grass with buffalo grass and/or blue grama or other non-invasive turf grass. Avoid frequent mowing and an overly manicured appearance.
- Consider working with the adjacent land owner to remove existing weedy vegetative growth along the chain-link fence that marks the property boundary and replace it with an evergreen screen planting to hide the quarry tailings beyond.
- Consider replacing existing chain link fencing with a simple board privacy fence, approximately four feet in height, that is edged on the adjacent property with a planting of Eastern red cedars or other native tree species that will support screening of the quarry.
- Consider removing the hedge planting along the parking area associated with the monument.
- Consider integrating the parcel into the park tour route and enhancing interpretation as part of the interpretive plan.
- Consider alternatives for marking the road corridor connecting the Nashville Pike unit and the Rosecrans Headquarters parcel. See section on "Connections between Noncontiguous Park Units and Parcels" in this chapter for more information.

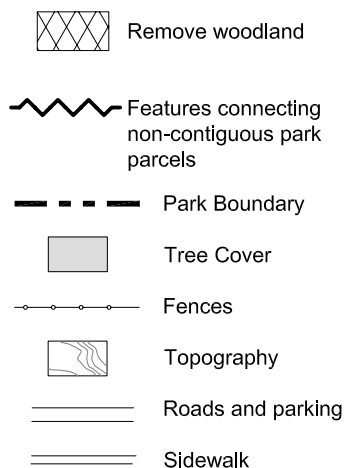
General Bragg's Headquarters Site

The goal of treatment in this area is to retain and maintain features established within this small parcel to mark and commemorate the location of Confederate General Bragg's Headquarters during the Battle of Stones River. Another goal of treatment is to diminish the visual impact of the various non-contributing features and land uses on adjacent parcels and to provide opportunities for contemplation, commemoration, and access to educational and interpretive features, with the Battle of Stones River as a primary focus. Treatment recommendations suggest that the park consider enhancing interpretation within this area.

- Preserve and maintain the pyramidal cannonball monument that marks the site of Confederate General Bragg's Headquarters during the Battle of Stones River.
- Preserve and maintain the open character of the parcel established through mown grass ground cover.
- Consider replacing existing fescue turf grass with buffalo grass and/or blue grama, or other non-invasive turf grass. Avoid frequent mowing and an overly manicured appearance.
- Consider working with the adjacent land owners to maintain the surrounding open character of nearby parcels that approximate the open agricultural character of the landscape during the Battle of Stones River.
- Maintain, for screening purposes, the rows of trees that edge the parcel. Replace trees that have died or are in decline with a mix of native species including Eastern red cedar.



Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.



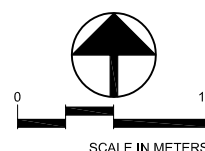
- 1 Preserve and maintain the pyramidal cannonball monument.
- 2 Preserve and maintain the concrete walk to and around the monument.
- 3 Preserve and maintain the open character of the parcel established through mown grass ground cover. Replace fescue with a non-invasive turf grass.
- 4 Work with adjacent land owner to remove existing weedy vegetative growth along the fence line and replace it with an evergreen screen planting to hide the quarry tailings beyond.
- 5 Replace existing chain link fencing with a simple board privacy fence, approximately four feet in height.
- 6 Remove the hedge planting along the parking area.
- 7 Integrate the parcel into the park tour route and enhance interpretation at the site.
- 8 Mark the road corridor connecting the Nashville Pike unit and the Rosecrans's Headquarters parcel.

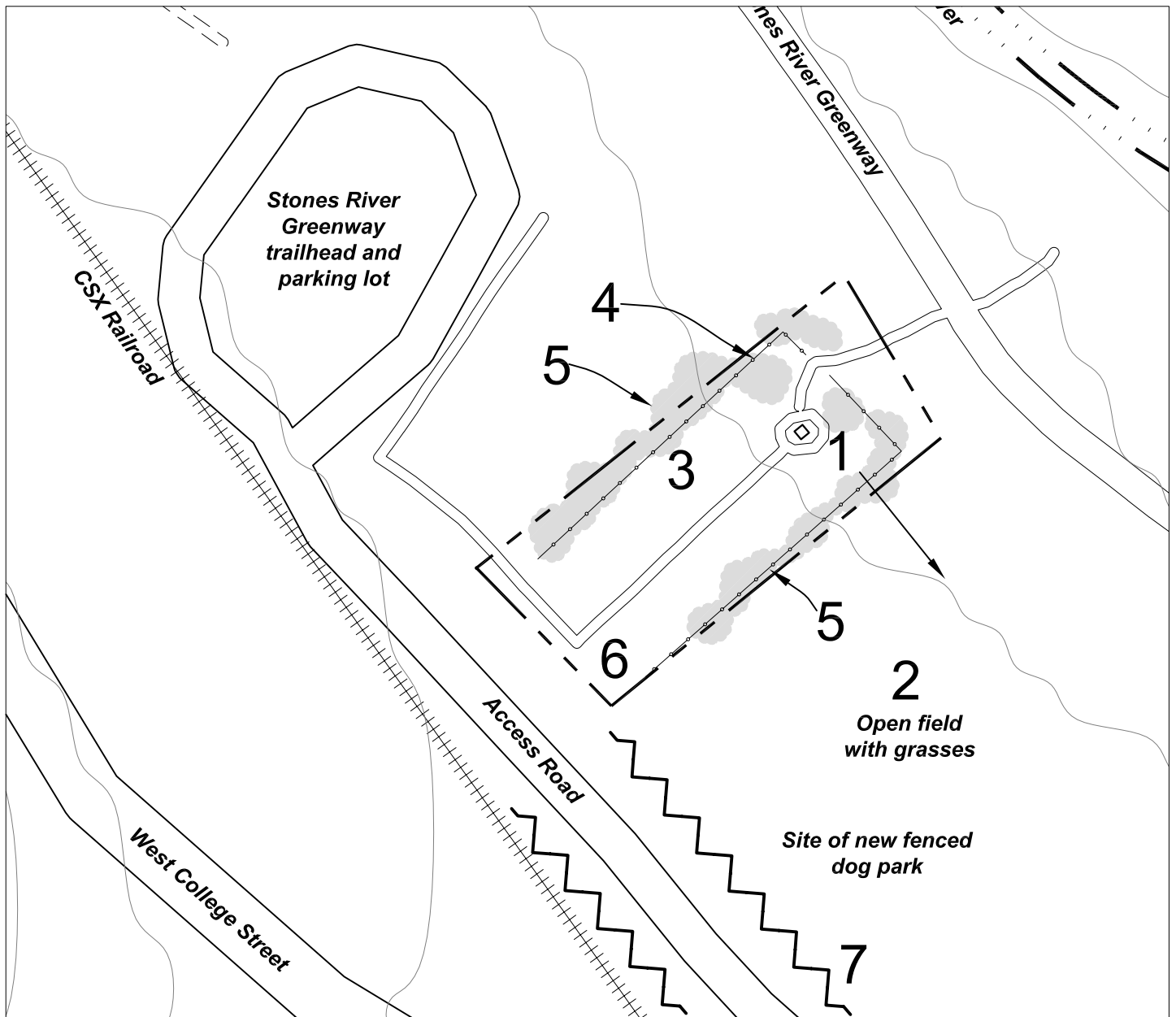
Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Rosecrans's Headquarters Site Treatment Recommendations

Figure 184





Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.

Features connecting non-contiguous park parcels

Park Boundary

Tree Cover

Fences

Topography

River

Roads and parking

Paths

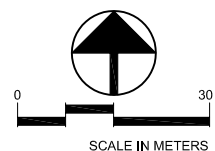
- 1 Preserve and maintain the pyramidal cannonball monument.
- 2 Work with adjacent landowners to maintain the open character of parcels within view of the site.
- 3 Preserve and maintain the open character of the parcel established through mown grass ground cover. Replace fescue with a non-invasive turf grass.
- 4 Replace the wood fencing along the perimeter of the parcel with a non-historic contemporary fencing style.
- 5 Maintain the row of trees along the margin of the parcel. Plant additional trees as necessary to screen the new fenced dog park to the southeast of the parcel.
- 6 Integrate the parcel into the park tour route and enhance interpretation at the site.
- 7 Mark the road corridor connecting the Nashville Pike unit and the Braggs's Headquarters parcel.

Stones River National Battlefield

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Bragg's Headquarters Site Treatment Recommendations

Figure 185



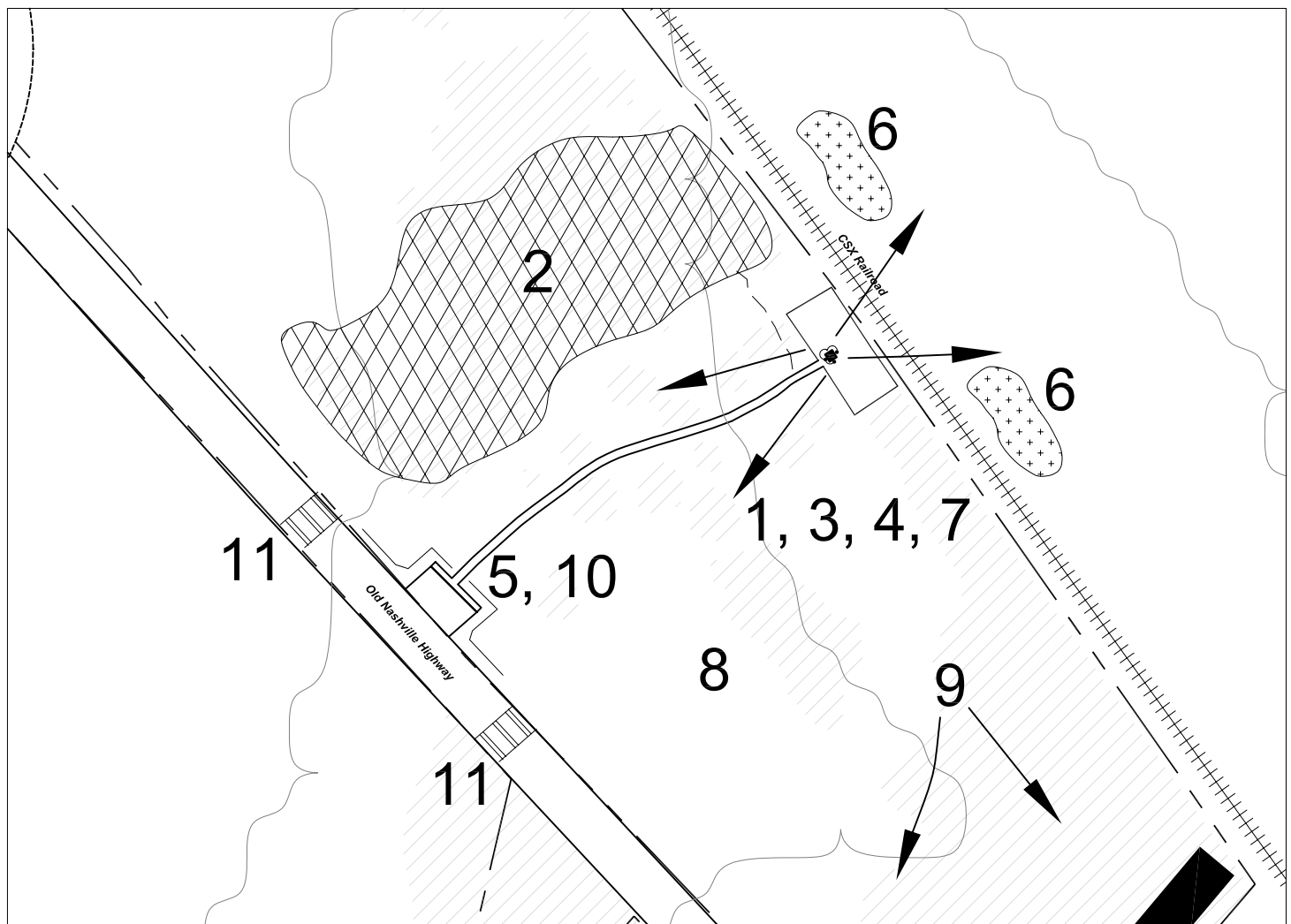
SCALE IN METERS

- Replace the wooden worm fencing that encloses the parcel with a contemporary fence type that will not be confused with historic fencing.
 - Consider working with the City of Murfreesboro to enhance screening of the new dog park to maintain the quality and character of views within the General Bragg's Headquarters unit.
 - Coordinate with the Friends of the Greenway in their efforts to restore native plant species in this area.
 - Work with the City of Murfreesboro to ensure that proposed changes to the parking area and Stones River Greenway Trailhead are compatible with the historic character of the site and its resources.
 - Consider integrating the parcel into the park tour route. Consider alternatives for marking the road corridor connecting the Nashville Pike unit, Hazen Brigade Monument, and the Bragg Headquarters parcel. See section on "Connections between Noncontiguous Park Units and Parcels" in this chapter for more information.
- headstones. Perform materials studies (petrographic examination) to evaluate potential conservation treatments to address ongoing preferential weathering and associated spalling of the limestone monument and markers and erosion of the marble markers.
- Undertake preservation measures to ensure that the headstones located within this unit are protected from further deterioration.
 - Continue to provide interpretive information at the monument for visitors.
 - Retain at least a partial and directed view of the rail line from the monument, a view that was afforded during the battle period.
 - Retain or establish at least a directed view from the monument toward the open fields of the Nashville Pike unit as an interpretive link to historic views of the battlefield landscape.
 - Screen views of the adjacent factory from the monument. Utilize evergreen tree plantings to establish the screen. Consider planting the trees in such a way as to suggest the missing Round Forest that is known to have existed in this general location during the Battle of Stones River. Consider working with adjacent property owners to establish the screen planting, a portion of which may need to be located off park property to be effective.
 - Retain and maintain the otherwise open character of the parcel established through mown grass ground cover, with limbed up ornamental and shade trees extending over a portion of the site.
 - Screen views of the Thompson Lane overpass from the monument. Install an evergreen screen planting on the northern side of Old Nashville Highway along the eastern edge of the site. Consider working with adjacent property owners to establish the screen planting, a portion of which may need to be located off park property to be effective.

Hazen Brigade Monument

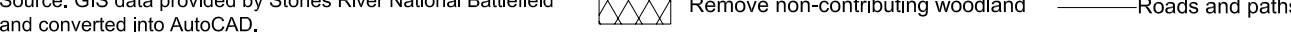
The goal of treatment in this area is to retain and maintain the commemorative features of the 1863 monument and the contemplative character of its setting. Enhancement of features associated with the battle, such as views of the rail line and the Round Forest, and mitigation of views of non-contributing features on adjacent properties are the focus of treatment in this area.

- Preserve and maintain the stone monument, surrounding stone wall, and gravestones that comprise the existing Hazen Brigade Monument.
- Enhance the woodland area adjacent to the monument to more closely approximate the configuration and composition of the Round Forest present at the time of the battle.
- Monitor the condition of the masonry on the Hazen Brigade Monument and the stone



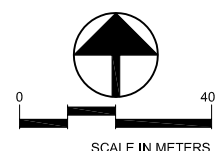
- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Preserve and maintain the stone monument, surrounding stone wall, and gravestones. 2 Enhance the woodland area to more closely approximate the configuration and composition of the Round Forest by removing non-contributing woodland. 3 Monitor the condition of the masonry on the Hazen Brigade Monument and the stone headstones. 4 Preserve the headstones and monument as needed. 5 Continue to provide interpretive information at the monument for visitors. 6 Screen views of the adjacent factory from the monument; coordinate with landowners in area. Retain at least a partial and directed view of the rail line from the monument. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7 Retain or establish at least a directed view from the monument toward the open fields of the Nashville Pike unit. Limb existing trees as necessary to establish the view. 8 Retain and maintain the otherwise open character of the parcel. 9 Screen views of the Thompson Lane overpass from the monument. 10 Ensure that the parcel is integrated into the overall park tour route and pedestrian trail system for the park. 11 Work with the Rutherford County Road Department to establish traffic calming measures in the vicinity of the Hazen Brigade Monument parking area to enhance its safety for visitors. |
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Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.

- Source: GIS data provided by Stones River National Battlefield and converted into AutoCAD.
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- Stones River National Battlefield**

Stones River National Battlefield

Hazen Brigade Monument Treatment Recommendations
Figure 186



- Ensure that the parcel is integrated in the overall park tour route and pedestrian trail system for the park.
- Work with the Tennessee Department of Transportation to establish traffic calming measures in the vicinity of the Hazen Brigade Monument parking area to enhance its safety for visitors.
- Consider establishing a contemplative node within this unit to allow for reflection. Refer to the Implementation Guidelines chapter for further guidance.

Fortress Rosecrans

Earthworks Management Issues

Protection and preservation of the remnant earthen fortification resources at Fortress Rosecrans is an important component of the park's stewardship of Stones River National Battlefield resources. If the earthworks are lost through erosion and destruction due to access by visitors and park staff, the site's ability to convey its significant Civil War story will be severely compromised. Working against preservation efforts are natural forces, such as erosion and windthrow of trees, as well as cultural activities, such as damage to earthworks from trampling. The most effective earthworks management scheme will mitigate both types of events through resource maintenance and monitoring and visitor education and control.

Because any ecological system is, by nature, dynamic and complex, vegetation management is typically one of the most critical and difficult aspects of managing earthworks. Vegetation management strategies must be considered in conjunction with the management of cultural resources, such as the earthworks, as well as visitor access, safety, and interpretation. Vegetation management strategies can vary widely in their associated needs. Prior to implementing any vegetation management strategies, maintenance cost estimates must also be developed and taken into consideration. Vegetation management strategies must also take aesthetics into consideration. Plants have the potential to detract from or enhance interpretation and to affect the visitor's impression of the property. Vegetation

maintenance and management can be undertaken in such a way as to enhance or screen views and to elicit a sense of mystery, awe, surprise, or beauty. These qualities may be created or established through simple maintenance practices, such as the removal of dead trees near well-visited areas of the park, selective thinning of vegetation for directed views, and choice of ground cover for the earthworks.

The best method for protecting and preserving these fragile resources is the perpetuation or establishment of vegetative cover that has the ability to retain soil. The two vegetative communities that best serve to protect earthen fortifications are grass or grass/forb cover and relatively mature forest. These two communities function very differently in the way they protect soil resources, and they also require different management strategies to perpetuate them. Both community types are represented and maintained in association with the earthworks at Fortress Rosecrans.

Another management issue associated with the protection of earthworks is the problem of burrowing animals, such as groundhogs. These animals burrow into the side slopes and tops of the earthworks, creating mounds of compacted earth and tunnels. Site managers must address control of animal burrowing using an integrated pest management approach.

The park has already undertaken most of the steps necessary for appropriate management and maintenance of the earthworks associated with Fortress Rosecrans suggested herein. Due to the success of these management practices, the treatment recommendations included below are to be considered when conditions change, problems arise, or in making minor possible adjustments to existing conditions. They also apply to the future management and maintenance of the Pioneer Brigade Earthworks.

Archeological Resources Management Issues

Surviving Civil War earthworks are an archeological resource. Soil erosion caused by exposure of the fortifications to stormwater or visitor access is of great concern due to its potential for destroying archeological resources

in a short amount of time. Soil erosion can be mitigated by maintaining a protective vegetative cover as discussed above, by preventing visitors from interacting with the earthworks, and by periodically monitoring the earthworks for signs of erosion to promote early mitigation of problems. Monitoring requires that a baseline of resource information be available to compare conditions over time. Establishment of the baseline information may include photography from consistent viewpoints, and measurement of the existing soil profiles and their cross-sections.

The key to archeological site preservation is avoidance of subsurface disturbance. Thus, the best soil management strategy for archeological site preservation is that which involves the least disturbance. Maintaining grass is an excellent strategy for preserving subsurface archeological resources. Mown or unmown field grasses protect resources from erosion or other surface disturbance. Land maintained in forest is likely to preserve archeological integrity, except where a lack of plant cover allows for soil erosion. In addition, growing tree roots do have the potential to penetrate and disturb features. When trees are uprooted, significant disturbance is caused within and around the root ball. In addition, removal of trees by means that uproot trees and plants or scrape the ground are destructive practices, and grinding stumps causes significant disturbance for several feet around the stump.

General Recommendations for Fortress Rosecrans Resources

Natural Resources

- Evaluate, through review by a qualified archeologist, the threat posed by areas of standing water associated with the fortification remnants that are not considered wetlands, but are present year-round. Standing water has the potential to kill the vegetation intended to protect the earthworks, exposing soil to erosion. Wet soil is also more easily dislodged and disturbed by pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Water that undergoes freezing and thawing cycles can also disturb the historic soil profile of earthworks. Consider a range of alternatives for mitigating any problems

identified through evaluation of this condition, including pumping, installing drain tile, or utilizing a dry well or cistern system

Vegetation

- Utilize vegetative filter strips and other run-off filtering methods in order to slow, collect, and filter water that drains from parking areas. Filter strips should be sited on the downslope edges of parking areas, or where the highest volume and quickest velocity of run-off occurs.

Buildings and Structures

- Interpret missing features associated with Fortress Rosecrans.

Site Access

- Consider including alternative interpretive materials at the entrances for physically-impaired persons who are unable to experience the entire site. Alternative materials may include pamphlets, a wayside describing the site's history and features, and/or a site model.
- Consider offering materials for the visually-impaired. Include Braille on the waysides, offer audio-tapes, and/or install a "touchable" model of the fortifications.

Circulation

- Consider edging trails with a simple, unobtrusive treatment that will reinforce the need for visitors to stay on the trail. Examples include log edging, low bollards, and rocks.
- Consider installing a simple handrail or barrier/fence where the trail comes within close proximity of a fragile or sensitive resource. Generally, visitors are more inclined to try and access the earthworks when the trail comes within twenty-five feet of the resource.

Views and Vistas

- Screen incompatible views using native vegetation.
- Utilize screening methods that blend with the surrounding character of the site, such as native vegetation, and that do not become a secondary visual intrusion.
- Retain the partially-screened views of the golf course. Although the golf course is not historic, it does permit long views from the lunettes and Curtain Wall No. 2 that can be interpreted. Retain these views by periodically thinning vegetation when it threatens to obscure the view of the golf course. Utilize vegetation removal techniques described earlier in this chapter.
- Incorporate archeology into long-term plans for protection, maintenance, and interpretation of the site.
- Avoid re-grading or filling any historically significant earthen form.
- Avoid establishing trails in areas associated with known sensitive archeological resources.
- Monitor water resource margins for erosion and associated emerging archeological resources.
- Undertake remote sensing studies using ground-penetrating radar to aid in the location of additional archeological resources.

Small-scale Features

- Install the least intrusive site furnishings—benches, trash receptacles, directional and regulatory signage, and bollards—possible when accommodating anticipated visitor needs.
- Ensure that any new site furnishings are compatible with the natural and historic character of the site, but cannot be confused with historic features. Select furnishings that are simple in design and either dark or earth-toned in color. Avoid features that are brightly colored, overly ornate, or contain reflective or shiny surfaces.
- Develop a protocol for measuring erosion associated with the earthworks. Monitor the earthworks periodically for signs of soil erosion and damage from humans, animals, and tree fall. Adjust the monitoring schedule as needed to ensure protection of the archeological resources.
- Consider measures to enhance the security of archeological resources, including the placement of signage and establishing a community watch group.
- Discourage relic hunting within the park. Post signage indicating that disturbing the ground and removing artifacts is illegal.

Land Use

- Monitor local zoning boards and planning committees for nearby adjacent development that may adversely impact the character and cultural resources of the site. Consider participating in the early stages of any development plans.
- Prevent trees from growing on or near artillery platforms. Periodically monitor the artillery platforms for vegetative growth, and remove saplings and young vegetation by hand or chemically before their root systems have had a chance to take hold in the platform soil.

Archeological Resources

- Protect, stabilize, and maintain all known and potential archeological resources.
- Evaluate archeological sites to determine visitor safety and resource protection concerns.
- Use vegetative litter, including leaf litter and native hay and straw from fields that have been inspected by natural resources staff, to cover bare spots on earthworks not maintained under grass cover. Ensure that additional ground is not uncovered when re-distributing the leaf litter. Periodically check the thickness of the leaf litter and re-dress bare spots as needed.

- Prevent the buildup of large fuel loads (i.e., brush), which can generate excessive heat when conducting prescribed fire use, as this can damage archeological resources and imperil firefighters.
- Undertake additional historical research in order to answer remaining questions regarding the earthworks.
- Prepare a ground disturbance policy to be implemented by park personnel and all others who will be physically interacting with the site. Ensure that the ground disturbance policy includes guidelines regarding what constitutes ground disturbing activities; when the site's managers and an archeologist should be consulted; what course of action to take if potential artifacts are uncovered during ground disturbing activities; and any other pertinent information that site managers and cultural resource staff deem necessary for staff maintaining the earthworks to understand.
- Protect archeological sites from disturbance, except for investigations necessary to address important research questions and to consider proposed new additions such as trails and interpretive exhibits, and vegetation management treatments. Avoid ground disturbance associated with archeological excavation unless conducted in support of collecting essential information.
- Document all known and potential archeological resources prior to undertaking any ground-disturbing activities.
- Engage a qualified archeologist to monitor any ground-disturbing activities.
- Avoid clearing large areas of deadfall and leaves in order to conduct a detailed surface survey. Although this endeavor may promote research efforts, it may also damage sensitive cultural resources, and will leave large portions of the site susceptible to soil erosion, growth of invasive and exotic plant species, and trampling by humans and wildlife. If clearing in this manner is necessary, limit it to what can be excavated

and researched in one day and replace stockpiled leaf litter when work is completed. Alternatives to clearing leaf litter include remote sensing, shovel testing, and metal detection.

Recommendations for Earthworks under Grass Cover

Native grass or grass and forb cover is one of the best methods for protecting earthworks from soil erosion. Initially, it can be a great challenge to quickly establish a functioning, erosion-controlling grass and forb cover on a site that has been cleared of trees. One of the more difficult aspects of establishing and maintaining grass and forb cover on earthworks includes the protection of earthen slopes before the grasses have had a chance to germinate and form a dense root mass. Also, site managers will need to regularly suppress woody growth, which has the ability to displace or replace the grass cover if not kept in check. To avoid disturbing the soil on the earthworks, woody growth will likely need to be controlled through prescribed burns, hand removal (cutting/trimming) or the application of an herbicide appropriate for the target species and selected control method. A maintenance plan will establish the appropriate number of mowings/burns annually.

Other problems associated with grass cover include the fact that grass can act as an inadvertent invitation for visitors to climb, recline, or play on the fortification. To curtail visitor use of sensitive portions of the earthworks, it is recommended that the grass and forb cover be allowed to grow to a height that will deter access. Finally, signs should be placed in strategic locations to inform visitors of the fragility of the resource and ask them to refrain from climbing or walking on the earthworks. When signs are found to be insufficient in controlling visitor access, consideration can be given to establishing a simple barrier system in locations where visitors are most frequently leaving the trail to access the resources.

The plant species mix used on the earthworks should include a diversity of plants that are native to the ecoregion and are hardy within the USDA zone. Diversity ensures that the vegetative community will be resilient to climatic

fluctuations, such as periods of heat or drought, or to infestations of a disease or insect.

The grass cover vegetative community that currently exists and as recommended as part of this CLR includes areas with two distinct characters. The first is a tall grass cover on all areas of the earthworks. The second is a more closely mown turf cover in areas accessible to the visitor, such as in association with benches and alongside trail margins. It is desirable to maintain a relatively uniform look for the tall grass cover areas to enhance legibility of the earthen forms. Use of finely textured grasses enhances legibility of the fortification more than coarsely textured species.

For earthworks under grass cover the following recommendations are intended to address any problems and situations that may arise:

- Monitor earthworks to identify invasive alien plant species and woody growth in the grass cover.
- Remove any invasive alien plant species from the earthworks prior to seeding operations, taking care not to disturb the soil. Cut woody stems by hand so that the remaining portion is flush with the surrounding grade.
- Eradicate, at a minimum, woody growth and identified invasive alien plant species annually using direct application of an herbicide appropriate for the target species and selected control method.
- Maintain native grasses whenever possible through prescribed fire.
- Develop guidelines for how personnel access the earthworks to ensure that any mowing activities do not inadvertently lead to soil erosion.
- Ensure that interpretive trails avoid traversing the earthwork parapet and ditch system.
- Encourage visitors to remain on the trail through informational and regulatory signs and brochures. Signs and printed brochures should engender a sense of stewardship for the fragile earthworks that will dissuade visitors from climbing on the earthen structures. Proceed to more restrictive measures, such as barriers, when signage is not sufficient in keeping visitors from accessing the earthworks.
- Establish a one- to three-foot-wide zone of closely mown turf to either side of the trail and in association with wayside exhibits, but allow the grass beyond the mown strip to grow taller to encourage visitors to remain on designated trail routes.
- Avoid activities that may alter the existing landform of the fortification either by earth-disturbing operations or through erosion. All landforms associated with the fortification should be identified and protected.
- Avoid founding additional waysides and wooden bridging or boardwalk systems within the earthen structure of the fortification parapet and ditch system. Founding structures within the earthen fortification sends a contradictory message when advising visitors to avoid accessing the resources.
- Retain and maintain existing grades, except where drainage or soil erosion problems may be identified. Avoid removing soil within the vicinity of the fortification due to the potential presence of archeological resources. Use fill to effect positive drainage as necessary, and possible. If soil is added to improve drainage or in association with the establishment of trails and other visitor-oriented features, the color and/or texture of the added material should be distinguishable from the existing material to identify fill as a non-historic grade.
- Protect the fortification resources from the destructive actions of animals. Determine the species associated with evidence of burrowing within the parapet and ditch. Establish a cyclical monitoring program to discourage future use of the fortification as a burrowing site. Document burrows. Repair burrow sites and document repair. Utilize appropriate IPM approaches in dissuading animals from burrowing in the earthworks.

- Consider interpreting missing fortification features, such as chevaux-de-fraise, abatis, rifle pits, blockhouses, powder magazines, artillery platforms, headlogs, and pickets.
- Consider interpreting the integral relationship between natural resources and the military engineering of earthworks. Also consider interpreting the relationship between existing site conditions and the design and configuration of the earthworks, and the possible connection between their survival and the site's lack of suitability for agriculture.
- Consider using models that are accessible for the visually impaired at each site to provide three-dimensional depictions of the earthworks as they originally existed.
- Undertake soil testing to determine the fertility and composition of the existing soil in areas where enhancement or replacement of grass cover is necessary.
- Overseed, in areas where erosion is occurring, with perennial native grasses and forbs, and amend the soil as necessary based on soil testing to ensure that the seed is given the best possible chance to survive. Consider the use of a biodegradable protective fabric or erosion control blanket, hydroseed fiber mulch, and the inclusion of fast-sowing annual grasses in the seed mix to ensure speedy and effective establishment of new grass cover.
- Consider planting trees in proximity to the earthworks to provide shade for visitors. Site trees far enough away from earthworks maintained in grass cover that they do not shade out the grass cover or become future hazards to the earthworks from toppling, falling limbs, or uprooting.

Recommendations for Earthworks under Mixed Cover

- See recommendations above for earthworks under grass cover, and see recommendations below for earthworks under forest cover.
- Remove all trees from the parapets and ditches of earthworks maintained under

mixed cover. Trees located in proximity to, but not on, these features should remain, as shade is a desirable element in this area of the park.

Recommendations for Earthworks under Forest Cover

Maintaining earthworks under forest cover is another recommended means for protecting these fragile resources. This option has several associated vegetation management issues. The health of the forest must be maintained to ensure a thick mat of leaf litter, which ultimately offers the best protection for the earthworks and other archeological resources. Healthy forests contain a mix of native vegetation species at varying ages, which ensures cyclical regeneration of trees that are capable of replenishing the forest floor. Maintaining a healthy woodland can also involve thinning to maintain light levels and planting saplings to perpetuate cover. Hazard trees—those trees that are dead or dying and may fall or drop limbs on visitors or archeological resources—must be removed as identified. Trees that are over twelve inches diameter at breast height (dbh) and located near or on archeological resources should also be removed to reduce the threat of windthrow disturbance. Trees with shallow roots that are located near or on archeological resources should also be removed. Despite these areas of management concern, maintaining the site under forest cover is a successful method for preserving earthworks.

- Retain as much of the existing, healthy vegetation associated with the forest cover as possible.
- Remove trees greater than twelve inches dbh from the parapets and ditches of earthworks. Trees located in proximity to, but not on these features should remain.
- Avoid removing all vegetation from the archeological resources. Retaining some trees will, in fact, promote preservation of the resource due to the ability of tree roots to hold soil in place.
- Avoid removing so many trees that a thick cover of leaf litter cannot be maintained atop the earthworks. Retain smaller trees if

removal of all trees on the earthworks will severely diminish the supply of leaf litter.

- Avoid removing trees and replacing them with grass cover. Interpret this management approach and its intended objective of protecting the earthworks.
- Remove hazard trees that pose a threat to visitors and archeological resources.
- Ensure the health of the forest by undertaking periodic maintenance and engaging a qualified arborist to periodically inventory and assess the health of the forest. The inventory and assessment should include the genus and species of all vegetation; the general condition of the vegetation; specific analyses of plants that are in poor condition or that need treatment or removal; and a maintenance plan that outlines seasonal and annual steps for promoting a healthy, regenerative forest.

Removing Vegetation

Although much of the forest cover should be retained on site, some trees and other vegetation may require removal. Removal efforts should include hazard trees, which are dead or dying and pose a toppling or limb-drop threat to cultural resources and visitors, and healthy trees that are growing on or near archeological resources. The following recommendations address which types of vegetation should be removed and offers appropriate methods for their removal.

- Remove trees that are greater than twelve inches dbh and are located on or near archeological resources.
- Remove trees that are growing in specific locations on earthworks, such as on the side slopes of the parapet and ditch systems. Trees can be removed in phases if necessary.
- Remove trees that will impact resources should they fall.
- Consider also removing nearby trees that have wide crowns that catch the wind, shallow roots (particularly those trees located in wet soils), or a combination of these factors that may cause a particular tree to uproot. Engage the expertise of an arborist and/or natural resource specialist to aid in the decision to remove a healthy tree that meets these conditions.
- Remove all trees considered hazardous to visitors and/or cultural resources. These include trees that are dead, diseased, or dying, and may fall or drop large limbs.

Earthworks Management Guidelines

Vegetation Removal Techniques

- Utilize the most sensitive means possible to remove trees and other large vegetation.
- Utilize tree removal methods that minimize potential impacts on surrounding cultural and natural resources.
 - Undertake as much of the removal effort by hand—using hand tools or chainsaws, as possible, and avoid introducing wheeled, motorized vehicles, such as loaders or trucks, on site unless absolutely necessary. Equipment used within the site should have rubber wheels. Heavy equipment can disturb and damage archeological resources.
 - Cut trees as close as possible to the ground plane—without damaging sensitive cultural resources—and allow the stumps to decay naturally, rather than grinding or otherwise removing them.
 - Utilize chemical removal methods only when necessary, deferring to mechanical means as much as possible. Treat stumps of species that are known to readily resprout with a systemic herbicide.
 - Employ “soft-logging” techniques, such as removing tree branches that may impale the ground when the tree is felled.
 - Remove trees by sectioning them and lowering sections to the ground using ropes or cables. Place sections to the

outer edge of the earthworks to facilitate removal on the ground.

- Consider chemical means of removal for smaller trees and shrubs. Utilize herbicide that is appropriate for the target species and selected control method. Chemical means of removal may involve a longer period of time, yet will likely require less ground disturbance.
- Ensure that any vegetation management operations, including pruning, planting, and tree removal, that may result in ground disturbance are supervised by a qualified archeologist.

Grass Cover Establishment Techniques

- Seed new grass areas and areas of soil erosion that need stabilization at the proper time of the year and with a seed mixture that is based on an understanding of existing soil and light conditions, hydrology, and native plant communities. Follow the guidance offered in The University of Tennessee Extension's Publication 1736 "A Landowner's Guide to Native Warm-Season Grasses in the Mid-South," when developing the specifications for establishing new field areas and restoring cover to eroded areas. Seed mixtures may include warm and cool season grasses and non-invasive nurse-crop annual species. If possible, seed sources for native grass species should be collected locally. Newly seeded areas require regular, deep watering of between one-half and one inch per week. While fertilizer may not be necessary over time, it may be necessary in conjunction with initial fertility. Composition of fertilizers should be based on soil testing analysis and the needs of the species chosen for planting. Initial applications of lime may also be necessary in conjunction with the establishment of new grass cover on the site.
- Inspect annually grass stands on earthworks to identify all undesirable woody species. Remove by cutting the stem(s) level to the ground, at a height not to exceed two inches, and treat the cut stems immediately with a systemic herbicide to prevent resprouting. If the stem is not large enough to treat with

herbicide, then retain plants and foliar treat with herbicide.

- Repair eroded areas by adding new soil. Lightly scarify base soil patches and re-seed as soon as the next planting season occurs. Cover newly seeded areas with straw mulch to a loose measurement of one-half inch. On steeply-sloped areas, the use of a biodegradable erosion control blanket or fabric soil protector may be necessary to retain the soil. Avoid products that contain plastic of any kind.
- Develop prescribed burning schedules as part of a maintenance plan for the site. Base the frequency of burning on the vegetative composition of the tall grass cover established on the earthworks (these will likely have different requirements than the mown grass areas), and the need to protect the earthen fortifications from visitor access.
- If mowing using string trimmers or similar equipment in areas in which visitor access is not desirable, perform on an annual basis after warm season grass species have gone to seed and several hard frosts have occurred. Mow to a height of no less than twelve inches.

Installing New Vegetation

The installation of new vegetation may be necessary to screen incompatible views, replace vegetation that must be removed for safety reasons, or ensure that the forest remains fully-stocked and capable of producing a thick mat of leaf litter. New vegetation should consist of native plant species that are found within the region and preferably species already in evidence. Installation of new vegetation is considered a ground-disturbing activity and should be undertaken within the proposed ground disturbance policy recommendations cited above. The following recommendations address appropriate plant species selection and installation methods.

- Install only native plants if additional vegetation is required. Utilize the existing, on-site palette of native plants, including those associated with the nearby Lytle Creek

and Stones River corridors, in order to maintain a consistent forest stand.

- Install new plantings only when necessary to maintain a fully-stocked forest or to screen incompatible views.
- Utilize simple designs for screen plantings that serve to enhance the existing, natural feel and appearance of the site. Avoid formal, ornamental designs such as linear rows of vegetation or geometric patterns.
- Utilize only native vegetation when new plantings are necessary. Attempt to use plant species that are already present on site, including those associated with the nearby Lytle Creek and Stones River corridors, before utilizing native species that are typical to the region. When dense screening is necessary, utilize closely planted vegetation, that includes evergreens as possible, and is native to the region, taking into consideration the fact that Eastern red cedar is the only species of evergreen native to the Central Basin of middle Tennessee.
- Enlist the aid of an archeologist when new plantings are installed to supervise ground-disturbing activities, such as digging holes, transporting heavy root balls over the site, and stockpiling soil or large quantities of vegetation to be planted.
- Ensure that watering new plants does not cause harm to archeological resources. Avoid allowing excess water to puddle in or flood nearby cultural resources. Avoid dragging hoses or irrigation equipment over cultural resources. Avoid stockpiling irrigation equipment on site, or if this is necessary, atop resources.

Invasive and Exotic Plant Prevention and Monitoring

Due to the threat posed by invasive alien plant species to healthy native plant populations, policies must be put in place that will support monitoring for, control of, and removal of undesirable plant species. Any type of development and ground disturbance increases a site's susceptibility to the germination and growth of invasive and exotic plants. The Stones

River National Battlefield landscape should be monitored for undesirable vegetation that will periodically arise naturally, but is highly likely to follow any construction activities. Monitoring plans may include appropriate methods for control and removal of invasive and exotic vegetation that will not harm the significant cultural resources. Monitoring guidelines are as follows.

- Complete the draft vegetation management plan for the park.
- Include in the plan lists and photographs of common invasive and exotic plants of the region; any undesirable plants that currently exist on site; contact information for personnel who can conclusively identify undesirable vegetation prior to its removal; a schedule for when periodic monitoring should occur throughout the year; and appropriate removal methods.
- Prevent the growth of invasive and exotic plant species during and after any ground-disturbing activities. Monitor for emerging invasive plants during construction of trails, parking, and other development, as well as after construction is complete.
- Remove invasive and exotic plant material as soon as it is noticed on site. Utilize the most sensitive means of removal possible, beginning with hand-pulling or limited use of biodegradable chemicals.
- Consider the use of controlling methods, rather than removal, if eliminating undesirable vegetation will negatively impact sensitive cultural resources. For example, if the removal of a large amount of invasive vegetation will cause slopes of any fortification resources to become unstable, consider regular pruning and thinning of the vegetation to prevent its spread, rather than wholesale removal at one time.
- Understand that clearing and thinning activities allow additional light and nutrients into the site, promoting growth of both native and invasive plant species. Additional monitoring activities may be needed to prevent the growth of unwanted understory plants and invasive species. Brush cutting

may be necessary to control the density of understory growth as it affects the visual accessibility of the resources. Understory growth, however, may be considered as one of the tools for discouraging visitors from walking over sensitive areas.

- Limit the amount of exposed earth to that necessary for construction purposes and limit the amount of time exposed earth will remain uncovered during construction of parking areas, trails, and any other ground-disturbing development. Consider covering earth that will be exposed for longer amounts of time with a weed barrier fabric or other similar product that will prevent vegetative growth.
- Consider washing vehicle tires, tools, and other equipment prior to beginning construction to minimize tracking dirt on-site that may contain invasive and exotic plant seeds from other sites. Only use hay and straw for projects within the park that has been inspected and approved by the park's natural resource specialist.

Management Guidelines for Archeological Resources

- Avoid grinding stumps in areas that may include subsurface resources. Cut trees to be removed flush with the ground.
- Repair eroded and damaged areas as quickly as possible to prevent additional damage. To repair the damage caused by an uprooted tree, first cut the tree into sections for removal. Cut the stump at the base to dislodge it from the root crown, taking care to avoid standing in the former stump location as the stump can spring back once the tree is cut away. Remove as much of the soil from the root ball as possible and replace it within the hole left by the removal of the root system. Smooth the surface of the soil and cover with organic matter.
- Utilize simple barriers and means of path demarcation to discourage public interaction with archeological resources.
- Resolve drainage issues in the most sensitive manner possible to avoid loss of or damage

to both known and unknown archeological resources. Consider coordinating any ground-disturbing activities with archeological studies.

- Stabilize sites of known archeological resources affected by erosion by establishing and maintaining grass cover. Install erosion-control measures such as textiles and grass using methods that do not further disturb subsurface resources. Avoid the use of material that is visually incompatible with the character of the area, such as riprap or other large stone.
- Undertake any viewshed thinning or clearing activities in a manner that does not result in harm to the archeological resources.

Connections between Noncontiguous Park Units and Parcels

Stones River National Battlefield comprises six noncontiguous parcels. At initial contact, the park visitor should be provided with information that indicates the preferred tour route, explains the relationship between the parcels, suggests the length of time it will take to experience each site and the park in its entirety, and wayfinding information. Visual clues should be established along the roadways that provide connections between the noncontiguous units. The information that guides the visitor through the park and its history and resources should also provide context about how this site fits into a broader system of interpreted Civil War sites in the Nashville/Franklin/Murfreesboro vicinity. For those publicly accessible sites with a clear and established association with Civil War events, it would be possible, and desirable, to identify the relationships between the sites and utilize this information to augment the existing interpretive plan conveying the stories to visitors. The identified relationships between sites and resources could support additional theme development, suggesting key relationships and ultimately recommendations for regional tours that explore the themes. For example, tours might explore sites that relate to:

- different aspects of a single battle
- chronological events or battles

- geographic proximity of related resources
- examples of military engineering (encampments and earthworks)
- Confederate sites
- Union sites

Links might also provide information about physical proximity, establishing the parameters for manageable walking, biking, or driving tours. Sites in close enough proximity to Stones River might include those in downtown Murfreesboro or along the Stones River Greenway Trail.

Specific recommendations relating to these issues:

- Consider developing an overall interpretive plan for visitors that includes all of the park's noncontiguous parcels and takes into consideration sites related by geography and/or historic event. Update existing interpretive themes, and identify the sites and resources that best convey the themes. Develop an interpretive tour or tours for visitors to follow to learn about the themes and related resources.
- Consider linking the Stones River parcels physically and aesthetically within the framework of a tour route.
- Consider installing regional context maps at each site that pinpoint the locations of other Civil War sites within the park and Civil War sites within the vicinity. An alternative to installing signage is to provide pamphlets that offer similar information; pamphlets could also be taken away by visitors and used for directional purposes while driving.
- Utilize a consistent palette of materials and features to develop identity, access, and interpretation features for the sites included on the tour.
- Work with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, City of Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, and adjacent landowners to install visual markers along both sides of Old Nashville Highway that will aesthetically and physically connect the park's noncontiguous parcels, including the

Nashville Pike unit, the Hazen Brigade Monument, the two headquarters sites, and Fortress Rosecrans. Similar features should also guide the visitor to the McFadden Farm unit. Consider the following alternatives for marking the routes:

- Alternative One: Historically appropriate fences to suggest the extent of the historic battlefield.
- Alternative Two: Contemporary yet compatible and sensitively designed bollards to create a visually cohesive roadway aesthetic.
- Alternative Three: Signature vegetation, such as a low hedge, to help create a more unified roadway character.

Implementation Guidelines

Introduction

This chapter describes the means for implementing many of the recommendations included in the Treatment Plan chapter. These implementation guidelines have been organized into a series of seventeen projects, each presenting a goal or vision for treatment and laying out a process for achieving it. The projects are intended to support the park's ability to secure funding, and are presented in accordance with the requirements of National Park Service's (NPS) Project Management Information System (PMIS) forms that are utilized to request funding. Responding to the guidance offered in the park's General Management Plan (GMP) and other planning documents, these projects also address life safety considerations and visitor accessibility and interpretation needs. All projects are subject to review under Federal Section 106 and National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) compliance. Most of the projects listed below depend on the completion of one or more park- or area-wide studies or plans, some of which are currently underway. The breakdown of tasks for each project does not include project management, compliance-related reviews, and other management elements typically undertaken by NPS personnel as part of the planning, design, and construction phases of a project.

Each project is presented individually with a summary description; considerations or justifications; identification of the project's location; and specific implementation actions, including additional research and physical investigations.

Projects

1. Remove invasive plants from cedar glade communities.
2. Rehabilitate cedar brake and dense cedar woodland communities in areas of interpretive value.
3. Enhance and expand native warm-season grass fields and meadows.
4. Establish filter strips in association with crop exhibits, roads, parking areas, and trails.
5. Remove non-contributing woodland vegetation.
6. Manage mixed woodlands to promote a combination of natural and cultural resource values.
7. Update invasive plant species control plans.
8. Establish screen plantings in specific locations to manage views.
9. Protect the Pioneer Brigade Earthworks and manage woodland environs to preserve associated resources.
10. Mark and interpret the locations of historic buildings and structures missing from the battlefield landscape.
11. Restore fencelines missing from the battlefield landscape.
12. Consider alternatives for establishing and maintaining non-historic fencelines, controlled visitor access points, and linear connections between park units.
13. Rehabilitate portions of historic Van Cleve Lane.
14. Convert a portion of the tour road to a pedestrian trail that connects with the proposed new tour route.
15. Establish design guidelines for contemporary park features, such as site furnishings.
16. Enhance connections between noncontiguous park units and parcels.

1. Remove invasive plants from cedar glade communities

Description

Cedare glade communities are a relatively rare habitat within the state of Tennessee; many have been lost to development and other cultural activities. Stones River National Battlefield includes extensive areas of remnant cedare glades. Cedar glades support rare and potentially threatened plant species. In addition to having a high natural resource value, many of the glades were areas of engagement during the battle, and so contribute to the historic character of the battlefield landscape. The cedar glades within the park are potentially threatened by the encroachment of invasive and non-native plant species. They are also very fragile and could easily be damaged by cultural activities. Protection strategies and restoration efforts that ensure the perpetuation of this important natural and cultural resource are recommended.

Location

Most of the park's cedar glade communities are located within the central portion of the Nashville Pike unit.

Considerations/Justification

Once mostly open plant communities occupying thin soil atop limestone outcroppings, the park's cedar glades are now threatened by the proliferation of Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) and bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii* and *L. fragrantissima*), and the encroachment of Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*). The invasion of these habitats by bush honeysuckle and Chinese privet has likely led to an accretion of soil, allowing for the establishment of Eastern red cedar. The shade produced by the cedars reduces the light levels to which glade species are adapted. These species can neither adapt nor compete with these environmental changes and are being lost. These invasive species have the potential to wreak havoc on these highly sensitive communities. Other non-native species currently invading the glade communities include sweet clover (*Melilotus officinalis*) and Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*). Managing cedar glades by protecting them from the spread of Chinese privet and bush

honeysuckle and clearing encroaching tree and shrub growth, particularly Eastern red cedar, are two important treatment activities to be undertaken in these areas.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Develop a long-term management plan for the park's cedar glades. Of critical concern is removing appropriate species and numbers of trees and shrubs to support reestablishment of the glades' ecological health. Ensure that the plan addresses protection of the rare plant, moss, and lichen populations that are susceptible to damage from foot and/or equipment traffic.

Related Implementation Projects

- 7. Update invasive plant species control plans.

Project Implementation Process

1. Conduct site visits and field surveys with natural resource specialists to evaluate the current state of vegetation in and adjacent to glade communities.
2. Identify invasive species, such as Chinese privet, bush honeysuckle, and Eastern red cedar, to be removed.
3. Mark the native woody species to be removed. Remove and treat all invasive plants.
4. Remove Eastern red cedars mechanically every three years. Allow mechanical clearing of cedars and other woody material only under conditions of very dry or frozen soils to ensure there is no rutting, pitting, or other damage to the soil. Allow only hand cutting with chain saws, brush clearing saws, handsaws, and loppers in sensitive areas. Avoid using mowers, tractors, and other heavy equipment in and around glades.
5. Follow the integrated pest management (IPM) guidance relating to removal of Chinese privet and bush honeysuckle, taking care to follow the considerations indicated above.

6. Monitor progress of restoration to determine long-term management needs, and monitor glades for damage.

2. Rehabilitate cedar brake and dense cedar woodland communities in areas of interpretive value

Description

Cedar brakes are a primary feature of the battlefield landscape for interpreting the events and tactics of the Battle of Stones River. Occupying a large portion of the center of the Nashville Pike unit, these areas have been dominated by cedar forest since prior to the Civil War and continue to be characterized by cedar woodlands today. As such, they are an important park interpretive tool. However, the composition of these communities has been altered by the introduction of an invasive shrub—Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*)—which has gained a tremendous foothold within the park, but was not present during the Civil War. Also of concern is the invasive bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii* and *L. fragrantissima*). Many of the cedar woodlands have a dense understory of Chinese privet. Control or removal of Chinese privet, as well as other invasives such as bush honeysuckle, is a current goal of the park's vegetation management program.

As an alternative to full replanting of the cedar brakes, those segments of the cedar brakes that are visible from primary interpretive routes, such as the tour road and interpretive trails, could be rehabilitated. This would require removal of Chinese privet and bush honeysuckle and additional planting of cedar along the margins of existing brakes where there is sufficient sunlight to support growth. The depth of the enhanced brake communities that will be required for interpretive purposes should be determined in the field, based on visibility from trails or tour routes.

Location

The majority of the cedar brakes and dense cedar woodlands are located within the central portion of the Nashville Pike unit. Segments of current and proposed tour routes edge these communities, as do existing and proposed pedestrian trails. The project is located at all points where the park's tour roads and trails edge contributing areas of cedar brake community.

Considerations/Justification

Unfortunately, Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) is a shade-intolerant species, meaning that cedar can not necessarily be planted to replace the Chinese privet and bush honeysuckle if insufficient sunlight is available in the planting area. There are no shade-tolerant evergreen species native to the region, and therefore no suitable tree for underplanting within the existing woodlands. Over time, unless managed, the cedar brakes can be expected to yield to hardwoods, as shade tolerant species such as oaks grow up and replace the shorter-lived cedars. Given the lack of an evergreen replacement, and the fact that complete rehabilitation of the cedar brakes is not a viable alternative unless entire stands are cut over and replaced at once, the park will need to take an active role in managing these features for interpretation of the battlefield landscape.

Establishment of even-aged stands of trees that will be difficult to sustain over time should be avoided by planting additional saplings every few years. Assessment and protection of cultural features should precede planting. Proper plant installation methods should be followed, including mulching and watering, to ensure survival of newly planted vegetation. Erosion control methods should be considered as part of the re-vegetation plan.

Over time, rehabilitation of the cedar brakes can best be accomplished through replanting a section at a time.

Park personnel should delineate areas to be reforested, and work with a botanist/ecologist to develop the re-vegetation plan. Park maintenance staff could also be trained to undertake the monitoring process, invasive plant removal, and planting of new trees.

Additional Studies Recommended

This project should be developed as part of the park's vegetation management plan.

Related Implementation Projects

- 7. Update invasive plant species control plans.

Project Implementation Process

1. Delineate in the field, with input from a historical landscape architect, archeologist, and botanist/ecologist, the extent of each area to be rehabilitated.
2. Remove invasive plant species from existing cedar brake communities.
3. Remove woody vegetation other than Eastern red cedar along paths and interpretive trails in support of enhancing the historic character of the cedar brakes and woodlands. Determine the appropriate depth for the removal effort into the stand based on what is visible from interpretive trails and paths.
4. Plant cedar saplings along the margins of the existing cedar brake communities and in the gaps left by the removal of Chinese privet, bush honeysuckle, and other woody plants, phasing the planting over three years. Install saplings relatively densely.
5. Initiate a monitoring program to periodically evaluate the health of the new plantings and to look for evidence of colonization by invasive species.
6. Continue to remove Chinese privet, bush honeysuckle, and other invasive species as identified.

3. Enhance and expand native warm-season grass fields and meadows

Description

Some areas of the park where open crop fields or pasture existed at the time of the Civil War are currently maintained under forest cover. Other areas that were crop fields or pasture during the war are currently maintained in open vegetative cover, primarily comprised of cool-season grasses such as fescue, which are invasive and detrimental to native plant communities. Removing woodland from areas of the park that were in open vegetative cover at the time of the Battle of Stones River and replacing it with native warm-season grass fields will perpetuate the appearance of historic agricultural land uses and support the park's interpretive goals. Converting fescue fields to native warm-season grass fields will maintain contributing patterns of spatial organization while enhancing the sustainability of park land cover management. This project suggests converting areas known to have been used for crop fields and pasture at the time of the Battle of Stones River to native warm-season grass fields, with limited areas utilized to interpret historic crop activities.

Location

Non-contributing woodland cover to be converted to native warm-season grass fields exists in various locations within the McFadden Farm unit, and smaller areas within the central and western portion of the Nashville Pike unit. Small areas of fescue fields also exist in both of these areas. The park is already in the process of converting many of these fescue fields to native warm-season grasses.

Considerations/Justification

Converting fescue fields to native warm-season grass fields will allow the perpetuation of important open conditions, limit the park's dependence on agricultural leases, and support NPS sustainability initiatives. As with many historical parks, management of agricultural fields has proven complex. Finding willing lessees to manage fields given the environmental restrictions placed on farming operations by the NPS is challenging for parks. Much cost and

labor is associated with keeping fields cleared. When budgets are insufficient to maintain open fields, parks are forced to release them to succession. Once under forest cover, there are often environmental and social issues and concerns related to maintenance practices and interpretation issues, including aversion to the use of fire as a management tool, and reluctance to remove trees.

Native warm-season grass fields are generally composed of regionally native perennial bunch grasses that are more ecologically sustainable than fescue. They can provide high-quality pasture, hay, and wildlife habitat, while also serving as components of riparian buffer plantings. Established using a modicum of soil amendments, warm-season grasses require few or no additional applications of herbicides, fertilizers, or pesticides, and are significantly more drought tolerant than fescue. Native warm-season grass fields can be cut over for hay production, perpetuating historic agricultural land uses; controlled seasonal burning can also be utilized to reduce mowing. Native warm-season grass fields can be difficult to establish and maintain in the early stages. However, the publication *A Landowner's Guide to Native Warm-Season Grasses in the Mid-South* produced by the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Agency provides an excellent overview of the methods and issues involved in establishing native warm-season grasses within the region, as well as additional contacts and sources of information.¹²⁶

Native warm-season grasses are more frequently being used as a field cover for historic agricultural sites within the National Park system and for conservation purposes throughout the country. Great Smoky Mountains National Park managers, for example, have begun to reestablish the historic character of agricultural fields in the Cades Cove Historic District by converting fescue to native warm-season grasses. The resulting research data and experience from this and other parks could be used to aid in management and treatment techniques for the fields at Stones River National Battlefield.

Stones River National Battlefield has already begun this process and is working hard to

126. <http://www.utextension.utk.edu/>

establish and maintain new native warm-season grass fields. Knowledge gained from this experience should be applied to the on-going conversion of additional fields from fescue and other non-native cool-season grasses and to establishing new fields where non-contributing woodland is removed. Each season, only discrete areas of a manageable size should be selected for field establishment based upon available labor, equipment, and other resources.

The park's interpretive plan should consider the role that native warm-season grass fields can play in the interpretation of historic conditions such as farm fields and dwelling precincts. Mowing patterns, for example, can be utilized to differentiate fields and create visual aids to interpret missing historic conditions. Grass species with distinctions in texture, height, and/or color can be planted in limited areas in support of interpretive needs to delineate former field patterns, military lines, or other missing features of the Civil War-era landscape.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Specific implementation recommendations for this project should be included in the park's vegetation management plan. Development of the implementation plan should take into consideration available literature relating to this issue, the experience of park personnel, other national parks, and experts in the field. Ecologists and plant specialists should be involved in determining the recommended species compositions, densities, appropriate season for planting, and maintenance techniques.
- Prior to beginning work, park staff should identify the appropriate vegetation community to establish in each proposed new field. Low, wet areas within some fields and along stream corridors may include native wetland plant communities that should be protected, and disturbance of these communities should be avoided. Habitat that may support rare, threatened, or endangered species should be identified and protected from conversion.
- The park should apply the appropriate Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

techniques to establishing and maintaining the desired vegetation stands.

- Seed mixes should be consistent with the reference xeric limestone prairie communities within the middle Tennessee region that the park has identified as target communities for field plantings. Should conditions change, the park should continue to consider options for species and seed mixes, taking into consideration availability of seed sources and the results of past efforts to establish fields at the park.
- A field management plan, including delineation of mowing regimes, should be developed to support interpretation of historic field patterns as part of the park's vegetation management plan and interpretive plan. The seasonal nesting cover and food requirements of open-field wildlife in the park, such as birds and small mammals, should be accommodated when determining mowing schedules.

Related Implementation Projects

- 4. Establish filter strips in association with crop exhibits, roads, parking areas, and trails.
- 5. Remove non-contributing woodland vegetation.
- 7. Update invasive plant species control plans.
- 10. Mark and interpret the locations of historic buildings and structures missing from the battlefield landscape.

Project Implementation Process

- I. Conduct a field survey of the area to be converted after woodland and invasive species clearing operations are complete and prior to establishment of native warm-season grass fields. Stake the limits of the area to be converted. Engage an archeologist and a historical landscape architect to identify any previously undocumented cultural resources within the affected area.
2. Follow the guidance offered in the vegetation management plan to prepare the area to be

converted during the season or seasons prior to planting. Alternatives to be considered include the application of a systemic herbicide to areas where incompatible vegetation currently exists, or overseeding with native warm-season grass species and managing for their needs over the needs of cool-season species.

3. Follow the guidance offered in the vegetation management plan to prepare the area just prior to seeding. Where overseeding is not being used, consider using prescribed fire prior to planting to remove stubble and newly emerging seedlings, or applying additional herbicide six to eight weeks before planting and disking the field.
4. Seed the fields following the guidance offered in the vegetation management plan.
5. Manage the stands as recommended in the vegetation management plan, including the specific recommendations for mowing practices during establishment, and thereafter, and for prescribed fire.

4. Establish filter strips in association with crop exhibits, roads, parking areas, and trails

Description

Vegetative filter strips (also called grass filter strips or grass buffer strips) are used to filter and clean sediment, organic material, nutrients, chemicals, and other pollutants from stormwater runoff water as it leaves a non-point source (Fig. 187). Planted with densely growing or clump-forming grasses, filter strips are particularly crucial at locations edging drainages, streams, sinkholes, drainage wells, ponds, wetlands, or lakes to protect surface water. Placed between pollution sources and water resources, these planted filter systems can effectively mitigate soil erosion and polluted runoff.

Establishment of filter strips along roads and trails, parking areas, and crop exhibit areas is recommended in support of park sustainability initiatives and enhance regional water quality. This project would especially help mitigate runoff from large areas of paving, such as the main parking area at the Visitor Center, and from areas where the soil is more frequently exposed, such as the crop field exhibits.

Location

Filter strips are recommended for all road, trail, and parking area margins and the margins of current and proposed crop field exhibit areas within the park. This includes areas within the Nashville Pike unit as well as at the McFadden Farm unit. For roads and trails, filter strips should begin beyond a mown strip that allows water to flow off of the paved surface to avoid areas of standing water. The depth of the mown strip will depend on the cross-slope of the paved area as well as the landform that edges it and whether the juncture between the two affords a slope conducive for positive drainage.

Considerations/Justification

Vegetative filter strips are a Best Management Practice (BMP) for reducing runoff associated with some agricultural non-point source contaminants, such as soil nutrients, organic material, and pesticides bound to soil particles, and are considered an integral part of a land

conservation system. As water is slowed, larger soil and organic particles rapidly settle out. Smaller clay particles need a longer flow distance to settle out in the filter. Therefore, a wider strip is needed for removing finer sediments. Filter strips work best when water flows at a shallow, uniform depth across the filter. If water becomes concentrated in small channels, the effectiveness of the strip is drastically reduced. Filter strips also work best on shallower slopes. Filters cannot, however, remove all runoff water contaminants, and they may require replacement if sediments build and erosion gullies begin to form.

Factors impacting filter strip effectiveness:

- Shallow, uniform flow is more effective for filtering runoff flow than concentrated flow conditions.
- The first eight to twelve feet of the strip is the most effective in removing sand- and silt-sized particles of sediment. A filter must be wider to effectively trap clay-sized particles.

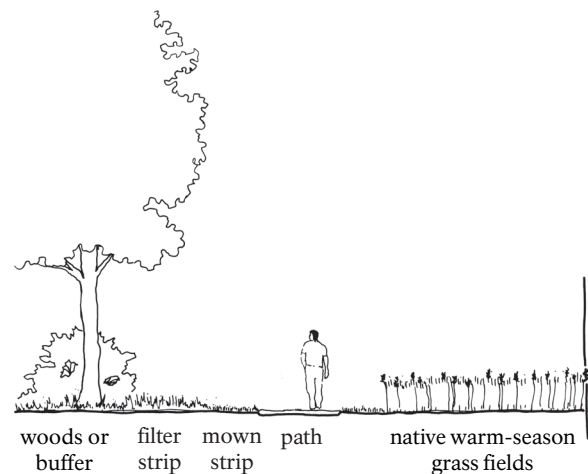


FIGURE 187. Section showing the relationship between park trails and filter strips, as well as other recommended conditions.¹²⁷

127. Figure from "Glendale and Malven Hill Units, Richmond National Battlefield Park Cultural Landscape Report and Archeological Inventory," John Milner Associates, Charlottesville and Alexandria, Virginia, for the National Park Service, Richmond National Battlefield Park, October 2004.

- The strip is most effective when its width, location, and vegetation are matched to the soil, slope, and drainage conditions of a specific site.
- The strip becomes less effective as the cropland area drained through the vegetated area is increased.
- The strip also becomes less effective when the depth of flowing water moving through it is greater than the height of the vegetation in the filter. Vegetation tends to lie over, which may help protect the filter strip area from erosion, but dramatically decreases filtering efficiency.
- The strip becomes less effective as sediment and nutrients build up in the vegetation.
- The strip is also less effective in trapping sediment and nutrients if runoff events occur very frequently with little or no rest or growth period between events.
- The strip is less effective when not adequately maintained.

Filter strips will alter the character of the landscape associated with some of the high visitor use areas due to the nature of the clump-forming grasses used to trap sediments and pollutants. Interpretation or education regarding the importance of these features to the environment will help mitigate the impact to the visitor experience.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Design and implementation of filter strips should be considered as part of the vegetation management plan being prepared for the park.
- The park should determine the best species composition for filter strips based on current knowledge regarding species viability.

Related Implementation Projects

- 3. Enhance and expand native warm-season grass fields and meadows.
- 7. Update invasive plant species control plans.

Project Implementation Process

1. NPS natural resource specialists should conduct site visits and field surveys to determine necessary filter strip widths and placement. Design filter strips to be at least ten to twenty-five feet wide, depending on the slope of the field; steeper slopes require wider filter strips. Keep drainage areas relatively small, with no more than thirty acres of field draining to one acre of filter. In the case of impervious surfaces or intensive uses such as parking areas, the ratio should be smaller.
2. Assess the condition and effectiveness of any grass filter strips that currently exist at the park and rehabilitate as necessary using BMPs for agriculture if the buffer is not stable, for example, if vegetation is in poor health, there are numerous invasive plants, or the existing buffer is too narrow. Remove invasive plants using the guidelines provided in this document.
3. Examine current site conditions to determine species to be seeded, considering the following elements:
 - Soil characteristics
 - Slope of land
 - Shape and area of the field draining to the filter strip
 - Hydrology
 - Type and condition of existing vegetation
 - Land use history
 - Location of cultural and archeological features
4. Remove invasive vegetation and refuse and protect sensitive natural and cultural resources in preparation for filter strip establishment.
5. Plant species native to local riparian zones. Ecologists and plant specialists should determine the species compositions, the densities that will be required, and the

appropriate season for planting. Avoid use of fertilizers and pesticides in riparian zones.

6. Monitor post-installation site conditions for seed germination and growth of invasive plant species.
7. To maintain filter strips:
 - Inspect regularly, especially after heavy precipitation events.
 - Remove accumulated sediment periodically.
 - Repair and reseed bare spots and areas where erosion channels begin to form.
 - Mow vegetation to a six-inch height two to three times per year, or burn, and remove woody vegetation and weeds.
 - Test soil periodically to assure continued plant health.

5. Remove non-contributing woodland vegetation

Description

The clearing of non-contributing woodland to reestablish historic land cover conditions would enhance interpretation of the 1862–1863 battlefield landscape. Based on historic maps, sufficient documentation exists to reestablish fields that were open during the battle but are now in forest cover. In some cases, non-contributing woodland helps to screen views of incompatible contemporary development and should therefore remain. In other cases, non-contributing woodland plays an important role in maintaining the health of the environment.

Location

The Nashville Pike unit and McFadden Farm unit both include areas of non-contributing woodland.

Considerations/Justification

Before any existing woodlands are cleared, two factors must be considered: the impact of clearing on the environment and the role that clearing will play in interpretation. Woodland cover along Stones River is important as a riparian buffer that protects water quality. Some woodland areas serve as habitat for rare or unusual plant species or communities, a value that may be considered more important than battlefield restoration. The park's interpretive plan should help to identify the specific sites and degree of clearing required to enhance the visitor experience and the park's ability to tell the story of the Battle of Stones River. The park should evaluate priorities for interpretation and determine what costs and benefits are associated with clearing. If existing non-contributing woodland is found to play another important role in the park landscape, consider whether battlefield stories can be told elsewhere.

The following criteria should be considered when weighing the decision to clear woodland:

- The area to be cleared should support the goals of the park's interpretive plan.

- The area to be cleared should be located along one of the primary tour routes, or within view of interpretive trails or sites.
- Reestablishing a historic field should not result in open views to areas outside the park that would have a negative affect on interpreting the historic scene. Ensure that a 100-foot wide forest buffer is maintained along the perimeter of the park boundary.

The following guidelines apply to woodland clearing:

- Clearing should not be undertaken within wetlands and other sensitive ecological areas. Delineate park wetlands before field clearing begins. Consider all federal, state, and local laws associated with wetlands or other sensitive ecological areas in the evaluation.
- Clearing should not be undertaken within the 100-foot riparian forest buffer of Stones River.
- Avoid clearing existing woodland on slopes steeper than 15 percent and on soils classified as highly erodible or stony, although removal of invasive species should be undertaken in these areas when possible.

The following economic and environmental costs should also be considered when weighing interpretive benefits:

- Will the clearing result in a loss or fragmentation of wildlife habitat?
- Will the improvement to environmental health offered by the removal of invasives like Chinese privet and bush honeysuckle offset the environmental costs of tree removal?
- Heavy infestations of Chinese privet and bush honeysuckle reduce appropriate habitat for native plants and animals. When these infestations are removed, soil erosion may occur. In this case, a healthy stand of native grasses may be an ecological improvement in both uplands and wetlands.
- Can the loss of topsoil and reduction in water quality due to increased runoff during

clearing be mitigated to an acceptable degree?

- Can the loss or damage of archeological resources due to clearing and stump removal and seedbed preparation be mitigated to an acceptable degree?
- What is the financial cost of meeting Section 106 compliance in testing, collecting, and inventorying environmental and archeological resources?
- What is the financial cost of monitoring by specialists during clearing?
- What is the financial cost of managing new fields by mowing and/or controlled burns?
- What is the financial cost of establishing native grass field cover?
- Can the costs of clearing be offset by the sale of the timber harvested?

Additional Studies Recommended

- By law, any landscape management activity that moves, breaks, or disturbs soil requires some level of Section 106 and/or NEPA compliance before activities can begin. The compliance process must be completed before any ground-disturbing activity can begin.
- Park personnel should prioritize areas to be cleared, and work with botanists/ecologists to perform the environmental impact assessments. Evaluate all potential cultural and natural resource impacts before determining which sites will be cleared.
- Evaluate the forests identified for clearing to ensure that there are no federal or state threatened, endangered, or rare species present, or rare habitats that are likely to support such species. A comprehensive survey for rare, threatened, and endangered species has not been conducted for the park, although habitats exist to support them. The park should conduct the necessary surveys to determine the presence of these species prior to any type of forest clearing or thinning project. If endangered or threatened plant or wildlife species are

identified, recommended actions that may alter their habitats should be reevaluated. Also, consider evaluating the potential impact on rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal populations whose habitat is consistent with environmental conditions in the park.

- The boundary of the site to be cleared should be delineated by an interdisciplinary team, including an ecologist, rare plant specialist, hydrologist, forester, archeologist, and historical landscape architect. The team should collectively delineate the locations and alignments of all timber haul roads, loading areas, riparian management zones, and other related conditions of the tree removal effort.
- Two options exist for woodland clearing: clear-cutting and gradual removal of the overstory vegetation. Clear-cutting is not recommended for removal of non-contributing woodland within Stones River National Battlefield. With gradual removal, issues relating to this method include:
 - The process may take five to ten years to completely remove woodland, and re-establish an open field.
 - The method will likely have less impact on the surrounding woodlands and environment.
 - It will be a less dramatic change for visitors.
 - Continual maintenance and removal labor will be needed. A management plan for removal may be required to adequately address issues involved with this type of tree removal.

Related Implementation Projects

- 3. Enhance and expand native warm-season grass fields.
- 6. Manage mixed woodlands to promote a combination of natural and cultural resource values.
- 7. Update invasive plant species control plans.

Project Implementation Process

After a field has been identified as suitable for clearing, the following steps are recommended:

1. Perform archeological surveys and associated testing of the site by a qualified archeologist.
2. Conduct archeological and cultural landscape analyses within areas identified as potential sites, including but not limited to road traces, prior to forestry or clearing/grading operations. Allow forest to remain where archeological resources exist with integrity in unplowed contexts.
3. Prior to clearing woody growth, consider carefully the proper locations for establishing sight lines that are consistent with 1862–1863 military events.
4. Prior to clearing, field check clearing locations with an archeologist, natural resource specialist, and historical landscape architect to ensure that natural or cultural resources will not be adversely affected. Preserve, protect, and maintain trails, gravesites, and evidence of former cultural features in areas undergoing forest clearing.
5. Perform cutting or thinning in the fall and winter, when fewer visitors are at the park, dormant trees are less likely to be damaged, there are no nesting birds or animals in the vegetation, and sufficient time would be available to remove ground vegetation before spring growth.
6. Minimize the use of heavy vehicles, use low tire-pressure vehicles, and restrict use to times when soil is firm to reduce compaction. Employ measures to stabilize soil and minimize erosion.
7. Incorporate silvicultural methods that minimize the impacts and threats to cultural and natural resources and known and potential archeological resources. Ensure that forest harvesting is monitored by an historical landscape architect and archeologist. An archeologist should be present during any clearing operation.
8. Manage tree removal operations to protect environmental resources.
 - Tree removal contract management. Work should be conducted by a tree removal service with successful experience working at historically significant sites. The park should regularly inspect tree removal operations to monitor compliance with the terms of the contract and applicable laws. The archeologist, soil scientist, and/or other professionals should participate in these inspections.
 - Site restoration. Ensure that BMPs and erosion control measures are employed by the entity undertaking the tree removal work.
 - Landcover. Immediately begin establishment of native warm-season grass cover in areas where trees have been removed. Use information contained within this report to guide native grass establishment, and consult vegetation experts to ensure the success of new grasses.
9. Cut stumps; do not uproot or grind them.
10. Treat stumps and sprouts with herbicide, such as glyphosate, to discourage and control woody regeneration. Chemical control of woody plant regeneration should be conducted by a certified herbicide applicator—either qualified park staff, or a landscape contractor.
11. Remove felled trees without dragging, which gouges the ground surface.
12. Establish native grass and forb cover over newly cleared areas. Minimize disturbance to the surface when planting new cover.

6. Manage mixed woodlands to promote a combination of natural and cultural resource values

Description

Interpretation of the Civil War-era Stones River battlefield will be enhanced through the reinstatement of historic patterns of spatial organization. In addition to currently wooded areas that are known to have been open during the Civil War, there are sites on the battlefield that are currently open that are known to have been wooded in 1863. Conversion of these fields to woody cover is recommended in support of restoring historic spatial patterns. In other areas, the removal of non-contributing woodland—woodland that has arisen since 1863 on former agricultural fields and pasture—is recommended to support rehabilitation of historic patterns of spatial organization. Some areas of non-historic woodland, however, currently have high natural resource values and should be retained. In particular, this includes riparian buffers, which protect water quality by controlling overland flow of eroded soil and pollutants. Riparian buffers should be maintained adjacent to streams and wetlands within the park to ensure protection of water quality. Where non-contributing woodland remains to support natural resource values, it may conflict with interpretive goals. Interpretive goals indicate the need for establishing and maintaining view corridors where currently, valuable woodland should be retained, or in areas where woodland is recommended to be established. In these areas, careful manipulation of existing woodland cover is recommended. View corridors may in many cases be achievable through site-specific manipulation of the woodland, including limbing up of canopy trees, removal of saplings and shrubs, and clearing of small areas of trees to establish a vista between a viewpoint and a specific view.

Three different woodland treatments are considered below: reestablish historic forest areas; establish and maintain riparian buffers; and thin woodland to establish viewsheds for interpretation.

Reestablish historic forest areas

Considerations/Justification

Determining and replicating the character of a mid-nineteenth century woodland condition is complex. Nineteenth century woodland character was often heavily affected by local cultural practices. Woodland areas were often used as woodlots where trees were harvested by the land owners to supply wood for construction materials or fuel, and livestock was allowed to forage. Area woodlands were thus more open, with less understory vegetation, than is typical today. Those areas to be managed and maintained in forest cover in close proximity to visitor use areas, particularly those adjacent to former farmsteads, are the best candidates for management in a cleared understory condition. Removal of invasive shrubs will open up the understory considerably and contribute to this effort.

Allowing the areas proposed for restoration to undergo secondary succession, while maintaining them free of invasive plant species, is a viable alternative for the restoration process. Regular periodic monitoring, species sampling, record keeping, and comparison of species observed against the mature woodland predictive model provided by a botanist will support this reforestation process. Removal of invasive species is critical to the success of this effort. Planting saplings of local native vegetation, eventual woodland dominants if possible, will accelerate the process. Additional saplings should be planted every few years to avoid establishment of an even-aged stand of trees.

Location

Portions of the Nashville Pike unit are currently maintained in grass cover where woodland existed during the Civil War.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Assessment and protection of cultural features should precede planting.
- Develop a revegetation plan that takes into consideration the goals of the interpretive plan, in reestablishing woodlands on

historically wooded sites along the visitor interpretive routes. The plan should specify planting of species that are native to the region and are suited to the specific soils, hydrology, aspect, and orientation conditions of the area to be revegetated. Consider erosion control methods as part of the re-vegetation plan. Document the predicted composition of naturally occurring woodland given existing cultural conditions in the plan.

- Prioritize the locations where currently open fields should be converted to woodland in support of restoring the 1863 historic scene.

Related Implementation Projects

- 7. Update invasive plant species control plans.
- 8. Establish screen plantings in specific locations to manage views.

Project Implementation Process

1. Delineate in the field, using a historical landscape architect, archeologist, and botanist/ecologist, the extent of each area to be converted to woodland.
2. Remove invasive plant species from areas to be converted to woodland.
3. Implement the revegetation plan, either by allowing woodland to develop through secondary succession, or by planting saplings or native trees.
4. Follow proper plant installation methods, including mulching and watering techniques, to ensure survival of newly planted vegetation.
5. Initiate a periodic monitoring program to evaluate the development of the woodland and to look for evidence of colonization by invasive species.
6. Manage vegetation to promote the establishment of stable, healthy woodland comprised of species typically found in similar natural areas. Consider thinning understory plants as an interpretive aid to

replicate nineteenth-century woodlot character.

Establish and Maintain Riparian Buffers

Considerations/Justification

Riparian buffers should be established and maintained adjacent to streams and wetlands within the park to ensure water quality protection. Riparian buffer vegetation can vary greatly, but there are many species of trees, shrubs, and native grasses that can be successfully used along the waterway. Typically, riparian buffers are composed of a series of zones or strips between the flood zone and the edge of the water: a strip of large trees; another of medium-sized trees and shrubs, and a third strip of grasses (Fig. 188).

While most of the river along the park boundary is edged by woodland, the condition of the community along the river needs to be evaluated in terms of its value as a riparian buffer. For example, it may include various invasive plant species, and there may be gaps in the extent of the woodland. Adjacent landowners whose properties front the river should be encouraged to establish buffers on their property as well.

Methods for delineating wetland buffers and buffers associated with perennial watercourses vary from region to region. There is a great deal of available information and guidance provided by a number of organizations, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service within Tennessee State.

Location

Lands extending for 100 feet to either side of Stones River are the highest priority area for buffer maintenance and establishment.

Additional Studies Recommended

- The park should include a riparian buffer plan as part of the vegetation management plan. The plan should identify all areas that potentially require a buffer and delineate the 100-foot dimension of the minimal buffer boundaries on a map of the park. The locations should be field verified, and any

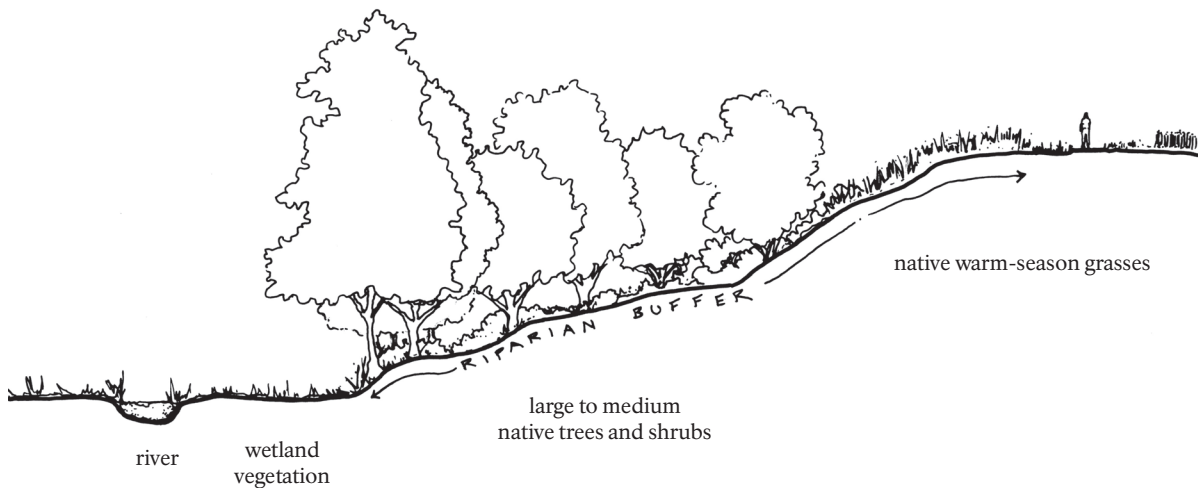


FIGURE 188. Section through a typical riparian buffer.¹²⁸

existing deficiencies in the existing riparian forest should be noted and addressed in the plan. The plan should identify a list of desirable native species for inclusion in the buffer planting. The site specific selection of species should be tied to cultural conditions. Ecologists and plant specialists should be involved in determining the recommended species compositions, densities, and the appropriate season for planting. Seed scarification, dormancy, and the potential for colonization by invasive species are often dependent on seasonal issues. Planting schemes should be based upon a detailed evaluation of the following elements:

- Soil type(s)
- Slope of buffer zone
- Stability of soil organic layer
- Vegetation type(s) and communities
- Hydrology
- Type and condition of adjacent waterway
- Land use history
- Location of cultural and archeological features

- The park should identify the appropriate character for riparian buffers in areas where interpretation of key events associated with the Battle of Stones River is desirable. Trees will generally provide better erosion control in riparian zones because of their extensive netted root system, and the canopy that reduces the impact of rainfall on soils. Trees also shade, and therefore help to cool, water resources. To accommodate site-specific interpretive objectives, consider thinning the stand of trees within the riparian buffer and/or limbing up individual trees to open views that support interpretive goals, or establish a visual connection between two important locations by removing a limited number trees and tall shrubs, while maintaining low-growing alternative buffer vegetation; (see the section that follows.)
- The park should contact adjacent landowners and owners of parcels along Stones River to consider establishing similar woodland features on their land.

Related Implementation Projects

- 3. Enhance and expand native warm-season grass fields.
- 7. Update invasive plant species control plans.

¹²⁸. Ibid.

Project Implementation Process

1. Prepare the site for buffer establishment by removing exotic and invasive vegetation and protecting sensitive natural or cultural resources.
2. Follow established procedures for forest restoration, planting a combination of native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants within a 100-foot-wide riparian buffer zone. Fibrous-rooted native grasses have the best potential to hold the soil and prevent erosion.
3. Follow proper plant installation methods, including mulching and watering techniques, to ensure survival of vegetation. During plant installation, follow erosion control methods to prevent excessive sediment or chemical runoff into the adjacent water source.
4. Monitor post-installation site conditions for plant health and possible invasive or exotic plant species growth on a regular basis.
5. Replace failed vegetation immediately.

Thin Woodland to Establish Viewsheds for Interpretation

Considerations/Justification

The following woodland thinning techniques are intended to render the ground plane and landform of important interpretive viewsheds more visually accessible in places where removing non-contributing woodland is not a viable option given natural resource protection needs (Figs. 189 through 191). The techniques that can be used to enhance visual accessibility while retaining tree cover include thinning, the selective removal of trees and shrubs, and the pruning of lower branches.

For sites where a riparian buffer is recommended, but tree cover interferes with important views, an alternative buffer type is recommended, comprised of vegetation that can be maintained at a lower height, such as native grasses, sedges, and forbs that maintain a fibrous root system capable of stabilizing the soil. As noted above, trees provide the best erosion control within riparian buffers. However, there may be instances where thinning the trees within the riparian buffer and/or limbing up individual

trees will be necessary to open up views in support of interpretive goals. In some very limited instances, it may be necessary to remove tree and large shrub cover in small areas to accommodate site-specific interpretive objectives. In these areas, an alternative riparian buffer is recommended comprised of grasses, sedges, and forbs that maintain a fibrous root system capable of stabilizing the soil. This type should only be utilized when thinning and limbing is not successful in achieving an important interpretive objective.

Location

Thinning and clearing of specific sight lines is recommended for views across Stones River to the artillery position of the Union Army on January 2, 1863. Both banks of the river were maintained in open vegetative cover during the Civil War period.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Assessment and protection of cultural features should precede removal of trees.
- The identification of important views and viewsheds should be determined as part of the interpretive plan.

Related Implementation Projects

- 3. Enhance and expand native warm-season grass fields.
- 6. Remove non-contributing woodland vegetation.
- 7. Update invasive plant species control plans.

Project Implementation Process

1. Engage an archeologist, natural resource specialist, and historical landscape architect to field-check the areas to be cleared and ensure that no cultural or natural resources will be adversely affected prior to removal of woodland vegetation.
2. Follow BMPs for vegetation removal and thinning.

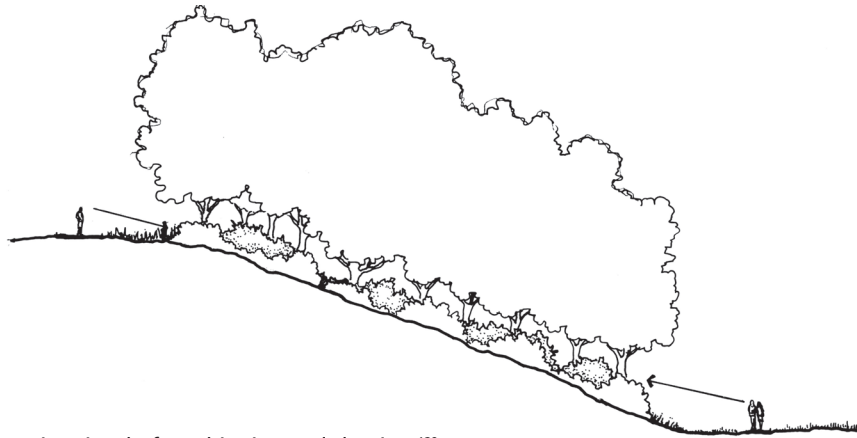


FIGURE 189. Interpretive view before thinning and clearing.¹²⁹



FIGURE 190. Interpretive view after thinning and clearing.¹³⁰

3. Perform work in phases to ensure that the minimum amount of vegetation is removed to meet interpretive needs:
 - Phase One: Begin by removing exotic and invasive vegetation and trees that are diseased, unhealthy, present a danger to visitors, or are a windthrow hazard. Remove the majority of saplings and shrubs. Prune and remove branches up to fifteen feet above the ground. Seed with appropriate native grass, rush, sedge, and forb species.
 - Phase Two: Evaluate the success of phase one thinning operations. Further enhance visibility as needed by selectively thinning additional trees.
 - Continue to remove exotic, invasive, and diseased vegetation.
 - Phase Three: Evaluate the success of phases one and two thinning operations. If the viewshed remains obscured, continue to selectively thin trees without negatively affecting water quality until the viewshed meets interpretive needs. As woodland is opened, seed with relatively shade-tolerant native grasses, rushes, sedges, and forbs to prevent soil erosion and establishment of unwanted opportunistic and invasive species. Maintain understory grasses by periodically removing woody competition as needed. Also thin woody

129. Ibid.

130. Ibid.

- cover on a periodic basis as needed to maintain visual access.
- Alternatively, opt to clear trees between a specific view point and a viewed landscape feature in a narrow cone of vision. Interpret the cleared area for visitors.
4. Maintain alternative buffers through infrequent mowing or controlled burns, on average once per year or every two years.



FIGURE 191. An example of a viewshed carefully cleared in support of interpretation.

7. Update invasive plant species control plans

Description

Control of invasive plant species is a goal of park management. The park is currently in the process of developing an integrated pest management plan for invasive exotics as part of its vegetation management plan. This plan provides several types of information, including a rating system gauging the threat that individual species pose; the locations of troublesome stands; a description of each invasive plant species and its growing habit; and a history of each invasive species' introduction and success of past control methods. The draft of this study is not yet complete, but it will clearly be a critical document for park management. The document also outlines approaches to vegetation management for different types of communities, such as native warm-season grass fields. The information that follows is intended to complement the vegetation management plan. Completion of the plan and its implementation will support natural and cultural resources goals.

Location

This project applies to the park as a whole.

Considerations/Justification

Numerous invasive plant species are in evidence within the Stones River National Battlefield landscape, some of which pose a threat to natural and cultural resources. Invasive or exotic plant species have become a troublesome component of the Stones River National Battlefield landscape, even in well-maintained areas. Whether introduced intentionally or accidentally to the landscape, invasive species cause native communities to degrade and lose quality. The consequences of the invasion of such species ranges from merely annoying to seriously threatening the park's natural systems and cultural resources. Invasive species were not a part of the 1863 landscape and are incompatible with the character of historic vegetation.

Treatment of invasive species in national parks is guided by a number of National Park Service and other federal policies including: *NPS-77 Natural Resources Management Guidelines*, Executive

Order 13112, and *NPS Management Policies*. *NPS Management Policies* states, "Exotic species will not be allowed to displace native species if displacement can be prevented." Also,

All exotic plant and animal species that are not maintained to meet an identified park purpose will be managed—up to and including eradication—if (1) control is prudent and feasible, and (2) the exotic species:

- Interferes with natural processes and the perpetuation of natural features, native species or natural habitats;
- Disrupts the genetic integrity of native species;
- Disrupts the accurate presentation of a cultural landscape;
- Damages cultural resources;
- Significantly hampers the management of park or adjacent lands;
- Posts a public health hazard;
- Creates a hazard to public safety.¹³¹

Bush honeysuckle and Chinese privet likely pose the most serious threat to park resources. Both of these species infest many of the park's road corridors, field edges, stream corridors, wetland areas, and woodlands. Other invasive species with the potential to displace native species observed during the field investigations for this report or noted in park vegetation studies include:

- Tree-of-Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)
- Mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*)
- Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)
- Musk thistle (*Cardus nutans*)
- Queen Anne's lace or wild carrot (*Daucus carota*)
- Climbing euonymus (*Euonymus fortunei*)

131. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *NPS Management Policies* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 2001), 37.

- Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)
- Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)
- White and sweet clover (*Melilotus alba*, *M. officinalis*)
- Sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*)
- Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halapense*)
- Tall fescue (*Lolium arundinaceum*)
- Japanese grass (*Microstegium vimineum*)
- Kudzu (*Pueraria lobata* or *montana*)
- Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*)
- Japanese smartweed (*Polygonum cespitosum*)
- Lady's thumb (*Polygonum persicaria*)
- Field hedge-parsely (*Torilis arvensis*)
- Bachelor's buttons (*Centaurea cyanus*)
- Japanese clover (*Kummerowia striata*)
- Japanese chess (*Bromus japonicus*)
- English ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Ox-eye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)
- Yellow goat's beard (*Tragopogon dubius*)
- Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*)
- Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum umbellatum*)
- Chickory (*Chichorium intybus*)
- Yam-leaved clematis (*Clematis terniflora*)

Recommendations for containing, controlling, and managing the invasive species that pose the most serious threats to park resources can be found in the following sources: *Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forests: A Field Guide for Identification and Control*; *A Handbook for Forest Vegetation Management in Recreation and Historic Parks*; and at the National Invasive

Species Information Center internet site.¹³² John M. Randall's *Invasive Plants: Weeds of the Global Garden* also provides a basic overview of invasive plant species management.¹³³ Given the infestation of Chinese privet and bush honeysuckle at Stones River, and the current and potential damage these plants pose to natural and cultural resources, the park should focus immediate efforts on completing its integrated pest management plan for invasive exotics" to include control methods for these two species. Such a program will involve collaboration among natural resource specialists such as biologists and ecologists and experts from state and federal institutions to compile the most up-to-date scientific data for managing invasive species. The park should also investigate additional sources of funding and support for invasive species management at Stones River to ensure the completion of such efforts.

When invasive species appear to be well-established, the most effective action may be to prevent their spread or lessen their impacts. For certain invasive species, adequate control methods are not available or populations are too widespread for eradication to be feasible.

Consideration of the environmental impacts of control actions requires that environmentally sound methods be available and judiciously deployed, especially in highly vulnerable areas. Often, further research is needed on the biology of invasive species and the ecosystem's vulnerability to them and on means to detect and interdict invasive species that threaten to become established. Natural resource managers and site stewards are often the ones gathering evidence while managing highly invasive species. This hands-on trial and error approach to invasive species control is often highly valuable and should be comprehensively recorded and documented in landscape monitoring reports.

132. James H. Miller, *Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forests: A Field Guide for Identification and Control*, rev. ed. (Asheville, North Carolina: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Research Station, 2003); Amy Cimarolli Helm and James E. Johnson, *A Handbook for Forest Vegetation Management in Recreation and Historic Parks* (Blacksburg, Virginia: Virginia Cooperative Extension, 1995); www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov

133. John M. Randall, et al., *Invasive Plants: Weeds of the Global Garden* (Brooklyn, New York: Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1996).

If an invasive species is eradicated in an area where its impacts on the environment were small, recovery can be rapid. In many cases, however, disturbances caused by invasive species have multiple effects throughout an ecosystem and may be exacerbated by human alterations of the environment. Invasive plant control measures must be continued on a regular and periodic basis; lapses in treatment due to a lack of funding can compound the problem.

Continue using invasive species control programs as an opportunity to educate the general public about the harm that invasive species cause and the importance of preventing their introduction.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Consult with natural resource specialists on-site to determine the most effective and sensitive method available to address each specific invasive species population. Typical removal options include chemical (herbicides), mechanical (cutting, mowing), and prescribed burning, although biological controls may also be effective for some species. Determine which methods are available and most appropriate to control each invasive species of concern.

Project Implementation Process

The invasive species control plan is implemented only after the first three steps are completed. One of the steps is to reevaluate periodically the goals and the plan for modification as needed. This is the essential “adaptive” process required by the strategy.

1. Evaluate current planning documents and maintenance records to determine how to appropriately update and/or modify the existing invasive plant species control program.
2. Put in place the following key elements for developing an early detection and rapid response system:
 - Up-to-date reliable scientific and management information;
 - Rapid and accurate species identification;
 - Standard procedures for rapid risk assessment;
 - Adequate technical assistance such as quarantine, monitoring, information sharing, research and development, and technology transfer; and
 - Rapid access to funding for emergency response efforts, including accelerated research of invasive species biology, survey methods, and eradication options.
3. Allow for an adaptive approach to the management and control of invasive plant species.
4. Under the direction of a natural resource specialist, map the location, density, and type of invasive species populations prior to control and removal efforts in order to create a baseline of information for future evaluation of efforts.
5. Establish management goals for the various restoration areas. Determine if any plant species threaten or have the potential to threaten management goals.
6. Evaluate species and populations for their likely impact upon the park’s ecological health and its natural and cultural resources. Prioritize the application of control measures based on species and populations that pose the greatest threat to natural and cultural resources.
7. Develop and implement the invasive species control plan designed to move conditions toward the management goals.
8. Train personnel to identify invasive and native species and to use appropriate methods for removal/treatment. Follow the park’s vegetation management plan for species-specific control and eradication procedures.
 - Use ecologically sound removal techniques that will not cause damage to resources.

- Assess potential impacts of removal methods on resources to ensure that treatment benefits outweigh negative effects.
 - Remove invasive plant species in the vicinity of historic and archeological resources in such a way as to minimize ground disturbance and damage to native vegetation. Removal should be undertaken only after surrounding landscape features and resources have been protected. Hand-treat or remove by hand invasive plants in sensitive natural or cultural resource areas.
 - If necessary, repair damage to resources and mitigate any impacts of removal, such as the potential for soil erosion on steep slopes.
 - Revegetate cleared areas with appropriate native plant species to prevent re-infestation and erosion problems.
9. Monitor and assess the impacts of the invasive species management actions in terms of the management goals, and in order to evaluate the effectiveness of various measures.
10. Repeat the process by reevaluating conclusions made in the first three steps and modify as necessary.

8. Establish screen plantings in specific locations to manage views

Description

Residential and commercial development and accompanying expansion of transportation infrastructure is occurring rapidly within the Murfreesboro area. Stones River National Battlefield is edged in many areas by land that is already, or expected to be, under development pressure. As the park continues to enhance the rural, agricultural character of its historic landscape to interpret 1863 conditions, views to development along its boundary undermine these efforts. Views of light industrial development, highway overpasses, and residential subdivisions detract from the interpretive potential of the park. Mitigation of these views should be undertaken. One of the most effective means for mitigating undesirable views is to establish screen plantings along portions of the park's boundaries edged by development, or that have the potential for future development. Screen plantings may be composed of existing woodland supplemented with additional evergreen trees and shrubs, or additional depth. In some areas, establishment of a new woodland screen may be necessary.

Location

Screen plantings are recommended along park boundaries where there are views of current or potential incompatible development.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Minimize development impacts adjacent to and near the park by working with developers during the planning process, suggesting increased setbacks and the least intrusive location and character for new structures and roads.
- Monitor and participate in regional planning activities in order to protect adjacent resources and the larger setting of the park.
- Develop working relationships with adjacent landowners to yield information that may determine where additional buffers should

be established to most effectively screen proposed development.

- Develop a revegetation plan as part of the park's vegetation management plan that identifies the appropriate species for consideration as part of park screen plantings.

Related Implementation Projects

- 6. Manage mixed woodland to promote a combination of natural and cultural resource values.

Project Implementation Process

1. Delineate the extent of each area where screen plantings are to be established, using a historical landscape architect, archeologist, and botanist/ecologist.
2. Evaluate the extent and condition of existing woodland to serve as a visual screen or buffer.
3. Remove all invasives within the area designated for buffer establishment.
4. Plant native evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs with dense character that are suited to local conditions.

9. Protect the Pioneer Brigade Earthworks, and manage woodland environs to promote preservation of the associated resources

Description

The Pioneer Brigade Earthworks are located in close proximity to the visitor center, but are currently not included in the visitor interpretive experience at Stones River National Battlefield. Earthworks are one of the few tangible above-ground resources that survive from Civil War battlefields. The Pioneer Brigade Earthworks offer a special interpretive opportunity at the park and should be made accessible to the public.

Location

The Pioneer Brigade Earthworks are located west of the Visitor Center within the Nashville Pike unit.

Considerations/Justification

Due to the fragile nature of earthwork resources, any visitor access and interpretive improvements must be carefully considered to avoid degradation of the Pioneer Brigade Earthworks. A management plan should be developed that explores the best methods for protecting the earthworks while allowing for interpretation. Given the current woodland vegetative cover, the best approach to managing the earthworks will likely be to maintain the woodland community and a surficial layer of leaf litter to prevent soil erosion. If the existing trees do not generate enough leaf litter, additional material may need to be brought to the site and used to cover the soil of the earthworks.

Consideration should be paid to the fact that the woodland surrounding the earthworks is considered non-contributing to the Civil War period. As the park considers removing non-contributing woodland, it may be desirable to maintain a buffer of woodland surrounding the earthworks to effect the protection described above. The park's natural resource specialist should consider the extent of the buffer required to protect the earthworks, and this buffer should

be maintained when tree removal is effected in this area. Within the buffer, however, the woodland will need to be managed to limit potential threats to the earthworks and the visitor. Trees with shallow roots systems and larger than twelve inches in diameter are susceptible to wind-throw. In many cases, this can include the disruption of soil areas when the root ball is dislodged. Large trees and trees that present a windthrow hazard should therefore be removed from the parapet and ditch system of the earthwork. Hazard trees are those that have the potential to fall or drop large limbs on earthen resources or visitors. These should also be removed. If the remaining woodland cover is not substantial enough to protect the earthworks, additional tree saplings should be planted to support the establishment and maintenance of a healthy woodland stand.

Trails leading to and around the earthworks should be carefully designed so that they do not invite visitors to climb on the earthworks and should be sited in the least intrusive and destructive way possible. Signage should encourage visitor stewardship of the resources; if signage is not successful in keeping visitors from climbing on the earthworks, more restrictive measures, such as installing fencing or bollards and chains, may be required. New structural features, such as boardwalks or viewing platforms, should not be founded in soil that is part of the parapet or ditch system to avoid confusing visitors about stewardship of the resources and to protect them.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Woodland health evaluation.
- Plan for removal of windthrow hazard trees and shallow rooted trees growing in and on the earthworks.
- Consideration of interpretation at the site as part of the park interpretive plan.
- Design of a new visitor trail and interpretive exhibits.
- Review of plans by archeologist to determine conflicts with known and potential resources.

Related Implementation Projects

- 5. Remove non-contributing woodland vegetation.
- 7. Update invasive plant species control plans.

Project Implementation Process

1. Remove trees that pose a hazard to the earthworks or visitors, are invasive exotics, or are greater than twelve inches in diameter and are growing on the earthworks. Employ the tree removal techniques and guidelines included in the Fortress Rosecrans section of the Treatment Plan chapter.
2. Evaluate leaf litter cover on the earthworks to determine if additional material needs to be added. Add leaf litter to earthworks as needed, after material has been approved by the park's natural resource specialist.
3. Plant additional saplings as needed to ensure future tree cover. Follow the guidelines in the Fortress Rosecrans section of the Treatment Plan chapter.
4. Establish a new visitor access trail leading to the earthworks and interpretive exhibits, designed in accordance with the park's interpretive plan. Consider a trail surface that is muted in color, and requires the least amount of soil disturbance possible, yet is universally accessible, such as warm brown-colored crushed aggregate, crushed limestone, or a pervious pavement material. Employ an archeologist to monitor any ground disturbance.
5. Screen views to adjacent properties that are not consistent with the historic setting.
6. Place signs in key locations where the trail comes into close contact with the earthworks that point out the fragility of the earthworks and urge visitors to remain stewards of the site by not climbing on the earthworks. Consider more restrictive features, such as wood bollards or small fence sections, when signs are not successful in preventing visitors from accessing the resource.

10. Mark and interpret the locations of buildings and structures missing from the battlefield landscape

Description

There are currently no park interpretive exhibits focusing on the lifeways of the local residents at the time of the battle. While there were few buildings or structures extant within the park landscape in 1862–1863, some residential features did exist. None survive today, but their presence and general locations were recorded on Civil War-era maps. These buildings include the McFadden farmstead, a log cabin along the Old Nashville Highway, cabins near the intersection of Van Cleve Lane and Wilkinson Pike, and the structure appropriated for use by General Rosecrans as his headquarters. In addition, a toll gate and block house were located along the pike and the rail line, and other dwellings were located outside of, but near the park boundary. There were also several buildings and structures associated with Fortress Rosecrans that no longer survive.

The sites of these missing features afford an additional opportunity for interpreting the historic character of the 1863 landscape. They are of critical value to depicting the domestic and agricultural nature of the battle landscape. Some of these sites are located along the tour route and could be experienced by many visitors. The interpretive potential of these sites is presently not fully realized, as the character of the existing landscape falls short in terms of representing the historic character and complexity associated with the farmsteads, making it difficult for visitors to appreciate the 1863 landscape that the soldiers experienced. A more accurate representation of historic character will greatly improve interpretation at these sites and the park as a whole. Representation of missing structures at the house sites, combined with reestablishment of cultural vegetation, offers the most feasible and effective treatment option for interpretation of historic agricultural character.

Location

There are multiple sites within the Nashville Pike unit to be considered for this treatment, as well

as the McFadden Farm within the McFadden Farm unit. Buildings and structures originally associated with Fortress Rosecrans should also be considered for this treatment.

Considerations/Justification

Given that very little documentation survives to support a clear understanding of the physical composition, character, and size of the battlefield's missing buildings and structures, restoration or reconstruction of these features is not a viable option when considering the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. Interpretation of these features will need to rely on creative exhibit design that depicts general patterns of spatial organization and conveys what is known and not known about the sites.

Over time, buildings and structures have been demolished or removed from Stones River National Battlefield for various reasons. While reconstructing these elements is one option, it may be inappropriate where little documentation of the physical form and appearance of each feature is available. Other, less challenging options exist that involve representing the missing features through alternate means, such as outlining the footprint or three-dimensional form of a missing house; providing an artist's rendering of the feature; or marking the corners or foundation of a missing building using masonry, wood posts, or plant material. This option not only avoids historical inaccuracy, it is often less expensive in terms of initial installation and maintenance.

Park managers must determine which buildings or structures would be best to interpret. Park managers and interpretive planners should also consider the most appropriate representation method. For instance, the park may want to reserve more intrusive, upright or physically imposing representations for features that have the most interpretive or educational value.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Archival research should occur as part of the data collection required to support development of new interpretive exhibits along with archeological investigations of the sites of missing mid-nineteenth century

buildings and structures located within the park.

- The park interpretive plan should assess which features should be interpreted by determining those that have the most significant educational value.

Related Implementation Projects

- II. Restore fencelines missing from the battlefield landscape.

Project Implementation Process

- I. Using archeological information, consider interpreting missing buildings through various means, including:
 - Ghost structures. When the overall dimensions, roofline, and massing of a missing building or structure are known, consider developing a three-dimensional “ghost structure” on the site.
 - Foundation outlines. When the dimensions and location of the footprint of a missing building or structure are known, an outline or other demarcation such as a low wall or corner markers can be placed on the ground to aid interpretation. If footings are necessary, avoid digging into the ground. Instead, add a minimal layer of fill over the site to protect any archeological resources. A foundation outline can be constructed of

typical local building materials utilized during the period when the building was standing, such as stone or brick (Fig. 192). However, the foundation outline should clearly be a product of its own time, so that it is not confused as a historic foundation or ruins. Foundations outlines may also be marked with fencing (Fig. 193), or with mowing patterns (Fig. 194).

- Markers. When locations of missing structures are known, but overall dimensions have yet to be determined, consider installing metal signs or medallions in the ground. These may be coordinated with an interpretive wayside with an artist’s rendering of the farmstead during the time of the battle to represent the character of missing structures and bring the historic scene to life.
5. Enlist an exhibit designer, in coordination with park staff, to plan representative features. Enlist a qualified archeologist to monitor ground-disturbing activities during construction. Enlist qualified park staff or a landscape contractor to install the chosen representative features, as well as any wayside signage.
 6. Reestablish the historic fencing configuration within each site.



FIGURE 192. Example of the foundation of a missing structure marked with brick corners at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park.



FIGURE 193. Example of the foundation of a missing structure marked with fencing at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park. Also, an artist’s rendering of the missing feature is shown on the interpretive sign.

7. Alter vegetation management regimes, such as mowing schedules and planting palettes, in such a way as to yield a diversity of appearances. For example, pasture or uncultivated areas would be cut more frequently than cultivated crop areas, and different grass species could be used to represent different “crops.”
8. Reestablish small areas of crops at one or more of these sites as appropriate given specific knowledge of their character and composition at the time of the battle.
9. Supplement existing interpretive media and programs with new materials to enhance the

depiction of the life and work of the inhabitants of the area when the battle began. Locate new interpretive media in as unobtrusive a manner as possible to avoid detracting from the historic scene.



FIGURE 194. Property lines and building locations of missing features can be marked through mowing patterns.

11. Restore fencelines missing from the battlefield landscape

Description

Fences are strong visual aids when used for interpretive purposes, depicting historic patterns of spatial organization and property ownership. Ed Bearss's Historic Fence and Ground Cover map of the Stones River battlefield, which was based on careful analysis of Official Record accounts of the battle and review of historic military engineer maps, suggests the locations of fences in 1862–1863 to a high level of detail. Although in many cases it remains difficult to determine exactly what type of fencing occurred in each specific location, worm or snake fencing, board fencing, picket fencing, and paled fencing appear all to have been in use within the area. This project suggests restoring historic fencelines that are missing from the battlefield landscape.

Location

Areas best suited for reestablishing 1863 fence patterns are those that would have been present at current and proposed future interpreted sites—along Van Cleve Lane, the southern park boundary, the eastern half of the Nashville Pike unit, and within the McFadden Farm unit parcel.

Considerations/Justification

Reestablishment of fencing in historic locations without accurately depicting the fence type and location can be misleading to the public. It will be important to take every precaution to ensure that the design of fencelines to be reestablished is as accurate to the historic period as possible. Historic photographs, narrative accounts, and historic maps of the mid-nineteenth century should be scrutinized as part of the design process for clues regarding these important features.

Worm fencing, which utilizes a large amount of materials and takes up a lot of space, but is easy to construct, was likely the most prevalent fence type utilized within the area. Paled fences, including palisades and picket fences, would typically have been used around smaller precincts such as house yards and gardens, or animal enclosures, as they were more labor-intensive to construct but had a minimal

footprint. It is not known whether these fences were highly finished or not.

Although additional research may help to verify these, and any other fence types utilized within the battlefield landscape, it is possible that no more information will present itself.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Inventory and map current fence locations and types.
- Using the Michler map and any other primary source maps, in conjunction with Ed Bearss's "Historic Fence and Ground Cover Map," determine which historic fencelines present during the battle are not currently depicted. Compare these with the proposed visitor tour route and interpretive program to identify fences that should be reestablished in support of enhancing the historic scene. Determine the locations for restored fencelines as part of the park interpretive plan.

Related Implementation Projects

- 10. Mark and interpret the locations of buildings and structures missing from the battlefield landscape.
- 13. Rehabilitate portions of historic Van Cleve Lane.

Project Implementation Process

1. Reestablish historic fence patterns in recommended areas.
2. Reestablishment of 1863 fence patterns should conform to the historic fencing type based on functional location: worm fencing around larger fields, paled fencing around house lots, gardens, and livestock enclosures; material: wood; construction method: as discussed above; and location: based on the Michler map.
3. Consider carefully the addition of fencing in areas where it could increase the difficulty of managing the agricultural fields.

12. Consider alternatives for establishing and maintaining non-historic fencelines, controlled visitor access points, and linear connections between park units

Description

Currently, worm fencing is used in areas where fencing was not present at the time of the Battle of Stones River. This historic fence type has been used along park boundaries and to limit vehicular access to areas that are interpreted but not open to the public. This presents an inaccurate historic picture that may interfere with the enhanced interpretation proposed for the park. Replacing worm fencing in these areas with compatible contemporary fence types and reestablishing worm fencing and other historic fence types where they occurred in 1863 would improve visitor understanding of the battlefield.

Location

Most instances of fencing that should be replaced are located within the Nashville Pike unit at the entrance to Van Cleve Lane and along the eastern boundary of the Nashville Pike Unit, and the McFadden Farm unit. The fencing that encloses the Bragg's Headquarters site should also be replaced.

Considerations/Justification

In addition to replacing worm fencing in non-historic locations, the park will need to consider new fencing at the Rosecrans's Headquarters site and along the roadway connections between noncontiguous parcels.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Inventory and map current fence locations and types.
- Using the Michler map and any other primary source maps, in conjunction with Ed Bearss's Historic Fence and Ground Cover Map, determine which existing fences correspond to historic fence locations and which are located in areas where fences did not exist.

Related Implementation Projects

- 8. Establish screen plantings in specific locations to manage views.
- 10. Mark and interpret the locations of buildings and structures missing from the battlefield landscape.
- 13. Rehabilitate portions of historic Van Cleve Lane.
- 15. Establish design guidelines for contemporary park features, such as site furnishings.
- 16. Enhance connections between noncontiguous park units and parcels.

Project Implementation Process

1. Replace historic fence types used in contemporary locations with contemporary but compatible fencing types and materials.
2. Design new fencing as a product of its time and compatible with the historic resources in materials, size, scale and proportion, while maintaining a clear differentiation between the historic and contemporary fencing. Contemporary fencing may include horizontal board privacy fencing at Rosecrans's Headquarters; a more open, and planed board fence with square posts along the routes of travel between noncontiguous parcels; and simple planed board fencing along contemporary park boundaries and for limiting vehicular access to Van Cleve Lane. Any fencing employed in association with the farm fields in the eastern portion of the McFadden Farm unit should be as transparent as possible, given the lack of fencing indicated on historic maps. Wood post and wire fencing may be the most appropriate for these fields, if fencing must be included at all.
3. Consider the visual impact of new fence design. Contemporary fencing should be functional but not detract from the historic setting or views. In some areas, alternatives to fencing, including boulders, bollards, low edging materials, posts and chains, and vegetation might be effective and less intrusive.

13. Rehabilitate portions of historic Van Cleve Lane

Description

Van Cleve Lane follows the route of a local roadway that was present at the time of the Battle of Stones River. The road corridor that extends between Old Nashville Highway and Wilkinson Pike has continued in use as part of the park's circulation network since the 1930s. A segment of the road also extends north of Old Nashville Highway as a trace. Current park plans include a reorientation of the tour route to include a portion of Van Cleve Lane. The portions not integrated into the auto tour road should be incorporated into the pedestrian trail system. Twentieth century improvements to the road corridor, such as asphalt paving, widening, and stormwater management features, should be removed, and a surface material added along the southern section not incorporated into the auto tour route that more accurately depicts historic conditions and supports sustainability objectives. Where overland flow of stormwater is currently blocked by the road grade or prism, grading should be used to reinstate natural drainage patterns. The trace to the north should be located, identified using GPS equipment, and investigated by an archeologist. After a preservation strategy for the trace has been effected, the former road corridor could be cleared of woody vegetation and an appropriate trail surface applied to integrate this route into the pedestrian experience at the park. Connect this road trace to the existing trails associated with the Hazen Brigade Monument.

Location

This project is located in the eastern half of the Nashville Pike unit to the north and south of Old Nashville Highway.

Considerations/Justification

At the time of the Battle of Stones River, local roads were unpaved and served only horse and wagon traffic. Road alignments likely followed the natural topography with few, if any, drainage improvements. Van Cleve Lane was modified in the 1930s as part of the development of the park, and these historic characteristics were altered to accommodate visitor automobile traffic. The

road was regraded and resurfaced, and ditches were established to carry stormwater. The segment to the north of Old Nashville Highway was abandoned during the twentieth century, and is generally no longer accessible.

Rehabilitation of portions of Van Cleve Lane supports the interpretive goals of the park and provides opportunities to educate visitors about the conditions of the 1863 circulation network and its role in the battle.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Conduct archeological investigations and other research to determine the battle period road horizontal and vertical alignment and width.
- Identify potential impacts to archeological resources within the road corridor and recommend actions to protect those resources.
- Engage a historical landscape architect to design the rehabilitated road corridor.

Related Implementation Projects

- 3. Enhance and expand native warm-season grass fields and meadows.
- 4. Establish filter strips in association with crop exhibits, roads, parking areas, and trails.
- 5. Remove non-contributing woodland vegetation.
- 6. Manage mixed woodlands to promote a combination of natural and cultural resource values.
- 8. Establish screen plantings in specific locations to manage views.
- 10. Mark and interpret the locations of buildings and structures missing from the battlefield landscape.
- 14. Convert a portion of the tour road to a pedestrian trail in concert with proposed new tour route.

- 15. Establish design guidelines for contemporary park features, such as site furnishings.

Project Implementation Process

1. Engage a qualified archeologist to perform archeological clearing of the site.
2. Remove asphalt surfacing from the future pedestrian portion of Van Cleve Lane to the south of Old Nashville Highway.
3. Regrade in association with the southern segment of the road corridor, if approved by an archeologist, to establish a relatively level road corridor that is consistent with the surrounding topography, does not impede stormwater flow, and is crowned to drain. Utilize archeological investigations of the northern trace segment to determine the historic approach to stormwater management along the road corridor.
4. Resurface the road corridor with a material that is compatible with the historic character of the road corridor, and promotes, as possible, sustainability objectives. Alternatives include warm brown colored crushed aggregate, crushed limestone, or a pervious pavement material that promotes infiltration of stormwater. Ensure that the corridor more closely approximates the historic width of the road.
5. Establish a trail connection to the Hazen Brigade Monument trail system as part of the rehabilitation of the northern trace segment.
6. Install interpretive signage to educate visitors about the conditions of the 1863 circulation network and its role in the battle.
7. Re-vegetate the road margins, including the establishment of filter strips.
8. Maintain the rehabilitated trail for universally accessible pedestrian access.

14. Convert a portion of the tour road to a pedestrian trail in concert with proposed new tour route

Description

The park is currently developing a new tour route for the interpretation of the Nashville Pike unit. Implementation of the new plan will lead to the abandonment of the western portion of the existing tour road. This abandoned circulation route can either be revegetated and obscured, or integrated into the pedestrian circulation system at the park. To integrate it into the pedestrian system, the park should alter the existing paved surface to more appropriately match the scale of pedestrian use and make it a less intrusive element within the historic battlefield landscape. Refer to the Tour Road Plan for more information regarding this project.

Location

This project is located in the Nashville Pike unit.

Considerations/Justification

In designing the new pedestrian trail, the park should consider narrowing the paved area, while potentially accommodating mixed uses, such as pedestrian and bicycle traffic, with designated lanes. The park should also consider regrading the corridor to establish a relatively level trail prism that is consistent with the surrounding grades, does not impede stormwater flow, and is crowned to drain. The trail surface material should be universally accessible and accommodate the programmatic needs of the visitor. To accommodate universal accessibility standards, options for the trail surface include stabilized crushed brownstone or hard-packed earth, asphalt, or concrete. No matter which material is selected, the pavement should have a coloration that trends towards the browns, rather than the blues, cool grays, or whites.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Conduct necessary research and archeological investigations to determine if any resources will be adversely affected by the conversion project.

- Identify potential impacts to archeological resources within the road trace corridor and recommend actions to protect those resources.
- Engage a historical landscape architect to design the converted corridor.

Related Implementation Projects

- 2. Rehabilitate cedar brake and dense cedar wood communities in areas of interpretive value.
- 3. Enhance and expand native warm-season grass fields and meadows.
- 4. Establish filter strips in association with crop exhibits, roads, parking areas, and trails.
- 5. Remove non-contributing woodland vegetation.
- 6. Manage mixed woodlands to promote a combination of natural and cultural resource values.
- 8. Establish screen plantings in specific locations to manage views.

Project Implementation Process

1. Engage a qualified archeologist to perform archeological assessment of the site.
2. Remove asphalt surfacing from the future pedestrian portion of the tour road.
3. Regrade, if approved by an archeologist, the road corridor to establish a relatively level prism that is consistent with the surrounding topography, does not impede stormwater flow, and is crowned to drain.
4. Resurface the road corridor with the material suggested in the design as appropriate for the new trail system.
5. Install interpretive signage in association with important battle events in accordance with the park's interpretive plan.
6. Revegetate the road margins, including the establishment of filter strips.

7. Maintain the rehabilitated circulation corridor as a universally accessible, non-vehicular route.

15. Establish design guidelines for contemporary park features, such as site furnishings

Description

Implementation of new interpretive and access improvements within Stones River National Battlefield will require the National Park Service to consider the design and character of the physical features associated with the improvements. Preparation of a design guide that establishes a comprehensive standard for contemporary landscape features and systems would facilitate the addition of necessary new features, as well as the replacement of non-historic features currently in poor condition. The guide would illustrate standards for new landscape features and systems to accommodate park visitor use, interpretation, and management and maintenance, such as paths, walks, trails, road surfaces, parking and pull-off areas, contemporary fencing, site furnishings such as benches, and parking area features such as bollards, wheelstops, and curbing. The guide would identify products, materials, and dimensions for non-historic site furnishing, and include typical details and installation information. Use of the guide would enhance the park's unique identity and also serve to simplify the palette of materials within the park, which in turn would diminish the impact of non-historic features on the historic scene.

Location

This project is for the park as a whole.

Considerations/Justification

The design guidelines for contemporary park features at Stones River National Battlefield would need to be compatible with National Park Service system-wide standards as well as the rural, vernacular character of the battlefield. New features should always clearly be a product of their own time, and as simple, sturdy, and unobtrusive as possible. The design guidelines would address appropriateness of scale, materials, and physical composition to ensure visual compatibility, consistency, and integration with the overall character of the battlefield landscape. Park-wide standards for signage should also be developed.

Additional Studies Recommended

In anticipation of preparing the design guidelines, the team should collect all of the information that is available regarding NPS standards for contemporary landscape features.

Related Implementation Projects

- 12. Consider alternatives for establishing and maintaining non-historic fencelines, controlled visitor access points, and linear connections between park units.
- 14. Convert a portion of the tour road to a pedestrian trail in concert with proposed new tour route.
- 16. Enhance connections between noncontiguous park units and parcels.

Project Implementation Process

1. Assemble a design team, including a landscape architect, architect, and park maintenance staff to develop the park-wide design guidelines.
2. Consider carefully the character and identity that is appropriate for necessary non-historic features associated with Stones River National Battlefield.
3. Review existing conditions documentation photographs for current examples of site furnishings, fencing, road edging materials, circulation surfacing, signage, and visitor use and interpretation features. Consider the viability of using some of these existing features to serve as a park-wide standard.
4. Review product catalogues for images of additional appropriate features.
5. Review as a group the individual elements proposed for inclusion within the design guideline.
6. Develop details, installation procedures, and other supporting information for each standard feature.
7. Consider the palette in its totality to ensure the individual elements are cohesive and work well together, and are consistent with

NPS standards, before making final selections.

8. Complete the comprehensive signage program currently being prepared by the Harpers Ferry Center, and follow the recommendations included therein, as well as the guidance offered in the NPS Sign Standards Reference Manual, NPS Uniguide Sign Program, NPS Uniguide Standards Manual, and NPS Graphic Identity Program.

16. Enhance connections between noncontiguous park units and parcels

Description

The park is currently working on enhancing its auto tour route and interpretive program. One of the issues of concern is the lack of integration of the outlying parcels into the visitor experience. Visitors frequently overlook the two headquarters sites as well as the Fortress Rosecrans parcels, and may find it difficult to navigate the route to the McFadden Farm unit. Visitors would have a better chance of understanding these park resources if physical connections were provided between the Nashville Pike unit and the other parcels. Physical connections could take the form of a consistent application of linear visual clues, such as trees, fencing, bollards, or boulders, to direct visitors from one site to the next.

Location

The roads leading between the six noncontiguous parcels that comprise the park.

Considerations/Justification

Given that the park does not own the road margins that link the noncontiguous parcels, implementation of this recommendation will require the cooperation of and collaboration with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, City of Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, and/or adjacent landowners. Safety concerns are associated with parking at the Hazen Brigade Monument site, as well as the travel route leading between the Nashville Pike and McFadden Farm units.

As the park works to establish a prescribed tour route for visitors that integrates all units and resources into a cohesive interpretive program, the following criteria are consistent with the approach recommended in this CLR:

- The tour route should support the goals of the park's interpretive plan.
- The tour route should maximize interpretive opportunities for both the battle and the

later occupation of Fortress Rosecrans by the Union army.

- The tour route should provide for a smooth circulation flow and minimize back-tracking.
- The tour route should, as much as possible, present events in chronological order.
- The tour route should minimize safety hazards.

Additional Studies Recommended

- Interpretive plan
- Design Guidelines for Contemporary Park Features

Related Implementation Projects

- 12. Consider alternatives for establishing and maintaining non-historic fencelines, controlled visitor access points, and linear connections between park units.

Project Implementation Process

- Complete a design plan for features along the road margins connecting the noncontiguous parcels of the park in accordance with the park's guidelines for contemporary features.
- Work with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, City of Murfreesboro, and Rutherford County to implement the plan.
- Work with the Tennessee Department of Transportation to establish traffic calming measures at the Hazen Brigade Monument parking area.

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Maps

- "Topographical Sketch of the Environs of Fortress Rosecrans near Murfreesboro, Tennessee." Surveyed by John Rziha, Capt., 19th U.S. Infantry [1863.]
- "Topographical Map of the Battle Field of Stone River." Surveyed by Maj. Weyss, Cap. Thruston, Stinchcomb & Lt. Allen. [n.d., circa 1863]
- "Map of Rutherford County Tenn." Compiled and published by D.G. Beers & Co., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1878.
- "Map of Battlefield of Stones River, Tennessee." Surveyed by Oscar Jones. 1899.
- "Map of Rutherford County." 1916. State of Tennessee, State Geological Survey.
- "Stones River National Military Park Commission Map No. 3. Land to be Acquired." Revised May 18, 1929.
- "Stone's River Battlefield, Tennessee." Army Quartermaster Corps. N.d. [early 1930s].
- "Topography of Stone [sic] River National Military Park Tennessee." National Park Service Branch of Engineering. August 1936. 2 sheets. Includes list of inscriptions on markers.
- "Map of Rutherford County." 1937. State of Tennessee Department of Conservation. Division of Geology.
- "Master Plan for Stones River National Military Park." National Park Service Branch of Plans and Design, 1939. 4 sheets. Draft versions dated 1937 and 1938 also exist.
- "General Highway Map of Rutherford County, Tennessee." 1966. Tennessee Department of Transportation.
- ## Maps Provided Electronically from Stones River National Battlefield Collection
- "Topographic Sketch of Battlefield of Stone River Near Murfreesboro, Tn., Dec. 30th 1862-Jan. 3d 1863, Sheet No. 1, Position of U.S. Troops 12/31/62." Surveyed by Major J.E. Weyss.
- "Topographic Sketch of Battlefield of Stone River Near Murfreesboro, Tn., Dec. 30th 1862-Jan. 3d 1863, Sheet No. 2, Position of U.S. Troops 12/31/62." Surveyed by Major J.E. Weyss.

- “Topographic Sketch of Battlefield of Stone River Near Murfreesboro, Tn., Dec. 30th 1862-Jan. 3d 1863, Sheet No. 3, Position of U.S. Troops 1/2/63.” Surveyed by Major J.E. Weyss.
- “Historical Fence and Ground Cover Map. Part of the Master Plan, Stones River National Battlefield.” Drawn by Edwin C. Bearss. December 1961.
- “Plan of the Battles on Stone River before Murfreesboro. Plate XXXII, Map I.” Drawn by Walter J. Morris, C.S. Engineer.
- “Topographical Sketch of Battle Field of Stone River.” Drawn by Capt. Francis Mohrhardt.
- “Map of the Battle of Murfreesboro.” Plate XXXI. Map I.
- “9. Topographical Sketch of the Battle Field of Stone’s River.” Accompanying report of Maj. Gen. W.S. Rosecrans. Series I., Vol. XX, Part 1, Page 191.
- “9. Topographical Sketch of the Battlefield of Stones’ River.” Lith. of J. Bien, New York.
- “Map Showing the Movements of Johnson’s Brigade and Darden’s Attached Battery in the Battle before Murfreesboro.” Plate XXXI, Map 3.
- Battle of Stones River, Positions at 6 A.M. Dec. 31, 1862.
- “Topographical Sketch of the Battlefield of Stone River.” Drawn by Paul Kuntze.
- “Map No. 5 Battle Field of Stone River.” Engineers Office Military Division of Gulf, September 1865.
- “Plan of the Battles on Stone’s River before Murfreesborough.” Drawn by Walter J. Morris, C.S. Engineer.
- “Map of the Battle of Murfreesboro.” Drawer 147, Sheet 67.
- “Map of the Battlefield of Stone River.” Surveyed under the direction of Capt. N. Michler, Top. Eng. U.S. Army.
- “Topographical Sketch of the Battlefield of Stone River.” Sheet No. II. Drawn by Maj. J.E. Weyss.
- “9. Topographical Sketch of the Battlefield of Stone’s River.”
- “Historical Base Map. Part of the Master Plan, Stones River National Military Park.” National Park Service Division of Planning & Construction. 22 January 1952.
- “Woods and Roads as at Time of Battle, Stones River Battlefield.” Lt. Col. H.L. Landers, Historical Section, Army War College. 8 sheets, May 1928.

Appendices

Appendix A – National Register Nomination

Appendix B – Maps

Appendix A – National Register Nominations

Stones River National Battlefield: original nomination, September 22, 1975; additional documentation, November 14, 2003.

Fortress Rosecrans: September 1, 1973.

DATA SHEET

all day on
April 22, 1968UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUL 7 1977

DATE ENTERED

Appr. 12/1/77

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Stones River National Military Park

AND/OR COMMON

Stones River National Battlefield

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Old Nashville Pike, Route 2

CITY, TOWN

Murfreesboro

☒ VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

COUNTY

Rutherford

CODE

149

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☒ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☒ MUSEUM☒ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Southeast Region - Department of Interior

STREET & NUMBER

1895 Phoenix Blvd.

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Rutherford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Public Square

CITY, TOWN

Murfreesboro

STATE

Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

April 1941

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Rutherford County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Murfreesboro

STATE

Tennessee

7 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 force 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 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 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 bare flat rock surrounded by eastern red cedar (*Juniperus Virginiana* L.) and numerous other hard woods. 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 and 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 10' x 4' 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 ^{inch} 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.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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PAGE 1

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 frustrum-shaped monument constructed of native limestone blocks. It was erected in 1863 by men of the 9th Indiana Veteran Volunteer 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 Manson Pike 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

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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 Cemetery. 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

UIM 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 ordinance 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.

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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

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ITEM NUMBER 9 & 10 PAGE 1

9. Bibliographic References - Continued

- Stevenson, Alexander F., The Battle of Stones River Near Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Boston, James R. Osgood and Co., 1884.
- Willet, Ann W., A History of Stones River National Military Park, Manuscript, N.P.S., 1958.
- 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) 16/553740/3968000 | 16/551810/3970100 | E) 16/550660/3970630 |
| 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 south-east 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

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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.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION-SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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 force 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 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.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Bearss, Edwin C., The History of Fortress Rosencrans, Manuscript N.P.S., 1960.
Calvary Operation of Stones River, Manuscript N.P.S., 1959.
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

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 351 acres

UTM REFERENCES - See maps

A 16 552000 3972000
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C 16 550000 3968000

B 16 553740 3968000
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D 16 550000 3972000

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 1,1000 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.)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ron A. Gibbs, Chief I, & RM

September 22, 1975

ORGANIZATION

Stones River National Battlefield

DATE

615-893-9501

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2, Old Nashville Highway

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Murfreesboro

STATE

Tennessee

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is ☒ National ☐ State ☐ Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST: Charles Adams

DATE 1-26-78
 DATE 1-24-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

COPY

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Stones River National Battlefield (Additional Documentation)

other names/site number Stones River National Military Park

2. Location

street & number 3501 Old Nashville Highway NA ☐ not for publication

city or town Murfreesboro ☒ vicinity

state Tennessee code TN county Rutherford code 149 zip code 37129

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☒ nationally ☒ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other,

(explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Stones River National Battlefield

Name of Property

Rutherford County, Tennessee

County and State

5. Classification**Ownership of Property**
(Check as many boxes as apply)**Category of Property**
(Check only one box)☐ private☐ public-local☒ public-State☒ public-Federal☐ building(s)☒ district☐ site☐ structure☐ object**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

0

9

buildings

7

1

sites

11

1

structures

9

1

objects

27

12

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

10

6. Function or Use**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: camp

FUNERARY: cemetery

DEFENSE: arms storage, fortification, military

facility, battle site

TRANSPORTATION: road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery

LANDSCAPE: national park

TRANSPORTATION: road-related

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK; CONCRETE

walls BRICK; STONE

roof ASPHALT SHINGLE; METAL

other GLASS; METAL

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Attached Sheets

Stones River National Battlefield

Rutherford County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☒ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☒ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

MILITARY

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

ETHNIC HERITAGE: African-American

COMMEMORATION

Period of Significance

1862-1931

Significant Dates

1862-63; 1864-69

Significant Person

Major General William S. Rosecrans

Brigadier General Philip H. Sheridan

General Braxton Bragg

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ B removed from its original location.

☐ C moved from its original location.

☒ D a cemetery.

☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☒ F a commemorative property

☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

☒ previously listed in the National Register

☐ Previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
#

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record #

Primary location of additional data:

☐ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State Agency

☒ Federal Agency

☐ Local Government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository:

Stones River National Battlefield

Stones River National Battlefield
Name of Property

Rutherford County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 609 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1
Zone Easting Northing
2

3
Zone Easting Northing

4
☐ See continuation
sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael T. Gavin, Preservation Specialist, Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area and
Sean M. Styles, Historian, Georgia Trust

organization Center for Historic Preservation date November 14, 2003
street & number Middle Tennessee State University, Box 80 telephone 615-898-2947
city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37132

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name National Park Service—Stones River National Battlefield
street & number 3501 Old Nashville Highway telephone 615-893-9501
city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37129

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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VII. DESCRIPTION

Introduction

Stones River National Battlefield, located in Murfreesboro, the seat of Rutherford County, Tennessee, contains a portion of the site of the Civil War Battle of Stones River, which took place between December 31, 1862, and January 2, 1863. The United States Congress established a national military park on part of the battlefield through an act in 1927, and the park that evolved from this authorization is now officially known as Stones River National Battlefield. Stones River National Battlefield was placed on the National Register of Historic Places with the passage of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966. National Register documentation for the battlefield was accepted January 26, 1978. National Register documentation for the Fortress Rosecrans site was accepted June 7, 1974. This additional documentation expands the statement of significance for the battlefield and Fortress Rosecrans and presents a comprehensive list of contributing and non-contributing resources.

Stones River National Battlefield today consists of several discontinuous parcels of land. The park's core area is a parcel immediately south of the present Stones River National Cemetery, encompassing the area where Confederate forces turned the Union flank on the first day of the battle and were in turn checked by massed Federal artillery. Stones River National Battlefield preserves only a small portion of the more than 4,000 acres over which the battle raged. The other components of the national battlefield include the Mendenhall position on the high ground near McFadden's Ford and nearby Van Cleve Lane; four remnants of Fortress Rosecrans; and two headquarters sites. All of the park units are in a corridor that parallels the Nashville Pike and the CSX (the historic Nashville and Chattanooga) Railroad route.

1. Core Battlefield Area (1862-1863) [site]

The northern boundary of this tract is the CSX Railroad right-of-way. Present-day Manson Pike, the southern boundary, was the fulcrum on which the Confederate General Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee turned Federal General William Rosecrans' right flank on December 31, 1862 (at the time of the battle, the road was known as the Wilkinson Pike). The battlefield tract's eastern boundary encompasses the present Van Cleve Lane, still a dirt road in the late 1920s. The western boundary of the tract is parallel to and less than half a mile from the eastern boundary. Two small, one-quarter-acre detached tracts of private land were also acquired to preserve and interpret the location of the headquarters sites of Generals Bragg and Rosecrans.¹

The patchwork of open fields and wooded areas that characterized this sparsely populated agricultural landscape in 1863 remains clearly discernible, with brakes of eastern red cedar and cedar glades between cultivated fields. The open fields maintained by the NPS approximate the positions of the fields in 1863. Likewise, the similarly maintained cedar thickets exist in their approximate historic locations, although the present plant materials are not historic. The park's largest individual parcel, the location of the heart of the battle, continues to be maintained to simulate the historic appearance of the landscape. The dense cedar thickets and the rock outcroppings played a vital role in the battle because they offered natural protection to troops, but simultaneously made timely artillery and equipment transportation nearly impossible.

The land two and a half miles west of Murfreesboro, from which the Confederates would launch their attacks, is depicted in contemporary sources as one comprised of scattered farms and woodland.² Farmsteads in this section of Rutherford County generally consisted of a farmhouse, barn, and a handful of outbuildings such as corncribs and structures sheltering cotton gins. The woodlands in this section of the county contained eastern red cedar, a variety that grows in dense thickets or "cedar brakes." These trees had thickly entwined branches that reached to the ground, prompting one Confederate colonel to remark, "a cedar thicket...was the strongest natural position we encountered."³

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Cedar glades, often mentioned in the battle reports, are openings in thick stands of red cedar where the shallow acidic soils prohibit permanent invasion by trees but support a ground cover of grasses, mosses, and herbaceous plants. Contemporary accounts also mention the presence of a grove of oak trees near Overall Creek.⁴ The woodland boundaries are depicted in period maps as rectilinear, typically bordered by "rail fences" and cultivated fields. Fields cultivated in corn or cotton surrounded the farmhouses and outbuildings shown on battle-era maps.⁵

Geologists classify the battlefield as karst topography, in which shallow soils overlay limestone and shale bedrock.⁶ This bedrock is pitted with sinkholes caused by surface and underground water sources dissolving the limestone. As the Federals approached the Confederate positions near Stones River on December 30, 1862, neither army dug entrenchments; each side anticipated that it would take the offensive on the morning. Once fighting began, troops of both sides used the sinkholes and limestone outcroppings in the shallow soil for protection against bullets.

On December 31, during lulls in the fighting, defenders piled up logs and rocks to create impromptu breastworks. The wooden fences also became makeshift breastworks that protected the men, according to Levi Wagner of the 1st Ohio Regiment: "And right here, if you were inclined to smile at the idea of a fence rail being any protection during a battle, if you could just for a few moments transport yourself to the opposite side of that fence and view the bullet holes those rails contain, you would see that a very light obstruction often saves a life."⁷ Historic photographs of the area depict either worm or double post and board fences, which are typically closely stacked on the bottom but have more space between the rails on the top. None of the historic breastworks or fencing exists on the battlefield today.

The main body of Federals approached Murfreesboro along the macadamized Nashville Pike. A macadam road had a convex roadbed overlain with crushed stone, topped with stone dust, and compacted with water. The Pike had "a roadbed graded at least thirty feet wide with sufficient ditches on each side to drain off water... The gravel portion was twenty feet wide and six inches thick."⁸ The high quality of this pike's construction led Rosecrans to rely on this road for his supply line during the winter, a time when most roads in the south turned to mud. Van Cleve Lane, historically known as Old Bowen or McFadden Lane, was in use at the time of the Battle of Stones River. In the mid-nineteenth century, this road had one terminus at an intersection with the Manson Pike. It then crossed the Nashville Pike, the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, and Stones River at McFadden's Ford before its second terminus at an unnamed road. Where these roads pass through the battlefield, they evoke considerable integrity of setting, feeling, and association, particularly in comparison to modern roads such as Thompson Lane or U.S. Highway 41/70S. Two distinct parts of Van Cleve Lane, the graveled section in the core battlefield area and especially the narrow fence-lined section leading to the McFadden farm site at the Mendenhall position, are particularly appropriate for maintaining a nineteenth-century landscape. These historic roads act as reference points that define the positions of the brigades in the line of battle during the separate phases of the fight. This materially aids visitors in their task to understand the sweeping nature of the contest. In addition, these roads provided access to different points of the battlefield for the units of both armies, just as they continue to do in the present for visitors.

The physical feature that proved to be the key to the battle itself was the point where Bragg's Confederates had bent the Union line back upon itself at the boulder-strewn, cedar-choked hill known locally as the Round Forest. The Round Forest was east of the Nashville Pike and bisected by the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad. According to a Federal brigade commander, the nearly impenetrable cedars were "so dense as to render it impossible to see the length of a regiment," making the already disordered nature of combat command unmanagable.⁹

The core battlefield area of Stones River retains its historic location, topography, and types of vegetation. Topographical features certainly influenced the Battle of Stones River. The steep banks of the river provided a solid base on which to anchor the Federal left flank. The defensive power of massed artillery, particularly when sited on a

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prominent position such as the Round Forest or the elevated west bank of Stones River, was undeniable. The command difficulties encountered when fighting over wooded or broken ground, problems coordinating attacks or withdrawals, and the challenges of keeping troops aligned were all exacerbated by the terrain. (C)

No structures at the time of the battle remain extant within the park. The Round Forest itself has been obliterated by construction of the Thompson Lane Connector and a concrete plant; however, the Hazen Brigade Monument and Cemetery, as well as the roadbeds of the Nashville Pike and Van Cleve Lane provide the reference points needed to approximate its location.

The War Department initially developed the park between 1928 and 1933, after the bulk of the property acquisition was finalized. After the park was transferred to the NPS in 1933, additional development occurred, chiefly in the Mission 66 period. The NPS constructed the tour loop road, the visitor center, a maintenance garage, three residences, a storage building, a pump house, several paved parking lots, and significantly altered entrances in the Stones River National Cemetery Wall, the main park gate, and wooden fences.

Contributing and non-contributing properties within the core battlefield include:

2. Main Entrance Gates (1931, 1960s) [structure]

From the initial development of the battlefield until the implementation of the Mission 66 plans in the early 1960s, there were actually four entrances into the main park area. Two of these entrances had stone pillars and provided access for cars into the main park area from the Old Nashville Highway; the main entrance was located across from the staff residence area and the second was at the intersection of Nashville Pike and Van Cleve Lane. The first park tour road also connected with Van Cleve Lane at two other points, where the third and fourth entrances were located.¹⁰ Herbert Smith, an African American man from the local community who was a highly gifted stone mason, constructed the pillars at the two entrances from Old Nashville Highway into the main park area.¹¹

The main entrance gates, although altered, retain sufficient integrity to be eligible for the National Register. Wing walls were added to the original pillars as part of the Mission 66 construction plans, and the pillars themselves have undergone some alterations. Pillars that had originally been installed at the intersection of Nashville Pike and Van Cleve Lane were dismantled and the stones from these structures used to construct the walls joined to the pillars at the main entrance.¹²

A wall extends from each pillar towards the road leading into the visitor center parking area. Superintendent Melroe Tarter, the first superintendent of the new park, originally placed a chain between the stone pillars in order to close the gates at night, but in the early 1960s, wooden crossbars which are retracted during the day and locked shut at night were added.¹³ These crossbar posts were mounted into the new stone walls. Initially, a metal plaque reading "Stones River National Military Park" was mounted on each post. These plaques were later removed and other National Park Service signs put in their place. The original cannonball pyramids atop the pillars were removed sometime prior to 1949. In 1981, park staff placed new cannonball pyramids on the pillars on each side of the main entrance gate, and also at this time, a metal flag holder was added to the back of each wing wall.¹⁴ (C)

3. Stones River National Cemetery (1864-1869) [site]

On March 29, 1864, General George H. Thomas instructed General Van Cleve to "select an eligible site for the founding of a National Cemetery." Furthermore, he was to carry out the assignment "as rapidly as possible."¹⁵ Van Cleve, in turn, detached Captain John A. Means of the 115th Ohio for duty as a topographical engineer in charge of siting and laying out the new cemetery. Captain Means oversaw the cemetery's construction from June 2, 1864, until

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his discharge from the army on April 25, 1865.¹⁶ He placed the cemetery between the Nashville Pike and the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, in full view of both, situated on a slight rise where Union artillery had repulsed Hardee's attacks on the afternoon of December 31, 1862. After Means' departure, Chaplain William Earnshaw was designated to continue his work. For the next year or so, Earnshaw directed the exhumation of the Union dead buried at various sites throughout Middle Tennessee and their reinterment at Stones River National Cemetery.¹⁷ Primarily, the officers and men of the 111th Regiment, United States Colored Troops, carried out this hazardous duty.¹⁸

As constructed, the cemetery was a trapezoid whose parallel sides stretched between the railroad and the Nashville Pike. Its plan was formal and geometric, with a graveled central main carriage path entering the cemetery from the road. The main carriage path ran toward a square in the cemetery's center that was surrounded by four larger squares. Smaller, grassy walking paths radiated diagonally from the central square toward the cemetery's four corners, and an additional grassy path circumnavigated the whole.¹⁹ (C)

4. Stones River National Cemetery Markers (1867-1931) [object] LCS ID#007032

The soldiers' graves at the national cemetery, originally marked with painted wooden headboards, were arranged in lines parallel to the railroad; each one was allotted an area of four by nine feet. Due to the rapid deterioration of the headboards, marble grave markers began replacing them in 1867.²⁰ The cemetery contains the burials of veterans of the U.S.C.T., an army unit that did not exist at the time of the Battle of Stones River. These graves are located generally at the west side of the cemetery. Stones River National Cemetery also contains approximately twenty private grave markers of various Victorian designs, erected by family members. A representative example is the marker for Major M. R. Butler, who died on May 10, 1863, which features a carved weeping willow motif. Burials of veterans continued at Stones River National Cemetery through the second half of the twentieth century. However, the large majority of the standardized military marble markers date between 1867 and the completion of the first phase of national battlefield development in 1931.

5. Standing Cannon Markers (1867) [object], LCS ID#090227

In 1867, in the approximate center of the cemetery, the army erected two permanent cast iron monuments, known as the standing cannon markers. These two monuments are extant. (C)

6. Bivouac of the Dead Markers (1882) [object], LSC ID#090223

In 1882, cemetery officials directed the installation of a set of cast iron plaques were installed throughout the cemetery. Known as *The Bivouac of the Dead* Markers (1882), they contain raised-letter verses from Theodore O'Hara's poem *The Bivouac of the Dead*.²¹ These iron plaques replaced earlier ones of painted wood, which had been mounted on five by five inch cedar posts.²² (C)

7. 43rd Wisconsin and 180th Ohio Regiments Monument (1865) [object] LCS ID#07041

Near the Stones River National Cemetery's eastern wall is a small limestone monument erected by Tennessee Union veterans and others in 1865. This memorial honors the soldiers of the 43rd Wisconsin and 180th Ohio Regiments who died at the battle of Stones River. The legend on the stone reads: "Erected by the 43rd. Reg't. Wis. Vol. Inf. In memory of deceased soldiers in that Reg't and of the 180th Ohio. Tennessee Union Soldiers. Railroad Employees. & c. 1865." It was orientated toward and immediately adjacent to the railroad. The cemetery later became a railroad stop when Union veterans visited battlefields after the war, and passengers debarking from the train could easily stop and read it.³⁵ (C)

8. U.S. Regulars Monument (1883) [object] LCS ID#07040

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In 1883, a veterans' organization erected the U.S. Regulars Monument at the Stones River National Cemetery in tribute to the ultimate sacrifices made by the officers and soldiers of the 15th, 16th, 18th, and 19th U.S. Cavalry Brigades and Battery H, 5th U.S. Artillery Brigade of the Army of the Cumberland who were killed in battle there on December 31, 1862. This memorial is a fifteen-foot sandstone column resting on a base seven feet six inches square surmounted by a large bronze eagle, and features classical details such as an egg-and-dart molding and carved floral and laurel motifs.³⁶ (C)

9. Cemetery Flagstaff (1888) [structure] LCS ID#90226

Drawings from 1867 show a flagstaff on the Monument (Lincoln) Square in the Stones River National Cemetery. The early poles were made of wood and painted often, but rapid deterioration demonstrated the need for one composed of a more durable material. In 1888, a local contractor erected a wrought iron flagstaff in Lincoln Square, the center and highest point of the cemetery.³⁷ (C)

10. Cannonball Pyramid (1930) [object] LCS ID#90228

The cannonball pyramid, a pile of 12# cannonballs mounted on a low concrete platform at the base of the flagstaff in the Stones River National Cemetery. This commemorative object dates to 1930. (C)

11. Stones River National Cemetery Wall (1865-1871) [structure] LCS ID#90222

Soon after he arrived, Chaplin Earnshaw initiated construction of a substantial limestone wall, four feet nine inches high and two feet thick that would surround the cemetery.²³ He oversaw the production of a number of African American mechanics, detached from U.S.C.T. regiments, who performed the masonry work on the wall until they were mustered out of the army in early 1866. Unfortunately, only one-eighth of the wall had been built by that time, and Earnshaw was unable to secure the additional funds to complete it. By the autumn of 1867, a wooden picket fence surrounding the cemetery stood four feet inside the boundary line to allow for the completion of this stone wall at a future date.²⁴ Four years later, the Federal government let two separate contracts to private contractors, one for the construction of the wall itself, and the other for the coping on top, and the surrounding wall was finished in late 1871. It is not known if the private contractors were African-American craftsmen.²⁵ (C)

12. Hazen Brigade Monument (1863) [object] LCS ID#07033

Colonel William B. Hazen's infantry brigade, consisting of the 110th Illinois, the 9th Indiana Volunteers, the 6th Kentucky, and the 41st Ohio, won widespread praise after its stand in the Round Forest on the first day of the battle of Stones River.²⁶ During the summer of 1863, a number of men from the 9th Indiana were detailed to construct a monument to their unit's heroism. While construction of this monument clearly had official sanction, the actual initiator of this action remains unknown, although Colonel Isaac C. B. Suman, commander of the 9th Indiana, remains the most likely.²⁷ The site selected for the monument was an area in the Round Forest containing graves of forty-five of the brigade's fallen. Lieutenant Edward Crebbin of the 9th Indiana supervised construction of the monument from June to October 1863.²⁸ It was hazardous work, and Crebbin's crew was threatened by the appearance of Confederate cavalry in October 1863. At the time, the Union Army of the Cumberland was besieged within Chattanooga, and Wheeler's Confederate command had been ordered to break the railroad line at Murfreesboro, but the obvious strength of nearby Fortress Rosecrans discouraged assault.

Capt. Edmund B. Whitman described the monument as a "quadrangular pyramidal shaft, ten feet square at the base and eleven feet in height, surmounted by a neat coping. A dry-stacked stone wall, four feet high and two feet thick, enclosed both monument and cemetery. Three low steps breached the wall's south side to allow access."²⁹ Murfreesboro resident John C. Spence noted in his Civil War diary of November 20, 1863, that the "Stones River Battle monument to the fallen officers and Soldiers (Yankee) is now about finished." In November 1863, the 115th

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Ohio Regiment was transferred to Murfreesboro to garrison Fortress Rosecrans and the railroad blockhouses along the Nashville & Chattanooga. Two experienced stonecutters from the regiment, Sgt. Daniel C. Miller and Pvt. Christian Bauhoff, were employed to inscribe the legends on the monument's four faces during the spring of 1864.³⁰ The Hazen Brigade Monument retains integrity of materials, workmanship, and association. (C)

13. Hazen Brigade Monument Wall (1863, 1895) [structure] LCS ID#90225

As noted above, Federal soldier-workmen completed a 30' x 100' limestone wall around the graves and monument in 1863. As time passed, this wall, dry-stacked and without coping on the top, was continually damaged by visitors who climbed it to return to the railroad just beyond.³¹

Civilian contractors built the current mortared wall surrounding the monument and cemetery in 1895 in order to remedy the situation.³² No in-depth evaluation of the vegetation and spatial organization of the Hazen Brigade Monument has been conducted as yet. More modern improvements associated with this monument include a paved five-car parking lot bordering the Nashville Pike and a paved pathway to the monument. (C)

14. Hazen Brigade Cemetery Markers (1863) [object] LCS ID#090224

Federal soldier-workmen installed 45 small stone headstones for members of their brigade who were buried in the cemetery. These headstones are extant and retain integrity, although their lettering has deteriorated since the original stone carving. (C)

15. Harlan/Holland Family Cemetery (c. 1909) [site]

East of the Hazen Brigade Monument just outside its walls is a small African American family cemetery. It contains two grave plots marked by headstones. The older marker is for William Holland, a former Sergeant, 111th Regiment, United States Colored Troops, who died in 1909; the other marker is for William Harlan. The Ground Penetrating Radar data recovered at the site in 2003 found no evidence of any other burials within the tested area.³³ This cemetery is a significant resource associated with the African American community that once lived around the cemetery and battlefield—known as Cemetery—until the creation of the park in 1927.³⁴ (C)

16. Nashville Pike/Dixie Highway/Old Nashville Highway (c. 1842-1931) [structure] LCS ID#007037

This primary road connecting Murfreesboro and Nashville was initially completed in 1842 as a macadamized road. In c. 1920, the old turnpike became part of the Dixie Highway. Since the creation of the national park in 1927, the road and its roadbed have experienced little change, except for periodic paving. Known since the mid-twentieth century as the Old Nashville Highway, the road retains its historic alignment and location. (C)

17. Wilkinson Pike/Van Cleve Lane (c. 1860-1931) [structure] LCS ID#007036

This local turnpike played a major role in the Battle of Stones River. It has retained its historic location and alignments. The road took the name of Van Cleve at an unknown time after the battle. Major General Horatio P. Van Cleve commanded a federal division at the Battle of Stones River and, once Rosecrans moved his army south in the summer of 1863, General Van Cleve remained at Murfreesboro in charge of the Federal troops.

18. Nashville Pike Tollhouse Site (1842-1863) [site]

The State of Tennessee granted a charter for the construction of a hard surfaced toll road running from Nashville through Murfreesboro to Shelbyville in 1824.³⁸ The work on the turnpike did not commence until 1832, and was not ready for business until 1842.³⁹ The toll gate houses, established at five-mile intervals, were placed on the very edge of the road.⁴⁰ One of these stood near the intersection of Van Cleve Lane with the Nashville Pike. Archeologists employed both documentary and archeological evidence to locate the site of this tollhouse at Stones River National

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Battlefield. A number of contemporary maps, drawings, and narratives documented the location of the structure. The archeological investigations located the base of a chimney that appears to be from the detached kitchen of the tollhouse.⁴¹ It seems almost certain that the building was destroyed, most likely by fire, during the Battle of Stones River.⁴² (C)

19. Michigan State Historical Commission Marker (1966) [object]

The Michigan Historical Marker is a metal tablet mounted between two metal posts which commemorates "her brave and courageous sons who fought at Stones River to preserve the Union." The Michigan Civil War Centennial Observance Commission erected the marker in 1966. The marker is located on the c. 1965 tour road near the Dec. 31, 1862 position of Birg. Gen. Phillip H. Sheridan. (NC, due to date of construction)

20. Stone Wall along Stones River (1976) [structure]

This is a limestone retaining wall built along the Stones River at the Mendenhall Massed Artillery Site. (NC, due to date of construction)

21. Visitor Center (1961-63, c.1990) [building]

One-story brick building, with asphalt shingle gable roof and a concrete foundation and basement, stands opposite the main gates of Stones River National Cemetery. The center is arranged around a central, glass-wall lobby, from which radiates three wings: one for the museum, one for staff offices, and one for an auditorium. The auditorium wing was extended, c.1990, with new restroom facilities. (NC, due to date of construction)

22. Park Garage (1962) [building]

A standard single story, pole-framed, sheet metal-clad building associated with the service-wide Mission 66 initiative. (NC, due to date of construction)

23. Park Well House (1962) [building]

A brick well house associated with the service-wide Mission 66 initiative. (NC, due to date of construction)

24. Park Storage Building (1962) [building]

A standard single story, pole-framed, sheet metal-clad building associated with the service-wide Mission 66 initiative. (NC, due to date of construction)

25. Staff Residence #1 (1962) [building]

One-story, brick-veneered ranch-styled dwelling, with an asphalt shingle gable roof and concrete foundation. Its asymmetrical façade has four bays, with paired one-over-one double-hung windows, a wood entrance door and concrete stoop, and a fixed six-part picture window. An asphalt shingle gable roof automobile shed, with utility room, is attached to the gable end of the dwelling. (NC, due to date of construction)

26. Staff Residence #2 (1962) [building]

One-story, brick-veneered ranch-styled dwelling, with an asphalt shingle gable roof and concrete foundation. Its asymmetrical façade has four bays, with paired one-over-one double-hung windows, a wood entrance door and concrete stoop, and a fixed six-part picture window. An asphalt shingle gable roof automobile shed, with utility room, is attached to the gable end of the dwelling. (NC, due to date of construction)

27. Staff Residence #3 (1963) [building]

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One-story, brick-veneered ranch-styled dwelling, with an asphalt shingle gable roof and concrete foundation. Its asymmetrical façade has four bays, with paired one-over-one double-hung windows, a wood entrance door and concrete stoop, and a fixed six-part picture window. An asphalt shingle gable roof automobile shed, with utility room, is attached to the gable end of the dwelling. (NC, due to date of construction)

28. Stone-Veneered Dwelling (c. 1930) [building]

One-story stone-veneered Tudor Revival-styled dwelling, with asphalt shingle gable roof and a concrete foundation, stands near the southern boundary of the park. Its symmetrical façade has centered dual entrance wooden doors, with fifteen lights, flanked by paired three-over-one double-hung sash windows. (NC, not thematically associated with areas of significance)

Outbuilding:

Guesthouse (c. 1930) [building] One-story stone-veneered Tudor Revival-styled dwelling, with asphalt shingle gable roof and a concrete foundation. (NC, not thematically associated with areas of significance)

29. Mobile Home Dwelling (c. 1980) [building]

One-story rectangular-shaped metal mobile home stands near the southern boundary of the park. (NC, due to date of construction)

Outbuilding:

Garage (c. 1980) [building] A pole-frame building with a large gambrel loft above. The exterior is sheathed in plywood, and it has a pair of garage doors. (NC, due to date of construction)

Contributing and non-contributing properties that are or are on discontinuous sites that are part of Stones River National Battlefield include:

30. Mendenhall Massed Battery Site (1863) [site]

By the afternoon of January 2, 1863, Federal Captain John Mendenhall, Crittenden's chief of artillery, had assembled all or parts of ten batteries on the west bank of Stones River. This position, occupying a ridge at least ten feet higher than the Confederate-held east bank, was situated just above McFadden's Ford and adjacent to Van Cleve Lane. Mendenhall's men successfully repulsed a major Confederate attack against the position, using his massed artillery extremely effectively. This was the last major action of the Battle of Stones River. Immediately afterwards, discussions took place about commemorating this crucial episode of the conflict. (C)

31. Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway Artillery Monument (1906) [object] LCS ID#07034

At an unknown date, the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway acquired a 1.55-acre tract near McFadden's Ford that occupied a rise overlooking Stones River, and commissioned architect Hunter McDonald to design a commemorative marker. In 1906, the company erected a 34-foot concrete obelisk upon a stepped base on the property to designate the January 2, 1863 position of Mendenhall's massed Union artillery. Emphasizing the view from the railroad, the *Confederate Veteran* described this shaft as "a monument of granite [sic] nearly forty feet high... set immediately at the battery point, which may easily be seen by passengers on the train."⁴³ Today, this obelisk is commonly known as the Artillery Monument. (C)

32. Bragg's Headquarters Site (1863, 1931) [site] LCS ID#07038

This small site is located one and a half miles southeast of Stones River National Battlefield just north of the Nashville Pike and railroad underpass and adjacent to the Bragg Headquarters Trailhead of the Stones River Greenway. The commanding general of the Confederate forces, Braxton Bragg, established his second headquarters in a tent here

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during the Battle of Stones River. The grassy area is surrounded by a cedar rail fence on three sides and dominated by a small pyramidal pile of 12# cannonballs mounted on a low concrete platform, erected 1931, that marks the site. A concrete walkway leads from an adjacent large parking lot for the Bragg Headquarters Trailhead of the Stones River Greenway to the cannonball marker and continues through a break in the fence to the Stones River Greenway at the edge of the river beyond. (C)

33. Rosecrans' Headquarters Site (1863, 1931) [site] LCS ID#07039

This small site is located one half mile west of Stones River National Battlefield on the south side of the Nashville Pike. A rock quarry occupies most of the surrounding locale. This reservation commemorates the place that Major General William S. Rosecrans set up his tent headquarters adjacent to a log dwelling during the Battle of Stones River.⁴⁴ The area is enclosed on three sides by a chain link fence and large boxwood plantings at the corners of the open side. A small pyramidal pile of 12# cannonballs mounted on a low concrete platform, erected 1931, marks the site. The lot is fronted by a five-car asphalt parking lot. (C)

34. McFadden Cemetery (c. 1850) [site]

This small family cemetery has six historic headstones, mostly in poor condition. The Ground Penetrating Radar data recovered at the site in 2003 suggested that there may be as many as seven graves within the tested area.⁴⁵ The cemetery is the only surviving feature of the McFadden farm, which existed at the time of the battle near the terminus of Van Cleve Lane. (NC, due to lack of integrity)

35. Fortress Rosecrans (1863-1866) [structure]

After the Battle of Stones River, General Rosecrans initiated construction of a large enclosed earthen fortification at Murfreesboro. James St. Clair Morton, the Chief of Engineers in the Army of the Cumberland, designed the earthwork, which was subsequently named Fortress Rosecrans. The design of the fort was most likely based on specifications in Dennis Hart Mahan's *Treatise on Field Fortifications*, a reference work written by the former commander of West Point. Rosecrans envisioned that the completed fort would serve a twofold purpose: enclosing a forward supply dump for the Army of the Cumberland and providing a refuge for the army if it were to suffer defeat.⁴⁶

Construction of Fortress Rosecrans began on January 23, 1863. Between four and five thousand troops worked on the fort twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, between January and April. As constructed, Fortress Rosecrans measured 1,250 yards from north to south and 1,070 yards east to west, creating an enclosure of about 200 acres. A line of curtain walls, lunettes, and rifle pits 14,600 feet in length formed the fort's outer perimeter. The nine lunettes were fieldworks that consisted of two faces forming a salient angle with two parallel flanks that opened to the interior of the fort. Each lunette was named for a general officer assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. A line of earthworks known as Curtain Wall No.1 was constructed between Lunettes Thomas and McCook, on the fort's southeastern face. Another line of earthworks, known as Curtain Wall No.2, ran between Lunettes Palmer and Thomas on the fort's southwestern face. Because Lunettes Negley, Thomas, and Curtain Wall No.2 could be enfiladed by artillery on the west bank of the river, traverses set at right angles were constructed behind their walls. The lunettes and curtain walls were fitted with embrasures, V-shaped openings in the earthwork through which defenders fired their cannon. Large earth-filled wicker baskets called gabions were placed outside the embrasures for extra protection. Gabions were much larger than sandbags, portable, and would absorb several incoming rounds before splintering. Both the railroad and the pike bisected the fort, with openings in the fortress walls to allow passage on these arteries. Sited near the entrances for the railroad were artillery emplacements (Batteries Cruft and Mitchell) to reinforce these vulnerable points.⁴⁷

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To supply the garrison, a railroad spur 1,200 feet long was added within the fortress, crossing the Nashville Pike below the guns of Redoubt Johnson. During the fort's construction, the United States Military Railroad replaced the U-rails of the Nashville & Chattanooga with newer and stronger T-rails.⁴⁸ Stones River flowed through Fortress Rosecrans, dividing it into two unequal parts. The smaller section was west of the river and contained Lunettes Negley and Stanley, Battery Cruft, and Redoubt Schofield. These earthworks protected four sawmills located along the banks of the river and two commissary depots astride the railroad tracts. The bulk of the fort, including Redoubts Brannan, Johnson, and T.J. Wood, was on Stones River's east bank. The warehouses and depots on the fort's east were constructed near the railroad to facilitate off-loading of supplies from trains. They were sited in the ravine between Redoubt Brannan and Redoubts Johnson and T.J. Wood as further protection from Confederate artillery. Protecting these facilities were Lunettes Crittenden, Gordon, Granger, McCook, Rousseau, and Reynolds, Curtain Wall No.1, and Battery Mitchell. Lytle Creek flowed into Stones River through the east bank, further dividing the eastern area of the fort. Lunettes Palmer and Thomas and Curtain Wall No.2 were constructed on the south bank of Lytle Creek to guard the Franklin Road. Two outlying demi-lunettes, Davis and Garfield, were constructed on a ridge south of the fort, close to the Franklin Road. Another outlying bulwark, the V-shaped earthwork called Redan Van Cleve, was built north of the fort on a hill that dominated Stones River's Nashville Ford.⁴⁹

Only a small portion of Fortress Rosecrans is extant today. The fort once covered approximately 200 acres surrounding Stones River, the Nashville Pike, and the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. In 1866, the U.S. Army abandoned the fort.⁵⁰ The remaining structures within the complex were disposed of and the fort's earthen walls and redoubts were likely mined for fill dirt or allowed to erode. Now all that is left of the fort is Lunettes Thomas and Palmer, Redoubt Brannan, a traverse of Lunette Negley, Curtain Wall No.2, and part of Curtain Wall No.1. All of these earthworks, with the exception of Curtain Wall No.1 and the traverse of Lunette Negley, are owned by the NPS and are within the boundaries of the park. The City of Murfreesboro owns Curtain Wall No.1, while the Lunette Negley traverse is in private hands.

Although most of Fortress Rosecrans is now gone, the primary elements that remain are substantial enough to convey the fort's massiveness as well as its purpose and significance. The Lunette Negley traverse is sited in the yard of a single-family dwelling and has lost its association to the other earthworks. (C)

36. Redoubt Brannan (1863-66) [structure] LCS ID#07035

Supporting the lunettes and curtain walls within Fortress Rosecrans were four redoubts meant to provide the last line of defense if the lunettes were breached. The redoubts were named Schofield, Brannan, T.J. Wood, and Johnson. Each was a rectangular earthwork containing artillery, a powder magazine, and a wooden cruciform blockhouse. Every redoubt was constructed on a hill and all were within 350 feet of the railroad. In addition, Redoubt Brannan was built astride the Nashville Pike and was the guardian of the wood-trussed bridges.⁵¹

In 1904, the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad acquired a 4.64 acre tract of land near the right-of-way that included Redoubt Brannan.⁵² The railway company maintained the site as a point of interest, visible from the windows of its passenger cars. Although the setting of Redoubt Brannan has been somewhat compromised at the present by adjacent commercial and residential construction, the earthwork still retains the historic views of the railroad trestle and Stones River. Redoubt Brannan is threatened by a severe infestation of groundhogs that could undermine the walls of the structure. (C)

37. Lunette Palmer (1863) [structure] LCS ID#90229

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The lunettes of Fortress Rosecrans were fieldworks that consisted of two faces forming a salient angle with two parallel flanks that opened to the interior of the fort. Each lunette was named for a general officer assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. Brig. Gen. John M. Palmer commanded the Second Division of Crittenden's corps. Lunette Palmer retains its location, design, materials, workmanship, and association to the occupation of Murfreesboro. It sets in a park environment with broad views, consistent with a historic landscape that was swept clean of foliage to provide clear fields of fire. (C)

38. Lunette Thomas (1863) [structure] (LCS ID#90230)

The lunettes of Fortress Rosecrans were fieldworks that consisted of two faces forming a salient angle with two parallel flanks that opened to the interior of the fort. Each lunette was named for a general officer assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. Lunette Thomas was named for Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas. In general, Lunette Thomas retains its location, design, materials, workmanship, and association to the occupation of Murfreesboro. However, the integrity of Lunette Thomas has been partially compromised by construction of a power line through its left face and no longer retains its full configuration. The lunette sets in a park environment with broad views, consistent with a historic landscape that was swept clean of foliage to provide clear fields of fire. (C)

39. Curtain Wall No.2 (1863) [structure] LCS ID#90231

A line of earthworks, known as Curtain Wall No.2, ran between Lunettes Palmer and Thomas on the fort's southwestern face of Fortress Rosecrans. Most of the earthworks are in stable condition with grasses providing a protective cover. The wall sets in a park environment with broad views, consistent with a historic landscape that was swept clean of foliage to provide clear fields of fire. (C)

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VIII. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stones River National Battlefield in Rutherford County, Tennessee, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its national and state significance in the military history of the Civil War and its national and state significance in commemoration due to the design and historical associations of the Hazen Brigade Monument and Stones River National Cemetery. It is also eligible for its local significance under Criterion A in African American ethnic heritage and for its local significance under Criterion C in landscape architecture. Previous archaeological investigations by the National Park Service also document local significance under Criterion D.

Military Significance

Over the course of three days, from December 31, 1862 to January 2, 1863, Union and Confederate armies clashed at Stones River, three miles northwest of Murfreesboro, Tennessee.⁵³ At stake were the rich agricultural region of Middle Tennessee and the network of turnpikes, rivers, and railroads that served it. Murfreesboro in the fall of 1862 was headquarters for the Confederacy's principal western army, the Army of Tennessee. Its commander was General Braxton Bragg, who placed his forces there to contest Federal dominion over the region's bountiful agricultural products.⁵⁴ The town's central location was ideal for launching cavalry raids against Federal supply lines in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama.

Twenty-five miles northwest of Murfreesboro lay Nashville, Tennessee's conquered capital and supply base to the Federal 14th Army Corps (soon to be renamed the Army of the Cumberland), which faced shortages due in part to Confederate cavalry raids launched from Murfreesboro. A direct Federal thrust toward Chattanooga from Nashville depended upon the capture and control of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad in order to keep the invasion forces supplied in the forage-poor mountains of southeastern Tennessee. Because Murfreesboro was the largest town on the line south of Nashville, its possession was essential for Union forces to move against Chattanooga.

On October 30, 1862, Major General William S. Rosecrans assumed command of the Federal forces previously under Major General Don Carlos Buell, then in Bowling Green, Kentucky. A portion of Buell's troops at Perryville, Kentucky, earlier in October, had defeated elements of Bragg's army. Bragg had retreated into Tennessee when he realized that Buell's men outnumbered his own, and eventually quartered his forces in the Murfreesboro vicinity. When Rosecrans took the reins of the Union army, Bragg's army was closer to Nashville than his was. Tennessee's military governor, Andrew Johnson, had wired Washington that Nashville was in peril. To rectify this problem, Rosecrans moved the Union army to the Tennessee capital in early November.⁵⁵

Bragg had spent the fall of 1862 in a respite, foraging the region around Murfreesboro for supplies and recruiting fresh troops. Various divisions of the Army of Tennessee were billeted in Murfreesboro and surrounding towns in a semicircular line from Lebanon to Franklin via Smyrna. Bragg had divided the bulk of his cavalry into two independent commands under Brigadier Generals Nathan B. Forrest and John H. Morgan, and dispatched them to strike Union rail lines: Forrest to West Tennessee to cut the Mobile & Ohio Railroad supplying Brigadier General Ulysses S. Grant's army in Mississippi, and Morgan to Kentucky to cut the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which supplied Rosecrans' in Nashville. Retaining a third of his cavalry under Brigadier General Joe Wheeler for picket duty, Bragg stretched his remaining cavalry thinly to detect any hostile movement.⁵⁶

Control of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad was essential for the execution of a Federal campaign to capture Confederate-held Chattanooga.⁵⁷ Chartered in 1845, the Nashville & Chattanooga had begun service from Nashville to Murfreesboro on July 4, 1851. The line was completed to Chattanooga in February 1854, forming a vital link in the

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trade from the ports of Charleston and Savannah to the Midwest. Savannah accessed the Midwest via the Central of Georgia, Macon & Western, and the Western & Atlantic to Chattanooga.⁵⁸ From there the Nashville & Chattanooga carried freight and passengers to Nashville for linkage via the Louisville & Nashville to Louisville, Kentucky, on the Ohio River.

On December 31, Bragg steeled the resolve of his troops with a pre-dawn ration of whiskey, and then launched an attack on Rosecrans' right flank. Like some Federal troops on the first day at Shiloh, McCook's men were still making breakfast when Major General John McCown's Confederate division pounced on them near the intersection of Gresham Lane and Franklin Pike [now Road]. McCown's forces drove the fleeing Federals west toward Overall Creek, creating a gap in the Confederate line between their own division and that of Major General Jones M. Withers on their right. Major General Patrick Cleburne marched his hard-fighting division into this gap, wheeling his line to the right, turning the flank of two Federal divisions, and pushing scattered Federal units north along Gresham Lane. By 8 a.m. Rosecrans' right was in shambles and his army would spend the balance of the day on the defensive.⁵⁹

Hardee's corps, after routing McCook's right and center divisions, began to wheel north toward the Nashville Pike in an attempt to roll up the Federal line. Polk's infantrymen launched their attack against McCook's remaining division, an outfit led by the Irish-born, hard-bitten Brigadier General Philip H. Sheridan. Brigadier General Joshua Sill, one of Sheridan's three brigade commanders, had alerted him to a Confederate movement during the night. Warned of the likelihood of a Confederate strike, Sheridan had his men in line of battle before dawn, taking cover among the boulders and cedars.

Withers' division of Polk's corps slammed into Sheridan's division at approximately 8 a.m., meeting determined resistance from the Federals in the cedars. Sill launched a counterattack from his position behind a brick kiln southeast of the Harding House, and was killed while his men were thrown back with heavy casualties. By the end of the day all three of Sheridan's brigade commanders were dead. On the defensive again, Sheridan placed his artillery on a knoll behind the Harding House (not extant), and it wreaked havoc on Withers' units advancing across the open cotton and corn fields south of Van Cleve Lane. Cleburne's Confederates had previously swept east through McCook's other two divisions and by 10:45 a.m. had gained Sheridan's rear. Threatened by envelopment and suffering enfilading fire, Sheridan's division grudgingly withdrew north to the intersection of Van Cleve Lane and the Manson Pike, facing its brigades south, east, and west to form a salient.⁶⁰

Sheridan's stout defense gave Rosecrans, who had spent the early morning hours supervising Crittenden's crossing of Stones River, a chance to restore the shattered Federal line. The Federal commander directed his units into the line of battle on the Federal left. Rosecrans and his staff often rode into the thick of combat, dangerous behavior that resulted in the decapitation of his chief of staff, Colonel Julius Garesche, who was riding close to his commander when slain by a cannonball likely fired from a Confederate battery on Wayne's Hill, across the river. Rosecrans recalled Brigadier General Horatio Van Cleve's division form the east bank of Stones River and ordered him to form a line parallel to the Nashville Pike, northwest of the burnt-out shell of the Cowan House, to catch stragglers. Brigadier Generals John Palmer's and Thomas Wood's divisions of Crittenden's corps were ordered to remain in place and extend their front from Nashville Pike to McFadden's Ford. Having stabilized his left, Rosecrans made dispositions for his right.⁶¹

While Sheridan's men clung grimly to the cedars and boulders, the division on their left under Brigadier General James S. Negley was also under attack from Withers' Rebels. Negley's division was ensconced in a cedar thicket, his troops facing east across Van Cleve Lane, and his right terminating on the Manson Pike. The first Confederate charge across the cotton field south of the Cowan house ruins was repulsed by Negley's veterans and their artillery. A second, more concerted charge by several of Jones' brigades dislodged Negley from the cedars and captured twelve of

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his cannon. Sheridan's men simultaneously withdrew from their salient when fire from the Confederate artillery occupying ground near the brick kiln rendered it untenable, but their tenacious defense, with its high cost in dead and wounded, had averted disaster and allowed Rosecrans time to rebuild his line.⁶²

By noon, Bragg's Confederates had bent the Federal line back upon itself at the boulder-strewn, cedar-choked hill known locally as the Round Forest. The Round Forest was east of the Nashville Pike and bisected by the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. A Confederate attack that captured this hill would break the Federal forces in two. Realizing the importance of this position, Rosecrans sent every brigade not already engaged to the Round Forest and reinforced them with artillery. The Army of Cumberland's left flank faced southeast, anchored on its left by Stones River and holding the Round Forest on its right.

Rosecrans' right flank continued to bend back during the course of the day as Hardee's corps wheeled toward the Nashville Pike. Beyond Sheridan's salient, Cleburne's and McCown's divisions followed the fleeing Federals north along Gresham Lane, stopping at the Manson Pike to draw ammunition and dress their ranks. Thomas, still holding the Union center, bought time by ordering his reserve division under Brigadier General Lovell Rousseau, which included a brigade of U.S. Regulars under Colonel Oliver Shepherd, into the cedar woods behind Sheridan. Forming on Rousseau's right was Van Cleve's division, still wet and shivering from fording Stones River twice that morning. When Hardee's veterans plunged into the trees north of Manson Pike they encountered stiff resistance from Rousseau's and Van Cleve's fresh men. According to one of Van Cleve's brigade commanders, the nearly impenetrable cedars were "so dense as to render it impossible to see the length of a regiment," making the already disordered nature of combat command unmanageable.⁶³

In the confusion among the cedars, Hardee's men slugged it out with the Federals, gradually gaining the advantage. Rousseau, realizing his position was untenable, constructed a fallback line by posting two batteries of artillery on a rise of ground behind the Nashville Pike, where Stones River National Cemetery is today. Federal troops withdrew unevenly, creating gaps in the blue line that the opportunistic Confederates used to turn the flanks of Rousseau's remaining soldiers. One such gap opened in the cedars in front of McCown's men. Separated by the dense thickets, one Confederate brigade exited the trees alone and charged across a cotton field toward Rousseau's fallback line of artillery, only to be repulsed with terrible casualties. McCown's Texas and Arkansas brigades emerged from the woods further down the Nashville Pike shortly thereafter, only to meet the same fate at the hands of the Chicago Board of Trade Battery, which had been placed there by Rosecrans himself. On McCown's right, Cheatham's division of Tennesseans had reached the fringe of the cedars and saw artillery backed with blue-clad infantry. Lacking artillery of their own, the Confederates declined to attack the Federal position and remained at the edge of the woods.

On Hardee's left side was Cleburne's division, veterans who had crushed McCook's flank earlier in the morning. At noon Cleburne's men advanced north from the Manson Pike, meeting Van Cleve's division in the cedars. Confederate cavalry under Brigadier General John Wharton had progressed far beyond the Federal right flank earlier in the morning, capturing stores, burning wagons, and causing consternation in Rosecrans' rear. Wharton's command had reached the Nashville Pike and the main Federal hospital at the Hord House (NR 10/15/73) earlier in the day but was repulsed by Federal cavalry. After an hour of bitter fighting in the woods south of Asbury Lane, Cleburne's men appeared poised to capture the Nashville Pike again. Colonel Harker's brigade, on the extreme right of the Federal army, retreated across Asbury Lane about 1 p.m. and took up a position at the Widow Burris House (not extant), accidentally exposing the flanks of Van Cleve's brigades on his left. Cleburne's veterans seized upon this blunder, outflanked Van Cleve's men, and pushed the Federals toward the Nashville Pike near Rosecrans' headquarters. By 3 p.m. the Confederate onslaught had halted, probably from sheer exhaustion, and withdrew into the cedars. No reinforcements were available to continue the fighting.

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the success on the Confederate left because Bragg had committed them to capturing the Round Forest.⁶⁴

While Hardee's corps was crushing the right of the Army of the Cumberland, the bulk of Polk's men made no less than four vain attempts to break the center of the Union line. At 8 a.m. Palmer's veteran division of Federals rested obliquely astride the Nashville Pike and the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad where they crossed Van Cleve Lane. He ordered his units forward, toward the burnt-out shell of the Cowan House (not extant), before grasping that Negley's division on his right was falling back in an attempt to support Sheridan. Realizing his flank was uncovered, Palmer recalled his men to Van Cleve Lane and the safety of the woods. The fight came quickly as Chalmers' Confederates from Withers' division crossed the cotton fields of the Cowan farm and crashed into his lines, but they were repulsed with heavy losses after an hour's fighting. The Confederates attacked again at 10 a.m. as Donelson's brigade of Cheatham's Tennesseans also suffered heavily, but the collapse of McCook's Corps brought pursuing Confederates into Palmer's rear. These men were temporarily stopped in the cedars behind Palmer by the valiant sacrifice of Shepherd's brigade of U.S. Regulars.

East of the turnpike, Cheatham's advance along the railroad tracks toward the Round Forest ground to a halt under withering fire, prompting the attackers to nickname these fields "Hell's Half-Acre." At 1 p.m. the Confederates renewed their attack on the Round Forest, sending two fresh brigades from Breckinridge's division into the carnage. The Union defenders of the Round Forest, particularly the brigade of Colonel William B. Hazen, fought off this determined Confederate charge as well. The fences, outbuildings, and ruins of the Cowan farmhouse impeded the Confederate charges against the Round Forest because they were forced to redress ranks after crossing these obstacles. Bragg summoned two more brigades from Breckinridge for a final assault that began at 3:30 p.m., but this too failed to break the Federal line, and closing darkness halted the action.⁶⁵

Both armies remained in place on January 1, 1863. Bragg detailed his men to collect discarded arms, colors, and other trophies of war, while Rosecrans shortened his line by abandoning the Round Forest and dug in for another Confederate onslaught. Soldiers combed the battlefield for fallen comrades, returning to the field hospitals with wounded from both sides that had survived the night's bitter cold. Wheeler's cavalry had destroyed several Federal wagon trains earlier, ensuring that the Army of the Cumberland would remain on short rations for a while.⁶⁶

On New Year's Day, Van Cleve's division, now commanded by Colonel Samuel Beatty, crossed Stones River for the third time in two days and seized the high ground on the east bank near McFadden's Ford. From this position, Beatty's artillery could enfilade Bragg's right and center on the west side of the river. Confederate reconnaissance on January 2 revealed Rosecrans' crafty move, prompting Bragg to order Breckinridge to attack Beatty's division. Breckinridge personally inspected the ground before appealing to Polk, the commander of the Confederate right, and Bragg to cancel the assault. The former Vice President of the United States noted that Beatty would retreat onto higher ground and that the Confederate line of battle would be enfiladed from Federal batteries posted on the west side of the river. Bragg reinforced Breckinridge with additional troops from Polk's corps but reiterated his order to attack. The Confederate commander scheduled the attack for late afternoon to prevent Rosecrans from having sufficient daylight to launch a counterattack. Breckinridge's brigades marched off Wayne's hill at 4 p.m., quickly coming under fire from Federal batteries on the west side of the river.⁶⁷

Protected by undulations in the ground, Breckinridge's veterans quickly closed with Beatty's men and turned Crittenden's right. The flanked Federals retreated to McFadden's Ford, passing through two brigades that Rosecrans had ordered to cross the river to support them. The Confederates were halted by these new opponents but again worked their way onto their opponent's flank, forcing another retreat. The jubilant Confederates approached the river,

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and a few even crossed it in pursuit of the fleeing Federals. Soon the tables were turned, as they were swept by volleys from forty-five well spaced Federal cannon, situated on the west bank. Two more six-gun batteries, placed near the railroad a mile away, supported the larger group with additional barrages. Captain John Mendenhall, Crittenden's chief of artillery, had continued to gather the cannons even after the assault began. His guns commanded a clear field of fire because the west bank was at least ten feet higher than the Confederate-held east bank. The barrage from this assemblage of iron and bronze tore apart the soldiers' bodies, breaking the charge and driving it back in disarray to the starting point. The Federals pursued the fleeing Confederates but stopped when confronted by a scratch line of Confederate cannon and cavalry.⁶⁸

Both armies watched each other warily on January 3 but neither side offered combat. Believing from Crittenden's captured baggage that Rosecrans had been reinforced, Bragg ordered his army to withdraw twenty-five miles south to the Duck River on the night of January 3. The night march through driving rain turned the Nashville Pike into a quagmire, adding to the retreating misery of the Army of Tennessee. Wary of another Confederate assault, the Pioneer Brigade dug earthworks parallel to the Nashville Pike for the Chicago Board of Trade Battery. The Union army, victors of the battle by virtue of possession of the field, rebuilt the trestle over the river that the Confederates had destroyed during their retreat and crept into Murfreesboro on January 5. Both sides had suffered heavily: of Bragg's 37,000 engaged, 9,865 were casualties – a loss of 26 percent; the Federals endured even worse, losing 13,244 men out of 43,300 present, 30 percent of their army. It had been a bitterly contested struggle.⁶⁹

The ability of Rosecrans' army to withstand Bragg's furious assault without breaking established the Army of the Cumberland's reputation as an immovable defensive force. This defensive resiliency would resurface again in battle at Chickamauga, Atlanta, and Franklin, but it was forged at Stones River. Likewise, the Battle of Stones River typified the Confederate Army of Tennessee's fate as a hard-luck loser and produced dissent within its command structure that reduced its effectiveness for the balance of the war.

Since the original battlefield nomination was prepared, historians have emphasized the national significance of the Battle of Stones River in several major studies. The first was James L. McDonough's *Stones River: Bloody Winter in Tennessee* (1980), which concluded that "the engagement was the first big battle in the Union campaign to split the southeastern Confederacy, driving along the line of the railroad from Nashville through Chattanooga to Atlanta." Peter Cozzens, in *No Better Place to Die: the Battle of Stones River* (1990), emphasized that the battle "had far-reaching consequences." Cozzens concluded that Bragg's retreat "gave the North a victory at a time when defeat would have made the Emancipation Proclamation look like the last gasp of a dying war effort and perhaps brought England and France into the war on the side of the Confederacy." In *Banners to the Breeze: the Kentucky Campaign, Corinth, and Stones River* (2000), historian Earl Hess asserts that the loss at Stones River cost the Confederacy its last chance to take the strategic initiative in the Western Theater and this failure eventually "doomed the entire Confederacy."⁷⁰

The battlefield is nationally significant under National Register (NR) Criterion A because it contains a large portion of the area where the most intense fighting during the Battle of Stones River occurred.

Fortress Rosecrans and Redoubt Brannan (1863-66)

Given the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad's role in keeping the Army of the Cumberland supplied for the balance of the war, the defense of the railroad was of paramount importance. After the battle, General Rosecrans initiated construction of a large enclosed earthen fortification at Murfreesboro, subsequently named Fortress Rosecrans. The general wrote Chief of Staff Henry Halleck that the fort would serve a twofold purpose: enclosing a forward supply dump for the Army of the Cumberland and providing a refuge for the army if it suffered defeat. Historian Earl Hess, however, argues that Rosecrans' construction of the fort reflected the horrific impact of the battle on his confidence

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and on his subsequent strategy in 1863. Hess points out that Fortress Rosecrans "was the largest enclosed earthwork of the entire war, encompassing two hundred acres with three miles of earthen parapet and fifty artillery pieces. It would have taken an entire field army to man it properly."⁷¹ Fortress Rosecrans stretched across several low hills about one and a half miles northwest of Murfreesboro. The huge fort encompassed the river crossings of both the Nashville Pike and Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, thus protecting the largest bridge and railroad trestle spans between Nashville and Murfreesboro. A brigade of infantry defending the fortress, Rosecrans boasted in a letter to Halleck, would "be able to cover the depots and bridges against a division or two."⁷²

Construction of Fortress Rosecrans began in January, 1863. Each brigade in Rosecrans' army worked on the earthworks for a day or two before being replaced by another brigade. The combat engineers of Morton's Pioneer Brigade (specially trained troops who repaired or constructed fortifications, roads, and railroads) supervised the workers. Between four and five thousand troops worked on the fort twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, between January and April.⁷³ Murfreesboro citizen John Spence noted in his diary on February 15 that "preparation is being made for building fortifications and rifle pits near this place. Large quantities of timber trees are cut and hauled to the grounds. The work is commenced and pushed on rigorously – digging and blasting rocks. A great number of negroes is employed at this kind of work, under pay, of course."⁷⁴ In April, the workweek was reduced to five days, and on April 20, the "graveyard shift" was eliminated. The workload increased again in June, prior to Rosecrans' initiation of the Tullahoma campaign on June 24, 1863. The Union commander detailed Van Cleve to remain at Fortress Rosecrans to guard the railroad with 2,394 convalescent troops. Murfreesboro resident John Spence described them as "'Veteran troops,' who were hid behind breastworks with their cannon pointed on a few [sic] old men, women, and children," to shell the town if the enemy approached in Rosecrans' absence. "That sort of talk did not intimidate the citizens in the least. They had become [sic] quite indifferent as to what they might do, in the way of shelling. The town could not be much worsted unless it was to knock down the balance of houses."⁷⁵

In building Fortress Rosecrans, federal troops transformed a large area. Trees and brush within a thousand yards of the fort were cleared to provide unobstructed lines of fire for the defenders. Abatis (groups of felled trees laid with their branches pointed outward) were placed between the lunettes and in the marshy ground where Lytle Creek and the river crossed the fort. The remainder of the cleared timber was used to construct housing and military structures within the fort. Private James H. Jones related that "there is fortifications on evry [sic] hill and shore near this place within them are placed the twenty four and sixty four pounders ready at all times...the groves of timber that was waving in the breeze at the arrival of Rosecrans' army is now in stockades and ashes nothing left but the stumps and brush." Murfreesboro resident John Spence viewed the new engineered landscape differently. In a diary entry for April 25, 1863, Spence noted

The next thing to be done is to clear out the timber for some distance all round the works. Now in the immediate vicinity of Murfreesboro, the land is covered with large bodies of fine timber. The owners sustained great loss by the destruction of the woodland.

The fortifications lie about a half to three-fourths of a mile north of Murfreesboro, on the road leading to Nashville by the pike, [and] are principally on the land of W. F. Lytle. [Other affected owners were] Jno. Bell Jr. adjoining near town, Chas. Ready, D. Maney, L. H. Carney, R. Currins and parts of several other tracts all together in a body. This is all in the fort range, all ordered to be cut down without reserve to owner. We can now see for miles in some direction from town. Ready, Bell, Murfree and Carneys farm houses are entirely destroyed and portions of numbers of others.

Things are so changed that in the course of time it will be a hard matter to trace out the original land marks. A wilderness of timber has disappeared and in its place a large prairie waste.⁷⁶

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Fronting the lunettes and curtain walls were ditches six feet deep, to further slow any enemy troops that cleared the abatis. Supporting the lunettes and curtain walls within Fortress Rosecrans were four redoubts meant to provide the last line of defense if the lunettes were breached. The redoubts were named Schofield, Brannan, T.J. Wood, and Johnson. Each was a rectangular earthwork containing artillery, a powder magazine, and a wooden cruciform blockhouse. Every redoubt was constructed on a hill and all were within 350 feet of the railroad.

The first locomotive hauling supplies from Nashville arrived on February 10, 1863, and the car's contents were delivered to the corresponding depots: foodstuffs were stored in one of the fort's three commissary depots, dry goods were stockpiled in the Quartermaster's Depot, tools were cached in the Engineer's Warehouse, and ordnance was either distributed among the fort's magazines or warehoused in the Ordnance Depot. Additional provisions were foraged locally and were brought into the fortress along the pike.

The surviving remnants of Fortress Rosecrans – Lunettes Palmer and Thomas, Curtain Wall No. 2, and also Redoubt Brannan – are nationally significant under NR Criteria A, C, and D. All are significant under Criterion A for their association with the post-battle Federal occupation of Murfreesboro and under Criterion C because they represent advanced nineteenth-century military fortifications. The remains of Fortress Rosecrans convey significant information about the immense logistical network that allowed the Union to prevail in the Civil War. The earthworks are eligible for the NR under Criterion D because they may possess information that could increase our understanding of nineteenth-century earthen fortifications.

Redoubt Brannan is nationally significant under NR Criteria A, C, and D: Criterion A for its association with the post-battle Federal occupation of Murfreesboro and under Criterion C because it represents a component of an advanced nineteenth-century military fortification. As part of Fortress Rosecrans, the redoubt conveys significant information pertaining to the immense logistical network that allowed the Union to prevail in the Civil War. This earthwork is eligible for the NR under Criterion D because it may possess information that could increase our understanding of the components of nineteenth-century fortifications.

Landscape Architecture

Stones River National Cemetery has local significance under Criterion C, landscape architecture, for its formal geometric plan and funerary sculpture. This landscape plan dates from 1892, when the first steps were taken to beautify the grounds. It was the first Victorian style cemetery in Rutherford County, and remains the only national cemetery in the immediate area. By the early 1970s, most of the trees that had been planted at the end of the nineteenth century had died and the rest were declining as well. The NPS authorized the replanting of the trees at Stones River National Cemetery according to the 1892 landscaping plan, which was completed in November 1976. Some 593 replacement trees had been planted by that time.⁷⁷

These cemeteries played an important role in the nation's attitudes toward the Civil War and its aftermath. At the time that the Stones River National Cemetery was laid out, the "rural cemetery" aesthetic of winding driveways and "naturalistic" plantings had already been established nationwide. The cemetery at Stones River largely departed from that aesthetic and was an influence on the design of subsequent national cemeteries. Historian David Sloane observed: "the decision of the government to mark graves with simple markers set amid the grassy fields heightened the national cemeteries' sense of democracy. Only in Arlington and some other cemeteries [such as Stones River], and only for a short time, were individuals allowed to put up privately purchased monuments." The goal of achieving a "simple grandeur" at the national cemeteries, Sloane concluded, "reinforced the retreat from Romantic sentimentality, as well

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as the simplification of the cemetery. Even if Americans were slow to accept identical markers, they did embrace the landscape concepts of the military cemeteries. Simplicity and grandeur were the bases of the new designs.”⁷⁸

Commemoration

Stones River National Battlefield Park has a long history of commemoration beginning with the construction of the Hazen Brigade Monument in 1863, the oldest Civil War monument in the United States still extant at its original location. During that summer, while the Army of the Cumberland was flanking Bragg’s Confederates out of their Tullahoma defenses, skilled stonecutters who were members of Hazen’s Brigade constructed a fitting memorial to the sacrifices of their former comrades.

The creation of the Stones River National Cemetery itself in 1864 was another significant act of commemoration. After the war, Congress authorized a system of national cemeteries on or near Civil War battlefields and accepted responsibility for the upkeep of the Gettysburg and Antietam cemeteries. Federal establishment of the national cemetery system, coupled with the private idea of setting aside the battlefield of Gettysburg, created a uniquely American notion that the government should purchase and preserve battlefields.⁷⁹

From the start of Stones River National Cemetery’s construction, the railroad was envisioned as a means of accessing the battlefield, as evidenced by the erection of a small stone monument near the cemetery’s wall in 1865. The monument was situated on the railroad side of the cemetery so that passengers could view its inscription while debarking from the train.⁸⁰ Veterans’ groups gathered at the cemetery for memorial services during the Reconstruction (1865-1877), culminating in a veteran-sponsored attempt to have the battlefield declared a national park in the 1890s. The Phil Sheridan Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Post in Nashville began to conduct Decoration Day ceremonies at the Stones River National Cemetery in 1887, continuing the practice into the twentieth century.⁸¹ The Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway operated special trains to take Union veterans to events at Stones River National Cemetery.⁸² In response to the renewed interest, a veterans’ group erected the U.S. Regulars monument in the cemetery in 1882. In that same year, officials at the cemetery erected the Bivouac of the Dead markers.⁸³ Southern poet Theodore O’Hara first composed his elegy “The Bivouac of the Dead,” to honor the fallen of the Mexican War (see note 24). His text was never set, however, and O’Hara later revised the work and promoted it as an appropriate way to honor the dead of the Civil War. In June 1865, Quartermaster M.C. Meigs agreed that the work should be used as the text for a memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, where excerpts would line both sides of the McClellan Gate, the cemetery’s original entrance. By the 1880s, verses from the poems were being used at many different cemeteries, including Stones River. The deteriorating wooden flagstaff was replaced with a wrought iron flagpole in 1888.

GAR members continued to frequent the cemetery at Stones River throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In keeping with the racial codes of that times the celebrations took a decidedly segregated bent, according to cemetery Superintendent Edwin P. Barrett, who noted in his reports that during GAR ceremonies whites gathered within the cemetery walls and African American celebrants gathered outside.⁸⁴ In 1907, the *Nashville American* posted the times for these special trains and noted that the exercises “near Murfreesboro will be attended by Negroes.”⁸⁵ The scheduling of trains to Murfreesboro so that African Americans could celebrate the freedoms brought by the war and remember the sacrifices made by black veterans—USCT veterans were buried within the cemetery walls—was an early step towards the recognition of the significant African American participation in the war effort.

The next era of commemoration is associated with early efforts by the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway to promote what is now called heritage tourism. In the early twentieth century, the railway advertised itself as a

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vehicle for visiting battlefields of the Civil War. Advertising in *Confederate Veteran*, the railroad listed Stones River among the sites that would be of interest to the old soldiers.⁸⁶ The railroad's president, John Thomas, was friendly to the United Confederate Veterans and promoted its reunions by offering special rates for reunion participants. For visitors who required more information, the railway published *Southern Battlefields* in 1890. This book and its successor, *Battlefields in Dixieland*, published in 1917, gave a brief history of the battles with maps noting their proximity to the railroad.⁸⁷

In 1904, the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis acquired a small piece of property that included Redoubt Brannan. The railway company maintained the site as a point of interest, visible from the windows of its passenger cars. The redoubt was interpreted to railway passengers in a company-published brochure as "the remains of the earthwork placed there in Civil War times to guard the bridge. Cannon of the period have been mounted on this work."⁸⁸ Interestingly, Redoubt Brannan is not identified in the brochure as a Union earthwork and no mention is made of Fortress Rosecrans at all. The railroad also acquired, at an unknown date, another tract near McFadden's Ford that occupies a rise overlooking Stones River. In 1906, the company erected an obelisk on the property to mark and commemorate the events of January 2, 1863.

The monuments erected at Stones River during the nineteenth and early twentieth century reflect contemporary currents in American architecture. The Hazen Brigade Monument, built in 1863 by skilled volunteers of Hazen's Brigade, is a four-sided limestone monument with battered (inwardly sloping) walls, surrounded by a stone fence. The austere block is unornamented save for a simple concave cornice and harkens back to ancient Egyptian funerary architecture, particularly the mastaba. The 1882 U.S. Regulars Monument, by contrast, is a fifteen-foot sandstone column featuring classical details such as an egg-and-dart molding and carved floral and laurel motifs. The last monument placed on the Stones River battlefield before federal acquisition marked a return to ancient Egyptian symbolism that had been revived in the Neo-Classical period. An obelisk, designed by Hunter McDonald and fabricated in the shops of the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway, was erected in 1906, and is now commonly known as the Artillery Monument.

The creation of the national park as a commemorative space for the Civil War battle at Stones River largely dates to the early twentieth century. On April 28, 1896, Union and Confederate veterans chartered the Stones River Battlefield and Park Association. It secured options for the purchase of property connected with the battle, reportedly 2,400 acres in January 1897 and 3,400 acres in June of that year.⁸⁹ Association members were responsible for erecting a number of wooden signs to mark and interpret specific locations on the battlefield. The Stones River Battlefield and National Park Association secretary wrote: "The association has placed upon the battlefield a large number of substantial wooden tablets, marking points of special interest and importance, such as headquarters of Federal and Confederate commanders, McFadden's ford on Stone's River, places where distinguished officers were slain, and many other important localities."⁹⁰

As early as the first session of the 55th Congress in December of 1895, Tennessee Congressman James D. Richardson, an amateur historian best known for his multi-volume *Messages of the Presidents*, had introduced legislation to establish a Stones River National Military Park. In its first version, the bill proposed the acquisition of 1,000 acres in addition to the existing national cemetery. Later versions proposed acquiring 3,100 acres. Failing to secure enactment of any of these bills, the Stone's River Battlefield and National Park Association scaled back its ambitions and lobbied to have markers erected on the field. Senate Bill 4818 and House Resolution 18713, introduced in 1912, intended "to establish an accurate system of markers on the battlefield of Stones River, in Tennessee." These efforts also came to nothing.⁹¹

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Congress continued to defer the creation of a park at Stones River after the turn of the century. After World War I, Congress again turned to the problem of creating battlefield parks by authorizing a broad historic sites survey under the 1926 Act for the Study and Investigation of Battlefields. Acting upon the recommendations of the study, which classified Stones River as a Class IIA battlefield worthy of some kind of monument or marker, Congress authorized the establishment of Stones River National Military Park on March 3, 1927.⁹²

African American Ethnic Heritage

African Americans played an important role in building Fortress Rosecrans during the war, building the cemetery after the war, and creating a rural African-American community known as Cemetery, which existed from 1863 to the 1930s. Newly freed slaves had moved close to the railroad after the battle for the protection offered by the Union garrison. Postbellum photographs of prominent wartime structures such as Major General Rosecrans' headquarters show black occupants in those buildings (see note 33). The cabin along the Nashville Pike where Rosecrans maintained his headquarters during the battle was listed in the 1878 Beers map of Rutherford County as a "Colored Church."⁹³ Once the park was established, however, many of the African Americans had to find new homes as their lands were acquired for the park. A 1931 newspaper account mentions a "Negro settlement" along Van Cleve Lane.⁹⁴ One of these dwellings, ironically, was converted into a visitor center/museum, maintained by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, at the Nashville Pike entrance to the park.⁹⁵ High winds destroyed this cabin in 1935, and it was not rebuilt. Most other resources associated with African American settlement of Cemetery, such as the school that existed as late as 1937, are not extant. On the outskirts of the park near the Rosecrans' Headquarters marker is the Stones River United Methodist Church, the meeting place of a historic African American congregation. Across the road from the marker stands the Ebenezer Primitive Baptist Church, another Reconstruction-era African American congregation.⁹⁶

Within the park, however, are at least three important places that are significantly associated with the African American heritage of Stones River National Battlefield. One section of the cemetery holds the remains of a number of United States Colored Troops. Although none of these men fought at Stones River, many of them saw service in the actions and skirmishes along the railroad and other contested places. Members of U.S.C.T. regiments combed Middle Tennessee for the hastily-dug graves of the Union dead, then collected and reinterred many of the remains of Federal soldiers who had been buried where they had fought and died. The African-American troops provided more than unskilled labor, however, for the project. A number of skilled black masons, detached from their units, built the wall, steps, and other stonework at the Stones River National Cemetery.

Adjacent to the walls of Hazen Brigade Monument, the Harlan/Holland family cemetery (c.1909) holds the remains of William Holland, a U.S.C.T. veteran, along with a headstone of modern vintage. For whatever reason, Holland was interred outside the walls of either Stones River or Hazen cemeteries, but by the time of his death in 1909, commemoration at the national cemetery had turned towards segregated practices, as noted above. Holland, at least by the proximity of his marker to the wall of Hazen's Monument, was buried as close as possible to his former comrades-in-arms.

The Stones River National Cemetery, as noted above in the discussion of commemoration, was a place of separate African-American celebrations and commemorations from the late nineteenth century into the early twentieth century. As research has shown, African Americans helped to build the cemetery in the late 1860s, and then returned to it on a regular basis for special holidays and commemorative events from the 1890s through the early 1900s.⁹⁷ The cemetery gains further local significance in African American ethnic heritage as being the largest burial ground for U.S.C.T. veterans in the county.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal boundary description and boundary justification:

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs: Carroll Van West
Middle Tennessee State University, Center for Historic Preservation
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Date: October, 2003

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission
2941 Lebanon Road
Nashville, TN 37243

- 1 of 44 Bragg's Headquarters Site facing north
- 2 of 44 Bragg's Headquarters Site facing north
- 3 of 44 Core Battlefield Area facing west
- 4 of 44 Van Cleve Lane facing north
- 5 of 44 Van Cleve Lane facing south
- 6 of 44 Entrance Gate facing south
- 7 of 44 Hazen Brigade Monument facing northwest
- 8 of 44 Hazen Brigade Monument facing west
- 9 of 44 Hazen Brigade Monument facing southwest
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- 11 of 44 Holland Cemetery facing southeast
- 12 of 44 Holland Cemetery facing northwest
- 13 of 44 McFadden cemetery facing south
- 14 of 44 Michigan Historical Marker facing south
- 15 of 44 Mobile Home Dwelling facing south
- 16 of 44 Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway Artillery Monument facing southwest
- 17 of 44 Park Garage and Park Storage Building facing northwest

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-
- 18 of 44 Ranger Residence #1 facing northwest
 - 19 of 44 Ranger Residence #3 facing northwest
 - 20 of 44 Stone-Veneered Dwelling facing south
 - 21 of 44 Visitor Center facing north
 - 22 of 44 Visitor Center facing southwest
 - 23 of 44 Redoubt Brannon facing southwest
 - 24 of 44 Redoubt Brannon facing northwest
 - 25 of 44 Redoubt Brannon facing northeast
 - 26 of 44 Redoubt Brannon facing west
 - 27 of 44 Redoubt Brannon facing southeast
 - 28 of 44 Redoubt Brannon facing southwest
 - 29 of 44 Rosecrans' Headquarters Site facing southwest
 - 30 of 44 Stones River National Cemetery facing west
 - 31 of 44 Stones River National Cemetery facing north
 - 32 of 44 Stones River National Cemetery facing southwest
 - 33 of 44 Stones River National Cemetery facing southeast
 - 34 of 44 Stones River National Cemetery facing southeast
 - 35 of 44 Stones River National Cemetery facing southwest
 - 36 of 44 Stones River National Cemetery facing southwest
 - 37 of 44 Stones River National Cemetery facing north
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41 of 44 Cannonball Pyramid and Cemetery Flagstaff facing north

42 of 44 43rd Wisconsin and 180th Ohio Marker facing south

43 of 44 U.S. Regulars Monument facing southwest

44 of 44 Van Cleve Lane facing northwest

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Rutherford County, TN

Endnotes

1. Ann W. Willett, "A History of Stones River National Military Park" (M.A. Thesis, Middle Tennessee State College, 1958), 64-65.
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50. Lenard E. Brown, "Fortress Rosecrans: A History, 1865-1990," *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* 50 (No.3 1991): 139.
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Rutherford County, TN

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE	Tennessee
COUNTY	Rutherford
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME

COMMON: **Fortress Rosecrans**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **-same-**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Murfreesboro**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47** COUNTY: **Rutherford** CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	Vacant	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **City of Murfreesboro**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Murfreesboro** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Rutherford County Register's Office**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Courthouse**

CITY OR TOWN: **Murfreesboro** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Topographical Sketch of the Environs of Fortress Rosecrans**

DATE OF SURVEY: **June, 1863** ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **National Archives (Record group 77, Dr. 147, Sheet 22)**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **D. C.** CODE:

STATE: **Tennessee**

COUNTY: **Rutherford**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ Excellent☐ Good☐ Fair

(Check One)

☐ Deteriorated☒ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fortress Rosecrans, located immediately west of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, was constructed by units of the Army of the Cumberland (USA) under the direction of Brigadier General James St. C. Morton in early 1863. The Fortress, reportedly the largest earthenwork fortress constructed by Union forces in the Civil War, originally covered an area of approximately 225 acres. The site was chosen because it was near the geographic center of Tennessee and astride the main tracks of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad.

The Fortress originally included eight lunettes, four redoubts, a steam saw mill, a magazine, and several warehouses.

Most of the original fortress has been lost due to urban development. Part of the original fortress site (formerly Redoubt Brannan) is owned by the National Park Service. The only extant portion is the several hundred feet of wall spanning from Lunette Thomas to Lunette Palmer). These remaining walls average approximately fifteen feet in height and twenty-five feet in thickness at the base. All are covered with large trees and heavy underbrush.

Present plans call for recreational facilities to be built west of the walls, while an effort will be made to restore the walls to their original appearance.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☐ Agriculture☐ Architecture☐ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☐ Education☒ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☐ Landscape

Architecture

☐ Literature☒ Military☐ Music☐ Political☐ Religion/Phil.

osophy

☐ Science☐ Sculpture☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater☐ Transportation☐ Urban Planning☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For 2 years, from early 1863 to 1865, Fortress Rosecrans played a significant role in the success enjoyed by General William T. Sherman's forces as they moved from Nashville to Chattanooga to Atlanta to Savannah.

From the massive supply depot protected by the walls of Fortress Rosecrans came logistical support that undergirded Sherman's good fortune.

Reportedly the largest earthenwork fortification built by the Union army during the Civil War, Fortress Rosecrans served as a central point of Union Army strength in Tennessee and secured the rear of that army from any serious challenge.

In late 1864, elements of the Confederate Army struck at Murfreesboro and Fortress Rosecrans in a desperate effort to halt the flow of supplies southeastward to Sherman. Under the immediate command of General Nathan Bedford Forrest, the Confederates succeeded in disrupting rail communications briefly before being repulsed. Four months later the war ended. At some undertermined date following the conclusion of hostilities in 1865 Fortress Rosecrans was abandoned.

Stones River National Battlefield
Rt. 10, Box 495 Old Nashville Hwy.
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

J. St. Clair Morton, Memoir Explaining the Situation and Defense of Fortress Rosecrans, (privately printed, 1863). Copy located in National Archives, Record Group 77, Item # M-4345-1863

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds		LATITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	86° 24' 48"	35° 51' 12"				
NE	86° 24' 42"	35° 51' 25"				
SE	86° 24' 18"	35° 51' 5"				
SW	86° 24' 24"	35° 51' 1"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **48 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:	
James K. Huhta	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Murfreesboro Architectural and Zoning Society	Sept. 1, 1973
STREET AND NUMBER	
507 E. Northfield Blvd.	
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Murfreesboro	Tennessee
	CODE
	47

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Engineer Department
Camp of the Cumberland
June 24th 1863

Prig sent Joseph P. Totten
Chief Engineer
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir

Please be kind to
send with this to you, a plan of
Rosenburg, and a memoir explaining its
situation and defense. Also two pho-
tographic views of a part of one the dunes.

Yours truly
Very respectfully,
Your obedt. Servt.
J. P. Totten
Wm
V. G. Thompson

274345 (Encls)

MEMOIR

Explaining the Situation and Defence

OF

FORTRESS ROSECRANS.

ILLUSTRATED BY

PLAN OF WORKS AND MAP OF VICINITY.

PREPARED FOR THE USE OF THE COMMANDANT, ACCORD-
ING TO ART. 812, REG. REG., BY ORDER OF MAJ.
GEN. W. S. ROSECRANS, U. S. ARMY.
COMD'G ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

BY J. ST. CLAIR MORTON BRIG. GEN. AND CHIEF
ENGINEER, ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

FORTRESS ROSECRANS

PRINTED AT THE ENGINEER'S OFFICE

1862.

(274345)

MEMOIR.

1st. At no time of day or night, is any one of the Block-houses to be occupied by less than 40 effective men, the doors being habitually kept closed and barred; not less than half a regiment should be constantly within each Lunette of the outer line, day or night.

2nd. The regiment or company designated for the garrison of any particular Lunette or Redoubt should continue to garrison that particular work throughout. Exception may however be made of the garrisons of the exterior detached works (see table) which being furnished from regiments permanently posted close at hand, may be occasionally changed in ordinary times, and even during a siege or blockade every night. The artillery troops will habitually camp within the works to which their pieces respectively belong.

This article and the preceding one are of more importance to be observed than all the rest.

3d. The pickets, scouts, videttes and mounted patrols are to be furnished out of the reserves; the pickets should be stationed not less than a thousand yards from the works.

4th. The sortie passages of the main line of fortifications are designed to admit, or give exit to, large masses of our own troops, in case of a general engagement taking place upon or near the position; and, in case of more than two divisions forming the garrison, to enable the defence to assume an active character; therefore, the garrison being of but one division, all the sortie passages should be carefully closed with abatis, or otherwise obstructed at the points where the railroad and pike enter and leave the works. Barricades of some description, such as wagons loaded with stone or earth, should be kept handy to close the gaps.

5th. Each Lunette and Redoubt should be considered a fort in itself, and its commander be held responsible that it offers a vigorous resistance to the enemy; which means, that the garrison hold their ground, under all circumstances, except being overpowered in hand to hand conflict with the bayonet.

6th. It is presumed that any one of the main Lunettes will not be surrendered, or evacuated, until its artillery fire and that of the collateral Lunettes has been completely overpowered and silenced by that of the enemy, and their parapets so ruined by the enemy's bombardment as to cease to afford shelter except for sharpshooters. Even then new parapets, traverses and merlons should be constructed by the garrison, which ought to labor at night, assiduously, to that end. When, notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the garrison to keep one or more pieces of artillery in the Lunette of attack and the collateral Lunettes, (so as to be enabled to fire grape and canister at the enemy's columns of attack,) they are reduced to a musketry defence, it must be understood that an obstinate resistance can yet be made, and much loss inflicted upon the enemy before he can enter the Lunettes of attack. A vigilant watch is to be kept upon his movements when affairs have come to this pass. When his column of assault appears his cannonade must shortly cease—the disposable reserves of the fortress are supposed to be massed under shelter, as near as circumstances will permit to the Lunette of attack—the moment the cannonade ceases on the part of the enemy, they are to be marched out with the utmost dispatch, so as to arrive at the contested point in time to reinforce its garrison. The troops thus accumulated are expected to resist the enemy with the bayonet, and, even if driven out, should return to the charge once or oftener, and attempt to regain possession.

7th. By disposable reserves, in the preceding article, is meant all the troops designated as reserve of the garrison of the fortress; the commandant may, if he sees fit, increase these reserves by such troops as can safely be spared, for the time being, from such of the works as are not likely to be assaulted simultaneously with the Lunette of attack.

8th. It may happen that the commandant can dispose of a larger force as reserves than can advantageously be assembled at the contested point to meet the enemy's assault; in that case, the troops in excess will be held in readiness, in some sheltered place close at hand, to charge the enemy with the bayonet on his flank, at an opportune moment during the assault, sallying without the works for that purpose, or otherwise to charge him within the contested work, should he succeed in driving out its defenders.

9th. It is probable that at this period of the siege the artillery of the Lunette of attack will be in a ruined condition, and the ammunition mostly expended; of course, should any pieces remain serviceable, they should not be permitted to fall into the enemy's hands, but must be spiked if they cannot be removed; and such powder as remains should be removed or blown up. It may happen there is enough powder to spare to form a mine in the salient of the work, or under the breach; in which case the Chief Engineer will see that one is prepared, and a Commissioned Officer detailed to explode it when it may do most damage to the enemy.

10th. If, notwithstanding every exertion on the part of the defenders, the enemy gain and retain possession of the Lunette of attack, its defenders, and in some cases, the reserve according to the judgment of the Commandant, should retreat to the collateral lunettes. The rear of the Lunette of attack having thus been unmasked by our troops, the Redoubts and Lunettes of the inner line will, within a brief time, open fire upon it from all the guns they can bring to bear, and endeavor to dislodge the enemy before he can construct his lodgement, and shelter himself from their view. [It is probable that the enemy would have directed his artillery against the said Redoubts and retired Lunettes for some days before making the assault, but it is supposed that the Commandant of each has kept one piece in reserve, having removed it from its platform to the most sheltered part of the parade, and that at the moment of assault he has caused it to be run into position.] Supposing that a Lunette is taken by regular approaches, some five weeks must have

elapsed since the commandant ascertained it would be selected as the point of attack; this interval should be employed by him, not only in its vigorous defence of the Lunette attacked, and in the construction of intrenchments within it, but also in constructing batteries and rifle-pits in its rear, or in strengthening the collateral Lunettes and the inner line of works, so as to oblige the enemy to take two Lunettes at least by siege, and compel him to silence the artillery fire of at least two more before he can attack the inner line, and reduce him to the necessity of planting his batteries in the captured Lunettes and approaching the inner line by the double sap.

11th. The enemy cannot well make an open assault, much less an attack by regular approaches, without first making himself master of the exterior detached works. These will therefore be regarded as obstacles in his path, and should be held, with more or less obstinacy, according to the judgment of the commandant; who will not maintain them at too great a loss of life, or send out too many troops to resist the enemy's attack on them: he should however require their garrisons to sustain the assault once at least, seeing that they have a strong profile, and are flanked from the Lunettes of the outer line by artillery; for which reasons the enemy will sustain a considerable loss in the assault, and the garrisons will be enabled to retreat without being pursued. As the interior of these works is exposed to the view of the said Lunettes, the enemy will find it very difficult to hold them; it may therefore happen that the garrison may re-occupy them once or oftener, and the enemy be obliged to make repeated sacrifices before they fall permanently in his hands.

12th. The Commandant should carefully instruct all the commissioned and non-commissioned officers in the elementary principles relating to the defence of the works from assault, as follows; that whichever Lunette is attacked by the enemy, should be immediately reinforced from the reserve; the collateral Lunettes, namely those on the right and left of it, together with such others as have a view of the ground over which the enemy must approach, must likewise be rein-

forced; the curtains connecting Lunettes Thomas and McCook, Lunettes Thomas and Palmer, Stanley and Negley, will be manned also from the reserve, with a line of skirmishers, or with one or more ranks of infantry, according to the judgment of the commandant, and according to their bearings on the point threatened to be attacked.

13th. The Lunette attacked repulses the enemy by its direct fire of musketry and artillery; the collateral Lunettes and curtains cross their fire in front of it. In case the enemy attack one of the curtains, such curtain is to be strongly reinforced, as well as the collateral Lunettes, and the enemy is met by the direct fire of the curtain, and cross fire from the said Lunettes; should a Lunette or curtain be taken by surprise, or by night attack, (owing to want of vigilance or proper precautions,) the troops belonging to it should retreat to the right and left, unmasking the captured work, so as to permit the works of the inner line to open fire into it and to clear the way for the reserve. Both the gunners and the infantry troops should be carefully instructed to fire low, and to reserve their fire, in resisting an assault, till the enemy arrives in force within 600 yards of the point of attack. To this end, marks will be established in front of each Lunette on a circumference 600 yards distant from it, and the enemy should not be fired upon except by sharpshooters, until the chief part of the assaulting column has approached within these marks.

The Block-houses cannot be taken by surprise, and will prevent the surprise of the Redoubts and Lunettes in which they are seated; they will also be a security for the heavy artillery, which is not posted habitually in any work not provided with a Block-house.

14th. The Commandant must chiefly apprehend, and guard against, surprises and night attacks, by a proper system of pickets, scouts and patrols. He must give the garrison confidence that the works cannot be carried by assault, even by an army, if the attack is properly anticipated, and it should ever happen that the Fortress is cut off from its communications and invested by a powerful army, he should cause it to

be understood that the place can hold out a month or so, and that reinforcements can reasonably be expected within that time.

15th. It is estimated that the Fortress, garrisoned and provided with an armament as above specified, is capable of holding out eight weeks at least, against a force of thirty thousand men, equipped with a heavy siege train; and double that period against an army of sixty thousand men, unprovided with a siege train. This estimate will serve as a basis upon which to calculate, approximately, the resistance that should be expected of garrisons exceeding one division.

16th. The squadron of cavalry supposed in the estimate to belong to the garrison, of one division, is designed to furnish patrols and videttes. By its means the Commandant can keep himself informed of the positions and movements of the enemy. When the Commandant can do so with perfect security, he may send out small foraging expeditions, guarded by the squadron only, and with not more than two companies of infantry (with their arms) to load the wagons.

17th. The horses and mules belonging to the garrison, if of one division, will consist of the cavalry horses, horses of officers entitled to be mounted, and sufficient animals for fifty teams, viz., three to each regiment: these will suffice for the ordinary requirements of the garrison. The Post Quarter Master's teams are, of course, in addition to the garrison teams. The Post Quarter-Master will be expected to reduce them to the minimum capable of doing the work. The Post Quarter-Master teams, and such teams as may have arrived from the rear or front, for the purpose of bringing up or carrying forward supplies, will be parked between the pike bridge and Murfrees' house, near the river: the regimental teams, viz., three teams to each regiment, and a proportionate allowance to the artillery, will park according to regulation.

17th. It may happen that the Commanding General, upon marching forward with the army, will station a light division at the Fortress, with instructions to prevent cavalry raids upon the communications of the army with Nashville, and

the Fortress itself. It is recommended that a division habitually encamp on the west side of Stone River, and near by it, on the high grounds between the Wilkinson and Franklin roads.

18th. The Commandant should cause his officers to study the Revised Regulations of the Army, Articles 793 to 850, relating to sieges and the defence of fortified places; also the following:

Extracts from "Regulations for the Care of Field Works and the Government of their Garrisons."

1st. It will be the duty of the Commanding Officer of each work to provide for the care of the armament, and the safety and serviceable condition of the magazines, ammunition, implements, and equipments; and, by frequent personal inspections, to secure the observance of the rules prescribed for this purpose.

2d. The Commanding Officer will make himself acquainted with the approaches to his work, the distance to each prominent point commanded by his guns, the nature of the ground between them and his post, and the most probable points of attack upon it.

TABLES OF RANGES OR DISTANCES for each piece, and the corresponding elevations in each case, according to the nature of the projectile, with the proper length or time of the fuse when shell or case-shot are used, will be made out for EACH GUN, and furnished to the officer and non-commissioned officers serving it. As these tables differ for different kinds of guns, the same men should be permanently assigned to the same piece.

3d. The projectiles should be used in their proper order. At a distance SOLID SHOT; then shells or case-shot, especially if firing at troops IN LINE. CASE-SHOT OR GRAPE IS ONLY FOR USE AT SHORT RANGES. When columns are approaching, so that they can be taken in direction of their LENGTH, or VERY obliquely, SOLID SHOT is generally the best projectile, because of its greater accuracy and penetrating power. If the column consists of cavalry, some shells or case-shot will be useful, from the disorder their bursting produces among the horses. As to the ABSOLUTE distances at which the projectiles must be used, they vary with the description and calibre of the gun, and can only be ascertained by consulting the TABLES OF RANGES. The prominent parts on

LETTERS OF THE GIBBS LINE

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LIBRARY

$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$
 $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$

The garrisons of Demi-Lunettes Davis, Garfield and Battery Turchin furnished from that of Lunette Thomas.

These detached companies to belong to one regiment and that regiment the best disciplined soldiers of the Post.

The garrison of Redan Van Clove is furnished from Lunette Rousseau.

One of these to be a mountain howitzer for ditch defence.

e. These to be mountain howitzers.

NOTE.—For the light pieces above specified, 12 pdr. brass howitzers are preferred, as they are chiefly for the flanks. Should any more field artillery be available for the armament, they had better be iron rifle pieces and be posted in the salients of the Lunettes of the outer line.

the approaches to the works should be designated, their distances noted, and directions drawn up for the different kind of ammunition to be used at each gun when the enemy reaches them. During the drills the attention of the chiefs of pieces and gunners should frequently be drawn to this subject.

4th. Commanding Officers will pay special attention to the police and preservation of the works. All fifth will be promptly removed, and the drainage be particularly attended to. No one should be allowed to walk on the parapets, nor move or sit upon the gabions, barrels or sand bags that may be placed upon them. When injuries occur to the earth works, they should be repaired as quickly as possible by the garrison of the work. If of a serious nature, they should at once be reported to the Engineer Officer in charge of the work. ALL INJURIES TO THE MAGAZINES OR PLATFORMS OF THE GUNS WILL BE PROMPTLY REPORTED AS SOON AS OBSERVED.

54th. No persons not connected with the garrisons of the field works will be allowed to enter them except such as visit them on duty, or who have passes signed by competent authority; nor will any person, except commissioned officers, or those whose duty requires them to do so, be allowed to enter the magazine, or touch the guns, their implements or equipments.

6th. The garrison can greatly improve the work by sowing the superior (upper) slope of the parapet, and also the exterior or outer slope, or by sowing grass seed on the superior slope, first covering it with surface soil. The grass covered or sodded portions of the parapets, traverses, magazines, &c., should be occasionally watered in dry weather, and the grass kept closely cut.

and the grass kept closely cut.

Yesterday

After the Battle of Murfreesboro, December 31, 1862--January 2, 1863, the Army of the Cumberland, under the command of Major-General William Starke Rosecrans, occupied Murfreesboro for a period of six months. The Confederate forces, the Army of Tennessee, retreated to Tullahoma and Shelbyville. During the six months, the Union forces ministered to the wounded, Blue and Grey, reorganized and retrained their forces, and constructed massive fortifications near the western end of the river. This latter task was completed during the early stages of the occupation. Great storehouses of supplies might be collected and placed in the fortifications. Several writers have commented on the fortifications constructed at Murfreesboro. Fortress Rosecrans in honor of commanding general. An officer in the Army of the Cumberland (1864) had this to say:

"The Pioneer Brigade, under the command of Col. James St. Clair Moxie, planned and constructed the fortifications of Murfreesboro, which have been constructed with hardly a dollar of cost to the government beyond the very slight expense. The town is defended, as a base, and the work has given confidence to our army and assured the secessionists of that region that we have come to stay."

Continuing, he presents a more detailed account of the actual construction:

"It's last work (The Pioneer Brigade) has been, with the assistance of a few troops on the line, the construction of the fortification at Murfreesboro, said to be the largest and finest of its kind upon the continent. The several massive forts, the thousands of feet of high embankments upon every hand, the long lines of warehouses for the storage of army supplies, alongside of which railroad tracks have been laid, and the comfortable houses (from which have been torn down elsewhere) erected within these works, all speak volumes in praise of the industry of the pioneers. It must, however, be inferred that the work upon the fortifications was performed by them alone. The heavy earth-work, the digging, the wheeling and ramming done by details of soldiers and hired negroes and contrabands. During several weeks some of the Pioneer Brigade were thus at work upon the fortifications, the Pioneer Brigade planned, intended, and executing the work, etc., of the magazines."

Col. James St. Clair, and other engineers, also
superintended the construction of the fort at Nashville.

Cleaver in Rock of Nashville (1870), refers to Murfreesboro as "an
elaborately fortified town." An early writer, Mrs. L. O.
Whitson, author of Gilbert's History (1870), in bitter retrospect recounts
many of the deprivations suffered by the town's citizens. One of these
concerned the elderly men who were forced to sign the Oath of Al-
legiance. Summarially, they were taken to the fort for conscription and marched to
the fortress. Mrs. Whitson describes the scene in these words:

"Well, they, the officers, were ordered to be arrested and placed
in the fort in the night. These grey-haired
gentlemen, who were so full of life and vigor, were taken away from home,
cheerfully and unopposedly, and were away from home,
and dying everywhere."

It was a pitiable sight to see them marched to the fortifications
in spite of espousals of peace. Which with them, never
amounted to anything. They were laughed at for their pains,
and placed in line of battle with the soldiers."

Johnson's Battles and Leaders of the Civil War (1884) recognizes the fortress
by two small sketches from photographs taken nineteen years after the war.

Today

Some traces of the fortress still remain. The push of the town westwardly
has eliminated all but the "island" of the fort. In order to comprehend the large
area originally encompassed, start at the Jennings Tire Company on Nor-
west Broad, within the city limits, and go south to Lytle Creek. Along this line
are approximately twenty points of interest in excellent preservation. Conti-
ing beyond the south bank of the creek for one hundred yards and then veering to
the west for three hundred yards to the Old Franklin Road and on the
Billo farm, follow a road to the south, cross the River to the Manson Pike near
the Ben Hall McFarlin farm. Then turn north, cross the Louisville and

and Nashville Railroad, the old Nashville Highway, and Stones' River again north west of the National Armory. See sketch of Murfreesboro in a northeasterly route and continue in this general direction until the line connects near the Murfreesboro Motel. It is estimated at 100 miles with an approximate one mile diameter. An examination of the map will possibly clarify this as strategic points are designated by names, and the line and constructions are indicated.

Tomorrow

Two well-preserved segments of the line remain. They are as follows:

1. Thirty or thirty-five yards of the line designated as "Lamette McCook". The land was owned by Mr. Lamette McCook who resided in a small frame house at the west edge of the segment. The house is in excellent condition and it is just east of Murfreesboro Motel and Battle Ground Drive and is readily accessible to Highway 41. Developmental possibilities are very good.

2. Fifteen or twenty acres of the line of the F. D. Ellis farm on the old Franklin Road. Extraordinary possibilities are found at this point but accessibility is poor at the present time.

Appendix B – Maps

"Historical Fence and Ground Cover Map. Part of the Master Plan, Stones River National Battlefield." Drawn by Edwin C. Bearss. December 1961.

"Land To Be Acquired." Map No. 3, Stones River National Military Park Commission. Revised May 18, 1929.

"Entrance and Drive to Park and Cemetery." March 12, 1934.

"F.D. Rosecrans Headquarters." March 27, 1934.

"Intersection of Van Cleve Lane with Park Blvd." March 28, 1934.

"Confederate Fort [Redoubt Brannan]." March 31, 1934.

"Artillery Monument." April 3, 1934.

"Planting Plan of Hazens Brigade Plot." April 16, 1934.

"Topography, Stones River National Military Park." 1936.

"Outlying Reservations, Part of the Master Plan for Stones River National Military Park." As of January 1, 1939.

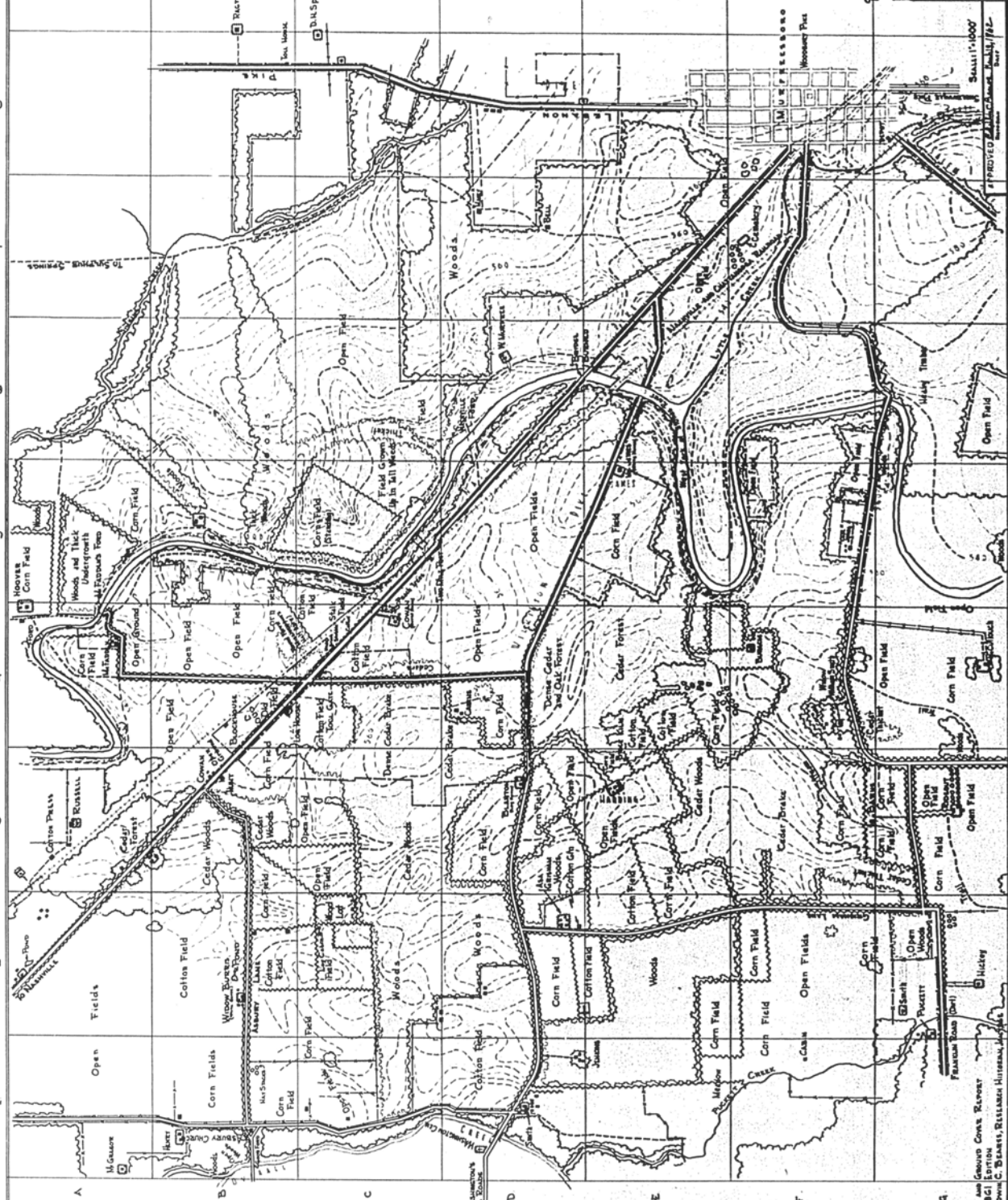
"General Development Plan, Part of the Master Plan, Stones River National Battlefield." Revised August 27, 1963.

"Stones River National Battlefield Boundary Map." Boundary change, March 1987.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

LEGEND

- RAILROAD
- RAILROAD
- COUNTRY ROADS AND TRAILS
- MAJOR STREAMS
- MINOR STREAMS
- INTERMITTENT STREAMS
- POND
- WOODS
- SCATTERED TREES
- ORCHARDS
- HAY STACKS
- FORDS
- BRIDGES
- RAIL FENCE
- POST AND RAIL
- PICKET FENCE
- FENCE, KIND UNKNOWN
- ENTRANCE NPS BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED NPS BOUNDARY

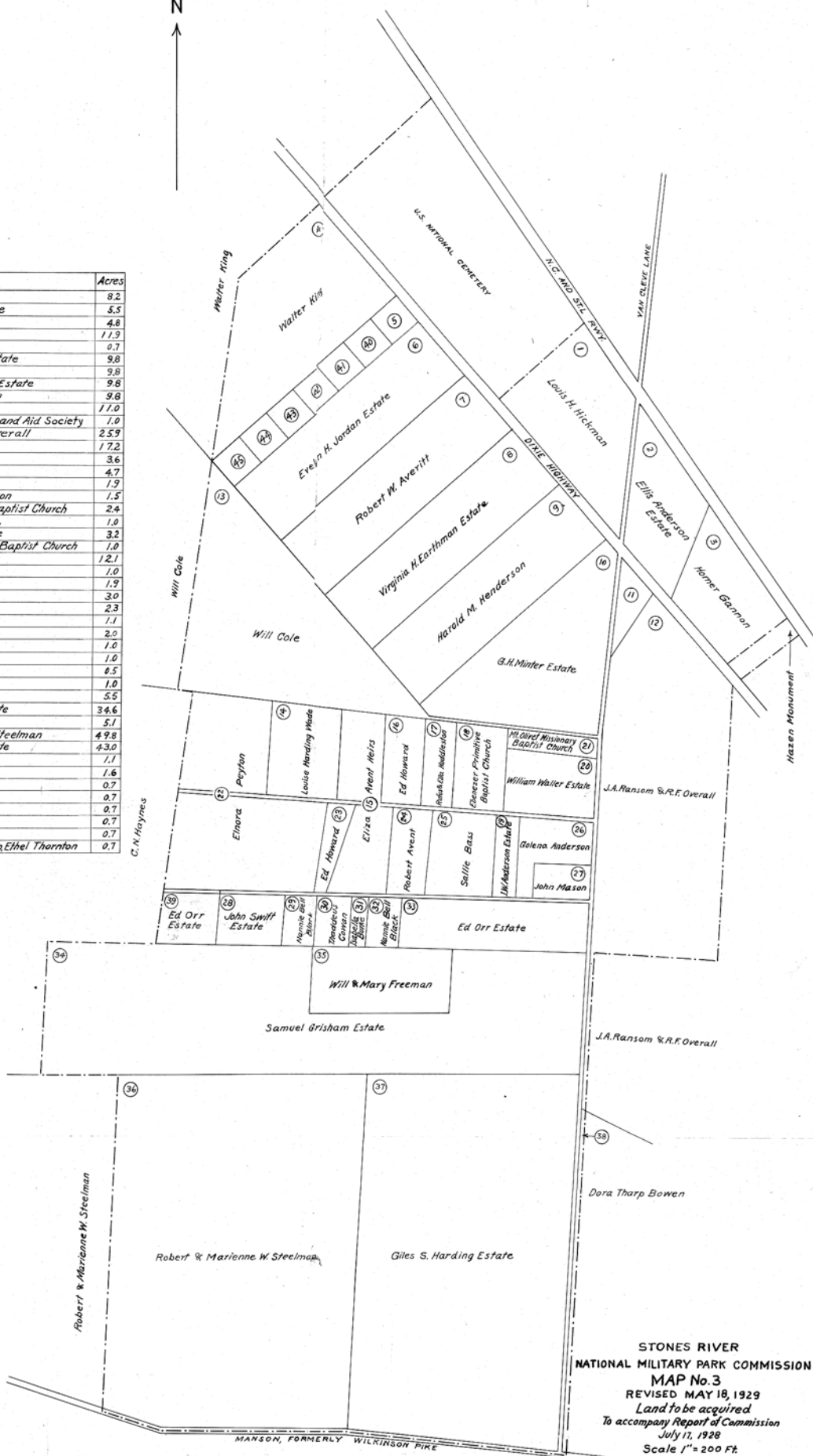


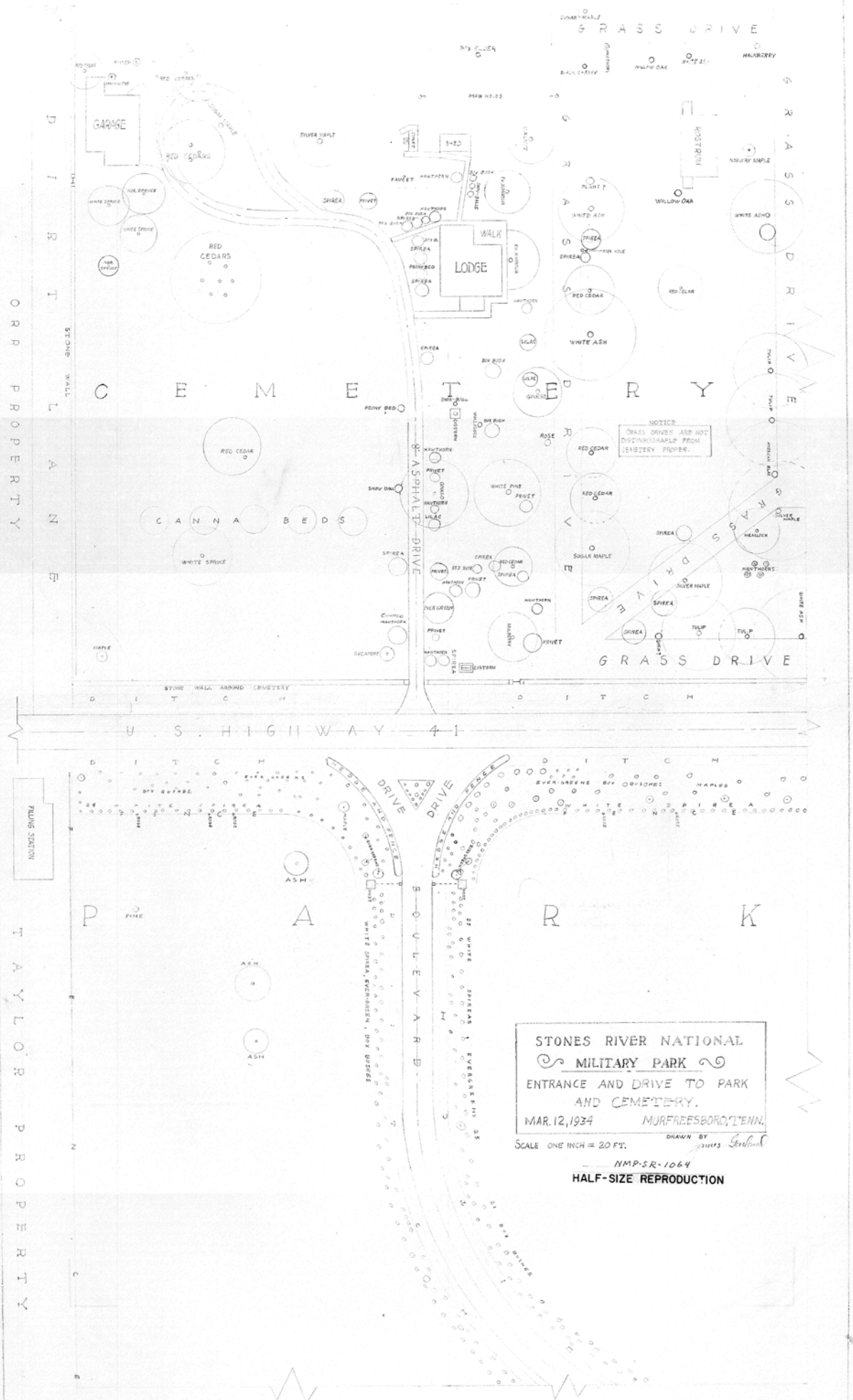
DATE
J.C. KILMER
11/1/1900

DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING	
NAME	STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD
DEPARTMENT	WAR
DIVISION	ENGINEERING
SECTION	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
DATE	11/1/1900
BY	J.C. KILMER
SCALE	1"=1000'
PROPOSED	STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

FIELD AND GRAVE COVER MAP
Dec 1901 Edition
BY J.C. KILMER, BELLAMY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tract No.	Owner	Acres
1	Louis H. Hickman	8.2
2	Ellis Anderson Estate	5.5
3	Homer Gannon	4.8
4	Walter King	1.9
5	Martha M. Ward	0.7
6	Evelyn H. Jordan Estate	9.8
7	Robert W. Averitt	9.8
8	Virginia H. Earthman Estate	9.8
9	Harold M. Henderson	9.8
10	G. H. Minter Estate	11.0
11	Working People's Labor and Aid Society	1.0
12	J.A. Ransom & R.F. Overall	2.59
13	Will Cole	17.2
14	Louise Harding Wade	3.6
15	Eliza Arent Heirs	4.7
16	Ed Howard	1.9
17	Rufus & Ella Huddleston	1.5
18	Ebenezer Primitive Baptist Church	2.4
19	I.W. Anderson Estate	1.0
20	William Walter Estate	3.2
21	Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church	1.0
22	Elmora Peyton	12.1
23	Ed Howard	1.0
24	Robert Arent	1.9
25	Sallie Bass	3.0
26	Galena Anderson	2.3
27	John Mason	1.1
28	John Swift Estate	2.0
29	Nannie Bell Black	1.0
30	Thaddeus Cowan	1.0
31	Isabella Burke	0.5
32	Nannie Bell Black	1.0
33	Ed Orr Estate	5.5
34	Samuel Grisham Estate	34.6
35	Will & Mary Freeman	5.1
36	Robert & Marianne W. Steelman	4.98
37	Giles S. Harding Estate	43.0
38	Dora Tharp Bowen	1.1
39	Ed Orr Estate	1.6
40	Pauline Smalling	0.7
41	Georgia A. Frazier	0.7
42	Jordan Harlan	0.7
43	Samuel Harlan	0.7
44	Joseph Harlan	0.7
45	George Harlan, John Harlan, Ethel Thornton	0.7





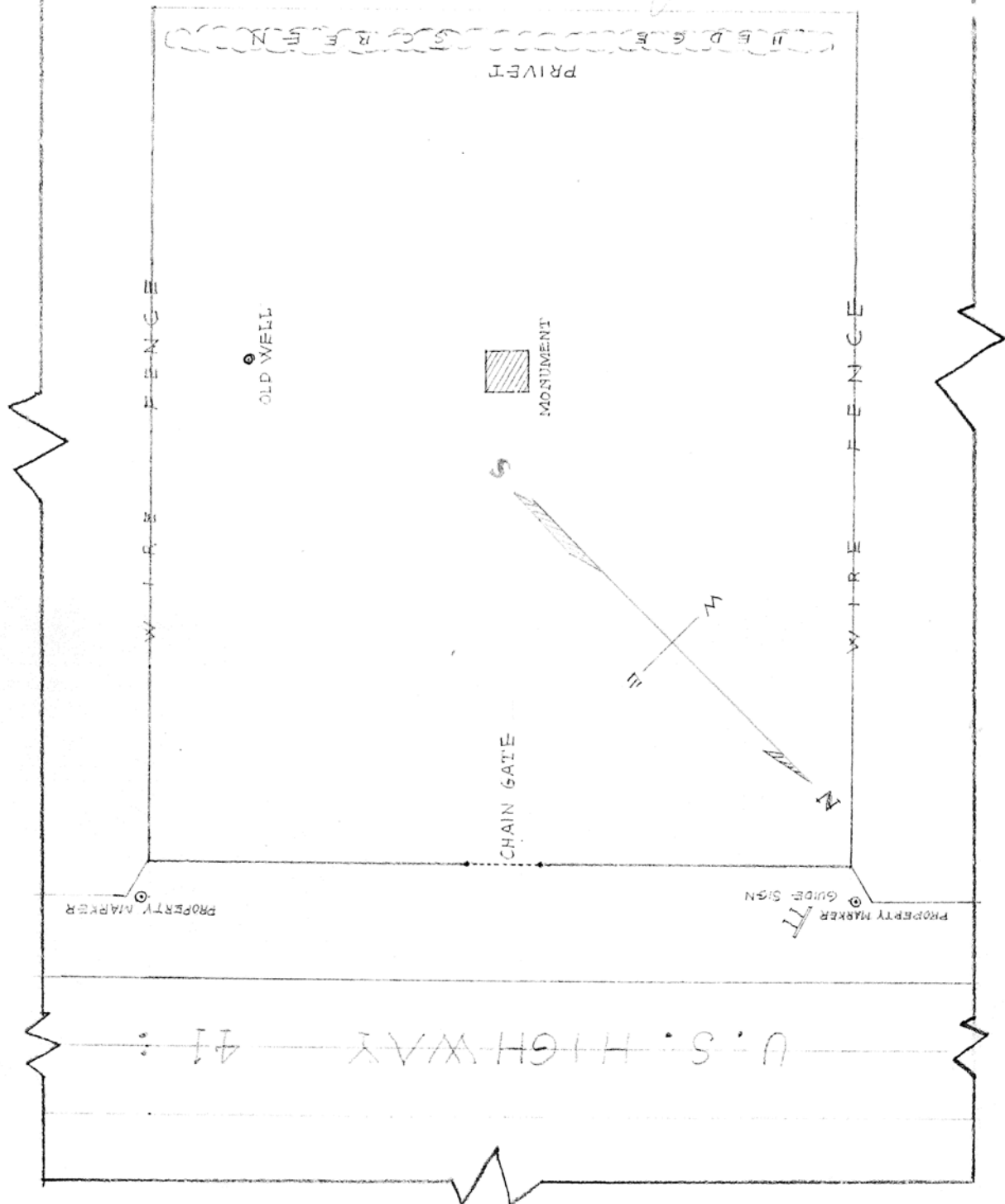
STONES RIVER NATIONAL
MILITARY PARK

F.D. ROSECRANS H'D-QRTS.

MARCH 27, 1934 MURFREESBORO, TENN.

SCALE 1" = 20 FT.

DRAWN BY *James Garland*



STONES RIVER NATIONAL MILITARY
PARK
CONFEDERATE FORT,
MURFREESBORO, TENN.
MARCH 31, 1924

DRAWN BY JAMES B. GALT

SCALE: ONE INCH = 20 FEET

STONES RIVER

KEY
 ○ MACE BERRY
 ○ COARSE GRASS
 ○ SMOOTH
 + FRACK
 ● THORN

K

R

A

P

BLANK OAK

OLD FORT
(BRANNAN'S KEEP)

THORN

COARSE GRASS

SMOOTH

FRACK

MACE BERRY

BLANK OAK

THORN

COARSE GRASS

SMOOTH

FRACK

MACE BERRY

U. S. HIGHWAY : 41:

MURFREESBORO

TO NASHVILLE

BRIDGE

HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

STONES RIVER NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

MURFREESBORO, TENN.

APRIL 3, 1924

ARTILLERY MONUMENT

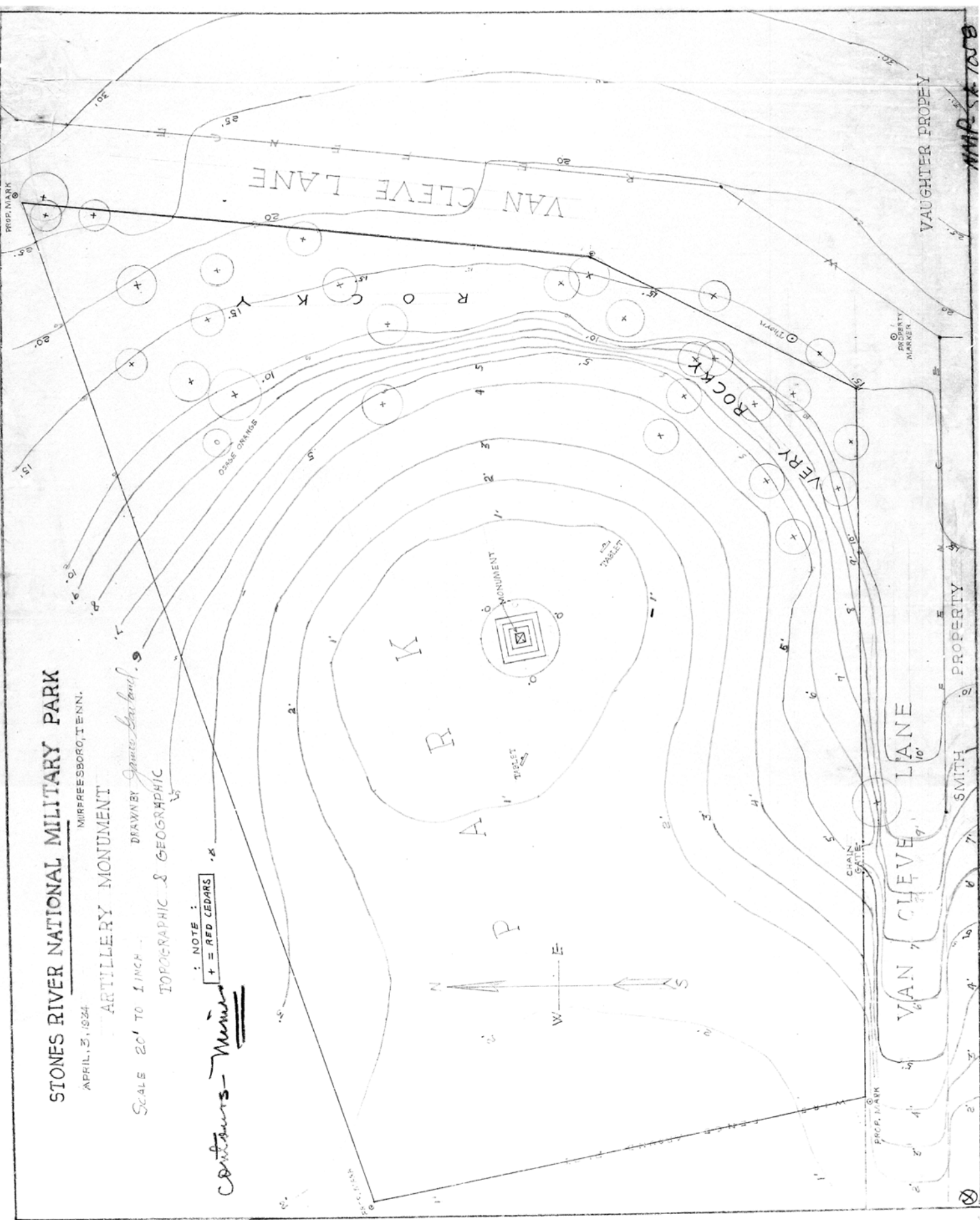
DRAWN BY *James Baird*

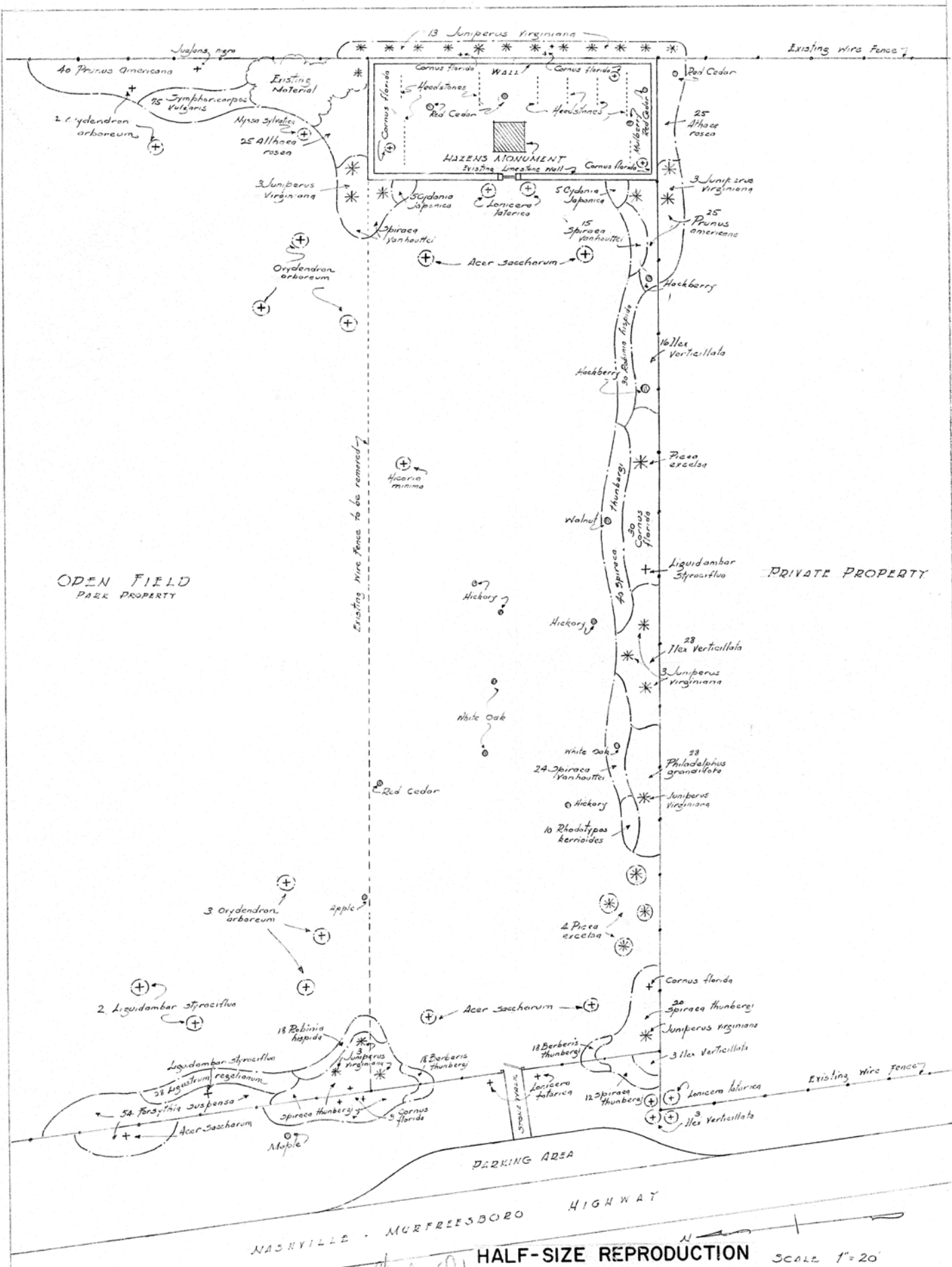
SCALE 20' TO 1" INCH

TOPOGRAPHIC & GEOGRAPHIC

NOTE:
+ = RED CEDARS

Contours - Minus





HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

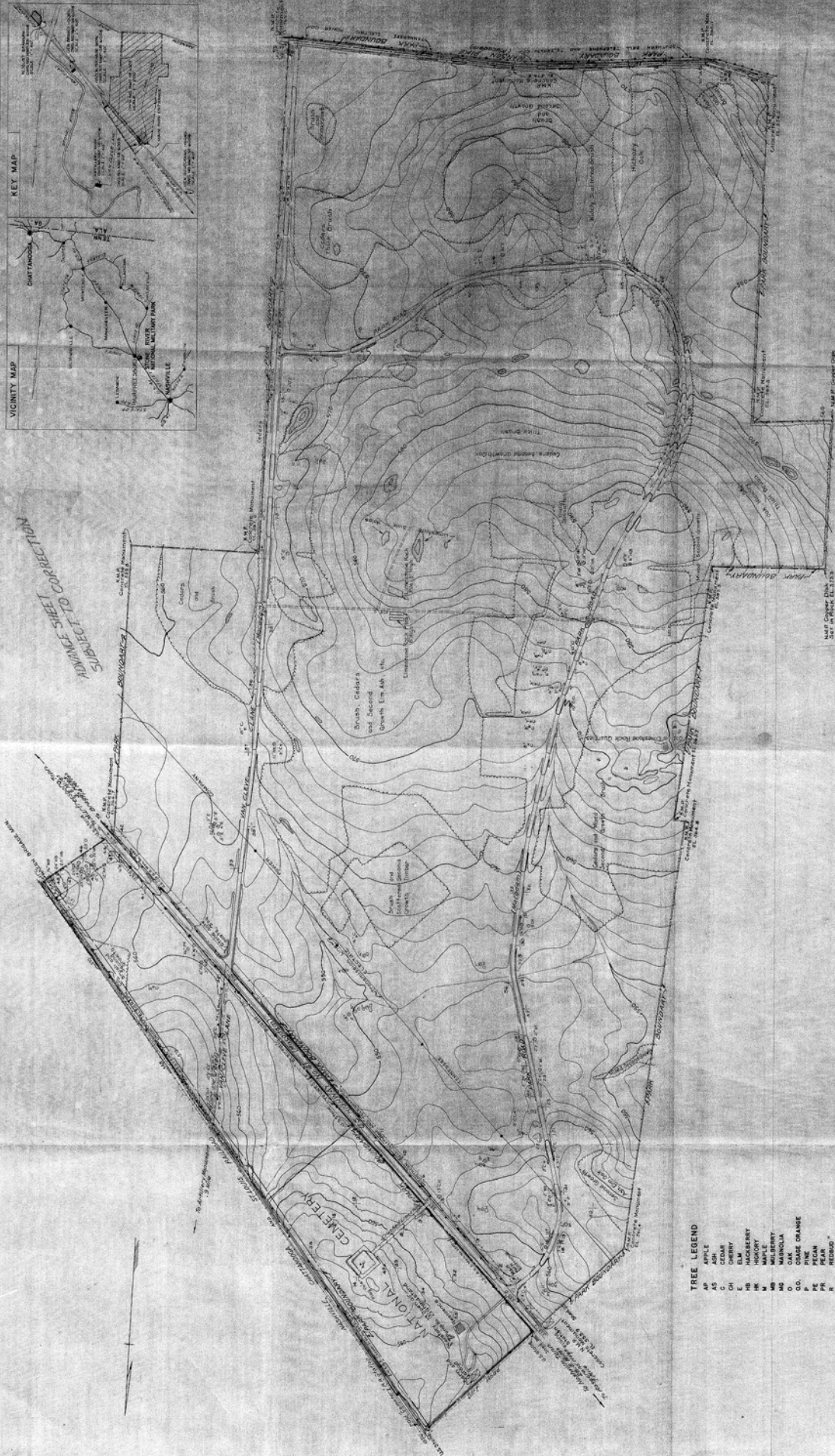
SCALE 1" = 20'

All extra plant material proposed on this plan to be taken up from plantings along park drives. Existing trees shown thus: ○

DR BY HPD
72 5/10/34
66 5/10/34
Recommended
Chief Eastern Div. Branch of Plans & Design
Concurred
Chief Eastern Div. Branch of Engineering
Concurred
Approved
Superintendent
Director

DATE
4/12/34
1/26/34
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PLANTING PLAN &
HAZENS BRIGADE PLOT
STONES RIVER MILITARY PARK
EASTERN DIVISION BRANCH OF PLANS & DESIGN

DATE
4. 16. 34
Sheet 1
of 1 Sheet
Dwg No
370-1001



ADVANCE SHEET CORRECTION
SUBJECT TO CORRECTION

REFER TO SHEET NO. NMP-SR-60022-2 FOR LIST OF INSCRIPTIONS ON MARKERS

NMP - SR-6002-1-2		FIELD NO BY		DATE BY		TRAIL ID BY		PROJECT NO	
NAME - GUM	NAME -	NAME - JEB	NAME - JEB	NAME -	NAME -	DATE - 11-26	DATE - 11-26	DATE -	DATE -

NMP - SR-6002-1-2		FIELD NO BY		DATE BY		TRAIL ID BY		PROJECT NO	
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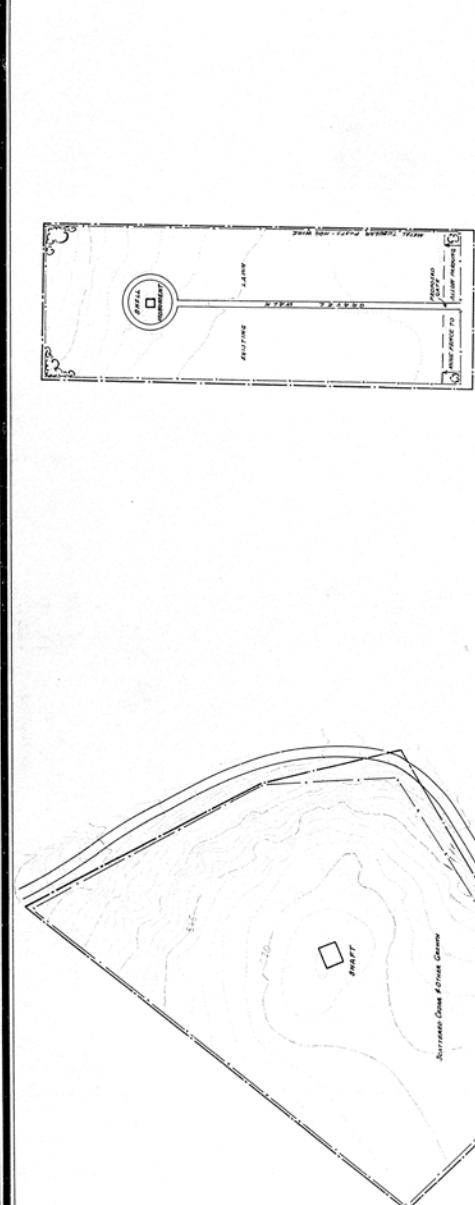
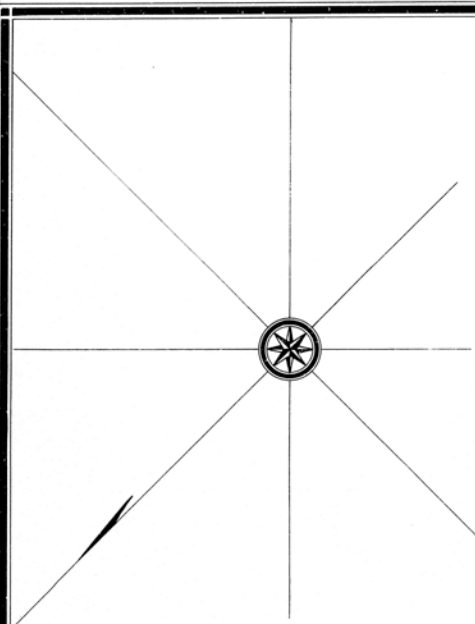
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NMP - SR-6002-1-2		FIELD NO BY		DATE BY		TRAIL ID BY		PROJECT NO	
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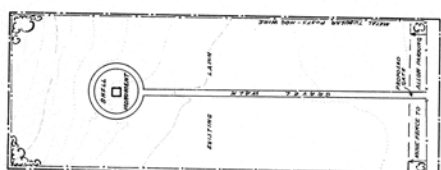
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NMP - SR-6002-1-2		FIELD NO BY		DATE BY		TRAIL ID BY		PROJECT NO	
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NMP - SR-6002-1-2		FIELD NO BY		DATE BY		TRAIL ID BY		PROJECT NO	
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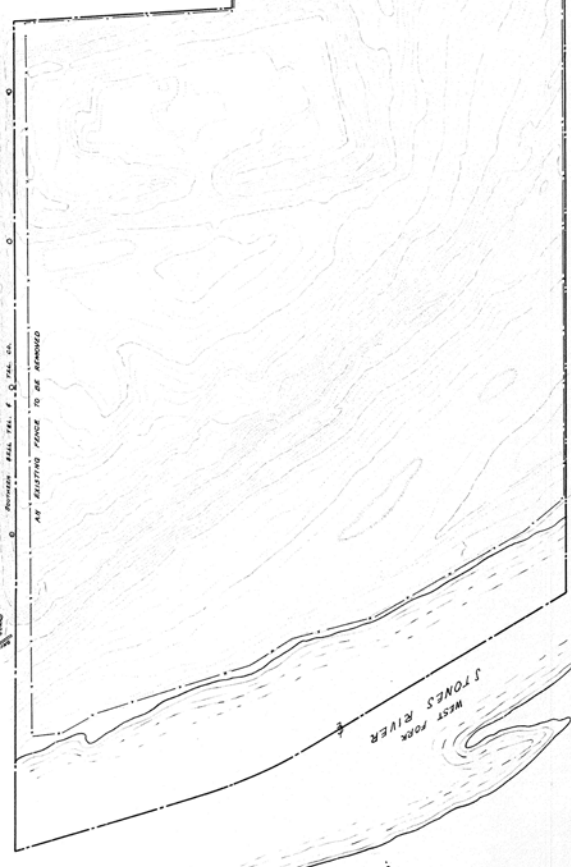
ARTILLERY MONUMENT
SCALE 1"=40'



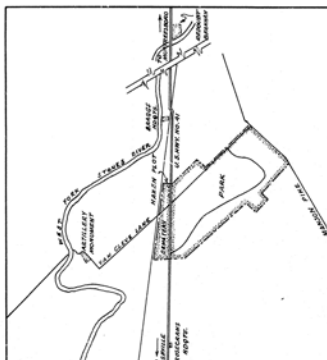
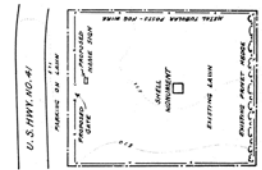
BRAGG'S HEADQUARTERS
SCALE 1"=40'



U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 41



ROSEGRANS HEADQUARTERS
SCALE 1"=40'



KEY MAP
SCALE 1"=2500'



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
OUTLYING RESERVATIONS
PART OF THE MASTER PLAN
STONES RIVER NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

DRAWN BY BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN
FROM NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DATA AS OF JAN. 1, 1939

TRACED BY SEP
CHECKED BY RTT
DWG. NO. NMP-SR 2028

REDOUBT BRANNAN
SCALE 1"=40'



NOT DATA



STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

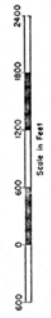
RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE

TITLE BOUNDARY MAP

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATE: JUL 77	SCALE: 1" = 1 MILE
REGION: SOUTHEAST	DRAWING NO. 80200
SHEET 1 OF 1	

REDUCED SIZE REPRODUCTION



ESTABLISHED: MARCH 3, 1927

BOUNDARY CHANGE:

DATE: MARCH 1987

MAPPED BY THE LAND RESOURCES DIVISION,
SOUTHEAST REGION

LEGEND

- BATTLEFIELD BOUNDARY
- FORMER BATTLEFIELD BOUNDARY
- AREA ADDED TO THE BATTLEFIELD
- STONES RIVER NATIONAL CEMETERY
- TRAIL
- VEGETATIVE STRIP

DATE	REVISIONS	DATE	REVISIONS