

FES 99-8

# STONES RIVER

National Battlefield • Tennessee



SCANNED

Final General Management Plan  
Development Concept Plan • Environmental Impact Statement

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# Final General Management Plan Development Concept Plan Environmental Impact Statement

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## STONES RIVER

National Battlefield  
Rutherford County, Tennessee

November 1998

This *Final General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* describes three alternatives for cultural and natural resource management, visitor use and interpretation, and related facility development at Stones River National Battlefield. **Alternative 1** (the National Park Service's proposed action) would improve interpretation and the ability of the visitor to experience a "sense of place" within the battlefield. It would also preserve additional significant areas of the battlefield heretofore unprotected that have retained historic landscape integrity. This would be accomplished by boundary expansion, new exhibits in the visitor center, establishment of a new automobile tour route within the existing and expanded park boundary, and new interpretive wayside exhibits. It is recognized that due to impending development, boundary expansion authority and related funding may not proceed with sufficient speed to fully implement alternative 1. Implementation would occur initially with those elements of the alternative that can proceed without further congressional authorization. **Alternative 2** would improve interpretation and the visitor experience within the authorized boundary of the park. This would be accomplished by providing new exhibits in the visitor center, establishing a new automobile tour route within the park, and providing new wayside exhibits. **Alternative 3** (continuation of existing conditions) would represent no significant change in interpretation and the way the park is being managed and no change in the authorized park boundary. Under all alternatives, there would be an emphasis on working with local agencies, groups, and landowners to preserve and protect lands that retain historic landscape integrity within the original battlefield, but outside the park boundary.

Environmental impacts that would result from implementation of the alternatives are addressed in the document. Impact topics include cultural and natural resources, interpretation and visitor use, socioeconomic environment, and National Park Service operations.

The *Draft General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* was available for public review from June 10, 1997, to September 12, 1997. Comments and responses on that draft are presented in this document. This final document reflects the substantive comments and concerns received during the comment period, and the text has been refined and clarified where necessary.

After careful consideration of comments received, alternative 1 remains the proposal of the National Park Service. The Park Service supports this proposal because it provides the best opportunity for the preservation and interpretation of nationally significant land. Approximately 30 days after the release of this document, a record of decision will be signed identifying the approved plan.

For further information concerning this document, please contact:

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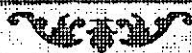


General Braxton Bragg,  
Commanding, Confederate  
States, Army of Tennessee





Major General  
William S. Rosecrans,  
Commanding, United States,  
Army of the Cumberland





## DEFINITION OF TERMS

Throughout the document, a distinction is made between the original battlefield and Stones River National Battlefield (the park).

**Original Battlefield** — General area over which the Battle of Stones River took place from December 31, 1862, to January 2, 1863 = 4,000 acres.

**Stones River National Battlefield (The Park)** — Land within the currently authorized boundary = 712 acres (including National Park Service land – 520 acres at the time of this writing; city and county land – 20 acres; and privately owned land – 172 acres). A total of 35 acres of the park, including Lunette Palmer, Lunette Thomas, and Curtain Wall No. 2 of Fortress Rosecrans (26 acres), and Redoubt Brannan of Fortress Rosecrans (9 acres) lie outside the original battlefield. Thus, 677 acres, or 17%, of the original battlefield are within the authorized boundary of the park.



## SUMMARY

This *Final General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* for Stones River National Battlefield comes at a critical time in the park's history. The park is located in Rutherford County, one of the fastest growing counties in the country. Large sections of the original battlefield have already been developed and are being planned for development as residential, commercial, or industrial properties. At the same time, the state of Tennessee and local communities are attempting to increase tourism and reap the associated benefits. As part of this effort, important strides are being made to interpret Civil War resources on a regional basis. The National Park Service has been a partner in this endeavor and seeks to continue in this role.

This document contains three alternatives for managing the national battlefield, along with their environmental consequences.

**Alternative 1.** The emphasis of alternative 1, the National Park Service's proposed action, is two-fold: (1) to preserve a larger area of the original battlefield, and (2) to improve interpretation and the ability of the visitor to experience a "sense of place" within the battlefield. The park boundary would be expanded to include a total of 1,471 acres, more than doubling the size of the park, and including an area heretofore outside the boundary of the national battlefield on which a major part of the battle's story occurred. Visitor understanding and appreciation of the battle and its consequences would be enhanced by coming into contact with a larger portion of the battlefield via an expanded automobile tour route with interpretive wayside exhibits. To the greatest extent possible, the landscape would be maintained to approximate an 1860s era appearance. New interpretive media would be provided in the visitor center. Boundary expansion would occur only after congressional authorization. However, due to impending development, boundary expansion authority and related funding may not proceed with sufficient speed to fully implement alternative 1. Implementation would begin with those actions that could occur without further authorization.

**Alternative 2.** The emphasis of alternative 2 is to improve interpretation and the visitor experience within the currently authorized boundary of the park. The landscape would be maintained to approximate an 1860s era appearance. The visitor experience would be improved by providing new interpretive media in the visitor center and by establishing a new automobile tour route with wayside exhibits within the park.

**Alternative 3.** The emphasis of alternative 3 would be to continue with the current management direction. There would be no significant change in interpretation and the way the park is being managed and no change in the authorized park boundary. Some necessary actions would be undertaken to help improve the battlefield's interpretation and links to the community.

In all alternatives, park staff would continue to work with the local community to achieve park management objectives.





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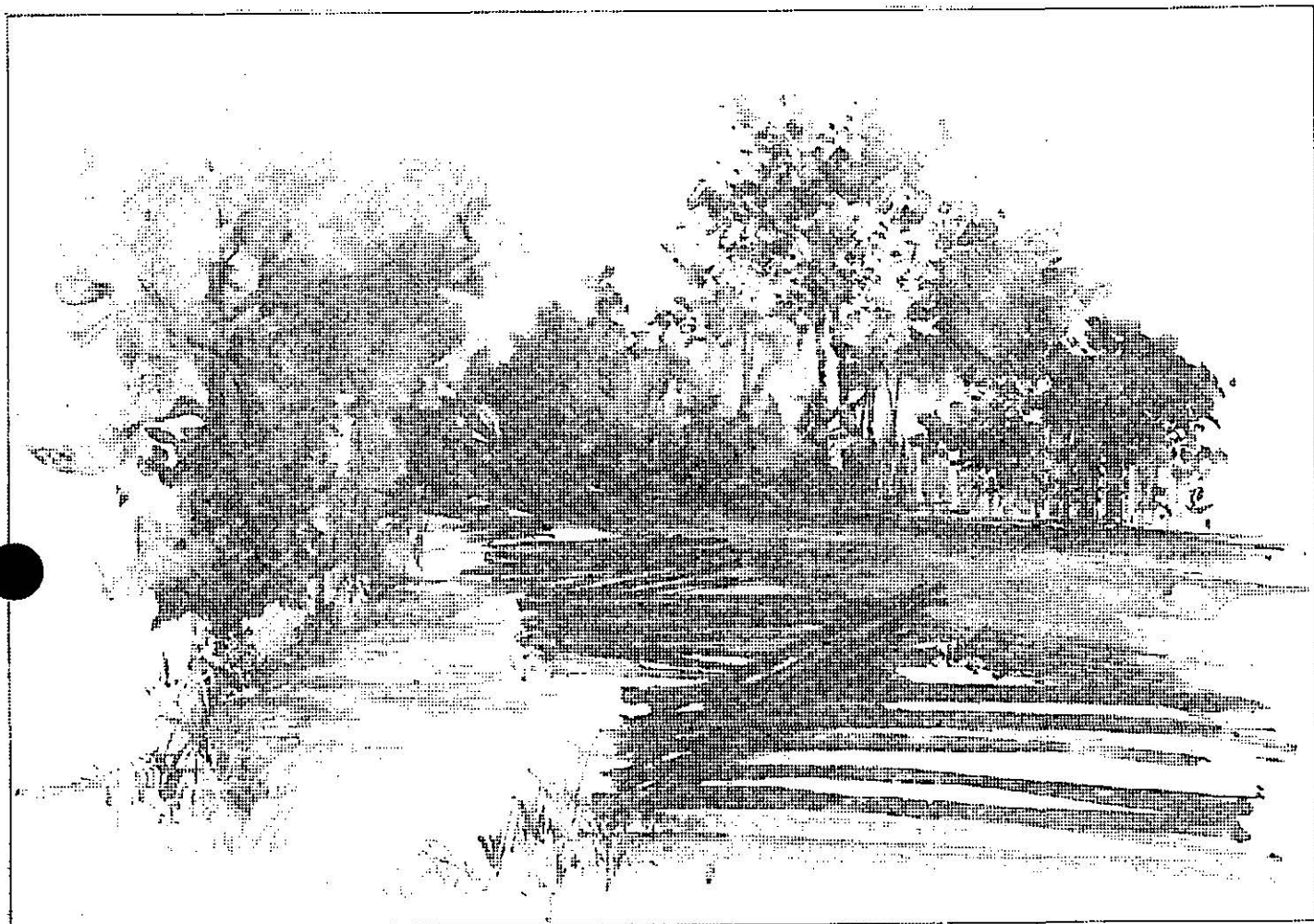
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## PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PLAN



An 1860s landscape





## INTRODUCTION

### PARK LOCATION AND ACCESS

Stones River National Battlefield is located in central Tennessee, in Rutherford County, on the western edge of the city of Murfreesboro, approximately 30 miles southeast of Nashville (see the Region map). The current authorized boundary encompasses 712 acres, consisting of six separate units. Primary access to the park is via State Route 840 (S.R. 840), to U.S. Route 41/70S (Broad Street), to Thompson Lane, to Old Nashville Highway, to the park visitor center. Secondary access is via Interstate 24 (I-24), to State Route 96 (Old Fort Parkway), to Thompson Lane, to Old Nashville Highway and the visitor center. S.R. 840, a new beltway around Nashville, is an important feeder route for the park because it intersects Interstate 40, the major east-west highway through Tennessee, and I-24 and U.S. 41/70S just northwest of the park.

### BATTLE OF STONES RIVER

The Battle of Stones River occurred over a three-day period from December 31, 1862, to January 2, 1863. It was waged over an area of approximately 4,000 acres west of Murfreesboro. In this battle, nearly 83,000 men fought, and more than 23,000 became casualties. There was no clear tactical victor. However, the Confederate forces left the Union troops in command of the field. The battle boosted morale in the North, Lincoln strengthened his position, and the Army of the Cumberland constructed Fortress Rosecrans, a large supply depot, which fueled the army's drive to Chattanooga and Atlanta.

The battle tactics can be described as a progression in six phases (see the corresponding Major Battle Action Zones diagrams). The first five phases occurred on the first day of the battle. There was essentially no fighting on the second day. The sixth and final phase occurred

on the third day. The locations of some of the most significant actions and sites associated with the battle are shown on the Significant Actions and Sites at the Battle of Stones River map.

### LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

In 1862, Congress passed legislation creating national cemeteries, one of which was established on the battlefield at Stones River. This national cemetery would eventually serve as the nucleus for the military park and help define where land acquisition would initially occur.

In 1897, legislation was introduced that would have designated 3,100 acres as a military park at Stones River, and would have preserved most of the original battlefield. However, nearby Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park was created in 1890 to honor the Army of the Cumberland and the Army of Tennessee — the same two forces that had fought at Stones River. Thus the political climate was not right to create another military park, and the 1897 legislation was not approved. Other legislation for boundary expansion was introduced at various times between 1897 and 1927, but also failed to pass.

Finally, on March 3, 1927, Stones River National Battlefield was established as a national military park under the control of the secretary of war (44 Stat. 1399). This legislation recognized the significance of sites throughout the original battlefield by providing for the marking of troop movements and important battle events. However, only about 350 acres of the original battlefield in the vicinity of the national cemetery were acquired and protected. This omitted numerous significant sites of the battle, including lands south of Manson Pike.

In June 1933, the park was transferred to the National Park Service under the U.S.

Department of the Interior. On April 22, 1960, the park was expanded and redesignated as Stones River National Battlefield (74 Stat. 82). In addition, 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.

The battlefield's authorized boundary was expanded in 1987 (Public Law 100-205) and in 1991 (Public Law 102-225). Among other provisions in the 1991 legislation, the secretary of the interior was directed to update the 1980 *General Management Plan* on or before March 31, 1993. However, as a result of scoping the needs for the park, and the encouragement by members of the former Civil War Sites Advisory Commission that there appeared to be an opportunity to preserve additional battlefield lands that are vital to interpreting to visitors the story of the battle, it was evident that more time and effort would be required to prepare a new general management plan than updating the 1980 plan. Appendix A contains a copy of the above-cited enabling legislation.

## PURPOSE AND NEED

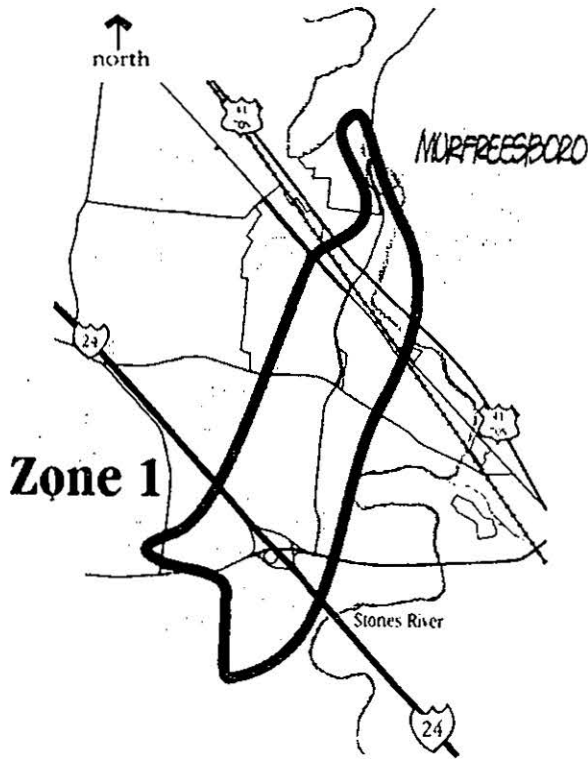
In addition to legislation expanding the boundary and to the direction given by Congress to update the general management plan, important issues regarding resource protection and the effectiveness of the interpretive program have arisen. This general management plan will guide the management of natural and cultural resources, visitor use and interpretation, and the development of necessary and appropriate facilities.

As part of this general management plan, an environmental impact statement has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (90 CFR 1508.9). It will help NPS officials make decisions for the park that are based on an understanding of environmental consequences and the actions that preserve, protect, and enhance the environment.



# Major Battle Action Zones

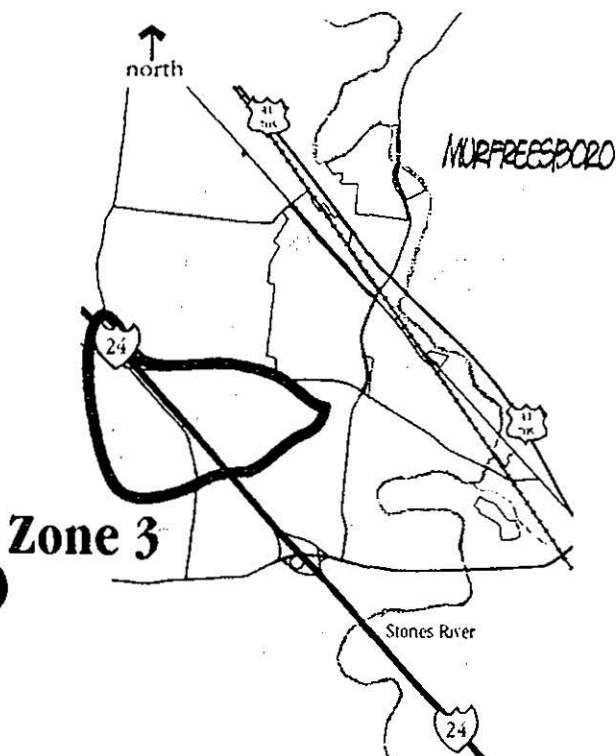
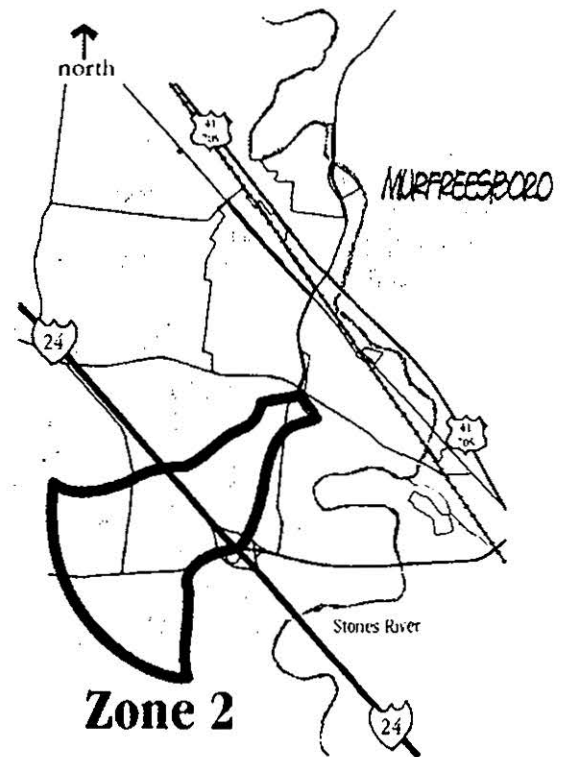
*The following diagrams describe the progression of the battle by way of six major action zones which have been superimposed onto the original battlefield.*



## 1 Union and Confederate Lines Before the Battle:

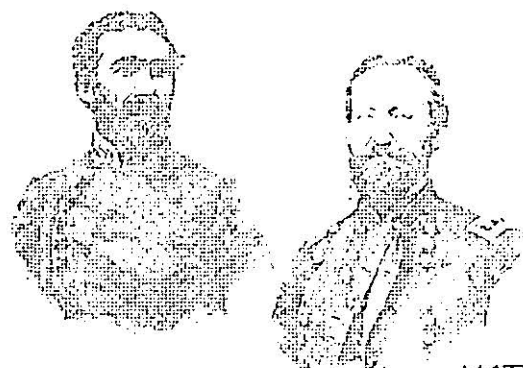
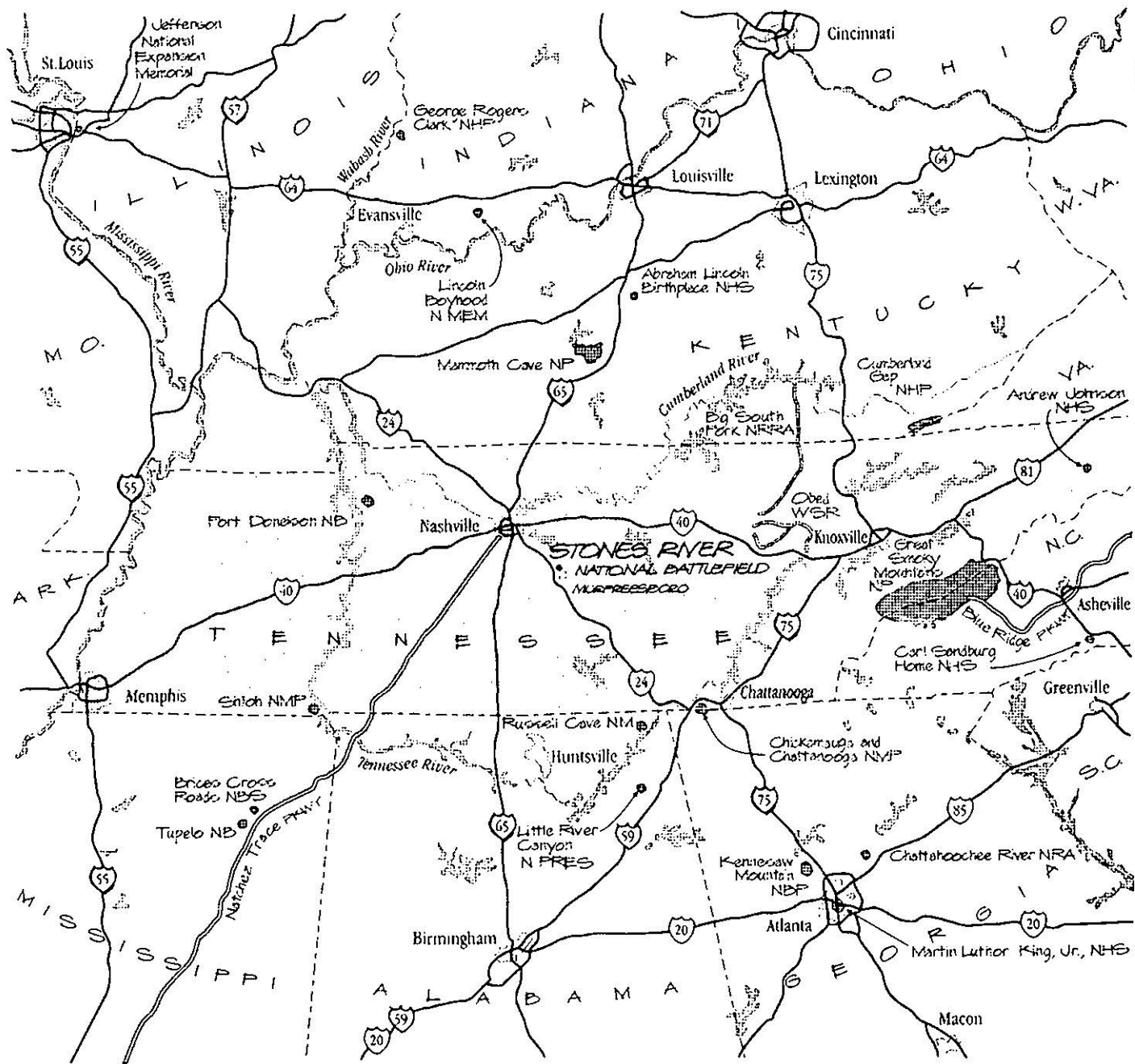
Union and Confederate positions on the morning of December 31, 1862, set the stage for the ensuing fight.

**2 Start of Battle:**  
Both armies moved into action in the early morning hours on December 31. The Confederate army moved first, catching Union forces by surprise and forcing them to conduct a fighting retreat toward the Nashville Pike.



## 3 Initial Stages of Battle:

Unsuccessful attempts were made by Union forces to establish a defensive line. The Union forces continued to retreat, and several unsuccessful attempts were made to stabilize Union lines.



**REGION**

**STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD**  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



0 25 50 100 MILES

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National Park Service  
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**ON MICROFILM**

— Action zones

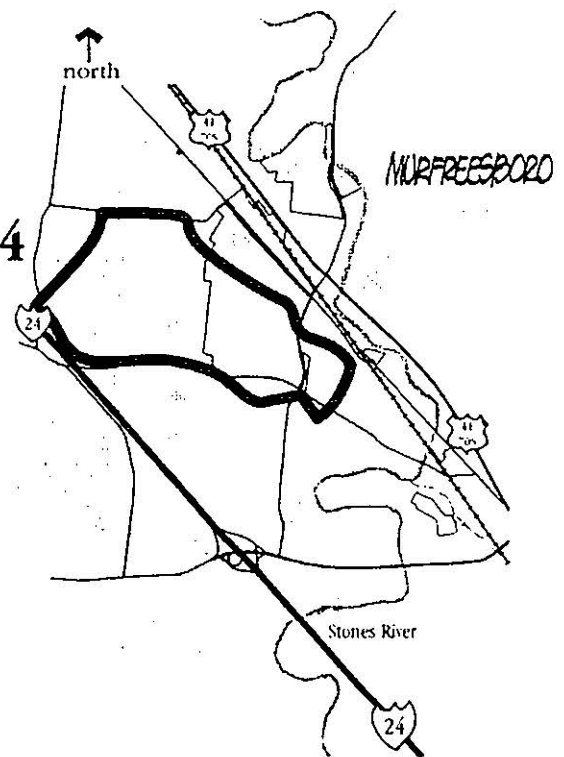
— Original battlefield area

Stones River National Battlefield  
(Publicly and privately owned  
lands within authorized boundary)

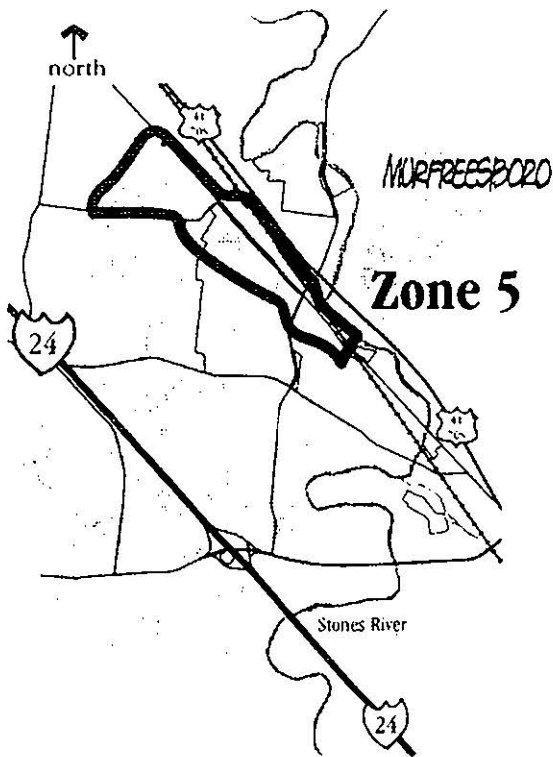
#### 4 Union Defensive Stand:

A series of events allowed Union forces to form a strong defensive position and turn back determined Confederate assaults. Still, Confederate forces continued to push Union forces back toward the Nashville Pike.

#### Zone 4



#### Zone 5



#### 5

#### Defense of Nashville Pike:

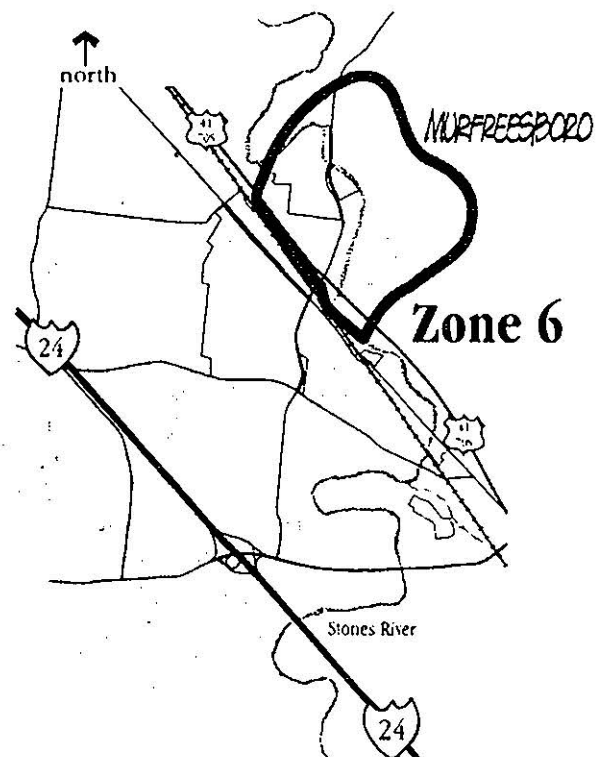
Union forces were able to stop retreating and to reorganize. They formed defensive positions which stopped the Confederate advances. This ended the first day of battle.

#### 6

#### Conclusion of Battle:

On January 2, the battle resumed with Confederate forces under Major General John C. Breckinridge attacking Union forces. Union forces were strengthened by massed artillery. The Confederate assault was driven back, and Union forces took the offensive, thus ending the battle.

#### Zone 6



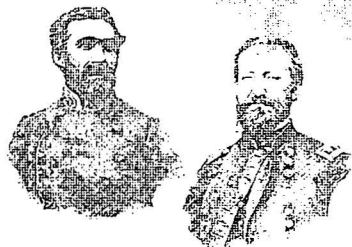
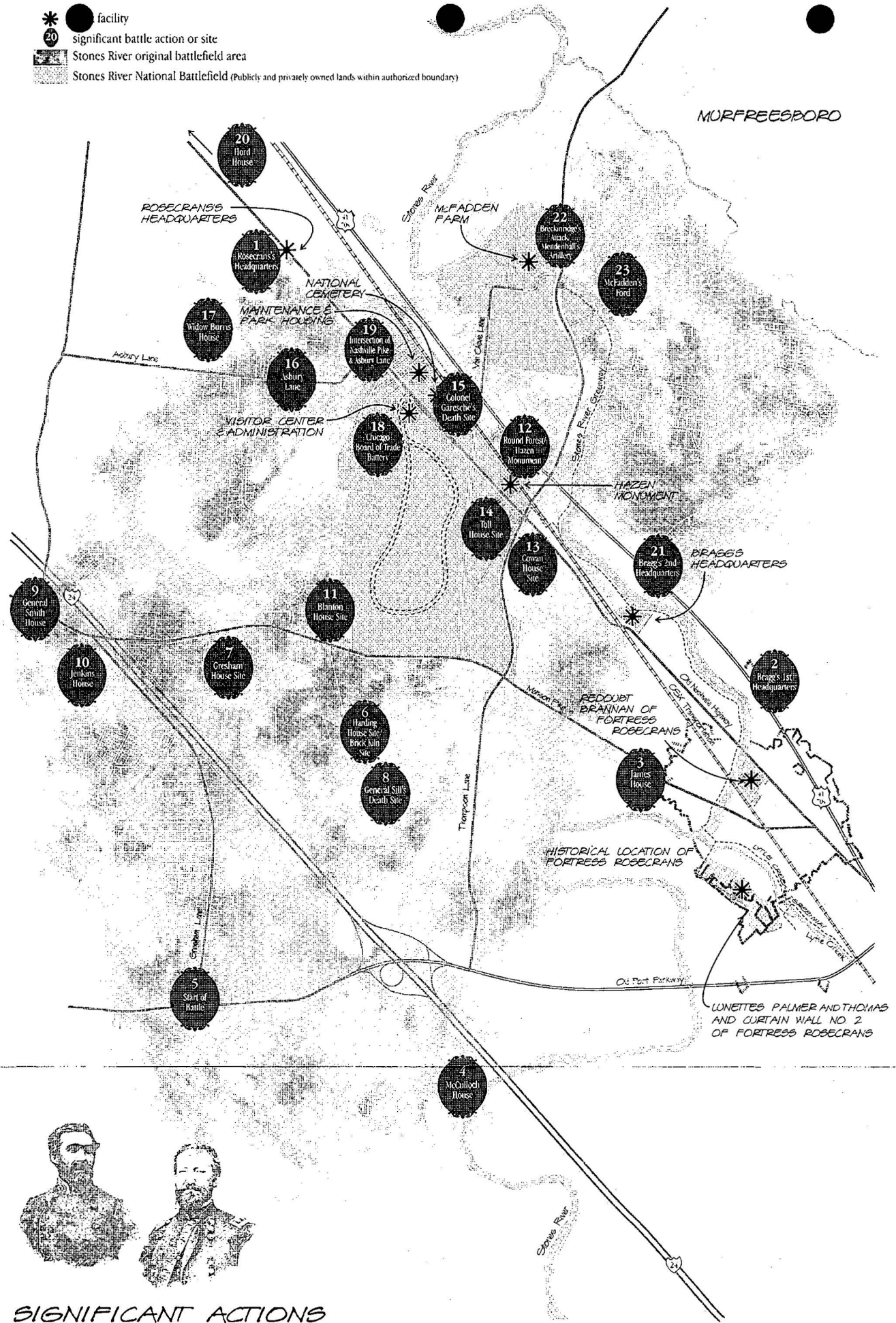
# SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS AND SITES AT THE BATTLE OF STONES RIVER

Murfreesboro, Tennessee • December 31, 1862 - January 2, 1863

- 1 Rosecrans's Headquarters:**  
Monument representing the headquarters site of Union commander Major General William S. Rosecrans, which was actually south of this site in the present quarry.
- 2 Bragg's 1st Headquarters:**  
Unmarked site of Confederate commander General Braxton Bragg's headquarters at the start of the battle on December 31, 1862. Here he made plans and issued orders to his troops for the first day of battle.
- 3 James House:**  
Headquarters for Confederate corps commander Lieutenant General Leonidas Polk during the battle. His forces were involved in the fighting at the Round Forest.
- 4 McCulloch House:**  
Headquarters for Confederate corps commander Lieutenant General William J. Hardee. From this point, Confederate forces began their attack toward Major General Alexander McCook's Union forces.
- 5 Start of Battle:**  
Site of where advancing Confederate troops first encountered Union forces under the command of Brigadier General Richard W. Johnson on December 31. The Union forces began to fall back under the Confederate onslaught after taking heavy losses.
- 6 Harding House Site / Brick Kiln Site:**  
Scene of heavy fighting during the initial Confederate attack as Confederate Colonel Arthur M. Manigault and Brigadier General J. Patton Anderson attacked the forces of both Union commanders Brigadier General Joshua Sill and Colonel George Roberts. The Confederates forced the Union troops to retreat, and at one point Colonel George Roberts' troops were being fired upon from the sides by Confederate forces.
- 7 Gresham House Site:**  
Site of heavy fighting during the initial stages of the battle; house served as a Union field hospital.
- 8 General Sill's Death Site:**  
Site where Union commander Sill was killed. A detail of men was assigned to carry the general's body to the Gresham house but abandoned the corpse as they fled from oncoming Confederate forces.
- 9 General Smith House:**  
Site of heavy fighting on the first day of battle as Confederate forces began their drive toward the Nashville Pike.
- 10 Jenkins House:**  
Temporary field hospital that stood in the midst of the fighting as Union forces under McCook were pushed back by Hardee's men on December 31.
- 11 Blanton House Site:**  
An area near the Wilkinson Pike where bitter fighting occurred on the first day of battle as Union forces conducted a fighting retreat toward the Nashville Pike.
- 12 Round Forest / Hazen Monument:**  
The only site where the Union held their position throughout the first day of battle. Massed Union artillery broke up a series of Confederate attacks launched against this position. In 1863, on this site, survivors of Colonel William B. Hazen's Union brigade erected what is now the nation's oldest intact Civil War monument.
- 13 Cowan House Site:**  
Farm where Confederate troops were forced to maneuver around the structures, and in doing so, became disorganized. This confusion, along with withering Union artillery fire, kept the Confederate forces from successfully assaulting the Union positions at the Round Forest.
- 14 Toll House Site:**  
Site where Union forces were able to stabilize a defensive line against the onslaught of Confederate troops.
- 15 Colonel Garesché's Death Site:**  
Site where Colonel Julius Garesché, Rosecrans's chief of staff, was decapitated by a cannonball during the fighting near the Round Forest on the first day of battle. His body was found after the fighting by Colonel Hazen near the tracks of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad.
- 16 Asbury Lane:**  
Road that became a critical escape route for Union forces and McCook's wagon train as the Confederate onslaught advanced toward the Nashville Pike. During the first day of battle heavy fighting occurred along the road and became a mass of confusion with soldiers retreating while officers attempted to establish a Union defensive line.
- 17 Widow Burris House:**  
Point of the Union defensive line along Asbury Lane where Union forces under Major General Thomas Crittenden went into action against Confederate forces. Union forces were pushed back after bitter fighting. The house served as a minor field hospital during the battle.
- 18 Chicago Board of Trade Battery:**  
Site where six guns opened fire on Confederate forces to halt their advance as fleeing Union troops broke from the cedars and crossed the nearby open field.
- 19 Intersection of Nashville Pike (Old Nashville Highway) and Asbury Lane:**  
Scene of hard fighting on the first day of battle where Union forces were able to sustain a determined defense and halt Confederate troops.
- 20 Hord House:**  
House on Nashville Pike that stood behind Union lines and served as the main field hospital. Confederate cavalry briefly threatened this position during the first day of battle but were pushed back by Union cavalry and infantry.
- 21 Bragg's 2nd Headquarters:**  
Marked site of the second headquarters for General Bragg. Here he planned the strategy for the battle's continuation on January 2, 1863.
- 22 Breckinridge's Attack / Mendenhall's Artillery:**  
Site of a Confederate attack that pushed Union forces back until Major John Mendenhall's massed artillery of nearly 60 guns smashed the Confederate assault and drove them back with losses of 1,800 men killed or wounded in less than an hour of fighting.
- 23 McFadden's Ford:**  
Site of a Confederate assault on January 2, where Union artillery broke up the Confederate attack as they reached the ford.



\* facility  
 20 significant battle action or site  
 Stones River original battlefield area  
 Stones River National Battlefield (Publicly and privately owned lands within authorized boundary)



**SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS  
 AND SITES AT THE  
 BATTLE OF  
 STONES RIVER**  
 December 31, 1862 - January 2, 1863

STONES RIVER  
 NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
 Murfreesboro, Tennessee



0 1000 2000 4000 FEET  
 United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service  
 DSC • November 1998 • 527 • 20155A

ON MICROFILM



### PARK PURPOSE AND NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

An understanding of park purpose and significance provides the basis for subsequent management actions. The following statements on purpose and significance were derived from an analysis of park legislation and resource values.

- The purpose of Stones River National Battlefield 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.

The Battle of Stones River is nationally significant for the following reasons:

- Stones River was a major battle of the Union western campaign that resulted in the occupation of Murfreesboro and the control of the productive agricultural land and supply network of central Tennessee.
- The battle marked the commencement of the Union army's campaign that resulted in the "March to the Sea," and at the same time marked the end of the Confederate army's attempt to move into Kentucky and the North.
- The battle was psychologically and politically important for the Union and had a profound influence on the North not losing other states, such as Kentucky, to the Confederacy. The battle also influenced President Abraham Lincoln's future and the role of England and France in the war.
- The site is sacred ground, where nearly 83,000 men fought and more than 23,000 became casualties. For the Union army, the rate of casualties was the highest of any battle in the war. For the Confederate army, due to the massing of Union artillery, the casualty rate was second only to the Battle of Gettysburg.
- The two armies were evenly matched and used similar strategies and tactics. Although both armies needed a victory, there was no clear tactical victor. However, the Confederate forces left the Union troops in command of the field, and the Union could claim victory.

Hazen Monument is the nation's oldest intact Civil War monument.

Stones River National Cemetery is the site of more than 6,000 Union interments, and represents a 19th century design that formally memorialized the country's war dead.

Fortress Rosecrans fulfilled a strategic supply function for the Union's drive to Chattanooga and Atlanta. It was one of the largest enclosed earthwork fortifications built during the Civil War. Remnants of the fortress exist within the current boundary.

### VISION FOR THE PARK

The vision of the future for the Stones River National Battlefield is a nondistracting environment where visitors can

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

This vision, to be accomplished through cooperative efforts between the National Park Service and local communities, has helped guide the formulation of alternatives in this general management plan.



## MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The management objectives are statements of desired conditions for the park's interpretation and visitor use, natural and cultural resources, and related lands. The actions proposed relate to one or more management objective.

### 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, to understand the battle events, and to 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.
- To the greatest extent practicable, preserve 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 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.



## INTERPRETIVE THEMES

Interpretation is a process of education designed to stimulate curiosity and convey ideas and information to people. It is part of the visitor experience. The National Park Service uses interpretive themes as a framework from which interpretive programming can be developed. The significance of Stones River National Battlefield is represented within the NPS revised thematic framework under the following category: IV. "Shaping the Political Landscape" — i.e., the political landscape has been shaped by military events and decisions.

The interpretive themes presented here are statements about the significance of the Battle of Stones River. These themes and subthemes suggest what stories should be told and what visitors should have the opportunity to learn while at the park.

### **Theme 1: Stones River was one of the major Civil War battles — in size, complexity, and long-term results.**

#### **Subthemes:**

- At Stones River, 83,000 men fought for 3 days over an area of 4,000 acres under adverse mid-winter conditions. The number of casualties, 23,000 men, is comparable to the number of casualties at Antietam and Shiloh.
- Massing large numbers of artillery pieces saved the battle for Union forces.
- Stones River is representative of the strategy, organization and tactics, logistics, and technology/communications (including military music and field telegraph) used during the American Civil War.

### **Theme 2: The Battle of Stones River significantly changed the course of the Civil War by shifting momentum from Confederate to Union and providing a timely boost for the Union cause.**

#### **Subthemes:**

- The battle stopped Confederate efforts to regain much of middle Tennessee and threaten Nashville, and gave the Union control of the productive agricultural land and the vital transportation/supply network of central Tennessee and northern Mississippi/Alabama/ Georgia.
- The battle gave a much needed boost [psychological, political, diplomatic] to the Union cause after recent election results, defeat at Fredericksburg, and major reverses in the Vicksburg campaign.

### **Theme 3: The battle profoundly affected the lives of countless people — civilian as well as military.**

#### **Subthemes:**

- The rate of casualties was enormous: for the Union army, it was the highest of the war; for the Confederate army, due to massed artillery fire, it was second only to Gettysburg.
- The sounds, music, sights, smells, "the horror" of battle left indelible impressions upon the participants.
- The battle illustrated the poignancy of split loyalties that were common in the Civil War, e.g., divided families, communities, and states.
- The battle engaged people of diverse racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds.

**Theme 4: The rural landscape of Stones River battlefield — especially its terrain, vegetation, and features — notably influenced the battle.**

Subthemes:

- Roads, cedar woods, landforms, rock outcrops, structures, and the river disrupted and channeled troop movements.
- Most of the approximately 25 homes on the battlefield were used as field headquarters and hospitals.

**Theme 5: Stones River National Battlefield represents an important early effort in the movement toward battlefield commemoration in the United States.**

Subthemes:

- Veterans of this battle and concerned citizens acted very early to commemorate Stones River by constructing the Hazen Monument, establishing the national cemetery, and providing information and monumentation (by the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad officials).
- These early commemoration efforts eventually led to legislation/authorization for Stones River National Battlefield in 1927.

- Stones River National Battlefield represents only a small portion (17%) of the original battle area, where land use change from rural to commercial, industrial, and residential is occurring at a rapid rate; the National Park Service cooperates with local communities in preserving the surviving integrity of the battlefield and the general appearance of the 1860s agricultural landscape.

**Theme 6: The Confederate army's withdrawal from the area after the battle allowed Union forces to build Fortress Rosecrans, a major supply/logistics/transportation base, and to affect Murfreesboro throughout the rest of the Civil War.**

Subthemes:

- Fortress Rosecrans, with its multiple curtain walls, redoubts, and lunettes was one of the largest Civil War earthen fortifications of its type.
- Throughout the Civil War, civilian lives were disrupted by continued military activity.
- Major Union presence from 1863 through the end of the war adversely affected the area because of raids, minor battles, and general disruption of the regional economy and the lives of resident families.



## PLANNING ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Following are the major issues and concerns identified during the public scoping process and addressed in this general management plan.

- 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 leaves out 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 onsite interpretation. Of that figure, only 489 acres, or 12%, of the original battlefield are federally owned.

Park lands are not contiguous. From one unit to the next there are major discontinuities in land use/visitor experience.

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 for 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.
- Nonnative species (i.e., Japanese honeysuckle, privet hedge, kudzu) are detracting from the ability to interpret and preserve battlefield resources, including earthworks, are inducing change in the cultural landscape, and may be adversely affecting the cedar glade habitat and threatened or endangered species such as the Tennessee coneflower (*Echinacea tennesseensis*).
- River flooding results in resource alteration and damage to facilities, such as the retaining wall at the Artillery Monument. The retaining wall and spring 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's Headquarters site, the national cemetery, and the Hazen Monument is unsafe due to the volume of feeder road traffic. Heavy traffic also makes pedestrian crossings on Old Nashville Highway increasingly unsafe.



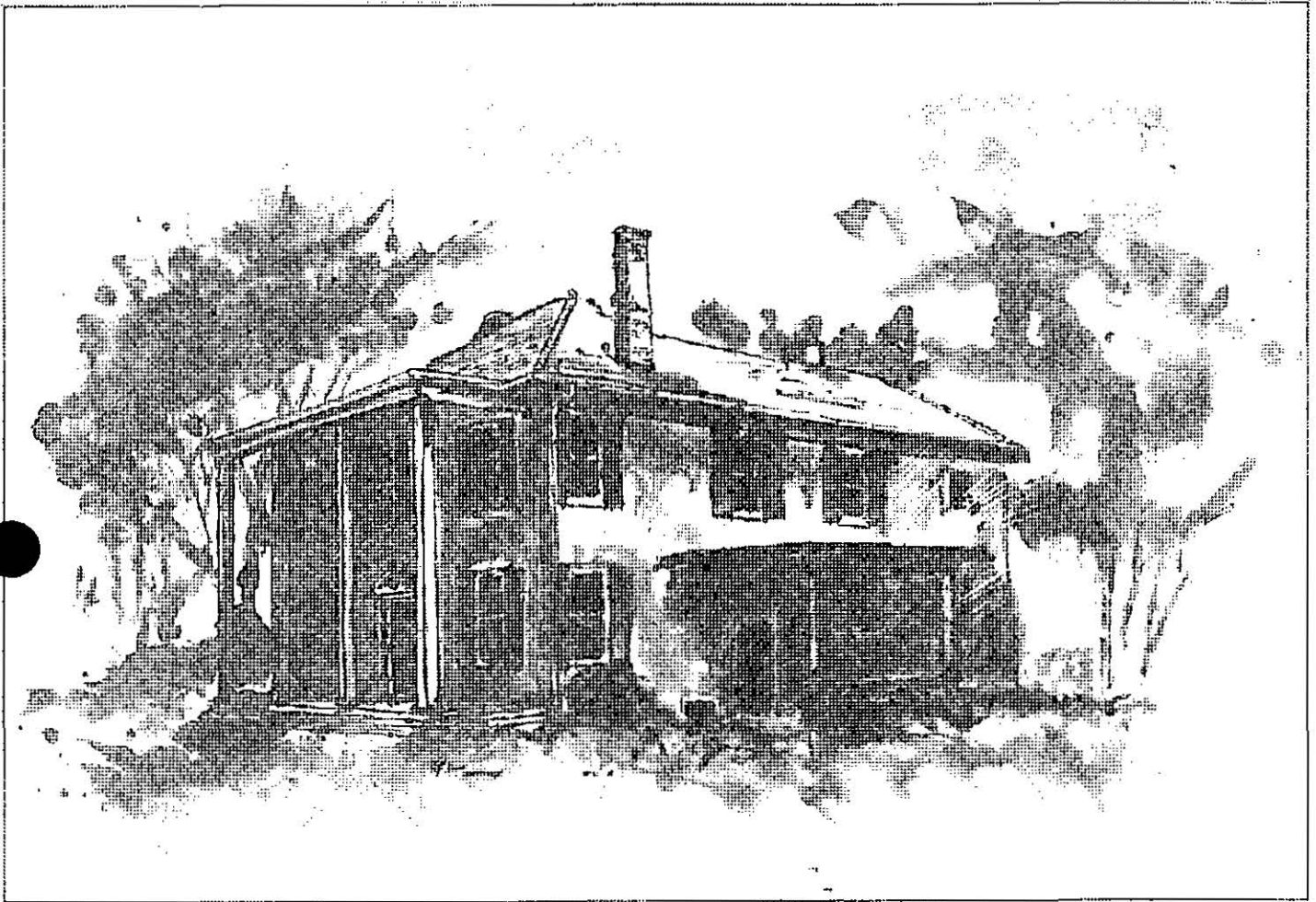
#### PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PLAN

- Thompson Lane provides greater access to battlefield lands for development, and will increase the level of traffic along feeder roads, particularly Manson Pike and Old Nashville Highway. S.R 840 will promote commercial and industrial development along U.S. 41/70S/Northwest Broad Street. In addition, increasing urban development west of the park and I-24 is expected to significantly increase traffic along Manson Pike. This potential increase in development and traffic could have an adverse effect on resources, air quality, 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.

However, especially with respect to land use and development design guidelines, the park, county, and city do not have a comprehensive approach to conserve 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 Monument and the national cemetery is continuously interrupted by the sights and sounds of adjacent land use.
- A telecommunications tower has recently been constructed along Manson Pike, and is visible from Redoubt Brannon 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.

## ALTERNATIVES, INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION



McCulloch House





## ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION

### CONCEPT

The emphasis of the proposed action is to preserve a larger area of the original battlefield and to create a "sense of place" where visitors can better understand and appreciate the battle and its role in the Civil War. The proposal encompasses lands that afford vistas comparable to the most dramatic vistas on any major Civil War battlefield. It 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. Lands where significant events that shaped the outcome of the battle, and where significant figures such as General Sill were killed, would be interpreted. The 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.



Battlefield landscape south of Manson Pike

### LAND PROTECTION

#### General

The planning team evaluated the entire original battlefield to determine what opportunities existed for additional interpretation and preservation. During this process, which included application of the "National Park Service Criteria for Boundary Adjustments" (NPS 1991a), it became evident that certain additional lands were appropriate for inclusion in the national battlefield as soon as possible.

Other lands were also desirable for inclusion, but current use indicated that if that were to occur, it would likely take place over the long term. Still other lands of the original battlefield were determined unnecessary to include from an interpretive standpoint and inappropriate due to the current level of development or the location, such as a large segment severed from the rest of the battlefield by I-24. The Land Protection - Alternative 1: Proposed Action map displays these categories. The criteria for boundary adjustments includes the following:

- The property contains significant resources or opportunities for public enjoyment related to park purpose.
- The property would be feasible to administer considering size, configuration, ownership, costs, and other factors.
- Other alternatives for management and resource protection are not adequate.

The boundaries shown on the Land Protection map are conceptual at this stage of planning. New legislation would be required to expand the park boundary, and a more precise boundary would be determined at the time legislation is being prepared.

The authorized boundary of Stones River National Battlefield encompasses 712 acres, including 677 acres of the original battlefield, and 35 acres associated with Fortress Rosecrans, which lies just east of the original battlefield. As of the writing of this document, 520 acres were federally owned; 20 acres were owned by the city and county; and 172 acres were privately owned. Federal acquisition of additional land within the authorized boundary would continue as funding becomes available.







### **Proposed Additions**

Lands that should be added to the national battlefield as soon as possible retain, for the most part, remarkable historic landscape integrity and are generally threatened with development. In concert with existing park lands, they would provide the opportunity for visitors to access additional battle-related sites and scenes that would foster a greater appreciation of the scale of the battle, and specific sites of intense fighting. The proposed lands total 759 acres, which would bring the total acreage of the national battlefield to 1,471, including 1,436 acres, or 36% of the original

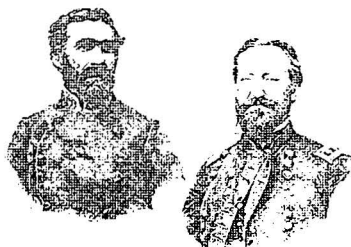
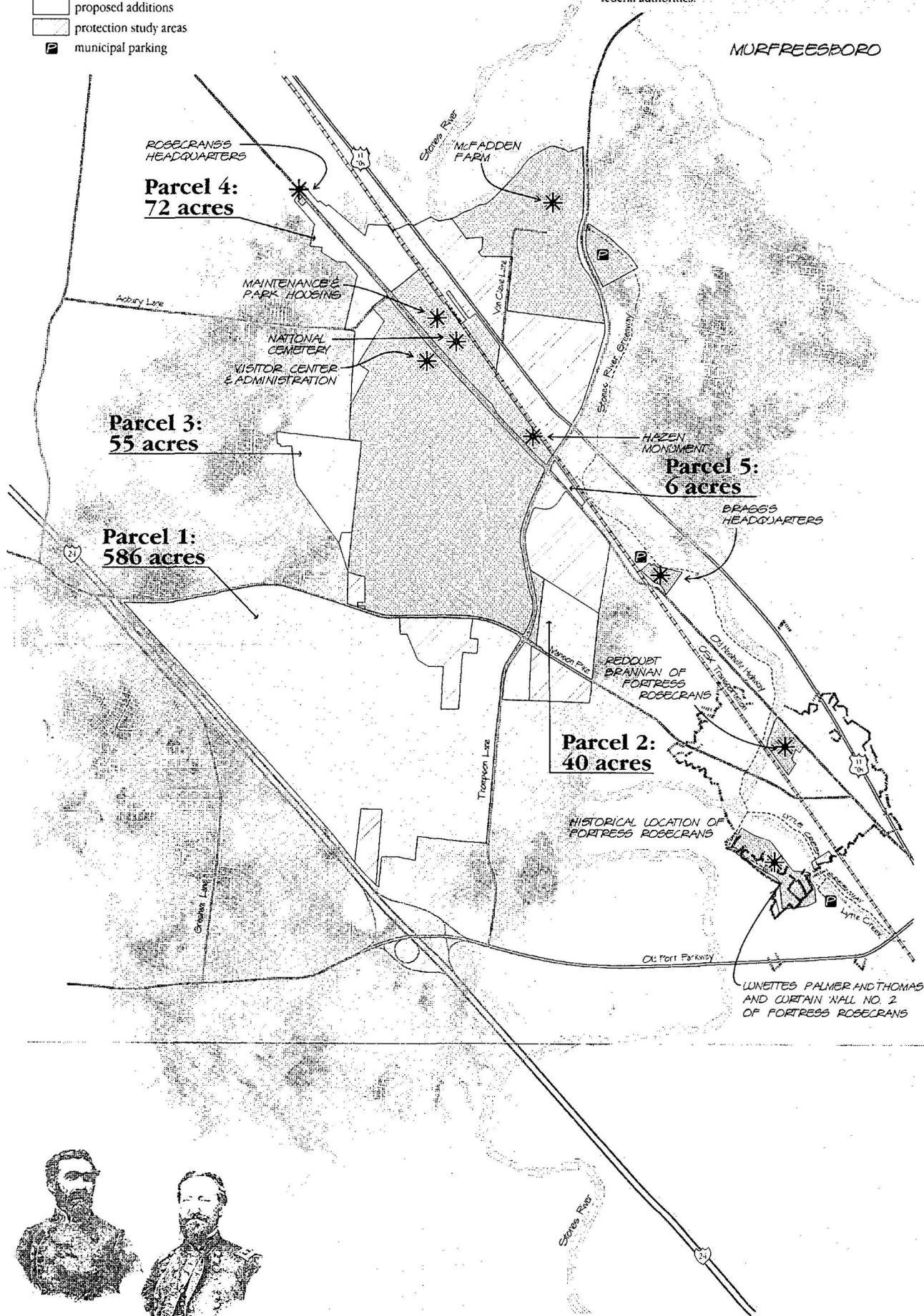
battlefield. Legislation would be required to establish a new boundary and to authorize land acquisition. These lands, consisting of five separate parcels, are generally depicted on the Land Protection map as proposed additions. All five parcels are part of the original battlefield, meet the above criteria for boundary adjustments, are contiguous with the authorized park boundary, and would serve to more effectively fulfill the park's management objectives. Reasons for selecting the individual parcels are stated herein.

#### **Parcel 1**

- Lands on which heavy fighting occurred during the opening phase of the battle where Confederate forces successfully attacked and began their collapse of the Union right wing on the first day.
- Includes the following significant sites:
  - Gresham House site (the main Union hospital for the right wing)
  - General Sill's death site
  - Harding House site
  - Brick kiln site
  - Site of General Sheridan's stand
- The terrain is very different from any that is currently contained within the park, and provides the visitor a sense of the broad scale and scope of the battle, containing the most dramatic views anywhere on the original battlefield.
- There are significant opportunities to interpret the initial battle stages that are not available in the existing park.
- Protects much of the historic Wilkinson Pike corridor (Manson Pike), which was the scene of severe fighting as Confederate forces continued to push back the Union troops, and which was used extensively for east-west troop movements by both sides.

-  \* facility  
 Stones River original battlefield area  
 Stones River National Battlefield (Publicly and privately owned lands within authorized boundary)  
 proposed additions  
 protection study areas  
 municipal parking

**Note:** The boundaries for proposed additions shown on this map are conceptual at this stage of planning. Prior to proposing legislation for a new boundary, park managers will consult with affected landowners and city, county, state, and federal authorities.



**LAND PROTECTION**  
Alternative One  
Proposed Action

STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

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#### **Parcel 2**

- On the eve of battle, the Confederate line straddled historic Wilkinson Pike here. Troops of Brig. Gen. J. Patton Anderson's brigade spent the night of December 30, 1862, here. In the morning, on December 31, the Confederate left led the attack on the Union right. As the front advanced, troops under Anderson moved on the Union center, where Brig. Gen. James Negley's and Brig. Gen. Philip Sheridan's Divisions collapsed in the Slaughter Pen, the area of fierce fighting that occurred in the vicinity of Wilkinson Pike. At the time of the battle, the area north of Wilkinson Pike was open field, and the land to the south was dense cedar and oak forest.
- Preserves the viewshed from the proposed first stop along the new tour route which depicts the eve of battle. The viewshed is also that from the Union perspective facing the onslaught of the Confederates driving Negley and Sheridan back in the Slaughter Pen. The Union's holding action here enabled Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans to reinforce his right flank and save the Union army from a rout.

#### **Parcel 3**

- An area of intense fighting during the Confederate thrust (outflanking maneuver) that forced Rosecrans to fall back to the area of historic Nashville Pike (Old Nashville Highway).
- Provides the opportunity to interpret how dense thickets of cedar slowed the Confederate advance, virtually halted their artillery, and prevented them from gaining control of the Nashville Pike. Waters's Alabama Battery was halted here and unable to contribute to the Confederate assault.

#### **Parcel 4**

- Preserves the "highwater mark" of the Confederate flanking movement, and the

successful Union defensive position at Nashville Pike.

- Preserves the historic road corridor that was crucial for the arrival of Union troops prior to the battle, and the withdrawal of Confederate troops after the battle, in addition to serving as the critical battle line on December 31.

#### **Parcel 5**

- Confederate forces advanced across this area in the attack on the Round Forest. The Confederate's futile attacks on the Round Forest, stalled by Colonel Hazen's dogged defense, resulted in tremendous losses of Tennesseans and Mississippians under Donelson and Chalmers. The Union army continued to hold the Nashville Pike and the Louisville & Chattanooga rail line, which were crucial to the outcome of the battle.
- Provides a transition for the park visitor from a modern landscape to a commemorative landscape, and from a busy five-lane thoroughfare to the two-lane Old Nashville Highway, which remains in its historic alignment. This is the primary entrance to the national battlefield for visitors arriving from S.R. 840, I-24, U.S. 41/70S, and Thompson Lane.

These parcels of land would be included within the national battlefield only if Congress authorizes boundary expansion. Fair market value would be offered to each landowner. Fair market value is typically determined using the most current sales information from multiple properties in reasonable proximity having physical and legal characteristics comparable to the property in question. Since fair market value changes over time, and the purchase price would be determined by an appraisal at the time of acquisition, it is impossible to estimate the cost of land acquisition at this time. As a reference point, the county's appraised value of properties contained in the proposed additions for alternative 1 is \$3,179,400. This figure is based

on county reports dated as recently as March 13, 1998. The National Park Service recognizes that the county-appraised values may reflect only a portion of what constitutes fair market value, since land values are rapidly increasing in this area, underscoring the reality that fair market value can be determined only at time of acquisition.

The primary source of funds for land acquisition is appropriation/allocation from the Land and Water Conservation Fund by the U.S. Congress. Landowners are concerned that the NPS acquisition process can be prolonged. It may not be possible for boundary expansion authority and related funding to proceed with sufficient speed to fully implement alternative 1 before the opportunity is lost, especially in the important area below Manson Pike. If unable to fully implement alternative 1, the National Park Service would work with the community to protect and interpret extant sites within the core battlefield area.

### Protection Study Areas

Lands were also identified that, if acquired and restored as necessary at some future time, would fill obvious gaps in the battlefield landscape, resulting in an essentially contiguous national battlefield, would allow for uninterrupted views over areas of troop movements and engagements, and would provide additional public access to specific battle sites. These lands, depicted on the Land Protection map as protection study areas and described below, comprise approximately 300 acres.

**Commercial and industrial properties along U.S. 41/70S.** The Union Left Wing under Maj. Gen. Thomas Crittenden spent the night of December 30 in this area, preparing to mount an attack in the morning. When the Union right was surprised by the early Confederate attack, Rosecrans, not knowing the degree to which his army was collapsing, assumed that his plan would move forward. When he finally realized that the Right Wing under Maj. Gen. Alexander

McCook was losing ground, he ordered two of Brig. Gen. Thomas Wood's brigades from the left to move to reinforce McCook, and the remaining division of Brig. Gen. John Palmer and one brigade of Wood's to hold this ground. At the time of battle, this was primarily open field, some corn, some cotton, and some stalks.

**Lands along Thompson Lane just south of Old Nashville Highway.** Confederate troops spent the night of December 30 here preparing for the coming battle. Once the battle was underway, Confederate troops under Chalmers and Donelson mounted their repeated assaults on the Round Forest from land along the Nashville Pike. Confederate artillery supported the infantry from this position as well.

**Residential properties along Manson Pike.** From their position straddling historic Wilkinson Pike, Confederates under Stewart hammered Negley and Sheridan in the Slaughter Pen. (See also description under parcel 2 of the proposed additions.)

**The Tennessee National Guard Armory.** This area is integral to parcel 1 of the proposed additions. The early morning Confederate attack here on December 31 overwhelmed the Union right. Troops of the Right Wing under McCook made a headlong retreat as they were caught unprepared, many of them eating their breakfasts when the Confederates charged.

**Lands Associated with Fortress Rosecrans.** These are areas of remaining historic earthworks.

The lands described above were not included as proposed additions at this time, largely due to current land uses. Opportunities for adding these lands to the national battlefield do not appear favorable for the foreseeable future, although events could occur over the long term that would make these lands feasible for inclusion within the park. In order to be included, the lands would have to meet the following criteria:

- The property is part of the original battlefield, or earthworks relating to Fortress Rosecrans, and within the protection study areas as shown on the Land Protection map.
- The property meets the "National Park Service Criteria for Boundary Adjustments," considering the needs for possible landscape restoration.
- The action conforms to local land use planning policies and guidelines.
- The owner is willing to transfer the property to the National Park Service via such means as donation, purchase and sell back, or fee simple acquisition.

Until such time as acquisition may occur, owners would be encouraged to promote compatible uses to the extent possible, including maintaining land use at no higher density than at present.

### Remaining Battlefield

As significant as is the entire original battlefield, shown on the Land Protection map as Stones River Original Battlefield Area, the remaining lands (those outside the existing national battlefield, the proposed additions, and the protection study areas) were determined inappropriate for addition to the park because of current land use and/or location. This use and/or location has resulted in significant loss of historical context and/or the inability to become contiguous with the existing park. These lands would also be unnecessary additions from an interpretive standpoint because they are not considered essential to tell the story of the Battle of Stones River to park visitors onsite. Generally, they are either already heavily developed in stable, suburban residential use, or are rapidly developing into residential or commercial use. As can be seen on the Land Protection map, these lands are located mainly in three areas: east of Stones River where it

flows north of U.S. 41/70S, south and west of I-24, and west of the current main park unit.

### CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

In 1992, management objectives were developed that provide the philosophical underpinning for how the landscape and resources would be treated within the national battlefield. The main thrust of these objectives is to help management fulfill the purpose of the national battlefield, which is to preserve and interpret the battlefield of Stones River, and to promote understanding and appreciation of the battle and related events. One of the objectives is to maintain a general 1860s era appearance for the purpose of allowing visitors to experience the influence of landscape features on the outcome of the battle. On battlefield 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, and modifications would be made accordingly, as funding permits. The cost for landscape restoration would not be known until the cultural landscape reports are completed and estimates are prepared. As part of this landscape modification, post-war structures would be removed and safety hazards would be eliminated. The Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office would be consulted during this process. In the interim, fields and forests would continue to be maintained through such means as lease programs or other partnership efforts.

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. The sequence in which the landscapes would be modified to meet requirements established by

the cultural landscape reports would be guided primarily by the need for visitor use, location within critical viewsheds, costs, and available funding.

A notable exception to returning the landscape to an 1860s appearance would be the national cemetery, which was originated in 1865, and has since evolved according to a formal design produced in 1892. The cemetery artistically and tangibly illustrates the nation's respect for the war dead, and dramatically underscores the battlefield's sacredness and its profound meaning to the country and its people. By now, the cemetery has reached the full capacity of the 1892 design, and would continue to be maintained as close as possible to the spirit of that design, allowing for modern techniques in horticultural practices.

The park staff is considering ways of providing a more climate-controlled environment for collection storage. It is also exploring options for moving the collection out of the floodplain.

The park's *Resource Management Plan* (NPS 1991b) would be updated to reflect the proposals in the general management plan. See appendix B for a description of recommended research needs and action plans related to cultural resource management.

## NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

In general, the natural resources of Stones River National Battlefield would be managed to support management objectives, specifically the maintenance of an 1860s landscape. Special emphasis would be placed on preservation of the cedar glade habitat and its endemic flora, which includes protected species. The park's *Resource Management Plan* (NPS 1991b) would be updated to reflect the proposals in the general management plan. See appendix B for a description of recommended research needs and action plans related to natural resource management.

## INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE

Alternative 1 would provide onsite interpretation for all six major battle action zones: 1. *Union and Confederate Lines Before the Battle*, 2. *Start of Battle*, 3. *Initial Stages of Battle*, 4. *Union Defensive Stand*, 5. *Defense of Nashville Pike*, and 6. *Conclusion of Battle*.

### Summary of Visitor Experience

The visitor experience in this alternative would begin with a stop at the visitor center to gain an understanding of both the Battle of Stones River and the historic battlefield through new and expanded interpretive media. Then the visitor would drive through a significant portion of the original battlefield along a new 7.6-mile auto tour route, and be able to see all six of the major battle action zones as they generally appeared during the time of the battle (see the Alternative 1: Proposed Action map).

### Directional Signs, Orientation Panels, and Wayside Exhibits

Within the context of this document, numerous references are made to various types of signs that provide information for the park visitor. These include directional sign (provides direction of travel); orientation panel (locates or orients the visitor to the site); and interpretive wayside exhibit (provides interpretation of site).

A sign plan would be developed that would identify the number, content, and location of directional signs to be placed on key roads and highways leading to and from the national battlefield, to assist visitors in finding the park. A wayside exhibit plan would also be prepared that would include detailed descriptions of proposed wayside exhibits.

To respond to an existing visitor use need, parkwide orientation panels would be provided at entrances throughout the national battlefield. A single design with a park map as a central

element would be developed. The only variation from site to site would be an accurate "you are here" designator. The panels would be addressed in the proposed wayside exhibit plan.

### Visitor Center

The first stop for new visitors to the national battlefield would be at the visitor center, located on Old Nashville Highway. The parking area for the visitor center would be modified to enhance circulation and better accommodate oversized vehicles.

The visitor center would be renovated for new and expanded interpretive media. To accomplish the intent of this alternative, the interpretive media would be planned and designed to

- interpret the Battle of Stones River within the greater context and meaning of the American Civil War
- function as a "bridge" directly relating the visitor center experience to onsite historic battlefield features, locations, areas of action, and vistas
- particularly interpret those areas of the original battlefield outside the park boundary
- convey an understanding of this battle in terms of its vital human aspects

The contents of the exhibits would be described in a proposed interpretive plan.

The visitor center would contain a lobby/reception area and related activities, and space for multimedia presentations and exhibits. Consideration would be given to moving administration offices out of the visitor center to provide additional space for interpretive media. If this were to occur, a possible new location for offices would be in one of the buildings currently designated for staff housing across Old Nashville Highway

from the visitor center. Under this scenario, no adverse impacts on any resources would be anticipated. However, should other options for relocating the offices be considered in the future, then additional National Environmental Policy Act review would be required.

### Auto Tour Route with Wayside Exhibits

A self-guided 7.6-mile auto tour would be developed, with 12 interpretive stops that would allow visitors to experience all six major battle action zones.

The combination of the self-guided brochure and wayside exhibits would provide visitors with a more complete, cohesive experience. These wayside exhibits would provide unity in both content and design. Revised audio tour versions would be developed for those visitors who have the time and interest to invest in their battlefield visit.

The new tour route would have one-way traffic, except where the route follows segments of existing two-way roads (see Alternative 1: Proposed Action map and appendix C). As currently envisioned, the route in alternative 1 would take the visitor across Manson Pike into the section of the battlefield to the south that is proposed for acquisition, and back onto a short segment of Manson Pike to return to the central section of the national battlefield. Projections indicate that traffic on Manson Pike will increase in the future, primarily due to an increase in development west of the national battlefield. Studies are underway to determine possible methods of augmenting the safety of Manson Pike while retaining the route's historical integrity. The outcome would influence final designs for the way park visitors would cross Manson Pike. The National Park would work closely with city and county officials on the planning and design of the tour route's intersections with Manson Pike.

*The Stones River Battlefield Transportation Corridors Plan*, prepared in 1997 for Rutherford



County, indicates that the proposed auto tour route would not significantly affect local traffic, even with an expected increase in visitation. Nevertheless, park management would take an active role in working with city, county, state, and/or federal officials in transportation planning for the future. The goal would be to minimize the impact of regional traffic on the historic resource and the park visitor, to minimize the impact of park visitors on regional traffic, and to ensure the safety of visitors and local residents.

Portions of the interpretive auto tour would be routed along road corridors that existed at the time of the battle. To the greatest extent possible, these road corridors would be maintained in keeping with their historical integrity. This treatment would especially apply to sections of Van Cleve Lane (historically called McFadden Lane), Manson Pike (historically called Wilkinson Pike), Gresham Farm Lane, Asbury Lane, and Old Nashville Highway (historically called Nashville Pike).

The 12 stops on the new interpretive route are listed below (also refer to the Alternative 1 map for locations of the tour stops).

- Stop 1 – Lines Before Battle (1st Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 2 – Start of Battle and Sheridan's Stand (2nd Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 3 – Sheridan's Delaying Action (3rd Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 4 – Confederate Flank Attack/Gresham Farm (3rd Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 5 – Attempted Union Stand (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 6 – Yankee Collapse (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 7 – The Cotton Field (4th Major Battle Action Zone)

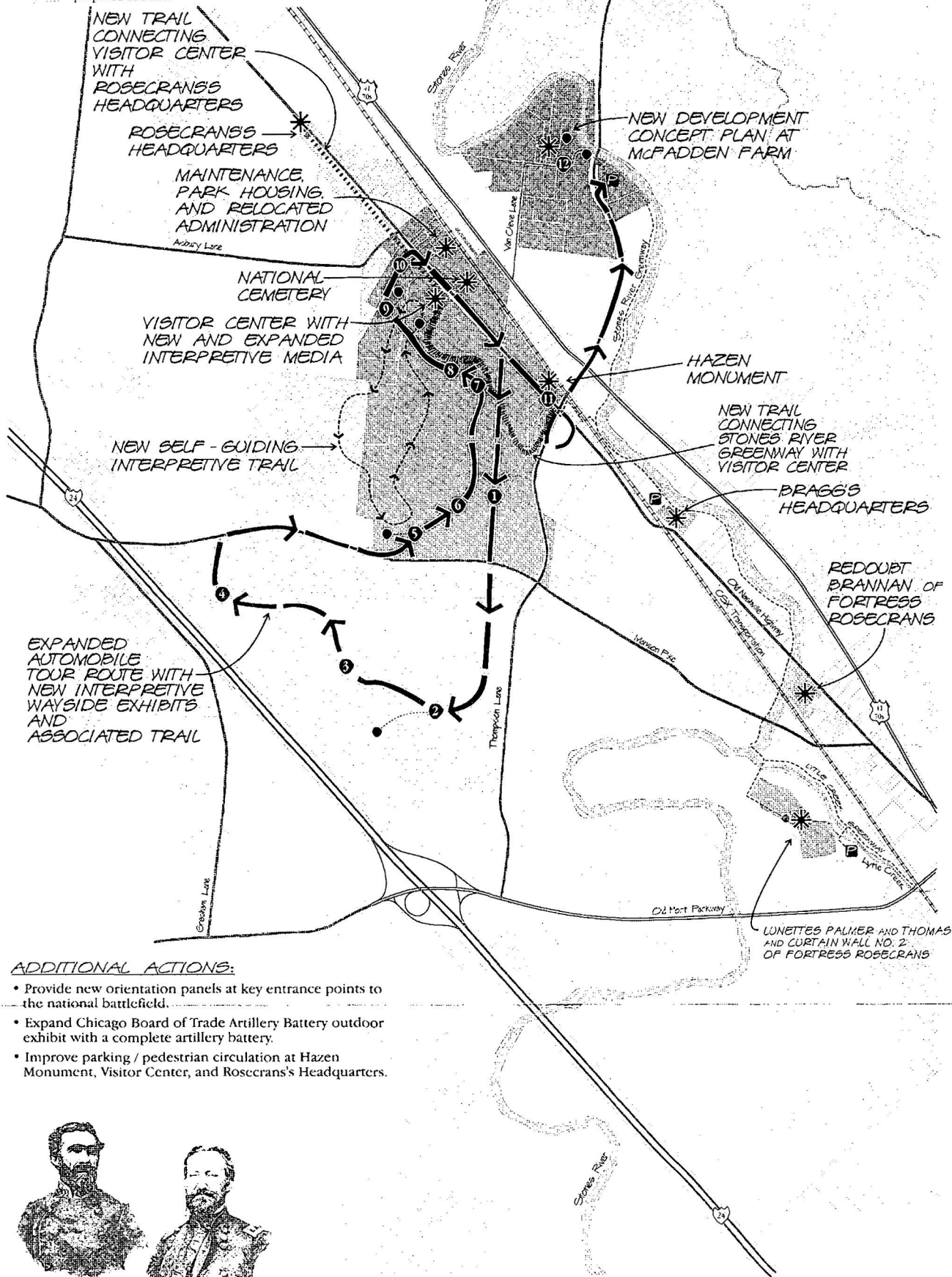
- Stops 8 and 9 – Confederate Thrust to Old Nashville Pike (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 10 – Union Defense of Old Nashville Pike (5th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 11 – Fight for the Round Forest (4th and 5th Major Battle Action Zones)
- Stop 12 – McFadden's Ford/McFadden Farm (6th Major Battle Action Zone)

Particular effort would be made to develop a single wayside exhibit that would orient park visitors to all six of the identified major battle action zones. It would further invite them to experience these six phases of the Battle of Stones River along this auto tour route. The exhibit could be located at stop 1.



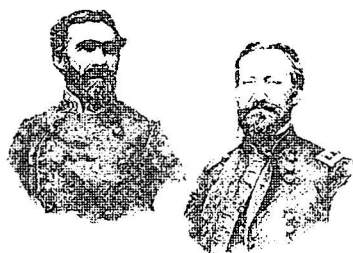
U.S. Regular Brigade Monument in national cemetery

- \* facility
- automobile tour route
- 8 • tour stop/wayside
- self-guiding interpretive trail
- visitor center trail
- Stones River National Battlefield (Publicly and privately owned lands within authorized boundary)
- proposed additions



#### ADDITIONAL ACTIONS:

- Provide new orientation panels at key entrance points to the national battlefield.
- Expand Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit with a complete artillery battery.
- Improve parking / pedestrian circulation at Hazen Monument, Visitor Center, and Rosecrans's Headquarters.



#### ALTERNATIVE ONE Proposed Action

STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



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## **National Cemetery**

Stones River National Cemetery is historically significant, provides another human dimension to battle-related events, and has proven to be of great interest to visitors in the past. Its formal, manicured design dates back to 1892 and has been modified over the years by park administrators. The design elements, including the stone wall, the arrangement of the headstones, commemorative cast iron markers, the trees and landscaping, the flagpole, the monuments, and the benches, all contribute to a pleasing and memorable visitor experience. The national cemetery is a tangible reminder of how the United States memorializes its dead and how Civil War battlefields became symbols of the constant price of sustaining a republic.

In order to improve the chronology of the auto tour and to preserve the contemplative atmosphere of the cemetery, this site would not be included as a tour stop. To ensure that visitors are aware of the existence of this important site, the park folder would feature a section about the cemetery. This would highlight the cemetery as a significant site in itself, as a place of reflection and illustrative of the memorial efforts on the battlefield.

## **Other Interpretive/Visitor Services**

A new 1–2 mile pedestrian interpretive trail, beginning and ending at the visitor center, would be developed to show how the December 1862 landforms and vegetation significantly affected the events of the Battle of Stones River. A self-guided brochure would be the primary media for use along the trail. Such a trail would allow visitors the opportunity to walk or hike to significant points in the west side of the park, away from cars and bicycles. Placement of the trail would avoid environmentally sensitive areas, such as the cedar glades. Here the trail would be located along the already disturbed corridor of the west side of the existing tour loop, which would be obliterated in alternative 1. The new interpretive trail would replace the

existing 3.5-mile perimeter trail, which runs along the west side of the present tour road, is in poor condition, and does not contribute to the interpretive objectives of the park.

The Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit near the visitor center would be expanded to present the full battery of six guns with all supporting wheeled vehicles, including limbers, caissons, a battery wagon, and a traveling forge. In addition, two new interpretive wayside exhibits would be provided. When in place, it would be the only complete exhibit of all wheeled vehicles of an artillery battery in any area of the national park system.

Visitors would continue to have access to Lunette Palmer and Curtain Wall No. 2 of Fortress Rosecrans. The site was opened to the public in 1994. A foot trail with elevated boardwalk winds through the site, and wayside exhibits interpret the site's significance. Work is underway to open Redoubt Brannan of Fortress Rosecrans to the public, and a plan to preserve Lunette Thomas is in progress.

New interpretive exhibits would be provided at the national cemetery, Rosecrans's Headquarters site, and Bragg's Headquarters site.

To be able to implement the interpretation of inaccessible portions of the greater Stones River battlefield, a film and/or video documentary of all surviving components of the 1862–63 battlefield's cultural landscape would be made as soon as possible. Failure to do so in a timely manner would result in lost opportunity because of rapid urban development of lands surrounding the national battlefield.

## **VISITOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **General**

Stones River National Battlefield is in a very rapidly urbanizing area that is attempting to keep up with services and infrastructure. This places increasing pressure on the park to provide

for some of these needs, such as general open space and recreation facilities, and utility and transportation corridors. The proposal to add original battlefield land to the park is recognized by the National Park Service as well as the community as a bold, important statement that battlefield lands are viewed as historic, offering visitors as well as descendants of those who fought here personal connection with this major Civil War battle. Once protected through inclusion within the park boundary and acquired, use of the land is not taken lightly. Any use or development must relate directly to the park's purpose, significance, and management objectives and be necessary to achieve those objectives. This concept pertains to new and existing, NPS and non-NPS, uses and development. Passing this threshold, any use or development must blend compatibly with the desired resource protection and visitor experience objectives. The overriding focus is the preservation and interpretation of the battlefield landscape.

In addition to the orientation panels, interpretive media, wayside exhibits, and interpretive trail described previously, the following facility development is proposed.

#### **Auto Tour Route and Associated Trail**

The auto tour route would be relocated and expanded to 7.6 miles under alternative 1, more than double the length of the existing tour route. A significant portion of the route would be located on the proposed lands to be acquired south of Manson Pike. Approximately 4 miles, or 53%, of the route would require new or reconstructed roads. The remainder of the tour would use existing roads.

All tour stops would be designed to accommodate parking for vehicles and bicycles, including oversized vehicles such as buses and trailers. The number of spaces for vehicles would vary from stop to stop, depending on the expected time visitors would stay at each stop. That determination would be made when the

tour route reaches the design phase, and is expected to range from 3 to 10 spaces per stop. Wayside exhibits would be sited to take advantage of the scene being described, and appropriate pedestrian circulation would be provided. Footpaths ranging in length from 500 to 1,000 feet would lead to interpretive exhibits at selected stops. A trail would parallel the auto tour route. Further descriptions of the auto tour route and associated trail are included in appendix D.

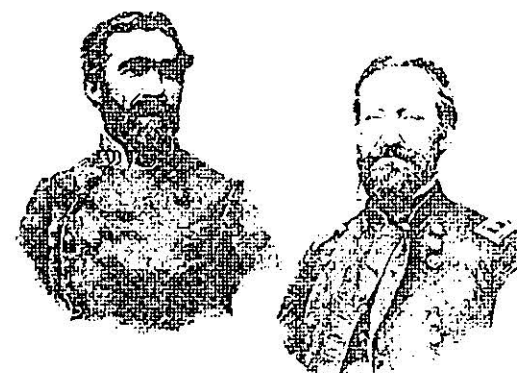
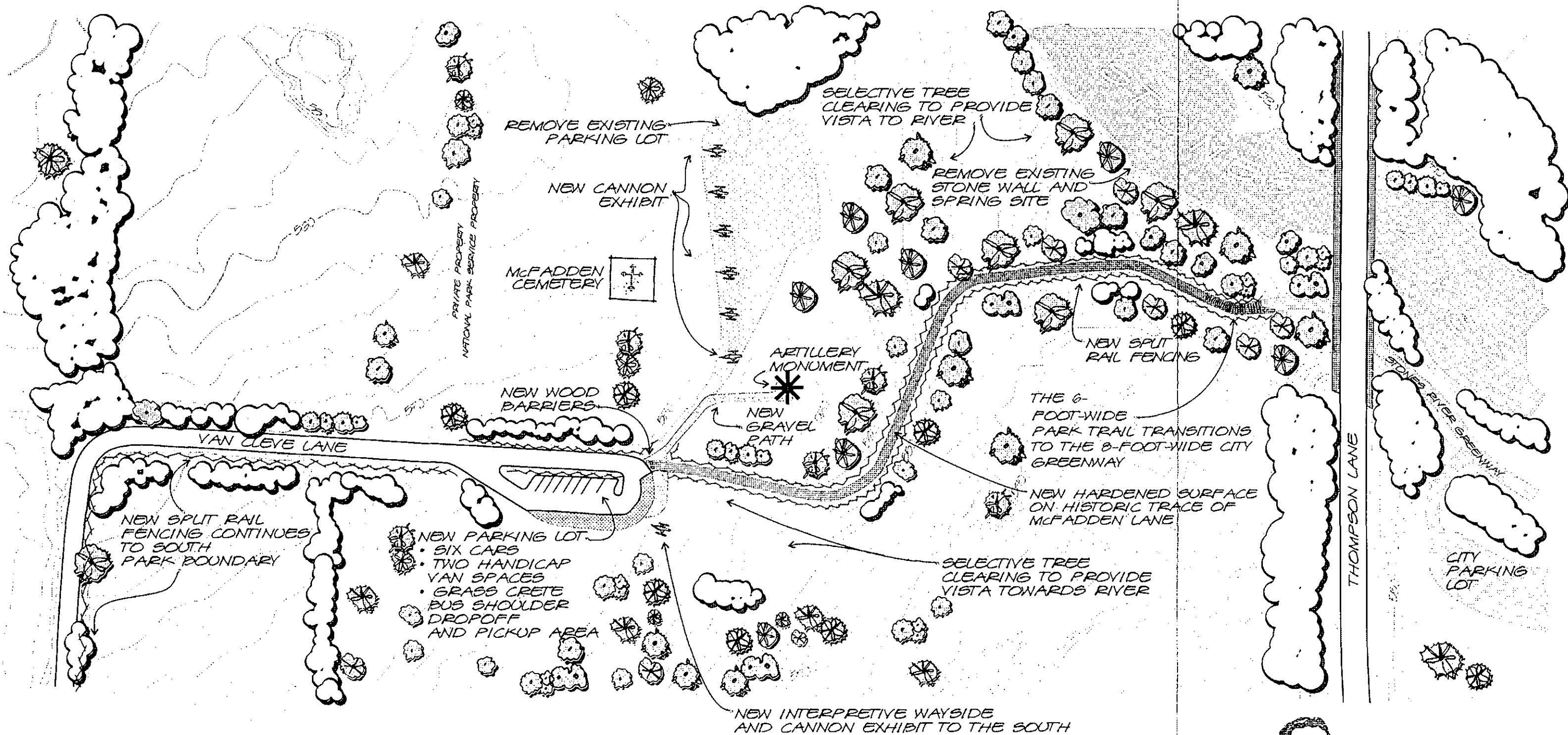
#### **McFadden Farm**

McFadden Farm is the final stop on the proposed auto tour route. Visitors arriving by vehicle would park in the city's greenway parking lot on the east side of the Thompson Lane bridge at Stones River (see the McFadden Farm Development Concept Plan map.) This parking lot is on 11 acres of land owned by the city of Murfreesboro. Although it is within the national battlefield's authorized boundary, there is currently no intent by the National Park Service to acquire the land. Access to McFadden Farm would be via historic McFadden Lane.

The trail along McFadden Lane would not be fully accessible for the mobility impaired. Therefore, a parking area would be provided at the upper level of the site, with vehicle access via Van Cleve Lane (historically called McFadden Lane) from Broad Street. An accessible footpath would lead from this parking area to the Artillery Monument. The existing parking area at the monument would be removed to more closely restore the area to an 1860s era appearance.

An orientation panel would be provided at the entrance to the site near the terminus of the Stones River Greenway to provide orientation and information. Wayside exhibits would be provided to describe the events of the last day of the battle, the Artillery Monument, and the McFadden cemetery. A line of cannon would be placed at the top of the hill to enhance the historic scene to interpret the final day of battle.





# McFADDEN FARM Development Concept Plan

ON MICROFILM

STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



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Stones River at McFadden Farm

One of the proposed cultural landscape reports for the national battlefield would provide the basis for landscaping at the site. For additional detail regarding the proposed development actions at McFadden Farm, see appendix E.

#### **Visitor Center Trail**

A 1-mile trail connecting the visitor center with the Stones River Greenway via the "Battlefield Way" (the city of Murfreesboro's connecting trail to the greenway) would be constructed by the National Park Service. From the visitor center, the trail would follow the east side of the interpretive loop drive and lead eastward across the field and Van Cleve Lane, along the north edge of the forest, to the west side of Thompson Lane, where it would turn northward to Old Nashville Highway. In the vicinity of the Thompson Lane bridge over Old Nashville Highway, the trail would connect to the Battlefield Way. The potential also exists for a

spur trail to extend south and east to a possible future segment of the Stones River Greenway.

An orientation panel would be placed at the point where the trail crosses the park boundary near the Thompson Lane bridge, to provide orientation and information for visitors entering the park. A map of the park would highlight the tour route, the visitor center, and other visitor attractions.

The visitor center trail would not exceed 8 feet in width, and it would be designed and located to minimize impact on the historic scene.

#### **Other Sites**

Modifications would be made for visitor center parking, Hazen Monument, and Rosecrans's Headquarters. Brief statements of intent are provided for each site.

Development concept plans and environmental assessments for proposed developments would be provided when funding becomes available for design and construction.

**Visitor Center Parking.** Parking and pedestrian/vehicle circulation at the visitor center would be changed to enhance safety, improve convenience for the visitor, increase capacity, and provide a more visually attractive experience upon arrival at the park.

**Hazen Monument.** Development at this site would consist of relocating the parking so that it is not visually intrusive on the monument site, and to provide safe and adequate parking.

**Rosecrans's Headquarters.** Parking at Rosecrans's Headquarters site would be modified to enhance safety, vehicle access, and aesthetic appearance. A wayside exhibit would be provided for interpretation of the site and for park orientation. Fencing would be provided to prevent unauthorized access to the quarry behind the site. Subject to the acquisition of necessary lands, a trail would be provided along Old Nashville Highway to connect the site with the visitor center.

## MANAGEMENT ZONING

National battlefield lands are classified into management zones to designate where various strategies for management and use best fulfill management objectives and achieve the purpose of the park. This classification, an NPS system of prescriptive land use designations, is based on the inherent nature of resources, their suitability for use or development, and the legislative mandate and objectives established for the area. In many NPS areas, lands are typically placed in one of four management zones — natural, historic, development, or special use. These major zones may be divided into subzones, where appropriate, to reflect various management strategies.

### Historic Zone

At Stones Rivers, the entire national battlefield is zoned historic to emphasize the fact that its purpose is to preserve and interpret the Battle of Stones River, and to promote understanding and appreciation of the battle and related events. This designation would be applied to the entire 1,471 acres within the proposed boundary. Management zoning for alternative 1 is shown on the Management Zoning map.

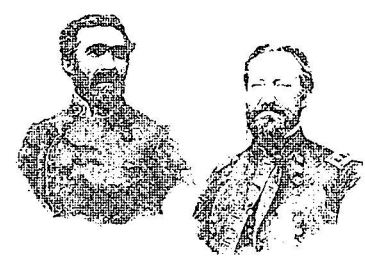
Appropriate activities in this zone would include historical interpretation and study, resource protection, and commemoration. NPS development in this zone would be minor, and limited to that which is necessary and appropriate for resource protection and interpretation, and for the operation and maintenance of the national battlefield. For example, development would include the auto tour route and interpretive pedestrian trails.

**Natural Subzone.** The natural subzone for the national battlefield would include lands where natural resources, primarily rare, threatened, or endangered species, would be conserved. The management focus in this subzone would be to maintain the habitat necessary for the continued existence of protected species, while supporting as much as possible the management objective of maintaining an 1860s era landscape.

The cedar glades, located in the vicinity of the existing auto tour loop and consisting of approximately 60 acres, would be the only lands included in the natural subzone. This would represent 4.1% of the proposed national battlefield.

**Development Subzone.** This subzone would include park development that is necessary for visitor use and park operations. It would include lands where nonhistoric park development would alter the setting for historically significant resources and the natural environment. Thus, development would be kept to a minimum.

municipal parking



Alternative One  
Proposed Action

STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



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The development subzone would include the visitor center and parking area; maintenance area/park housing/administration and associated parking areas; possible adaptively used structures associated with maintaining the agricultural area south of Manson Pike; and parking for all other visitor use sites: McFadden Farm, Hazen Monument, Stones River National Cemetery, Rosecrans's Headquarters, Fortress Rosecrans, and Redoubt Brannan. Approximately 14.7 acres would be included in the development subzone. This would represent 1.0% of the proposed national battlefield.

### **COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH COMMUNITY**

The National Park Service recognizes that the local community will be a major determinant of whether or not the national battlefield continues to be a viable resource that attracts visitors, and in turn, tourist dollars. If the local community values the battlefield, then the value of the battlefield to the American people at large, and to the local economy, will be dramatically enhanced. The Park Service can preserve the places within its boundaries associated with the battle; but only the local community — through careful land-use planning and development design on adjacent lands — can preserve the broader “sense of place” that makes battlefields so powerful and evocative.

The National Park Service would support the protection of significant cultural resources, including cultural landscapes, located within the original battlefield but outside the park boundary. In Public Law 102-225, sec. 3(c), the park is authorized to provide technical assistance to the city and to Rutherford County in the development of zoning ordinances and other land use controls that would help preserve historically significant areas adjacent to the battlefield. As time and money permitted, national battlefield management and staff would work with neighbors and friends groups, and local and state agencies to satisfy the following management objectives for 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.

Actions to pursue could include the following:

- Participate in a formal partnership with city and county agencies to develop preservation/mitigation strategies resulting in zoning ordinances that are compatible with management objectives.
- Encourage adoption of design guidelines for development within the original battlefield, but outside the park boundary.
- Develop an awareness among neighboring landowners of the goals and objectives relating to resource preservation, and interpretation and visitor use, and of the value of living near a public open space area.
- Participate as a partner with the city, county, and state in all regional planning and heritage tourism efforts that might have an impact on the national battlefield.
- Work with the local community to identify opportunities to provide open space and recreation outside the park.
- Work with city, county, and state agencies to develop traffic management plans that would support protection of historic corridors, while providing for managed growth and user safety.

- Work with state and local agencies, private landowners, and the telecommunications industry to develop a comprehensive plan for siting telecommunications towers within Rutherford County in such a manner that would provide for industrial/commercial needs without adversely affecting park values and the visitor experience.
- Enlist volunteers through local friends groups, educational institutions, and others to assist with interpretive programs, research studies, and operational and maintenance needs.
- Work with owners of historically significant properties within the original battlefield, or lands related to Fortress Rosecrans, such as the remnant earthworks of Curtain Wall No. 1 between Lytle Creek and the railroad, to provide resource preservation and onsite interpretation to visitors.

## CARRYING CAPACITY

Carrying capacity is the type and level of visitor use that can be accommodated while sustaining the desired resource and social conditions that complement the purpose and management objectives of the national battlefield. Visitor use would be balanced with resource protection, with higher priority given to the latter. Although public access to the battlefield is fairly well controlled via the automobile tour loop and pedestrian trails, divergence from the trails may be adversely affecting resources and is a growing concern. This situation is expected to continue with the proposed development under alternative 1, and would be monitored closely by park staff.

Another area of concern associated with the proposed development and expected increase in visitation relates to vehicle parking. Vehicular overflow at existing parking areas occurs only, and infrequently, during periods of peak use.

Capacity at the visitor center parking lot is exceeded on a regular basis on Memorial Day, when activities are taking place both on the battlefield and in the national cemetery. Occasionally, the capacity is also exceeded on summer weekends during special events. In addition, parking capacity at the Hazen Monument is exceeded on occasion. Parking for recreational use occasionally limits access to the battlefield for those who wish to visit for the purpose of learning about the battle.

As shown on the chart for annual park visitation, 1976–1995, in the “Affected Environment” section of this document, there has been a growth trend in visitation during the last 20 years. Over the past decade, park visitation has increased 23%, from 211,295 in 1986, to 259,739 in 1995. If this trend continues as expected, especially considering factors such as S.R. 840, the continued population growth of Rutherford County, the popularity of the Stones River Greenway, and the attraction of the park’s proposed improvements, parking capacity could become inadequate. The new public parking areas constructed by the city near McFadden Farm, Bragg’s headquarters, and Fortress Rosecrans provide space that would be used by park visitors. Already, however, the Stones River Greenway parking area near McFadden Farm frequently fills to capacity. The National Park Service would continue to monitor the needs for parking in the vicinity of McFadden Farm and would consider those needs in the final designs for public access to this area of the park. Any future design would be sensitive to the importance of preserving the historic landscape while enhancing the opportunity for public understanding of the events that occurred here.

Local traffic is not expected to be significantly affected by the anticipated increase in visitation. Rutherford County’s *Stones River Battlefield Transportation Corridors Plan* (1997) indicates that area roads and the park itself could support two to three times today’s visitation levels. In conjunction with development of the route, the



National Park Service would ensure adequate directional signs and informational brochures.

Use of the battlefield for activities not related to park purpose is becoming an issue. Increased recreational use may adversely affect the visitors' ability to contemplate and appreciate the battle, and limits the achievement of the park's management objectives. Park staff would continue to monitor the situation and manage use through education and by seeking community-based solutions.

### **PARK OPERATIONS AND STAFFING**

Traditional means to implement the proposed plan involve funding through NPS operations and special appropriations. The park would continue this with the normal budget process. However, the current operating budget is not sufficient to provide adequate protection of cultural resources or to provide the visitor experience as expressed in the park's management objectives and the plan's proposed actions. Budgetary restraints and a desire to improve operations, professionalism, and service to the visiting public would require nontraditional solutions in attempting to meet the park's staffing and management needs.

Increasing the park's human resources is vital to successful implementation of this plan. Local, regional, and national agencies and organizations that are aware of the park's values, goals, and objectives could broaden the opportunity for partnerships and volunteerism.

Expanding the role and number of partnerships would augment donations of supplies, materials, equipment, and research to the park. Increasing the participation in the Friends of Stones River National Battlefield and other volunteer efforts, and diversifying their roles, would provide additional valuable support.

As many as possible of the research needs and studies identified in this plan would be funded or assisted through partnership programs and volunteer efforts, including interns. Staff workloads would be redistributed where practicable, establishing new partnerships and volunteer positions. Park staff would become less task oriented and more management oriented. Where absolute control is not necessary, contracting for certain services may prove to be more economical and efficient.

### **ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT COSTS**

Table 1 shows the estimated facility and interpretive development costs of implementing alternative 1. The costs represent class "C" estimates, which are conceptual cost estimates based on square foot costs of similar construction, or identifiable costs of similar construction and production items. The list of actions is in approximate order of priority. Some of the proposed development depends on boundary expansion and the acquisition of land, which, in turn, depend on congressional action. Therefore, implementation would begin with those actions that could occur without further authorization.

TABLE 1: ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT COSTS – ALTERNATIVE 1 (PROPOSED ACTION)

ITEM	GROSS CONSTRUCTION AND PRODUCTION COSTS	ADVANCED AND PROJECT PLANNING COSTS	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS
Provide trail along McFadden Lane at McFadden Farm	\$38,500	\$5,300	\$43,800
Construct visitor center trail	256,000	35,200	291,200
Provide orientation panels at entrances to park	16,000	2,000	18,000
Provide documentary film and audiovisual equipment	135,000	12,000	147,000
Replace parking area, provide landscaping and road improvements, and provide new wayside exhibits at McFadden Farm	196,500	26,800	223,300
Renovate visitor center, provide new interpretive media in visitor center, and provide accessibility for mobility impaired persons	1,085,400	285,500	1,370,900
Expand Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit with complete artillery battery and new wayside exhibits	339,000	2,000	341,000
Improve parking/pedestrian circulation at Hazen Monument, visitor center, and Rosecrans's Headquarters	229,100	31,500	260,600
Construct tour road with expansion south of Manson Pike, provide new wayside exhibits along tour road and other locations, and construct associated trail*	2,943,600	481,600	3,425,200
Construct pedestrian interpretive trail*	110,700	15,200	125,900
Construct trail from visitor center to Rosecrans's Headquarters*	55,000	7,600	62,600
<b>Total**</b>	<b>\$5,404,800</b>	<b>\$904,700</b>	<b>\$6,309,500</b>

\* Dependent on further congressional action.

\*\* The cost of acquiring additional land is not included in these facility development costs. See the discussion of land acquisition costs in the "Proposed Additions" section of alternative 1. The cost of landscape restoration is not included and would depend on recommendations in proposed cultural landscape reports.



## ALTERNATIVE 2

### CONCEPT

The emphasis of alternative 2 is to significantly improve interpretation and the visitor experience within the currently authorized boundary of the park. This would be accomplished by providing new exhibits in the visitor center, establishing a new automobile tour route within the park, and providing new wayside exhibits. There would be no change in the authorized park boundary. Additional emphasis would be placed on working with local agencies, groups, and landowners to preserve and protect lands that retain historic landscape integrity within the original battlefield, but outside the park boundary.

### LAND PROTECTION

The currently authorized boundary of Stones River National Battlefield encompasses 712 acres, including 677 acres of the original battlefield, and 35 acres associated with Fortress Rosecrans, which lies just east of the original battlefield. As of the writing of this document, 520 acres were federally owned; 20 acres were owned by the city and county; and 172 acres were privately owned. As in alternative 1, federal acquisition of additional land within the authorized boundary would continue as funding becomes available.

### CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Resource management actions would be carried out as described in alternative 1.

### NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Resource management actions would be carried out as described in alternative 1.

### INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE

Alternative 2 would provide onsite interpretation for only four of the six major battle action zones: 1. *Union and Confederate Lines Before the Battle*, 4. *Union Defensive Stand*, 5. *Defense of Nashville Pike*, and 6. *Conclusion of Battle*. It would not provide onsite interpretation for the other two major battle action zones — 2. *Start of Battle* and 3. *Initial Stages of Battle*.

#### Summary of Visitor Experience

The visitor experience in this alternative would begin with a stop at the visitor center to gain an understanding of both the Battle of Stones River and the historic battlefield through new and expanded interpretive media. Then, the visitor would experience as much of the significant areas of the historic scene of the Battle of Stones River in a chronological sequence as the existing park's land base allows by driving a new 5-mile-long auto tour route.

#### Directional Signs, Orientation Panels, and Wayside Exhibits

As described in alternative 1, the development of new directional signs, orientation panels, and wayside exhibits would also be applicable to alternative 2.

#### Visitor Center

For alternative 2, modifications to the visitor center to improve interpretation and the visitor experience would be similar to those described in alternative 1. However, more emphasis would be placed on describing the battle action that occurred on lands outside the park boundary, to better orient visitors to the scope of the entire battle, since less of the original battlefield would

be available for visitors to experience onsite than in alternative 1.

### **Auto Tour Route with Wayside Exhibits**

A self-guided 5-mile auto tour would be developed, with nine interpretive stops and new interpretive wayside exhibits.

The new tour route would permit visitors to experience as many of the significant areas of the greater Stones River battlefield in a chronological sequence as the park's land base allows. This tour route for the most part would be confined to the existing authorized boundaries of the park, which includes only about 17% (677 out of 4,000 acres) of the original Stones River battlefield.

The new tour route would have one-way traffic, except where the route follows segments of existing two-way traffic roads (see the Alternative 2 map and appendix C for general route of interpretive drive). It should be noted that the route would take the visitor onto a short segment of Manson Pike. Projections indicate that traffic on Manson Pike is expected to increase, due to increased development west of the national battlefield. Thus, safety is a concern, and the National Park Service would work closely with city and county transportation officials in the planning and design of intersections of the tour route with Manson Pike.

Portions of the interpretive auto tour would be routed along sections of road that existed at the time of the battle. To the greatest extent possible, these roads would be maintained in keeping with their historical integrity. This treatment would include the applicable sections of Van Cleve Lane (historic McFadden Lane), Manson Pike (historic Wilkinson Pike), Asbury Lane, and Old Nashville Highway (historic Nashville Pike).

The nine stops on the new interpretive route are listed below (also refer to the Alternative 2 map for locations of the tour stops).

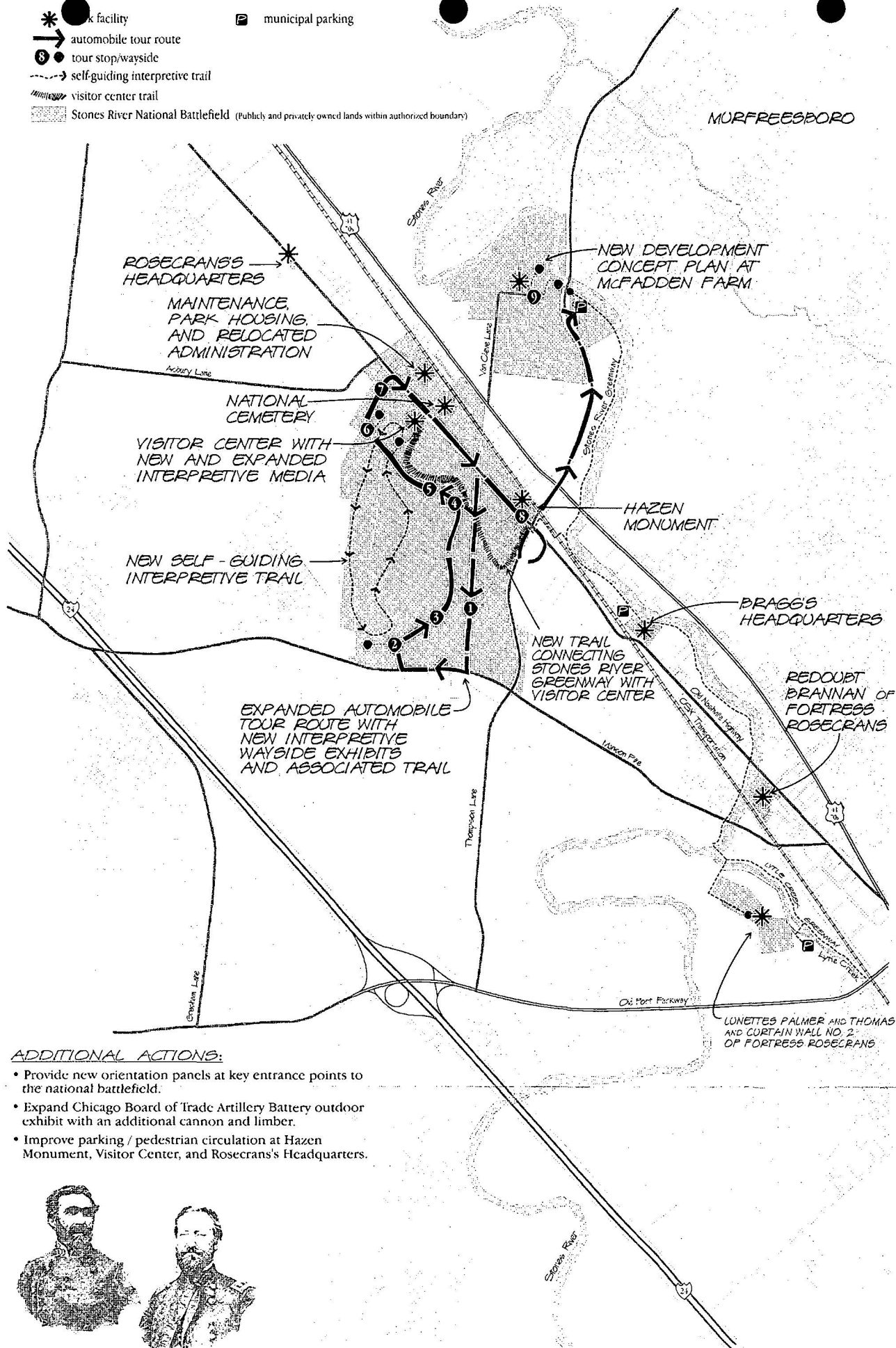
- Stop 1 – Lines Before Battle (1st Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 2 – Attempted Union Stand (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 3 – Yankee Collapse (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 4 – The Cotton Field (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stops 5 and 6 – Confederate Thrust to Old Nashville Pike (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 7 – Union Defense of Old Nashville Pike (5th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 8 – Fight for the Round Forest (4th and 5th Major Battle Action Zones)
- Stop 9 – McFadden's Ford/McFadden Farm (6th Major Battle Action Zone)

Particular effort would be made to develop a single wayside exhibit that would orient park visitors to all six of the identified major battle action zones. It would further invite them to experience four of these six phases of the Battle of Stones River along this auto tour route, as well as introduce them to the remaining two phases. The exhibit could be located at stop 1.

### **National Cemetery**

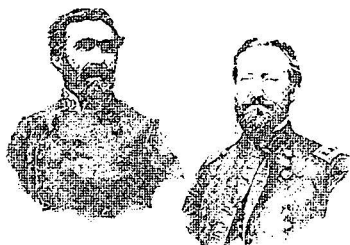
As in alternative 1, in order to improve the chronology of the auto tour and to preserve the contemplative atmosphere of the cemetery, this site would not be included as a tour stop. To ensure that visitors are aware of the existence of this important site, the park folder would feature a section about the cemetery.

- \* facility
- automobile tour route
- tour stop/wayside
- self-guiding interpretive trail
- visitor center trail
- Stones River National Battlefield (Publicly and privately owned lands within authorized boundary)



#### ADDITIONAL ACTIONS:

- Provide new orientation panels at key entrance points to the national battlefield.
- Expand Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit with an additional cannon and limber.
- Improve parking / pedestrian circulation at Hazen Monument, Visitor Center, and Rosecrans's Headquarters.



#### ALTERNATIVE TWO

STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



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## Other Interpretive/Visitor Services

As in alternative 1, a new 1–2 mile pedestrian interpretive trail, beginning and ending at the visitor center, would replace the existing 3.5-mile perimeter trail. A self-guided brochure would be the primary media for use along the trail.

At the Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit near the visitor center, a third cannon/limber set would be added, which would then represent one-half of the full battery of guns with supporting limbers. New interpretive wayside exhibits would be added.

As in alternative 1, visitors would have access to Fortress Rosecrans and Redoubt Brannan; new interpretive wayside exhibits would be provided at the national cemetery, Rosecrans's Headquarters site, and Bragg's Headquarters site; and a film and/or video documentary of all surviving components of the 1862–63 battlefield's cultural landscape would be made as soon as possible.

## VISITOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

### General

The same development philosophy for visitor use facilities as described in alternative 1 would also apply to alternative 2.

In addition to the orientation panels, interpretive media, wayside exhibits, and interpretive trail described previously, the following facility development would be included in this alternative.

### Auto Tour Route and Associated Trail

The auto tour route would be relocated and expanded from the existing 3.4 miles to 5 miles under alternative 2. However, only approximately 2.2 miles, or 44% of the route, would require new or reconstructed roads. The

remainder of the tour route would use existing roads.

All tour stops would be designed to accommodate parking for vehicles and bicycles, including oversized vehicles such as buses and trailers. Wayside exhibits would be sited to take advantage of the scene being described, and appropriate pedestrian circulation would be provided. Footpaths would lead to wayside exhibits at some of the stops. A trail would parallel the auto tour route.

Further descriptions of the auto tour route and associated trail are included in appendix D.

### McFadden Farm

Visitor use facilities at the McFadden Farm in alternative 2 would be the same as those in alternative 1.

### Visitor Center Trail

Construction of a 1-mile trail connecting the visitor center with the Stones River Greenway via the city's Battlefield Way would be the same as described in alternative 1. The potential also exists for a spur trail to extend south and east to a possible future segment of the Stones River Greenway.

### Other Sites

Modifications for visitor center parking, Hazen Monument, and Rosecrans's Headquarters would be the same as those proposed for alternative 1, except that alternative 2 would not provide a trail along Old Nashville Highway to connect Rosecrans's Headquarters site with the visitor center. Development concept plans and environmental assessments for proposed developments would be provided when funding becomes available for design and construction.

**MANAGEMENT ZONING**

Management zoning for lands within the currently authorized boundary would be the same as for alternative 1.

**COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH COMMUNITY**

Under alternative 2, actions called for in the coordination and cooperation with the community would be the same as those described in alternative 1.

**CARRYING CAPACITY**

Actions related to carrying capacity as described in alternative 1 would also be applicable to alternative 2.

**PARK OPERATIONS AND STAFFING**

Park operations and staffing would be managed the same as alternative 1.

**ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT COSTS**

Table 2 shows the estimated facility and interpretive development costs of implementing alternative 2. The costs represent class "C" estimates, which are conceptual cost estimates based on square foot costs of similar construction, or identifiable costs of similar construction and production items. The list of actions is in approximate order of priority.

**TABLE 2: ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT COSTS - ALTERNATIVE 2**

ITEM	GROSS CONSTRUCTION AND PRODUCTION COSTS	ADVANCED AND PROJECT PLANNING COSTS	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS
Provide trail along McFadden Lane at McFadden Farm	\$38,500	\$5,300	\$43,800
Construct visitor center trail	256,000	35,200	291,200
Provide orientation panels at entrances to park	16,000	2,000	18,000
Provide documentary film and audiovisual equipment	135,000	12,000	147,000
Replace parking area, provide landscaping and road improvements, and provide new wayside exhibits at McFadden Farm	196,500	26,800	223,300
Renovate visitor center, provide new interpretive media in visitor center, and provide accessibility for mobility impaired persons	1,085,400	285,500	1,370,900
Expand Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit with an additional cannon and limber and new wayside exhibits	68,000	2,000	70,000
Improve parking/pedestrian circulation at Hazen Monument, visitor center, and Rosecrans's Headquarters	229,100	31,500	260,600
Construct tour road within existing boundary, provide new wayside exhibits along tour road and other locations, and construct associated trail	1,521,800	271,200	1,793,000
Construct pedestrian interpretive trail	110,700	15,200	125,900
<b>Total*</b>	<b>\$3,657,000</b>	<b>\$686,700</b>	<b>\$4,343,700</b>

\* The cost of landscape restoration is not included and would depend on recommendations in proposed cultural landscape reports.



## ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

### CONCEPT

The emphasis of alternative 3 would be to continue with the current management direction. Under this alternative, there would be no significant change in interpretation and the way the park is being managed and no change in the authorized park boundary. However, much needed orientation panels would be installed throughout the park, some changes would be made in the access to McFadden Farm, and a trail would be constructed to connect the visitor center with the Stones River Greenway. Coordination would continue with local agencies, groups, and landowners to preserve and protect lands that retain historic landscape integrity within the original battlefield, but outside the park boundary.

### LAND PROTECTION

Land protection for alternative 3 would be the same as described in alternative 2.

### CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Resource management actions would be carried out as described in alternative 1.

### NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Resource management actions would be carried out as described in alternative 1.

### INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE

As in alternative 2, this alternative would provide onsite interpretation for four of the six major battle action zones, but much less effectively: 1. *Union and Confederate Lines before the Battle*, 4. *Union Defensive Stand*, 5. *Defense of Nashville Pike*, and 6. *Conclusion*

*of Battle*. It would not provide onsite interpretation for the other two major action zones — 2. *Start of Battle* and 3. *Initial Stages of Battle*.

### Summary of Visitor Experience

The park's visitor center would continue to serve as the first stop for visitors. From there, visitors would drive through the park on a self-guided tour of battlefield sites.

### Directional Signs, Orientation Panels, and Wayside Exhibits

As described in alternatives 1 and 2, parkwide orientation panels would be provided at entrances throughout the national battlefield.

### Visitor Center

There would be no change in the current interpretation and visitor use activities at the visitor center. For a description of the visitor center, see the "Affected Environment" section under interpretation and visitor use.

### Auto Tour Route with Wayside Exhibits

The park's 3.4-mile auto tour provides the only structured opportunity for visitors to experience the NPS-administered portion of the battlefield. Most visitors take this self-guided interpretive drive, which requires about 45 minutes to one hour to complete, using the tour text in the park folder.

The auto tour would continue to have six interpretive stops, listed below (also refer to the Alternative 3 map for locations of the tour stops). The tour is preceded by a panoramic

view of the battlefield from the visitor center patio. It then proceeds to stop 1.

- Stop 1 – The Eve of Battle (1st Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 2 – The Slaughter Pen (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 3 – The Cotton Field (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 4 – Defense of the Nashville Pike (5th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 5 – Fight for the Round Forest (4th and 5th Major Battle Action Zones)
- Stop 6 – McFadden's Ford (6th Major Battle Action Zone)

### **National Cemetery**

As in alternatives 1 and 2, in order to improve the chronology of the auto tour and to preserve the *contemplative atmosphere of the cemetery*, this site would not be included as a tour stop. To ensure that visitors are aware of the existence of this important site, the park folder would continue to feature a section about the cemetery.

### **Other Interpretive/Visitor Services**

Sections of the 3.5-mile perimeter trail would continue to be available to park visitors for the foreseeable future.

The Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit near the visitor center would remain unchanged, with its two 6-pounder smooth-bore cannon on replica carriages, two replica limbers, and an outdated interpretive wayside exhibit.

As in alternatives 1 and 2, visitors would have access to Fortress Rosecrans and Redoubt Brannan, and a film and/or video documentary

of all surviving components of the 1862–63 battlefield's cultural landscape would be made.

## **VISITOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **General**

The same development philosophy for visitor use facilities as described in alternative 1 would also apply to alternative 3.

In addition to the orientation panels previously described, the following facility development would be included in this alternative.

### **Auto Tour Route**

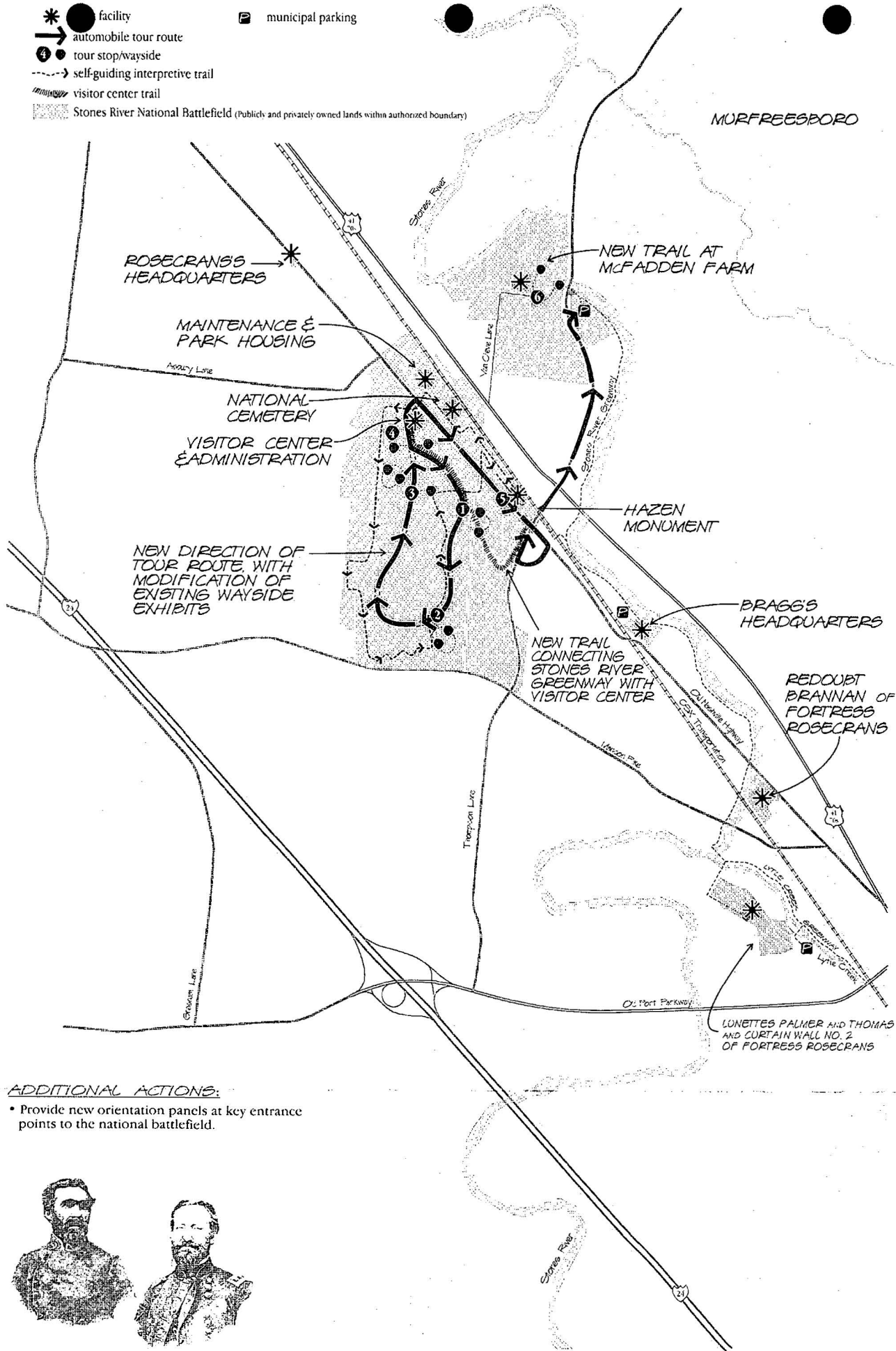
In the *Draft General Management Plan*, it was stated that the National Park Service would reverse the traffic flow on the existing auto tour loop south of the visitor center to a clockwise direction, in order to present the battle story in a more consistent chronological order. That action has been completed.

For the final tour stop, most visitors to McFadden Farm access the site via U.S. 41/70S and Van Cleve Lane. When the pedestrian trail at McFadden Farm is completed, visitors would be encouraged to access the site via Thompson Lane.

### **McFadden Farm**

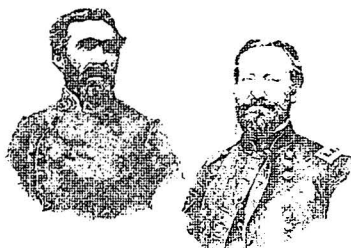
Visitors arriving by vehicle at the final stop on the self-guided interpretive tour would be encouraged to use the city's parking area on the east side of the Thompson Lane bridge at Stones River, which also provides access to the Stones River Greenway. Alternative access for the mobility impaired would be via Van Cleve Lane to the parking area near the Artillery Monument. This parking area would also be available to all visitors during periods of high river water.

- \* facility
- automobile tour route
- ④ tour stop/wayside
- self-guiding interpretive trail
- visitor center trail
- Stones River National Battlefield (Publicly and privately owned lands within authorized boundary)



#### ADDITIONAL ACTIONS:

- Provide new orientation panels at key entrance points to the national battlefield.



### ALTERNATIVE THREE

Continuation of  
Existing Conditions

STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



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Access to McFadden Farm from the parking area near the Thompson Lane bridge would be via historic McFadden Lane. The footpath would connect to the paved section of Van Cleve Lane as it leads to the parking area near the Artillery Monument. An orientation panel would be provided at the entrance to the site near the terminus of the Stones River Greenway to provide orientation and information.

### Visitor Center Trail

Construction of a 1-mile trail connecting the visitor center with the Stones River Greenway via the city's Battlefield Way would be the same as described in alternative 1. The potential also exists for a spur trail to extend south and east to a possible future segment of the Stones River Greenway.

### MANAGEMENT ZONING

Under alternative 3, management zoning for lands within the currently authorized boundary would be the same as for alternative 1.

### COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH COMMUNITY

Under alternative 3, actions called for in the coordination and cooperation with the community would be the same as those described in alternative 1.

### CARRYING CAPACITY

Actions related to carrying capacity as described in alternative 1 would also be applicable to alternative 3.

### PARK OPERATIONS AND STAFFING

Park operations and staffing would be managed the same as alternative 1.

### ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT COSTS

Table 3 shows the estimated facility and interpretive development costs of implementing alternative 3. The costs represent class "C" estimates, which are conceptual cost estimates based on square foot costs of similar construction, or identifiable costs of similar construction and production items. The list of actions is in approximate order of priority.

TABLE 3: ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT COSTS – ALTERNATIVE 3 (CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS)

ITEM	GROSS CONSTRUCTION AND PRODUCTION COSTS	ADVANCED AND PROJECT PLANNING COSTS	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS
Provide trail along McFadden Lane at McFadden Farm	\$38,500	\$5,300	\$43,800
Construct visitor center trail	256,000	35,200	291,200
Provide orientation panels at entrances to park	16,000	2,000	18,000
Provide documentary film and audiovisual equipment	135,000	12,000	147,000
<b>Total*</b>	<b>\$445,500</b>	<b>\$54,500</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>

\* The cost of landscape restoration is not included and would depend on recommendations in proposed cultural landscape reports.



## MITIGATION MEASURES FOR ALL ALTERNATIVES

The National Park Service will follow all legislation and policies regarding the treatment of cultural resources. In particular, section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470, et seq.), requires that federal agencies that have direct or indirect jurisdiction take into account the effect of undertaking on national register properties. The "Compliance" section of this general management plan outlines those actions that are programmatically excluded without need for further review by the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Officer or the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, provided the National Park Service takes a series of internal review actions. Undertakings not specifically excluded must be reviewed by the state historic preservation officer. Internally, the National Park Service will complete an "Assessment of Actions Having an Effect on Cultural Resources" form before implementation of any proposed actions. This is necessary to document any project effects, outline actions proposed to mitigate any effects, and document that the proposed actions flow from the general management plan. All implementing actions for cultural resources would be reviewed and certified by cultural resource specialists following the September 1995 programmatic agreement.

Prior to any ground-disturbing action by the National Park Service, a professional archeologist would determine the need for an archeological survey or testing. Any such studies would be carried out in conjunction with construction and would meet the needs of the state historic preservation officer, as well as the National Park Service. Any large-scale archeological investigation would be undertaken in consultation with the state historic preservation officer. If any unknown archeological resources are discovered during construction, the work will be halted until a professional archeologist can assess the find and consult with the state historic preservation officer. On those

lands acquired by the National Park Service, structures to be torn down would be done so only after consultation with the state historic preservation officer to determine the appropriate level of documentation.

Guidelines for sustainable design have been established by the National Park Service for use in all planning efforts throughout the national park system. Although many of the individual components of sustainable design are not new, much still needs to be learned regarding the practical application of viable techniques that emphasize the structural function of the environment and how humans fit into that system, rather than how the environment fits into human needs. Mitigation measures discussed below include applicable components of sustainable design, and would pertain to all alternatives.

Erosion and stormwater control plans consistent with state and federal regulations would be implemented at the design phase. Revegetation of road or trail banks and disturbed soil areas would be facilitated by conserving existing topsoil and using it in revegetation efforts to prevent bringing unwanted nonnative plant material in imported soil. Topsoil storage should be limited to 6–12 months because seed and root viability are lost if soil is stored for longer periods. Standard mitigation measures such as vegetation buffers, silt screens, log check dams, sediment traps, and other barriers would be used to reduce erosion and prevent significant short-term deterioration of water quality during construction. If impacts on wetlands are unavoidable, appropriate mitigation in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations would be undertaken.

Where revegetation is required, native plant material would be used, and vegetation management techniques would be implemented to eliminate nonnative species.

Patterns of planting should mimic native growth patterns wherever possible. Native grass seed would be used, if available, although nonnative nurse species (species that only last one season and stabilize the soil but do not reproduce) could be used until native species return naturally.

Other plant material used should be as genetically similar as possible to what is in the battlefield. Where development proves to be a visual intrusion, vegetation buffers would be used to screen the development from view as much as possible, with due consideration to the results of proposed cultural landscape reports. In cases where vegetation in historic areas and cultural landscapes requires replacement, historic vegetation types would be preferred.

Spills from construction equipment would be reduced or prevented from entering waterways through use of barriers in ditches and low drainage areas. Adequate cross-drains, if needed, would be developed to ensure proper drainage. Important habitat features would be conserved or enhanced where possible.

If air quality were threatened, water spraying along roadway/trails/parking lot construction would be used to reduce dust.

Detailed surveys would be made and appropriate habitats searched for the presence of rare, threatened, and endangered species (including their critical habitat) prior to implementation of any proposed action.

Clearances from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the state would be obtained before any actions were implemented.

Techniques and procedures to mitigate possible impacts on rare, threatened, or endangered species would be developed in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the state of Tennessee, and followed during construction activities.

TABLE 4: SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
CONCEPT	Preserve a larger area of the original battlefield that has retained historical landscape integrity by expanding the park boundary and acquiring additional land; and improve interpretation and the ability of the visitor to experience a "sense of place" within the battlefield by providing new exhibits in the visitor center and establishing a new auto tour route within the existing and expanded boundary.	Improve interpretation and the visitor experience by providing new exhibits in the visitor center and by establishing a new auto tour route within the existing boundary.	Continue with the direction of current management, with no significant change in interpretation and the way the park is being managed, and no change in the authorized park boundary.
LAND PROTECTION	Expand the boundaries of the national battlefield to include an additional 759 acres of land, most of which is south of Manson Pike, for a total area of 1,471 acres; and acquire land within the new boundaries according to a proposed updated land protection plan.	Continue to acquire land within the authorized boundary, which encompasses 712 acres, as negotiations with landowners are consummated and as funding permits.	Same as alternative 2.
CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	<p>Produce cultural landscape reports that would prescribe how the landscape should be modified to approximate an 1860s era appearance.</p> <p>Remove post-war structures and safety hazards, and modify the landscape and landforms to restore the land to a general 1860s era appearance as described in proposed cultural landscape reports.</p> <p>Maintain fields by such means as lease programs or other partnership efforts. Define boundaries for the National Register of Historic Places.</p> <p>Encourage neighboring landowners to maintain a general appearance of an agricultural landscape, or to keep land in open space.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>

TABLE 4: SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES (CONT.)

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
<b>CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (CONT.)</b>	<p>Maintain the national cemetery as close as possible to the 1892 design, or as described in the proposed cultural landscape report.</p> <p>Develop various action plans to provide guidance on managing specific aspects of the cultural resources, and update the park's <i>Resource Management Plan</i> to reflect proposals in the general management plan.</p> <p>Apply the same cultural resource management concepts to additional lands that would be included within the proposed expanded boundary.</p> <p>Provide more curatorial care for the park's collection of artifacts in storage; improve and expand the display of items in the collection; and move the park's collection and library out of the 500-year floodplain to an aboveground structure.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>
<b>NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>	<p>Provide for long-term preservation of the cedar glade habitat and its endemic flora.</p> <p>Return Stones River to its natural flow at McFadden Farm, consistent with recommendations in the proposed cultural landscape reports and the proposed hydrological study.</p> <p>Address the nonnative plant species problem through integrated pest management practices.</p> <p>Develop various action plans to provide guidance on managing specific aspects of the natural resources, and update the park's <i>Resource Management Plan</i> to reflect proposals in the general management plan.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>



TABLE 4: SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES (CONT.)

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (CONT.)	Apply the same natural resource management concepts to the additional lands that would be included within the proposed expanded boundary.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE	<p>Provide orientation panels at entrances to park.</p> <p>Provide trail access to the visitor center from the Stones River Greenway.</p> <p>Produce a film and/or video documentary of all surviving components of the 1862-63 battlefield's cultural landscape.</p> <p>Provide a new 7.6-mile automobile tour road within the existing and expanded park boundary, with 12 tour stops, new wayside exhibits, and an associated trail for pedestrians and bicyclists.</p> <p>Provide for visitor pedestrian access to McFadden Farm from the northern terminus of the Stones River Greenway and its associated parking lot. Remove the parking lot at the Artillery Monument and replace it with a smaller lot at a less intrusive nearby site for use by the mobility impaired. Provide road improvements and landscaping, in accordance with proposed cultural landscape reports, and provide new interpretive exhibits.</p> <p>Provide new and expanded interpretive media in the visitor center, and accessibility for mobility impaired persons.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Provide a new 5-mile automobile tour road within the existing park boundary, with 9 tour stops, new wayside exhibits, and an associated trail for pedestrians and bicyclists.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Similar to alternative 1, with additional emphasis on describing battle actions that occurred outside the park boundary.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Access McFadden Farm, the final stop on the 3.4-mile auto and bike tour, via Thompson Lane, rather than U.S. 41/70S and Van Cleave Lane.</p> <p>Provide for visitor pedestrian access to McFadden Farm from the northern terminus of the Stones River Greenway and its associated parking lot.</p> <p>No significant changes would be made at the visitor center.</p>

TABLE 4: SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES (CONT.)

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
<b>INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE (CONT.)</b>	<p>Replace the 3.5-mile perimeter trail with a 1- to 2-mile interpretive trail, and provide a self-guided interpretive brochure.</p> <p>Expand the Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit to include all the elements of a complete battery.</p> <p>Provide pedestrian and bicycle access from the visitor center to Rosecrans's Headquarters site, separated from automobile traffic.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Expand the Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit with an additional cannon and limber.</p> <p>Pedestrian and bicycle access from the visitor center to Rosecrans's Headquarters site would be via Old Nashville Highway.</p>	<p>Retain sections of the 3.5-mile perimeter trail for visitor use.</p> <p>Provide no changes to the Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit.</p> <p>Same as alternative 2.</p>
<b>VISITOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT</b>	<p>Construct a trail suitable for pedestrian and bicycle use connecting the visitor center with the Stones River Greenway via the city's Battlefield Way.</p> <p>Construct a new automobile tour road and associated trail within the existing and expanded park boundary.</p> <p>Construct a footpath along historic McFadden Lane to provide access from the northern terminus of the Stones River Greenway and its associated parking lot to McFadden Farm. Provide a parking lot at a nearby site for use by the mobility impaired. Remove the parking lot at the Artillery Monument, provide new landscape elements, in accordance with proposed cultural landscape reports, and make road improvements.</p> <p>Provide necessary modifications to the interior of the visitor center to accommodate new and expanded interpretive exhibits, and improve accessibility.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Construct a new automobile tour road and associated trail within the existing park boundary.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>No change.</p> <p>Construct a footpath along historic McFadden Lane to provide access from the northern terminus of the Stones River Greenway and its associated parking lot to McFadden Farm.</p> <p>No change.</p>

TABLE 4: SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES (CONT.)

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
<b>VISITOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT (CONT.)</b>	<p>Modify parking at the visitor center, Hazen Monument, and Rosecrans's Headquarters to improve circulation and safety, and to provide for adequate capacity.</p> <p>Construct a trail to provide access from the visitor center to Rosecrans's Headquarters site for pedestrian and bicycle use, subject to acquisition of land within the proposed expanded boundary.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Provide no alternative for pedestrians and bicyclists to access Rosecrans's Headquarters site from the visitor center, other than along Old Nashville Highway.</p>	<p>Make no changes in the parking situation at the park.</p> <p>Same as alternative 2.</p>
<b>COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH COMMUNITY</b>	<p>Support the protection of significant cultural resources, including cultural landscapes, located within the original battlefield, but outside the park boundary.</p> <p>Work with neighbors and friends groups, and local and state agencies to meet management objectives.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>
<b>CARRYING CAPACITY</b>	<p>Accommodate the type and level of visitor use that sustains the desired resource and social conditions that complement the purpose and management objectives of the park.</p> <p>Monitor visitor use along the tour route, including automobile use and bicycle use, and if overcrowding becomes a problem, provide operational solutions.</p> <p>Continue to evaluate the parking situation, and take appropriate action, guided by the primary objective of preserving the historic landscape.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>	<p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p> <p>Same as alternative 1.</p>

TABLE 4: SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES (CONT.)

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
<b>PARK OPERATIONS AND STAFFING</b>	Increasing the park's human resources is vital to successful implementation of the plan. If budgetary restrictions continue to prohibit hiring new employees to satisfy the increased workload, fulfill this requirement via such means as contracting, administering leasing arrangements, volunteerism, or student work-study programs.	Same as alternative 1.	Same as alternative 1.
<b>ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT COSTS*</b>	\$6,309,500**	\$4,343,700	\$500,000

\* The cost of landscape restoration for each alternative is not included and would depend on recommendations in proposed cultural landscape reports.

\*\* The cost of acquiring additional land is not included. See the discussion of land acquisition costs in the "Proposed Additions" section of alternative 1.

TABLE 5: SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
<b>IMPACTS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES</b>	<p align="center"><b>IMPACTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCES</b></p> <p>Currently unknown archeological resources could be damaged by ground disturbance during facility development or installation of wayside exhibits.</p> <p>Historical integrity of open battlefield lands outside the national battlefield boundaries would continue to be lost to development, but to a greater extent in alternatives 2 and 3 than in alternative 1.</p> <p>Providing a more climate-controlled environment for the park's collection, and moving it out of the 500-year floodplain, would increase long-term protection of the collection.</p>		
	<p align="center"><b>IMPACTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES</b></p> <p>None of the alternatives would significantly affect air quality in the national battlefield.</p> <p>There would be no new long-lasting negative effects on threatened or endangered species or on critical habitat from any of the alternatives.</p>		
	<p align="center"><b>IMPACTS ON INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE</b></p> <p>Visitors would continue to have the opportunity to directly experience some of the historic battlefield via the auto tour route and an interpretive trail. However, the quality of the interpretive and learning experience would vary among the three alternatives and would be the greatest in alternative 1.</p> <p>Visitors would continue to have the opportunity to learn about the Battle of Stones River at the visitor center. However, the quality of the learning experience would be greater in alternatives 1 and 2 than in alternative 3.</p> <p>The visitor center trail would provide easy and safe access for pedestrians and bicyclists from the Stones River Greenway to the visitor center and other sections of the park. The resulting increase in bicycle use may have an adverse effect on other park visitors.</p>		



TABLE 5: SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (CONT.)

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
IMPACTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCES	The protection of cultural resources would be greater than either alternative 2 or 3, with over 750 additional acres of original battlefield included in the expanded boundary.	Overall protection of cultural resources associated with the original battlefield, including the cultural landscape and archeological resources, would be significantly less than in alternative 1, since more than 750 acres of land that might otherwise be under NPS protection would be subject to residential, commercial, and/or industrial development.	Same as alternative 2.
	The battlefield's identity would be the greatest of all the alternatives with the additional lands in the expanded boundary being maintained in an 1860s era appearance.	The battlefield's identity would be improved by returning lands within the existing boundary to an 1860s era appearance with the assistance of cultural landscape reports.	Same as alternative 2.
	Although no new buildings or structures are proposed, impacts on the historic scene and unknown archeological resources would be the greatest of all the alternatives due to the most development proposed in terms of roads and trails.	Impacts on the historic scene and unknown archeological resources would be greater than under current conditions, due to more development proposed in terms of roads and trails.	There would be impacts on the historic scene and possible impacts on unknown archeological resources from construction of the visitor center trail and trail improvement at McFadden Farm.
IMPACTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES	Overall long-term protection of natural resources in general, and prime and unique farmlands and threatened or endangered species in particular, would be greater in alternative 1 than either alternative 2 or 3, with over 750 additional acres included in the expanded boundary.	Overall long-term protection of natural resources, including prime and unique farmlands and threatened or endangered species, would be significantly less than in alternative 1, since more than 750 acres of land that might otherwise be under NPS protection would be subject to residential and commercial development.	Same as alternative 2

TABLE 5: SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (CONT.)

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
<b>IMPACTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES (CONT.)</b>	Impacts on natural resources within the park due to NPS construction would be the greatest of all alternatives due to the expanded tour route through open land south of Manson Pike. These impacts would be temporary in nature, during construction, and would cause minor air pollution, disruption of wildlife, potential impact on water quality, clearing of vegetation, and compaction of soil. Development of roads and trails would occur primarily on previously disturbed lands. Mitigation measures would be taken to minimize impacts.	Impacts on natural resources during construction would be similar to but less than alternative 1 due to less construction activities.	There would be relatively minor impacts on natural resources in alternative 1, due to construction of the visitor center trail and provision of a pedestrian trail at McFadden Farm. Both trails would be on previously disturbed land.
<b>IMPACTS ON INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE</b>	The visitor experience would be the most enhanced of all the alternatives. Visitors would have the greatest opportunity to understand the Battle of Stones River, its human drama aspects, and the significant effect of vegetation and landforms on the events and results of the battle. With an expanded tour route and three additional tour stops south of Manson Pike, it is the only alternative that would effectively describe what happened in all six major battle action zones. By more than doubling the size of the park, this alternative affords visitors the best opportunity to feel the sense of scale of the battle, and to imagine what it must have been like to have fought there. The vista that would be provided on Sill's Hill south of Manson Pike is one of the most powerful vistas anywhere on a major Civil War battlefield.	The new tour route and wayside exhibits within the existing boundary would provide visitors with a better understanding and appreciation of the Battle of Stones River than is currently possible. However, only four of the six major battle action zones would be interpreted onsite. With no expansion of the park, visitors would have significantly less opportunity to appreciate and understand the full scale of the battle than with alternative 1.	Only four of the six major battle action zones would be interpreted onsite, but less effectively than alternative 2. With no expansion of the park, visitors would have significantly less opportunity to appreciate and understand the full scale of the battle than with alternative 1.

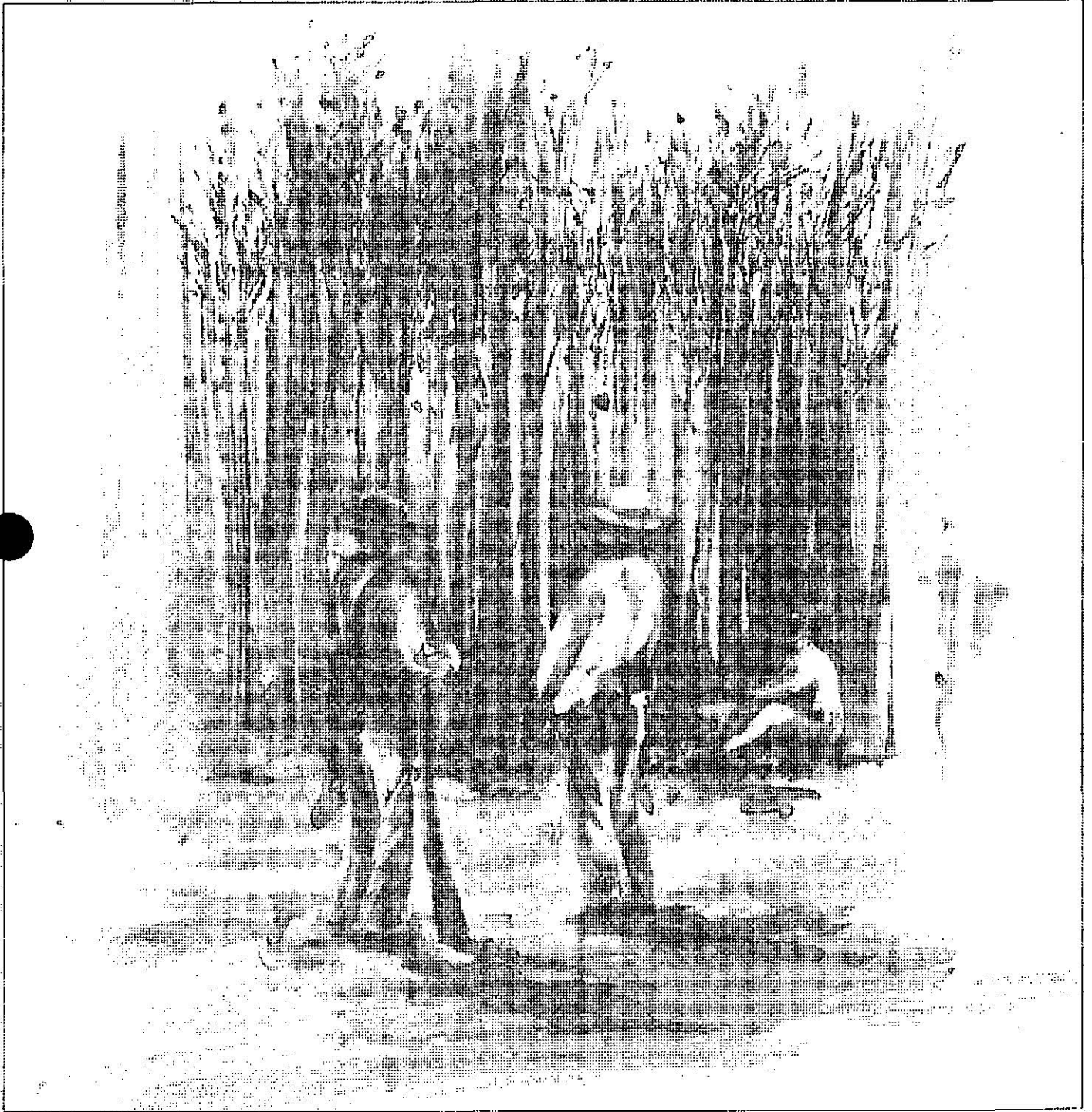
TABLE 5: SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (CONT.)

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
IMPACTS ON INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE (CONT.)	Improvements in the exhibits at the visitor center would significantly enhance visitor understanding of and appreciation for the relationship between battle artifacts and events, and the surviving cultural landscape resource of the battlefield, as well as the battle's greater Civil War context. New multimedia would afford a greater opportunity to experience and understand the events and meaning of the battle in terms of the drama and emotion of its human aspect, as well as its overall historical context.	Same as alternative 1.	At the visitor center, people would continue to experience outdated, inadequate, and sometimes confusing interpretive media and exhibits. They would continue to witness an audiovisual program that fails to adequately interpret the battle.
	The new self-guided interpretive foot trail would provide visitors the opportunity to experience the richness of the original battlefield's surviving cultural landscape, away from the intrusion of automobiles and bicycle traffic.	Similar to alternative 1, but with a shorter interpretive foot trail.	Visitors desiring a quality extended walking interpretive tour would be left with an inadequate, fragmented experience along the park perimeter trail.
IMPACTS ON SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	This alternative would provide the greatest benefit to the local economy of all the alternatives due to the proposed greatest amount of construction of visitor use facilities, and the expected long-term increase in tourism dollars.	There would be more of a beneficial impact on the local economy than alternative 3, due to more proposed construction of visitor use facilities, and an expected greater increase in visitors who would spend more tourism dollars.	No significant change from existing conditions.
	Boundary expansion would have a potential impact on approximately 40 landowners. Owners of properties that are purchased by the federal government would receive fair market value for their properties.	There would be no impact on surrounding property owners from a boundary expansion because no expansion is proposed.	Same as alternative 2.

TABLE 5: SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (CONT.)

TOPIC	ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
IMPACTS ON SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT (CONT.)	The city and/or county would experience a reduction in tax base due to federal acquisition of private properties within the expanded boundaries. This loss in tax revenue would be somewhat offset by savings realized by removing properties from city and/or county services requirements. In addition, the city and/or county would be considered for payments-in-lieu of taxes from the federal government.	There would be no change in the city and/or county tax base due to boundary expansion since none is proposed.	Same as alternative 2.
	Boundary expansion could affect rights-of-way of neighboring roads, railroads, and highways. The National Park Service would consult with appropriate agencies to minimize impacts.	Rights-of-way of neighboring roads, railroads, and highways would not be affected because there would be no boundary expansion.	Same as alternative 2.
	Boundary expansion could have an adverse effect on the city of Murfreesboro's ability to recover money invested in a sanitary sewer system for the area south of Mansion Pike and west of Thompson Lane.	There would be no effect on the city's ability to recover expenses for the sanitary sewer system south of Mansion Pike because there would be no boundary expansion.	Same as alternative 2.
IMPACTS ON NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OPERATIONS	<p>This alternative would result in the greatest requirement for additional staff work to be done in terms of resource and visitor protection, interpretation and visitor services, and maintenance, estimated at the equivalent of two to three additional full-time employees.</p> <p>This alternative would be the most expensive to implement.</p>	<p>There would be a greater impact on park operations than alternative 3 due primarily to the increased need for visitor services for the expected increase in visitation. This would result in the equivalent of one additional full-time employee.</p> <p>This alternative would be less expensive to implement than alternative 1, but more expensive than alternative 3.</p>	<p>There would be a relatively minor impact on park operations and staffing requirements. However, the park is currently staffed at less than the authorized and required number of employees for proper park operations. If this continues into the future, park management would continue to use alternative means of accomplishing work, such as contracting, interns, student work-study programs, volunteerism, and donations of time and funding.</p> <p>This alternative would be the least expensive to implement.</p>

## AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT



Soldiers resting on the second day of battle







## CULTURAL RESOURCES

### BATTLE CONTEXT

In late 1862 Gen. William S. Rosecrans was installed as commander of the Army of the Cumberland in Nashville, Tennessee. His orders were to move aggressively against Chattanooga, the key Confederate rail center located 125 miles southeast. With Chattanooga in Union hands, the lower South would lie open to invasion, and Confederate troops in the East would be isolated from their sources of supplies. Winter was coming on, but Rosecrans took the offensive. On December 26, his army was on the march.

Gen. Braxton Bragg and the Confederate Army of Tennessee placed themselves firmly astride the strategic Nashville and Chattanooga Railway in Murfreesboro, 27 miles southeast of Nashville. Theirs was now a defensive role.

On the evening of December 30, the two armies faced each other at Stones River in a position chosen by the Confederates. Confederate forces numbered 37,700, while Union forces numbered 43,400. The battle would result in more than 23,000 casualties inflicted on the two armies. Both generals decided to launch attacks the following morning with their left wings. The Confederate offensive, however, got underway first, and this gave Bragg the initiative in the battle of December 31. At daybreak, the Confederates' furious assault struck the Union right wing, and by noon of December 31, the right and a part of the Union center had folded back 3 miles from their original position through thick forest to a position along Nashville turnpike, leaving their lines in a deeply acute "V." Quickly entrenched along this road, the federal soldiers were able to hold their positions until darkness fell. On January 1, the two exhausted armies rested and regrouped. Bragg, believing he had defeated the federal troops, was awaiting their retreat. The respite allowed further Union reinforcement within a defensible area, while the Confederate attack lost all momentum.

On January 2, 1863, upon discovering that the Union left wing had advanced, crossed to the east bank of Stones River during the night, and taken up a new position, Bragg ordered an attack. At 4:00 P.M., Gen. John C. Breckinridge, with a division of 4,500 men, made a successful attack that drove the Union troops in a headlong retreat across Stones River, but the attackers over-reached their own support.

At this critical juncture, Gen. Thomas L. Crittenden, commanding the Union left, quickly ordered his chief of artillery, Capt. John E. Mendenhall, to support the withdrawing infantry with cannon. With incredible speed, Mendenhall assembled guns from eight batteries, totaling 57 pieces. He placed them from a knoll about 100 yards west of Stones River south to an area near the railroad tracks, where they commanded the field of the Confederate attack across the river. Firing more than 100 rounds per minute at close range, the massed battery created carnage. In less than an hour 1,800 Confederate soldiers fell dead or wounded, and their successful charge suddenly turned into a retreat and then a rout. Following up the Confederate retreat, the Union troops quickly regained their position on the east bank of Stones River as night fell.

Rosecrans's army had dug in and was being resupplied, but was unable to mount a counterattack. Bragg's army was unable to press the advantage, so he disengaged the Confederate troops and withdrew 37 miles southeast to Tullahoma, where winter camp was set up, leaving Murfreesboro open to Rosecrans.

The Northern general settled down in Murfreesboro to construct one of the largest earthworks of the war. At the end of a six-month construction effort, Fortress Rosecrans became a major supply depot. It controlled traffic on the vital Nashville-Chattanooga Railroad for the Union and was the major element in Union control of Middle Tennessee. When Gen. John B. Hood attacked Nashville in December 1864,

a simultaneous effort to cut off Fortress Rosecrans was made, but to no avail. Two weeks after the battle of Nashville, Union troops from Fortress Rosecrans had the torn rails to Nashville repaired and in operation.

## ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

There is evidence, although minimal, of Archaic Period occupation, as well as the later Woodland and Mississippi cultures that lived in the region. The Confederacy of Six Nations later established a claim in the region. Eventually, Shawnees inhabited Middle Tennessee until forced out by the Cherokees and Chickasaws in the mid 18th century.

The majority of archeological resources at the park are related to the battle. However, many of the archeological resources consist of the remains of historic period structures and associated deposits dating from the early 19th century, when the area was first settled.

In 1976 an assessment of cultural resources was completed as part of an environmental assessment at Stones River (NPS 1976). The artifacts, cemeteries, buildings, and earthworks that related to the battle were included. It was noted that there could be Native American artifacts in the area; a Middle to Late Archaic point was purported to have been collected within 2 miles of the park.

In 1976 the Southeast Archeological Center conducted a survey and excavations within the park and in areas proposed for acquisition. Nine locations were investigated that were to be affected by construction (NPS 1990a). The only evidence encountered was limited to lithic material near the Union Artillery Monument. The site, which was dated to the Archaic period, is within a few hundred feet of the parking loop (existing in 1976).

The archeologists attempted to locate the sites of 10 historically known structures grouped in 6 clusters. These were the blockhouse, the

Nashville Pike tollhouse and gates (and detached kitchen), a log house located to the east of Van Cleve Lane between the railroad and the Nashville Pike, a log farmhouse with detached kitchen located to the west of Van Cleve Lane and to the south of Nashville Pike, two log cabins west of Van Cleve Lane and north of Manson Pike, and two outbuildings of the Blanton complex. At the majority of these sites, no evidence of structural remains was found. The basal portion of the chimney was located of the Tollhouse's detached kitchen, as was an artifact cluster in the general location of the log farmhouse with the detached kitchen. It was not believed that the artifacts were related to the house present at the time of the battle. Five test units were dug in the foundation of the Blanton House (not on park property). No evidence was found that would definitively date this structure to the mid 19th century.

In 1976 the city of Murfreesboro and the National Park Service conducted excavations in Lunette Palmer (NPS 1978). Five different structural features were investigated: (1) southern exterior embankment and facing trench, (2) double crested western interior wall, (3) conical structure at the forward interior of the lunette, (4) triangular-shaped platform at the southwestern corner, and (5) a concentration of brick and rusted metal pieces in the central interior. In area 1, it was determined that the exterior trench was excavated first in the construction sequence. The function of the double crested earthworks could not be determined (area 2). In area 3 construction was facilitated through superposition of localized soils, but no subsurface features were found to indicate that this was used as a magazine. Area 4 was determined to be an artillery platform. Area E was a domestic type structure with walls that were 10 to 12 feet. Few artifacts were recovered; this could have been because of the short-term occupation (1863-65) of the site.

In 1985 the Southeast Archeological Center conducted an archeological investigation inside the Hazen Brigade Monument (NPS 1989b). Inside the monument, nine artifacts were

discovered. Most of the artifacts appeared to be associated with materials used by Confederate forces.

In 1990 the Southeast Archeological Center conducted archeological investigations in the area that would be impacted by the visitor center addition and parking lot expansion (NPS 1990b). A small amount of prehistoric and historic artifacts (mainly from the early to mid 20th century) was found. These artifacts were not believed to represent a discrete historic site but represented casual disposal or loss over time.

Also in 1990 the Southeast Archeological Center conducted archeological investigations in areas that would be affected by the removal of line towers (NPS 1992b). Near one tower, one lithic flake was found. In 1991, investigations were conducted for the proposed construction of a trail and parking lot. Two saw mills that Union forces constructed inside Fortress Rosecrans were identified and an assessment was made of Blanton House.

In 1992 the Southeast Archeological Center conducted testing at Lunette Palmer and shovel testing at Redoubt Brannan (NPS 1992c). Artifact density was extremely low. Later in 1992 excavations were conducted inside Redoubt Brannan. A trash pit that postdates the redoubt (1875–1925); stratigraphic evidence of the powder magazine, (but no artifactual or construction evidence); and evidence of a blockhouse (the shape of which has not been archeologically confirmed) were found.

In 1994 the Southeast Archeological Center conducted a pedestrian survey of portions of the field near the Artillery Monument (NPS 1994b). An Early to Middle Archaic (8,000 B.C. to 3,000 B.C.) component and a Middle Woodland (A.D. 150 to A.D. 500) component was found as was evidence of the McFadden House site and complex. Survey work was done in the area of the Blanton House.

Also in 1994 the Southeast Archeological Center monitored the installation of utility lines

near the park housing units. During the trenching, an intact segment of a possible stable was encountered and avoided. In 1995, the center undertook a project of limited testing and survey at the park as part of the Systemwide Archeological Inventory Program (NPS 1995). The primary objective of this survey was to determine the battle location of specific field units, using data collected from remote sensing. The second major objective of the survey was to update the Cultural Sites Inventory-Archeology (CSI-A), state site forms, and make national register nominations as appropriate.

The park staff, in compliance with the Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (P.L. 101-601; 104 Stat. 3049), has not identified any Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, nor objects of cultural patrimony in their collections. No Native American group has been identified with cultural affiliation to the battlefield. No special use of the battlefield has been identified by ethnographic groups. The park will continue to work toward full compliance with the Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act.

## **HISTORIC RESOURCES**

The park was established to preserve a portion of land over which Union and Confederate armies fought the Battle of Stones River. Originally, less than 10% of the 4,000-acre original battlefield was included in the Stones River National Battlefield. Today, the authorized boundary of the national battlefield encompasses 712 acres, and includes portions of Fortress Rosecrans (Lunette Palmer, Curtain Wall No. 2, Lunette Thomas, and Redoubt Brannan), which are outside the original battlefield, and additional acreage near the original park. The areas are listed in the National Register of Historic Places as Stones River National Battlefield, Fortress Rosecrans Site, and Redoubt Brannan. However, the authorized boundary still encompasses only 17% of the original battlefield (see the Existing Conditions

map). Thus, the sites of many of the events relating to the battle are located outside the park boundary. A notable concentration is south of Manson Pike, an area that retains a significant amount of historical integrity.

The main section of the national battlefield, consisting of 508 acres, includes portions of the Union lines and areas where some of the fiercest fighting took place. This section of the park includes cedar glades, rock outcroppings, and open fields. It contains earthworks and entrenchments, sites of farm cabins, sites of artillery batteries (including Chicago Board of Trade Battery), and a toll house site, all of which were associated with the battle.

The northern part of the main section of the park contains the Stones River National Cemetery and Hazen Monument area. The 20-acre national cemetery was established in 1865 and contains about 7,000 graves. The cemetery contains the 43rd Wisconsin/180th Ohio monument erected in 1865 and the U. S. Regular Brigade Monument erected in 1882. Surrounding the cemetery is a 3,843-foot limestone wall erected in 1898. The cemetery is maintained in accordance with a 1970s interpretation of the 1892 landscape plan (developed by the army when the cemetery was under its jurisdiction). The area next to the railroad between the cemetery and Van Cleve Lane includes the death site of Col. Julius Garesche, Rosecrans's chief of staff.

Enclosed within the limestone wall of the Hazen Monument area are 55 graves and the nation's oldest intact Civil War Monument, which was erected in 1863. This is the site of the Round Forest, which was the only Union position held throughout the first day of battle.

The 162-acre McFadden Farm area, located on the banks of Stones River within the city limits of Murfreesboro, includes the open field and hill where Union Major John Mendenhall's massed artillery of nearly 60 guns smashed the Confederate assault on January 2, 1863, and drove them back. Some 1,800 men were killed

or wounded in less than an hour of fighting. This also is the location of McFadden's Ford, which was the focal point of the Confederate assault. A tall monument to the fighting on the last day of battle is located on the hill.

Redoubt Brannan lies within a 9-acre, noncontiguous parcel of land on the banks of Stones River in the city limits of Murfreesboro. The redoubt is an interior earthwork of the larger Fortress Rosecrans. It was constructed in 1863 following the Battle of Stones River. The redoubt is located slightly more than a mile east of the main park boundary along the Old Nashville Highway.

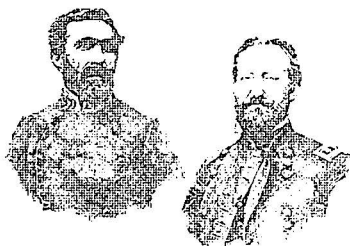
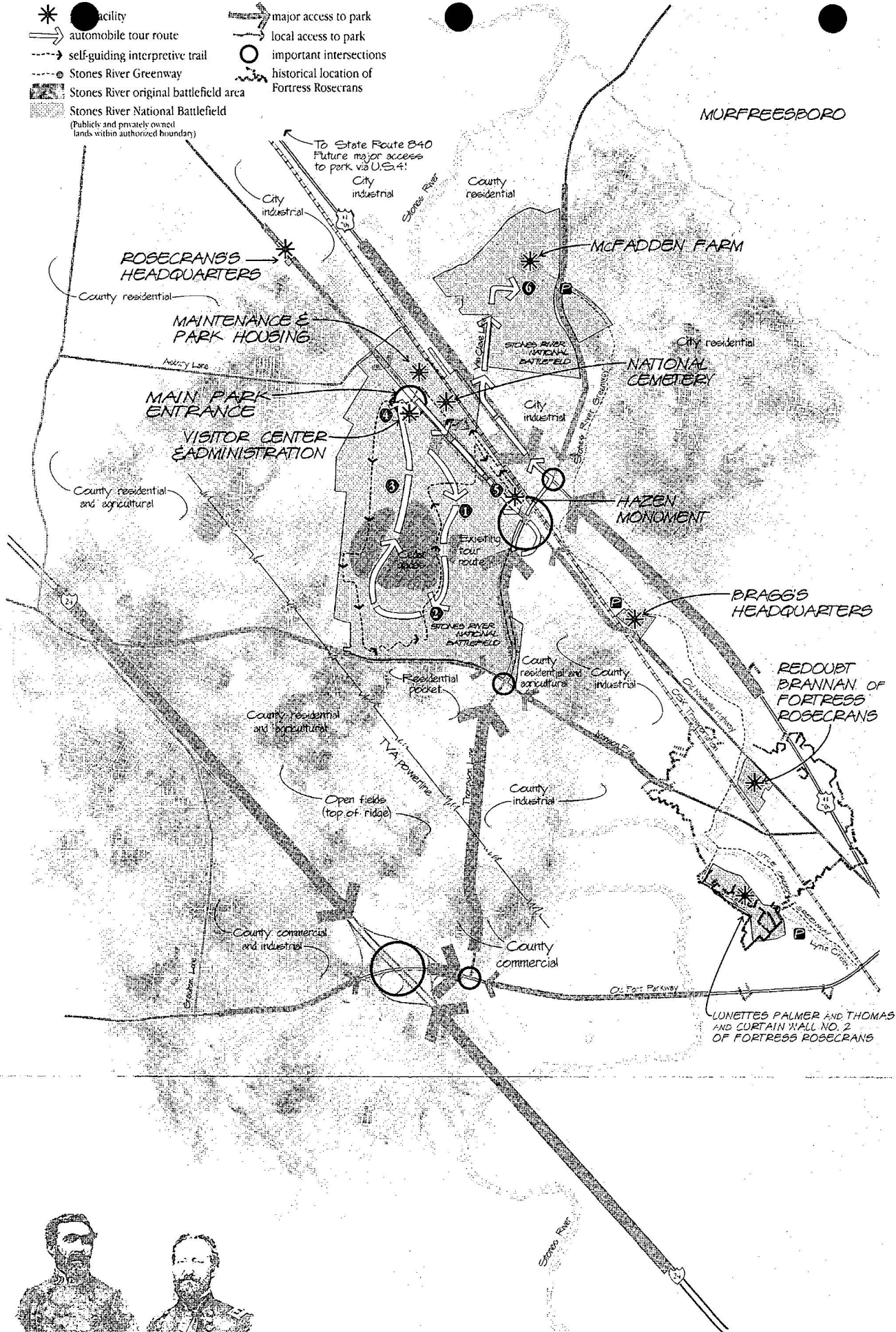
Rosecrans's Headquarters site is a .4-acre site within the authorized boundary about 0.75 mile northwest of the visitor center on the south side of Old Nashville Highway. A monument, consisting of a pyramid of cannon balls on a square granite base, stands adjacent to a large limestone quarry that was the actual location of the headquarters of Union commander Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans.

Bragg's Headquarters site, marked by a cannon ball monument, lies within a 7-acre, noncontiguous parcel of land 1 mile southeast of the main park near the Old Nashville Highway underpass for the railroad. The site is situated between the railroad and Stones River along the original Nashville Turnpike. This site served as headquarters for Confederate General Braxton Bragg after the fighting on December 31, 1862. It was where he planned his strategy for the continuation of the battle on January 2, 1863.

Historic roads include Van Cleve Lane, a trace at the time of the battle, now a two-lane paved road that has been closed from Manson Pike to Old Nashville Highway, and is impassable and closed from Old Nashville Highway to U.S. 41/70S. Old Nashville Highway, a macadamized turnpike at the time of the battle, carries industrial, commercial, and residential traffic through the heart of the battlefield. McFadden Lane, an extension of the former Bowen Lane (Van Cleve Lane), led Civil War-era travelers to



- facility
- automobile tour route
- self-guiding interpretive trail
- Stones River Greenway
- Stones River original battlefield area
- Stones River National Battlefield  
(Publicly and privately owned lands within authorized boundary)
- major access to park
- local access to park
- important intersections
- historical location of Fortress Rosecrans



EXISTING CONDITIONS

STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



0 1000 2000 4000 FEET  
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service  
DSC • November 1998 • 32" • 20062A

ON MICROFILM



McFadden's Ford and crossed Stones River at the site of the last day of battle. Today this is a two-lane paved road.

Fortress Rosecrans is a federally owned 26-acre site in city-owned Old Fort Park. This site contains 2,500 linear feet of the original 14,600 linear feet of original earthworks. This section includes Lunette Palmer, Curtain Wall No. 2, and Lunette Thomas. This fortress was constructed between January and June 1863 and served as a supply depot for the Union army advance to Chattanooga. The more than 200-acre enclosed earthworks included interior fortifications, a saw mill, warehouses, and ordnance depots. This fortress controlled access to Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad and the Nashville Turnpike. Although only remnants remain, Fortress Rosecrans is significant for its massive scale. It was one of the largest earthen forts built during the Civil War, and the fortress exemplifies typical construction techniques employed in the field. Also, this fort was a vital supply link in supporting later Union southern campaigns.

The national battlefield's administrative history was written in 1958 as a master's thesis and

does not meet NPS standards for this type of study. Papers and archives, including photographs, are not organized or protected.

The national battlefield's artifact collection includes more than 3,000 objects, most of which are stored at the Southeast Archeological Center in Tallahassee, Florida. However, approximately 1,000 objects are stored in curatorial rooms in the visitor center basement, and the collection is growing. The objects include metal items, some of which were excavated, as well as fabric, leather, and paper objects. Housekeeping and conservation treatment, if needed, are done on a piecemeal basis when the situation is critical.

Approximately 60 objects relating to the Civil War are on exhibit in the visitor center museum, where environmental controls are limited and somewhat inadequate. The majority of objects are not from the site of the Battle of Stones River, and are not, therefore, of specific significance to the park. The objects that relate directly to the battle include a medal of honor; four artillery tubes, one of which is mounted on a carriage; a Civil War coat owned by a soldier who fought at the Battle of Stones River; and artifacts recovered from the Hazen Monument.



## NATURAL RESOURCES

### CLIMATE AND AIR QUALITY

Rutherford County has a generally favorable climate, featuring moderate temperatures, adequate rainfall, low wind, relatively high humidity, and frequent weather changes. Extremes of precipitation and temperature are the exception rather than the rule.

Temperatures rarely fall below zero in the winter or exceed 100°F in the summer. The lowest temperature recorded in over 80 years is -19°F (January 1940) and the highest is 109°F (August 1954). July is the warmest month, averaging about 79°F. January is the coldest with an average of about 40°F, and the annual average is 60°F. The average daily temperature for the three summer months is around 80°F with afternoon highs that average about 90°F. Cold spells are usually short and alternate with longer periods of mild weather.

Annual precipitation is nearly 49 inches and is fairly well distributed throughout the year. Average monthly rainfall ranges from 2.57 inches in October to 5.45 inches in March. Local showers and thunderstorms are most frequent during the summer months. Also during this warm season, there is an average of one or more dry spells each year, and a drought can be expected about every six or seven years. Snowfall averages about 10 inches annually, but heavy snowstorms are infrequent, and snow seldom stays on the ground for more than a few days.

The mild climate at the battlefield makes it a year-round park facility. Most visitation is during the spring and summer months. Fall and winter months are favorable to outdoor activities in the park because of generally warmer daytime temperatures.

Air quality is a concern because the battlefield is located in a growing metropolitan area. The major sources of regional air pollution are

outside the battlefield and include many major stationary sources, motor vehicles, and various sources in the Nashville-Murfreesboro metropolitan area. There are 171 major permitted stationary sources of air pollution in Rutherford County. Many are located in the vicinity of the battlefield. These include Middle Tennessee State University, General Electric Company, and Rutherford County Highway Department.

The battlefield has been designated a class II clean air area under the Clean Air Act. Moderate, well-planned industrial growth may be permitted in the vicinity of the battlefield as long as the class II maximum allowable increases for particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and nitrogen are not exceeded.

As of October 1995, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency classified all of Rutherford County as nonattainment (i.e., does not meet the primary national ambient air quality standards) for ozone. The county was classified as attaining the national ambient air quality standards for all other monitored constituents.

There are two air monitoring sites in Rutherford County, both of which are near the battlefield. Among the pollutants being monitored are total suspended particulates, sulfur dioxide, ozone, and various oxides of nitrogen.

No resource inventory has been conducted to identify air pollution sensitive resources such as visibility, plants, animals, soils, water quality, or historic and cultural objects. However, past inventories of plant species have identified several species that are sensitive to ozone and/or sulfur dioxide, including certain hardwoods and poison ivy. Some dissolution of monuments is believed to be occurring, especially the Hazen Monument, and private stones and monuments in the national cemetery. Acid deposition may be the cause.

Emissions from visitors' vehicles are the major source of air pollution within the battlefield. However, air pollution from vehicles on nearby highways is more significant. Peak visitation occurs from April through October. The maximum number of daily visitors is about 1,100 during this period. Vehicles are generally dispersed over the 3.4-mile auto tour or at satellite sites such as McFadden Farm. An analysis of visitor vehicle emissions showed that they produce about 480 pounds/day of carbon monoxide, 60 pounds/day of hydrocarbons, and 60 pounds/day of nitrogen dioxide on peak visitation days. This is in stark contrast to the 2,028 pounds/day of carbon monoxide, 43,318 pounds/day of hydrocarbons, and 9,688 pounds/day of nitrogen oxides produced by all other stationary sources. While there may be increased vehicle emissions under the proposed action, those emissions will be less than the de minimis level of 100 tons per year established under the state's General Conformity regulations, and therefore are exempt from those requirements.

## TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND SOILS

The terrain of the greater battlefield is gently rolling and has numerous limestone outcroppings, sinks, and caves. Elevations range from about 520 feet to 600 feet above sea level. The west fork of Stones River along the eastern and northern edges of the park has sharp bluffs that rise in several places to a height of 40 feet.

The topography is basically the same as it was at the time of the battle except for the deep excavation that was done at a large limestone quarry beside and across Old Nashville Highway from General Rosecrans's headquarters site. However, there are some tracts of land that contain environmental degradation.

Because of the karst topography characteristic of the area, the relatively level terrain, the low permeability of the soil, the shallowness of bedrock, and high ground water conditions, drainage is often slow. This is particularly

evident at a large depression along both sides of Old Nashville Highway between the national cemetery and Van Cleve Lane.

A surface drainage swale was constructed in the 1970s to drain the water away from the vicinity of Old Nashville Highway, to the western side of the park.

Landforms played an important role in the conflict in at least four respects:

The rolling land and forest are such that it was virtually impossible to find a vantage point that offered a commanding view of the battlefield.

The forests limited lines of sight in this relatively flat countryside, and the scattered and dense cedar thickets were difficult for troops to penetrate in battle formation.

The rock outcroppings and ledges, some rising to a height of 2 or 3 feet, provided natural cover for the troops but rendered movement of artillery pieces and support wagons most difficult.

The river, flooded by rain prior to the battle, was high and permitted crossings only at a few points, such as McFadden's Ford, where fighting occurred.

Stones River National Battlefield is in the center of the Tennessee physiographic region known as the Central Basin, a gently rolling area of about 600 square miles surrounded by hills that are remnants of the Highland Rim. Stones River and its tributaries drain the county. The river cuts into the level, rocky center of the county (550 feet average elevation) to an elevation of 520 feet to 475 feet.

There are many outcroppings of thick-bedded Ridley limestone in the main park and along the two forks of Stones River. These outcroppings, which contain considerable chert, are unique to Rutherford County within the Central Basin. The Ridley formation under the park was

deposited during the Ordovician Age and is among the oldest rock formations in Tennessee.

The Stones River area is underlain by another limestone formation that is composed of two components called the Pierce and Murfreesboro limestones. This formation outcrops along the banks of the river. The Pierce limestone is a brownish-gray, yellowish-brown to medium gray cryptocrystalline formation with a thickness of about 25 feet. The Murfreesboro component is generally darker in color than the Pierce and contains minor amounts of magnesium limestone as irregular mottlings and thin bands and thin lenses of dark-gray to brownish-black chert. The Union Artillery site, General Bragg's Headquarters site, and Redoubt Brannan are partially underlain by the Pierce and Murfreesboro limestones.

Soils in the area weathered from Ridley limestone in depths ranging from a few inches on the margins of bedrock exposures to more than 20 feet in some of the natural depressions. The soil is less than 4 feet thick on average in the battlefield area. Because porosity of the clay subsoil is low and the soils shallow, surface runoff is rapid and streams in the area are subject to flash flooding. Most of the groundwater is found in solution cavities and cracks in the limestone. A cave and sinkholes are located on park lands.

The principal soils in and around the park are the Cumberland, Bradyville, Rockland, and Barfield. Minor soils include the Crider, Pembroke, Arrington, and Bryson (Soil Survey of Rutherford County, Tennessee, July 1977).

Cumberland soils are found in the visitor center area and the northern half of the national cemetery. They are deep, well-drained, and well-aerated soils. The surface material is loamy, but the subsoil is clayey and usually more than 4 feet thick. The southern half of the cemetery has Crider soils that contain a higher proportion of silt than Cumberland soils.

Pembroke and Bradyville soils occupy the area between the visitor center and the cedar glades, the southeast corner of the park, and the area just outside the southwest corner of the park. These soils have a shallow silty surface and a plastic clay subsoil. On the average, bedrock is 1.5 to 3 feet below the surface, and water moves slowly through the subsoil.

Arrington soils occupy the sinks along Old Nashville Highway and also occur in a narrow band in the southwest corner of the park. Arrington Soils are loamy to a depth of 30 inches or more and are prone to flooding.

Rockland soils occupy the perimeter of the cedar glade area in the center of the main park and overlap private property outside the east and west boundaries of the park. This area contains large amounts of coarse fragments (either bedrock outcrops or loose stones) that limit its use largely to woodland.

Talbott and Barfield soils occupy the center of the cedar glade area. These soils are very shallow with many rock outcrops. Because much of the rain falls on bare rock and because the subsoil is slowly permeable, surface runoff is very rapid. Erosion of these soils helps to maintain the open character of the cedar glades. These soils are droughty because of their shallow root zone.

Cumberland soils occupy the center of the bend of Stones River by the Union Artillery site, with smaller areas of Bradyville and Pembroke soils along the river.

There are approximately 328 acres of prime agricultural land within the boundary of the national battlefield, representing 46% of the park. Prime agricultural land is defined as soils particularly suited for growing general crops, such as forage, fiber, and oil seed. According to an August 11, 1980, memorandum from the Council on Environmental Quality, federal agencies must assess the effects of their actions on soils classed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service as prime.

Prime agricultural land exists along both sides of Old Nashville Highway, including the Hazen Monument and Bragg's Headquarters and in the extreme southeast corner of the main battlefield. About 75% of McFadden Farm is prime agricultural land.

Under alternative 1, boundary expansion would add approximately 536 acres of prime agricultural land to the national battlefield. The resulting 864 acres would represent 59% of land within the new boundary. About 75% of the expansion south of Manson Pike is prime agricultural land.

## VEGETATION

Stones River National Battlefield lies within the Central Basin section of the Western Mesophytic Forest Region as described by Braun (1950).

The woody vegetation of the 508-acre main section of the battlefield remains almost exclusively as it was in 1862-63 — open farmland and scattered forests of mixed hardwood and cedar. There are about 192 acres of historic forest land, about 125 acres of historic farm fields, and 20 acres of mowed land in the national cemetery.

The cedar glades of the Central Basin are the most distinctive environmental feature on the battlefield (see the Natural Resources map). The glades are openings in stands of juniper where the soil over the Ridley Limestone is very shallow, precluding permanent invasions by trees. These are characterized by the exposed limestone bedrock and gravel. The open floor of the glade is sometimes carpeted with moss and herbaceous annuals. In spring the glades are showy and colorful. In summer, however, the glades are very dry, and most of the herbaceous plants disappear. Patches of prickly pear and other pronounced xerophytes are then much more conspicuous (Braun 1950). The central and western portions of Stones River National Battlefield contain cedar glades. Scattered

deciduous trees among the cedars and shrubs do not greatly modify the aspect given by the dominant cedars.

Cedar glades are of interest to botanists because of the presence of species found nowhere else. There are 29 species that are endemic to cedar glades in general. Of these, 23 occur only in the southeastern U.S. (Baskin, J. M. and C. C. Baskin 1986, 1989). The glades in central Tennessee are probably the most diverse within the range of this community. There are 17 cedar glade endemic species present in Stones River National Battlefield.

Approximately 60 acres of cedar glades within Stones River National Battlefield should be recognized as a critical habitat because glade endemics do not spread normally from glade habitats, nor do they usually flourish if transplanted to other sites even within the same climate zone. The glade plants in the park, together with the other glade endemics in the Middle Tennessee area not represented in the park, have considerable biological value. Many of these species have evolved in the Central Basin in the places that they occupy. This greatly increases the scientific value of the plants.

The endemic cedar glade species are threatened and endangered primarily because of the limited acreage of cedar glades in the Central Basin. Within each glade area, such as the 60 acres at Stones River, the herbaceous plants are usually widely distributed throughout the glade. Individual species shift from one area to another within the glade reflecting changes in soil depth caused by surface erosion and deposition of the shallow soil on the flat limestone bedrock. This natural process is an important part of the cedar glade ecosystem.

The continuing destruction of the habitat of glade endemics resulting from developments on private land throughout Middle Tennessee threatens these species with extinction. Cedar glades are delicate ecological areas and are relatively intolerant of abuse. While cedar glades



will withstand some use, under frequent pressure from pedestrian and/or vehicle traffic, the plants may be eradicated and replaced by common weeds.

There are indications of succession in some of the denser red cedar stands where the soil is deeper. In these cedar woods, hickories and oaks are conspicuous among the hardwood invaders, and sugar maple is sometimes present. More heavily wooded areas in which cedars have been shaded out have a sparse herbaceous layer of typical woodland flowers. These hardwood stands are composed mainly of oaks, hickories, winged elm, hackberry, and blue ash. Secondary cedar communities, lacking the cedar glade flora, follow cutting of the hardwood species.

The dense cedar woods in the northern half of the main park are examples of secondary cedar communities.

At McFadden Farm, the Stones River is lined with a mixed hardwood-cedar forest in which hardwoods dominate. Principal hardwoods in the stand are chinquapin oak, black and northern red oaks, white and blue ash, elm, honeylocust, American beech, sweetgum, hackberry, and hickory. River birch, black willow, and cottonwood are present near the streambank. Most of McFadden Farm is open fields.

Numerous nonnative plant species are present in the battlefield. Privet hedge and Japanese honeysuckle have invaded the main battlefield cedar thickets and glades, causing a scenic barrier. Also present are lespedeza, mimosa, bush honeysuckle, and fescue. Some years ago there were attempts to reduce the honeysuckle and privet using day labor or volunteers.

## WILDLIFE

Stones River National Battlefield contains more than 200 acres of wooded habitat, nearly all of which is in the main park. The open cedar glades, the scattered hardwoods, and the surrounding farmland provide cover and food

for many varieties of animals in the area. Great-horned owls, eastern cottontail rabbit, opossum, raccoon, field mice, eastern chipmunk, gray squirrel, house mice, meadow vole, groundhog, short-tailed shrew, skunk, gray and red fox, deer, and other mammals including several species of bats may be found in or near the park.

## RARE, THREATENED, AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that several federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species may inhabit the project area (also see appendix F). Federally listed endangered species include the following:

- Gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*)
- Tennessee purple coneflower (*Echinacea tennesseensis*)
- Leafy prairie clover (*Dalea foliosa*)
- Guthrie's ground-plum (*Astragalus bibullatus*)

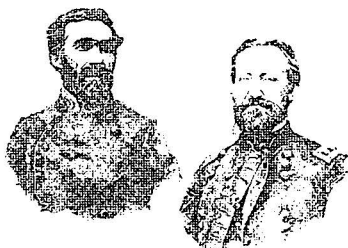
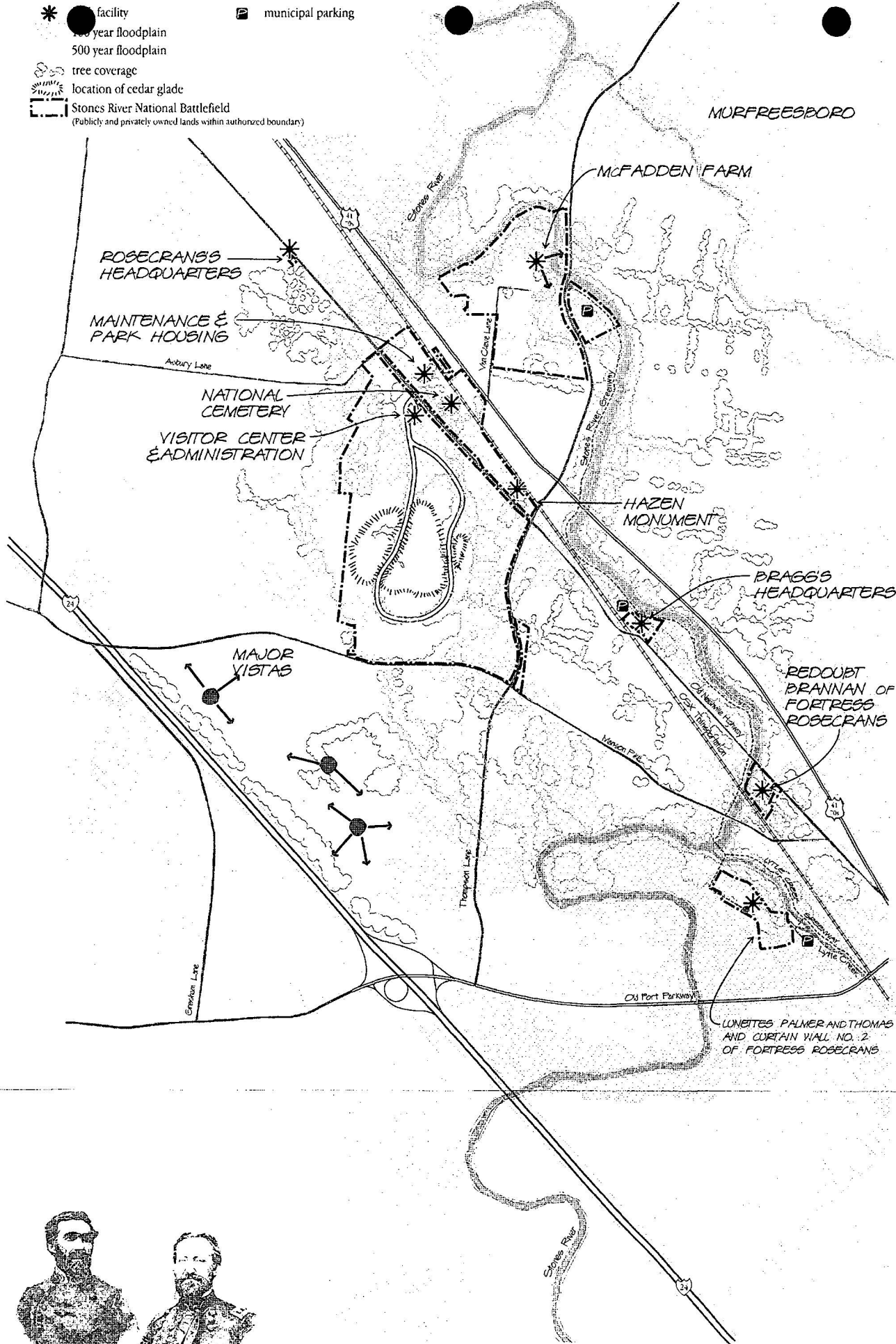
Proposed endangered species include the following:

- Large rock cress (*Arabis perstellata* var. *ampla*)
- Stone's River bladderpod (*Lesquerella stonensis*)

In addition to these listed species, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife named the following species that, although not currently listed or proposed, are being considered for federal listing in the future. Status review (candidate) species that might live in the vicinity of the proposed project are as follows:

- Eastern woodrat (*Neotoma floridana magister*)
- Tennessee cave salamander (*Gyrinophilus palleucus*)
- Eastern blue-star (*Amsonia tabernaemontana* var. *gatlingeri*)

- facility
- 100 year floodplain
- 500 year floodplain
- tree coverage
- location of cedar glade
- Stones River National Battlefield
- (Publicly and privately owned lands within authorized boundary)
- municipal parking



NATURAL RESOURCES

STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



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United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service  
DSC • November 1998 • 327 • 20063A

ON MICROFILM

Water stitchwort (*Arenaria fontinalis*)  
 Tennessee milk-vetch (*Astragalus tennesseensis*)  
 Tennessee glade cress (*Leavenworthia exiqua* var. *exiqua*)  
 Gattinger's lobelia (*Lobelia appendiculata* var. *gattingeri*)  
 Cleft phlox (*Phlox bifida* var. *stellaria*)  
 Limestone flameflower (*Talinum calcaricum*)

The Ecological Services Division of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation reviewed its database and found that several species might inhabit the project impact area (also see appendix F). State-listed endangered species include the following:

Gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*)  
 Tennessee purple coneflower (*Echinacea tennesseensis*)  
 Water stitchwort (*Arenaria fontinalis*)  
 Leafy prairie clover (*Dalea foliosa*)

State-listed threatened species include the following:

Tennessee cave salamander (*Gyrinophilus pallescens*)  
 Tennessee milk-vetch (*Astragalus tennesseensis*)  
 Tennessee glade cress (*Leavenworthia exiqua* var. *exiqua*)  
 Limestone flameflower (*Talinum calcaricum*)  
 Yellow sunnyside (*Schoenolirion croceum*)  
 Duck River bladderpod (*Lesquerella densipila*)  
 Hairy fimbriatylis (*Fimbristylus puberula*)  
 Cleft phlox (*Phlox bifida* var. *stellaria*)

State special concern species include the eastern blue-star (*Amsonia tabernaemontana* var. *gattingeri*).

The bedrock shiner (*Notropis rupestris*) is deemed in need of management. Undesignated species at this time include the following:

Necklace glade cress (*Leavenworthia torulosa*)  
 Nashville bread-root (*Pediomelum subacaulis*)  
 Gattinger's lobelia (*Lobelia appendiculata* var. *gattingeri*)

The Tennessee milk-vetch, Tennessee purple coneflower, Gattinger's lobelia, Tennessee glade grass, limestone flameflower, and cleft phlox are all endemic to the cedar glades habitat. Of these, the most notable from the standpoint of the Stones River National Battlefield is the Tennessee purple coneflower.

There are only a few known populations of the Tennessee coneflower, all in cedar glade communities and within 14 miles of one another in Davidson, Rutherford, and Wilson Counties in middle Tennessee. All of the known coneflower localities have been affected by human activities to some degree. Recent NPS efforts to determine the status of this species in Stones River National Battlefield include inventorying and monitoring of glade species under cooperative agreement with the Nature Conservancy in 1995, and monitoring of the coneflower in 1996.

The National Park Service contracted with the specialists from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to conduct a survey of those areas proposed for ground disturbance under any of the alternatives — McFadden Farm and the visitor center trail (see appendix G for copy of the biological assessment produced by the department). This survey did not find any of the above species in any area of proposed ground disturbance.

## HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

The principal stream in the battlefield area is the West Fork of Stones River. Entering Rutherford County from the southeast, Stones River flows northward to J. Percy Priest Reservoir and eventually discharges into the Cumberland River. The meandering course of the Stones

River through the original battlefield is shown on the Significant Actions and Sites map and the Existing Conditions map.

McFadden Farm, Bragg's Headquarters, and Redoubt Brannan are located at river miles 13, 15, 16, respectively. Along this 3-mile stretch (about 1 mile of the river flows adjacent to the national battlefield), the stream ranges in width from about 50 to 100 feet. Depth between miles 13 and 16 during periods of average flow ranges from a few inches to 3 or 4 feet. Fortress Rosecrans adjoins Lytle Creek, which flows into Stones River.

A 400-foot section of the riverbank at McFadden Farm was stabilized in the 1970s. Since that time, floods are reported to be causing erosion, and the stabilization issue may need to be revisited. However, the stabilizing measures of the 1970s introduced modern-day landscape elements that are intrusive on the historic scene. Therefore, any modification of the site that addresses the erosion concern would also need to be consistent with the goal of returning the site as closely as possible to an 1860s landscape.

The closest U.S. Geological Survey gauging station on the west fork of Stones River is on the State Highway 99 bridge at river mile 21. Records for this station are continuous since 1932. Average flow is slightly over 200 cubic feet per second (cfs). Flow has varied from a minimum of zero to a maximum of 38,000 cfs.

The west fork of Stones River is classified for the following beneficial uses: fish and aquatic life, wildlife and livestock watering, recreation, and irrigation. These beneficial uses were assigned using the assumption that the stream could be used for a stated purpose if any human caused pollution is remedied.

The most recent statewide water quality assessment (1994 305(b) report) analyzes how well the streams of Tennessee meet the water quality criteria assigned for the classified uses. The extent to which a water body supports its designated uses has been broken down into four

categories: fully supporting, fully supporting but threatened, partially supporting, or not supporting, based on the degree to which they fulfill their classified uses.

The west fork of Stones River is categorized as fully supporting but threatened, meaning that the stream currently supports all classified uses, but is threatened by potential pollution-causing activities. In this case, the west fork of Stone River is threatened by current and future development. For example, the west fork is impacted by bypasses from a sewage pump station operated by the city of Murfreesboro.

## FLOODPLAINS AND WETLANDS

Most of Stones River National Battlefield lies within the 500-year floodplain, and much is within the 100-year floodplain (see the Natural Resources map). Information for this map was derived from the Flood Insurance Rate Maps of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Flood Insurance Program.

Pooling of water, as well as flooding, is a problem in some areas. Some areas have nearly level soils with characteristics that do not allow water to soak through. This problem is compounded in some places where there are depressions that have no outlets. The rainwater stands, sometimes for extended periods. Such areas are not conducive to development and should be left as open space.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reviewed the appropriate National Wetland Inventory Maps for the presence of wetlands (see appendix F). These maps revealed no forested, emergent, or scrub-shrub wetlands in the vicinity of proposed development in any of the alternatives.

According to these National Wetland Inventory Maps, several permanent farm ponds exist in the area south of Manson Pike that is proposed for boundary expansion under alternative 1.



## INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE

### VISITOR USE RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

At the time of this writing, the authorized boundary of the national battlefield includes 712 acres, 520 acres of which are owned by the federal government. Stones River National Battlefield is divided into six noncontiguous units (acres within authorized boundary shown in parentheses):

- the main battlefield unit, including the 20-acre Stones River National Cemetery (508 acres)
- McFadden Farm (162 acres)
- the majority of the surviving portions of earthen Fortress Rosecrans (26 acres)
- the earthwork remains of Redoubt Brannan (9 acres)
- General Bragg's Headquarters site (7 acres)
- General Rosecrans's Headquarters site (.4 acre)

The main battlefield unit includes the following:

- the park visitor center/headquarters building and parking for 28 cars and 2 buses
- most of the park's 3.4-mile self-guided auto tour route
- five of the six tour stops along the tour route with short trails leading from four of the stops
- the Hazen Brigade Monument with a parking area for five cars and unsafe access onto Old Nashville Highway

- a 3.5-mile perimeter hiking trail
- numerous pieces of artillery exhibited in appropriate historic locations
- a cultural landscape of scattered mixed hardwoods and cedar interspersed with open farmlands, cedar glades, and rock outcroppings — much the same as it was at the time of the battle in 1862–63.
- the national cemetery, which is surrounded by a historic limestone wall, and includes
  - about 7,000 graves
  - two historic monuments
  - a series of commemorative cast iron markers that were installed prior to 1933 by the War Department, which carry consecutive segments of the poem, *The Bivouac of the Dead*
  - a visitor parking area for 11 cars

McFadden Farm, on the banks of Stones River, includes the following:

- the McFadden farmstead, including the historic farm lane and the McFadden family cemetery
- McFadden's Ford across Stones River
- a monument to the fighting that occurred on the last day of battle; constructed in 1906
- two mounted artillery pieces
- visitor parking area for 17 cars

The remnants of Fortress Rosecrans, which has recently undergone significant historic



preservation and visitor use development, contains the following:

- remnants of the original earthworks of Lunette Palmer, Curtain Wall No. 2, and Lunette Thomas — which together contain 2,500 of the original 14,600 linear feet of earth fortifications
- an 0.6-mile loop interpretive trail with sections of boardwalk to minimize impacts on historic earthworks and six wayside exhibits
- a visitor parking area for 27 cars
- the southern trailhead of the city of Murfreesboro's Stones River Greenway

Redoubt Brannan of Fortress Rosecrans is being developed for visitor use. A 1995 *Preservation and Visitor Use Plan and Environmental Assessment* identifies the development, which includes an interpretive trail with wayside exhibits, visitor parking, and pedestrian access to the Stones River Greenway.

General Bragg's Headquarters site, which is adjacent to one of the city's access points to the Stones River Greenway, includes a cannonball pyramid. Parking is provided in the adjacent city's access area.

General Rosecrans's Headquarters site, which is adjacent to a large limestone quarry, includes a wayside exhibit and parking for five cars. Visitors to the site have established an unauthorized trail from the rear of the site to the quarry — a use that is unrelated to the purpose of the site.

**Visitor Center.** The park visitor center, located near the main park entrance, serves as the first stop for park visitors. This facility provides visitor orientation/information services; an introduction to the Stones River story; interpretive media about the Battle of Stones River and its role in the Civil War in the West; a sales facility of theme-related literature and

educational materials; visitor services; and public restrooms.

The visitor center shares space with the park headquarters offices and support functions, in a Y-shaped facility with a restroom extension.

The basement of this visitor center/headquarters building houses the following:

- a conference room containing the park library
- museum artifact storage
- lockers for living history and costumed interpretation program staff and volunteers
- a storage room for living history and costumed interpretation uniforms, accoutrements, and equipment
- living history and costumed interpretation changing area
- storage room for cooperating association sales stock

The lobby/reception area of the visitor center contains an information/orientation desk, a cooperating association sales display facility, a donation box, entrances to the audiovisual theater and the exhibit room, and a historic cannon exhibit.

The historic cannon exhibit and the large theme-related sales display facilities visually dominate the lobby/reception area. The information and orientation desk, located across the lobby from the entrance in front of a window bay, tends to become a secondary focal point in the room. This desk also is used for cooperating association sales. With facilities and exhibits occupying much of the available lobby space, 12 to 15 people seem to crowd the lobby.

The historic artillery exhibit centers around the 3.8-inch James Rifle tube used during the Battle of Stones River by Capt. Asahel K. Bush's 4th

Indiana Battery (attached to Brig. Gen. Joshua Sill's Brigade). The tube is mounted on a reconstructed wooden carriage and is displayed with a complement of accoutrements. The exhibit also includes a carved wooden interpretive plaque depicting a battery on the move and a 4½-minute video interpreting the sequential firing of a Civil War field piece. The 4–5 minute video provides an alternative experience for the many visitors who do have an opportunity to see a live cannon-firing demonstration. Such an audiovisual program is interpretively appropriate, considering the important role played by artillery during the Battle of Stones River. However, the program needs revision to remedy several inaccuracies, errors, and limitations. Its major deficiency is a failure to directly interpret the integral importance of artillery during the Battle of Stones River.

Park staff presents an 18-minute audiovisual program on demand. There are up to three showings per hour during the busiest times. This slide/sound program, which uses art plates, is outdated. It does not adequately interpret the Battle of Stones River in terms of human aspects and within the greater context and meaning of the American Civil War. The theater contains movable seating for approximately 45 people and provides adequate seating during much of the year, except during periods of heavy educational group use.

Visitor center exhibits, for the most part, were installed when the building was completed over 30 years ago to help commemorate the centennial of the battle and the Civil War. Generally speaking, these exhibits are of the "book-on-the-wall, generic-Civil-War-artifacts" variety that present a chronological recounting of the Stones River campaign and battle.

Many of the Stones River artifacts that best relate the human aspects of the battle have been added since the initial installation of the exhibits. These later additions include three inscribed Confederate trophy cannon tubes, and artifacts from the archeological survey of the

immediate Hazen Monument grounds. The notable exception to this list is the Congressional Medal of Honor awarded to Sergeant Prentice, which was included in the original exhibits.

**Auto Tour Route with Wayside Exhibits.** The park's 3.4-mile auto tour provides the only structured opportunity for visitors to experience the actual Stones River battlefield. However, the tour interprets only the first and the last three of the six major battle action zones. Most visitors take this self-guided auto interpretive drive, which requires about 45 minutes to one hour, using the tour text published in the park folder. Visitors are encouraged to take advantage of the panoramic view of the battlefield from the visitor center patio prior to beginning the tour. The tour consists of six stops, listed below (also see Existing Conditions map). Approximately 25 interpretive wayside exhibits augment the text in the park folder.

- Stop 1 – The Eve of Battle (1st Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 2 – The Slaughter Pen (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 3 – The Cotton Field (4th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 4 – Defense of the Nashville Pike (5th Major Battle Action Zone)
- Stop 5 – Fight for the Round Forest (4th and 5th Major Battle Action Zones)
- Stop 6 – McFadden's Ford (6th Major Battle Action Zone)

Bicyclists and pedestrians currently share the tour route with automobiles.

**Other Interpretive/Visitor Services and Facilities.** The 3.5-mile perimeter trail is available for visitors who want a longer walking experience on the battlefield. However, the

accompanying self-guided trail brochure is out-of-print.

The park maintains 27 cannon tubes along with support vehicles for display in the visitor center museum and at historic locations throughout the park, and for use during living history/costumed interpretation artillery firing demonstrations. Support vehicles include carriages, limbers, a caisson, and a battery wagon. Most of the cannon carriages are either cast iron or wooden, and are slowly deteriorating even with an active cyclic maintenance program. The National Park Service estimates a remaining useful life of 10–12 years before the cast iron and wooden carriages would have to be replaced. Additional cannon tubes and carriages are needed to better interpret the artillery story.

At the Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit near the visitor center, there are currently on display two 6-pounder smooth-bore cannon on replica carriages, two replica limbers, and an outdated wayside that interprets the battery and marks its historic battlefield location. The exhibit represents only a fraction of a complete battery, which would have included six cannon/limber sets, six caisson/limber sets, a battery wagon, and a traveling forge. The Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery, along with some adjacent batteries, played a key role in the Union army's defense of the Old Nashville Pike. On the first day of battle, this battery occupied a position on the battlefield near the location of the existing park visitor center, from noon to the end of the day.

#### VISITOR USE DATA, 1976–1995

The general trend of park visitor use over the past two decades has been notable increases, although significant peaks and valleys have occurred in the process (see the graph on Annual Park Visitation, Stones River National Battlefield, TN, 1976–1995).

Over the past decade park visitation has increased nearly one-fourth (23%), from

211,295 in 1986 to 259,739 in 1995, even though the park's multiplier factor (average number of people per vehicle) was adjusted downward twice over that span of time. In 1987, it dropped from 4.0 to 3.2, causing a decrease of nearly 60,000 for that year. Again in 1994 it dropped from 3.2 to a range of 1.9 and 2.2 (varying by time of year and geographic location in the park), causing another sharp decrease of nearly 80,000 for that year. Considering the double downward adjustment of the park's multiplier factor, park use has increased by a remarkable 103% over the two-decade span, from 128,221 in 1976 to 259,739 in 1995. This extraordinary increase occurred in spite of the fact that the park was closed for three weeks in November and December 1995 due to nationwide government shutdowns.

This downward adjustment is indicating more accurately the number of visitors who are using the park's interpretive and visitor use programs, services and facilities. New vehicle counters in 1994 at the visitor center entrance road, the road entrance to the national cemetery, and the entrance to the Fortress Rosecrans parking lot have further enhanced the accuracy of this public use data.

Analysis of monthly visitation patterns for the last 20 years (illustrated on the graph on Average Monthly Visitation, Stones River National Battlefield, 1976–1995) shows the following:

That for the immediate past 10-year period (1986–1995):

- about 70% of park visitation occurred from April through October
- visitation by seasons was as follows:
 

Winter	–	15%
Spring	–	30%
Summer	–	31%
Fall	–	24%
- peak visitation occurred during the months of May (heavy school group use), July

(peak of summer visitation, plus special artillery firing interpretive programs), and October (heavy visitation by senior citizens and families with preschool children during the cooler fall weather, plus recreational use and significant fall foliage viewing)

For purposes of comparison, for the 10-year period 1976–1985:

- about 73% of park visitation occurred from April through October
- visitation by seasons was as follows:
 

Winter	—	14%
Spring	—	27%
Summer	—	37%
Fall	—	22%
- peak visitation occurred solely during the summer months of June, July, and August (especially the artillery firing interpretive programs in July)

Visitor use figures for the visitor center, the main battlefield, the national cemetery, and Fortress Rosecrans are based on actual tally count in the visitor center and traffic counter readings with appropriate multiplier factors for these other areas. Total park visitor use calculation includes input from each of these areas, plus that of the McFadden Farm area.

Comparing 1994 and 1995 visitor use, visitor center attendance declined by approximately 4% (1994 visitor center attendance = 57,565; 1995

visitor center attendance = 55,150) while total park use increased by 27%. This seeming disparity suggests that much of the park's recent increase in visitor use is attributable to the opening of the detached Fortress Rosecrans for public use on October 31, 1994.

During 1995, visitor use of the various facilities or areas was as follows. The percentages represent the total park users that visited the given facility; thus, the figures do not necessarily add up to 100%.

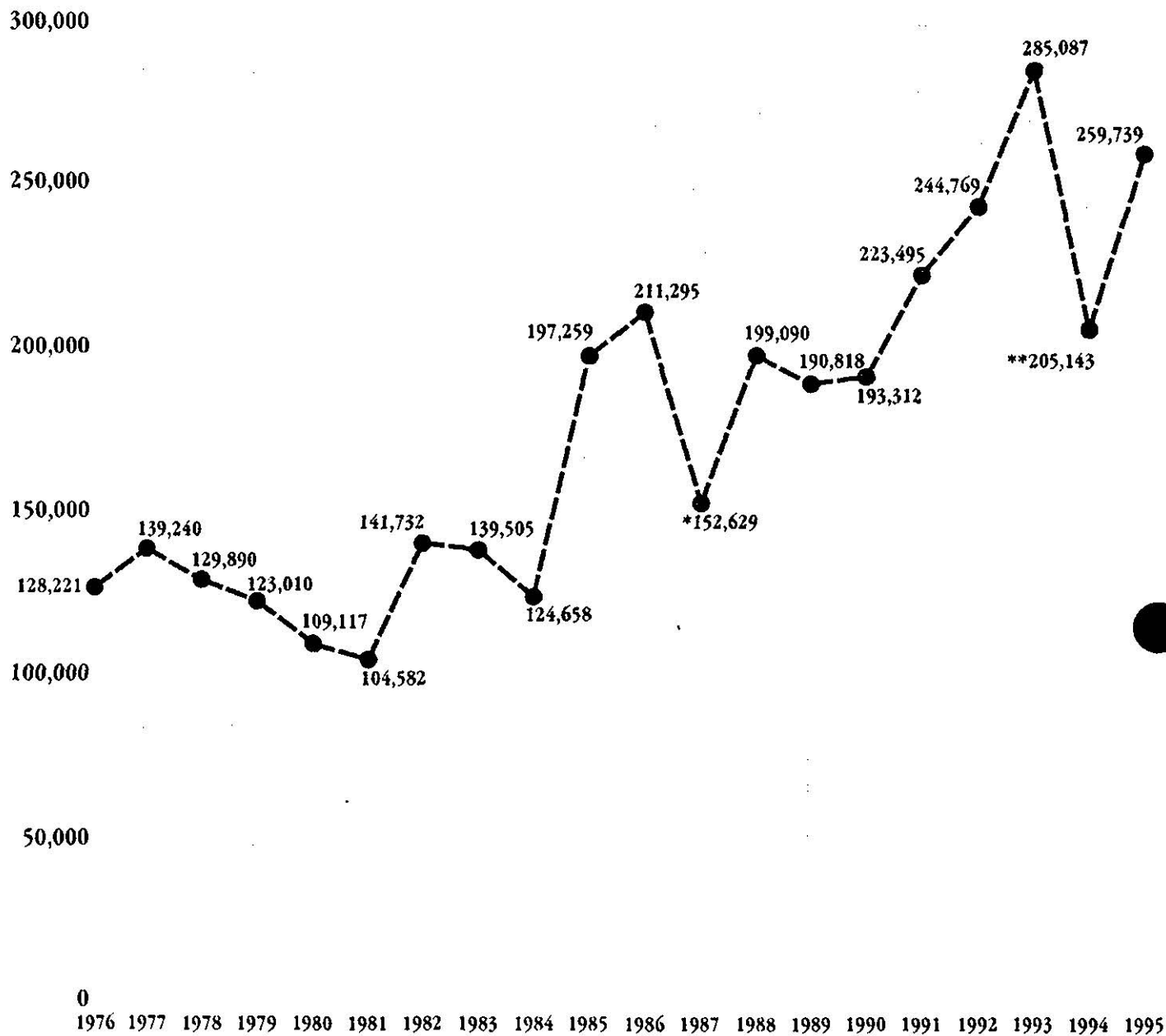
Visitor Center	55,150	21%
Main Battlefield (park loop tour road)	194,800	75%
Fortress Rosecrans	79,554	31%
Artillery Monument area	74,346	29%
National Cemetery	81,398	31%

Three regional factors have the potential of substantially increasing park visitation in the near future:

- the completion of S.R. 840 controlled-access loop around Nashville, part of which is now open to I-24 and U.S. 41/70S about 1½ miles north of the park
- a predicted population increase of nearly 130% for Rutherford County over the next three decades — from 120,000 in 1990 to approximately 275,000 in 2020.
- the completion of the Stones River Greenway

# Annual Park Visitation 1976-1995

Stones River National Battlefield, TN



\* In 1987, the multiplier changed from 4.0 to 3.2 people per vehicle.

\*\* In 1994, the multiplier changed from 3.2 to 2.0 people per vehicle.



# Average Monthly Visitation 1976-1995

Stones River National Battlefield, TN

30,000

25,000

20,000

15,000

10,000

7,600

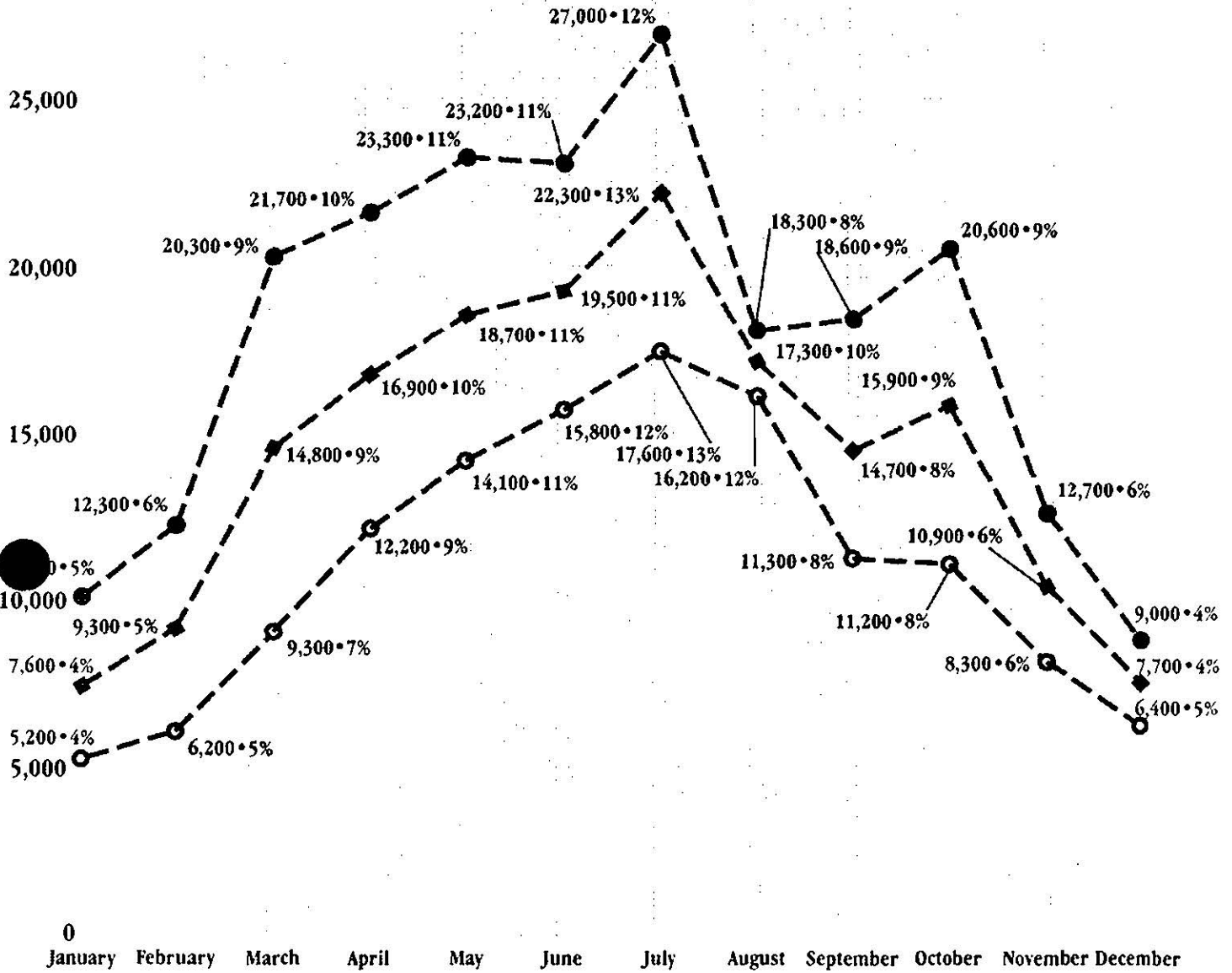
5,200

5,000

0

January February March April May June July August September October November December

Visitation from 1986-1995 — — — ●  
 Visitation from 1976-1995 — — — ■  
 Visitation from 1976-1985 — — — ○





## SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

### POPULATION AND ECONOMY

The historical growth trends of the city of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County are shown in table 6. Murfreesboro has had a steady increase in population since 1900. Rutherford County as a whole lost population from 1900 to 1930 and then from 1940 to the present has had a steady increase in population. In recent

decades, Murfreesboro's large increases in population together with large increases in Rutherford County's population may be attributed in part to the increased suburbanization of the Nashville Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) and to the increase of economic opportunity in the area. Rutherford County is one of the fastest-growing counties in Tennessee.

TABLE 6: POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS FOR MURFREESBORO AND RUTHERFORD COUNTY

Year	Population		Change		% Change	
1996	52,000	(140,000)	10,000	(33,000)	23.8	(30.8)
1988	42,000	(107,000)	9,155	(22,942)	27.9	(27.3)
1980	32,845	(84,058)	6,485	(24,630)	24.6	(41.4)
1970	26,360	(59,428)	7,369	(7,060)	38.8	(13/5)
1960	18,991	(52,368)	5,939	11,672)	45.5	(28.7)
1950	13,052	(40,696)	3,557	(7,092)	37.5	(23.2)
1940	9,495	(33,604)	1,502	(1,318)	18.8	(4.1)
1930	7,993	(32,286)	2,626	(-773)	48.9	(-2.3)
1920	5,367	(33,059)	688	(-140)	14.7	(-0.4)
1910	4,679	(33,199)	680	(-344)	17.0	(-1.0)
1900	3,999	(33,543)	--	--	--	--

NOTE: Parenthetical numbers represent Rutherford County.

According to the 1990 *Census of Population*, the Rutherford County population was approximately 89% white, 9% black, and 2% other. The population was 49% male and 51% female. In 1990, 31% of the population were under the age of 20, 61% were between 20 and 64, and about 8% were over 65. According to the 1990 *Census of Population*, the Murfreesboro population was approximately 74% white, 24% black, and 2% other. The population was 49% male and 51% female. In 1990, 28% of the population were under the age of 24, 67% were between 24 and 64, and 5% were over 65.

There is nothing unusual about the city's and county's demographic makeup except for the unusually large number of persons between the age of 15 and 24 years. This is because Middle Tennessee State University is in the area.

The city of Murfreesboro has projected that its population in the year 2000 could be as high as 66,000. For Rutherford County the projection is for about 170,000 in the year 2000.

The economy of Murfreesboro is inextricably woven with the economy of the rest of Rutherford County. Rutherford County's economy is in turn interwoven with that of the rest of the Nashville SMSA. Many persons commute to Murfreesboro from outside the city and county for their employment, and many commute from Murfreesboro and Rutherford County to other places for their employment.

The state has begun major highway improvements in the area. The construction, just northwest of Murfreesboro, of the highway loop around Davidson County (S.R. 840) will have a tremendous impact on the economy and growth

patterns of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County.

In Murfreesboro, as of 1990, more persons were employed in technical, sales, and administrative support occupations (33.1%) than any other industry group. Managerial and professional specialty occupations (22.0%) and operators, fabricators, and laborers (19.7%) followed. This is, in part, attributable to the presence of Middle Tennessee State University, State Farm Insurance Regional Headquarters, and the Veterans Administration Hospital in Murfreesboro.

The city of Murfreesboro is somewhat of a regional retailing center. In 1990 there were over 493 businesses in Murfreesboro and more than 829 businesses in Rutherford County. There are numerous other retail and service establishments in the city, especially along the major transportation arteries.

Rutherford County has a relatively high per capita income as compared with the rest of Tennessee and the other counties in the eight-county Davidson County Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1989 per capita income was \$12,536 for Rutherford County.

## **LAND USE**

In 1984 a windshield survey was conducted by the city of Murfreesboro to determine the land uses in the city. (The city is in the process of updating the information; however, at the time of this writing, the 1984 data was the most current available.) Land use was divided into the following 15 categories (percent of area in parentheses): open space (42.2%), single family residential (22.7%), streets and highways (11.5%), institutional (8.22%), commercial highway (4.5%), industrial (3.8%), five units or more housing (2.6%), commercial local (1.3%), duplex (1.1%), mobile homes (0.6%), public housing (0.4%), medical (0.4%), office (0.2%), triplex (0.1%), and quadruplex (0.2%). Since this survey was conducted in 1984, there has

been much annexation and development in and around Murfreesboro and in the area surrounding the national battlefield.

Surrounding land use is primarily single-family residential or agricultural open space. Land along U.S. 41/70S between the main park and McFadden Farm has been loosely zoned as industrial with minimum controls on use. The combination of nearly level land with good transportation access has encouraged industrial and commercial development on the part of the greater battlefield, which is not federally owned.

The narrow strip of land between the CSX Railroad and U.S. 41/70S is occupied by several commercial buildings. The commercial area along U.S. 41/70S also contains a concrete supply business with high loading towers directly across the railroad tracks from the Hazen Monument.

Since the passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat. 56, February 8, 1996) a telecommunications tower has been constructed in the national battlefield's vicinity along Manson Pike within the viewshed of Redoubt Brannan and the southeast corner of the main section of the park. Sites for other towers within the vicinity of the park have also been considered, including one along Old Nashville Highway. Without a comprehensive plan for siting telecommunications towers, pressure is increasing to locate towers in a manner that may result in a derogation of park values.

Developments will reduce the amount of open space. Also, economics will dictate that the percentage of some types of land use will increase while others decrease. For example, the total percentage of land devoted to multifamily uses has increased while the percentage of land devoted to single-family residences has decreased, and the percentage of land devoted to commercial local uses has decreased while the percentage of commercial highway uses has increased.

The CSX Transportation Railroad right-of-way runs immediately behind the Hazen Monument and the national cemetery. Noise from frequent daily trains disturb an otherwise tranquil scene. Also, a Tennessee Valley Authority aerial transmission line runs across land south of Manson Pike, which in alternative 1 would be considered for addition to the national battlefield.

## ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

Primary access to the park is via S.R. 840, to U.S. 41/70S (*Broad Street*), to Thompson Lane, to Old Nashville Highway, to the park visitor center. Secondary access is via Interstate 24 (I-24), to State Route 96 (Old Fort Parkway), to Thompson Lane, to Old Nashville Highway and the visitor center. S.R. 840, a new beltway around Nashville, is an important feeder route

for the park because it intersects Interstate 40, the major east-west highway through Tennessee, and I-24 and U.S. 41/70S just northwest of the park. I-24 is also an important feeder route because it offers a direct route from Nashville to Chattanooga for motorists traveling between the Midwest and Florida, and is one of the most heavily traveled routes in the nation for vacationing motorists.

Public circulation in the battlefield is on a closed-loop road, with access to the national cemetery and the Hazen Monument via historic Old Nashville Highway. McFadden Farm is about 1 mile north of the main park, across U.S. 41/70S with access from Van Cleve Lane. Access to Redoubt Brannan, Bragg's Headquarters, and Rosecrans's Headquarters is from Old Nashville Highway. Access to Fortress Rosecrans is from Old Fort Parkway off of I-24 or U.S. 41/70S.



## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OPERATIONS

Stones River National Battlefield is authorized to have a staff of 11.0 full time equivalent employees. One full time equivalent employee is equal to one person working one full year. However, due to budget constraints, the park is currently staffed at less than its authorized level. Therefore, park management depends on other sources of help, such as volunteers, to provide visitor services and assist with maintenance and resource management.

Office space for the superintendent, park operations, and administration is currently in the visitor center. Administrative supplies are stored in the basement of the building.

A maintenance building and storage yard are located in the northwest corner of the national cemetery across Old Nashville Highway from the visitor center/headquarters building. Offices for maintenance personnel are located here. Adjacent to the maintenance facility is the staff housing complex, consisting of three single-family houses.



# ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES



The last day of the battle at McFadden's Ford





## INTRODUCTION

The alternatives presented in this document establish broad, overarching management and interpretation guidelines. The general nature of the alternatives requires that the analysis of impacts also be general. This means that the National Park Service can make some reasonable projections of likely impacts. Thus, this environmental impact statement is programmatic and presents an overview of potential impacts relating to the proposed program for each alternative. However, for the development at McFadden Farm and the visitor center trail, more specific information is given that allows for a more detailed impact analysis.

Any NEPA documents prepared to assess potential impacts associated with future NPS development or management actions would be tiered to this programmatic environmental impact statement. A table showing those general management plan proposed actions that may affect cultural resources and further compliance requirements with the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation can be found in the section on "Compliance with Federal and State Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations," under the subsection on cultural resources.



## IMPACTS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES

### IMPACTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

The disturbance of resources for archeological investigations alters the site as data is retrieved, and there is the risk that information would be overlooked or lost during the investigation process. Archeological resources would be left undisturbed unless removal of remains was justified by resource preservation, research, or development requirements.

Historical integrity of open battlefield lands outside the national battlefield boundaries would continue to be lost to development.

Providing a more climate-controlled environment for the park's collection, and moving it out of the floodplain, would increase long-term protection of the collection.

### IMPACTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES

All alternatives would result in increases in visitation to and use of the national battlefield, although degree of increase would vary among alternatives. Thus, air quality would be affected by increased motorized vehicle use, although not significantly.

In accordance with the Endangered Species Act, endangered and threatened species would continue to be protected within all areas under NPS jurisdiction. The alternatives are designed to avoid adverse impacts on listed species and to maintain their habitats within the battlefield. The National Park Service has consulted with the

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the state of Tennessee, and would continue to consult with them on the management of listed species. There would be no adverse effects on threatened or endangered species or critical habitat from any of the alternatives.

### IMPACTS ON INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE

The visitor center would continue to provide visitors with information, orientation, and interpretation for the Battle of Stones River and the historic landscape over which it was fought, through exhibits and multimedia presentations. However, the quality of that experience and amount of interpretation would vary greatly among the alternatives.

Visitors would be provided with the opportunity to directly experience some of the historic battlefield landscape over which the battle was fought by means of a self-guided auto tour road. However, the extent and quality of that interpretive experience would vary among the alternatives.

The new visitor center trail would provide safe access for pedestrians and bicyclists from the Stones River Greenway to the visitor center, and in turn, other sections of the park. It would also increase the recreational use of bicycling within the park, which could have an adverse impact on the experience of other visitors, whose primary purpose is to tour the park for its educational and contemplative values.



## IMPACTS OF ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION

### IMPACTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

In alternative 1, protection of cultural resources would be the greatest of all alternatives, with more than twice as much of the original battlefield under NPS protection due to expanded boundaries. The additional lands would require a survey to identify cultural resources, such as cultural landscapes and archeological features.

The return of more of the original battlefield's landscape as closely as possible to an 1860s era appearance wherever possible would improve the battlefield's cultural landscape identification and preservation effort. In doing so, it would alter the existing landscape in terms of enlarging certain fields and open areas, and reforesting other areas, depending on the recommendations of the proposed cultural landscape reports.

The ground disturbance related to the modification and development of a 7.6-mile tour road with 12 interpretive stops, associated wayside exhibits, and other proposed developments, could have more of an impact on both the historic scene and unknown archeological resources than alternatives 2 and 3. This would be due primarily to the additional development of the tour route and interpretive stops south of Manson Pike.

### IMPACTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES

#### General

Overall, the long-term protection of natural resources in general, and prime and unique farmlands and threatened or endangered species in particular, would be greater in alternative 1 than either alternative 2 or 3, with over 750 additional acres included in the expanded boundary.

The general impacts of the proposed NPS construction are outlined below. At this time, it is not possible to identify the specific sites for NPS development other than for McFadden Farm and the visitor center trail; thus, the impacts are not site specific. Actual site layouts and subsequent impacts would be determined by site characteristics such as slope, soils, vegetative cover, and proximity to wetlands, floodplains, and endangered species. Most possible sites for the placement of these facilities have been previously impacted by human use. To determine the net impact of each proposed action, it would be necessary to subtract existing development disturbance from the total amount of disturbance.

NPS development activities would result in temporary elevated levels of particulate matter and other air pollutants. Appropriate control measures would be used to ensure minimal impacts from air pollution. Section 118 of the Clean Air Act requires federal agencies to meet all federal, state, and local air pollution control requirements. No air quality standards would be exceeded.

Most of the NPS construction activities would be located in the 100-year floodplain. The potential impacts of these activities on water quality could be high, especially in terms of accelerated erosion and increased delivery of sediment and silt to and increased turbidity of streams. Strict erosion and sediment controls would be instituted as part of any NPS construction activity in accordance with federal and state laws. In addition, any such construction would conform with the NPS "Floodplain Management Guidelines," which were issued as NPS "Special Directive 93-4" in 1993. No water quality standards would be exceeded.

Impacts on rare, threatened, and endangered species due to construction would be minimal because most of the proposed NPS development

would be in previously disturbed areas. However, a site-specific survey would be required at each site as part of the development concept plan and environmental assessment process to further define impacts on threatened and endangered species.

Animals in construction areas would be temporarily disturbed by equipment and personnel. Migration and use patterns would be expected to reestablish following development. Some mortality of resident individuals could occur during construction, although this should not adversely affect populations.

Potential impacts on soils as a result of NPS construction would be minimal, especially in relation to existing disturbance. If construction at any of the sites extends into less-disturbed areas, impacts would include reduction of direct flow of water to soil. Compaction of soils would occur as necessary to develop parking lots or as result of settling due to the weight of structures. Site preparation would result in either removal or addition of earth, altering soil structure. Rehabilitation of severely impacted areas would be attempted wherever possible.

When specific NPS development sites were selected, a wetland determination would be done. If necessary, further analysis of potential impacts on wetlands would be provided in the development concept plan and environmental assessment done for each site.

Impacts on vegetation would include clearing vegetation to construct NPS facilities; and enlarging certain fields and open areas, and reforesting other areas to return as much of the landscape as possible to an 1860s era appearance. Until exact locations are determined for facilities, and returning the landscape to the 1860s era appearance, it would be difficult to quantify accurately impacts on vegetation. However, this would be done for future site-specific development concept plans, environmental assessments, and cultural landscape reports.

For comparative purposes, the National Park Service estimates that the new design of the loop road would require about 7 acres of new road. Approximately 1.5 acres of old road would be rehabilitated, leaving a net impact of about 5.5 acres. The exact footprint of the loop road cannot be determined at this time. Therefore, specific impacts would be discussed in future development concept plans and environmental assessments.

Additional proposed NPS development could involve the following acreage of disturbance: visitor center (2 acres), Hazen Monument (0.5–1 acre) and Rosecrans's Headquarters (<0.5 acre). As with the loop road, the exact footprint of development cannot be determined at this time; therefore, specific impacts will be discussed in future development concept plans and environmental assessments.

#### **McFadden Farm and Visitor Center Trail**

Hardening of the trail surface along historic McFadden Lane would impact about 1 acre. However, there would be no new disturbance because of the past use of the area as a road.

Construction of a new parking area with associated footpaths to the Artillery Monument and to new wayside exhibits at McFadden Farm would involve about 0.2 acre of disturbance, all of which would be previously disturbed ground. However, rehabilitation of the old parking area would involve about 0.9 acre. Thus, there would be a gain in habitat of 0.7 acre.

Construction of the visitor center trail would impact about 4.1 acres. However, there would be no new disturbance. The trail would cross over previously disturbed ground, such as maintained lawns or fields and road rights-of-way.

There would be a minor, localized, and short-term decrease in air quality caused by dust, particulates, fumes, and noise produced by construction equipment. This impact would be



minor because the disturbed area would be relatively small. Volatile hydrocarbons and other organic compounds in asphalt would enter the air for a short time after completion of construction.

Improvements could lead to increased visitor use in the battlefield and thus increased motor vehicle emissions. Hauling trucks associated with new construction activity would also contribute to increased emissions. However, it is expected that state and federal air quality standards would not be exceeded.

The soil profile within the limits of construction would be permanently altered; cuts might be necessary in some places. Soil in the construction zone would be trampled and compacted by construction equipment and personnel. Rock material and soil would be redistributed, compacted, and covered with asphalt-based material. Nonnative plants would have the opportunity to become established in the disturbed soil.

Construction of the visitor center trail would require grading and leveling and possibly fill. Borrow material sources and fill material disposal would be approved by NPS staff.

Erosion and subsequent runoff of disturbed soils would increase until natural and assisted revegetation was established. Erosion, coupled with increased soil compaction, would lead to effects on vegetation, including potential root damage, tree loss, and exposure of bare ground.

The primary water quality concerns associated with road and parking area construction are erosion and increased sedimentation into streams and rivers. With appropriate mitigation there would be little impact on the Stones River. Any impacts on water quality that did occur would be short term.

Trail surfacing would increase the amount of stormwater runoff only slightly because of the use of an impervious surface. However, the amount of impervious surface compared to the

size of the drainage basin would be small, as would the increase in runoff.

State water quality standards would be met. The state of Tennessee would be consulted, and the state's nonpoint source coordinator might be needed to determine whether a sediment and erosion control plan would be required.

Construction at the sites would result in minor habitat loss of 0.3 acre at McFadden Farm and 4.1 acres at the visitor center trail, and minor alteration of remaining habitat. No amount of the total disturbance would be new, i.e., all lands were previously disturbed. Such previous disturbance involves development, maintained lawn or fields, or old field habitat. No forested habitat would be impacted. Although vegetation removal would occur, no vegetative community or habitat would be destroyed or significantly altered.

Revegetation would be enhanced by conserving and using existing topsoil. There would be an increased potential for introduction of nonnative species on trail shoulders or banks because of a lack of competition with native species in disturbed areas.

There would be a minor, indirect effect on overall habitat capacity with the loss of field vegetation and food source plants, but this effect would be negligible in terms of the larger amount of habitat available in the area. Forage would be lost during clearing for the trail. Areas that are disturbed but unobstructed would revegetate and be used by wildlife. Some ground-dwelling small mammals and birds would be permanently eliminated, causing a decrease in size of the local wildlife population that would be proportional to the habitat lost. Long-term impacts would include habitat fragmentation and increasing development on and human use of habitats, especially in previously undeveloped areas.

## IMPACTS ON INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE

Visitors would be afforded an opportunity to experience and understand an expanded battlefield story, as it directly relates to onsite locations and features of the cultural landscape, via access to 36% of the total original battlefield with the park's new land base. Updated interpretive media in the visitor center would enhance the quality of that visitor experience.

Renovation of the visitor center would provide the opportunity for greatly improved variety and quality of interpretive media and visitor services.

Visitors would gain a greater understanding of and appreciation for the relationship between battle artifacts and events, and the surviving cultural landscape resource of the battlefield, as well as the battle's greater Civil War context, through completely new, refocused visitor center exhibits.

Through expansion of park boundaries to include the open, agricultural lands south of Manson Pike (historic Wilkinson Pike), park visitors would have the onsite opportunity to experience all six major battle action zones in a logical, sequential order. These lands constitute the largest segment of unprotected, surviving agrarian 1862 landscape within the greater Stones River battlefield. As a result of experiencing this extended auto tour, visitors would gain a much more complete understanding of the battle, its human drama aspects, and the significant effect of vegetation and landforms upon the events and results of the battle. This extension of the park's auto tour road into those agricultural lands would further afford visitors the opportunity to experience both an open vista that gives a critical sense of scale and space, and the most dramatic, commanding vista on the greater Stones River battlefield — one that is comparable to some of the best, most powerful vistas anywhere on a major Civil War battlefield.

Visitors would be afforded greater opportunities for accurate park orientation information through planning and installation of orientation waysides at all necessary and appropriate locations — especially at the park's remote, noncontiguous units.

Visitors would be able to better understand the importance and decisive role of massed artillery fire power as graphically depicted through selected mounted artillery piece exhibits, many of which would be knowledgeably relocated following a revised artillery piece location and management plan. Such action would provide visitors with an enhanced understanding of the park's most important historic artillery location, the McFadden Farm ridge overlooking McFadden's Ford across Stones River.

The establishment of a new self-guided interpretive foot trail in the west side of the park would provide visitors who have additional time and interest the opportunity to experience the richness of the original battlefield's surviving cultural landscape, away from the intrusion of auto and bicycle traffic.

Visitors would also experience a safer visit through both the rerouting of the access to McFadden Farm via the new Thompson Lane overpass, and the new design of access for parking areas for Rosecrans's Headquarters site and the Round Forest/Hazen Brigade Monument area.

## IMPACTS ON SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

For alternative 1, beneficial impacts on local contractors and businesses due to NPS construction would be the greatest of all alternatives, due to the most proposed construction. Estimated gross construction and production costs for this alternative are \$5,404,800.

Expenditures under alternative 1 would result in increased revenues for the county through new

construction, renovation, and labor to support these activities. Additional park staff would likely be minimal in the scale of the overall economy of the area. Since much of the new land under alternative 1 would be maintained as farmland, there would be minor reduction in agriculture in the area.

Increased visitation expected by this alternative would result in the greatest amount of economic benefits to local businesses generated by tourism expenditures of all the alternatives.

Approximately 759 acres of primarily private agricultural and residential land would be included in the boundary expansion for alternative 1. The National Park Service would consider a number of options for resource protection for these properties, including land acquisition via donation, land exchange, fee simple acquisition (purchase); easements; and cooperative agreements — all of which would be addressed in an updated land protection plan.

Acquisition of private lands by the federal government would result in the expenditure of federal dollars. The public would benefit in the enhanced preservation of the nation's historical heritage, and the park would be better able to fulfill its mission of preserving cultural resources and interpreting the Battle of Stones River.

The proposed protected area includes the properties of approximately 40 different landowners. The feasibility of acquiring this land is largely dependent on funds being made available as quickly as possible following authorizing legislation.

Boundary expansion is authorized by public law, which enables the National Park Service to proceed with acquisition. Boundary expansion by itself does not preclude any particular land use or improvement, or the sale of the property to outside interests. Landowners within the designated boundary retain all rights of ownership until their land is actually acquired. Landowners are paid fair market value, which is

typically determined using the most current sales information from multiple properties in reasonable proximity having physical and legal characteristics comparable to the property in question.

Boundary expansion could affect the rights-of-way of neighboring roads, railroads, and highways, and the ability to make future changes and improvements to these thoroughfares. The National Park Service would consult with appropriate agencies and offices prior to determining the new boundary for legislation, in order to minimize the impacts.

According to the city of Murfreesboro's Water and Sewer Department, as currently shown, the expanded boundary in the area on the west side of Thompson Lane and south of Manson Pike would remove more than 100 acres of private property from the city's Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District, along with its potential development. It would also remove the planned potential for the city to recover more than \$1 million it has invested in a sanitary sewer system for the area.

Due to the proposed boundary expansion and subsequent acquisition of some or all of the lands by the federal government, the city, and/or the county would experience a reduction in tax base due to a change in status from private, taxable ownership to public, nontaxable ownership. This loss of potential taxes may be offset somewhat by beneficial impacts through savings experienced by removing the lands from current and future city or county services requirements. For example, there would be no increase in requirements for public schools for students who might otherwise live on the land; no new roads to be built or maintained; and no new waste and sanitation services required. Additionally, the city and/or county would be considered for payments-in-lieu-of-taxes from the federal government.

Under policy established by the secretary of the interior to comply with Executive Order 12898 ("Federal Actions to Address Environmental

Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations"), departmental agencies must identify and evaluate any anticipated effects, direct or indirect, from actions on minority and low-income populations and communities, including the equity of the distribution of the benefits and risks. For alternative 1, the following effects have been identified and evaluated.

Boundary expansion is proposed under alternative 1. Some of the occupants of these lands would fit into the category of minority and low income population. Primarily on the basis of equity of benefit and risk distribution, there would be no significant impacts on this population. The National Park Service would negotiate with landowners in this population, as well as other landowners within the expanded boundary, for a fair market value on each property and its improvements. There would be no inequity for any landowner associated with benefits derived from sale of property to the National Park Service. Any risks to landowners would be the same for each landowner.

#### **IMPACTS ON NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OPERATIONS**

Alternative 1 would have the greatest impact on park operations of all the alternatives. Expansion of the park boundary would more than double the amount of land to be managed. The proposal calls for relatively little development, thus keeping the requirement for additional staffing and operating costs at a minimum. However, expansion of the auto tour route and additional tour stops would produce more facilities that would have to be maintained, and would encourage more visitation than either alternative 2 or alternative 3. These factors suggest a required increase in the workload of the equivalent of two to three full-time employees for resource and visitor protection, interpretation and visitor services, and maintenance. However, if budget constraints on hiring employees continue, the park staff would need to become more management oriented than task oriented in

developing alternative means of accomplishing work through contracting, leasing arrangements, partnerships and cooperative agreements, volunteerism, interns, and fund-raising.

#### **CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

##### **Cultural Resources**

Efforts are being made by the state of Tennessee and local communities to preserve and interpret Civil War resources on a regional basis. Alternative 1 would significantly enhance efforts to preserve Civil War resources in the region by protecting more than 750 acres of historic battlefield land. In the absence of protective measures, land use change destroying historical integrity is likely to occur.

##### **Natural Resources**

Alternative 1 would result in significant long-term cumulative impacts on the landscape by the acquisition and preservation of more than 750 acres of land, most of which is open space. Cultural landscape reports would recommend that this be maintained as open space and restored to a general 1860s appearance. In the absence of protection of these acres, commercial and residential development is expected to replace much of the open landscape.

The long-term cumulative impacts of alternative 1 on wildlife and aquatic and riparian habitat would be positive. Potential impacts of proposed NPS construction on aquatic and riparian habitats would be minimal and short term because strict erosion and sediment controls would be instituted. Impacts on rare, threatened, and endangered species would be minimal as most of the proposed development would be in previously disturbed areas.

If alternative 1 were not implemented, the cumulative impact of future land use, including commercial and residential, on this land would reduce natural habitat, thereby adversely



affecting plant and animal species, populations, and communities. Increased urbanization and suburbanization would result in increased surface water runoff and may result in increased nonpoint source pollution (e.g., increases in sedimentation, heavy metals, pesticides, and hazardous substances) to nearby creeks and the Stones River. Some of these increases could exceed state water quality standards, resulting in a loss of aquatic biological integrity. Ground-water recharge rates and water quality would likely decrease as a result of such future land use.

### **Interpretation and Visitor Use**

Cumulative impacts on interpretation and visitor use would be positive and long term, and would complement other regional efforts to interpret the Civil War. Through expansion of park boundaries to include the lands south of Manson Pike, visitors would have the onsite opportunity to experience all six major battle action zones in a logical, sequential order. For the first time, visitors would be able to appreciate the scale of the battle and have access to locations where important battle events occurred. With the return of McFadden Farm to an 1860s appearance and the addition of artillery pieces to the site, visitors would gain an enhanced understanding of the decisive role of massed artillery fire power on the outcome of the battle. Renovation of the visitor center and its interpretive media would support a greater understanding and appreciation for the relationship among battle artifacts, people, and events, as well as the greater Civil War context of the battle.

### **Socioeconomic Environment**

The cumulative long-term impacts of alternative 1 on the general public and the residents of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County would be positive in terms of preserving more of America's heritage, increasing tourist dollars spent in the local economy, increasing dollars spent locally through initial construction and

additional annual staff salaries, and improving the quality of life with the preservation of significantly more public open space in the area.

Under alternative 1, the city and county would be considered for compensation for loss of tax revenue through the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act. This act, passed by Congress in 1976, provides payments to local units of government containing certain federally owned lands. These payments are designed to partially offset the loss of tax revenue to local governments when property is acquired by the federal government and removed from the real estate tax rolls.

### **National Park Service Operations**

After the initial cost of land acquisition and facility development, the most significant cumulative impact on NPS operations would be annual expenses for the maintenance of a longer auto tour road and more outdoor exhibits, and for the equivalent of two to three additional full-time employees. After the expense of restoring the land to an 1860s era appearance, the cost of maintaining the landscape would be relatively small and would probably be associated with leasing arrangements, partnerships, cooperative agreements, and volunteerism.

### **UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Total disturbance at all development or construction sites would be approximately 11.6 acres, including rehabilitation of 2.2 acres. It is not possible to assess completely what part of this acreage represents past disturbance; however, it is believed that most of this acreage is previously disturbed. Therefore, there would be little new disturbance caused by proposed development.

Proposed development would result in a minor visual impact on the park's cultural landscape, and could result in the loss of currently unknown archeological resources.



### **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USES OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY**

Approximately 9.4 acres of vegetation and soil would be removed from natural productivity for NPS development projects for public education and enjoyment. About 2.2 acres of existing roads and parking would no longer be needed and would be replaced with grass or appropriate native plants, thus contributing to the long-term enhancement of biological resources.

Proposed actions to improve management of natural resources and to enhance resource investigations within the battlefield would contribute to the long-term production of all biological resources. Proposed actions are intended to support regionwide, multiagency actions to maintain and enhance the long-term sustainability and quality of life of the middle Tennessee region.

During the construction phase for the tour route, trails, and wayside exhibits, the visitor experience could be adversely affected. However, in the long term, the visitor experience would be enhanced.

### **IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES**

Proposed development within the national battlefield would result in an estimated irretrievable commitment of \$6,309,500.

All excavating would result in an irreversible loss of the archeological resource because excavation destroys the resource as data are recovered from the site. Because new archeological techniques are constantly being developed, it is likely that better future excavation methods would recover significant archeological data. Once a site has been excavated, it is unlikely that further research would be profitable because of the stratigraphy of the site and because the context and makeup of the site have been altered.

Under the proposed action, the National Park Service would protect all archeological resources to the extent practicable.

Some rare, threatened, and endangered species use the battlefield and its resources. Any action that led to the loss of individuals, the prey base, or the quality of the habitat would contribute to the loss of a species as an ecological and genetic resource. The proposed action is designed to protect rare, threatened, and endangered species. However, human activity could occur that would impact these species. Although unlikely, it is conceivable that the proposed action would be inadequate for protecting these species and would inadvertently contribute to their decline.



## IMPACTS OF ALTERNATIVE 2

### IMPACTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

Overall protection of cultural resources associated with the original battlefield, including the cultural landscape and archeological resources, would be significantly less than in alternative 1, since more than 750 acres of land that might otherwise be under NPS protection would be subject to residential and commercial development.

As in alternative 1, the return of the landscape as closely as possible to an 1860s era appearance wherever possible would improve the battlefield's cultural landscape identification and preservation effort, but not to the extent as in alternative 1 because the park would not be expanded.

The ground disturbance related to the modification of the 5-mile tour road with nine interpretive stops, new bicycle lane, new 1-2 mile trail, and redevelopment at McFadden Farm and other sites could impact both the historic scene and unknown archeological resources. This would be minimal because development would occur on previously disturbed ground wherever possible.

### IMPACTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES

#### General

Overall long-term protection of natural resources, including prime and unique farmlands and threatened or endangered species, would be significantly less than in alternative 1, since more than 750 acres of land that might otherwise be under NPS protection would be subject to residential and commercial development.

Impacts of construction would be similar to those in alternative 1, except that the modification and construction of the loop road

under alternative 2 would require about 3 acres of new roadway. Approximately 1.5 acres of old road would be rehabilitated, leaving a net impact of about 1.5 acres. The exact footprint of the loop road cannot be determined at this time. Therefore, specific impacts would be discussed in future development concept plans and environmental assessments.

#### McFadden Farm and Visitor Center Trail

Impacts on natural resources resulting from proposed improvements at McFadden Farm would be the same as those presented in alternative 1. Impacts resulting from construction of the visitor center trail would be the same as those presented in alternative 1.

### IMPACTS ON INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE

Although some land has been acquired within the past decade, park visitors would continue to be limited to visiting and experiencing only four of the six major battle action zones, and only 17% of the total original battlefield, with the result that they would leave the park with an incomplete understanding of the battle.

Significantly large sections of surviving cultural landscape over which the battle was fought would remain in private ownership. These surviving segments, particularly the agricultural pasture and crop land located immediately south of historic Wilkinson Pike (now called Manson Pike), would also remain highly susceptible to potential suburban residential and commercial development and would not be accessible to visitors. However, this vulnerable surviving cultural landscape beyond authorized park boundaries would be documented on a quality film and/or video format for interpretive use.

Via the new 5.0-mile auto tour route, compared to existing conditions, visitors would be afforded an expanded opportunity to experience and understand the battlefield story, as it directly relates to onsite locations and features of the cultural landscape, for as much of the original battlefield as the park's limited land base would allow. However, the opportunity would not be as expansive as in alternative 1.

Other enhancements to the visitor experience relating to the visitor center, McFadden Farm, and safer access and parking are the same as alternative 1.

### **IMPACTS ON SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT**

The beneficial impacts for local/regional contractors and subsequently for local businesses would be less than alternative 1, due to a lesser amount of construction on a shorter auto tour route, but greater than alternative 3. Estimated gross construction and production costs for alternative 2 are \$3,657,000.

The improvement of interpretation and visitor experience in this alternative would probably stimulate increases in visitation to a lesser extent than that expected in alternative 1. This would result in less economic benefits generated by tourism expenditures.

There would be no impact on adjacent landowners and no impacts on the city or county tax base due to lost property tax revenue because no new land acquisition would occur beyond current authorization.

In compliance with EO 12898 ("Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations"), under alternative 2, there would be minimal or no impact on minority or low income populations.

### **IMPACTS ON NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OPERATIONS**

Alternative 2 would have less of an impact on park operations than alternative 1, due to fewer resources to manage, a shorter tour route, and less expected visitation. This alternative would result in the need for work from the equivalent of one additional full time employee. However, if budget constraints on hiring employees continue, volunteerism and student work-study programs would be considered to provide the necessary assistance.

### **CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

#### **Cultural Resources**

Alternative 2, which has no boundary expansion, would result in negative cumulative impacts on cultural resources compared to alternative 1, since more than 750 acres of original battlefield that might otherwise be under NPS protection would be subject to development and permanent loss of historical integrity.

#### **Natural Resources**

Under alternative 2, over 750 acres of the original battlefield, which is predominantly open space, would probably eventually be developed, since it would not be preserved by inclusion within the national battlefield. The cumulative impact would adversely affect plant and animal species, populations, and communities, and water quality, as described under the cumulative impacts on natural resources for alternative 1 if that alternative were not implemented.

#### **Interpretation and Visitor Use**

The cumulative long-term impacts of alternative 2 on interpretation and visitor use would be less than alternative 1. There would be a positive impact on the visitor experience from the

improvements in interpretive media at the visitor center and improvements in the auto tour route within the existing park boundary. However, there would be a lost opportunity for expanded onsite interpretation of an important part of the original battlefield, where two of the six major battle action zones are located. In addition, visitors would be less able to understand and appreciate the true size and scale of the battle and would be unable to witness the most dramatic, commanding vista on the greater Stones River battlefield, which is located south of Manson Pike. Future development of portions of the original battlefield that would otherwise be protected by inclusion within the park boundary would have an adverse impact on the visitor experience if the development were visible from vantage points within the park.

#### **Socioeconomic Environment**

Compared to alternative 1, cumulative impacts on residents of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County would include the lost opportunity of

having more than 750 additional acres of public open space in the neighborhood, and a decreased amount of tourist dollars spent in the local economy due to lower visitation to the national battlefield and shorter stays. City and/or county governments would continue to receive tax revenues from private landowners that would otherwise have sold their properties to the federal government.

#### **National Park Service Operations**

The cumulative impacts on NPS operations would result in future annual expenditures for the equivalent of one additional full-time employee and maintenance costs for a longer auto tour route and more outdoor exhibitry than now exists. However, it would amount to less than half of the additional annual expenses than for alternative 1. There would be no cost associated with preserving landscape on newly acquired land, since there would be no boundary expansion.



## IMPACTS OF ALTERNATIVE 3: CONTINUATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

### IMPACTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

Overall protection of cultural resources associated with the original battlefield, including the cultural landscape and archeological resources, would be significantly less than in alternative 1, and the same as in alternative 2, since more than 750 acres of land that might otherwise be under NPS protection would be subject to residential and commercial development.

As in alternatives 1 and 2, the return of the landscape as closely as possible to an 1860s era appearance wherever possible would improve the battlefield's cultural landscape identification and preservation effort, but not to the extent as in alternative 1 because the park would not be expanded.

There would be minor visual intrusion of the modern-day trails on the historic scene from the visitor center trail and trail improvements at McFadden Farm.

### IMPACTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES

#### General

Overall long-term protection of natural resources, including prime and unique farmlands and threatened or endangered species, would be significantly less than in alternative 1, but the same as in alternative 2, since more than 750 acres of land that might otherwise be under NPS protection would be subject to residential and commercial development.

Other than McFadden Farm and the visitor center trail, mentioned below, there would be no additional impacts on prime and unique farmlands, floodplains and wetlands, water quality, threatened and endangered species, vegetation and wildlife, and air quality due to construction.

### McFadden Farm and Visitor Center Trail

Impacts on natural resources resulting from proposed improvements at McFadden Farm would be slightly greater than those presented in alternatives 1 and 2, since more area would be devoted to paved parking and less to habitat. Impacts resulting from construction of the visitor center trail would be the same as those presented in alternatives 1 and 2.

### IMPACTS ON INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE

Even though there has been some land acquisition within the past decade, park visitors would still be limited to visiting and experiencing only four of the six major battle action zones, and only 17% of the total original battlefield, with the result that they would leave the park with little understanding of the battle.

Significantly large sections of surviving cultural landscape over which the battle was fought would remain in private ownership. These surviving segments, particularly the agricultural pasture and crop land located immediately south of historic Wilkinson Pike (now called Manson Pike), would also remain highly susceptible to potential suburban residential and commercial development and would not be accessible to the visiting public.

Visitors would continue to have an experience that would not measure up to its potential at the park visitor center — which generally contains incomplete, outdated, inadequate, and sometimes confusing interpretive media and facilities.

Without a revised artillery piece location and management plan and additional artillery pieces onsite, visitors would continue to see artillery that fails to adequately depict its vital importance and decisive role at key battlefield locations, e.g., the ridge at McFadden Farm



overlooking the McFadden's Ford across Stones River.

Visitors desiring a quality extended walking tour would be left with an inadequate, fragmented experience along the park perimeter trail.

Visitors stopping at the Rosecrans's Headquarters site and the Round Forest/Hazen Brigade Monument areas would continue to struggle with the dangerous situation of having to back out of small, inadequate parking areas directly into traffic on the Old Nashville Pike.

### **IMPACTS ON SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT**

Local/regional construction-related jobs would increase to a minor extent, as would other construction-related expenditures. Local contractors would benefit from the proposed construction activities. Estimated gross construction and production costs for this alternative are \$445,500. Visitor expenditures in the surrounding area would increase slightly because of an expected minor increase in visitation over current levels.

There would be no impact on adjacent landowners and no impacts on the city or county tax base due to lost property tax revenue because no new land acquisition would occur beyond current authorization.

In compliance with EO 12898 ("Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations"), under alternative 3, there would be minimal or no impact on minority or low income populations.

### **IMPACTS ON NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OPERATIONS**

Alternative 3 would have a relatively minor impact on park operations. Improvements at McFadden Farm and the addition of the visitor

center trail and orientation wayside exhibits would require some additional work in terms of annual maintenance (less than one full time equivalent employee), and a slight increase in the maintenance operating budget. However, even with the minor impact of the actions in alternative 3 on park operations, current staffing would continue to be inadequate; and if budget constraints on hiring employees continue into the future, park management would continue to use alternative means of accomplishing work (e.g., contracting, student work-study programs, volunteerism, and donations of time and funding).

### **CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

#### **Cultural Resources**

Cumulative impacts are the same as alternative 2. With no boundary expansion, there would be negative impacts on cultural resources compared to alternative 1, since more than 750 acres of original battlefield that might otherwise be under National Park Service protection would be subject to development and permanent loss of historical integrity.

#### **Natural Resources**

As in alternative 2, over 750 acres of the original battlefield, which is predominantly open space, would probably be developed, since it would not be preserved by inclusion within the national battlefield. The cumulative impact would adversely affect plant and animal species, populations, and communities, and water quality, as described under the cumulative impacts on natural resources for alternative 1 if that alternative were not implemented.

#### **Interpretation and Visitor Use**

The cumulative long-term impacts of alternative 3 on interpretation and visitor use would be negative compared to alternatives 1 and 2.

There would be no improvements in interpretive media at the visitor center, nor at areas outside, within the existing park boundary. There would be a lost opportunity for expanded onsite interpretation of an important part of the original battlefield, where two of the six major battle action zones are located. Visitors would be less able to understand and appreciate the true size and scale of the battle, and would be unable to witness the most dramatic, commanding vista on the greater Stones River battlefield, which is located south of Manson Pike. Future development of portions of the original battlefield that would otherwise be protected by inclusion within the park boundary would have an adverse impact on the visitor experience if the development were visible from vantage points within the park. Visitors would leave the park with an inadequate understanding of the Battle of Stones River, its human drama aspects, and its overall context within the Civil War.

### **Socioeconomic Environment**

Cumulative impacts on residents of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County would include the lost opportunity of having more than 750 additional acres of public open space in the neighborhood. City and/or county governments would continue to receive tax revenues from private landowners that would otherwise have sold their properties to the federal government. Compared to alternatives 1 and 2, there would be a decreased amount of tourist dollars spent in the local economy due to lower visitation to the national battlefield and shorter stays, and less indirect benefit to the local economy because there would be no increase in staff and relatively little new construction.

### **National Park Service Operations**

There would be essentially no cumulative impacts on National Park Service Operations, since alternative 3 has very little new development, and is a continuation of existing conditions.



## COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS

### GENERAL

In implementing the general management plan for Stones River National Battlefield, the National Park Service would comply with all applicable laws and executive orders, including those listed below. Informal consultation with appropriate federal, state, and local agencies has been conducted in the preparation of this document. After a 30-day no-action period following release of the general management plan, a record of decision will be prepared to document the selected alternative and set forth any stipulations for implementation of the plan, thus completing the NEPA process.

This environmental impact statement is essentially a programmatic statement, presenting an overview of potential impacts relating to the proposed program for each alternative. With the exception of McFadden Farm and the visitor center trail, which are assessed in this document, a more detailed development concept plan and environmental assessment would be done for each NPS-owned site at which future development would occur. These documents would be tiered to this programmatic statement.

#### **Executive Order 12898 ("Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations")**

Under policy established by the secretary of the interior to comply with this executive order, departmental agencies should identify and evaluate, during the scoping and/or planning processes, any anticipated effects, direct or indirect, from the proposed project or action on minority and low-income populations and communities, including the equity of the distribution of the benefits and risks. If any significant impacts to minority and low-income populations and communities are identified during the scoping and/or planning processes,

the environmental document should clearly evaluate and state the environmental consequences of the proposed project or action on minority and low-income populations and communities.

#### **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 USC 9601 et seq.: CERCLA or Superfund)**

This act regulates the cleanup of hazardous or toxic contaminants at closed or abandoned sites. The act was reauthorized in 1986 under the Superfund Amendment Reauthorization Act (SARA). Section 120 of SARA specifies that CERCLA is applicable to federal facilities.

### CULTURAL RESOURCES

The National Park Service is mandated to preserve and protect its cultural resources through the act of August 25, 1916, and through specific legislation such as the Antiquities Act of 1906 and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, which is described below. Cultural resources in Stones River National Battlefield would be managed in accordance with these acts and with NPS *Management Policies* (chap. 5), *Cultural Resource Management Guideline* (NPS-28), and other relevant policies directives.

As part of its cultural resource management responsibilities, the National Park Service surveys and evaluates all cultural resources under its jurisdiction. Cultural resources are evaluated by applying the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, the National Park Service maintains the List of Classified Structures, which is an inventory of all historic and prehistoric structures in the national park system. All cultural resources eligible for the national register are recorded and

measured according to high professional standards.

Alternatives in this document were developed in consultation with the city of Murfreesboro, the state of Tennessee, and other interested entities.

All facilities and programs would be accessible to disabled visitors in keeping with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 USC 4151 et seq.); the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 701 et seq.); and, as appropriate, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336, 104 Stat. 327).

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470, et seq.) requires that federal agencies that have direct or indirect jurisdiction take into account the effect of undertakings on national register properties and allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment. Toward that end the National Park Service would work with the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office and the advisory council to meet requirements of 36 CFR 800 and the September 1995 programmatic agreement among the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Park Service. This agreement requires the Park Service to work closely with the state historic preservation office and the advisory council in planning for new and existing NPS areas.

The agreement also provides for a number of programmatic exclusions for specific actions that are not likely to have an adverse effect on cultural resources. These actions may be implemented without further review by the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office or the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (reducing required consultations with the state historic preservation office) provided that NPS

internal review finds the actions meet certain conditions. Undertakings, as defined in 36 CFR 800, not specifically excluded in the programmatic agreement must be reviewed by the state historic preservation office and the advisory council before implementation. Throughout the process there will be early consultation on all potential actions.

The National Park Service has developed a list of actions associated with the proposed general management plan that could have an effect on cultural resources. Some of these actions are covered by programmatic exclusions, and would require no further SHPO/ACHP review. Other actions would need further SHPO/ACHP review. This information is presented in table 7. The State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the list and concurs with it.

Internally, the National Park Service will complete an "Assessment of Actions Having an Effect on Cultural Resources" form before implementation of any proposed actions. This is necessary to document any project effects, outline actions proposed to mitigate any effects, and document that the proposed action flows from the general management plan. All implementing actions for cultural resources would be reviewed and certified by cultural resource specialists following the September 1995 programmatic agreement.

Prior to any ground-disturbing action by the National Park Service, a professional archeologist would determine the need for archeological inventory or testing evaluation. Any such studies would be carried out in conjunction with construction and would meet the needs of the state historic preservation office, as well as the National Park Service. Any large-scale archeological investigations would be undertaken in consultation with the state historic preservation officer.

**TABLE 7: IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN THAT MAY AFFECT CULTURAL RESOURCES, AND THEIR ASSOCIATED STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE/ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Actions	Compliance Requirements
Provide orientation wayside exhibits at entrance points throughout the park.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on archeological resources and cultural landscapes.
Produce new interpretive media for the visitor center.	No further SHPO/ACHP review; will have no effect on cultural resources.
Provide wayside exhibits along the improved and expanded tour road as soon as the necessary lands are available, and at McFadden Farm.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on archeological resources and cultural landscapes.
Rehabilitate the interior of the visitor center for use including expansion of interpretive exhibits, curatorial activities, museum storage, study collections, and visitor orientation.	No further SHPO/ACHP review; property is a noncontributing feature. This action would have no effect on cultural resources.
Expand the Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery outdoor exhibit.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on archeological resources and cultural landscapes.
Restore landscape to approximate appearance at the time of the battle, on lands acquired by the National Park Service.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on cultural resources including archeological, historic structures, and landscapes.
Implement development at McFadden Farm, including hardening the trail along McFadden Lane, replacing the existing parking lot, and providing landscaping elements.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on cultural resources including archeological, historic structures, and landscapes.
Construct visitor center trail.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on archeological resources and cultural landscapes.
Change and expand the auto tour route with associated trail as soon as the necessary lands are available.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on archeological resources and cultural landscapes.
Provide a new interpretive pedestrian trail.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on archeological resources and cultural landscapes.
Provide parking and pedestrian circulation improvements at Hazen Monument, visitor center, and Rosecrans's Headquarters.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on archeological resources and cultural landscapes.
Provide a trail from the visitor center to Rosecrans's Headquarters.	Requires further SHPO/ACHP review to determine effect on archeological resources and cultural landscapes.



Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires the National Park Service to identify and nominate to the National Register of Historic Places all resources under its jurisdiction that appear to be eligible. Historic areas of the national park system are automatically listed on the national register upon their establishment by law or executive order.

Cultural landscape management focuses on preserving the landscape's physical attributes, biotic systems, and use when that use contributes to its historical significance. Research, planning, and stewardship provide the framework for the program. Research defines the significance, and planning outlines the issues and alternatives for long-term preservation. Stewardship includes maintenance and condition assessment and defines the appropriate preservation technology to be used. In this regard, the park needs a cultural landscape report, as stipulated in all alternatives.

In addition, the park needs a comprehensive historic resource study that identifies and evaluates battle events and historic structures and sites occurring on present NPS-administered lands. During the implementation phase of the proposed action, archeological surveys may be required as well as historic structure reports and ethnographic use studies. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis when advance planning for construction is funded.

#### **Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (P.L. 101-601; 104 Stat. 3049)**

Ownership or control of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony that are excavated or discovered on federal or tribal lands would be assigned to lineal descendants of culturally affiliated Native American groups. Criminal penalties were established for trafficking in remains or objects obtained in violation of the act. Federal agencies and museums receiving federal funding would

inventory Native American human remains and associated funerary objects they hold, identify their cultural and geographical affiliation within five years, and prepare summaries of information about Native American associated objects.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **Analysis of Impacts on Prime and Unique Agricultural Lands in Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (45 FR 59189)**

Federal agencies are required to analyze the impacts of federal actions on agricultural lands, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. This policy was developed to minimize the effect of federal programs in converting prime, unique, or locally important farmland to nonagricultural uses. The proposal would have a positive effect on agricultural lands, since more of this type of land would be protected.

### **Clean Air Act, as amended (42 USC 7401 et seq.)**

Stones River National Battlefield is designated as a class II clean air area. Maximum allowable increases of sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, and nitrogen oxides beyond baseline concentrations established for class II areas cannot be exceeded. These class II increments would allow modest industrial activities in the vicinity of the Battlefield. Section 118 of the Clean Air Act requires all federal facilities to comply with existing federal, state, and local air pollution control laws and regulations. The National Park Service would work with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to ensure that all activities within the battlefield meet the requirements of the state air quality implementation plan.

**Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended  
(16 USC 1531 et seq.)**

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act requires all federal agencies to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that any action authorized, funded, or carried out by the agency does not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or critical habitat. Consultations with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation have revealed that there are numerous federally and state listed plant and animal species either within or believed to live in the battlefield.

Most of the development proposed under each alternative would be primarily in previously disturbed areas. Thus, potential impacts on federally listed threatened and endangered species would be minimal. A biological assessment has already been performed for proposed development at McFadden Farm and for the visitor center trail. The results are published in the appendix of this document. Prior to all other proposed development, surveys would be done at each site as part of the development concept plan/environmental assessment process to further define the impacts on endangered and threatened species. This would include further consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

As required by NPS *Management Policies*, the National Park Service would cooperate with the Tennessee Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to ensure protection of state-listed species within the preserve.

**Executive Order 11988 ("Floodplain Management")**

EO 11988 requires all federal agencies to avoid construction within the 100-year floodplain unless no other practicable alternative exists. Development of some of the facilities described

in the alternatives would be at least partially sited in areas that are within the 100-year floodplain. These facilities are excepted under NPS guidelines.

It appears that the below-ground level of the visitor center is at or below the 100-year floodplain elevation. Further site-specific work is necessary to confirm this. Currently, this level houses the battlefield's rare book and document collection. Even though the visitor center predates EO 11988, the order explicitly states that rare, historical documents and books should be stored outside the 500-year floodplain. The National Park Service is exploring options for moving the collection out of the floodplain.

**Executive Order 11990 ("Protection of Wetlands")**

EO 11990 requires that all federal agencies must avoid, wherever possible, impacts on wetlands. When specific development sites are selected, a wetland determination would be done and further analysis of potential impacts on wetlands would be provided in the development concept plan/environmental assessment prepared for each site. Currently, no impacts on wetlands are anticipated. However, if wetland impacts occur in the future, a statement of findings, pursuant to NPS regulations for compliance with this executive order, would be attached to the development concept plan/environmental assessment.

**Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (USC 9 sec. 1251 et seq., as amended, 33 USC sec. 1251-1376, and 1987 Federal Water Quality Act)**

Proposed construction and NPS operations would have little effect on water quality. Federal construction would comply with the requirements of sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act and other applicable federal, state, and local regulations. At present, permits

#### ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

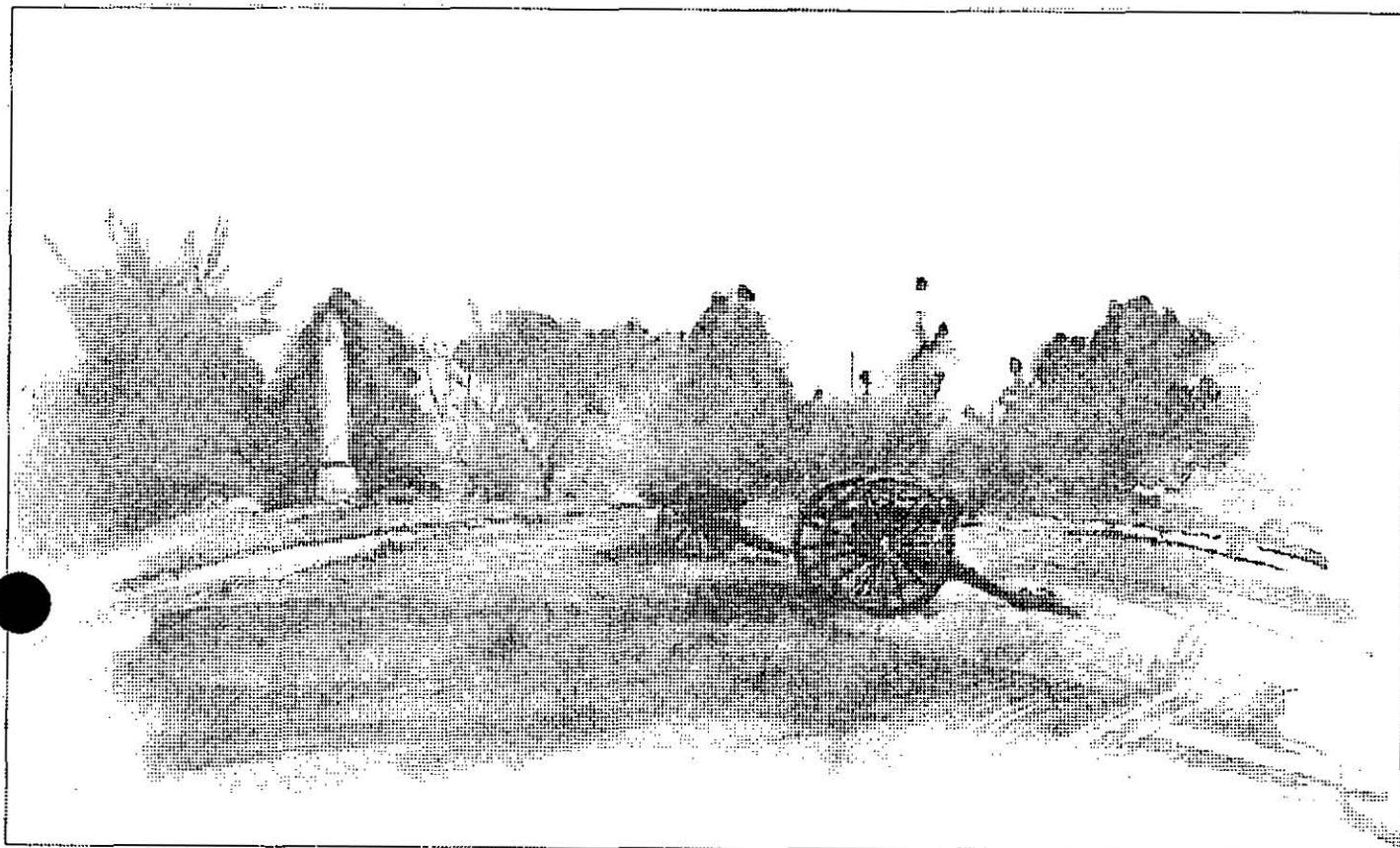
to comply with these sections are not anticipated.

#### **Executive Order 11987 ("Exotic Organisms")**

EO 11987 requires federal agencies to restrict the introduction of exotic species into the natural

ecosystems on lands and waters that they own, lease, or hold for purposes of administration, and into any natural ecosystem of the United States, and to encourage the states, local governments, and private citizens to prevent the introduction of exotics into natural ecosystems of the United States.

## CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



McFadden Farm and Artillery Monument





## SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

During the creation of the general management plan/development concept plan/environmental impact statement for Stones River National Battlefield, newsletters were written, and public meetings and open houses were held to solicit input from the public.

### NEWSLETTERS

In fall 1992, a newsletter was distributed announcing an upcoming public meeting and open house on October 27 and 28, 1992, respectively.

In winter 1993, a newsletter was distributed that summarized the results of the public meeting and open house and presented a schedule for the planning process. Also, addresses and phone numbers were provided for anyone wishing to comment.

In winter 1994, a newsletter was distributed that provided an overview of the planning process to date, and presented park purpose and significance, management objectives, park vision, interpretive themes, and possible future actions. A map was also provided that was the result of the planning team's research. This map showed the locations of significant sites related to the battle, and defined the original battlefield. Finally, the six major battle action zones of the battle were depicted.

### PUBLIC MEETINGS AND OPEN HOUSES

On October 27, 1992, a public scoping meeting was held in Murfreesboro to introduce the general management planning process and to give the public the opportunity to comment on the purpose and management of the national battlefield and appropriate visitor use. An open house was also held on October 28 at the battlefield's visitor center to allow the public to comment.

In February 1993, the planning team conducted a workshop at the park to develop interpretive themes. In addition to NPS personnel from various offices, representatives from Rutherford County and the city of Murfreesboro attended.

In April 1993 a workshop was held at the park to identify possible alternative actions concerning resource management, interpretation, visitor use, and development that relate to the issues identified during the scoping phase. In addition to many of the same participants at the February workshop, there were representatives from the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office and Middle Tennessee State University.

On July 28 and 29, 1994, at the park, the planning team presented preliminary alternatives and proposed boundary expansion to affected landowners. These informal meetings were a necessary precursor to the October 4 and 5, 1994, meetings.

On October 4, 1994, a public meeting was held at the park visitor center that included a presentation on alternatives for battlefield interpretation, development and boundary expansion. An informal open house for discussion of these same topics was held on October 5 at the visitor center.

*The Draft General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* was released in June 1997. Three public meetings were held to present the plan and record public comments. The first meeting was held on June 25 at the Stones River National Battlefield visitor center. The other meetings were held in the afternoon and evening on June 26 at the Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce building. Written comments on the document were requested to be received by September 4, 1997. Written comments and NPS responses to those comments are presented in this chapter of the document.



## **106 CONSULTATION FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES**

On July 12, 1993, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office were formally invited to participate in the general management planning process for Stones River National Battlefield in compliance with the programmatic agreement among the National Conference of State Preservation Officers, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Park Service. The Tennessee State

Historic Preservation Office participated in an alternative workshop in the park during April 1993. Draft documents were sent to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office in June 1997. A member of the State Historic Preservation Office participated in all three public meetings. An official response from that office was sent to the planning team on June 27, 1997. The comments were incorporated into the final document. No comments were received from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.



**LIST OF AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO WHOM  
COPIES OF THE DRAFT DOCUMENT WERE SENT**

**TENNESSEE CONGRESSIONAL  
DELEGATION**

Hon. Bill Frist  
Hon. Fred Thompson  
Hon. Bart Gordon

**FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES,  
AND OFFICES**

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
Department of Agriculture  
    Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Department of Defense  
    Army Corps of Engineers  
Department of the Interior  
    U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
    National Park Service  
        Interagency Resources Division,  
        American Battlefield Protection  
        Program  
Federal Highway Administration  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**

Tennessee General Assembly  
    Hon. Andy Womack  
    Hon. Mary Anne Eckles  
    Hon. John D. Hood  
Department of Environment and Conservation  
    State Historic Preservation Office  
    Tennessee Historical Commission  
    Tennessee Natural Heritage Program  
    Tennessee State Parks  
Department of Transportation  
Middle Tennessee State University  
    Center for Historic Preservation

**RUTHERFORD COUNTY**

County Executive Nancy R. Allen  
Regional Planning Commission

**CITY OF MURFREESBORO**

Mayor Joe B. Jackson  
Parks and Recreation Department  
Planning and Engineering Department  
Public Works Department

**ORGANIZATIONS**

Association for the Preservation of Civil War  
    Sites (Hagerstown, Maryland)  
Civil War Trust  
Eastern National Parks and Monuments  
    Association  
Friends of Stones River National Battlefield  
National Parks and Conservation Association  
Nature Conservancy  
Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce

In addition the draft document was sent to  
individuals on a mailing list maintained at the  
park.



## COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

### INTRODUCTION

The *Draft General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* was released in June 1997. Approximately 400 copies of the document were distributed to local, state, and federal government agencies; organizations; local landowners; and numerous other individuals on the park's mailing list. Three public meetings were held following release of the document to provide for comment on the three alternatives. Written comments on the document were requested to be received by September 12, 1997. However, some written comments were received after that date and were also considered.

The National Park Service is pleased with the interest shown in the alternatives that were generated for Stones River National Battlefield, and wishes to thank those who responded to the *Draft General Management Plan*. A total of 344 letters were received, including 17 from government agencies and 327 from the general public, including organizations. The latter group included 136 form letters, consisting of two different forms and 217 signatures. All letters, including E-mail submissions, are reproduced in this section. One example of each form letter is reproduced, and a list of all signatures on the form letters is presented. Some signatures were difficult to read, and therefore, names may be misspelled. In accordance with federal privacy requirements, addresses and telephone numbers of all individuals have been blocked out.

Comments received in writing were similar to those voiced at the public meetings. There were many letters and some people at the meetings that strongly supported alternative 1, the NPS proposed action. These people voiced their opinion that as the Battle of Stones River was one of the major conflicts of the western theater of the Civil War in which thousands lost their lives, the battlefield deserves the recognition and respect accorded to other Civil War sites

commemorating battles of similar scope. They concur that the park's current holdings of 12% of the original battlefield is inadequate for comprehensive interpretation of either the scale or significance of the battle. Additionally, many of the respondents expressed their concern that the rapid change occurring on the surrounding lands necessitated prompt implementation of the plan.

There were also many letters and numerous people at the meetings that strongly opposed alternative 1 due to the proposed boundary expansion. The objections primarily centered around the NPS acquisition process: landowners of property designated within the proposed boundary felt that their land was held hostage until purchased, that the acquisition process itself is too slow, and that landowners would not be adequately compensated for their land. Some landowners did not wish to be included in the proposed boundary and want to remain on their land. There were also respondents who felt that the cost to acquire additional land did not justify the action regardless of the benefits that would accrue for the park resource and visitor experience. One criticism of the draft plan was that the specific cost of acquisition was not included.

All comments were considered by the National Park Service in the preparation of the *Final General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement*. As long as the opportunity remains to implement the important battlefield protection provisions of alternative 1, the National Park Service believes that it must support that goal. This is clearly the last opportunity to do so. Where appropriate, the text of the draft document has been revised for the final document in response to comments and concerns.

Representative comments are grouped by topic below, along with NPS responses to the comments. Letters from government agencies

are then reproduced, followed by letters from the general public in alphabetical order by respondent.

## **REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

### **TOPIC: Amount of Land Necessary To Tell Story**

**Comment:** Alternative 1 is a waste of public funds and it is unnecessary in the interpretation of the Battle of Stones River. The 700 plus acres currently in the park boundary is more than adequate for battle interpretation. With a competent staff and materials, alternative 2 should be more than adequate to tell the story of the battle to future generations.

**Comment:** More and more battlefield acreage is being lost to commercial development around the country every day, but few of the remaining unprotected battlefields are as important to our national Civil War heritage as Stones River. Commercial growth within our community is so rapid that lands available today to enhance the Stones River story will not be available in the future. Hallowed ground where Civil War soldiers once spilled blood for their beliefs and our freedom is today occupied by a McDonalds fast food restaurant and Wal-Mart Super Center. There is other land available nearby for future development without having to encroach further on the battlefield grounds. Battlefield expansion must be viewed from a national perspective. Even though the vast majority of Americans are unfamiliar with Stones River there are still well over 250,000 visitors annually that testify to people's interest from around the country in Stones River battlefield. Therefore, the expansion issue transcends local politics and speaks to our national heritage.

**Comment:** Alternative 1 does not go far enough. Other areas are important to protect.

**Comment:** The national battlefield staff can't adequately maintain what it has at present. The

field that borders Van Cleve Lane and Manson Road is usually overgrown, as is the field that borders Van Cleve Lane and the Old Nashville Highway.

**Response:** A number of significant sites related to the battle remain outside the national battlefield's authorized boundary. In alternative 1, the area of proposed addition below Manson Pike is where the Confederate Army swept the Union Army north on the first day of battle. At present the park contains very little acreage on which the Confederate Army made its major advance on the first morning of the battle. Particular battle landmarks that affected troop movements, such as the brick kiln and the Harding and Gresham houses, were located here. Protection of this area would allow the story of all six major battle action zones to be told on site for the first time, enhancing visitors' appreciation of the immense scale of the battle. Additionally, the area affords some of the most dramatic vistas of any Civil War battlefield and is a landscape that is not replicated in any location of the present park.

During the planning process, the original battlefield of 4,000 acres was evaluated. The lands selected for proposed additions to the national battlefield were those that are contiguous with the authorized park boundary, would serve to fulfill the park's management objectives relating to resource protection, visitor use, and interpretation, and for the most part, retain historic landscape integrity. See also pages 20 to 24.

A management goal for the park is to maintain a landscape that reflects an 1860s appearance. In accordance with this goal, mowed areas are minimized to keep the appearance of open fields, native grasses are encouraged, and exotic pest species such as musk thistle are controlled. This policy supports interpretive themes and reduces maintenance costs.

**TOPIC: Process of Acquiring Land**

**Comment:** The National Park Service should provide an explanation of the land acquisition process, furnish its best estimate of the acquisition schedule, and state the priority that it places on these acquisitions relative to other pressing projects.

**Comment:** I feel that the Park Service's attack upon private property owner's rights are so serious that our United States Congress should launch an investigation into their procedures and practices of controlling private property.

**Comment:** If the Park Service wants to acquire additional property, then it should be negotiated and purchased immediately.

**Comment:** I understand that when a condemnation trial is held in Federal Court, the Park Service has the option of paying to the landowner the amount of the jury verdict, or, alternatively, simply paying court costs and attorney's fees and walking away from the judgment, if they believe it to be too high.

**Comment:** My greatest concern is that the expansion of the battlefield boundaries be accomplished by the United States Congress very quickly. It appears that any delay will result in the destruction of the historically valuable properties by current developers.

**Comment:** Rutherford County and the City of Murfreesboro support alternative 2 of the *Draft General Management Plan*. They favor expansion of the boundaries of the Stones River National Battlefield, but only to the extent that funding is available for payment to property owners at the time of inclusion into the park boundaries. They oppose inclusion of private property within park boundaries when there is no funding for acquisition of the privately owned property.

**Response:** The National Park Service must follow federal law and departmental policies in regard to land acquisition. These policies

are designed to protect the taxpayers from purchasing land at artificially inflated values while providing a fair price to the property owner. The primary source of funds for land acquisition is congressional appropriations. Appropriations are not typically provided at the same time boundary expansion and land acquisition are authorized since authorization and appropriation are usually distinct acts of Congress. Therefore, the acquisition process available to the National Park Service can be prolonged.

At some point after the final plan is approved, legislation would be written to authorize and describe the expanded boundary of the national battlefield. The new boundary would take into consideration concerns expressed during the public comment period on the *Draft General Management Plan*, such as needed rights-of-way for road improvements, development that may have occurred since the distribution of the draft plan, and concerns by landowners.

If the boundary expansion is authorized, a land protection plan would be prepared in order to identify the interest needed in each tract and to prioritize acquisition. Highest priority would go to lands under imminent danger of being lost to development, and to lands that are required for visitor services, such as the expanded auto tour route.

Only when funds are available would the National Park Service be in a position to make offers to acquire properties. Offers would be based on appraisals of fair market value. Each landowner's situation is unique, and in each case every attempt would be made to arrive at an equitable solution to satisfy the mutual needs of the landowner and the National Park Service as expeditiously as possible. For owners of residential properties who wish to continue to live on them, occupancy arrangements may be made for a specified time or for life.



Clearly a barrier to immediate acquisition at the time of authorization is that money is dependent on an annual appropriations process. When an owner is anxious to sell and the National Park Service doesn't have the money, then other organizations sometimes help expedite purchase.

The amount of time it would take to acquire the proposed additions would vary from parcel to parcel, depending upon the above factors. Therefore, it is impossible at this time to say how long this entire process would take. The priority that the National Park Service places on these acquisitions would be established upon congressional authorization and preparation of an updated land protection plan, and would be assessed periodically during servicewide funding calls.

The National Park Service resorts to condemnation only in extreme cases. When parties are unable to agree to the amount of just compensation for the property, the ultimate settlement of a difference of opinion on value is through the eminent domain process by the Federal Court. The Anti-Deficiency Act prohibits the National Park Service from obligating the government for expenditures if sufficient funding is not available. If the award is outrageously high, the National Park Service may, as an act of prudent behavior, dismiss the case from condemnation and would have to pay the defendant's attorney fees and certain other litigation expenses.

#### **TOPIC: Effect of Boundary Expansion on Landowners' Rights**

**Comment:** Some property owners are opposed to an expanded boundary that would include their lands. Such inclusion may inhibit a landowner from improving the property and may discourage a potential purchaser much in the same manner that a "right of first refusal" constitutes a cloud on property. The state of

Tennessee would not take land from an unwilling owner for the expansion of a state park or a historic site. While taking of property by the United States is a federal issue, and the inclusion of the land within the boundaries is not necessarily a taking, the state believes that some consideration should be given to state policy on the taking of land within its borders. The National Park Service should examine the extent it may reconfigure the proposed boundaries to accommodate unwilling landowners and still accomplish its goals as stated in alternative 1. The National Park Service should reconsider the viability of alternative 1 if it is unable to draw boundaries that satisfy a substantial number of affected landowners.

**Comment:** This plan is a ploy by the Battlefield to control very valuable private property by taking 756 acres into the "Official Boundary" of the Park. The recent history of Park Management supports this allegation. In 1989 and 1991 Congress passed legislation authorizing expansion of the Park by 300 acres. Over the next eight years they have only had appropriations to purchase 100 acres. The other 200 acres of privately owned property are still within the "Official Boundary" of the Park, i.e., under the cloud of Park expansion. This cloud damages the sale of this property, thusly the private property owner.

**Response:** Prior to recommending a more precise boundary for legislation, the National Park Service would consult with all affected landowners to determine the extent of interest in acquisition and to address concerns in the manner discussed under the previous topic. Landowners whose property is included within the boundary retain all legal rights of ownership until actual date of purchase.

#### **TOPIC: The Cost of Land Acquisition**

**Comment:** The *General Management Plan* should identify the costs of land acquisition.

**Comment:** In the meetings held by the Park Service it was said that land acquisition could cost between \$15 and \$30 million.

**Response:** Fair market value is typically determined using the most current sales information from multiple properties in reasonable proximity having physical and legal characteristics comparable to the property in question. Since fair market value depends on a number of factors and changes over time, it is impossible to develop a reasonable estimate of the cost of land acquisition that would occur sometime in the future. As a reference point, the county's appraised value of properties contained in the proposed additions for alternative 1 is \$3,179,400. This figure is based on county reports dated as recently as March 13, 1998. The National Park Service recognizes that the county-appraised values may reflect only a portion of what constitutes fair market value, since land values are rapidly increasing in this area, underscoring the reality that fair market value can be determined only at time of acquisition.

#### **TOPIC: Battlefield Protection Beyond the Proposed Expansion**

**Comment:** While acquiring additional acreage would increase the National Park Service's opportunity to provide recreation and cultural experiences, measures should also be taken to preserve the views of the battlefield. Lack of suitable development controls on the part of the City of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County need to be addressed to adequately manage the pressures of future development.

**Comment:** How does the National Park Service plan to gain the participation of adjacent landowners in maintaining the general appearance of an agricultural landscape or open space to complement the park? Have guidelines been prepared? Will the National Park Service rely on the local municipalities to enforce this?

What incentives will be provided to encourage the adjacent landowners to participate?

**Response:** The National Park Service recognizes the importance of preserving the views of the original battlefield which fall outside the boundaries of the Stones River National Battlefield. This issue is addressed in the section entitled "Coordination and Cooperation with Community" under alternative 1. Some efforts have already been made by the city and county towards instituting design standards through zoning. For example, battlefield protection zoning can now be applied in some areas by the city. A promising approach to historic landscape preservation along historic road corridors is being considered by the county. Design standards intended to be applied to the battlefield corridors are described in the *Stones River Battlefield Transportation Corridors Plan*, prepared in 1997 for Rutherford County (pages 58-60).

Participation of adjacent landowners in maintaining the general appearance of an agricultural landscape or open space to complement the national battlefield is entirely voluntary. The National Park Service cannot enforce ordinances, codes, etc., outside its boundary. The Park Service would provide technical assistance in design for adjacent landowners who requested this guidance.

#### **TOPIC: Status of Proposed Actions Inside the Current Boundary**

**Comment:** The Chicago Board of Trade Battery site is already within the authorized boundary of the National Park Service. Why should the Alternative 1 plan for this site be tied in with land acquisition south of Manson Pike? If the Chicago Board of Trade site is historically important, interpret it fully in Alternative 2 and 3 also, don't hold in hostage to land acquisition elsewhere.

**Response:** There are a variety of ways to interpret the Chicago Board of Trade Battery, and the *Draft General Management Plan* presented a range of reasonable alternatives in order to elicit public comment. Expansion of this exhibit is not dependent on land acquisition requiring new legislation, either south of Manson Pike or elsewhere in the proposed additions. Therefore, expansion of the exhibit would occur whenever sufficient funds are available, and would not depend on further congressional authorization. (This also applies to other elements of alternative 1 within the current boundary.)

#### **TOPIC: Effect of Proposal on Area Roads and Utilities**

**Comment:** Expansion of national battlefield boundaries could have an effect on future changes and improvements within rights-of-way for highways, roads, and railroads; specifically Interstate 24, U.S. 41/70S, Manson Pike, and the CSX rail corridor.

**Comment:** Once this property belongs to the National Park Service, any intrusion for transportation or utilities becomes a nightmare.

**Comment:** Alternative 1 is in direct conflict with the city's *Major Street Plan* and proposed updates, and the *Draft General Management Plan* does not propose alternatives. Alternative 1 will compromise the city's and county's ability to provide for the transportation needs of the community.

**Comment:** It would be better to retain a significant part of the auto tour route completely within the battlefield area in a manner not to require crossing or use of adjoining public rights-of-way, and such that the tour segment could begin and end completely within the battlefield.

**Comment:** The National Park Service should consult with the City of Murfreesboro and

Rutherford County regarding the impact of Park Service actions on infrastructure investments made by the city and/or county on properties included within the expanded boundary. For example, the city has invested over \$1,000,000 in a sanitary sewer system along the west side of Thompson Lane, south of Manson Pike.

**Response:** In the events leading to congressional authorization of boundary expansion, the National Park Service would consult with the city of Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, and appropriate agencies including the Federal Highway Administration, Tennessee Department of Transportation, Nashville Metropolitan Planning Organization, Regional Transportation /Authority, and CSX Railroad officials to consider all right-of-way needs and traffic considerations, while protecting as much of the historic resources of the battlefield as possible.

A recent transportation study on the area surrounding the national battlefield indicates that the proposed boundary expansion and expanded tour route in alternative 1 would not significantly affect local traffic, even with an expected increase in visitation. The study, *Stones River Battlefield Transportation Corridors Plan*, was prepared by Community Planning & Research, Inc. in 1997 for Rutherford County. The study concludes that area roads and the park itself could support two to three times today's visitor levels, or up to 850,000 annual visitors, which is roughly double the visitation projected for the year 2015. For an explanation of how National Park Service visitation statistics are compiled, see pages 88-89.

As a matter of policy, the National Park Service does not put new roads on historic properties when existing roads, both historic and modern, can accommodate visitor traffic with sensitive planning and design. This allows the Park Service to maintain the

maximum amount of historic landscape in accordance with the enabling legislation.

The National Park Service does not have the authority, nor is there any mechanism to directly compensate the city of Murfreesboro for anticipated returns on its sewer investment. Prior to determining a more precise boundary at the time legislation is prepared, the city and county would be consulted, and consideration would be given to new construction and development that might be in place, such as that along Thompson Lane.

#### **TOPIC: Environmental Concerns**

**Comment:** More site specific information is needed to determine the potential for environmental impacts from proposed development, including impacts on wetlands and riparian habitat.

**Comment:** Impacts to water resources, including wetlands, should be avoided if possible. Appropriate mitigation should be undertaken if impacts to water resources are unavoidable. The National Park Service should obtain the appropriate permits prior to beginning work.

**Comment:** Landscape restoration should be accomplished by using native plant species consistent with local community types.

**Comment:** The final document should state that the National Park Service will consult with the State Historic Preservation Office relative to implementing those features of the plan which involve the installation of wayside exhibits, tour roads, trails, and outdoor exhibits.

**Comment:** Cumulative impacts should be added to the document.

**Response:** Due to the programmatic nature of this environmental impact statement, an overview of potential impacts relating to the

proposed actions of each alternative is presented. The objective at this stage is to determine if elements of the alternatives are reasonable in view of potential impacts. Additional documentation of impacts would be performed at the next stage of planning and design for specific actions such as construction of the auto tour route. However, for the development at McFadden Farm and the visitor center trail, more specific information is given in this document that allows for a more detailed impact analysis so that those projects may proceed. A biological assessment for those two sites is included in this document. See also the "Introduction" to the "Environmental Consequences" section.

Strict erosion and sediment controls would be instituted as part of any construction activity in accordance with federal and state laws. The National Park Service would obtain the appropriate permits prior to beginning work. Also see the discussion on erosion and stormwater control in the "Mitigation Measures for All Alternatives" section of the "Alternatives, Including the Proposed Action" chapter.

Landscape restoration would be consistent with that defined by cultural landscape reports and would consider the use of native plants as well as farm crops in the agricultural scene.

Table 7 of the document has been revised to reflect that the National Park Service would consult with the State Historic Preservation Office regarding the listed items.

Cumulative impacts have been added to the "Environmental Consequences" chapter.

#### **TOPIC: Education and Interpretation**

Many thoughtful suggestions were offered on educational programs, interpretive themes and exhibits, specific sites to feature or preserve, and modifications to the visitor center. All of these

suggestions would be considered in the more detailed planning efforts for interpretation and cultural landscape preservation.

Some respondents expressed concern about locations of important battle sites or structures (such as the James house or the site on which General Cleburne's division was involved) which are not included in the proposed protection areas.

The National Park Service acknowledges that there are areas of historical significance which are not included in the proposed protection areas. (See pages 19–20 for the basis of determining areas to be included.) One of the

park's management objectives encourages interpretation of the greater battlefield through cooperation with landowners and local government agencies. Rutherford County has prepared a *Countywide Civil War Sites Interpretive Plan* to interpret the greater battlefield. When implemented, it will have brochures, site identification markers, and wayside exhibits throughout the county to interpret the Civil War in Rutherford County. This plan was funded by a grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program. The staff at Stones River National Battlefield continues to provide technical assistance in these interpretive endeavors.



# COMMENTS



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

Tennessee Division Office  
249 Cumberland Road Drive  
Nashville, TN 37228

July 2, 1997

In Reply, Refer To: 1095-TM

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
National Park Service  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

Subject: Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement

These comments are being offered in response to your June 10, 1997 letter to Mr. Leon Larson, Regional Federal Highway Administrator. The Region 4 Office of Planning and Program Development forwarded a copy of your Draft General Management Plan for our review and comment since the Tennessee Division has the most comprehensive knowledge of transportation plans and programs within Tennessee.

Under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) strives to balance improved mobility and safety while at the same time safeguarding a cultural heritage, preserving historic properties, and enhancing the natural environment. It is the policy of the Federal Highway Administration to ensure early consideration of environmentally sensitive areas and to avoid or minimize future social, economic, and environmental impacts while providing for needed transportation facilities. With this policy in mind, we reviewed your Draft General Management Plan along with the transportation goals of the Nashville Metropolitan area. Three potential areas of federal involvement are anticipated within the area of impact of your various alternatives.

The first two areas of concern are with two widening projects which are anticipated for inclusion in a future update of the Nashville Metropolitan Planning Organization's Long-Range Transportation plan. The following projects are planned to address the growth in the Murfreesboro area.

- The widening of Interstate 24 from State Route 840 to State Route 96. Alternative One calls for the addition of Parcel 1. Parcel 1 includes properties which abut the existing Interstate 24 right-of-way. An expansion of the Battlefield boundaries to this right-of-way could severely limit the consideration of alternatives for any future improvements to the Interstate 24 corridor.

- The widening of U.S. 41/70S (State Route 1-Murfreesboro Road) from Hobson Pike to State Route 96. Alternative One Proposes to establish protection study areas along U.S. 41/70S. Future shifts in the Battlefield boundaries within your proposed study areas could limit the consideration of alternatives along this corridor.

It is recommended that the National Park Service work closely with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, the Nashville Metropolitan Planning Organization, and our office to minimize future social, economic, and environmental impacts by establishing any future Battlefield boundaries so as not to preclude transportation alternatives along these corridors, while protecting the valuable resources of the Stones River Battlefield. Section 4(f) (23 CFR 771.135) requires that the Department of Transportation find alternatives to any use of parks and historic sites, even if there is no adverse effect or the use is minimal. Therefore, expansion of the Battlefield's boundaries has the potential of increasing community impacts of any future transportation development on the Battlefield's neighbors along I-24 and U.S. 41/70S, and in the Murfreesboro area.

The third area of potential impact concerns the establishment of commuter rail service between Nashville and Murfreesboro. A demonstration project is proposed to initiate commuter rail service along the CSX rail corridor adjoining the Battlefield. Although only in development, this intermodal option could prove extremely valuable in meeting regional transportation needs. This expansion of rail service could impact the Battlefield, including a possible increase in rail traffic, and future track expansion to add a second track. We recommend close coordination with the Regional Transportation Authority and our office to ensure that the impact on the Battlefield and its planned activities is minimal, while preserving commuter rail opportunities.

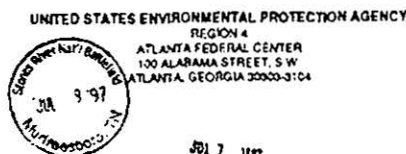
When considering future boundary expansions, the Federal Highway Administration would encourage the National Park Service to carefully examine cultural, natural, and historic features; as well as current property lines. If an artificial or arbitrary boundary is chosen along one of the above mentioned transportation corridors, consideration should be given to designating a small buffer zone to allow for recognized future transportation needs. Federal-aid highway funds would be made available with any future projects to mitigate any adverse impacts of these projects, and to protect the Stones River National Battlefield's integrity, while enhancing the quality of life of the surrounding community and region.

If you have any questions concerning these comments or transportation goals, please contact Mr. Gary Jensen at (615) 736-2764.

Sincerely yours,

(For) James Scapellato  
Division Administrator

cc: Mr. William L. Moore, Jr., Tennessee Department of Transportation  
Ms. Marian Ott, Regional Transportation Authority  
Ms. Cynthia Lehmbeck, Nashville Metropolitan Planning Organization



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Dept. \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Engineer \_\_\_\_\_  
Plant Engineer \_\_\_\_\_  
EMPLOYE \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. Off. \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. Clerk \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Maint. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mech. Maint. \_\_\_\_\_  
Elect. Maint. \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Library \_\_\_\_\_  
Recreation \_\_\_\_\_

4EAD-OEA

Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

SUBJECT: Draft Management Plan, Development Concept, and Environmental Impact Statement for Stones River National Battlefield, Rutherford County, Tennessee

Dear Sir:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the referenced document in accordance with EPA's responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102 (2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act. The document presents the assessment of environmental impacts of three alternatives for cultural and resource management at the Stones River National Battlefield. The preferred alternative is to acquire 759 acres of land for incorporation into the park as funds become available, to provide a climate-controlled environment for the collection of artifacts, moving the artifact collection out of the Stones River floodplain, and enhancing the visitor center to accommodate more patrons.

EPA supports the preferred alternative, expansion of park holdings and facilities. We would suggest that at the visitors center NPS institute a program to promote waste reduction and recycling of office paper, corrugated paper and aluminum beverage cans from vending machines. We have seen instances at NPS sites where park brochure/map materials are collected when the patrons have finished using them for "insanely recycling"; that is, the materials are recovered and used again.

As some construction in floodplains is anticipated, further analysis of potential impacts on wetlands may be required. We would encourage any contractors working for NPS in the Stines River floodplain be held accountable for strict erosion and sediment controls, and that this construction conforms with NPS "Floodplain Management Guidelines" which were issued as NPS "Special Directive 93-4" in 1993. EPA recommends that new building construction and renovations meet energy efficient standards as outlined in the American Society for Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Efficiency guidelines.

EPA rates this action as LO - Lack of Objections - that is, this review has not identified

any potential impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal. We appreciate the opportunity to review this document. Please contact me or John Hamilton at (404) 562-9617 if more information is needed.

Sincerely,

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief  
Office of Environmental Assessment

## COMMENTS



### United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
446 Neal Street  
Cookeville, Tennessee 38501

August 14, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Pecidham  
Superintendent  
National Park Service  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Ms. Pecidham:

Thank you for submitting your letter of June 10, 1997, concerning the Draft General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for the Stones River National Battlefield, Rutherford County, Tennessee. According to our letter of May 2, 1994, the proposed project would potentially impact the following federally listed species: Tennessee purple coneflower (*Echinacea tennesseensis*), Leafy prairie clover (*Dalea foliosa*), Guthrie's ground-plum (*Astrogalus bibullatus*), gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), large rock cress (*Arabis perstellata* var. *ampia*) and the Stone's River bladderpod (*Lesquerella stonensis*). The Service has reviewed your assessment of potential impacts to these species and offers the following comments:

The Service concurs with your assessment that the proposed project will not adversely effect those species mentioned above. In view of this, we believe that the requirements of Section 7 of the Act have been satisfied. However, obligations under Section 7 must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner not previously considered, (2) this action is subsequently modified to include activities which were not considered in this assessment, or (3) a new species is listed or critical habitat determined that may be affected by this identified action.

Your interest and initiative in protecting and enhancing endangered and threatened species are appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Brad Burgham of my staff at 615/528-6481.

Sincerely,

Lee A. Barclay, Ph.D.  
Field Supervisor

# COMMENTS



STATE OF TENNESSEE

Don Sundquist  
Governor

September 12, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

As the Governor's Lead Contact for State of Tennessee National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews, I am providing comments in response to the Stones River National Battlefield General Management Plan, Development Plan, and Environmental Impact Statement. The comments below and those attached represent the complete and official response of the State of Tennessee to this document. Please give these comments your full consideration.

**Alternative 1.** Tennessee is fortunate to have this National Battlefield. The expansion of park boundaries as stated in Alternative 1 would enhance interpretive and recreational opportunities for the people of the United States as well as the surrounding community. The State recognizes that the General Management Plan is only the first step in the process of park boundary expansion. The State believes, however, that the Park Service should address the following issues prior to selecting this Alternative. The State also suggests that the Park Service consider modifying the proposed boundaries in the next phase of the planning process based on a resolution of these issues.

- **I-24 Corridor.** A portion of Parcel 1 is located along Interstate 24, a major component of the federal and state highway systems. To allow its planned widening, any Management Plan that includes land along I-24 should include a provision for a 30 meter easement for its expansion. The State considers such an easement essential to the future transportation needs of the State.
- **Existing infrastructure.** The City of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County have made significant infrastructure investments on the property identified. The Park Service should consult with these local entities in determining any use that would affect these investments.
- **Cost considerations.** The Draft does not identify the costs of land acquisition. It is difficult if not impossible to adequately compare the costs and benefits of the Alternatives without this information.

State Capitol, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0001  
Telephone No. (615) 741-2001

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
September 12, 1997  
Page 2

- **Land Acquisition Process.** The Draft does not identify a time schedule for land acquisition within the proposed new authorized boundaries, and only states that acquisition would occur as funding becomes available. The Draft further does not discuss the priority the National Park Service places on these acquisitions relative to other pressing projects.

The State acknowledges that Park Service funding is dependent upon Congressional appropriations, and that it may not be possible for the Park Service to provide complete information at this time. The Park Service should, however, include a clear explanation of the acquisition process to provide affected landowners with a better understanding of the scope and significance of this general management plan and consider furnishing its best estimate of the acquisition schedule.

- **Affected Landowners.** Anecdotal information indicates that some landowners support the inclusion of their lands within the proposed authorized boundaries. Other property owners are uneasy with or publicly opposed to an expansion that would include their lands.

The State recognizes that the federal government takes the position that the inclusion of land within authorized boundaries is not a condemnation or taking for which compensation is due. The State believes that such inclusion may inhibit a landowner from improving the property and may discourage a potential purchaser much in the same manner that a "right of first refusal" constitutes a cloud on property.

The State does not contest the power of the United States to take such property. The State does suggest that under similar circumstances it would not take land from an unwilling owner for the expansion of a state park or a historic site. While taking of property by the United States is a federal issue and the inclusion of the land within the boundaries is not necessarily a taking, the State believes that some consideration should be given to state policy on the taking of land within its borders. This is particularly so in cases, such as this, where federal and state public purposes coincide.

The State suggests that the Park Service examine the extent it may reconfigure the proposed boundaries to accommodate unwilling landowners and still accomplish its goals as stated in Alternative 1. The State furthermore suggests that the Park Service reconsider the viability of Alternative 1 if it is unable to draw boundaries which satisfy a substantial number of affected landowners.

- **Adjacent landowners.** The State agrees that the Park Service should consider plans for securing the participation of willing adjacent landowners outside the proposed boundaries to maintain the general appearance of an agricultural or open space complementary to the Park.

## COMMENTS

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
September 12, 1997  
Page 2

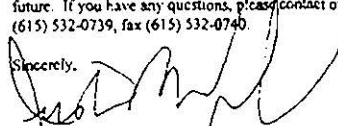
- **Safety.** Even if fully implemented, Alternative 1 does not create a continuous battlefield. The State is confident that the Park Service will take appropriate mitigation measures to ensure the safety of park users, particularly when crossing roads.

**Alternative 2.** There is a clear need for increased interpretive facilities as outlined in Alternative 2. The State supports these improvements. Cost factors should determine the extent of additional and enhanced facilities. The State believes that the Park Service can and will address these issues appropriately.

**Summary.** The State wishes to assist the Park Service in protecting these significant cultural resources and in creating an even more meaningful visitor experience. Although the park expansion is still in an early phase of a long process, the significance of the issues raised is such that the Park Service should attempt to address the above concerns sooner than would generally be required in the National Park Service planning process.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and will respond to additional opportunities in the future. If you have any questions, please contact our staff NEPA coordinator for this issue at (615) 532-0739, fax (615) 532-0740.

Sincerely,

  
Justin P. Wilson  
Deputy to the Governor for Policy

cc: The Honorable Don Sundquist, Governor of Tennessee  
Mr. Milton H. Hamilton, Jr., Commissioner, TN Dept. of Environment and Conservation  
State NEPA Contacts (all)

### Department of Economic and Community Development

Office of Special Programs  
Rachelle Jackson Building, 7th Floor  
330 North Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0470  
Telephone: 615 532-8054  
Fax: 615 532-8470  
Out of State: 1-800-251-8194  
Tennessee: 615-741-5429

Wilton Burnett, Jr., P.E.  
Director

  
**TENNESSEE**

July 9, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

SUBJECT: Stones River National Battlefield General Management Plan, Development  
Concept Plan, Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Ms. Peckham:

The Department of Economic and Community Development appreciates the opportunity to review the above referenced document. The project area contains no significant potentials for industrial development. However, as is documented, there is great potential for historical or commercial development or a mix thereof. The department feels that land use decisions of this nature more properly belong on the local level and, therefore, offers no further comment at this time.

Sincerely,



Wilton Burnett, Jr., P.E.

WB:am

**RECEIVED BY**

JUL 20 1997

THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFF.

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



## COMMENTS



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
2941 LEBANON ROAD  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0442  
(615) 532-1550

June 27, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

RE: NPS, DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN, STONES RIVER NATIONAL  
BATTLEFIELD, MURFREESBORO, RUTHERFORD COUNTY

Dear Ms. Peckham:

Pursuant to your request, this office has reviewed the above-referenced document, and Review and Compliance staff has attended three public meetings held on June 25 and 26, 1997. Considering available information, we find that the Draft General Management Plan as currently proposed reflects your agency's concern with and programs for the identification, evaluation, protection and interpretation of cultural resources at Stones River National Battlefield.

We feel that the Draft General Management Plan is an excellent document. It provides a wealth of information concerning the Battle of Stones River. It contains clear statements concerning the points of comparison and contrast relative to the three alternatives presented. It has excellent graphics. It contains a very useful matrix comparing the three alternatives.

This office concurs with the National Park Service that Alternative I provides the best mechanism for protecting and interpreting the cultural resources associated with the Battle of Stones River. We concur with the priorities of the National Park Service toward protection and interpretation of the cultural resources involved. We feel that your proposals for interpreting cultural resources as expressed in Alternative I are excellent. This includes your plans for updating the exhibits in the Visitors Center. We concur with your evaluation of the potential impacts of the alternative upon cultural resources.

Ms Mary Ann Peckham  
June 27, 1997  
Page 2

We do feel, after listening to public input relative to this document that the final version should contain a discussion of the process by which the National Park Service will expand the boundary of the National Battlefield and acquire property for the protection and interpretation of the cultural resources associated with the battle. We also feel that the final document should make some attempt to present estimated land acquisition figures associated with Alternative I. We also feel that the final document should be revised so that the National Park Service declares that it will consult with this office relative to implementing those features of the plan which involve the installation of wayside exhibits, tour roads, trails, and outdoor exhibits.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the planning team, you and your staff, and all those who have contributed to making this draft document the fine example of National Park Service planning that it is. We also wish to express our profound gratitude to you for continuing to protect the cultural resources associated with the Battle of Stones River and for interpreting that battle to the people of this state. Please continue in the sure knowledge that this office will work with you in whatever manner appropriate to ensure that Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is implemented at Stones River National Battlefield.

You may direct questions and comments to Joe Garrison (615)532-1559. This office appreciates your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

Herbert L. Harper  
Executive Director and  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer

HLH/jyg

## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
2941 LEBANON ROAD  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0442  
(615) 532-1550

July 9, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Military Park  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

After reviewing the Draft General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Stones River National Battlefield in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, I offer my comments for your consideration.

In order to better interpret the Stones River Battlefield for the visitor, I would suggest that Alternative Number One in the above draft be considered as the highest priority. By enlarging the acreage of the original battlefield, a true "sense of time and place" will add significantly to the experience of the visitor. The battlefield and interpretive center as it exists today, is a wonderful educational resource, but the magnitude and intensity of the events that took place on the field of battle are drastically "underrated" or represented in the park's relatively small amount of preserved battlefield landscape.

Along with expanding the existing park boundaries I also concur that new interpretive wayside exhibits, along with a new driving tour route and museum exhibits, will add significantly to the park's resources.

A large portion of the unprotected battlefield acreage extant today still retains most of its historic landscape integrity. The loss of this landscape would be a tragedy not only for the City of Murfreesboro and the State of Tennessee, but for the Nation as well. Tennessee has retained only a few such areas of historic Civil War landscape due to urban encroachment and lack of historic preservation education. As Military Sites Preservationist for the Tennessee Wars Commission I heartily concur with the National Park Service assessment that all efforts should be made to enlarge and preserve the boundaries of the Stones River National Battlefield Park, at all costs, for future generations.

Please keep me advised as to your progress on this matter.

Sincerely,

Fred M. Proby  
Dir. of Programs, Tenn. Wars Commission  
Military Sites Preservationist  
Tenn. Historical Commission

# COMMENTS



## STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

July 21, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Department of Interior  
National Park Service  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro TN 37129

Subject: *Draft General Management Plan, Conceptual Development Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Stones River National Battlefield, Department of Interior, National Park Service; Project review information for rare, threatened, or endangered species; ecologically sensitive sites; and managed areas*

Dear Ms. Peckham:

Please be advised that a review of our Departmental data bases indicates recorded threatened and/or endangered species near the project boundaries and within a one mile radius of the proposed project. The review is for the proposed *Draft General Management Plan, Conceptual Development Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Stones River National Battlefield, Rutherford County, TN* project site(s). Based upon the information provided, we believe that a survey of the project area would provide valuable information concerning the protection of species known to occur within a one mile radius of the project. These species have very specific or rare habitat. Please see the attached listing, Attachment 1, for further information from our Biological Conservation Data system.

The results of our review do not mean that a comprehensive biological survey has been completed. Because of the presence of threatened or endangered species near the project area (within a mile radius), it is probable that those species will occur in the project area if suitable habitat exists. Therefore, we would recommend that a survey of the project sites be conducted prior to project implementation. Please notify our office of your findings.

Our records also indicate additional species occurrences, site records, and managed areas records within an approximate four mile radius of the proposed project site(s) [Please see Attachment 1]. The species that have recorded occurrences are listed by quad map and are attached. Please do not make public the exact location of any element listed here-in, as this could lead to possible over-collection and abuse.

DIVISION OF NATURAL HERITAGE 401 Church Street, 8th Floor LAC Tower Nashville TN 37243-0447 Telephone 615/732-0431

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Stones River National Battlefield, NPS-DOI  
Page 2  
July 21, 1997

Please be advised, however, that this information is sensitive to the protection of rare habitat, threatened or endangered species, and natural areas which our Department has the responsibility to protect. Therefore, we would request that this information *only* be used as a research tool by professional staff and not be made available to the public or anyone outside of your office.

### Site Specific Comments:

- We concur that additional study and planning should be done prior to any project implementation. We would request that you consult with our office concerning rare, threatened, or endangered plant species and community types that may be located within the proposed Park expansion sites.
- We would suggest that the study site south and west of Old Nashville Highway be surveyed for glade plant species. Our information indicates that habitat for these species occurs within this area.
- The site, Parcel 1, (west of Thompson Lane and north of Manson Pike) is known to contain glade (plant species) habitat. This site should also be surveyed prior to any project implementation.
- We believe that the Draft does not contain enough site specific information to determine the potential for environmental impacts from proposed development. These potential impacts could be addressed in the final Environmental Impact Statement.

In order to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act consideration should be given to the comprehensive and cumulative impacts associated with the project actions. Based upon the information provided, it is probable that any proposed stream crossing or development within riparian areas will impact instream, aquatic, habitat and riparian habitat as part of the project implementation.

Any restoration activities should include the use of native plant species. Restoration should be accomplished by using native plant species consistent with local community types.

Techniques for sediment retention and streamside reconstruction are outlined in the following documents prepared by our Department:

1. Tennessee Erosion Control Handbook, July 1992.
2. Reducing Nonpoint Source Water Pollution by Preventing Soil Erosion and Controlling Sediment on Construction Sites, March 1992.
3. Riparian Restoration and Streamside Erosion Control Handbook, November 1994.

Please refer to these documents when planning measures to lessen any project or construction impacts.

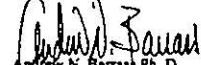
## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Ms. Mary Ann Pockham, Stones River National Battlefield, NPS-DOI  
Page 3.  
July 21, 1997

We appreciate the opportunity to assist you with your pre-project planning. If we can be of further assistance with your project please contact our office in Nashville, telephone 615/332-0431

Respectfully,



Andrew N. Barras Ph.D.,  
Environmental Review Coordinator  
Division of Natural Heritage

Attachments (2)

cc  
Mr. Dodd Galbreath, Environmental Policy Office-TDEC  
Mr. Paul Davis, WPC-TDEC  
Mr. Dan Sherry, TWRA  
Mr. Lee Barclay, Ph.D., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

July 21, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

The Recreation Services Division has reviewed the Stones River National Battlefield General Management Plan, Development Concept Plan, and Environmental Impact Statement. Please consider the following comments:

Comments:

Overall, the National Park Service (NPS) has been sufficiently thorough in its review and presentation of each alternative. Each alternative is clearly distinguished and the positive and negative impacts are adequately defined.

Alternative 1: The expansion of the existing battlefield would increase the NPS's ability to expand recreation opportunities from what is presently offered. The most obvious advantage of this alternative would be to protect the additional acreage that encompasses portions of each significant battlefield site.

The threats of urbanization in Rutherford County are real. In a study completed by the Recreation Services Division in 1996, urban growth is indicated as one of the biggest threats to future recreation lands within the county. Suitable land for recreation is already limited and needs to be protected where it is available. Growth projections for Rutherford County over the next 10-15 years are staggering. At this extreme rate of growth, the NPS is wise to consider today what measures need to be taken to protect the historical significance of the lands surrounding the National Battlefield.

While acquiring additional acreage would increase the NPS's opportunity to provide recreation and cultural experiences, measures should also be taken to preserve the viewscapes of the battlefield. Lack of suitable development controls on the part of the City of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County need to be addressed to adequately manage the pressures of future development.

Recreation Services Division • 10th Floor L&C Tower • 401 Church St. • Nashville • 37243-0439 • 615-532-0748

Ms. Peckham  
July 21, 1997  
Page 2

An issue that needs to be addressed by the National Park Service is the process for acquiring the proposed property. Providing this exceptional historic and recreation resource should be a positive experience for adjacent landowners, especially those whose property may be acquired as proposed in Alternative 1. If this alternative is chosen, every effort should be taken to educate the landowners on the value of their properties. In addition, the NPS should fairly compensate landowners in a timely manner for acquisitions.

One area that is not clearly addressed is how the National Park Service plans to gain the participation of adjacent landowners in maintaining the general appearance of an agricultural landscape or open space to complement the park. Have guidelines been prepared? Will the NPS rely on the local municipalities to enforce this? What incentives will be provided to encourage the adjacent landowners to participate?

Alternative 2:

Alternative 2 provides most of the interpretive recreation opportunities as described in Alternative 1, but does not involve the acquisition of additional acreage. The need for increased interpretive facilities and modern equipment are apparent when visiting the park. While the lack of acquisition would limit on-site interpretation of all battlefield action zones, this alternative still would provide many opportunities that do not currently exist at the park.

If this alternative is selected the NPS still needs to work closely with local city and county officials to protect the character of the park.

Alternative 3:

Alternative 3 greatly minimizes the amount of expansion both in acreage and in recreation opportunities afforded in alternatives 1 and 2. The selection of this alternative would seriously impact the NPS's ability to provide adequate interpretation of the battlefield. The Recreation Services Division strongly supports the National Park Service's desire to expand opportunities at that battlefield and do not believe this alternative is sufficient to meet the current and future needs of the park.

Other Issues to be Further Addressed:

Safety

None of the alternatives presented adequately address the safety of park users to fragmented parcels of NPS sites. Under the proposed acquisition in Alternative 1, continuity of each battlefield site would still not be adequately achieved, with several properties remaining fragmented. The National Park Service needs to clearly address the of park users, particularly when crossing roads, and how they plan to mitigate such risks.

Recreation Services Division • 10th Floor L&C Tower • 401 Church St. • Nashville • 37243-0439 • 615-532-0748



# COMMENTS

Ms. Peckham  
July 21, 1997  
Page 3

## Community Involvement

Special consideration should be given to coordinate recreation opportunities with the City of Murfreesboro Parks & Recreation Department and the Rutherford County Conservation Commission.

## Education

An important element to all three proposed alternatives is ensuring that local residents of Rutherford County understand the importance of this unique site. The Recreation Services Division encourages the NPS to develop local education programs with communities in the surrounding area to gain future support for acquisitions and additional interpretive recreation opportunities. When developing new interpretive programs, the NPS should consider developing a special education opportunities targeting youth that will encourage their interest.

## Recommended Alternative

Recreation Services Division supports the expansion of recreation opportunities where appropriate. As this plan is presented, and in lieu of public concerns regarding the acquisition of additional properties as currently proposed, the Recreation Services Division supports Alternative 2 as the best alternative at this time. This alternative would greatly increase the recreation and cultural opportunities available at the existing park, while complementing efforts underway by the City of Murfreesboro. In addition, the increased interpretive recreation opportunities also have the potential to increase tourism opportunities and economic development benefiting the entire region. Expansion of the existing park boundaries would be supported if adequate measures were taken to satisfy the land owners of the proposed acquisitions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions or need further assistance from the Recreation Services Division, please contact myself or Alison Brayton at 615-532-0748.

Sincerely,

*Joyce H. Hoyle*

Joyce H. Hoyle, C.I.P.  
Director

JH/ab

cc: Alison Brayton, Recreation Services Division  
Dodd Galbreath, TDEC, Environmental Policy Office  
Justin P. Wilson, Governor's Lead Point of Contact for NEPA Reviews

Recreation Services Division • 10th Floor L&C Tower • 401 Church St. • Nashville • 37243-0439 • 615-532-0748



## STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

July 28, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
1301 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37219

Dear Ms. Peckham:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment concerning the draft General Management Plan, Development Concept Plan, Environmental Impact Statement for Stones River National Battlefield in Rutherford County, Tennessee. The Division appreciates the Park Service's plan for meeting the state water quality standards as stated on page 103 of the EIS.

Please consider the following water quality concerns:

### 1. Water Quality Monitoring

a) The Division is concerned that impacts to water resources, including wetlands, are avoided if possible. Referring to page 102, the EIS states that a wetland determination will be conducted when development sites are selected and an environmental assessment will be done for each site if necessary. Appropriate mitigation should be undertaken should impacts to water resources be unavoidable.

### 2. Sedimentation

a) Referring to page 101 of the EIS, it is stated that there will be potential impacts to water quality, in terms of increased erosion, sediment and turbidity in the streams. Appropriate erosion and stormwater controls should be installed and maintained.

b) The NPS should obtain the appropriate permits prior to beginning work.

The Division appreciates the opportunity to provide input in the initial stages of the project. We look forward to working with the National Park Service on this and similar projects. If you have questions concerning my comments, please contact me at 615-532-0899.

Sincerely,

*Gregory M. Denton*  
Gregory M. Denton, Manager  
Planning and Standards Section  
Division of Water Pollution Control

Division of Water Pollution Control • L & C Annex 8th Floor • 401 Church Street • Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1534

## COMMENTS



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
PLANNING DIVISION  
SUITE 800 JAMES K. POLK BLDG.  
600 DEADERICK STREET  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0234

July 8, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

SUBJECT: Stones River National Battlefield  
General Management Plan,  
Development Concept Plan,  
Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Ms. Peckham:

The Tennessee Department of Transportation's Environmental Planning Office, which prepares and review NEPA documents, has reviewed the subject document and found it to be well written. The document provides an adequate presentation of the purpose and need of the proposed action and description of anticipated impacts for each alternative.

The Department has no present or proposed projects which would be affected by your project and has no opinion on a preferred alternative. The Department does have a concern about possible future improvement of transportation corridors, particularly Interstate 24, if Alternative One is selected for implementation. Parcel I of Alternative One is located along Interstate 24 which may require widening at some future time. The Battlefield property would be protected by Section 4 (f) of the Department of Transportation Act unless a provision is included in the Master Plan to allow widening of Interstate 24. Therefore, the Department requests an easement of 30 meters for future right-of-way along Interstate 24. We suggest that similar consideration be given to the railroad and local roads in the impact area.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed action and if we can be of any future assistance, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

*Glenn Beckwith*  
(62) Glenn Beckwith  
Planning Director

RECEIVED BY

JUL 11 1997

TN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFF.

cc: Commissioner J. Bruce Saltzman, Sr.

# COMMENTS



ED ELAM

## County of Rutherford

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK  
319 NORTH MAPLE STREET  
MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE 37130

October 20, 1997

Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Ms. Peckman:

The Rutherford County Legislative Body, at their October 16, 1997 meeting, adopted a Resolution in support of Alternative II under the Draft General Management Plan for the Stones River National Battlefield.

I have enclosed a certified copy of the Resolution for your records.

If my staff or I may be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely,

*Ed Elam*  
Ed Elam  
Rutherford County Clerk

EE/mv

Enclosure

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ALTERNATIVE II UNDER THE DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

WHEREAS, Rutherford County recognizes the historic value of the Stones River National Battlefield to our nation's heritage; and

WHEREAS, Rutherford County supports the Stones River National Battlefield's Alternative Plan II to improve the park's infrastructure within existing park boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the County is concerned over citizen's property rights being impaired by inclusion of privately owned property within park boundaries without compensation to the property owners; and

WHEREAS, Rutherford County supports expansion of the boundaries of the Stones River National Battlefield to the extent that funding is available for immediate acquisition of title and payment made to the property owners in accordance with the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. Rutherford County supports Alternative II of the Stones River Battlefield Draft General Management Plan.
2. Rutherford County favors expansion of the boundaries of the Stones River National Battlefield, but only to the extent that funding is available for payment to property owners at the time of inclusion into the park boundaries. Rutherford County opposes inclusion of private property within park boundaries when there is no funding for acquisition of the privately owned property.
3. The Rutherford County Court Clerk is hereby directed to mail a copy of this Resolution to Ms. Mary Ann Peckman, Superintendent of Stones River National Battlefield, Representative Bart Gordon and Senators Fred Thompson and Bill Frist.
4. That this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and adoption, the public welfare and the welfare of the County requiring it.

RESOLVED this 16th day of October, 1997.

ATTEST:

*Ed Elam*  
ED ELAM, County Clerk

RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE

BY: *Nancy K. Allen*  
NANCY K. ALLEN, Chairman



STATE OF TENNESSEE, COUNTY OF RUTHERFORD

The undersigned County Clerk of said County and Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original document filed in the office of the County Clerk.

WITNESSED my hand and the Seal of said County this 20th day of October, 1997.  
ED ELAM, County Clerk  
BY: *William D. Whitley*  
WILLIAM D. WHITLEY, Deputy Clerk

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

## 147



RUTHERFORD COUNTY  
 TENNESSEE

Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

The Stones River National Battlefield is a significant cultural and historical resource not only for the citizens of Rutherford County but also for thousands of visitors each year. Like you, I have been serving on an advisory committee working hard to protect and interpret the battlefield. To date, working with consultants, we have developed a Civil War Protective and Interpretive Plan that includes a new brochure, designs for wayside exhibits, and interpretation strategies, all of which have been made possible through grants from the National Park Service.

I hope that the National Park Service will take a good look at their acquisition practices and make needed changes that will benefit all concerned.

Nancy R. Allen  
County Executive

xc. Congressman Bart Gordon  
Senator Fred Thompson  
Senator Bill Frist  
Steve Lane


ROOM 151 COUNTY COURTHOUSE • JEFFERSON, TN 37130 • (615) 446-7747 • FAX (615) 446-7747



001 15 97  
KUMHESBORO, TN

Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

The Rutherford County Planning Department has reviewed the Sanos River Battlefield General Management Plan and find that the recommendations do not conflict with any of Rutherford County's Land Use or Transportation Policies/Plans. In fact, the General Plan's concepts are supported in the Final Draft of the Rutherford County Strategic Plan (which has not yet received final approval).

  
John R. Davis  
Executive Director

JRO/sd

100% Recycled Paper

County Agencies

## COMMENTS

RESOLUTION 97 R 35 IN SUPPORT OF ALTERNATIVE II  
UNDER THE INSTANT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE  
STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD.



WHEREAS, the City of Murfreesboro recognizes the historic value of the Stones  
River National Battlefield to our nation's heritage, and

WHEREAS, the City of Murfreesboro supports the Stones River National  
Battlefield's Alternative Plan II to improve the park's infrastructure within existing Park  
boundaries, and

WHEREAS, the City is concerned over citizen's property rights being impaired  
by inclusion of privately owned property within park boundaries without compensation  
to the property owners, and

WHEREAS, the City of Murfreesboro supports expansion of the boundaries of  
the Stones River National Battlefield to the extent that funding is available for  
immediate acquisition of title and payment made to the property owners in accordance  
with the Fifth Amendment to the U. S. Constitution

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE, AS FOLLOWS

SECTION 1 The City of Murfreesboro supports Alternative II of the Stones  
River Battlefield Draft General Management Plan.

SECTION 2 The City of Murfreesboro favors expansion of the boundaries of the  
Stones River National Battlefield, but only to the extent that funding is available for  
payment to property owners at the time of inclusion into the park boundaries. The City  
of Murfreesboro opposes inclusion of private property within park boundaries when  
there is no funding for acquisition of the privately owned property.

SECTION 3 The City Recorder is hereby directed to mail a copy of this  
Resolution to Mr. Mary Ann Feckman, Superintendent of Stones River National  
Battlefield, Representative Bart Gordon and Senators Fred Thompson and Bill Frist.

SECTION 4 That this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its  
passage and adoption. The public welfare and the welfare of the City requiring it.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND SIGNED, this 14th day of September,  
1997.

THE CITY OF MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

JOE S. JACKSON  
MAYOR

ATTEST

JAMES S. FERNER  
CITY RECORDER

The foregoing Resolution approved as to  
form, this the 22 day of August, 1997.

[Signature]  
CITY ATTORNEY

THE CITY OF MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



**CITY of MURFREESBORO**

Planning and Engineering Department  
111 WEST VINE STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 1138  
MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE 37135-1138  
AREA CODE 615 893 6441  
FAX 615 848-2006

July 10, 1997

Ms Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

RE: Draft General Management Plan etc.

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

I greatly appreciate having an opportunity to offer the following comments for inclusion into the General Management Plan, etc., for the Stones River National Battlefield.

Alternatives 1 and 2 incorporate a portion of Manson Pike as an integral part of the proposed tour routes. No discussion is included for improvements for the street or for managing the park related traffic introduced onto Manson Pike other than that "Park management would take as active a role as possible in working with the city and county officials on transportation planning for the future, to minimize the impact of regional traffic on the historic resource and the park visitor (page 29)". I am greatly concerned regarding the potential impact on Manson Pike. Manson Pike is presently a substandard street that is presently inadequate for the traffic demands placed upon it. The street has almost no shoulder, has extremely poor horizontal and vertical alignments, and there have been numerous serious traffic accidents along the street between Thompson Lane and the overpass at Interstate 24. Additionally, the Overall Creek Basin and the Blackman Community are projected to be major growth areas of Rutherford County and the City of Murfreesboro for at least the next 20 years. The projected growth combined with the location of a major multi-campus county school complex somewhere in the area will dramatically increase traffic upon the street. Manson Pike is presently the only viable east to west transportation link between the Blackman area and the City of Murfreesboro and it will become imperative that the street be improved, possibly to increase the number of lanes but certainly to improve existing roadway deficiencies. Proposed Alternatives 1 and 2 are in direct contradiction to existing and anticipated community transportation needs and acquisition by the Park Service of the land along both sides of the street would certainly impair the ability of the local governments to improve the street adequately.

100% RECYCLED PAPER

Page 2

The City's Major Street Plan is in the process of being updated. Proposed improvements identified in the initial draft of the update demonstrate a need for the improvement of Manson Pike, the construction of an interchange at Interstate 24 and Manson Pike, and the need to extend Northfield Blvd. westward from its present intersection with N.W. Broad Street to Thompson Lane. Despite considerable study and assistance from the National Park Service no alternative has been identified. The extension of Northfield Blvd. and the proposed interchange are in areas proposed to be included in the proposed boundary. Alternative 1 is in direct conflict with the City's Major Street Plan and its proposed updates and the Draft General Management Plan does not propose alternatives. I am concerned that Alternative 1 will compromise the City's and County's ability to provide for the transportation needs of the community.

The Alternative 1 calls for considerable land acquisition primarily south of Manson Pike. Alternative 2 and 3 call for no land to be acquired at all. It appears that this is an all or nothing approach. Perhaps a fourth alternative could be developed which could include land north of Manson Pike and west of Thompson Lane proposed for acquisition as part of Alternative 1.

Alternatives 1 and 2 propose to incorporate portions of Manson Pike and Old Nashville Hwy. into the automobile tour route. It would be better to retain a significant part of the auto tour route completely within the battlefield area in a manner not to require crossing or use of adjoining public R.O.W. and such that the tour segment could begin and end completely within the battlefield. To require use of the public R.O.W. impairs the visitor's experience by reducing the solemnness of the experience and creates unnecessary traveling friction to the general motoring public. This is especially true considering the substandard condition of the existing roadway.

I respectfully urge that an alternative be developed that addresses my concerns regarding traffic. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please call upon me at (615) 893-6441.

Respectfully submitted

*Joseph D. Aydelott*  
Joseph D. Aydelott  
Planning Director

CC: The Honorable Bart Gordon  
The Honorable Fred Thompson  
The Honorable Bill Fret



# COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

## Murfreesboro Water and Sewer Department

June 27, 1997

POST OFFICE BOX 1477  
MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE 37130-1477  
TELEPHONE 615/990-0862  
FAX 615/990-4250

Ms. Mary Ann Pockham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Subject: Draft General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan  
Environmental Impact Statement - Stones River National Battlefield

Dear Ms. Pockham:

I offer the following comments on the captioned plan for the Stones River National Battlefield.

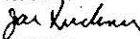
The Murfreesboro City Council created the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District to facilitate the orderly development along North Thompson Lane by creating the funding mechanism by which construction of sanitary sewers was made possible. This enabled the property owners an affordable method of funding the construction of an area-wide sanitary sewer system. The construction of the sanitary sewer system will improve property values and increase the city's tax base and water and sewer revenue.

The Murfreesboro Water and Sewer Department is now under contract for the construction of the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Improvements. It is anticipated they will be completed by this fall. As property owners connect to the sanitary sewer, they will be assessed \$9,000.00 per acre for the city to recover project costs. Approximately 114 acres within the special assessment district is proposed to be acquired by the Battleground in Alternative 1. This acquisition will eliminate the opportunity for the city to recover the cost of construction and financing the project for which we are now obligated.

Attached for your information is a copy of Ordinance 97-0-04 amending Chapter 33 of the Murfreesboro City Code creating the special assessment district. Also included is additional information about the creation of the district.

Alternatives 2 and 3 of the plan will not affect the ability of the city to recover the cost for the present obligations. Alternative 1 removes 114 acres from the sanitary sewer district and the potential to recover \$1,026,000.00. Should Alternative 1 be approved and implemented, I respectfully request consideration for reimbursement to the city for current obligations.

Should you have any questions or I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Yours truly,  
  
Joe Kuchner,  
Director

JK:nt

Attachment:

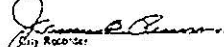
cc: Joseph Aydelott

c: 07/06/1997 WFO

STATE OF TENNESSEE )  
RUTHERFORD COUNTY ) SS

I, the undersigned, JAMES B. PENNER, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed, qualified and acting City Recorder of the City of Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, Tennessee, and as such official I further certify that attached hereto is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance passed by the City Council of said City on first reading on January 23, 1997, on second reading on January 30, 1997, and on third and final reading on February 20, 1997.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and affixed the Corporate Seal of said City this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 1997.

  
City Recorder

(S.F.A.L.)

# COMMENTS

ORDINANCE 97-04 amending Chapter 33 of the Murfreesboro City Code creating a special assessment district, known as the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District.

WHEREAS, the City of Murfreesboro proposes to expend approximately One Million (\$1,000,000.00) Dollars for engineering, easement acquisition and construction of a sewerage system serving the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the City to recoup the investment from those property owners that benefit from same; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined a fair rate of recoupment is Nine Thousand (\$9,000.00) Dollars per acre for sewer connections in the future, in addition to all other applicable sewer connection or sewer service fees; and

WHEREAS, the Water and Sewer Board of the City of Murfreesboro conducted a Public Hearing on the 7th day of January, 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Water and Sewer Board of the City of Murfreesboro has recommended the creation of the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE, AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1.** (a) The City of Murfreesboro hereby creates a special assessment district called "Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District" in order to recoup funds expended for construction and installation costs of the Thompson Lane sewerage additions, providing sanitary sewer service to the properties shown on Exhibit A, attached hereto.

In addition to the properties shown on Exhibit A, any residence, business, or other improvements constructed in the future that has sanitary sewer discharge into the sewer constructed in the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District shall pay Nine Thousand (\$9,000.00) Dollars per acre on the property served until the actual costs, including interest, is paid in full or (75) years, whichever is sooner:

**EXCLUSIONS.** Any customer of Murfreesboro Water and Sewer Department shall be excluded from the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District if it is determined by the Director of the Murfreesboro Water and Sewer

DEPT.  
MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

Department or designed, that the sewerage from the property served does not discharge into the Thompson Lane sewerage system.

(b) Each applicant for sanitary sewer service in the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District shall tender and pay to the City prior to connection for such service the sewer connection and tapping fee prescribed in subsection (1) of Section 33-50 of the Code of the City of Murfreesboro as amended, plus the outside house service charge prescribed in subsection (4) if applicable, and an additional special sewer area charge of Nine Thousand (\$9,000.00) Dollars per acre.

(c) Additional charges for other uses shall from time to time be fixed and established by the City Council upon recommendation of the Water and Sewer Board, shall also be paid and collected before connection for sewer service.

(d) Persons owning and/or occupying property which is accessible to the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer System as defined in Section 16-28 shall be exempt from monthly sewer service charges until such time physical connection is made to a sanitary sewer of the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District as provided in (a) above.

**SECTION 2.** That this Ordinance take effect (fifteen (15) days after its passage upon reading and final reading, the public welfare and the welfare of the City requiring it.

PASSED AND SIGNED the 20th day of February, 1997

BY JOE B. JACKSON  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

JAMES B. PENNER  
CITY RECORDER

The foregoing Ordinance approved to form this  
the 27 day of January, 1997

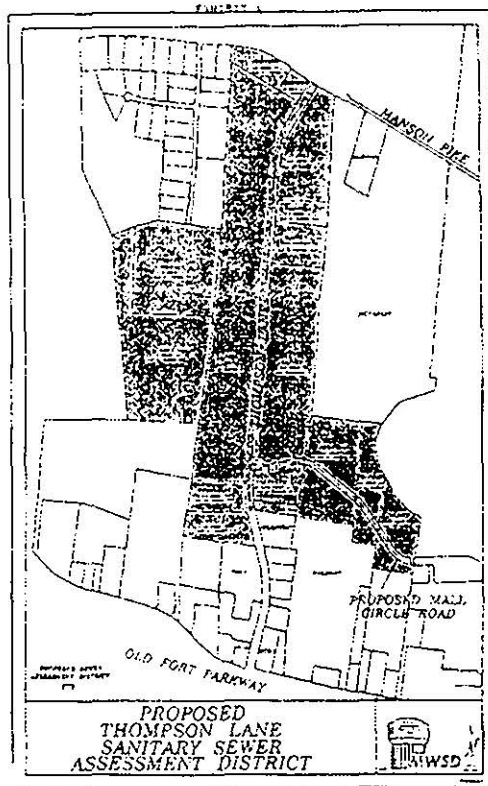
CITY ATTORNEY

STATE  
MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

## COMMENTS

- 1 ☐ Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer District  
Mumfreesboro Water and Sewer
- 2 ☐ Vision Statement
  - To facilitate the orderly development along North Thompson Lane by creating the funding mechanism by which construction of sanitary sewers is made possible
- 3 ☐ Goal and Objective
  - Construction of sanitary sewers for property owners along North Thompson Lane thereby increasing property values, tax base, water and sewer revenues and potential for development.
  - Create a sanitary sewer district to fund the construction of the needed improvements.
  - Foster the collaboration of property owners for the construction of an area wide sanitary sewer system.
- 4 ☐ Today's Situation
  - Developer requesting on site pumping station for site specific development.
  - Sanitary sewer service will be extended in a haphazard manner unless area wide plan designed and implemented
  - 8000 feet of Thompson Lane road frontage.
  - Approximately 148 acres in 15 commercial properties.
  - Sixteen inch water line available
  - Sanitary sewer is not available
  - Cost of Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Improvements \$1,000,000 Cost of financing the project \$ 332,200
  - Cost of improvements can not be borne by a single property owner and other property owners will benefit from the improvements
  - Land not suitable for septic tanks and disposal fields
  - Possible construction of Mat Circle Road
- 5 ☐ How Did We Get Here?
  - Property owner(s) inquired on means to extend sanitary sewer service to property.
  - Options to buy property contingent on sanitary sewer service
  - Proposal to extend Mat Circle Road
  - Huddleston Steel Engineering designed the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Improvements.
  - A public hearing was held on January 7, 1997 by the MWSD for property owners in the proposed assessment district and interested parties
  - The Water and Sewer Board recommends creating the district

- 6 ☐ Available Options
  - Design a sanitary sewer system for the drainage basin and require developers to extend according to Department Development Policies and Procedures.
  - Design a sanitary sewer system for the drainage basin and create a sanitary sewer assessment district.
  - Allow septic tanks or individual pumping stations on each property to provide sanitary sewer service
  - Do nothing.
- 7 ☐ Recommendation
  - Create the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer District assessing customers \$9,000 per acre as they connect
  - MWSD bid and construct the Thompson Lane Sanitary Sewer Improvements.



# COMMENTS

## CONCERNED PROPERTY OWNERS OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

I am in favor of the selection of Alternative 2. Alternative 2 would improve and upgrade the existing facilities without the 30 plus million dollar property acquisition cost associated with Alternative 1. Alternative 2 does not require the loss of personal property, it leaves local property completely in the hands of local owners and on the tax rolls. It allows our community to benefit from any future use of this property and reap the benefits of potentially millions of dollars in annual local tax revenues.

I am opposed to Alternative 1, in its entirety. Alternative 1 is a waste of public funds and it is unnecessary in the interpretation of the Battle of Stones River. The 700 plus acres currently in the Park boundary is more than adequate for Battle interpretation. With a competent staff and materials, Alternative 2 should be more than adequate to tell the story of the battle to future generations.

I/We, the undersigned, support Alternative 2:

W. Adcock [Redacted]  
Name Address Phone

Name Address Phone

Name Address Phone

1. Vits Adcock (representative form letter shown on opposite page)
2. Misty Alderman and Jason Heath
3. Phyllis Alexander, Patricia Alexander, and Tommy Bilck
4. Todd Bell
5. Heather Beckwith
6. Edward S. and Alma E. Blackman
7. James and Peggy Bowman
8. Sharon Boylo, Dierdra Pelty, John N. Patrick
9. Albert E. Campbell
10. Bill Capps, James Bailes, and Austin Robertson
11. Shirley Capps, R. W. J., and Bobbie Grindt
12. Rose Clark
13. Roy Clark, Rick Cherry, Elizabeth Cherry
14. Paula Conner, Jim Stacey, and Carolyn Pitts
15. Diana Joy Coombs and Sandra L. Hicklow
16. Betty R. Davis
17. Tasha Doolcy
18. C. L. Dye
19. Ronald E. Far and Wanda G. Barrett
20. Barbara Farley, Mary Stafford, and J. Patule
21. Terry Frazier
22. Cheryl Glass
23. Kim M. Gregg
24. Roger, Becky, and Allison Hale
25. Wardan Hale
26. Gnut A. Hafu
27. Steve Huffman
28. Helen Johnson
29. Jean Key
30. Arnold Kujat
31. Leigh and Keith Lawwell
32. Dave Leverette
33. Roland and April Loyd
34. Jerry R. Lucas and James Barrett
35. Terie M. Mabey, Barbara Sandla, and Ken Wingate
36. William R. McIlquham
37. James Manging and Scotta Gamble
38. Daniel Morley
39. Peggy Mullins, Misty Garvan, and Tim Smith
40. Robert Mullins
41. Jason Neely, Urck and Kathy Kelton
42. James H. Nickow, Suanne Tooley, and Steve Jackson
43. Dan F. Overby and Lucinda Logan
44. Angelique Page, Austin Julian, John Whitfield
45. Randal Page
46. Colleen Parrish and Daniel Richardson
47. Tiery Parsley
48. Doug Patent, Bob Wenyk, and Dave Capooli
49. David A. Patrick, Steve West, and Keith Mathis
50. Janice C. Patrick
51. Viva Paye and Timothy Paye, and Cindy Dileys
52. Jim and Charlene Phipps
53. Joe Rancy, Doug Dill, and Mark Roberts
54. Dona Rowland
55. Daniel A. Ruhlmidor, Robert A. Dufcentral, and E. M. Sel
56. Bill Rybond
57. Donald Scott
58. Joe Shahan, Thomas McAdoo, LaDavron McAda
59. Ed and Roberta Shamory and Wendy Patirch
60. Donald Shattuck
61. R. Eugen and Cheryl Smith
62. Pat Smythe and Nancy Lucas
63. Elizabeth D. Stafford
64. Lara Stuzman and Brian Sanders
65. Allison Swanger, H. Carlyle King, Vernon Keith Lawwell
66. Delma Taylor
67. John A. Taylor
68. Tim Taylor and Judy Manning
69. Dana and Margaret Teeple
70. Many Tettelbech
71. Rick Tettelbech and James Debb III
72. Howard Tillery and Paulette Thompson
73. Tim N. Tyson, William Leed, and Thomas Douglas
74. Kevin Van Golden, Micheal Hudson, and Bobby Maxwell
75. Allen Vargo and Syphay Siharath
76. Mable and William Victory
77. Gary, Pam, and Penny Walden
78. Douglas Walst, Bau C. Romines, and Dixie Todd
79. Jackie Weeks
80. Tim Weeks
81. Margaret A. Wenck
82. William Whitlore
83. Virginia E. Willeford, Ethelene Vaughan, and Joe Garoforil
84. Neal Williams, Tim O'Brien, and Illegible Signature
85. Jan Wiser
86. Marc Wolf, Clyde Dickerson, and Ruth Wallace
87. Bob Womack, Betty Wingate, and Nat Tucker
88. Hardil Wright and Kathy Gub

## COMMENTS

[22] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/3/97 9:52AM (582 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STR: Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Violation of Historic Battlefield  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text item

Park Administrator:

I would like to urge you not to allow the infringement on this historic site.  
If developers are allowed to encroach on this sacred battlefield, it would  
be a shameful disgrace to the Park Service, Murfreesboro and the State of  
Tenn.

David Allen  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
September 3, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old National Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

This is to express support for the adoption of Alternative 1 for the expansion and further  
development to the Stones River National Battlefield. Of the available alternatives, I believe this  
alternative represents the preferable means of properly preserving this very important site as a lasting  
memorial to the over 20,000 soldiers of both armies who suffered and died on that ground.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my views regarding the alternatives under  
consideration in connection with the development of the Stones River National Battlefield.

Sincerely,



E. A. Altermos



## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

[14] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/31/97 12:22PM (1685 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
cc: Bart@hr.house.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Thompson@thompson.senate.gov at  
NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Pricer@pricer.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
Subject: Acquisition of additional land for Stones River National Bat  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

I have recently heard of the possibility of expanding the boundaries of the Stones River National Battlefield by another 50+ acres, and the purpose of this letter is to express my wholehearted support of this effort. It is my understanding that the property involved includes the portion of the battlefield where Confederate soldiers under the commands of Generals Maney and Vaughn fought and died for the Southern cause.

It is my understanding that ownership of this same property is also being sought by land developers for the erection of a shopping mall. It is my opinion that this hallowed land should be retained by the National Battlefield as a memorial to the brave men who struggled here, and not permitted to fall into the hands of developers whose only concern is business expansion, which could easily be met by obtaining other available property for this purpose--property without significant historic value.

I urge you to pursue the acquisition of the involved property for the Stones River National Battlefield so that it will not be permitted to be altered and forever lost to the American people as a remembrance of our national heritage.

Sincerely,

David A. Anthony

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

I am in favor of the selection of Alternative 2. Alternative 2 would improve and upgrade the existing facilities without the 30 plus million dollar property acquisition cost associated with Alternative 1. Alternative 2 does not require the loss of personal property, it leaves local property completely in the hands of local owners and on the tax rolls. It allows our community to benefit from any future use of this property and reap the benefits of potentially millions of dollars in annual local tax revenues.

I am opposed to Alternative 1, in it's entirety. Alternative 1 is a waste of public funds and it is unnecessary in the interpretation of the Battle of Stones River. The 700 plus acres currently in the Park boundary is more than adequate for Battle interpretation. With a competent staff and materials, Alternative 2 should be more than adequate to tell the story of the battle to future generations.

*Stephen D. Ayers*

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Perham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
1501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [soi\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:soi_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*Stephen D. Ayers*

1. Anonymous
2. Stephen D. Ayers (representative form letter shown on opposite page)
3. Glenna Bates
4. Marilyn and Cleut Brownlon
5. Rachel M. Bean
6. James K. Brown
7. J. Dismukes
8. Robert D. Dow
9. Jan Dunham
10. F. E. and Mildred L. Ginty
11. Myrna W. Harris
12. T. Michael Harris
13. Kenneth Harvey
14. Joseph L. Ivey
15. Ed Jordan Jr.
16. Jane Jordan
17. Kathryn B. Lane
18. Leslie Lane
19. Miles B. Lane
20. Sherry Lane
21. Steve Lane
22. Thomas M. Lane
23. Juanita May
24. Andrew Niel
25. William R. Ognie
26. Tieri Powell
27. Shirley Putnam
28. William K. Riggs Jr
29. Martha T. Rychener
30. Ann Sherrill
31. Carol C. Stephens
32. Marc Stephens
33. Floyd M. Stilson
34. Carl Waird Summan
35. Ed Tall
36. Lee Tomlin
37. Lynn West
38. Bill West
39. Clyde White
40. Joyce A. White
41. Cynthia Wich
42. Steve Wich
43. Mrs. B. Frank Womack
44. Eloise Womack
45. Eloise Huntly Womack
46. Hunter Womack
47. Matt Womack
48. Melanie Womack

## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

[41] From: Mark Backus [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/8/97 10:03PM (3141 by  
 tos: 1 in)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SPR  
 cc: Bart@RR.House.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Thompson@Thompson.Senate.gov at  
 NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Frist@Frist.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
 Subject: Proposed Murfreesboro Battlefield Expansion by NPS  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item: 1: Text Item

Date: September 8, 1997

To: Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
 STRI Administration@NPS.gov  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 3501 Old Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37129

From: Mark Backus  
 [REDACTED]

Dear Superintendent Peckham,

While I am not a resident of your fair state, I am a citizen of this  
 country and a descendant of men (some of whom wore blue and some wore  
 gray) who were participants of the War Between the States in your state.

One of my ancestors in fact was a citizen of Tennessee -- Private  
 Benjamin Franklin Boydston Condray of Lauderdale County, Tennessee (14th  
 Tennessee Cavalry, US).

I am a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the Sons of Union  
 Veterans of the Civil War, the Irving (Texas) Genealogical Society and an  
 appointed member of the City of Irving Citizens Advisory Board to the  
 Parks and Recreation Department.

In addition to these organizations, I also donate a significant no. of  
 hours to a reenactment unit -- Company A, 12th Texas Infantry Regiment,  
 CSA -- and work many long hours to help teach others about those soldiers  
 who wore the blue and those who wore the gray.

The purpose of my correspondence is to express my sympathies in favor of  
 expanding the NPS boundaries of the Murfreesboro Battlefield.

As our country becomes more and more developed, land of historical value  
 is quickly becoming one more McDonald's, Disneyland or shopping center.  
 I urge you to consider and to initiate the necessary actions to expand  
 the NPS boundaries of the Murfreesboro Battlefield should more land of  
 historical significance be made available. I've heard that approximately  
 575 acres of such land might be available. What this land has to offer  
 in the education of our citizens is certainly worth more than one more  
 business such as I have described earlier.

If we don't owe this action to the memory of our ancestors and the men

who fought here in perhaps the greatest constitutional crisis to ever  
 involve this country, then let us please do it for our descendants who  
 will forever ask, "why didn't we do it?" if we don't take this action.

Please give my request your utmost consideration.

With best regards,

Mark S. Backus  
 [REDACTED]

cc: Congressman Burt Gordon  
 Bart@RR.House.gov  
 P.O. Box 1986  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37133

cc: Senator Fred Thompson  
 Senator\_Thompson@Thompson.Senate.gov  
 3322 West End Avenue  
 Suite 120  
 Nashville, TN 37203

cc: Senator Bill Frist  
 Senator\_Frist@Frist.Senate.gov  
 28 White Bridge Road  
 Suite 211  
 Nashville, TN 37205

## COMMENTS

John Baker

August 31, 1997

Mary Ann Pockham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Ms. Pockham,

Please find enclosed my response to the Draft General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan/EIS for Stones River National Battlefield. As indicated, I am highly in favor of Alternative One. Also, please include me on your mailing list to receive future information regarding this project.

Sincerely,

*John H. Baker III*  
JOHN H. BAKER III

Enclosure

### RESPONSE IN FAVOR OF ALTERNATIVE ONE OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PROPOSAL FOR STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

I am in favor of the National Park Service's proposal to expand and improve the Stones River National Battlefield as indicated in Alternative One of the proposal and explained in the Draft General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan/Environmental Impact Statement. The point cannot be underemphasized that if this proposal is not acted upon and approved in the very near future, the opportunity to preserve this historic national battlefield for future generations will be forever lost.

Currently, a small but vocal group of landowners is seeking to commercialize all of Parcel One of the proposal, or about 586 acres. Parcel One is the most significant and important part of the proposal. Without it, the Park Service's vision of improving the interpretation of the battlefield, enhancing the visitor experience, and preserving the last major tract of battlefield land not already developed will be lost. As indicated in attachments B - D, these landowners are now requesting the local zoning board to zone this land for commercial development. Unless Congress and the federal government take steps now to preserve this land, it will turn into shopping centers, car lots, grocery stores, or other types of commercial development.

When I was in college, I had the opportunity to visit the Custer-Battlefield National Monument near the Crow Indian Reservation in Montana. Because much of that battlefield was still undeveloped, the visual experience there was unbelievable, emotionally moving and incredible to say the least. To see where General Custer and his men had made their "last stand" and to see how the Native-Americans implemented their battle plan was spellbinding. I had read *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, but actually standing there and seeing for myself what occurred was an experience and history lesson that a hundred books could never teach. That was

## COMMENTS

10 years ago, and I can still visualize it as if it were only yesterday.

Alternative One to the Stones River National Battlefield proposal offers the people of our community, the nation, and the world a similar experience and learning opportunity. Please do not let this opportunity be lost so that a few people may be able to commercially develop the last remaining tracts of battlefield land.

Neither of the other two alternatives offers a similar experience because they do not expand the National Battlefield boundaries. Alternatives 1 and 2 would be the last nails in the coffin for any effort to preserve the surrounding battlefield sites. Alternative 2 does little to improve the visitor experience, and Alternative 3 is merely a status quo alternative at best.

As a recent visitor so vividly explained in a recent letter to the local newspaper, Stones River National Battlefield and the battlefield areas not currently within Park Service boundaries are a local and national historic treasure that should be spared from commercial development and shared by future generations of Americans (See attachment A).

For these reasons, I am in favor of Alternative One of National Park Service's Stones River National Battle proposal.

*John H. Baker III*  
JOHN H. BAKER III

The Daily News Journal

MONDAY  
Aug. 25, 1997  
4A

# OPINION

## Value of battlefield lies in its preservation

To the editor,

I have recently visited your city and the battlefield where several of my family's ancestors fought. I had been waiting to visit for years and had not been able to until now.

I could not believe the growth that the Murfreesboro area has had in the last several years. I looked for positions where my ancestor's unit had been during the battle on Dec. 31, 1862, and found absolutely beautiful cedar woods and fields. None of these positions were within the national park boundary today, which looked as if it covered less than 10 percent of the original battlefield.

I was distressed to see water and sewer lines being installed directly down the middle of the battlefield. I know what comes next: commercial and industrial development.

As I walked the fields and woods and realized when I come back that they might not be here, I won-

dered why we don't preserve an important and significant battlefield where many of our ancestors fought and died.

I guess I must be different from most people. I saw fields and woods which needed to be preserved so I can show my children and grandchildren where their ancestors fought and shed their blood for their country. Others see prosperity, money, buildings and asphalt parking lots.

I know growth will always take place, but I will never understand why a historically significant battlefield such as Murfreesboro must disappear.

I hope your Murfreesboro readers will somehow understand that the real gold mine is not in expensive developed land but in a battlefield preserved for our future generations.

Ken Tilley  
Charles Avenue  
Wetumpka, Ala.

Attachment A

161

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Murfreesboro Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the above illustrated zoning request (97-427) at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 3, 1997, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The request is being made by Thomas M. Lane and is to zone the property along Madison Pike to CH (Commercial Highway). All interested parties are invited to attend.

MURFREESBORO PLANNING DEPARTMENT - 893-6441  
John Rogers, Chairman  
 Murfreesboro Planning Commission

TO BE RUN August 23, 1997

Attachment 8

17, Murfreesboro, Tenn. THE DAILY NEWS JOURNAL 3C

**LEGAL NOTICES**  
 More Legal Notices on Page 46

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Murfreesboro Planning Commission will hold public hearings on the above illustrated six areas for annexation (97-508) at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 3, 1997, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The request is being made by Thomas M. Lane and others. All interested parties are invited to attend.

MURFREESBORO PLANNING DEPARTMENT - 893-6441  
John Rogers, Chairman  
 Murfreesboro Planning Commission

TO BE RUN August 23, 1997

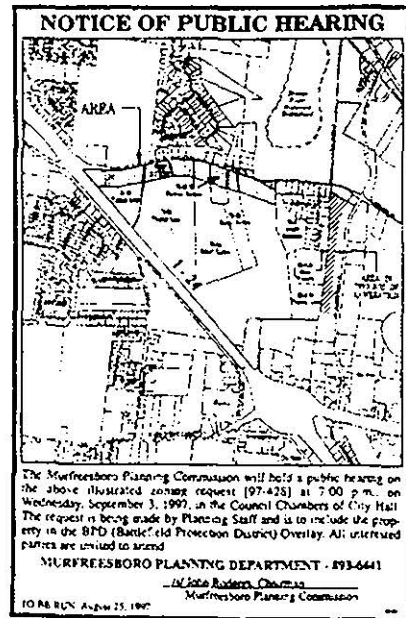
Attachment C

Individuals



## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



Attachment D

# COMMENTS

KENNETH L. BANDY

*Attorney at Law*

August 12, 1997

Supt. Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Re: D18 (June 10, 1997)

Dear Supt. Peckham:

I am writing to support and encourage you in the adoption of Alternative One of your Draft General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield. Though I am far away in physical distance, I stand by your side spiritually and emotionally in this endeavour, which might not be clearly understood by local property owners in Tennessee.

Let me briefly explain. As a child my grandmother took me to the grave of my great-great-grandfather who served with Company B, 65th Ohio Volunteer Infantry of Harker's Brigade. My earliest interest in the Civil War arose from researching more about the 65th Ohio which included men from all over my local area of Ohio in Company B and the significant fact the battle was their first combat experience. I have always been interested in Stones River for two reasons. First, for the sheer ferocity of the combat and percentage of casualties. Second, in defending the Union right flank, Company B had thirty-four men killed or wounded out of forty-three in line of battle that day. Seven of those men are known to be buried in your National Cemetery, while four more of those KIA's were brought home and buried here in local cemeteries. I believe at least two more are buried in your cemetery as unknowns according to the national re-interment records.

Just as Stones River was forever memorialized in their minds by "seeing the elephant" for the first time, so I have studied and understood the Civil War from their perspective and Stones River first and foremost as I have visited all their graves and remembered their names and stories.

Of the five most deadly battles of the war (Stones River, Gettysburg, Chickamauga, Shiloh and Antietam) the only one without a full national military park which accurately and completely encompasses and explains the action there is Stones River. Your draft general management plan fully outlines the many reasons for the expansion of the battlefield park and I need not repeat them here. It is clearly an untapped resource in central Tennessee both economically from increased visitation and culturally from increased interest that the further expansion would bring.

Page 2

Supt. Mary Ann Peckham  
August 12, 1997

But uniquely, there is only one place where descendants of soldiers North and South can walk and study and to an extent experience what Stones River in December 1862 meant and that is on the ground you propose to include. No amount of reading or drawings adequately explains what a good walk and view can teach, and for that reason, I ask that you save as much of the original battlefield lands as possible. Just as we descendants of the soldiers can still see some of those vistas, I hope my descendants will still be able to as well. Amidst the continued presence of development, this is Stones River's last battle - this time for its own survival.

In this regard, I ask that you consider in your planning another part of the field not protected, that being the Union right flank in its combat positions below the Ashbury Lane from Ashbury Church through Widow Burris House to the present park holdings. If Bragg had reinforced Cleburne in this area rather than pouring all his reserves against the Round Forest, Confederate victory would have been more likely by cutting off the Union army from the Nashville Pike. Conversely, the Federal defense in this area saved the Union army from defeat as much as Hazen's defense along the railroad.

You have proposed retaining the corridor out to Rosecrans' headquarters, but little action actually occurred there because the real defense of the Union right flank was in the fields south of Ashbury Lane by the brigades of Beatty, Fyffe and Harker. (See map of Major Action Zone of 11-12-1862)

Though this area is cut off from Rosecrans' headquarters to the north (toward which the flow of battle was directed) the three or four parcels directly west of the holdings where the Chicago Road of Trade battery sets were heavily fought over and since they represent cleared areas primarily where the rebel attack broke out of the cedars, some appropriate landscape planting would mask the housing developments which interfere. (see photo of map in yellow enclosed). I know this is a reach, but the area is so significant and after your present boundary expansion, another is not likely before these lands are lost to development forever.

In the same spirit that you are presently taking toward the southern end of the battlefield (which has a housing development right in the middle of the area of Sheridan's stand) something could be done for the western edge of the park as well. At the minimum, continue to press for Alternative One with the knowledge that you are securing the whole country's historical heritage where men from across the whole country came to stake their ideals and lives in and around Stones River and made a claim that even today resounds louder than just local business interests. Other land is available for housing and development, only the land in question was first bought in blood before it could be bought in money.

Very truly yours,

*Kenneth L. Bandy*  
Kenneth L. Bandy  
Attorney at Law

KLS:kml  
Enclosure

# COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Mrs Peckham,  
As a landowner Al D. Batten & Carrie Batten  
are very happy with where we live. After he  
retire from disale to work, in 2 or 3 years I will  
be at the retirement age. It will be hard on us to  
start over again. Our home is paid for. It might  
not look much to the visitor so therefore it is hard  
for us to say for it is to be let. Also we know in years  
to come we will have to give it up, but not without  
a fight for our right. Now day the Government doubt  
they won't just giving people a choice.

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: stn\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project,  
please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

164 NE, Line 0

10020, 7471270

SEP 11 1997 11:45 AM, 1997

September 9, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

My first visit to Stones River National Military Park was in 1954. At that time the park consisted of a very small area, less than 300 acres, but the adjacent area where the battle was fought, more than 3,500 acres, presented a pastoral landscape with no interstate cutting through it nor any General Electric plant. A participant in the battle returning would have had no difficulty recognizing the area bellowed by the blood of more than 24,000 fellow Americans.

Now the park's 700 acres conveys a far better understanding and appreciation of how the battlefield looked during those three tragic days. But it only contains those fields and cedars where the fight centered from late morning of December 31, 1862 to January 2, 1863. There are today, remarkably, more than 700 acres of land south of Manson/Walkerton Pike that still retains their historic character. This is ground across which the Confederates stored, rolling up the Union right, threatening to destroy the Union Army. Here in where brave Tennesseans of Maney's, Vaughan's and Stewart's brigades, including many men from Rutherford County, stood tall.

Because of this I enthusiastically endorse Alternative 1. The clock is about to strike midnight and must not be allowed to close the opportunity to acquire these lands which will place Stones River National Battlefield in the same league as the hallowed grounds preserved at Gettysburg, Shiloh, Chickamauga and Vicksburg as befitting lands commanding this high degree of national significance.

Sincerely,

Edwin C. Batten  
Edwin C. Batten

\_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTS

[9] From: "Janie R. Bice" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/12/97 12:04AM (1231 bytes: 1 ln)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
 Subject: Support park plan expansion  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Mr. Peckham,

I am writing to let you know of my support in the park's acquisition of more property for the Stones River Battlefield. Many members of my family are from the Murfreesboro, Smyrna, and Nashville area and your city and its future is very important to me. Please don't let the hungry land developers bulldoze this historical area to make another useless strip center. If we erase all our history, how can we expect future generations to respect what we may accomplish in our lifetime? When I visit your area, I would have liked to been able to show my children their ancestor's homes. Places like Buchanan's Station, Fort Ridley, Grochiand, and the James Ridley home on Stewart's Ferry Pike were once all part of my family. Unfortunately, they all are gone now due to "progress." Please don't let the developers win this one!

Sincerely,

Janie Ridley Bice

[11] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/9/97 11:08AM (806 bytes: 1 ln)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
 cc: Bartlett.house.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Thompson@thompson.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Frist@frist.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
 Subject: park expansion  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Good luck in your quest to expand the battlefield area. In this modern day, too many of our national treasures are lost due to greed and haste, all in the name of progress. Once lost, these treasures can never be replaced. Our children need us to protect their heritage, and improve their knowledge of what we are and what we came from. The NPS is a leader in this fight. God speed.

Terry C. Boies

COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



John T. Briggs

6/17/97

Thank you for sending me a Draft  
plan of the Stones River Battlefield  
National Monument.

I am pleased that there is action -  
However slow - to do what needs to be  
done.

I have longed for an entrance off  
71.5 and 41.  
When - and if I can help. Please Call

Regards  
John Briggs

Sup.	
Chief Ranger	
Staff Ranger	
INPRM	
Adm. Off.	
Adm. Clerk	
Chief Maint.	
Maint. Wk. 7	
Maint. Wk. 8	
File	
Library	
Remarks	

# COMMENTS



## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1). The following are comments in support of Alternative Plan 1 of

Stones River National Battlefield - Before Beginning I would like to state that cooperation with neighboring landowners should be a priority and feel there is a solution to expansion of the Park's protection of landowners' property - I would be more than happy to be apart of this discussion providing solutions to this problem but will now only give reasons why I feel the Park should be expanded from it's present day boundaries.

1) The foremost reason to expand I believe is obvious "It Can" - So many of today's National Parks are being encroached upon by commercial & residential development that few Parks have this unique opportunity - Even Gettysburg is losing much land to development which for future generations will be a historical disaster - Over the past 30 years touring National Battlefields I have seen so many Parks squeezed out by commercial development which has made interpretation of the Park virtually impossible - A great example would be Mississippi's Little Battlefield which is now a traffic nightmare due to commercial growth - Stone's River Now has the opportunity to expand thru Alternative Plan 1: Give a better interpretation of the Battle.

2) Expansion thru interpretation will finally give visitors of Stone's River a better idea on how the Battle actually developed - Today the Battlefield only comprises a minor part of the Battle (The End) - Visitors cannot get a good idea on the Magnitude of this Great Battle in 1862/63 - It would be like only preserving the land that Pickett's Charge took place on at Gettysburg - I think visitors would be able to hear this Great

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: serl\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

Mike Brantley  
[Redacted Address]

\* FEEL FREE to Contact Me AT ANY TIME Concerning this Issue or just Maintaining the Park in General Sincerely  
Mike Brantley

Battle Developed - There would be No Little Round Top, Devils Den, Wheatfield, Peach Orchard, Mts. Pleasure's Ridge Etc. - A Great Place to Visit but virtually No Historical Importance whatsoever!! The employees of Stones River National Park have done A Great job to overcome these obstacles thru Ranger Tours Etc. but it's that time we made their job Little Easier - To Actually Re-live the Land over which this Great Battle was fought would be a Real Asset to Future Historians & Tourists!!

3) The Importance (Historical Significance) of the Battle of Stone's River - The Battle took place (1862/63) at a time with the Preservation of the Union in serious doubt the Confederate Army in the East under Gen'l Robert E. Lee had again soundly defeated the Union Army of Potomac under Gen'l Burnside at Fredericksburg (Just the last in a series of failures to capture Richmond) - General Grant was Stalemated at Vicksburg in Mississippi as Gen'l Sherman was soundly defeated at Chickasaw Bluffs - The Outlook for the Preservation of the Union was bleak indeed!! Only the Battle of Stone's River gave hope that Military Success could be achieved - I also believe that without this Union Victory that the Emancipation Proclamation, a document which is the foundation of our Racial Diversity today, would have been an empty document without any Military Success to support it!!

4) Though Tennessee runs only 1st to Virginia in battles fought in Civil War there are No completely preserved Battlefields in Middle Tennessee - There are two Battlefields in West Tennessee (Shiloh & Ft. Donelson) & one in East Tennessee (Chickamauga) but None in Middle Tennessee where most major battles were fought - Nashville's Franklin have already been destroyed which leaves only Stone's River with this unique opportunity of Expansion & Preservation - With more & more tourists visiting Middle Tennessee every year I am asked all the time where they can go to understand the Civil War in Middle Tennessee - I am Embarrassed to reply that we have No completely preserved Park - Stone's River thru Alternative Plan 1 could be that Park which can provide the link for all Battlefields in the surrounding States - It's Central location could be the key in achieving this goal to the delight of thousands of visitors & historians each year - Even to mention the Revenue Dollars that this would bring to the Area!!

In Closing, even though I have many more reasons to support Plan 1, I see it is difficultly impossible for future generations for Plan 1 to be adopted - Once we lose this last opportunity, it holds for interpretation it will be gone forever - with it a very important part of our history - We may stand at the Crossroads - What we decide now will have drastic implications for the future - Let's Not lose this opportunity!!!!



# COMMENTS

(S) From: "Bridges.Scott" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/2  
 1/97 12:05PM (2131 bytes: 1 ln)  
 Receipt Requested  
 cc: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
 Subject: Stones River National Battlefield  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text item

Dear Ms. Peckham-

I understand that it is well past the 8-12-97 deadline for comments on the development/concept plan for the Stones River National Battlefield. Unfortunately I am new in the area and just yesterday read the concept plans in the Murfreesboro Public Library.

As a newcomer to Murfreesboro, I am fascinated by the magnitude of the historical implications of this battlefield. I am employed by one of the larger industrial plants, which is well within the original battlefield boundaries, and is in the area of study for proposed possible acquisition and reclamation.

Alternative 1 is by far the most exciting of the options under consideration. The obvious growth in development which endangers the battlefield area surpasses in importance even its bisection by roads. Once areas are lost, they may never be reclaimed. Now is the time to act. As much of the original battlefield as possible must be saved from development, and if possible, reclaimed from past development.

The growth of the management area and preservation of the battlefield is of course important from a tourism standpoint, but even more so as a historical obligation. The people of Murfreesboro are indeed fortunate to have such a unique and valuable asset of such significance. All who live in this area have a moral obligation to help preserve this great battlefield as a monument not only to the men who fought and died there, but as a constant reminder of one of the most important moments in the history of the United States of America.

D. Scott Bridges  
 [REDACTED]

**jtb**

James T. Brooks, Jr.

July 15, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 3501 Old Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro TN 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

I am writing in support of Alternative #1 for the improvement of the Stones River National Battlefield. Given the rapid development in all areas of the county and especially in and around the present park boundaries, it is imperative that actions outlined in Alternative #1 be taken at the earliest possible moment.

Unfortunately, there are powerful and prominent persons in Rutherford County who know little about our heritage and have absolutely no understanding of the importance to a culture of maintaining this heritage. These persons have amassed great wealth from development in the county, and while they pretend to be interested in the well being of our area, their concerns rarely go beyond their personal potential for profit. I would hope that the selfish concerns of a few developers would not outweigh our need to expand and preserve as much of the battlefield as possible.

Again, I strongly support Alternative #1. Thank you for your good work.

Sincerely,

  
 James T. Brooks, Jr.

Please add my name and address to your mailing list.

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Having traveled from Scotland to view Civil War sites in the west, I enjoyed the Stones River Battlefield Park and its tour provided by your Ranger Peter Tedder.

However, I had the idea of visiting the area covered by the park would make it a bit more meaningful, as the whole Union right flank on the first day is of course missing as things stand.

I hope your plan goes through.

*K. J. Ennis*

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*Ennis, K. J.*

[14] From: Jim Burke [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/1/97 3:10PM (427 bytes, 1 in)  
To: STR Administration at NP--SR  
Subject: Murfreesboro

..... Message Contents .....

Text item 1: Text Item

Mn. Peckham - I urge you to preserve the Murfreesboro heritage and prevent it from becoming a strip mall.

Jim Burke

[REDACTED]

# COMMENTS

To Mary Ann Peckham:

Thank you very much for the book you sent me about the Stone River Battle field.

I have Peter Coggens book "No Better Place to Die" and the maps in your book really help in reading about the battle.

I hope you may soon tour the battle field.

I wish you the best in expanding and protecting this area.  
Thanks again.

Sincerely,  
Ralph Calhoun.



The Carter House  
Franklin, Tennessee  
Site of 1864 Battle of Franklin  
National Historic Landmark

Thomas H. Cartwright  
Military Curator  
Historian

Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
Shelby County National Military Park  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Memphis, Tennessee  
37129

Norman Rife  
Audrey L. Church  
Lorraine Owsen  
Thomas T. Cartwright  
Mary T. Carter  
John C. Walker  
Ann M. Walker  
James M. Walker  
Franklin Owsen  
Charles Rife  
Cap. Rife  
James Rife  
John Rife  
James Rife  
Clayton Rife  
Frank Rife

Dear Superintendent Peckham,  
I have the honor to write this letter to you to show my support for the expansion of the Stone River Battlefield. I have been informed this plan is called A.H. H. Please do not hesitate to call me if I can do anything to assist you in this plan to expand the battlefield. I appreciate your efforts in this worthy cause.  
Respectfully,  
Thomas H. Cartwright

# COMMENTS



Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
18 June 1997

Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

Thank you for the recent draft, "General Management Plan, for Stones River National Battlefield. Attractively presented, this document does an excellent job of describing the past, present, and future of the battlefield. Especially helpful are the well designed and informative maps and charts, which add very much to the text, the style of which is clear and easily followed.

I fully support the realization of Alternative 1. This is a first class plan and its fruition would be a valuable asset to the nation, state and local area. The proposed expanded tour route with its new and improved interpretative markers would enhance an understanding of troop positions and movements during the battle, and the museum addition would certainly provide more exhibits to help visitors develop an appreciation of events during this period of history.

Of special interest to me are the environmental sections of this report. They show careful planning and consideration for the natural resources of the battlefield and surrounding area.

I commend everyone who shared in the preparation of this excellent report.

Sincerely yours,

*Clay M. Chandler*

Clay M. Chandler

Copies:

Representative Bart Gordon, MC  
County Executive Nancy Allen  
Mayor Joe Jackson



July 16, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN, 37129

Re: Your letter dated June 10, 1997 (Ref #D18)  
and our phone conversation yesterday.

Dear Ms. Peckham:

It was a pleasure speaking with you yesterday regarding the proposals of the Battlefield expansion.

As I mentioned, we own the property adjacent to the Armory and 1-24 and currently have a billboard sign located on same. You stated that the Parks Service are looking for willing sellers and are only making proposals at this point. As I stated to you yesterday, we do not desire to sell our land. We have a very large investment in the land and the billboard structure.

I appreciate the information and the fact that you plan to keep me apprised of any developments. Please feel free to call at anytime.

Respectfully yours,

*Sharon Cheesbrow*  
Sharon Cheesbrow  
C & S Company

## COMMENTS

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

I feel that increasing the boundary on Stones River Battlefield is completely unnecessary. I've moved here in 1985 and made a point of visiting the battlefield. There was nobody there to answer any questions or to give more information and really nothing to hold the adolescence interest. I think you should try to do more with what you have instead of trying to do nothing with more.

*June Chew*  
June Chew  
[REDACTED]

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



*Bertha C. Chrietberg*  
[REDACTED]

August 17, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham,

I strongly recommend that we accept alternative 1 of the General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield. In order to serve the public with a good interpretive overview of the Civil War Battle waged in and around Murfreesboro and Stones River, more land is vitally needed and must be acquired while it is available. This is a very fast growing county, and what is available now will not be available in the future.

The whole concept of that famous battle cannot be adequately portrayed in the small acreage now held by the National Battlefield. We must take this opportunity to acquire as much acreage as is possible at this time, in order to preserve a larger area, and to give a broader scope to the interpretation of that battle.

Sincerely,

*Bertha C. Chrietberg*  
Bertha C. Chrietberg



August 28, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield Park  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham

The Carter House Staff would like to let you know that we support the Alternative A Project. We consider Battlefield Preservation Projects necessary for educating future generations.

We would be glad to help in any way that we can. Please don't hesitate to contact us.  
Good luck.

Sincerely,

*Susan E. Church*  
Susan E. Church  
Executive Director

SEC/p

9/11/97

To Whom it may Concern:

I would like to be on record, for my wife and myself, in opposing any expansion in acreage of Stones River National Battlefield and Park.

It doesn't make sense, to us, for the park to double its size when the National Park System is struggling and in dire financial straits to maintain routine services & conditions because of a severe lack of funds. That is, unless present local management feels that more acreage may provide them with better job security.

It doesn't make sense, to us, for the Dept. of Interior to declare their intention of buying land at a later date that they presently don't have <sup>money</sup> appropriated; that the Park System doesn't have money to maintain & that the present owners don't want to sell. This scenario fits much better into Nazi Germany at about 1939 or 1940.

A local referendum probably would indicate other local landowners don't want to pick up a higher property tax to offset the loss of this acreage from the top right.

With our National Debt being as great as it is, it seems to me our Congressmen would oppose such matters as this as totally useless & unnecessary. How else will we ever reduce the debt? Murfreesboro recent City Council Vote indicates better thinking on this project.

Harvey Clark Jr. Mason Road 1726



## COMMENTS

(11) From: "Elijah S. Coleman" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/30/9  
7 3:45PM (986 bytes: 1 ln)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SZR  
Subject: Battlefield  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text item

Gentlemen:

I fully support you efforts to preserve the battlefield, as much as possible. And it will be to the benefit the local economy. Thanks,  
Elijah S. Coleman Chattahoochee Guards 1639 Mableton,GA.

"Governor, if I had foreseen the use those people designed to make of their victory, there would have been no surrender at Appomattox Courthouse; no sir, not by me. Had I foreseen these results of subjugation, I would have preferred to die at Appomattox with my brave men, my sword in this right hand." CSA General Robert E. Lee

"The Principle for which we contend is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form." President Jefferson Davis, CSA

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Go for it!



Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

As the beginning of the 1863 Union advance on Chattanooga, and thence to Atlanta and the sea, the "Battle of Stones River" was an event critical to the outcome of the American Civil War. As "Hallowed Ground," the Stones River battlefield today deserves the same status and attention accorded other major Civil War battle sites. Yet for years the park's small scale has helped it retain a reputation as "that damn Yankee cemetery in Murfreesboro." The Park Service is to be commended for undertaking this long range planning initiative to help Stones River park achieve its stated objectives.

Beyond its intangible value to the American people, Stones River has tremendous potential in helping the state's tourist economy. I'm sure many visitors who now visit Civil War sites such as Shiloh or Lookout Mountain would extend the length of their Tennessee stay if more opportunities, facilities, and services were available at Stones River.

With current development in the Nashville - Murfreesboro corridor taking off in leaps and bounds, it is amazing any currently unprotected battlefield survives to be suitable for addition to the park. Certainly this will be the last chance the public has to make Stones River a viable battlefield park where visitors can easily visualize the epic events of 1862 - 1863.

To expand the park's boundary by 1500 acres seems a reasonable plan to help reach that goal, when considering the project's added benefits to Rutherford County's heritage preservation, economic well-being, and general quality of life.

Speaking for myself as a Civil War buff, and on behalf of the "Friends of Shiloh Battlefield" organization, I heartily endorse Alternative 1.

Kent Cellier, President



## CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION:

Supl. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief Ranger \_\_\_\_\_  
 Staff Ranger \_\_\_\_\_  
 ENPWA \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adm. Off \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adm. Cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief Maint. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Maint. Wk. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Maint. Wk. \_\_\_\_\_  
 File \_\_\_\_\_  
 Library \_\_\_\_\_  
 Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

Historical Context

## COMMENTS

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

##### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Dear Ms. Peckham,

I am opposed to Alternative 1. In this time of national debt, it is fiscally irresponsible to be undertaking a large expansion project when issues such as maintenance and upkeep should be addressed. Many things could be done to enhance interpretation and visitor experience with the land that is currently within the park borders.

It is also immoral and unfair to exploit and harass property owners. If this land is valuable and necessary to the interpretation of the battlefield (which it is not, as only a small amount of fighting on the first day of the battle took place here), then a purchase plan should be presented with the expansion plan. Taking this land by authority of the National Environment Policy Act is unfair use of this law, and the community will not support this act of intrusion.

I strongly support Alternative 3, and suggest that in the future if more land remains a high priority with the Battlefield, that attention be turned to education of the community and one-on-one dealings with property owners with respect and consideration for them. I might add, that you face a tremendous mountain over which to climb, because you and the park have shown poor judgment in your heavy-handed approach, and you will have much lost ground to gain back.

Sincerely,

*Kathy Corlew*  
Kathy Corlew

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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## COMMENTS

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN/DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

August 1, 1997

I oppose Alternative One.

I support Alternative Two and Three to the extent that Federal Funds are available. Either Two or Three should include a first rate video depiction of the battle. Also desirable are an enlarged headquarters and reception building, an artifacts collection, and a general cleaning up of the Park. A road providing easy access from the headquarters and cemetery to the Mendenhall Monument should be provided.

As I understand Alternative One, 759 acres would be added to the present Park lands--not from the most important spot of the battle, which was that eminence east of the Mendenhall Monument where Confederates lost the battle with Breckinridge's fatal

Please send comments by August 17, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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page 2

charge--but from farm land just south of Hanson Road where fighting occurred during the morning hours of the first day of battle. Park management argues that the 759 acres of improved farm land are necessary so that scholars interested in "a sense of place" may view and stand upon pasture land where General Sill fell and where several hours of carnage took place. The outlay of tax payers' dollars would be enormous. I believe that most people interested in this can experience those three gruesome hours vicariously from a lecture, film, or book and not have to tramp across muddy and mosquito-infested fields to do so. We recommend the use of federal markers placed and maintained strategically along Franklin Road or Hanson Road which point to Sill's death spot, the Harding home-hospital, and anything else of significance occurring in those morning hours of December 31. Land for an additional traffic lane or two, marked for exclusive use by drivers wishing to park briefly to read the markers, would have to be purchased (or probably donated) from or by landowners.

Fairness and justice to landowners cannot be ignored in this or any other Takings situation. The fifth Amendment and the numerous cases handed down by the Supreme Court protect citizens in the exercise of their property rights.

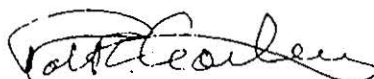
The aggressive posture assumed by the Park Service may be destroying the confidence people traditionally have maintained in the Park administration and even in "the government" generally.

# COMMENTS

Page 3

Shareful have been some of the press accounts about "war again at Stones River" and "dissension mounts between landowners and the Park." Unfortunate is the attitude expressed by a columnist in a Nashville paper that "the government no longer is honest with the people."

As we all heard recently from a condemned man, "for good or for ill, . . . /the government/ teaches the whole people by its example." The Park Service should help restore the confidence of the people in itself and in the federal government. In this case, it can do so by boldly supporting with vigor and imagination Alternative Two or Alternative Three, and shelving Alternative One.



Robert E. Corlew

Robert E. Corlew, J.D.

September 3, 1997

Ms Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

RE: Potential expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield at Murfreesboro

Dear Ms Peckham:

I am strongly opposed to proposed plans to expand the National Battlefield at Murfreesboro. I will state initially that I am not unbiased in this matter. A large portion of the proposed new park area includes a farm where I and my brother and sister were reared, and where my parents continue to reside. My father is 75 and my mother will be 70 next month, and they are greatly distressed at the possibility that their home where they have resided for nearly forty years may cease to be their property. My brother, my sister, and I have all talked periodically that it would be nice for us to live at some time on this same land.

We understand the aspect of condemnation in order for construction of public projects. I have the privilege of serving as Chancellor for this judicial district, and I have presided over a number of cases involving property owners whose land has been taken for various highway improvements and otherwise. My brother is a plastic surgeon in Murfreesboro, and my sister teaches English at a local high school, so we all are able to look at this issue with some degree of objectivity. Although it will be a painful experience to me to see our farm become Federal land, my major concern is the manner in which I understand the national park service acquires land. It is my understanding that without any compensation, the Park Service, with House and Senate approval, may simply increase the boundaries of the National Battlefield, providing NO immediate compensation to the landowners. I further understand that subsequently, when the landowners file suit and a trial is held in Federal Court, the Park Service has the option of paying to the landowner the amount of the jury verdict, or, alternatively, simply paying court costs and attorney's fees and walking away from the judgment, if they believe it to be too high. Such a procedure is obviously different from state condemnations, and respectfully, is contrary to all of my own legal training with regard to the taking of property.



## COMMENTS

My further concern with regard to expansion of the National Battlefield is whether such an expansion is truly in the public interest. Recent media coverage has been given to the limited budget which the Department of the Interior has, and further attention to the difficult problems which major National Parks are having in providing services to those who tour those parks. With tight financial budgets which a number of Federal departments and agencies are experiencing, is it not proper that attention first be given to major National Parks such as Smokey Mountain, Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, and others before we expand Stones River? The Civil War is certainly a major part of our Nation's history. Recent television specials have perhaps increased some interest in this war and the parks commemorating the battles. Like so many citizens, I had ancestors who fought and died during that war. In fairness, though, is it not proper that the major portion of the Federal funds commemorating our war history be used first to commemorate our war efforts in the Revolutionary War and the National Parks, Battlefields, and Monuments commemorating those efforts? Certainly we should not forget the efforts of our valiant soldiers in a number of wars, including modern day efforts, fought on foreign soils (Gulf, Vietnam, Korea), the world wars (First and Second), and other wars when our nation was younger (Spanish-American, Civil War, War of 1812, etc.), and even those wars fought by Americans before our nation was founded (including the French and Indian War). In considering the Civil War, is it not appropriate that the relatively few dollars available be first spent commemorating the more major battles of that war? Being a resident of Murfreesboro since 1953 (with the exception of time out of town to attend college, law school, and serve in the army) I have occasionally championed the significance of the Battle of Stones River in academic discussions. In fairness, though, I have always had to acknowledge that this battle, which some have called indecisive, pails when compared with Gettysburg, and even nearby battles such as Chickamauga and Shiloh. Can the historical significance of Stones River be in any way compared with the significance of those battles, or even with more minor military efforts including Fort Sumpter, Manassas, or Appomattox Courthouse? In a larger sense, can the historical significance of the Civil War be compared with the significance of the Revolution? And, in all fairness, can the significance of our war efforts be compared with those parks which commemorate natural phenomena, including The Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, and certainly the nearby Smokey Mountains?

I do not favor closing the Stones River Battlefield, although in a day when our national leaders are attempting to balance a budget which already taxes our citizens to a greater degree than Americans have ever been taxed in our history, and still our national budget has not been balanced in decades, nor will it be balanced until after the year 2000 at the earliest, there may be some merit in taking this bold step. Current military installations which some feel are more minor are being closed for financial reasons. Interior may be wise to consider some of the same steps which our national defense effort has been required to consider.

Can we justify an expansion of a National Battlefield commemorating the three-day battle? I believe not. The National Battlefield already contains some 500 acres, and contains a number of sites where more significant portions of the battle occurred. Certainly the proposed

expansion would include a larger portion of the battlefield, but still would not include the entire battlefield, and would not include the reported place of commencement of the battle. I understand that a purpose of the proposed expansion is to include two sites where it is asserted significant events in the battle transpired. Respectfully, however, there is nothing to see at either of these locations. One of these is where a Northern General was reportedly shot. In all fairness, incorporation of these areas of land into the Battlefield would appear to add little or nothing to the education, enjoyment, or entertainment of those who visit the park. There are no buildings and no geographical features which were significant to the battle on any of the proposed new addition. The present day battlefield already includes some 500 acres as stated above, a national cemetery where a number of Union soldiers were buried (Confederates mortally wounded were not honored by formal burials in such a cemetery), two additional major monuments, a visitor center, and a paved drive highlighting some half-dozen other places where significant events may have transpired during the battle, as well as walking trails. Although the battles of the Civil War are significant to a number of our citizens, we must remember however, that many Americans have no interest in the Civil War, and to others, including some African-Americans, the memory of this war is offensive.

Please understand that I and my family do not diminish the role which history plays. I was a history major in college, and have been a life-member of the Tennessee Historical Society for more than a decade. I published an article twenty years ago in the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*. My father taught history at Middle Tennessee State University for a number of years, and chaired that Department for a time, before becoming Chairman of the Tennessee Historical Commission, a state agency, on which he still serves as a member. We simply believe that the Battlefield as currently constructed, properly serves the needs of those who seek to view the battlefield area and to learn more about Stones River.

For all of the foregoing reasons, I would respectfully implore you to vote against any and all measures designed to expand the Stones River Battlefield when these measures come before the United States Senate. Please recognize that the Battlefield can continue to serve those with an interest in this battle with its present configuration, and without disenfranchising any of the forty or more landowners, a number of whom are elderly and some are physically infirm, who have countless extended family in the local area who also treasure the family home place.

Please vote against expansion of the Battlefield. Thank you for your time and consideration. Thank you for the excellent job which you are doing in representing us in Washington.

Very truly yours,



Robert E. Corlew, III

MRS ROBERT E. CARLEN

September 10, 1997

Mr. Mary Ann Rubham  
 Stone River National Battleground  
 Memphis, TN.

Dear Mr. Rubham,

I am opposed to any expansion of the boundaries of Stone River National Battleground, specifically Alternative I of your published proposal.

I applaud your efforts to give much needed improvements to the battleground which at present is most ill kept, poorly marked, and uninspiring. There is much

that should be done within the present boundaries of the park to enhance visitation. Either Alternative II or III could accomplish this.

However, I am adamantly opposed to Alternative I.

Sincerely,  
 Mary Ann Carlen

## COMMENTS

September 11, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham,

I sincerely hope that this letter is unnecessary, as I hope you have had a chance to reassess your recommendation for massive physical expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield. I hope that you have come to the conclusion, especially after last week's city council hearing, that those plans, while grandiose and attractive in one sense, are counter to the best interests of the Park, the Park Service, the city of Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, the property owners involved, and anyone with a sense of fairness and justice. My own recommendation is for alternative three, although I would not have strong objections to alternative two.

In addition to gaining the everlasting enmity of local citizens, the massive expansion as described in alternative one also commits our government to maintain this land in perpetuity. Long after the land is acquired by whatever means, our tax money still has to support its upkeep. In an age of shrinking budgets and endangered social security, Medicare, welfare, and other social programs, this is hard to fathom.

You have had the opportunity to solicit written support from everyone who has visited the Park this summer. According to your figures, this would be about 65,000 people (or if two-thirds of the visitors came during the summer months, which is a rather valid assumption, well over 160,000). Certainly many of these people have taken the opportunity to lend such support. I seriously doubt if any of these of these people were made aware of all of the aspects of the situation. I doubt if any of them knew that our government had the power to take control (regardless of ownership) of private property without compensation. I doubt if any of them knew that the land in question was anything other than fallow land whose owners would have no objection to it becoming part of the Park. I have no doubt that none, or at least a very few, would support the plan if they were aware of the massive injustice being wrought by the implementation of the plan. I doubt that many Americans are ever in favor of the trampling of other's basic rights.

A more honest and open approach might have gained more support from local people. The very people who now are fighting this plan the hardest could easily have been the leaders of the "Friends" group for this park. The surreptitious and deceptive manner in which this entire proposal has been presented has not been conducive to gaining the support of anyone involved.

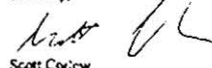
When it is stated that 260,000 people per year go through the Park there is a complete loss of credibility. Perhaps before the Greenway was built there actually were a large number of people that actually did use the park, but the vast majority were local residents who used it for a place to exercise and now use the Greenway. These people

are not interested in the minute details of a battle, but rather in a place away from their normal activities.

Similarly, the definition of "willing seller" as presented at last week's hearing does not promote trust. That definition of willing seller is quite similar to a rapist's definition of consensual sex. Once the gun is placed to the woman's head, she consents, just as once land is rendered of no value on the market by being declared within the boundaries of the Battlefield, the owner becomes a "willing seller," as there is little other choice.

Obtaining the federal financing for significant improvements to the Park would be a welcome addition to the community. As you must know far better than I, more funding for basic improvements and maintenance would provide for a much improved Park that could be enjoyed by all. No encroachment of the rights of Americans is necessary. Perhaps the Battlefield could again be the place of choice for local citizens to exercise, thereby increasing the numbers of visitors crossing the Park threshold. Alternative three certainly seems to be best for the local area and for the country, although alternative two does not seem to accomplish much harm. I hope that you will recommend one of these two options, preferably the former, to your superiors and to the Congress.

Sincerely,



Scott Corlew

July 14, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

This letter concerns the proposed changes to the Stones River National Battlefield. Of the three alternatives as outlined in the General Management Plan from the Park Service, I would urge you strongly to support alternative three, and also to remove alternatives one and two irrevocably from any plans, present or future, for the park.

The plan described as "alternative three" is the most cost-effective, as it provides for much needed improvements without incurring massive expenditure. It provides for connection of the park with the Stones River Greenway that was developed recently. This connection is probably what will be used most by local citizens and will give visitors the opportunity to see and experience this local park.

The first alternative ("alternative one" in the General Management Plan) involves the acquisition of 769 acres of what is some of the most valuable and rapidly appreciating land in Rutherford County. Additionally, it involves substantial financial outlay of tax dollars for changes to this land. It is stated by the Park Service that this will "improve interpretation and the ability of the visitor to experience a sense of place within the battlefield." When viewed with perspective, it is readily apparent that this proposal is in error for a number of reasons.

The interpretation of the battle by visitors is far more a function of visitors themselves and the presentations (be they personal, written, multimedia, or physical) by the park management and academic consultants than on the amount of land encompassed by the park. Adding a massive amount of land in order to create a few more "stops on the tour" is a quite childish concept, made more objectionable when that land acquisition is at incredible cost, both financial and in the good will of its neighbors. If the park management is unable provide appropriate educational services with its current acreage, then perhaps it is need of better funding or better management.

A concept not addressed by the park service is the fact that the true significance of the Battle of Stones River is simply in the effect its outcome had on the war. The actual "play by play" not only is partially conjecture, but also is of minor relevance to anyone other than a student of military tactics of Western armies of the mid-nineteenth century. Whether a certain regiment is thought to have made camp, fought, or some other activity in a certain vicinity is interesting, but not of the historical significance to warrant the land grab proposed by "alternative one."

Yet another reason to avoid this plan is the mere fact that the Civil War, though one of the most significant aspects of American history, is also perhaps the

most humiliating period in our history. It is unfathomable that a nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that *all men are created equal* had to fight a bloody, bitterly divisive war to eliminate slavery. While we should remember this period, and we should honor those who fought so bravely for what they felt was right, we certainly do not have the need to double the physical size of the park which serves as a monument to this embarrassing time in our past. Perhaps better use of these millions of dollars would be further effort to end the effects of slavery and discrimination.

At the current time, the Stones River National Battlefield seems to have some difficulty in the routine maintenance of its land. The field that borders Van Cleave Lane and Manson Road is usually overgrown, as is the field that borders Van Cleave Lane and the Old Nashville Highway. Poison ivy abounds on the sides of the main path, and there seems to be no plan for insect control. If there is inadequate funding or management for maintenance of the current park land, we cannot possibly look favorably on the addition of more land to be poorly kept.

If the park is to acquire this additional land, does the United States government plan to pay fair market value to the owners? Recent history regarding one owner and the tone of the park's efforts do not breed faith among those people affected. We do not object to the fair purchase of land by the government for the good of society. However, we are not led to believe that the Park Service intends either to pay fair market value for this north Rutherford County land, nor does its project seem to be in the best interest of the public. Currently, this land is of immense value for the following reasons:

- (1) it is bounded by two limited access highways, yet is protected from them regarding sound and traffic;
- (2) it is in one of the most rapidly growing areas of one of the most rapidly growing counties in the country;
- (3) it is essentially adjacent to the most rapidly growing retail district in the area;
- (4) the residential value of the land has risen immensely with the plans for a new school, both elementary and secondary, which is to be built just west of this land within the next few years (and is already needed in this location);
- (5) the land itself is of proven quality, having been farmed successfully since before the war which we are revering;
- (6) any fair market value, by definition, takes into consideration the projected rate of appreciation of this land, which is far greater than any investment its owners could make.

Contrary to the appearance of proper treatment of the American citizens who own this land legally, the Park Service has taken an extremely heavy handed approach and also has given the impression that it hopes to be dealing with ignorant, elderly, retired, Southern farmers who can be exploited quite easily. The fact that the Park superintendent never consulted with these landowners (which are none of the above, including local businesspeople, college professors, professionals, workers, and others) while the plans for park expansion were being made over the past few years is quite telling. Similarly, the virtual rape of Dr. Miller's rights as an American citizen has been


## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

an amazing story in American justice. It is ironic that the memory of the very war that abolished slavery is now proposed to be the cause of a modern day injustice almost as grave.

In conclusion, there is a quite viable alternative ("alternative three") proposed by the National Park Service which, if properly carried out, would result in substantial improvement of the Stones River National Battlefield. There remains a third ("alternative one") which would be extremely expensive at a time when we hope our government will balance its budget, and would result in acrimony between the park and its neighbors for years to come. I would urge you to support alternative three and abolish alternative one from any park plans, present or future. If alternative one is to be implemented, then I would urge you to use your power and influence to see to it that the citizens affected are treated fairly in an expeditious manner.

Although it is my feeling that I am presenting an objective opinion, I must disclose that land belonging to my father, who is now retired from his position as a teacher and does only minimal farming at age seventy-five, is included in some of the land covered by the park. I have no ownership of any of the land involved. Regarding my own personal feelings on the use of my parents' land, seeing it as part of the park (as in "alternative one") is a better proposition than many of the alternatives that development can bring. If there was any indication that the Park Service planned to buy their land or a portion thereof in a fair manner that would compensate them appropriately, I would not object for personal reasons. However, because of the manner in which this plan has been developed and presented, and because of the treatment of Dr. Miller as an example of how the Park Service and United States government plan to treat its citizens, I cannot support the Park. To effectively steal my parents' land, as seems to be the plan, is unconscionable. It is unfortunate that this letter even has to be written in this country, as opposed to China, Iran, Iraq, Cuba, or other countries where this sort of government activity might be thought to be more acceptable.



Scott Corlew

Cc: Representative Bart Gordon  
Senator Bill Frist  
Senator Fred Thompson

# COMMENTS

AUGUST 1, 1997

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST FOR INPUT, I AM EXPRESSING MY OPPOSITION TO ANY ADDITIONAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS AS A TAXPAYER, I OBJECT TO THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TO EXPAND S.R.N.B. I BELIEVE THAT THE PRESENT PARK IS MORE THAN ADEQUATE FOR PROVIDING VISITORS WITH AN INTERESTING AND ENJOYABLE VISIT.

IN ADDITION, I SEEM TO REMEMBER READING RECENTLY THAT THE PARK SERVICE WANTED TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY ACROSS THOMPSON LANE (I.E. ALONG MANSON PIKE) BECAUSE THEY HOPED TO PROVIDE A "SWEEPING VISTA" LOOKING FROM THE PRESENT PARK BOUNDARY IN THAT DIRECTION. THIS HOPED- FOR "SWEEPING VISTA" HAS ALREADY BEEN FOREVER ELIMINATED BY THE VERY PRESENCE OF THOMPSON LANE IS IT REALISTIC TO EXPECT VISITORS

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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A CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD SITE  
WHILE HAVING TO LOOK  
ACROSS A MODERN, BUSY  
5-LANE ROAD? I DON'T THINK SO!

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

PAGE 2, CONTINUED

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

IN CLOSING, IT IS MY OPINION THAT THE PARK SERVICE SHOULD MAINTAIN THE PARK THAT ALREADY EXISTS AND ABANDON (FOREVER!) THE IDEA OF ANY FURTHER PROPERTY ACQUISITION.

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY OPINION ABOUT THIS MATTER.

SINCERELY,

Amy J. Cole

CC: CONGRESSMAN BART GORDON

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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## COMMENTS



THE FRIENDS OF THE STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD, INC.

P.O. Box 4092, Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37133-4092

July 9, 1997

Dear Civil War Round Table Member:

I am writing to you for the "Friends" group concerning the enclosed *General Management Plan* for the Stones River National Battlefield. It is a critical time for the preservation of battlefield lands that remain undeveloped and with much the same character and appearance as they had in 1862. Our City of Murfreesboro is growing at a very rapid pace and urban sprawl will soon take this land.

Our "Friends" group has endorsed "Alternative 1" of the *General Management Plan* as the best for preservation and increased interpretation of the important battle that occurred here. But we need your help. The landowners, who will be affected, have been heard from and feel that this is a purely local issue. Most of their sentiment is negative in nature. We believe that Alternative 1 is not just local but a preservation of a national historic site, where our relatives fought and died.

We need your input on this plan so that more than a few local voices will have been heard from when this plan is presented to Congress. We would be most appreciative if you would look the plan over, discuss it with your group, and then comment upon it using the space provided on the form in the back of the booklet. I have enclosed an addressed envelope for your convenience and also a flyer about our Friends group. Please note that the comment form is due back before September 12, 1997.

I thank you in advance for your input on this plan.

Sincerely,

  
Mary Craig, President  
The Friends of Stones River  
National Battlefield



The Friends of Stones River National Battlefield  
P.O. Box 4092  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37133-4092

August 20, 1997

Dear Superintendent Peckham,

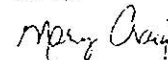
The Friends of Stones River National Battlefield voted unanimously at our June membership meeting to back Alternative 1. We were very impressed with the General Management Plan and how much work and forethought went into the plan.

Stones River National Battlefield is a landmark for one of the most significant battles in the Civil War and as much of its heritage should be retained as possible. This battle was one of the turning points of the war and this can not be visualized at the existing park since the current park is only a minute portion of the entire battlefield area. Without the land specified in Alternative 1 it is very hard to get a feel for how the battle unfolded and how large the battle actually was. To fully tell the story even more of the battlefield area should be preserved but most of it has already been destroyed by commercialization. It is vital to our city, county and heritage that this land be preserved and no more of it destroyed by businesses, shopping malls, and other forms of growth. The growth of our city is slowing encroaching the park on all sides and needs to be halted so that we can have a landscape that is conducive to the park experience.

We as a group have attended the open meetings with the public and listened to the concerns of those that attended these meetings. The opposition to the proposed plan is limited to a very small but vocal group. The citizens of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County have shown their support to the battlefield through our organization. We have increased our membership recently due to the increased awareness of what is going on with the park. This shows the support of the public in what we as a group are doing for the park.

Adoption of this plan allows for the preservation and enhancement of a national historic site where many thousands of our ancestors fought and died. This preservation will allow future generations of Americans to visit and better understand what took place here.

Sincerely,

  
Mary Craig  
President, Friends of Stones River National Battlefield

# COMMENTS

August 29, 1997

Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Sir:

It is my understanding that you are considering three alternatives for the General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement. I would like to lend my support to Alternative 1, where the park is enlarged and expanded.

I believe that if this action is not taken at this time, I doubt that there will ever be another opportunity in the future. Too many other battlefields in too many other places have already been lost to development. The perfect example of this would be the Battle of Franklin or the Battle of Nashville, which are both gone except for a few roadside markers or such organizations that preserve the Carter House or Cannon.

In addition, I believe Murfreesboro would be losing a large part of the tourist dollar spent in Tennessee. An enlarged battlefield would demand a longer visit to the area. In addition, as Tennessee develops the Civil War trail, more people may consider the area as a starting or ending point while in the middle of the state.

Again, please add my name to the support of the expansion of the Stones River Battlefield. If you have any questions, please contact me at

Doug Crane



Sincerely,

*Doug Crane*

Commander  
COLIN G. HALEY, JR.  
P.O. Box 183  
Colonial Station 79337  
Tel: 757-653-6001  
Fax: 757-653-2759

1st Commander  
RECEIVED BY BARBOLIN SR  
3226 Corn Rd. NW  
Renoir, VA 24211  
Tel: 540-367-4305

August  
Major R. W. WOODWARD  
MCPO Box 18  
Renoir, VA 24211

Major W.  
JAMES W. EAREHART  
212 Finner Dr.  
Chattanooga, VA 23220

Major W.  
JAMES A. THOMAS, JR.  
3400 Tuckman Ave.  
Renoir, VA 24228

Major W.  
GARY BLAKE WILSON  
11736 Lusk Lane  
Woodburn, VA 22113

Major W.  
LARRY W. SUTZ WILSON  
7152 Waverly Ave.  
Renoir, VA 24228

Major W.  
JAMES E. S. PROEST JR.  
113 Broomfield Dr.  
Chattanooga, VA 23113

Major W.  
WILLIAM E. THOMAS JR.  
101 D.  
11231 Turney Lane  
Madison, VA 23113

Major W.  
THOMAS W. WOODWARD  
GEO. JAMES  
205 Oak Ave.  
Greene, VA 22090

Past Commanders  
J. B. S. JR. 1926-27  
Wm. W. Old Jr. 1927-28  
Emory R. Brown 1928-29  
Charles Norman 1929-30  
Walter H. Brown 1930-31  
Walter H. Brown 1931-32  
Walter H. Brown 1932-33  
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Walter H. Brown 2028-29  
Walter H. Brown 2029-30



September 7, 1997

Superintendent  
Mary Ann Piekham  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Superintendent Piekham:

This is a request to please continue to improve and expand the Franklin and Nashville battlefields.

My wife and I toured the battlefields while attending our National Convention in Nashville this summer. We enjoyed the tour and the information given to us by your staff and ranger. Everyone was so courteous and did a great job interpreting.

I hope to return in October and reenact at Spring Hill plantation.

Best regards to you and your staff.

Cordell S. Gordon  
1st Commander  
Virginia Division

1st Commander  
JAMES E. H. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 347  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

2nd Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

3rd Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

4th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

5th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
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Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

6th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
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Tel: 757-653-2508

7th Commander  
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Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

8th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
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Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

9th Commander  
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Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

10th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
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Tel: 757-653-2508

11th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

12th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

13th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

14th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

15th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

16th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

17th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

18th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

19th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
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Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

20th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
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Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

21st Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
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Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

22nd Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
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Tel: 757-653-2508

23rd Commander  
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Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

24th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

25th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

26th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

27th Commander  
C. L. G. GARDNER  
P.O. Box 323  
Chattanooga, VA 23237  
Tel: 757-653-2508

## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

[40] From: [REDACTED] (Chris Davis) at NP--INTERNET 9/8/97 9:24PM (1249 bytes: 1 in)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SHR  
 cc: Senator Frist@Print.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET,  
 Senator Thompson@Thompson.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET, Bart@HR.House.gov at NP--INTERNET  
 Subject: Murfreesboro Battlefield  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 3501 Old Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

I'm given to understand that the Stones River National Battlefield Park Service has a chance of expanding its boundaries to include 575 acres of property that includes some of the most important sites of the original battlefield. However, I also understand that local developers are attempting to acquire the same acreage to build strip malls and other commercial detritus that can just as easily be located somewhere else. I write to support your endeavors and hope that the Park Service will be able to carry out your plan to preserve this important historical area.

E. E. Davis, Jr.  
 [REDACTED]

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

While I think that improvements to the Park are certainly indicated, I am very opposed to physical expansion of the Park. At this time there is ample acreage devoted to the commemoration of this battle, and further land is unnecessary. I am especially opposed to the taking of private property, even if the owners were compensated.

I am not sure what might have precipitated the current push toward expansion. Certainly much of this land has been available over the last thirty years. If it were so important, why could it not have been bought by the Park instead of by those who have bought it and made it their homes and farms? There is no reason to trample the very rights over which we have gone to war in order to double an already substantial memorial to this battle.

"Alternative three," which seems to provide for much needed improvements but not for unbridled expansion, is the most appropriate of the options presented by the Park Service. Please comment by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 3501 Old Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: stri\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*Shirley DeKorier*  
 [REDACTED]  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

1. I support Alternative #2 - finish purchasing the land put into the existing boundary, which I understand is close to 200+ acres. Update the existing presentation at the visitors center, which hasn't been updated since the 70's.
2. Alternative #1, my suggestion is to forget alternative #1, unless you have the funding to acquire the property at the time it is put into the boundary. I may be wrong, but I don't think you have a chance to get the necessary funding to purchase 700+ acres, at a conservative figure of \$28,000,000, when you haven't been able to fund the purchase of all the property put into the boundary in S9 & 91.

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Memphis, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

Robert D. Davis  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

IN THE CRITICAL ECONOMIC PHASE THAT GOVERNMENT HAS NOW ENTERED TO ATTEMPT A BUDGET BALANCE THERE IS NO REASON THAT CAN TRUTHFULLY SUBSTANTIATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALTERNATIVE 1, TO REMOVE LAND FROM THE COUNTY TAX BASE (WHICH IS A LONG-TERM INCOME PRODUCER) WOULD JEOPARDIZE FUTURE NEEDS WHICH ARE MORE IMPORTANT TO THE AREA POPULATION. THE EXISTENCE OF THOMPSON LANE IS NOT CONCLUSIVE TO CREATING THE 1860'S EFFECT WHICH IS DESIRED. THE INCREASING HEAVY TRAFFIC ON THIS ROADWAY WILL NEVER PERMIT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH AN ENVIRONMENT. THIS UNTIMELY PROPOSAL WOULD RESULT IN A SPLIT BATTLE FIELD WHICH MUST ENDURE ALL THE MODERN TRAPPINGS THAT COMMERCE AND TRAFFIC WILL IMPOSE, RESULTING IN A LOW PERCENTAGE OF PARK IMPROVEMENT COMPARED TO THE FINANCIALLY HIGH PERCENTAGE OUTLAY PROPOSED.

A MODIFIED ALTERNATIVE 2 PROPOSAL WITH GREATLY REDUCED DEVELOPMENT COSTS WOULD BE PREFERABLE.

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Memphis, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

WILLIAM DUNAWAY  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## COMMENTS

JOHN R. PHILLIPS  
President

### *Durham Building Supply*

*Durham Manufacturing Co., Inc.*

612-2701 244-4471  
348 Durham Avenue P.O. Box 475  
Gastonia, Tennessee 37066

WALTER T. DURHAM  
President

Office Phone  
615-452-3201

June 25, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
National Park Service  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Re: D18

Dear Mary Ann Peckham,

Thank you for sending a copy of the GNP/DCP/EIS for Stones River National Battlefield.

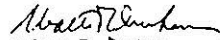
I hope that the National Park Service's proposal, alternative 1, is adopted. In this case, it seems to me the other alternatives fall far short of the mark.

Suggestion: Is it possible to place interpretive historical markers at key points off the expanded park land further to facilitate an understanding of the scope and movement of the battle? Certainly it is not feasible to acquire the entire battlefield site for the park.

I regret that prior commitments preclude my attendance at the public hearings on June 25 and 26.

Please, accept my best wishes for your continued good work at Stones River National Battlefield.

Sincerely,

  
Walter T. Durham

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

## COMMENTS

July 7, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Mary Ann,

After reviewing the Draft General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield, I would like to extend my support for alternative 1. This option ensures long term resource protection and improves interpretation of the site while working with the local community to preserve the site's sense of place.

Alternative 1 proposes changing the current direction of the tour route to follow events in chronological order, which I feel will greatly improve visitor understanding of the battle's various phases. Land acquisition as proposed in this alternative would adequately protect this battlefield land, as well as provide visitor access to critical areas of the fighting that are currently missing from the story. It is absolutely essential that additional land be added to tell the larger story of the battle and allow visitors to appreciate its scope and scale.

I feel that restoration of the landscape to its historical setting is an extremely critical objective for the park. I commend the proposed changes for the McFadden farm area. In a rapidly urbanizing area such as Middle Tennessee it is important that visitors be able to look out over views and vistas representative of the farms which stood at the time of the battle. The proposal to place unobtrusive roads and parking areas with a concern for views and comparability is another important feature of the planning. Placing an interpretive wayside about the McFadden family cemetery would shed light on an aspect of the battle that is largely absent from current interpretation: the civilians.

Expanding the Chicago Board of Trade battery would greatly improve the visitor experience at this stop of the auto tour. Few tourists have the opportunity to see a full size gun battery, complete with caissons and limbers. These improvements would allow visitors to appreciate the critical role that artillery played in this engagement.

The only suggestions I have concern interpretive goals that I feel the park should consider in this planning. Stones River presents an excellent opportunity to interpret themes currently described as underrepresented at Civil War sites according to the 1993 Civil War Sites Advisory Committee's Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields. I recommend increased interpretation, either through waysides or in the visitor center, on the themes of logistics and supply, because of the importance of the railroad to the battle, of early National Cemetery Development and battlefield commemoration, with the Hazen

Monument and the Ohio-Wisconsin Monument in the cemetery, and the role of African-American troops in garrisoning Fortress Rosencrans. Some of these issues were discussed in interpretive themes 5 and 6, yet the plan was not specific about how to improve or address the interpretation of these issues.

Overall the proposal adequately addresses resource protection and interpretive improvements, it is sensitive to the needs to balance resource protection while working with the city and county. Land acquisition is an essential component for management of the battlefield, before the remaining areas are developed. I therefore enthusiastically endorse alternative 1 for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. I look forward to seeing your future plans, and good luck with your project.

Sincerely,

*Robert M. Dunkerly*  
Robert M. Dunkerly



## COMMENTS

[13] From: "Espenshade, Michael" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/13  
/97 7:45AM (1307 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRE Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Stone's River Battlefield Boundary Expansion Issue  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Please accept this note as a hearty vote to SUPPORT expanding the boundaries!!!

Upon reading in the Civil War News this issue, I am quickly reminded of our only visit to the battlefield April '97. While the driving tour was better than nothing, the dense woods and limited expanse certainly hindered our understanding of the battle. I was disappointed that much of the battlefield is already paved under unsightly commercial zones. It was hard to imagine where the river was and the approach of Bragg's army.

Let's not compound the irresponsible neglect of the past with a conscious decision to repeat it.

Comment: we're from Pennsylvania had a hard time finding our way to the battlefield/visitors center from route 231(?)

The very courteous and helpful NPS staff at the Visitors Center Friday morning, 4-4-97, however, was the brightest spot of our visit!!!

Mike Espenshade  
[REDACTED]



July 7, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham-Superintendent  
Stones River NB  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Mary Ann

Thank you for sending us a copy of the Draft General Management Plan for Stones River NB. I have had a chance to review the plan and I have some questions regarding Eastern National and our role at Stones River NB

I see mention of Eastern National being listed as a cooperative agency to help develop a tape tour for the tour road, but see no mention of plans for the sales area. My question is will the visitor center renovation require a redesign of the sales area? If there is a redesign we certainly wish to be involved early in the process to provide input. Even if there are no plans to change the sales area I am concerned about the potential impact on visitation, and thus sales, during construction.

I would also be interested in learning more about the timing on this project. I would like to be sure that we have an EN manager involved early on in the planning process. In addition, if the park is interested in requesting funds from EN to help pay for the renovations, or a revised tape tour, we will need to work with you to submit funding requests requests. If the timing is close then perhaps we may need to postpone the development of the current tape tour? Depending upon how much money we are talking about, such requests may need to be submitted a few years in advance of when the money is actually needed.

Thanks again for giving me the opportunity to respond to the plans. I look forward to hearing from you

Sincerely,

*Judy Faran*  
Judy Faran  
Operations Manager

cc: Pat Higney  
Chesley Moroz  
Patti Plummer

Serving America's National Parks and Other Public Trusts  
446 North Lane, Conshohocken, PA 19380 Voice: 610-832-0555 FAX: 610-832-0242 Web Site: <http://www.EasternNational.org>

# COMMENTS

(b) From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/12/97 2:47PM (1035 bytes: 1 ln)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
 Subject: expansion of Stones River Nat'l Battlefield  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

September 12, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
 Superintendent  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham,

The purpose of this letter is to express my views on the proposal to expand Stones River National Battlefield. I am AGAINST OPTION 1--expanding the park boundaries. Having grown up across the street from the Battlefield and having visited it hundreds of times in my life-I believe the park is large enough and that your efforts should be concentrated on improving the exhibits. I am not against improving the Battlefield, but am against expanding the boundaries for possible annexation of adjoining farmlands.

My grandfather, Tom Lane, owns some of the adjoining land that would be affected by expanding the boundaries of the park. My grandfather has lived in the Blackman community his entire life, and our family has lived in Blackman for nearly 200 years. We should have the right to do as we wish with our family's property. We should not be forced to sell the property to the park now or 20 years from now. My grandfather has spent his entire life bettering the community of Murfreesboro-he has given his time and land for many community projects and he should not have to spend the last years of his life fighting to keep his property. It is very wrong.

Please consider the people and the families your decision will affect. I encourage you to spend what funds you have to improve the Battlefield, not to expand it.

Sincerely,

Cindy Lane Fazio

(1) From: "WILLIAM H. FERGUSON" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/3/97 3:02PM (983 bytes: 1 ln)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
 cc: <Bart@HR.House.gov> at NP--INTERNET, <Senator\_Thompson@Thompson.Senate.gov> at NP--INTERNET, <Senator\_Frist@Frist.Senate.gov> at NP--INTERNET, <heritage-legate.net> at NP--INTERNET  
 Subject: Support for Stones River Park's plan to purchase 50+ acres o  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

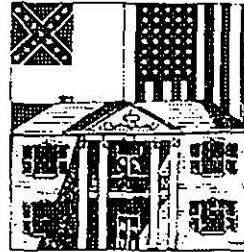
I wish to add my support for the desired purchase of the 50+ acres in Murfreesboro, which includes Confederate battle sites. I do not want my grandfather or great-grandfather and their compatriots dishonoured by greedy developers who wish to turn this area into a shopping mall.

Yours,

William H. Ferguson

Sincerely

## COMMENTS



**Lotz House**  
War Born on the Slaves and Old West Museum

27 August, 1997

Dear Mr. Rockman,

Hello! I hope this finds you doing well. My name is David Fraley and I am the Research Historian at The Lotz House Museum in Franklin, Tennessee. My reason for writing today is to urge you to do all that is in your power to reclaim as much of the original Murfreesboro Battlefield as possible, while it is still possible. Our museum here is located on the hallowed battlefield of Franklin, most of which is lost to urban sprawl. So I am painfully aware that once historic property is lost to development, then it is usually lost forever. Please do not let what has happened to Franklin happen to Murfreesboro! I support "Alternative A" and urge you to do the same.

Thank you for your time.

Most Sincerely,

David Fraley

1111 Columbia Avenue • Franklin, Tennessee 37064 • (615) 791-6533 • Fax (615) 791-5650  
E-Mail: LotzRebck@aol.com Visit our Web Page: <http://www.phoenix.wl.com/lotz>

[21] From: Wesley H Frank [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/31/97 9:43P  
M (2330 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STW Administration at NP--SER  
cc: BARTAKR.HOUSE.gov at NP--INTERNET, Thompson@thompson.senate.gov at  
NP--INTERNET, First@first.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
Subject: Murfreesboro, TN  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

I have just learned of the NPS's ability to obtain the battle field that my Great Grandfather fought on. I would like to give you my support and full backing. I am hoping that the people copied will take note of this letter and aid you in getting this property. I live in South Florida where everyday a new shopping mall is built and the one built four years ago begins to die and then is an eye sore.

I am very proud of my SOUTHERN HERITAGE and wish that everyone understood the great war that Tennessee and my G-Grandfather's state of Alabama fought to sustain states rights. The federal government grows larger and larger everyday taking away the states right to govern themselves. I now am glad that the government is on our side and not fighting to close off ocured ground. I have several areas in Florida where soldiers are buried such as the case of the Tennessee volunteers which came here to fight the Seminoles during the Second Seminole War. They currently lie in the middle of a long black ribbon of asphalt called Indiantown Road. We fought to save them and the unknown graves of the Seminoles which died at the battle of the Ocoeehatchee but the Developers were able to muster more money for the county pockets than we could so the road was build over them. But no to worry they will create an interpretive center for thier memory.

I hope that this does not happen in Murfreesboro where my G-Grandfathers compatriots may still lie and thier blood spilled out for a cause which the children of today need to understand to prevent such waste of life again from occurring.

For Southern Independence,  
WESLEY H. FRANK  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Preserving Our Heritage  
League of the South-Florida-Brevard County

The South shall live forever in our Hearts  
and in the Minds of true Southerners.  
STATES RIGHTS were right then and  
STATES RIGHTS are right NOW !!!

COMMENTS

27 October, 1997

Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham;

Enclosed you will find letters which I have placed in today's post to Senators Thompson and Frist and Congressman Gordon.

It is my sincere hope that these letters of support will help in the National Park Service's acquisition of the 50+ acres of land for the Stone's River Park.

Sincerely,

*R. M. Freeman*

Richard M. Freeman

27 October, 1997

Senator Bill Frist  
28 White Bridge Road  
Suite 211  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

Dear Senator Frist;

I am taking this opportunity to let you know of my support for the purchase of the 50+ acres of land at the Murfreesboro (Stone's River) National Battlefield Park by the National Park Service.

In South Carolina I have seen more than one historically significant site defiled by real estate developers in order to construct another tawdry, insignificant strip shopping mall.

Tennessee is a proud state, rich in history and proud of its heritage.

Only by preserving sites where our ancestors fought can we honor their contributions in blood and lives to our history.

To permit another strip mall to blemish the ground where brave Americans fell should not be allowed.

Sincerely,

*R. M. Freeman*

Richard M. Freeman

## COMMENTS

27 October, 1997

Senator Fred Thompson  
3322 West End Avenue  
Suite 120  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Dear Senator Thompson;

I am taking this opportunity to let you know of my support for the purchase of the 50+ acres of land at the Murfreesboro (Stone's River) National Battlefield Park by the National Park Service.

In South Carolina I have seen more than one historically significant site defiled by real estate developers in order to construct another tawdry, insignificant strip shopping mall.

Tennessee is a proud state, rich in history and proud of its heritage.

Only by preserving sites where our ancestors fought can we honor their contributions in blood and lives to our history.

To permit another strip mall to blemish the ground where brave Americans fell should not be allowed.

Sincerely,

*R. M. Freeman*  
Richard M. Freeman

27 October, 1997

Congressman Bart Gordon  
P.O. Box 1986  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Congressman Gordon;

I am taking this opportunity to let you know of my support for the purchase of the 50+ acres of land at the Murfreesboro (Stone's River) National Battlefield Park by the National Park Service.

In South Carolina I have seen more than one historically significant site defiled by real estate developers in order to construct another tawdry, insignificant strip shopping mall.

Tennessee is a proud state, rich in history and proud of its heritage.

Only by preserving sites where our ancestors fought can we honor their contributions in blood and lives to our history.

To permit another strip mall to blemish the ground where brave Americans fell should not be allowed.

Sincerely,

*R. M. Freeman*  
Richard M. Freeman



ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE  
PRESERVATION  
OF CIVIL WAR  
SITES, INC.  
11 Public Square  
Suite 200  
Hagerstown,  
Maryland 21740  
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(301) 665-1116 FAX

email:  
apcws@compuserve.net  
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Ted Brown

August 6, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro TN 37129

RE: Draft General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan  
Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Ms. Peckham:

Thank you for sending me the draft management plan for review. It is certainly evident that much time and thought went into developing this excellent plan and I am very impressed with the end result.

After reviewing the draft, I strongly support Alternative I for the following reasons:

1. In order for visitors to fully understand the Battle of Stones River, the park must be enlarged to cover all the major actions of the battle. Currently, the park does not include some important and significant battleground such as the area where Rosecrans' right flank was swept by Hardee's corps.
2. Since the park is located in one of the fastest growing counties in Tennessee, Rutherford County, the present opportunity for the park to expand cannot be better. This quite possibly may be the only time the park has the opportunity to expand. Once this land is developed, the battlefield is lost.
3. In order to improve the visitation center, the park must be expanded. The visitation center is not endangered, but land in Top priority should go to expansion, then followed by visitor center improvements.

I am happy to see that all the alternatives address the environmental consequences. Additionally, the environmental issues concerning an 1860's era, which I feel is extremely important to the battlefield and visitation experience.

I hope that my comments will be of some assistance to you. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Frye  
President

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

K. Dwayne Fulke, MD

Dear Ms. Peckham,

I am writing this letter to express my displeasure with the proposed expansion of the Battlefield. I have followed this planned expansion for some time and fail to see the benefits this offers anyone. The general criteria for of the State or the Federal Government to claim "Eminent Domain" revolves around the claim of the benefit for progress or the general good of the community. While the expansion may be of benefit to the resume of a director, it does little to enhance the community or improve the presentation of a short battle.

There is also little argument that the land in question will never serve the purpose of "Eminent Domain" by being left for the expansion of the community. The general growth of the community of Murfreesboro is rapidly developing in this area, and to confiscate land for a park that has served its purpose well with what it has is a pointless endeavor.

I would ask to be heard on this issue.

Sincerely,

K. Dwayne Fulke, MD  
9/9/97

CC: Matt Gordon



# COMMENTS

8/10/97 11:21:28

2

00 000000



San Falls Village Rd  
Pittsburgh, PA 15209

Ms. Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
National Park Service, Stones River National Battlefield  
1501 Old Nashville Hwy  
Memphis, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

I received your *Stones River National Battlefield* outlining your objectives and goals for the future enhancement of the Stones River National Battlefield. Simply stated you have laid out an aggressive and pragmatic blueprint to preserve the history of the region and in particular that of the Civil War.

As the author of *The Challenge to the South: Stones River and the great, great grandson of Colonel William Smith, a significant participant in the battle and the Commander of the John T. Crawford Camp, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I and the members of our Camp, many of whom had ancestors who served in the Tennessee River, have a particular interest in Stones River. To say that we are willing to help you and the park in any way would be an overstatement. However, we are willing to help in areas where our resources would permit.*

At the same time, I have some ideas for a "Team Building session" here are a few. From a personal stand point, I would be willing to volunteer to help during the January 1998 reenactment of the battle at Stones River. Our Camp would designate a major fund raising and implement a continuing fund raising for Stones River. We are also interested in writing to any and all United States, Tennessee and or Memphis, also efforts to gain support for your project. One area that has gained interest is helping to recover the 2nd Tennessee Regimental flag for Stones River. The flag captured by the Pennsylvania Seventy-Eighth is still held in the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania State Capitol. I hope that our general meeting in late September will generate more ideas.

Ms. Peckham, I realize that the project is a large undertaking. In spite of your actions to do nothing would be appalling, especially in light of the past and present problems in the Virginia area. You must see now. I know that there will be others of support from many areas, however, if we are given a specific task, we will expend our efforts to accomplish all or any of your requests.

Sincerely,

Ron Glick, Commander  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
John T. Crawford Camp 43

cc: Richard, National Commander, SUCVW  
Richard Knight, Pennsylvania Department Commander, SUCVW  
Richard Dargatz, Senior Vice Commander, Camp 43, SUCVW  
Al Mavrik, Junior Vice Commander, Camp 15, SUCVW  
Jack Blair, Secretary-Treasurer, Camp 44, SUCVW

[36] From: "John L. German" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/3/97 8:16PM (4  
88 bytes: 1 ln)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Stones River Battlefield  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

I have read that plans are made to add 500+ acres to the battlefield park. I say hooray! I hope these plans are approved - it would be nice to see my tax dollars used so wisely.

John German, Indiana

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

# COMMENTS

*I am confused by the document, however, the following comments are based on what I think you are trying to accomplish under legal and budget constraints.*

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

1. *Support for the Park*  
a. *non-detracting (physical) environment*  
*COMMENT: This is impossible!*  
*Many roads and highways, numerous developments - commercial and residential - will always make the integration of the physical environment distracting at the park.*  
*Adding to that, I believe (Alternative 1) will not accomplish what I want. I can provide areas, quiet, peaceful, public, scenic, park, environment, but it will add nothing to the integration of the*  
*(a) the sacredness of the battlefield*  
*(b) an understanding and appreciation of its and its significance*  
*(c) the uniqueness of a personal connection with this part of our country*  
*under the present unchanged physical environmental limitations)*
2. *Spot comments*  
*Letter for letter, I think the best plan is to*  
*(a) relocate the administrative office (Alternative 1, not)*  
*(b) upgrade the visitor center with new and expanded interpretive media (Alternative 2, not)*  
*I think the Park is greatly benefiting from its location with*  
*(a) the sacredness of the*  
*(b) an understanding and appreciation of its*  
*(c) a personal connection with the battlefield*

Please send comments by September 17, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [ser\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:ser_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*ROBERT L. GIBBS*

*Sharon H. Gibbs, 11000 1st Avenue, SE, P.O. Box 11000, Seattle, WA 98101-0001*  
*and would like to receive information about the project and its impact*  
*on the battlefield. I am a member of the National Park Service and I am a*

[19] From: Pat Graham [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/1/97 10:39PM (718 bytes, 1 line)  
To: STR: Administration at NP--SER  
cc: Bart@HR.House.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Thompson@Thompson.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Frist@Frist.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
Subject: Murfreesboro  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Ms. Peckham:  
I am writing you to express my support for the proposed expansion of the Murfreesboro Battlefield Park. I feel strongly that the preservation of our historic site is important, and I also feel that tourism interests would be served if expansion is accomplished.  
Thank you,  
Pat Graham

Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Mary Ann Pickham  
Superintendent,  
Stones River National Battlefield

As a student of Civil War history and especially of the western battles, I was glad to hear of the proposed expansion and improvement of the Stones River National Battlefield. I have visited the battlefield twice in the last few years and have walked the grounds much of which is privately owned. I realize that acquisition of the entire Stones River battlefield is an impossibility, the acquiring of the undeveloped areas of greatest significance would enhance the ability of those who visit to enjoy and study this field.

As you well know, the Battle of Stones River/Murfreesboro was not just a mere skirmish. It was a battle of large proportion that set the stage for the full-scale campaign to Chattanooga and finally for the push to Atlanta. There were the primary two great western armies that would meet again and again. They were just as large as their counterparts in the East and their actions just as significant. We have for too long emphasized the great battles in the East with only mere mention that anything at all even happened in the West.

Improvement and expansion at Stones River would go far in correcting the misconception that the Civil War only took place in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. In the last few years

I have noticed a growing interest in the western campaigns among my fellow historians. In general, since the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War there has been a new and increased attention given to this event. Recent victories at Manassas, Brandy Station, and other locations have increased public awareness as well as that of Congress as to the importance of preserving our country's heritage. New publications on western campaigns, large scale re-enactments of western battles, and documentaries such as those seen on cable TV have all helped to remind us that there is much more to the Civil War than what occurred east of the Appalachians.

If there was ever an opportunity to preserve and expand the Stones River battlefield, this is it. As we move further away in time from this event, the chances of acquiring this hallowed ground for future generations to study and reflect upon, will be lost. Only a few swift benefits if this land is used for anything else than as a memorial to those who fought at this great battle. Any land acquisition at all will help to discourage future development and make possible further expansion such as the vacant properties along Liberty Lane where the Union right wing ended the Confederate attempt to cut the Federals off from Nashville. The action on this part of the field was just as critical to the survival of the Army of the Cumberland as any other part of the battlefield and would be of great help to understanding the first days of battle.

I enthusiastically support this recent proposal to expand and improve the Stones River National Battlefield. Many will benefit if this is carried through and quite possibly our nation's classrooms might include more than just Bull Run and Gettysburg in their studies. We need to keep our heritage alive and this

# COMMENTS

is one important way of doing it. Good luck in the coming struggle of accomplishing this goal.

Sincerely,  
Richard P. Gray



Aug 3, 97  
Dear Mr. Foxham,  
Although I would normally support the expansion of Stones River Natl. Battle Field in Murfreesboro, I oppose the method by which the NPS and the Dept of the Interior may take the property. The condemnation procedure is unfair to property owners. Perhaps Congressman Gordon could facilitate a more equitable expansion plan.

Sincerely,  
Judy Lee Green

# COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

10/23/97  
 Dear Superintendent Packham  
 I am writing you to offer  
 my support of the NPS acquiring  
 the 50+ acres at Murfreesboro.  
 I hope this acreage can  
 be added to the battlefield.  
 Please work to get this  
 acreage included.  
 Thank you Sincerely,  
 James Hesse  
 JHG

9/15/97  
 Supt. Mary Ann Packham  
 Stones River National Military Park  
 3561 E. Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro, Tenn. 37214

Supt. Packham

There have been several articles lately  
 in the Nashville newspaper concerning the  
 Stones River Park. I hope this will keep the  
 public aware of the historical value the  
 park has to offer. More people need to  
 be involved in helping to preserve our parks  
 and heritage.

Please note that I am in favor of  
 alternative one. Please do all you can to  
 see people stay informed as to the progress  
 that is being made.

A friend of the Park,  
 Betty T. Hargrave

# COMMENTS



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

Rutherford County Association of REALTORS, Inc.  
225 W. College St., P.O. Box 1000, Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
Telephone: 615 883-2242 or 662-7250



September 11, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

On behalf of the 500+ members of the Rutherford County Association of REALTORS® and our Board of Directors, we are declaring our support of **ALTERNATIVE 2** of the Draft General Management Plan Development Concept Plan for expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield. Alternative 2 presents the most realistic and affordable plan to improve and enhance the Battlefield and to present the historical impact of this event.

Our major concern against any additional expansion of park boundaries is the underlying issue of private property rights, a platform which we as real estate professionals adamantly support. The right to use and sell land within the legal use established by the local government is an ownership privilege that the current system of boundary expansion significantly deters or compromises. All land is historically significant to our country, and yet to has given way to the private ownership that has produced more quality of life dividends than just the "undisturbed vista" of a significant battle.

We continue to support the enhancement and upgrading our current park, and understand proper zoning can achieve the appropriate balance to enhance the entry route to the Battlefield. As federal funding is appropriated, investing in the current incorporated park boundaries will continue to draw tourist dollars to this area, and intensify the appreciation of this significant historical area.

Respectfully,

Charlie Harrison  
President

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September 11, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

As Middle Tennessee grows in population, we are losing more and more significant natural and cultural sites. Open space and recreation areas are in short supply for the expanding population.

We support Alternative 1 of the Draft General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield. By most estimates, Rutherford County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. Alternative 1 will preserve open space and protect significant historic land. We urge you to present balanced interpretation which does not glorify war but rather emphasizes the important lessons learned during this period of our history.

In sum, we believe that growth and preservation are compatible with careful planning as exemplified in Alternative 1. We hope that you will proceed with Alternative 1.

Sincerely,

Angela Hawk  
for the Social Concern Committee,  
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville

## COMMENTS

[9] From: "Hawk; Dave" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/16/97 9:33AM (679 byte  
9:11 AM)  
To: STR: Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Master Plan for Stones River Battlefield  
----- Message Contents -----

Text Item 1: Text Item

I thought that the master plan for saving Stones River battlefield was excellent. The local residents should be educated about the tourism revenue which such a site can generate. The recent Antietam re-enactment apparently attracted about 70,000 spectators. If you have a mailing list, my street address is: Dave Hawk, 6052 Heatherwood Drive, Alexandria VA 22310. Thanks.



Sam Davis Memorial Association  
1399 Sam Davis Road  
Smyrna, Tennessee 37167  
(615) 459-2341

June 10, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

Because of her busy schedule following the Civil War Show and her upcoming family reunion, Pauly asked me to read and comment on the draft of the General Management Plan that you sent to our site. I was amazed at how much I learned about the Battle of Stones River by reading the plan. As a native Rutherford Countyan, I have visited the battlefield many times, but I was never aware of many of the facts stated in the plan.

As a result of this realization, I feel that Alternative 1 is the most needed. The interpretation in the visitor's center and on the wayides is static and does not give any idea of the scope of this battle. There should be a way to spice up the telling of the story of Stones River that will leave people with a sense of the importance of the battle and the human cost involved. I also liked the idea of including the cost of the civilians of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County. This is an important point that I have not seen addressed at any National Battlefield site that I have visited.

Another important part of the plan outlined in Alternative 1 is the need to increase the size of the current park area. I feel that as progress encroaches upon us that it is the responsibility of both of our sites to hold onto the land that we have because soon we may have the only green spots in Rutherford County. The purchase of land for the battlefield, however, would also help convey to visitors the size of the battle which is not evident from the current interpretation. Also, the reconstruction of buildings within the park would help show the human factor. School children would then know that the Civil War was fought in people's back yards and not just in the woods and open fields.

We are currently awaiting the arrival of our own Master Plan and hope it proves as illuminating and encouraging as the draft you sent us.

Sincerely,

*Bethany L. Hawkins*

Bethany L. Hawkins  
Administrative Assistant

/bth

Supr \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Ranger \_\_\_\_\_  
Staff Ranger \_\_\_\_\_  
INP/ISSA \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. Off \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. Clerk \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Maint. \_\_\_\_\_  
Maint. Wk. 7 \_\_\_\_\_  
Maint. Wk. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
FSL \_\_\_\_\_  
Library \_\_\_\_\_  
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CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

Please reject Alternative 1. Soon this land will be developed and its historic value will be lost forever. This land should be preserved for future generations so that they will know what our forefathers did and the price 23,000 yards. In conjunction with any expansion of the National Battlefield Park, interpretation of the events is important for the visitor. Any increase in visitors to this park will also mean an increase in visitors eating meals and staying overnight in area hotels.

*Henry A. Heppert Jr.*

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: stri\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*Henry A. Heppert Jr.*  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

3 July, 1997

I was a recent visitor to Stones River Battlefield in June of 1997, and was very impressed with the overall park.

I have visited many larger battlefields of the Civil War, and find Stones River had special impact on me and my family: in that, the historical happenings were easy to visualize and imagine. This was, in part, due to the interpretation given in the visitor center by the film, and the NPS personnel.

The driving tour was especially well plotted, and very enjoyable - not too long. The tour pamphlet was very helpful.

I am sad to see the battlefield at Stones River becoming engulfed and eroded by the modern-world in almost every direction. In its present state, this battlefield attempts to preserve a representative core segment, thus maintaining the atmosphere of its original 1860s appearance.

Every battlefield has its own "genius of the place", and Stones River gave to me a special sense of "memorial thrust" that other places did not.

I am highly in favor of the National Park Service's proposed action: entitled ALTERNATIVE 1.  
Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: stri\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*Monte L. Henrie*  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

**Sup:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Year:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Month:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Day:** \_\_\_\_\_


**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**State:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Library:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Research:** \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Ms. Peckham,

I was born in Winder, Georgia and grew up in Atlanta. I have always felt that we can only improve by looking to the future and learning from our mistakes of the past. In my opinion the Civil War was a tragic mistake brought on by the South, therefore, why try to glorify a mistake.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,  
  
 Jeannette Heritage, PhD

DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stokes River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Alternative 1 is preferable but may not be feasible given the financial and political realities. It would favor expansion of the park's physical dimensions to whatever limits are workable.

If Attendance 1 proves impossible, - told on report, Attendance 2 should be carried out. Folks I've brought to the point frequently have expressed disappointment that the limited parts of interest in the "note then." A new slide show and/or other visuals would greatly enhance the presentation's offerings at very minimal cost. There's no significant reason that Attendance 2 could not be followed as a feedback option.

Please send documents by <sup>Sept</sup> August 12, 1977, to:

Mary Ann Pockham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [sti\\_administrators@ops.gov](mailto:sti_administrators@ops.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address.

Dr. Glenn Hinebaugh

# COMMENTS

ANTHONY HOOGES, D.D.S.

July 14, 1997

Mrs. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent, Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

Thank you for the copy of the proposed General Management Plan (GMP/GMP/DCM) for Stones River National Battlefield. Unfortunately my personal schedule did not allow me to attend any of the public meetings. However, I have thoroughly studied the proposed alternatives in the Draft.

I would strongly urge the adoption of ALTERNATIVE 1, which both expands the current park boundaries and improves interpretation. As a native Middle Tennessean and one who frequently returns to the area, I feel that there will be no better time than now to acquire additional historic battlefield property. The overwhelming growth of the Nashville and Murfreesboro areas will only make future acquisitions much more expensive and difficult. The current building boom of the area could make any future expansion impossible. Therefore, I feel the time is now for park expansion or the chance may be forever lost.

Additionally, I would state that expansion is necessary for the NPS to be able to give the visitor and student of the war in the "West" the understanding and appreciation of the Battle of Murfreesboro (Stones River) and its place in the context of the overall western theater.

As a descendant of men who fought in the battle of Murfreesboro (Stones River), I would urge the National Park Service to adopt ALTERNATIVE 1 of the Draft General Management Plan.

Sincerely,

*Anthony Hooges*  
Anthony Hooges, D.D.S.

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

As a Civil War Round Table member I wholeheartedly support Alternative 1. I have been to the Stones River Battlefield many times. I have always regretted not having access to what I consider the most important part of the battle "The first 10 hours". Even that of the day before, the 29th of December when the Armies were skirmishing and maneuvering. Alternative 1 would help a great deal in this crucial area for historians and descendants of this fight. Much of this land is already gone. We just can't let the rest go! There are still trenches out there to save.

At our Round Table meetings we have discussed and regretted the lack of area needed to interest people in going to Stones River. We need more of the area to justify tourism to the area. In an area that is expanding so rapidly there is a need for more park and recreational facilities. I am going to talk to my congressmen and ask them to support Alternative 1 of the General Management Plan.

Rodney V. Hogan  
Kankakee Civil War Round Table

*Rodney V. Hogan*  
Buckingham, Ill.

Please send comments by Sept. 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

*We were down for your meeting concerning expanding the boundaries of park a few weeks ago. We would like to support Alternative Plan 1. As people coming from out of state to visit Stones River Battlefield Park, we feel it would be a great improvement to "see" more of the actual battle area, particularly for those who have ancestors that fought there.*

*Too much of the battlefield is already gone --- please, save as much as you can of what is left!*

*Angela E. Hynes*



Please send comments by <sup>Sept</sup> August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTS

[17] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/17/97 11:18AM (8591 bytes: 2 ln)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
 Subject: [Fwd: Murfreesboro Battlefield]  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Mr. Peckman,

I am writing you concerning the opportunity to help save and expand the Murfreesboro Battlefield. I hope this letter is not too late, but I have been out and only recently picked up my E-mail.

I am a resident of Lancaster and was a resident of Murfreesboro for 8 years. The reason that we moved was because of the tremendous growth (some call it progress) of the town of Murfreesboro. We almost bought one of the farms that is now under consideration by the battlefield, but made the decision not to buy it because there was such "growth" on all sides.

I am a native of Smith county, and will probably move back there if the "growth" of Rutherford County continues. I am proud and appreciative that I call Rutherford County home now. I am sure that the thousands of people that have moved to Rutherford County in the past few years feel the same way. It is one thing to welcome new residents with open arms, and quite another to recklessly build and expand with the only justification being uncontrolled greed by developers and realtors.

Expansion, growth, developing, 'progress', etc. is not always a good thing. The American people have chased after these material things so much and so hard in the past few years, that I think now that they are a little tired of this and are reverting back to things that are simpler and maybe more 'spiritual'. We are Americans... and we like America because of the DIFFERENCES in people and regions in America.

People come to visit and live in the South because that is what it is... the SOUTH. When you go to Memphis, you see Graceland and you eat BBQ or Catfish. When you go to New York City, you visit the Empire State Building, go to a Broadway play, and have coffee and cheesecake. When you go to San Diego, you tour the Zoo and eat seafood. Of course, I could go on and on, but the point is...

WE DON'T NEED ANOTHER STRIP MALL IN MURFREESBORO! There are plenty already... I would go so far as to say MORE than plenty. We need to preserve our past... our heritage... our natural and beautiful land of Middle Tennessee so that visitors can come and see and enjoy what we are so very proud of. With my job, I entertain many guests in Murfreesboro. We usually try to observe the time honored tradition of hospitality and have them into our home for supper. And when we ask them what they want to do for entertainment, do you think they ask to go to the Mall? NO! (They only do that in Minneapolis.) They ask to see the local sights like the Battlefield and the remaining Antebellum homes and the local shops. When we dine out, they don't ask to go to a chain restaurant, they want to go somewhere with local flavor, like the Parthenon or the City Cafe... and while downtown they can walk around the square and see one of the most BEAUTIFUL and historic Courthouses in the nation.

I appreciate the efforts of the Park Service to preserve and expand the Battlefield. I would have been so wonderful 12 years ago we could have

kept the entire area 'intact'. Any opportunity and possibility to preserve anything remaining should be tenaciously pursued. I have been a contributor and member of the Friends of the Battlefield, and if I can be of any help, please let me know. This 'project' means more to our community, our children, our future, and even our very souls than most people can realize... and more than anyone can put a price on. I am sincerely,

Randy K. Holliman

[REDACTED]

## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN/DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

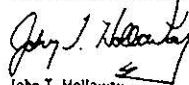
#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Being a native of Murfreesboro and having lived here all my life I have visited the Battlefield numerous times. If I'm not mistaken the audio-video display is the same today as it was in 1965 when I was in grammar school. The park is not maintained in as good condition today as it was then.

The park doesn't need to expand the amount of land they have, rather they should look for a way to administer it efficiently. The government seems to be going by the philosophy of "build it, they'll come" but that is only true in movies. This is the taxpayers money the Government is spending and everyone should be aware of the citizens who have to work support the Federal Government's folly.

I support alternative 1.

  
John T. Holloway

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Del Horton**  
Middle Tennessee Chairman  
Tennessee Wars Commission  
Advisory Board



August 26, 1997

Ms. Mury Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

After reviewing the *Draft General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement for Stones River National Battlefield*, and personally observing those properties in question, I would like to offer my thoughts and recommendations on the subject.

In my opinion, **Alternative Number One** as outlined in the above plan should be considered as the primary course of action for the expansion and preservation of the battlefield. Every effort **MUST** be made to obtain, protect and preserve those battlefield properties which are presently situated outside the authorized boundaries of the National Battlefield.

In Murfreesboro, one need look no farther than nearby Thompson Lane to view the residential and industrial encroachment which threatens to encircle the existing battlefield property. The development of these surrounding properties would be a devastating loss to Murfreesboro, the State of Tennessee and the American people as a Nation. It is difficult to imagine the magnitude of the battle fought on these grounds while standing in a parking lot or looking over an industrial complex.

America is losing her historical landscapes at an alarming rate. The most recent "local" tragedy was the loss of the antebellum "Whitehouse" at the entrance to the Nashville Village residential complex. The historic structure is being removed from the property following the cutting and bulldozing of dozens of stately trees, many of which had stood for 150 years or more. All of this devastation to a historic site in order to build another supermarket to compete with the supermarket across the street and the one less than a quarter-mile up the street. Does this make sense?

4728 Blountsboro Road • Ansoch, Tennessee 37013 2853 • 615-368-0944 • 615-271-9370 pager • 615-580-2291 fax

The same destiny awaits the properties upon which the Battle of Stones River raged unless a concerted effort, like **Alternative Number One**, is put into action to protect and reserve the landscape.

As the Chairman of the Middle Tennessee Division of the Tennessee Wars Commission Advisory Committee, I most heartily concur with the National Park Service's assessment that all efforts should be made to expand and preserve the boundaries of Stones River National Battlefield, at whatever cost. Unless this action is taken, future generations will be deprived of the unique opportunity to walk these hallowed grounds and experience the history of this Nation.

I wish you much success in this endeavor and offer whatever assistance the situation may deem necessary.

Sincerely,

E. Del Horton  
Chairman, Middle Tennessee Division  
Tennessee Wars Commission Advisory Committee

4728 Blountsboro Road • Ansoch, Tennessee 37013 2853 • 615-368-0944 • 615-271-9370 pager • 615-580-2291 fax



# COMMENTS

NAT C. HUGHES JR.

August 26, 1997

Superintendent  
Stone's River National Battlefield  
3301 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Sir:

I am very happy to learn that at last, after over a century, steps are being taken to protect the Stone's River battlefield. We Tennesseans have lost the battlefield at Nashville and Franklin, though we have been fortunate enough to save Shiloh, Fort Donelson and a portion of Missionary Ridge. To preserve the scene of the conflict at Murfreesboro is imperative in my view and every effort should be made. Our priceless heritage is slipping away rapidly.

I strongly support Alternative 1 of the Draft General Management/Plan Concept Plan/Environmental Impact Statement.

Sincerely yours,  
Nat C. Hughes



The Center for Historic Preservation

Research and Public Service Since 1984

September 8, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Deekham, Superintendent  
Stone's River National Battlefield  
3301 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Ms. Deekham:

I write in support of Alternative 1, with the qualifications noted below, as outlined in the draft General Management Plan, Development Concept Plan, and Environmental Impact Statement. I might describe, as an aside, that the justification behind Alternative 1 demonstrates the inadequacy and superficiality of the earlier Civil War site survey which reduced the priority for Stone's River National Battlefield due to the state of surrounding encroachment. Fortunately, when followed up after the report's publication on the conclusions of the survey and noted the availability, in an urban condition, the lands from Dry 2 of the Battle of Stone's River. That, and desire to redress the tour route and the interpretive program and improve the visitor center under the draft document's original. The draft report is a fair and reasonable response to those new concerns.

The qualifications I make in my support for Alternative 1 earlier reflect concerns that the reasons the Murfreesboro City Council used last week when it voted to support Alternative 2. The federal government at its best does not handle land acquisition issues with common sense and is a costly failure. Possibly the Interior Department/National Park Service are even less effective and more bureaucratic.

Priority needs to be given by the top leadership of the Interior/NPS to the development with Administration and Congressional consultation of a fair and more sensible process for boundary expansion. For example, a special fund for obtaining opinions on land given priority with terms and justification for acquisition. The time span typified by development involving SRNBF over the last twenty years demonstrates the dilemma of land acquisition in the midst of highly charged growth. I recognize the problem of affected land owner dissatisfaction or what they typically call a "take" on their property—and believe it will become more reasonable if federal procedures are not modified.

Finally, the protective confidentiality policy employed by the NPS in its land acquisition process makes possible the apparent situation which came to dominate landowner thinking and forms movement against the federal government. I was in Clayburg Valley National Recreation Area in OH on that past weekend and heard similar rumors still being told a quarter century after the beginning of land acquisition there.

Further, the process to develop draft documents, such as the one referenced earlier by NPS needs to itself be reviewed. It must have an extended period.

I would be willing to help in any way in any reasonable improvements to the process, I estimate alone. With sincere appreciation for the way you and your staff struggle to maintain interpretation and preservation efforts at SRNBF. I am

James H. Hughes  
Director

JHH:ms

Box 80 • MTSU • Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37132 • Office (615) 898-2947 • FAX: (615) 898-5614

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CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

# COMMENTS

[19] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/2/97 1:23PM (1699 bytes: 1 in)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SER, Bart@HR.House.gov at NP--INTERNET,  
 Senator.Thompson@Thompson.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET,  
 Senator.Frist@Frist.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
 Subject: Murfreesboro, TN park acquisition  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

9/2/97

Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
 STRI Administration@NPS.gov  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 3501 Old Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

I understand from the note I received from a colleague, that, quote...

>There has arisen in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, a large dispute. The Park Service  
 has  
 >a chance (fair to middling) at expanding it's boundaries to include another  
 >50+ acres. This property includes some of the most important sites of the  
 >battlefield, including land fought upon by Maney's and Vaughn's men in grey.

If this is true, I would strongly encourage the Park Service to acquire  
 this land for the nation's future use and enjoyment. I understand that if the  
 land  
 is not acquired by the Park Service, it may be developed commercially. I hope  
 that you can act to prevent commercial development of this historically  
 important  
 property.

Thank you in advance for your careful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Ray W. James  
 Sgt Ross Corp 1457  
 Sons of Confederate Veterans

-----  
 Ray W. James, P.E., Ph.D.  
 [REDACTED]  
 -----

## COMMENTS

July 17, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Superintendent:

As immediate past president of The Friends of Stones River National Battlefield, I would like to strongly urge the adoption of Alternative I of the Draft General Management Plan.

As a life-long citizen of Murfreesboro, I feel we have a tremendous resource right in our own backyard, but regrettably, one that has sometimes been taken for granted and never been given the conscientious appreciation it deserves. The battlefield is fragmented, very difficult to interpret, and falls short in comparison to Shiloh or Gettysburg. So much of core battlefield land has been lost that it is impossible for a visitor to fully comprehend the magnitude of 83,000 troops within the present park boundary. Rutherford County is one of the fastest developing areas of both the state and the nation. Our population has doubled since 1975 and estimates are that it will double again by the year 2020. Our heritage resources are a vital part of what makes this county a great place to live, work, and play. These resources must be preserved for future generations if we are to maintain the identity and character of our community.

As the descendant of a Confederate soldier, I feel the additional lands would present an opportunity for better interpretation from the Southern perspective, providing visitors the chance to more fully understand the discontent of Bragg's troops before and after the battle. It would even help to set the stage for the Tullahoma Campaign. Further, it would provide a better viewpoint of what happened to the town and the tremendous impact the Battle of Stones River had upon the citizens of Murfreesboro for many years to come.

As secretary of the Rutherford County Tourism Council, I feel the additional revenue which could result from visitors having the opportunity for an extended tour of Stones River National Battlefield would greatly benefit the community. I feel that not only would new visitors be attracted to the battlefield, but previous ones, both near and far, would want to return for a better and more meaningful interpretation of the Battle of Stones River.

I commend you, your staff, and the Planning Team for your efforts. I sincerely hope this opportunity can be utilized to the fullest possible extent.

Sincerely,

*Shirley Marie Jones*  
Shirley Marie Jones

COMMENTS

Sept. 5, 1947

Dear Mr. Beckham,

This letter is in support of  
Proposal I or Proposal A in  
regards to Stone River Nat'l.  
Park. I hope you are  
able to obtain the extra  
acres for preservation of history  
etc.

Sincerely,  
Marion Kane MD



## COMMENTS

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
1301 Old Nashville Highway  
Marionboro, TN 37129

Bruce R. Kappel

August 6, 1997

Dear Ms. Peckham,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed plan for the Stones River National Battlefield. Except for the possible land acquisition costs, the plan was well done. One issue has arisen (city parking lot congestion near McFadden Ford / Greenway entrance) will need to be reconsidered.

I have a deep appreciation for the battlefield and the historical significance of Marionboro. I understand the scope of the battle, its significance and know of the development on the battlefield area. I tell my sons when we are in the battlefield area (even at Sam's Club) and what happened in the area as we drive around town. We visited the national cemetery on Memorial Day. I love history, and would love to see the park boundaries expanded.

While I support what proposal I want to do (there may be some smaller issues), I object with the process for acquiring the land.

It was apparent from the meeting at the battlefield, few people understood the process for acquiring land. This should have been made clear at the beginning. Although I am unacquainted with how government obtains land, this is what I heard at the meeting:

1. If NPS would like to obtain land in the future, a bill must be passed through Congress requesting expansion of the Park boundaries.
2. The Park boundaries may include land under NPS stewardship or under private ownership.
3. NPS may only procure private land when included inside the park boundary.
4. NPS may not choose to procure private land inside the park boundary.
5. Private owners may sell their land to others within the Park boundary.
6. Private owners may make improvements to their land.
7. NPS has an arsenal of options open to them for land procurement including "eminent domain", overriding national interest and condemnation (NPS states these are last ditch efforts).
8. NPS bids are dependent upon appraisals at the time of acquisition interest. Appraisals are dependent upon Interior Dept. (or similar agency) appraisal services. Other local appraisal services may be employed?

Our country is unique since the Federal Government is managed through the consent of the citizens. Private property and property rights is considered as important (or more important) than Federal Government wants. Our forefathers left countries where land ownership was under government or aristocracy control. Seizure should only occur under the most dire circumstances (such as war). Expanding the governmental boundary (while currently lawful) is one weapon in the Federal arsenal for pressuring private citizens to surrender their land. I believe the procedure was developed so Congress could control money, but the unintended consequence is that it hinges upon private landowners pursuit of their interests, since the boundary expansion makes the land undesirable to other private citizens for purchase. The Interior Department should compete in the same marketplace as the private citizens and companies. The recent (and shameful) reclassification of land in Utah is an example of a government not working with the consent of the affected citizens. I am dead set against acquiring land under the

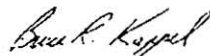
present process. Although NPS may have the best intentions at Stones River National Battlefield, the process is threatening.

NPS (and Interior Dept.) procedures should be changed.

1. The trigger should not be the park boundaries, but whether the NPS has a long range plan for land acquisition.
2. Monies should be allocated for land acquisition with NPS determining which projects are most important. Financial accountability can be added as present, ensuring acquisition funds are allocated for that purpose. The fiscal cycle may need to be longer to ensure projects can be completed.
3. NPS should compete in the marketplace equally with private concerns in trying to acquire land.
4. Park boundaries are adjusted only after or concurrent with land acquisition. Plan implementation and moves to reconstruct and maintain the land can then be linked with the boundary expansion.
5. NPS should be represented to help stop land from being destroyed (examples include quarries and land fills).

If changing the land acquisition process requires an act of Congress, then so be it. I believe NPS needs the flexibility to compete in the marketplace, and become a neighbor rather than a threat.

If you have further questions, please advise.



Bruce R. Kappel

# COMMENTS

[19] From: "Sandy Keathley" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/31/97 8:29PM  
 (1624 bytes, 1 ln)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SPR  
 cc: Senator.Frist@Frist.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET,  
 Senator.Thompson@Thompson.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
 Subject: Murfreesboro Battlefield  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text Item 1: Text Item

Mary Ann Peckham  
 Superintendent  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 Murfreesboro, Tenn

Dear Ms. Peckham,

Please add my name to the multitudes who are in support of your plan to acquire an additional 50 acres of land at the Battlefield at Murfreesboro. I am hardly a shill for the Park Service, as I have been very critical of the NPS in other matters, but on this issue we can agree. While I am a proponent of property rights, my understanding is that if the NPS does not acquire this property, which has historic significance in relation to the Battle of Murfreesboro, it will be bought by a developer and turned into a strip mall. AARRGG!! Surely no reasoning person (but a developer) can see the sense in this.

I solidly support your efforts to save history for the future, and to maintain the Murfreesboro Battlefield.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sandy Keathley  
 [REDACTED]

Prof of Music  
 Richland College  
 Dallas, TX

Adjutant  
 Wm H.L. Wells Camp #1588  
 Sons of Confederate Veterans  
 Plano, TX

[REDACTED]  
 Mary Ann Peckham, Super.intendent  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 3501 Old Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Mary Ann Peckham,

I am writing concerning the Stones River National Battle Field's proposed expansion. I am not in favor of Alternative 1 which would displace many homeowners. I believe that Alternative 3 is the best alternative. Although I have a background in historic preservation, I do not believe the expansion would be significant enough in the preservation process to warrant the expense to taxpayers and the displacement of homeowners. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Joseph L. + Melinda D. Keating*

Joseph and Melinda Keating

# COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Dear Superintendent:

I visited the Stones River site on Labor Day, while en route to Chicago after spending all of the previous Saturday at Chickamauga NHP and most of that Sunday afternoon at the Chattanooga sites (including Knob Hill, Missionary Ridge, and Lookout Mountain). My trip to Chickamauga was planned back in April following a second such trip to Shiloh NHP. Shiloh's remoteness, natural beauty, and historical intactness, coupled with the field's pristine condition had a great effect on my friend and I. I will never forget "padding" out the length of the Peach Orchard, nor locating the Union artillery positions near Shiloh Church in a very heavy down pour.

I went to Chickamauga, then, wanting to learn and experience more of the Civil War, but also expecting less. However, I was surprised by Chickamauga. The field was equally broad as Shiloh, equally accessible, and equally filled with photographable vistas. Viewing Kelly Field at 8 a.m. with the sun just up and a heavy mist was memorable.

I mention these experiences to highlight my personal interest in Civil War sites. My stop at Stones River was unplanned and only lasted an hour. I visited the Hazen memorial and the Visitor's Center. I did not realize the great significance of the battle until I read General Do Better Place To Die. Now I would like to return. lover!

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*Max Kuwecklein*



Concerning your management plan, by all means enlarge the park. The value of the experience is greatly affected by the extent of the grounds. As a tax payer I realize funds are at a premium but the establishment of the Stones River site is significantly large enough to remember the battle is an aid with various benefits. The exciting part is that it can happen, the land is available, and would greatly increase the value of the Park.

*Max Kuwecklein*



# COMMENTS

## VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY



NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37240

TELEPHONE: (615) 427-5100

Department of Psychology • Psychology 427-2874  
Fax phone 427-5447

September 11, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

I am writing to voice my support for Alternative 1 of the Draft General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield. This alternative will allow for protection and preservation of rapidly evaporating open space in Rutherford County. Moreover, my reading of Alternative 1 leads me to believe that this plan will also provide the residents of Rutherford County and visitors from all over the world a better sense of what took place here so many years ago. Indeed, the significance of the battle at Stones River cannot fully be understood within the current structure of the Park. In my opinion, Alternative 1 represents a balanced and thorough plan to improve the interpretation of the events that took place at Stones River.

The current growth of Rutherford County is astounding. Unfortunately, much of this expansion appears to be occurring with little consideration of preserving open spaces and historic lands. Alternative 1 is timely in this climate of growth and development, there may never be another opportunity to protect this precious land. I urge you to proceed with Alternative 1.

Sincerely,

Ann M. Kring, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Psychology

[11] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/12/97 7:28PM (1788 bytes: 1 ln)  
To: SRRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Pwd. Expansion of Stones River Battlefield  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1. Text Item.

-----  
Forwarded message:

Subj: Expansion of Stones River Battlefield  
Date: 97-09-12 14:13:18 EDT  
From: GailPL  
To: strri\_administration@npa.gov

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas M. Lane, Jr.  
[REDACTED]

Sept. 12, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

We want to be put on record as opposing expansion of park boundaries as proposed in alternative 1 in the Park Service's draft general management plan. We have yet to be convinced that the Park needs to be expanded.

Furthermore, we find the methods used by the Park Service to acquire land absolutely unconscionable and are firmly convinced that these methods must be changed.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Lane, Jr.

Gail Pytkas Lane

Kathryn Doris Lane

## COMMENTS

[18] From: Carl Lehnberg Jr [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9  
/1/97 12:55AM (1259 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Additional land at Stones River  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

August 31, 1997

Mr Peckham

I received an E-Mail from Commander Turner, Commander, Tennessee Division SCV about the possibility of acquiring 50+ acres on the battlefield. Go for it!!!

We don't need any more strip malls in Texas or Tennessee. Commercialism is taking over and I don't care for it. These greedy developers are what they are--greedy developers. They don't care about the history of the state and how thousands of people can come to your fine state and learn about what happened at Murfreesboro. They want to build "strip malls."

What a wonderful thing to tell your children that their GG Grandfather was killed defending the South right over there under the "Golden Arches" or the parking lot of the "Whataburger." There are enough of these places in other areas and don't need to be built out by a famous battleground.

God Bless You,

Carl Lehnberg

Commander, Texas Division  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

[16] From: "Gary R. Leopold" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/31/97 6:15PM (6  
43 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Preservation of Stones River Battlefield  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Superintendant Peckham,

Best wishes in your efforts to acquire additional acreage to the Stones River National Battlefield Park.

As modern growth continues, it is important to preserve those sites so critical to our heritage - otherwise, we lose our own identity in the process.

Gary R. Leopold  
MAJ(ret), US Army

## COMMENTS

September 5, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

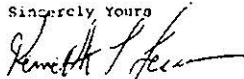
Dear Ms. Peckham:

The Battle of Stones River was an important battle fought between the Army of the Tennessee, and the later named Army of the Cumberland, during the American Civil War. This battle produced some of the highest casualty rates of the war. It is interesting that both army commanders had the same battle plan. Other than at the battle of Shiloh, there was no other greater massing of artillery, than there was here.

It is a National shame, that no more than 17% of the original Stones River Battlefield is under the National Battlefield's boundary. Rutherford County is rapidly expanding. The development of land within the original battlefield is at a rapid pace. If something is not done soon, a national treasure may be lost forever.

We as a people of the United States have a duty to protect our national heritage and the sacred ground on which these two armies so desperately fought and died on. For this reason, and many others, I am extremely in favor of the National Park Service proposed action, alternative 1. Not only would this increase tourist dollars for Rutherford County, but it would save what is left of the original battlefield for our future generations.

Sincerely Yours



Kenneth C. Lewis

P.S. Please add me to your mailing list.

## COMMENTS

June 28, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Administrator  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

I am John M. Long and I live at 2676 Manson Pike, which is on the middle of the battlefield but outside the current and proposed boundaries of the Stones River National Battlefield.

I have read the draft plan for the expansion of the National Park land in order to enhance the ability of the park to describe what happened during the battle. It is a very good plan. I support it and sincerely hope it will be implemented. In addition to enhancing the experience of park visitors it has potential for a tremendous positive longterm economic impact on Murfreesboro and Rutherford county. It can be and should be a national historical treasure.

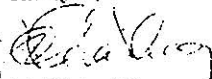
Unfortunately, the process used by the Park Service and Federal government is far too cumbersome and lengthy to accommodate the current political and economic realities in Murfreesboro and Rutherford County. Since you announced your intentions about three years ago, the value of the land you wish to acquire south of Manson Pike has increased several times and its value probably has not yet peaked. At the rate you are moving, the land could easily be developed or priced higher than you are willing to pay by the time you are ready to acquire it.

If you are serious about acquiring this land, and I certainly hope you are, you need to quickly find the money and negotiate in good faith to purchase this property.

Obviously, the Federal government itself cannot do this. However, since this is another National treasure about to be forever lost, some national charitable trust needs to come forward to help out. I am confident that you will have no problem getting Congress to allow you to accept the land thus purchased.

As I listened to the land owners and developers at the public hearing I concluded that they are willing to sell. Their concerns and (1) that you will tie up their land for many years and (2) that the government will not pay them a fair price. These are legitimate concerns.

Best Regards,

  
John M. Long, EdD

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

##### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

My friends and I are currently touring sites in the Civil War Western Theatre and were surprised at how small the size of the park was, given the area covered by the battle itself. Stones River is not given the prominence it deserves compared to other battles - given its timing, a Confederate victory could have had far-reaching consequences. In this context, I think that it is important to incorporate additional land into the park to illuminate the Confederate left-wing movement early on the first day of the battle.

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

RODERICK MACBETH



# COMMENTS

F64 c Macon

September 9, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37219

Dear Ms. Peckham:

I would like to take this opportunity to voice my support for the Stones River National Battlefield boundary expansion proposal outlined as Alternative I in the Draft General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan, dated April 1997. Pursuant to the need to give visitors a better understanding of the battle at Stones River and to protect historically significant acreage from commercial development, Alternative I is the only viable option.

As a small child I traveled through Murfreesboro on a regular basis en route to Nashville to receive medical treatment. Being from a rural area in South East Tennessee, I was very impressed with Murfreesboro due to three reasons. The college, the roadside park on state highway 41 and the battlefield. Things have certainly changed since those childhood days. Middle Tennessee State is now a major university, the roadside park became a victim to the I-840 project and the area surrounding the Stones River National Battlefield is being threatened by Rutherford County's phenomenal growth.

I now live near Murfreesboro, and my home is located only two miles from the battlefield. This time last year my daughter and I watched cows grazing in the pasture adjacent to our home. That pasture has been developed into a subdivision filled with houses, and we now gaze upon our neighbors' back yard. I fear the same fate for the Stones River National Battlefield.

I can commiserate with the concerns expressed by the land owners that would be affected by the Alternative I proposal, because I have experienced family property being consumed by a Tennessee Valley Authority project. But, I feel a parcel of land becomes a "national treasure" if an event significant in the development of our country and our "national personality" occurred on that land. The historically significant acreage currently not within the boundary of the Stones River National Battlefield is a "national treasure", and our country will suffer a significant loss if it is not protected from the sure fate of commercial development.

Please feel free to call me at home (890-9420) or at work (287-3393) if there is anything I can do to help communicate the importance of Alternative I.

Sincerely,



Eddie Macon

cc: Rep. Bart Gordon

[20] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/31/97 9:21PM (762 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
cc: Bart@hr.house.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Thompson@thompson.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Frist@frist.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
Subject: Stones River National Battlefield  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Ms. Peckham,

I would like to voice my support of the Park Service's plan to expand and save the 50 acres of battleground in the path of development in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. To lose this part of history would be a sad thing indeed.

Steve Manning

[REDACTED]

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

I have read with interest the ambitious plans for physical expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield. While improvements to the current park are quite necessary, I find the idea of massive acquiring of acreage to be in error. The possibility that tax money could be spent on this acquisition at a time when the nation is attempting to achieve a balanced budget is not acceptable. When our Parks, military, and social programs are suffering for financial support, I think that funds would be much better spent in other areas. Even worse than the spending of tax money would be the confiscation of private land without proper compensation for the owners for their land and for their displacement.

While commemorating our history is important, the current park is more than a sufficient memorial to this particular time in our history. Let us obtain the federal money for improving our Park, but increasing its size is not the answer.

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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## INTERSTATE REPORTS

2 SEP 97

Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Military Park  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Mr. Peckham:

As a native of Nashville, I have believed the Battle of Nashville was very similar to Shiloh, and indeed the park was more like Shiloh. In both battles the armies were of similar size and suffered similar casualties. Both were the last battles fought by Confederate troops. In both battles, the U.S. Army was heavily outnumbered. In both battles, the Confederates stood behind their artillery in either position. In both battles, the defeat could well have resulted in the liberation of Nashville.

Mr. Peckham recently called Thomas Cartright of the Carter House and asked for words of support. As a member of the Battle of Nashville Foundation, I was happy to give him. The sense of urgency is apparent. Rutherford County is one of the fastest growing in the state. This is a last chance opportunity. As a member of the General Joseph G. Johnston Club of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, I would like to say that our time might do to help show support. Call me this week if you wish.

Sincerely,

*Ross M. M. M.*

Ross M. M. M.

P.S. — support for "alternative one"

\_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTS

[13] From: [REDACTED] (Troy Massey) at NP--INTERNET 9/1/97 12:47PM (1080 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STN: Administration at NP--SER  
cc: Senator Thompson@thompson.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
Subject: Battle of Murfreesboro land acquisition  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Supt. Pechham:

As Commander General of the Military Order of Stars and Bars, who are descendants of the Confederate Officer Corps and Confederate Cabinet, I encourage you to continue in your struggle to acquire the adjacent park land for future preservation purposes. We must secure property that is historical important in the interpretation of our history during the War Between The States.

If we do not obtain such tracts, such as this 50 acres now, it will be forever lost. Too many gallant men gave their lives to the Cause for which they fought and believed in.

I urge you to continue to purchase this precious land.

Thanks!

J. Troy Massey  
Commander General, Military Order of Stars and Bars

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

While I support most of the Park's objectives, I strongly object to the use of any private land for Park purposes. I do not think that this is an appropriate use for federal tax money, and I object even stronger to the federal use of private land without proper compensation. I also do not think that this is a project of such overwhelming benefit that public condemnation of the land is in order. The current land within the park is more than adequate for commemoration and study of the battle. Making some improvements as described under alternative three in the "general management plan" would be helpful, and I would support this. I also would object if our park were to fall victim to federal budget shortages and be marked for closure.

Hopefully common sense both fiscally and regarding citizens' rights will prevail and alternative three will be implemented.  
Please, don't forget to sign by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Pechham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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## COMMENTS

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Having seen some of the publicity about plans for expansion of the Stones River Battlefield, I must write to say that while I think that the battlefield is a worthwhile facility, I am very much opposed to any physical expansion of the park. To tie up more land in that park would serve little to no practical purpose, and cannot be considered to be in the best interest of the people of this county. Further, I am staunchly opposed to the confiscation of land, especially without the obligation of the Park Service to pay fair market value to the owners. Certainly my own house could be the next victim. Similarly, I am just as staunchly opposed to using my tax money to pay for this, as this land seems to be quite valuable in today's market.

Consequently, I favor what I understand is your alternative three, which does not expand the boundaries, but does provide for some improvements to the park.

*Denise McClintock*

Please send comments by August 22, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

[23] From: "Mt. Zion Bible Institute and Seminary" [REDACTED] at  
NP--INTERNET 9/1/97 11:39AM 1666 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Stones River Nat'l Battlefield  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Mr. Peckham:

Please let me express my support for the preservation of our national heritage at Stones River National Battlefield. It would be a crime against our forefathers and against our posterity to scavenge a part of our history for the short term profit of a few.

Please, let us preserve our heritage.

Sincerely,

Kevin McClintock

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

This is to inform you that my wife and I are deeply opposed to the expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield as outlined in your Alternative One.

I have been retired for five years, and we bought our present home at 2119 Main Ave about two years ago. We were looking forward to retirement, particularly knowing that no one would be building to the north of us due to the presence of the battlefield. That property is located in the vicinity known as Harding Place, and it would appear that you have plans to acquire the easement as well as a number of acres around it. Our concern due to the loss of free parking and possible difficulty in choice and pricing we would experience under the "crisis" of the battlefield when the time comes to sell our place and move on. Your track record in terms of acquiring and reimbursing property owners seems questionable, i.e., the Miller property on Thompson's. We have no interest and no desire to find ourselves in the middle of a "forced sale" with little hope of recovering our investment in this home where that would occur.

Your interest in preserving a piece of Civil War history is commendable. I served 21 years as an officer in the U.S. Army, and my patriotism is not to be belittled. Obviously you seem to be a little late in your plan to expand. This should have occurred 25 or 30 years ago when there was no "Harding Place" and you would buy all the land you wanted. Now, you must make do with what you have, and expend your limited funds in improving the facility you have. As you state in your letter, there is always a creek to do. Please do that and leave the rest of your neighbors in peace.

In case there is any doubt, we support Alternative Three, to make your improvements within your correct boundaries.

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Randy McCarty



I have submitted a check for \$20 - to cover membership dues for myself and for Lisa. To save on postage all correspondence can be sent to the above address for both of us. Also I would like to get our notes in for alternative 1 of the plan. We are not sure if you have the list, it will be for possible future consideration.

RJ 7/28/97

Edna B. McEllany  
EXHIBIT MACTUNG

Samuel L. McEllany  
EXHIBIT MACTUNG

## COMMENTS

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

##### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

My wife and I would like to give our support to the action of alt 1. I feel that the park needs to expand its boundary as much as possible to protect the area from over development. I wouldn't want to see people lost taken from their land but an all out effort should be made to convince land owners of the need to keep as much land protected as unchanged as possible. Once it is developed it is then lost to all future generations as the memory of those who fought there becomes <sup>blurred</sup> ~~lost~~ and forgotten. That would be a great loss.

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

##### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

I like both alt #1-2, not three

THE ACTION FOUR DEFINITELY NEEDS REVISID

WHAT EVER THE OUT COME, KEEP UP THE

GOOD WORK.

William R M Evers

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

WILLIAM R M EVERS  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTS

Faye Ward McKnight

August 19, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Ms Peckham,

Concerning the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield, I am vehemently opposed to Alternative 1 in its entirety. In my opinion the boundaries of the Stones River Battlefield are adequate and do not need to be enlarged to include any more Rutherford County land. As a frequent visitor to historical monuments and places, I have never felt bigger is better when it comes to the presentation of historical facts. The Stones River Battlefield is large enough, and I see no sound reasoning to expand the boundaries.

In a time of downsizing and balancing the national budget, I fail to see the logic of increasing the size of the battlefield and placing more burden on American tax payers. We owe this prudence to future generations.

Sincerely,

*Faye W. McKnight*

Faye Ward McKnight

[13] From: "DeDe Heck" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/2/97 8:07AM (758  
bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Battlefield

----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text item

Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham,  
Madam, allow me to voice my support for the Park Service. If we allow those  
with the resources to continually ravage our land, who actually looses? We  
all do. There are many more individuals out in this great land of ours,  
that would rather see an expanded park, instead of strip malls, or housing  
developments. Please feel free to contact me if the need arises.

Regards  
Glenn L. Heck

[REDACTED]

## COMMENTS

July 18, 1997

Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

First, I wish to congratulate you and your staff for one of the best General Management Plans that I have ever reviewed. It is outstanding.

During the last twenty years I have presented numerous talks on battlefield preservation. Stones River is my "horrible example" of the desecration of the sacred soil of the great Civil War battlefields. It is a tragic example of the failure to react to commercial and residential development that quickly destroyed the heart of the battlefield and left it a maimed shadow of what it was. I have in my file numerous slides showing the tacky commercial development along US 41, the cement plant looming over the Hazen Monument, drive in theater, factory, stone quarry at the site of Rosecrank's headquarters, McFadden's Ford area used as a land fill, and on and on. That only about one eighth of the battlefield has been preserved is a national disgrace and must be corrected.

I endorse Alternative I. It is the only Alternative that is acceptable. It tries to salvage something of an impossible condition. It is probably the most that can be done at this time. What is left of the battlefield must be preserved and restored. This Alternative will enable the Park Service to provide a much better experience for the visitor. With only about one eighth of the battlefield in the park, the present tour route is a farce.

I have one criticism of Alternative I: it does not go far enough. The most terrible intrusion on the battlefield is US 41 and its shabby commercial development, plus the industrial park east of the highway. This is some of the most hallowed ground in America, and is the very heart of the battlefield. The result is both visual and auditory intrusion on, not only the battlefield, but the National Cemetery. How ironic the words on the tablets along the drive way through the cemetery, "Glory guards with solemn round the bivouac of the dead." Hardly! I realize that present use makes acquisition of this property an unrealistic goal at this time. Future plans must confront this problem. As long as this commercial and industrial development remains, Stones River Battlefield will be rated as poor.

I strongly endorse:

1. Working cooperatively with local citizens, business and government in developing a consensus that is compatible with Park Service's objectives. Local interests must not subordinate the national interest.

2. Restoration of the battlefield to its 1860s appearance. This is vital in providing the visitor with a quality experience.

3. Curbing visitor use that is incompatible with the preservation of the battlefield and proper interpretation.

4. The Auto Tour Route. It is logical and designed to aid the visitor in gaining an understanding of the tragic events that occurred here.

To those who oppose expansion in the name of Mannon, I ask them to explain the shoddy commercial and industrial development and more suburbia to the ghosts of the men who fought and died on that ground. Dan Rather in a CBS news telecast, declared that the site of the Federal Building at Oklahoma City where 167 (?) died, "Hallowed ground". This area has been made into a memorial to those who died there. NO ONE ever suggested that another commercial building be built on the site. Yes, that is hallowed ground, and certainly the ground where over 3,000 Confederate and Union men died is hallowed. Tacky commercial, industrial, and residential development of this sacred soil is obscene.

I wish you success in the implementation of Alternative I.

*Robert W. Heinhard*  
Robert W. Heinhard  
Professor of History Emeritus, Winona State University  
and  
Chairman for Battlefield Preservation  
Civil War Round Table Associates  
544 Glenview Drive, Route 2  
Winona, MN 55987-4164



# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

I support alternative #1, but I have a concern about alternatives #2 and 3.

Under the topic "INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR USE" one of the Alternative

1 proposal is to

Expand the Chicago Board of Trade Armory Battery outdoor exhibit

to include all the elements of a complete battery

Alternative 2 only adds one gun and limber to the display and Alternative 3 says no change

The Chicago Board of Trade Battery site is already within the authorized boundary of the National Park Service and will soon be acquired (if not already). Why should the Alternative 1 plan for this site be tied in with land acquisition south of Manson Pike? If the Chicago Board of Trade site is historically important, interpret it fully in Alternative 2 and 3 also. don't hold it hostage to land acquisition elsewhere. I first heard of plans to put six guns at the Chicago Board of Trade site in 1984 and 13 years later I still believe it is a great idea. If it is worth doing, commit to it 100%.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Richard A. Miller

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

July 10, 1997

Sirs:

I would like to voice opposition to the General Management Plan Draft (Alternative 1) submitted for Stones River National Battlefield in 1997. This plan is a ploy by the Battlefield to control very valuable private property by taking 756 acres into the "Official Boundary" of the Park.

The recent history of Park Management under Mary Ann Peckham supports this allegation. In 1989 and 1991 Congress passed legislation authorizing expansion of the Park by 300 acres. Over the next eight years they have only had appropriations to purchase 100 acres. The other 200 acres of privately owned property are still within the "Official Boundary" of the Park, i.e. under the cloud of Park expansion. This cloud damages the sale of this property, thusly the private property owner.

If the Park has not been able to get appropriations for the 200 acres of private property already under the "Official Boundary", it is logical that Congress is not going to fund the purchase of 756 additional acres. Therefore, this new property should not be placed under this controlling cloud. It is obviously Park leadership's attempt to control the development of this property without the ability to purchase it.

This is typical of Mrs. Peckham's management approach. She also uses political pressure and deceit to attain her goals for the Park. She exerts political pressure routinely on the mayor's office and the City Planning Commission. She routinely deceives the voting public with untrue or exaggerated facts. An example of this is that it was printed in the Dally News Journal that this Management Plan would only cost \$6 million plus. It was not disclosed that this figure did not include the estimated \$30-40 million necessary for land acquisition.

I feel that the Park Service's attack upon private property owner's rights are so serious that our United States Congress should launch an investigation into their procedures and practices of controlling private property.

Sincerely,

*Ray Miller*

cc Fred Thompson  
Bill Frist  
Van Hultey  
Bart Gordon

September 9, 1977

In response to the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1)

My parents grew up where your corn or animal feed is growing now. It seems that back then it was stated that properties bought would bring more tourists. Who besides the "tourists" who want to re-enact and romanticize the horrors of the Civil War by showing how a musket was used to kill another human being?

The Federal government has not made public its seriousness of acquiring our land. This is one of the reasons I am writing my Congressman and Senator stating to them to not approve taxpayer dollars for an ambitious Mary Ann Peckham and Associates greed. I do not plan to sell my property under the threat of eminent domain.

Percy W. Miller, Jr.

Mrs. Mary Ann Peckham.  
 or who ever this may concern, I have no interest  
 in selling my property to the party. my Great  
 Grand Father handed this place down to each  
 Generation; For making a lining as such it would  
 provide; my Great Grand Father fought in the Civil  
 War too, for a better country. how would you all like  
 for this to be done to you? living here all your life  
 than one day you find out you would have to move  
 to some strange place. This has been done, to my  
 husband & his mother's family, Throat Lown from Mr  
 Miller, they had to move with no place to go, they left  
 all that big farm where you all are letting some one  
 plant corn - Hay, & Cotton Fields they never got paid  
 for their place; it hardly paid for another one,  
 you would have all the trouble, matters, contract, Administration,  
 Baby, just you need if you would stop letting people  
 farm the parties not beautiful, you can't keep up  
 what you got why would you want more hand is that what  
 you are going to do with all this hand of ours; do our  
 Congressmen know about this, I see trusts & packs of  
 Hay, grain, by the train from the party, they are the same  
 not the same, but the same, but the same, but the same,  
 do to speak, better for it, but the same, it is more money  
 75 for the same, but the same, but the same, but the same,  
 and you all are trying to make her again, but the same  
 where further to go out where she is, and the going to the  
 Lincoln Electric, but the same, but the same, but the same,  
 it is the same, but the same, but the same, but the same,  
 that, to keep the people, but the same, but the same, but the same,  
 was in our hands, how would you feel?

המחבר: ד"ר יצחק שניידר



# COMMENTS

August 31, 1997

Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Sirs:

I wish to express my support for alternative #1 as described in the summary of the Draft General Management Plan / Development Concept Plan / Environmental Impact Statement for Stones River National Battlefield. I believe this alternative will significantly improve the park visitor's battlefield experience. It will result in a better understanding of the crucial first hours of the battle.

On a personal level, my great-great-grandfather, PVT J.M.G. Taylor was a member of the 41st Mississippi CSA, which took part in the assaults on the Round Forest. Therefore the preservation and proper management of Stones River Battlefield is of extreme importance and interest to me.

Sincerely,

*Randall B. Morris*

Randall B. Morris

Charles L. Hargrett, M.D., Ph.D.

740.426.0300 x.2112  
Tomball, TX 77375

Telephone: 713.271.0001  
Fax: 713.271.0101

**COWLES**

Historical Services

History Group

October 9, 1997

Mary Ann Pockham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Pockham:

I'm sorry to be writing you so tardily about the Summary of Alternatives you sent me recently concerning the proposed enlargement of Stones River National Battlefield. I hope I'm not too late to add my voice to those supporting your plan. As someone who has written biographies of two major historical figures—Phil Sheridan and Ambrose Bierce—whose lives were changed forever by their service at Stones River, I wholeheartedly concur with your assessment of the battle's important, if not indeed pivotal, role in the Civil War in the west. Moreover, I agree that it is vital to maintain a non-distracting environment to enable park visitors to experience, at least vicariously, some sense of the field at the time of the battle. I know from sad experience that Gettysburg suffers from just such a lack of distinctive atmosphere. At the site of Pickett's Charge, arguably the most solemn and sacred of all Civil War locations, one can see all too clearly the commercial development encroaching upon the battlefield on all sides—at a cost of what might be called the "historical imagination." Hopefully your plan, as outlined in Alternative One, will alleviate some of the same encroachment at Stones River.

Living as I do in Chattanooga, with ready access to Chickamauga National Military Park, I've been spoiled perhaps by that park's size and Civil War-era topography. Certainly, the founders at Chickamauga were fortunate in that their battle site was located in largely undeveloped countryside. Stones River, of course, is not as fortunate, but your far-sighted and historically sensitive plan would go a long way toward preserving and enriching the Civil War experience in Middle Tennessee. I wish you much success with your efforts.

Sincerely,

*R. Morris Jr.*

Roy Morris Jr.

Editor, *America's Civil War*

Author, *Sheridan: The Life and Wars of General Phil Sheridan and Ambrose Bierce: Alone in Bad Company*

# COMMENTS

[25] From: [REDACTED] (Steve Murphree) at NP--INTERNET 9/11/97 10:36P  
M (1784 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: general management plan, stonewall river national battleficld  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Mr. Peckham,  
As 1997-98 Commander of Murfreesboro Camp #33 (Nathan Bedford Forrest) of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, I want to express my personal support for Alternate One. I feel that this alternate is the best option for Stonewall National Battlefield since it proposes that important battlefield areas be annexed to the current property. Although there has been resistance from some landowners and other concerned citizens to Alternative One, I feel that, in the long run, this action is justified. On behalf of the members of our SCV camp, I express appreciation to your chief ranger, Gib Backlund, who presented an informative program about the 3 alternatives at our July meeting. I apologize for submitting this "at the last minute" and would like to have been more involved in your park's activities in recent months. You may recall my presentation about insects and disease in the Civil War at a Friends of S.R.N.B. meeting.

Best regards,  
Steve Murphree

Steve, Kay, Steven, Melissa and Daniel Murphree

Biology Department  
Belmont University  
1900 Belmont Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37212-3757  
(615) 460-6221  
FAX (615) 460-5458

## DRAFT GMP RESPONSES

In person ☒ Telephone ☒ E-Mail ☐ Date 6-24-97 Time 4:30 PM  
Name KAREN NICHOLS Telephone Number 898-0302

## COMMENTS

(Lyn May)  
sent purchased Caldwell property (25+ acres) @  
2647 Mammoth Pike. Caldwell had brought her the  
GMP and she wanted to know what it was all about.  
Indicated she will come to Thurs. afternoon  
meeting for about an hour.

*Joe*

NOTE: LANDOWNER INFO  
CHANGE

## NPS-REMARKS

Explained idea of proposal and basic CA procedures.  
Mentioned logging/road sales to date except for 1 - explained.  
Briefly "complaint of combustion"  
Encouraged her to come to meeting for ~~info~~  
or call if she had any questions.

Recording Employee

*WMP*

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

# COMMENTS

RECENTLY I PURCHASED A PROPERTY ON MANSON PIKE, RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR EXPANSION TO STONES RIVER, AREA 1. AFTER ATTENDING THE MEETING WITH THE PARK PERSONAL, I FEEL THAT PLAN TWO OR THREE IS THE ONLY FEASIBLE WAY TO PROCEED, GIVEN THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS IN OUR ECONOMY. THE PARKS SERVICE HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN THE FUNDS TO PURCHASE ALL OF THE LAND IN THE 91 EXPANSION. WITH ALL DEMANDS FOR MONEY ON CONGRESS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY, EDUCATION AND THE MILITARY, CONGRESS CAN NOT APPROPRIATE MORE FUNDS FOR PARKS, WHEN OTHER MORE VITAL INTEREST ARE AT STAKE. THEREFORE, WHAT MONEY IS AVAILABLE NEEDS TO BE USED TO ITS BEST ADVANTAGE.

IN PLAN 1 THERE ARE NO PROVISIONS TO UPDATE OR IMPROVE THE VISITORS CENTER. I FEEL THE WHOLE STONES RIVER EXPERIENCE HINGES ON THE VISITORS UNDERSTANDING OF THE THREE DAY BATTLE. A COMPLETE INTRODUCTION WILL ENABLE THE VISITOR TO MENTALLY AS WELL AS EMOTIONALLY EXPERIENCE THE BLOODY BATTLE. SO MUCH MORE SO, THAN A MERE DRIVE OVER PAVED ROADS AND MOWED EMPTY FIELDS.

THERE IS NO NEED WHAT SO EVER FOR MORE LAND ACQUISITION. UPDATING AND IMPROVING STONES RIVER PARK AND ITS VISITOR CENTER WILL FAR BETTER SERVE THE VISITING PUBLIC, THAN MORE LAND BEING HELD IN LIMBO EVER WOULD.

KAREN NICHOLS  
LAND OWNER

*Karen Nichols*

July 26, 1997

James C. Norris, III

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
1501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Regarding Public Comments on Expansion of Stones River Battlefield

Dear Ms. Peckham:

Please see that this statement is officially included in the public comments requested by the National Park Service on the issue of expanding the Stones River Battlefield.

Mayor Jackson is absolutely correct in his concern about how basic services such as providing adequate transportation and utilities along Manson Pike can be provided if the Battlefield is extended. Once this property belongs to the National Park Service, any intrusion for transportation or utilities becomes a nightmare. The Four F permit process should not have to be dealt with, if the County and City are allowed to co-ordinate future needs with the National Park Service prior to expansion.

On a more personal basis, I do not believe the National Park Service has any business expanding any National Park until they have taken care of the back log of improvements and maintenance needs at all National Parks across this country. This would include the Stones River Battlefield.

Sincerely yours,

*James C. Norris, III*  
James C. Norris, III

cc: Mayor Joe Jackson

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

Having read about the proposed changes to the Battlefield, I support alternative three. The Park proposal mentions that increasing the size of the park is necessary for visitors to gain a better understanding of the battle. I would submit that only a very few real "Civil War buffs" are so interested in this battle as to gain any benefit at all from added land. Further, how do we actually know where all the fine point of the battle occurred? Why is the land in question so important? Did the battle not extend over a large part of the city—across the river into what are now well-developed neighborhoods and places of business?

In the "summary of alternatives," the point is made that the battle affected the lives of countless people. Is not the disruption to citizens 140 years ago enough? Do we have to disrupt innocent lives again by taking their land just to show that we can hurt our citizens in peacetime as well as war? I also would take issue with the statement that Stones River significantly changed the course of the war. Though no Civil War scholar, I think that the battle here did not affect the war as much as the Confederate decision to retreat after the battle even though they had not suffered a decisive defeat mandating withdrawal.

To summarize, I would suggest strongly that the Park implement alternative three, providing for improvements to the current land without causing further disruption to the surrounding area.

*James A. Hummer*

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

August 24, 1997

Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Superintendent:

I write in support of Alternative No. 1 of the proposed new General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield.

One hundred and thirty-five years ago, Americans struggled with one another in a contest that threatened to tear the country apart at the seams. The outcome of that all encompassing struggle was decided on the battlefield. The scenes of many of those engagements became nationally significant hallowed ground in understanding the United States's civil conflict. The site of the Battle of Murfreesboro, or for Northerners Stones River, is one such place. "Progress," rapid development, and a lack of foresight has meant much of the Murfreesboro battlefield is now lost to residential, commercial, and industrial change. But, some areas of important fighting remain in a character where the course of that battle can be memorialized and understood. Those areas should be preserved before they too are lost to the largely uncontrolled suburbanization that is now occurring around Murfreesboro. Alternative No. 1 in the proposed General Management Plan is the only alternative that offers this opportunity (I wish it also called for acquisition of the still rural area south of the Widow Burns House where Federal counter attacks absorbed Confederate strength and kept the Southerners from reaching the Nashville Turnpike).

I urge the adoption of the proposed General Management Plan with Alternative No. 1 as the approved alternative. I also hope that, with the approval of the plan, Congress, the National Park Service, Stones River National Battlefield, preservation organizations, and local governments will immediately begin taking steps to make the plan a reality. Preserving and interpreting only a third of the ground of a battle as significant as Murfreesboro is not too much to expect.

Sincerely,

*James Ogden, III*

James Ogden, III

CHATTANOOGA CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

August 24, 1997

Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

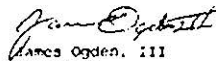
Dear Superintendent Peckham:

At its August meeting on the 19th, the membership of the Chattanooga Civil War Round Table directed that their voices be recognized in support of Alternative No. 1 as proposed in the new General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield. This letter reflects their direction.

The nationally significant battle between American citizens on December 31, 1862 through January 2, 1863 hallowed the ground on which the engagement occurred outside Murfreesboro. Preserving what remains of that battlefield is important for our nation's ability to pass on its rich cultural heritage. Of the three alternatives offered in the proposed General Management Plan, only Alternative No. 1 provides the opportunity to do much toward preserving that significant ground.

The members of the Chattanooga Civil War Round Table urge Stones River National Battlefield and the National Park Service to adopt the General Management Plan with Alternative No. 1 as the approved alternative and to immediately begin to go forward with the implementation of that alternative. We stand ready to support you in that effort.

Sincerely,



James Ogden, III  
President  
Chattanooga Civil War Round Table

## RESPONSE FORM

DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

## STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD


Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

Being a nearby property owner I feel the only alternative that is feasible is Alternative #2. The Battlefield doesn't need to expand their physical boundaries for people to appreciate the history of the battle.

Generation after generation of Native Americans have used the old fashion method of "spoken history" to educate their children and it has been proven to be successful in keeping it alive while losing their homeland. Maybe the Park Service should use an updated audio-visual program to achieve the same results.

I feel that the Park should stay with the boundaries that were established in 1989 and 1991 and they have still not acquired due to lack of funding.

I support Alternative #2.

  
Elgin Oliver, Jr.

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stladministration@nps.gov](mailto:stladministration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

27 AUGUST 97:

Dear Ms. PECKHAM:

My wife and I HAVE BEEN TO YOUR FINE PARK AND GREATLY APPRECIATE ITS PLACE IN OUR HISTORY. WE ARE MOST DEFINITELY IN FAVOR OF THE PARK SERVICE'S ALTERNATIVE #1 AND HOPE THAT IT IS APPROVED.

*William J. Orlund*  
Karen J. Orlund

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*WILLIAM ORLUND JR.*  
[Redacted Address]

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

*Dear the National Park Service -*  
I am writing in support of your efforts to expand and improve the Stones River Battlefield and its visitor services. My best wishes and support in your preservation effort - *Don Parker*

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*TERRI PARKER*  
[Redacted Address]

# COMMENTS

August 26, 1997

Jim Paschall

Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Madam:

I am writing concerning the expansion of the Stones River Battlefield.

I question whether adding to the size of the battlefield, would in any way pay more homage to the men who died there. It most certainly would not, if in the pursuit of such land, personal freedom and private lifestyles were destroyed.

My grandparents farmed some of the land adjacent to the battlefield. I would not like to see any modern development take place, office building, car lots and etc. But you, like myself must question personal motives.

Homage to the men who died there, would be better served with the protection of individual freedom and rights, so many of those men died for. Expansion should occur only with the consent of the present affected land owners.

I visit the park often and intend to do so again.

Sincerely,

*Jim Paschall*  
Jim Paschall

HENRY PATTHEY

SEPTEMBER 8, 1997

MARY ANN PECKHAM  
SUPERINTENDENT  
STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
3501 OLD NASHVILLE HIGHWAY  
MURFREESBORO, TN 37129

DEAR MS. PECKHAM:

I HAVE WAITED TO WRITE TO YOU SO THAT I MIGHT WATCH AND OBSERVE WHAT WOULD TAKE PLACE IN OUR COMMUNITY IN RESPONSE TO THE PUBLICATION OF THE GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN. AFTER HEARING THE ALTERNATIVES, AND WATCHING THE UNSTOPPABLE GROWTH OF MURFREESBORO, I MUST REGISTER MY VOTE FOR ALTERNATIVE PLAN ONE.

DURING THE TWO OPEN MEETINGS THAT I ATTENDED, AND WATCHING THE MOST RECENT MURFREESBORO CITY COUNCIL MEETING, I FELT THAT I WAS WATCHING AND HEARING A CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED RESISTANCE TO ANY PLAN THAT WOULD PREVENT LOCAL LANDOWNERS FROM DOING WHATEVER WITH THEIR PROPERTY. LANDOWNERS, WHOSE PROPERTY IS NOT EVEN PART OF THE PLAN, ARE APPEARING BEFORE LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES TO OBJECT TO "CLOUDS" BEING PLACED OVER THEIR PROPERTY. IT ALSO APPEARS THAT SOME OF WHAT WAS SAID AT THE MEETINGS, AND REPORTED IN THE LOCAL NEWS MEDIA, IS BASED ON MISINFORMATION. I REFER TO THE CONCERNS ABOUT THE ALLEGED ABUSE BY THE PARK SERVICE OF ONE VERY VOCAL LANDOWNER WHOSE PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF THOMPSON LANE AND MANSON PIKE. I CLEARLY REMEMBER THAT THIS MAN'S PROPERTY WAS FOR SALE, WAS OPTIONED BY THE REGIONAL ELECTRIC COOP AND THEN REJECTED AS A SUITABLE SITE. PERHAPS A RESULT OF THE DISCOVERY THAT 2/3 OF IT FLOODS DURING HEAVY RAINS. AGAIN, IN YESTERDAY'S NEWSPAPER REPORT, THE PROPERTY WAS LISTED AS TIED UP BY THE BATTLEFIELD BACK IN 1987. HOWEVER, IT DID NOT EVEN COME INTO THE BOUNDARY UNTIL LATE 1991. I WAS DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT THE PARK SERVICE HAD NOT DONE ANYTHING TO REFUTE THE ALLEGATIONS OF THIS MAN. AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING, THE FACTS WERE PRESENTED ABOUT THIS PROPERTY BY MS. PECKHAM. IT WAS THEN DISHEARTENING TO READ IN THE NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT FOLLOWED, THAT THE LANDOWNER INVOLVED TOLD THE REPORTER AGAIN THAT HE HAD BEEN UNDER THE



## COMMENTS

CONTROL OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SINCE 1987. WORST OF ALL THIS CONTINUES TO BE USED BY THE OTHER LAND OWNERS AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE "BAD" NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO GAIN PUBLIC SYMPATHY. IT ALSO SEEMS TO BE THE BASIS UPON WHICH THE MURFREESBORO CITY COUNCIL ISSUED A RESOLUTION FOR ALTERNATIVE 2.

SINCE THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN, THERE HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF LAND CLEARING OF THE PROPERTIES ALONG THOMPSON LANE, FROM OLD FORT PARKWAY TO MANSON PIKE, FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FOR A BOWLING ALLEY, STORAGE BUILDINGS, A GOLF AND TENNIS SHOP, AND A MOBILE HOME SALES LOT. IT LOOKS TERRIBLE, AND IF THIS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT IS TO HAPPEN ALONG MANSON PIKE AND FURTHER UP THOMPSON LANE, THEN THIS IS ONE VERY CRITICAL REASON WHY THE PROPERTIES REQUESTED FOR INCLUSION WITHIN THE BATTLEFIELD BOUNDARIES, AS OUTLINED IN ALTERNATIVE ONE, NEED TO BE PROTECTED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

THE CITY OF MURFREESBORO HAS VERY LITTLE GREEN SPACE LEFT. IT RECENTLY BECAME CLEAR THAT THE CITY FATHERS HAVE REALIZED THIS, AND HAVE PROPOSED BUYING LANDS ADJACENT TO BATTLEFIELD PROPERTY TO SAVE FOR CITY PARK USE. THEY HAVE MET WITH SIMILAR RESISTANCE FROM LANDOWNERS. THIS SEEMS TO REPRESENT A RUS AMONG LANDOWNERS THAT SELLING TO A DEVELOPER IS GOOD AND TO A GOVERNMENT AGENCY, BAD.

MY GREATEST CONCERN IS THAT THE EXPANSION OF THE BATTLEFIELD BOUNDARIES BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS VERY QUICKLY. IT APPEARS THAT ANY DELAY WILL RESULT IN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE HISTORICALLY VALUABLE PROPERTIES BY CURRENT DEVELOPERS, WHO LOOK ONLY AT THEIR POCKETBOOKS. ONCE THEY HAVE BEEN BULLDOZED, I QUESTION THE VALUE OF THESE FINE PROPERTIES TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.

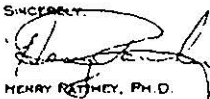
ALTERNATIVE ONE, BESIDES PROTECTING LANDS WHICH REMAIN VERY CLOSE TO THE WAY THEY LOOKED IN THE 1880'S, WILL ALSO ALLOW STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD TO PRESENT THE CONFEDERATE POSITION DURING THE BATTLE IN GREATER DETAIL. HAVING HAD A GREAT-GRANDFATHER WHO FOUGHT HERE IN TENNESSEE FOR THE CONFEDERACY, I FEEL THAT THESE VALIANT SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN NEGLECTED BY CURRENT INTERPRETATIONS BOTH AT STONES RIVER AND AT OTHER BATTLEFIELDS IN TENNESSEE. I ALSO CAME AWAY FROM THE BATTLEFIELD WITH LOTS OF UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW ALL THE DIFFERENT EVENTS OF THE BATTLE ARE RELATED TO EACH OTHER. THE CURRENT BATTLEFIELD IS A NICE PIECE OF PROPERTY TO VISIT AND DRIVE OR WALK THROUGH, BUT FOR SOME ONE NOT DEEP INTO HISTORY, THE MAGNITUDE OF THE EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE HERE ARE LOST. ONLY THROUGH REMEMBERING HOW MANY LOST THEIR LIVES OVER AN IDEOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW, CAN WE GUARD AGAINST LETTING OUR MULTICULTURAL

SOCIETY APPROACH THAT POINT AGAIN. ALL THE THOUSANDS OF HEADSTONES STANDING IN THE STONES RIVER NATIONAL CEMETERY REPRESENT BUT A SMALL FRACTION OF THE FALLEN SOLDIERS FROM THE BATTLE OF STONES RIVER. ONE CAN NOT IMAGINE THE LOSS OF LIFE IF SUCH A BATTLE OF VIEWPOINTS WERE TO EMERGE WITHIN OUR TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SOCIETY.

THOUGH THE FEW LAND OWNERS OF MURFREESBORO AND RUTHERFORD COUNTY HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY VOCAL, THIS IS HARDLY A LOCAL ISSUE. THIS LAND IS A PART OF HISTORY AND REPRESENTS A SPIRIT INDEPENDENCE THAT STILL RESIDES WITHIN THE DIVERSE POPULATION OF THIS NATION. NATIONAL PARKS ARE FOR EVERY CITIZEN AND AS SOMETIMES HAPPENS, THE NEEDS OF THE MANY TRANSCEND THE WISHES OF A FEW.

I, THEREFORE, ENCOURAGE THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO MOVE QUICKLY TO EXTEND THE BATTLEFIELD BOUNDARY AND TO APPROPRIATE MONIES AT THE SAME TIME TO PURCHASE A LARGE PORTION OF THAT LAND IMMEDIATELY. IF CONGRESS DOES NOT MOVE WITH DELIBERATE HASTE ON ALTERNATIVE ONE, THIS VALUABLE JEWEL OF HISTORY WILL SURELY BE LOST TO DEVELOPMENT.

SINCERELY,



HENRY RATTHEY, PH.D.

CC: SENATOR BILL FRIST  
SENATOR FRED THOMPSON  
REPRESENTATIVE VAN HILLEARY  
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN TANNER  
REPRESENTATIVE BOB CLEMENT  
REPRESENTATIVE ED BRYANT  
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR  
REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM L. JENKINS  
REPRESENTATIVE ZACK WAMP  
REPRESENTATIVE BART GORDON  
REPRESENTATIVE HAROLD E. FORD, JR

# COMMENTS

[22] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/31/97 11:55PM (470 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: battlefield

----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Ms. Peckham:

I wanted to express my support for the purchase by the park service of the 50 acres of civil war battlefield currently being threatened by private developers.

Tito Perdue  
Cave Spring, Georgia

[42] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/8/97 10:54PM (1343 bytes: 1 in)

To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
cc: Senator Thompson@Thompson.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET,  
Senator Frist@Frist.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET, Bart@HR.House.gov at NP--INTERNET  
Subject: Proposed Expansion of Stones River (Murfreesboro) National B

----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield Park  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
September 8, 1997

Dear Ms. Peckham:

We of the Arizona Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, would like to express our full support for the proposed expansion of Stones River National Battlefield Park. In an age when all too many of our "sacred places" are lost to development, the acquisition of this tract of over 575 acres will preserve several sites of immense historic importance for future generations to study and enjoy. We strongly endorse this action by the National Park Service, and urge you to "hold the line" against the developers on this issue.

Sincerely,

Robert Perkins  
Arizona Division Commander  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

[REDACTED]

cc: Senator Fred Thompson  
Senator Bill Frist  
Congressman Bart Gordon

# COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

[7] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/12/97 4:03PM (6044 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRE Administration at NP--SRB  
Subject: Proposed Expansion/SRB  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

September 12, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham,

I grew up on Harding Place, in a small subdivision just across the street from Stones River National Battlefield. As a girl, I enjoyed walking the trails and riding my bicycle along the tour. As an adult, I have come to appreciate the relevance of the exhibits. Members of my family fought and died on both sides of the Civil War, and I appreciate the role that the Battlefield plays in preserving history. However, I am AGAINST OPTION 1, the proposed expansion of the park's boundaries.

As an American citizen, I'm both surprised and angered by the procedures used by our government to obtain land that is not for sale. Granted, as a member of a family who may lose their land as a result of the proposed expansion, objectivity is difficult. My grandparents, Tom and Kathryn Lane, are good, honest people who, in their lifetime, already have given land for both roads and churches in the Murfreesboro community. They should not be asked--they should not be forced--to sell their homelands of more than 40 years. However, irrefragable as their character might be, I understand that it is irrelevant to most people evaluating the proposed expansion. For my part, I would like to think that I would be as strongly opposed no matter whose homes were at risk. In brief, my reasons for opposing the expansion are as follows:

- 1) To those who want to enlarge the park as a means of enhancing its educational value, I say the physical boundaries of the park are large enough. One has only to consider the size of America's classrooms to recognize that space is not a prerequisite to learning.
- 2) To those who simply want a larger park, I say that forcibly taking someone's home is not the way to achieve that goal. My grandparents have worked hard for what they have, and they deserve the right to do as they wish with their land. We all enjoy parks and public spaces, but Murfreesboro already is blessed with many. The family farm, on the other hand, increasingly is a rarity in America. In November 1997, I will move home to Murfreesboro with my husband and my two children. My hope has been--and remains--that they will have the opportunity to experience childhood on a farm. Do not take that away from them.
- 3) Finally, I question whether the Stones River National Battlefield is the best place in which to invest available federal funds. America's children need safe public spaces. But, even more so, they need food, clothing, safe neighborhoods, and school books. Preserving the past is important--but ensuring that we meet the basic needs of today's child is even more important.

By chance, I recently read a short story by F. Scott Fitzgerald that was published in 1920. Entitled "The Four Pawns," the story describes the impact that four physical blows had on the life of one Samuel Meredith. Although I hope that you'll someday have an opportunity to read the story in its entirety, it is the events leading up to and following the fourth blow that seem particularly relevant at present. A brief summary: Meredith was sent by his employer, Peter Carnhart, to close a business deal that would result in forced acquisition of land owned by a group of ranchers. During a

conversation with Meredith, a rancher named McIntyre attempts to explain his feelings when faced with the loss of his home of 40 years: "That's my land out there," [McIntyre] said, stretching out his arm, "my land, by God--it's all I got in the world--and ever wanted." He dashed his sleeve across his face, and his tone changed as he turned slowly and faced Samuel. "But I suppose it's got to go when they want it--it's got to go," Meredith's response: "It's business, Mr. McIntyre. It's inside the law." Having contained himself as long as possible, McIntyre "swung from the shoulder quick as lightning and down went Samuel in a heap.... In a half-dozen [Meredith] got up and strode from the room.... The next ten minutes were perhaps the hardest of his life. People talk of the courage of convictions, but in actual life a man's duty to his family may take a rigid course seem a selfish indulgence of his own righteousness. Samuel thought mostly of his family, yet he never really wavered. That jolt had brought him to. When he came back in the room there were a lot of worried faces waiting for him, but he didn't waste any time explaining. 'Gentlemen,' he said, 'Mr. McIntyre has been kind enough to convince me that in this matter you are absolutely right, and the Peter Carnhart interests absolutely wrong. As far as I'm concerned, you can keep your ranches to the rest of your days.'"

One key difference between Mr. McIntyre's situation and that of my grandparents, of course, is that it's the U.S. government--not Big Business--that threatens to take my grandparents' farm. I don't advocate violence. And my grandfather, at age 84, is unlikely to hit anyone. But I've no doubt that his sympathies would lie with Mr. McIntyre. In the short story, Meredith came to realize that the issue was not legality, but right and wrong. I'm not naive enough to believe that the good guys always win, but I confess that I'm optimistic enough to root for them at every turn. I hope that you will strongly consider the very un-American message that would be sent to future generations if Stones River National Battlefield is expanded as a result of having forcibly taken land from deserving, hardworking, honest U.S. citizens.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Christy Lane Bluzer

[REDACTED]

# COMMENTS

[19] From: "Teresa PIERSON" [redacted] at  
 NP--INTERNET 8/1/97 12:32PM (1854 bytes, 1 ln)  
 To: STR: Administration at NP--SER  
 Subject: Stones River Expansion Plan  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Superintendent Peckham, Stones River National Battlefield Park.

I am writing in response to an article that appeared in the August issue of The Civil War News on the plan to expand the Stones River battlefield. I just wanted to let you know that I FULLY SUPPORT the Park Service's efforts in this area. WE MUST SAVE THIS GROUND. I was distressed to read the opinions of local landowners that were printed in the article. They obviously only have eyes for money. Don't they realize that everyone's very way of life was made possible in part by what happened in 1861-1865? I agree that they are entitled to money when they sell their land to the Park, but I also feel that they have no right to complain about selling to the Park. After all, at the very least the battlefield has been there for 135 years; they should have been well aware of the risks in purchasing land so close to the field.

Please, please, please, stick to your guns about this. If you put up a hard fight, and still lose (God forbid!), that's better than not having put up a fight at all. We owe so very much to those men of 1862-1863. It is the very least we can do to honor their memories by not allowing greed and development to win. Greed and development have already been winners far too many times!!

Sincerely,  
 Teresa Pierson  
 [redacted]

July 12, 1997

Park Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 350, Old Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

I am writing to express wholehearted support for the National Park Service's 759 acre expansion plan for the Stones River National Battlefield. As a former resident of Gettysburg, PA, I am well aware of the politics and property issues that the N.P.S. faces in preserving national heritage areas. Hopefully this letter can help the N.P.S. for their planned expansion, so my writing to politicians in Congress does not seem to help.

I lived several years in the Mid-Atlantic region, so I have been to many excellent N.P.S. Civil War battlefields outside of Tennessee including Gettysburg, Manassas, Antietam, Richmond, the Wilderness, Petersburg, etc. I have also visited the N.P.S. battlefields at Shiloh and Chattanooga, Chickamauga. During my first visit to Stones River, I was surprised how small the N.P.S. battlefield was considering the large scale of fighting that occurred at Murfreesboro. The first day's battle lines extended from S.R. 96 to well past the Stones River, but only a tiny fragment of that field has been preserved around the "Round Forest". What really shocked me was all of the ugly, industrial development right next to the park.

I realize Rutherford County is growing rapidly, but the development adjacent to the current park (and on old battlefield) is outrageous and would never be tolerated at Gettysburg or Manassas. Unfortunately, this practice seems to be commonplace here in middle Tennessee as the battlefields at Franklin and Nashville have been obliterated for housing developments. No one had the foresight to preserve these two battlefields, which has turned into a great loss for all Americans. Although I am disappointed at the current size of Stones River National Battlefield, a small park is better than no park. I agree with the N.P.S.'s vision that the current park should act as a nucleus for further expansion of its boundaries. I do not feel sorry for the affected property owners since their elected officials in Rutherford County have shown complete incompetence in growth management (i.e. zoning) and have encouraged this haphazard development.

I am not at all confident that you will receive adequate funding from Congress to obtain this land, however. In my opinion, the N.P.S. and the Interior Department are grossly underfunded. Having seen Congress in action at Gettysburg N.M.P., I would be surprised if they funded any additions at all to Stones River. Good Luck!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Daniel M. Poppe*

Daniel M. Poppe  
 [redacted]

Individuals

## COMMENTS

From the desk of

Frank D. Popp

Deer Superintendent

W/o. very much support  
Alternative 1 for the Stone  
River National Battlefield.  
As much as possible  
should be done to expand  
the area as far as  
possible so as to both  
give an understanding of  
the battle and to honor  
those who gave their lives  
at the battle.

Thank you

Frank D. Popp

THOMAS K. POTTER, Jr.

15 July 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Mary Ann:

I write to wholeheartedly endorse authorization and implementation of Alternative #1 presented in your draft General Management & Development Concept Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, with concurrent funding for land acquisition in an expanded park boundary, and funded construction and renovation of facilities and programs.

My interest in your plan and my concern about preventing commercial, industrial and residential intrusion in the battlefield sphere is motivated by several factors.

I am a life-long Civil War buff, active in roundtables in Jacksonville, FL and here in Nashville, a descendant of men who fought at Stones River, and, for over 30 years, have researched the 16th Regiment, Tennessee Volunteer Infantry Regiment which was engaged at Stones River.

I am a native of Middle Tennessee, and a resident of Nashville since 1962. My life span parallels the development of the Stones River National Battlefield Park, the development of the present highway system and the resulting intrusion by the overpass, industrial expansion near the battlefield area, and rapidly accelerating residential growth in the area with strip development of supporting commercial enterprises.

I have a collection of letters, diaries, memoirs (and other primary source material) written by 60 different officers and men in this regiment, and secondary source material on another 85-90 individuals. I have covered the trails of their eight campaigns through nine states from western Virginia to North Carolina, and the sites of their 14 major battles, including Stones River where they sustained 52% casualties in the charge of Donelson's Brigade against the Round Forest. Among the materials in my possession are letters and diaries of my great-grandfather, Thomas B. Potter, who served as Sergeant-Major of this regiment.

I have studied Stones River and other battles in which the 16th Tenn. Inf. participated, and have a collection of the major works on the Western Theater and the Army of Tennessee. Among them are books about the battle of Stones River by Connelley, Cox, Cozzens, Daniel, Horn, MacDonough, Reid, and Stevenson.

I have followed your development and expansion plans since 1992. I received and studied your 1994 General Management Plan Newsletter and your 1997 Draft General Management Plan, including a development concept plan and environmental impact statement. I have followed developments through news and feature articles in *Civil War News*.

I am a retired officer of the United Methodist Publishing House, having served the last seven of my 28 years as Vice President for Long Range Planning & Research. This experience and related training provides another perspective through which to consider your plan and planning procedures.

Alternative #1 recommends itself most favorably because:

- (1) quality preservation and effective interpretation of our American historical sites and heritage is essential to education for good citizenship, and is a worthwhile investment in the future of this nation;
- (2) the impact of the American Civil War and Reconstruction live with us today as surely as current issues of racism, private vs. public welfare, local and non-local interests, and the rights of states vs. federal government;
- (3) it is the only plan which covers key phases of the battle and presents a historically complete picture of what happened here; anything less is truncated;
- (4) the military scope and historical significance of the battle of Stones River deserves an improved, expanded site and more effective interpretation when compared to other Civil War battlefield parks;
- (5) effective perpetual care of the cemetery and the Hazen Monument and their meaningful interpretation, are sacred, continuing responsibilities bequeathed to present generations by those who fought and died at this place and those who previously honored them;
- (6) accommodation of various types of visitors, their capabilities and their preferences, evident in Alternative #1, testify to the serious consideration which has been given to pedestrians as well as motorists, to groups as well as individuals, to the disadvantaged as well as others, and to those who prefer the outdoor life to outdoor history;
- (7) the time for expansion and improvement is very critical due to rapid

## COMMENTS

urban and suburban development, clearly evident in the growth of population, residential and commercial areas, and the disruptive intrusions in the battlefield scenic integrity by industrial complexes and traffic overpasses.

(8) the potential for regional planning of Civil War historical events and programs, relating Stones River, Shiloh, Forts Donelson & Henry, Chickamauga and Chattanooga, remain untapped, awaiting creative program planning by the National Park Service in collaboration with reenactment, roundtable and other local groups. Development of the "Civil War Trail" concept now underway along the corridor of Hood's 1864 Raid (connecting Spring Hill, Franklin & Nashville battle sites with civic interests in Pulaski, Columbia and Florence) is an example of regional historical commemorative planning potential.

(9) quality development of the Stones River Battlefield may well stir latent interest among Nashville's historic preservationists, reenactors, buffs, educators and others to upgrade the presentation of the Nashville area Civil War story by improving the presentation of the few remaining Civil War sites in this urban environment swept over repeatedly by personal, commercial and industrial interests of many years.

These comments would not be complete if I did not include my impressions of the opposition to development of the battlefield park which I encountered at the public meeting I attended in Murfreesboro, 26 June 1997.

My perception is that an organized group of 6-8 property owners residing in Parcel #1, and a related real estate agent, were present at that meeting, and apparently were also represented at the other two meetings. Their commentary and claims dominated the meeting. They stated their interest in their property, its potential sale value, and their apprehension about dealing with the Federal government. They asked many questions about the process of negotiating sale of property, determining its value, the availability of funding, and timely sale of property following negotiated agreement to sell.

The comments of some individuals seemed totally negative to me. These persons stated only what they were against. I heard no one clearly state which alternative they preferred. Many made snide comments about the plan. Park officials, and federal agencies. One observed national parks might well be sold. Another unequivocally stated they were interested in their property, and had no interest in the development of the plan or the battlefield park.

While I understand how persons would be interested in their own welfare, I felt that an exclusively negativistic approach with cutting remarks and innuendoes against the Federal government and its representatives, as well as the quality of the plan as a planning document, were completely unjustified, unreasonable and self-centered.

At one point I asked if any of these persons opposing the plan had participated

in the "scoping" or other previous meetings. One answered that they had not. I conclude that this opposition was late developing, and I wonder to what degree this turn of events was influenced by the real estate agent and the two or three major property owners.

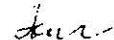
However, I thought a good point was made that the funding for purchase of property should be concurrently available when property is declared by the Federal Government to be within the boundary of the park. Government purchase delayed after property is officially declared within park boundaries results in depreciated land values and low probability of sale to any other party in the interim.

The final draft of the plan, it seems to me, also should be drafted with an eye to those who will encounter it--especially, landowners, local businesses and political leaders. For this reason, I think the plan should describe the impact of the proposed improvement on tourism, special interest groups (schools, joggers, buffs, reenactors, etc.), the local tax base, other options for land use, the potential for collaborative, regional Civil War events and promotions in the future, and any other local groups.

I very much appreciate your keeping me informed about future plans for the park, and I thank you for keeping me on your mailing list. I am presenting a summary of your plan to the Nashville Battlefield Preservation Society and Civil War Roundtable this week with a resolution for endorsement of Alternative #1 to be sent to you, the Director of the National Park Service, the Secretary of the Department of Interior, and members of the Tennessee Congressional delegation.

Good luck to you! Call me whenever you think I can help.

Cordially,





## COMMENTS

[26] From: Mark & Amy Powell [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/9/97 5:59AM (909 bytes: 1 ln)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
cc: Bart\$HR.House.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Thompson@Thompson.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Prist@Prist.Senate.gov at NP--INTERNET  
Subject: [Fwd: Update on Murfreesboro]  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text item

Ms. Peckham,

Just a short note to let you know that I strongly support the Park Service's plan to acquire additional acreage located on the Murfreesboro Civil War Battlefield.

This property includes some of the most important sites of the battlefield, including land fought upon by Maney's and Vaughn's men in grey.

I wish you the best of luck in your attempts to preserve an important part of our history by preserving this land.

Mark W. Powell  
[REDACTED]

## COMMENTS

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

My wife and I have had the opportunity to visit many of our nation's National Park Service sites, and almost without exception, we agree that those areas that have been acquired and dedicated are worthy of their individual aim and purpose. We would like to comment, after reviewing, on the Draft Management Plan/Development Concept Plan EIS for Stones River National Battlefield.

We wholeheartedly support Alternative 1. This alternative is visionary - looks to the future and the area of the original battlefield. To be sure, if significant areas are not now identified and planned for, they will most assuredly be lost - and once lost, they are gone. Development and other commercial/private uses make such historical or special areas irretrievable.

NOW is the time to identify special and needed areas, and to make plans for, acquiring through direct acquisition or some other binding agreement (until they can be acquired).

If anyone truly wants to see what development can do to a national battlefield, visit Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County National Battlefield in Virginia. Condors or other structures/developments overshadow the park boundary and look directly down on fortifications/trenches from these Civil War battles. Compatible with the site and significance of the area, not in our opinion. Such is likely to continue at many similar sites, and it should not happen.

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

Murphy R. and Joanne Weiss  
[Redacted Address]

The proposed actions in Alternative 1 appear well thought out and appropriate for Stones River. The most immediate and pressing action needed, however, is to ensure protection of the battlefield itself. Stay the course.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on this proposal. We do hope that Alternative 1 is the selected alternative and implemented. The beneficiaries will be the American people - both present and future generations.

*Murphy R. Price*  
MURPHY R. PRICE



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

Publication services were provided by the graphics staff, Resource Planning Group, Denver Service Center NPS D-35 / June 1997

# COMMENTS

September 4, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to review the Draft General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield. I would like to go on record to endorse Alternative 1.

In the event funding is not available for implementation of Alternative 1, I recommend that the following areas which are within the authorized boundary be identified to improve the interpretation at Stones River National Battlefield:

- 1) Identify and mark the Pioneer Road
- 2) Identify and mark General Rains' death site
- 3) Identify and mark the Collier House site
- 4) Identify and mark the trenches
- 5) Identify and mark the McFadden Ford site
- 6) Reverse the tour route
- 7) Remove the wooded area and rocks behind the visitor center that were placed/planted in the late 1970's

Sincerely,

*Robert A. Ragland*

Robert A. Ragland

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

*As a history teacher and descendant of one lonely private who fought at Stones River and survived, I've been increasingly concerned about the "loss" of our historic battlefield to subdivisions etc.*

*I realize we must live in the present and for the future, but "how will we know who we are, if we don't know where we came from." (John Steinbeck)*

*I think, as do many others, that the purchase of the land must happen quickly and just compensation for private to present owners.*

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address.

*Blaine J. Resch*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

September 10, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

As a life-long resident of Rutherford County and a student of its history, I am totally opposed to the expansion of the Stones River Battlefield as stated in alternative #1.

I have read with great interest all of the newspaper articles, and I feel that the present boundaries are large enough for adequate interpretation and certainly larger than you can maintain at the present time.

As I understand it, the park has not yet purchased all of the property presently within its boundaries and that you do not have funding to purchase additional property, certainly not at its current market value. I am very sympathetic with the plight of the Miller family that has dragged on since 1987. It must be disheartening that the Park Service so undervalues their property when across the road, the property just sold for \$40,000.00 an acre.

I hope that this matter will soon be resolved and to the satisfaction of the property owners involved.

Very truly yours,

*Polly D. Ridley*

Polly D. Ridley  
(Mrs. James A. Ridley, Jr.)

cc: Com. Bart Gordon  
Sen. William Frist  
Sen. Fred Thompson



## Republican Party of Rutherford County

P.O. Box 1721 • 1800 South Church Street, Suite 304 • Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37133 • 615-825-7219 Phone/Fax



Howard Wall  
Chairman  
B. Jo Arnold  
Vice Chairman  
Randall Musick  
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Director, Region I  
Carol Jackson  
Director, Region II  
John C. Jones, Jr.  
Director, Region III  
Ransom Jones  
Past Chairman  
Tim Rudd  
Executive Director

DATE: 8/28/97  
TO: Mary Ann Peckham  
FROM: Tim Rudd  
SUBJ: Stones River Battlefield

The Executive Committee of the Republican Party of Rutherford County passed a resolution at its July meeting condemning policies that violate the constitutional rights of citizens of Murfreesboro, and Rutherford County by the federal government.

The Republican Party believes the Stones River Battlefield is an important part of our nation's heritage. For this reason, the Republican Party has asked Tennessee's Congressional Delegation and Governor Sundquist to support of the Battlefield's Plan II to improve the Park's infrastructure within the current boundaries of the Battlefield. We have also requested amendments to current property rights legislation pending in Congress.

Thank you for your commitment and hard work

Respectfully yours,

Tim Rudd, Executive Director



## Republican Party of Rutherford County

P.O. Box 1721 • 1800 South Church Street, Suite 304 • Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37133 • 615-825-7219 Phone/Fax

Howard Wall  
Chairman

B. Jo Arnold  
Vice Chairman

Randall Musick  
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Mikela Pennington  
Secretary

Dr. Warren McPherson  
Vice Treasurer

Jeanne Hancock  
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Joanne Spier  
Director, Region I

Carol Jackson  
Director, Region II

John C. Jones, Jr.  
Director, Region III

Ransom Jones  
Past Chairman

Tim Rudd  
Executive Director

Resolution 97-1

### Stones River National Battlefield and Property Owner Rights

Whereas, the Republican Party of Rutherford County recognizes the historical value of the Stones River National Battlefield to the nation's heritage, Whereas, the Republican Party supports the Stones River National Battlefield's Plan II to improve the Park's infrastructure within existing Park boundaries, Whereas, the Republican Party has grown increasingly concerned that property owner's rights have been violated by federal authorities during the expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield,

Whereas, the Republican Party condemns the policies of the Interior Department regarding expanding Park boundaries to encompass private property without immediate just compensation;

Whereas, the Fifth Amendment to the US Constitution guarantees that "not shall any person be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation." Forcing property owners to set aside the land as a part of the national battlefield is taking private property for public use.

Whereas, the Tenth Amendment states that "the powers, not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved by the States respectively, or to the people." The following are additional enforcements of our positions on property rights: "The Constitution of the United States of America Amendment XIV, (1868) "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

Whereas, there has occurred a continuous breach of trust, duty and obligation by Interior Department and the Stones River National Battlefield to the citizens of Rutherford County, resulting in a continued abridgement of the Constitutional Rights, Privileges, and Liberties of property owners, all contained in the name of "national heritage" under the pretense of a continuing expansion of government;

Whereas, the State of Tennessee, the government of Rutherford County and the City of Murfreesboro should be compensated for over \$5 million dollars in expenditures for a new highway, a new bridge, and to run utilities, in order to encourage commercial development along the Thompson Lane and Manassas Pike areas, if these areas are placed inside Stones River National Battlefield boundaries;

Be It Resolved, that the Republican Party requests the State of Tennessee, the government of Rutherford County and the City of Murfreesboro to request the United States Congress to support legislation that prevents the violation of its citizens' constitutional rights by federal government agencies.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Republican Party of Rutherford County requests the United States Congress to support legislation that will guarantee property owner rights and specify in that legislation that the Federal government may not extend government boundaries around non-federal government property without immediate just compensation, and that they support Federal funding for Plan II of the Stones River National Battlefield.

Passed unanimously on July 24, 1997 by the Republican Party of Rutherford County Executive Committee

## CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



Alternative 1 is not only costly, <sup>and</sup> a waste of land that currently belongs to other families. ~~It will not add to the "original" historical feeling because this land was already farm land belonging to families prior to the dates of the Stones River Battle. If anything, the farmland should remain as is and the park service should find other ways to entertain pre visitors since historically it will not contribute anything to what currently exists.~~

*✓*

**Table 1.** Mean values of the variables measured during the 60-min test

Dear Mary Ann

Sincerely,

**Brian Sauer**

**DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@ncpi.gov](mailto:stri_administration@ncpi.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham:

I am very interested in the Civil War. Your ALTERNATIVE I is a great idea. These lands are sacred; as much as possible of the original site should be saved. I particularly liked the part about keeping the land with an 1860 appearance.

We live in a suburb of Cincinnati, Ohio. My wife and I are trying to visit a lot of Civil War Sites.

I thank you for this opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

Donald Schibi

*Donald Schibi*

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

8/26/97

I strongly support alternative 1. I visited Stones River three years ago and while impressed by the battlefield park, I found it disappointing to learn how much of this hallowed ground remained outside park boundaries. We have examined a painful lesson in Northern Virginia that you have very few chances to see battlefields from development. Once a parking lot or shopping mall is built the ground is altered/ruined. Stones River was such a significant battle that the ground must, to be preserved and interpreted so that future generations can understand the decisions and sacrifices that were made there. Your proposed alternative 1 shows great vision and when implemented will dramatically enhance visits to the Stones River Battlefield.

- Duane Adkins

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*Donald Schibi*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

September 7, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

I have given consideration to the National Park Service proposal of changes to the Stones River National Battlefield and I strongly support Alternative II, for improvement to Visitor Center, interpretive sites, and keeping the existing battlefield in its present boundaries.

With the improvements to the Visitors Center, better grounds maintenance, the much needed improvements to the interpretive sites and walking trails a guest could leave the Stones River Battlefield with a better appreciation for the battle and its impact on the war.

My decision is based mainly on the method the Park Service uses to deal with property owners. I sincerely believe it is totally un-American to have any property owner's rights be taken away from him by any government agency and I refer specifically to the example of Dr. Ray Miller. Dr. Miller's property has been locked up in a process for years without resolution. The Miller situation is the same outlook for anyone who owns property which the Park Service wants to acquire.

Why does the Park Service burden property owners by forcibly taking away from them the right of ownership and the freedom of decision as how they can develop their property. If the Park Service wants to acquire additional property, then it should be negotiated and purchased immediately.

Consideration was given to the cost of the additional land acquisition. In the meetings held by the Park Service it was revealed there is an estimate \$15 to \$30 Million Dollars for the purchase of land, (if it happens today but with the dragging out of time to purchase the property could possibly double) and \$6.4 Million for improvements.

Page 2

Even with a conservative estimate of \$40 Million Dollars it is excessive spending to expand the Park for a larger plot of natural state of land to give it the 1860's look when the area is developing so rapidly. A park guest would always be looking through the fields with a major roads specifically Thompson Lane and Manson Pike. With the proposal of new schools for grades K through 12 on Manson Pike and whenever schools with road improvements are built new homes and subdivisions will be developing. A visitor in this area will have his view distracted by the traffic busily passing through on their way to Wal-Mart, Castner Knott's, Home Depot, Lowes, and our new developing Towne Center shopping mall. The Thompson Road area has already developed to the point that any expansion that is proposed, to acquire property across the roads from the Park's boundaries would not enhance the Battlefield or in no way make a visitor's experience more lasting. Therefore, I urge support of Alternative II in the best interest of the Park Service and all citizens of the United States of America.

Sincerely,

*Dorothy M. Schmidt*

Dorothy M. Schmidt

Individuals

## COMMENTS

James J. Schroeder

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

This is written to express my views regarding the draft of General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield presently under consideration

Based on my experiences in visiting other major Civil War Battlefield sites, including Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chancellorsville, Petersburg, Antietam, and Gettysburg, it is rather apparent that the method of interpretation at Stones River needs vast improvement. In fact, interpretation potential at Stones River under existing conditions and facilities is by far the worst of all those sites I have visited. This is not only my opinion -- over the past 18 months I have witnessed a number of adverse comments about the Stones River interpretation on the internet.

Because of the importance of the outcome of the battle and its positive effect for the Union and negative effect for the Confederacy, (some historians even contend that the Battle of Stones River was the beginning of the end of the Confederacy) I believe it is worthy of an interpretation on a par with that of Gettysburg and the other major sites.

There are two inadequacies which presently make this impossible. One is the rather poor audio/visual presentation which does little to explain for the visitor the flow of the battle (Should include some maps/slides as the battle progressed). But probably the most devastating shortfall is the small amount of property from which to do on site interpretation. There is no land from which to view of beginning of the battle and the Confederate initial charge which resulted in their sweeping initial victory during the first hours of the conflict.

As a volunteer at the battlefield who does visitor contact, I can personally attest to the confusion visitors experience in trying to understand how the battle progressed. A frequently asked question is "how did 83,000 troops fight on such a small amount of land?" An attempt to explain what really happened generally rests on the verbal explanation -- that original battle line was some 3-4 miles long extending to a point south and across from interstate interchange. But for most visitors this description is hard to comprehend because of being unfamiliar with the area.

Thus the proposed land acquisitions associated with Alternate 1 of the plan are a "must do" for proper on-site interpretation and to provide the visitor with a more meaningful experience. This proposed expansion could then include a panoramic view of part of the Confederate advance and over-running of the Union forces in the early hours of the battle. I have personally stood on what is historically known as Sill's Ridge and could almost feel and hear the charge of the Confederate lads as they quickly over ran this position. It closely parallels that of standing on the ridge at Gettysburg and recalling Pickett's charge across the valley.

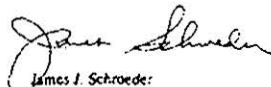
In addition to the need to improve the historical interpretation of the battle, and thus enhance the impact of tourist dollars on the economics of the community, there is another benefit to be gained by additional park land. Murfreesboro suffers from the lack of just plain green space for recreational activity. That there is a desire to enjoy these types of activities is not only evidenced by the great use of the new Stones River Greenway, but also by the number of visitors who use the Battlefield for walking, hiking, and just enjoying its natural attributes. Even local high school runners use the trails for cross country practice. Thus it provides benefits for citizens of the community in all walks of life, not just those with Civil War interests.

Therefore I support Alternative 1 and agree that it should/must be done. However there are some practical issues in my mind. First let us consider the fact that this alternative proposes the purchase of close to 750 acres of land. This land presently has a high real estate value because of its commercial potential and will undoubtedly increase rapidly in value over the next 5 years. I am fearful that an estimate of 15-20 million dollars to purchase this land, as given by a National Park representative at a recent public hearing, is frightfully low. Thus a method to secure external partners in procuring this land is a must. In addition, a method must be found to speed up the purchase process once the land owner makes a decision to sell. Any time more than 12 months will do nothing but alienate future sellers. We just must find a way to improve the purchase process.

In conclusion, this battlefield site must be expanded in order to preserve the history of what really happened there to the degree that interpretation is complete and meaningful. Efforts must be made to provide for the telling not only the splendid defensive strategies of the Union forces but also the magnificent opening strategies of the Southern forces. The latter is not possible now! We must act quickly for this is the last chance before metropolitan sprawl will consume this important land. If nothing else, the land in the so called triangle (land bounded by Thompson Lane, I-24, and Manson Pike) must take top priority.

We must act now to preserve for future generations, the entire story of this battle. It truly was a determining factor in who and what we, the American people, are today!"

Very truly yours,

  
James J. Schroeder

cc: U.S. Representative Bart Gordon.

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

*I favor Alternative One.*

*I have visited Stones River*

Please send comments by <sup>10:49</sup> August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [sai\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:sai_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*Cecelia Segurson*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SEgurson

[22] From: [REDACTED] NP--INTERNET 8/1/97 2:12PM (1951 bytes: 1 ln)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SSR  
Subject: Battlefield expansion

----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Ms. Peckham,

This message is intended to register my feelings regarding the proposed expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield. I am against expanding the present boundary. Whether intended or not, the expansion will limit the options of the affected landowners. I am not an affected landowner, merely a citizen interested in property rights. I have toured the park on many occasions and have intimate knowledge of the area in question. This, coupled with my knowledge of the battle itself leaves me with grave reservations regarding how the acquisition of these properties will enhance the vista enough to give a dramatically different interpretation of the battle.

According to the park's own publication, the park enjoys, at present, 2/3 of the site it deems necessary to give interpretation of the admittedly minor battle in question. I am sure that you agree that this is quite a sufficient amount of land. The Battlefield has many acres of land within its boundaries at this time which it has not purchased. I am sure that you agree, as any right thinking person would, that expansion into new properties would be at this point not necessary historically, but fiscally irresponsible as well.

It is for these very valid reasons that I wish to cast my support for Option 2. This option gives the SRNB the opportunity to increase its visibility, and heighten its interpretation of the battle without destroying the rights and goodwill of the park's neighbors.

Feel free to contact me should you have questions regarding my opinion.

Thank you,

David Sevier

[REDACTED]

Individuals

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my thoughts on the expansion of Stones River Battleground.

I am in favor of Alternative 3 of the National Park Service's Draft General Management Plan for the following reasons: I firmly oppose Alternative 1.

- 1) In an era of severe federal budget deficits and gargantuan National Park Service financial shortfalls, alternative three is the most fiscally responsible of the alternatives presented.
- 2) Alternative 3 is the most realistic and responsible choice for the surrounding landowners.
- 3) Alternative 3 adequately meets the stated goals of the NPS to provide an educational and environmental resource for Rutherford County and its visitors.

I am a 31 year old woman whose family has owned 73 acres within the proposed boundaries of Alternative 1 since 1929. While I am loathe to see the last tangible relic of my family's heritage be swallowed up by any sort of development, be it NPS sponsored or commercially realtor driven, I am particularly distressed by the method of land acquisition employed by the NPS, the thoroughly contemptuous manner with which the surrounding landowners have been treated by NPS personnel, and the lack of benefit such a tremendous land acreage would provide the nation when put in proportionate perspective with the upheaval and suffering the land grab would cause.

(over)

Please send comments by Sept.  
August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Inconceivable is the only word to describe the method of land acquisition hammered out through Congress for the NPS. The National Park Service is in the happy position of securing what it finds attractive and leaving a most worthless promissory note behind. Across this nation thousands of acres lie under the cloud of NPS boundaries - with no money appropriated for their purchase, and no hope of monies becoming available without many of the owners' lifetimes. Ordinary citizens who conduct their fiscal lives in this manner soon find themselves in bankruptcy court with the accompanying stigma and loss of independence. It boggles the mind to think a person placed in a position of responsibility with the NPS would even toy with the idea of adding to this colossal debt. Such action is irresponsible.

While the NPS captain and his personnel who are charge of crafting the GMP presumably made numerous visits to the acreage being sought, never do they deem the consequences to the real owners with real lives lived in the twentieth century as important enough for consideration. One does not need extraordinary powers of perception to notice at a glance that the acres under consideration are plots of ground to hundreds of people. These acres are the physical embodiment of dreams yet to accomplish and memories still fondly held. I can only presume that the personnel who work in the Stones River Battlefield everyday, and are members of this community, as well as their companions elsewhere in the byzantine bureaucracy of the NPS and Department of Interior, hold these setbacks in the basest form of contempt. Otherwise, the very existence of these people would not be carefully ignored.

I grew up across the street from the battlefield. I rode my bicycle there, learned to drive a stick shift car there, and played the guitar numerous times. I am fully aware of the severe limitations to appreciating the Battle of Murfreesboro as it has been presented by the unimaginative interpretation and careless maintenance of park personnel. As the daughter of a Tennessee historian, the battle came to life for me - on current park grounds - only when my father provided insights to the real war rather than relying on a rusty monument to Ohio's dead. Extra property is not what the park needs to be aesthetically and historically pleasing. Appropriate stewardship of current holdings is.

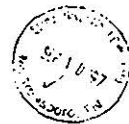
In a day and age of rapidly increasing population, one of the truly endangered facets of Tennessee life is the small family farm. These farms are what the Battlefield apparently wishes to finally extinguish, at great cost to its credibility, good will, and financial responsibility.

My family's life has been in tremendous upheaval for several months because of this ill conceived, unrealistic GMP. As I have lain awake on sleepless nights praying for some peace for my aged parents and some reversion of faith in "the system" for their children, I have been struck by the bitter irony this situation presents to us. My paternal grandfather, four generations before me, and my maternal grandfather, five generations before me, lost their lives during the Civil War. These men willingly sacrificed their all for a concept they held sacred - independent property rights. What a tragedy to their memory that in the name of honoring them their descendants are being stripped of the very assets they died so that three decent nations might have.

Please adopt Alternative 3 as the vision for the mission of Stones River Battlefield in the twenty-first century.

Sincerely,

*Mary Catherine Serwin*  
Mary Catherine Serwin



# COMMENTS

SEP 11 1997 10:41 AM (P) 10011411111111

TO: (000000000000) FROM: (000000000000)

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

*I fully support and recommend adoption as soon as possible of alternative 1.*

*I have been a life long civil war history buff and feel strongly in preserving the great battlefields of that war. The place where 83,000 Americans fought and 23000 shed blood should be preserved for people to study and honor that effort. It is difficult to do this when commercial development is in line of sight or obstructs one's thinking & study process.*

*I visit & revisit 10-12 battlefields each year. I hope and will work to see Stones River National Battlefield improved and preserved.*

*Thanks  
J. H. Shepherd  
9/10/97*

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [ston\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:ston_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

*Thomas H. Shepherd*  
[Redacted Address]

U.S. GPO: 1997-000-000-000

Individuals

## COMMENTS



To preserve, study and open to the public, sites relating to the Battle of Nashville.

September 3, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

We are pleased to enclose a copy of a resolution passed unanimously by the membership of the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society, Inc. & Civil War Roundtable at its July 17 meeting, endorsing Alternative #1 of your master plan for development of Stones River National Battlefield.

Also a copy of this resolution is being sent with a cover letter to each senator and congressman in the Tennessee delegation, to the Director of the National Park Service, and to the Secretary of the Department of Interior, urging authorization of Alternative #1 and its prompt implementation.

We deeply appreciate the fine work you and other members of the National Park Service have done to bring us this vision of what can and should be done to present this part of our heritage to today's generation and to preserve it for all generations to come.

Very truly yours,

  
William E. Shofner

WES:lo  
Enclosure

151680 DL

P.O. Box 121796, Nashville, Tennessee 37212

### A Resolution

Supporting Improvement  
of

### Stones River National Battlefield Park

Whereas, the Battle of Stones River, 31 Dec. 1862 - 2 Jan. 1863, near the neighboring city of Murfreesboro, Tennessee,

... was a major battle of the American Civil War, fought by 83,000 men engaged three days over 4,000 acres, resulting in 23,000 casualties or the highest casualty rate of any battle for Union forces, and second only to the casualty rate at Gettysburg for Confederate forces,

... was fought on ground now hallowed, not only by these casualties, but by a national memorial cemetery of more than 6,000 burials, and the Hazen Monument, our nation's oldest intact Civil War memorial,

... resulted in the Union control of Middle Tennessee and commencement of a movement by the Federal army, eventually leading to the 100-day Georgia Campaign,

... exerted strong psychological and political influence, affecting the wartime roles of the state of Kentucky, and the nations of England and France

And, whereas an outstanding master plan for development and expansion of Stones River National Battlefield Park has been developed by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior, that, when executed

... will present the story of this major battle in a more effective manner, overcoming present deficiencies which surveys indicate are contributing to a poor understanding of the basic story by visitors, now estimated at about 200,000 yearly,

... will preserve the core segment of the battlefield in a general 1860s rural appearance;



will maintain a quiet, reflective, and reverent atmosphere while preserving the 1892 design of the national cemetery and the 1850s design of the Hazen Monument area.

will preserve and stabilize remnants of Redoubt Brannan, Lunettes Palmer and Thomas, and Curtain Wall No. 2 of Fortress Rosecrans while providing controlled access to earthworks, allowing visitors to experience the extent and significance of the fortifications.

will develop strategies with landowners and local governments to encourage interpretation of the greater battlefield, and to achieve the general appearance of an agricultural landscape, as viewed from interpretive areas within the national battlefield and in corridors linking non-contiguous areas.

will focus on six interpretive themes presenting Stones River as (1) one of the major Civil battles in size, complexity, and long-term results; (2) a battle fought over terrain, vegetation, and features notably influencing the outcome; (3) a battle resulting in a significant shift of military momentum from Confederate to Federal forces; (4) a battle producing a profound impact on the lives of the American people; (5) a battle whose outcome permitted Union forces to build Fortress Rosecrans, establish a major supply and transportation base, and affect Murfreesboro throughout the rest of the Civil War; and (6) as a battle which launched an early effort toward battlefield commemoration in the United States.

And, whereas the most advantageous features are gained in Alternative Plan #1, as recommended by the National Park Service, including:

expansion of the park from 709 acres to 1,458 acres, encompassing all key areas of the battle;

construction of a new 7.6 miles automobile tour road and companion trail;

an increase in the number of interpretive sites from 7 to 12;

improvement of the access, battery exhibit, and landscaping of the McFadden Farm site of repeated Confederate assaults against massed Union artillery on 2 Jan. 1863;

installation of a trail connecting the visitor center, Stones River Greenway, and city Battlefield Way;

development of pedestrian and bicycle access to Rosecrans's headquarters site;

renovation of the visitors center, including new and expanded interpretive media and exhibits.

advancement of the park development well beyond limited, independent improvements, such as that authorized by Congress in 1991 for purchase of suburban residential property over which five Confederate brigades made piecemeal assaults against "Hetz's Half-Acre" or the Round Forest.

And, whereas Alternative Plan #1:

has been endorsed by a representative of the Tennessee Historical Society at the 25 June 1997 public meeting;

has been described by a *Nashville Banner* editorial (26 June 1997) as "an exciting prospect" which will enable "Stones River to take its rightful place in Middle Tennessee history...with a boost to present-day tourism."

has been tagged by the *Nashville Tennessean* editorial (6 Jul. 1997) with "a special urgency as more development encroaches on historic land."

can elevate Stones River National Battlefield from a constructed, worn national battlefield park with deficient interpretation and violated historic scenic integrity... already suffering from stark intrusions by industry and traffic and threatened by rapid urban sprawl...to an improved and expanded park whose story will be effectively presented to visitors on site, and whose quality is commensurate with its historical stature among American Civil War battlefields.

And, whereas an open, fair and democratic process was followed in development of the master plan, including Alternative Plan #1, by means of:

preliminary "scoping" meetings with park officials, historians, landscaping and environmental specialists, publicly announced in advance and open to all;

sharing of the master plan and summaries through distribution before, during and after public meetings, and otherwise available in general by request at the park visitor center;

a series of three recent public meetings, publicized in advance, at which park officials presented the plan, solicited public feedback, and responded openly to questions from attendees.

And, whereas the remainder of the process follows established administrative and legislative channels, including:

evaluation by the National Park Service of all comments from the public gathered in response to the hearings;

development of a final plan, review and endorsement by the Regional Director of the Park Service;

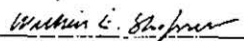
## COMMENTS

- ...completion of a final document and all related compliance reports;
- submission to Congress of a legislative package (plan, act & requested funding), either by the Secretary of Interior, or by sponsoring members of Congress;
- authorization by Congress;
- implementation of land acquisition through independent realtor(s) and offers to purchase, negotiation and settlement with landowner, or, as a last resort, institution of condemnation procedures;
- commencement of construction and renovation of facilities, and development of interpretive improvements under the direction of the National Park Service, Department of Interior

We, the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society, Inc. & Civil War Roundtable, do hereby adopt this resolution endorsing Alternative #1 as a master plan for development of the Stones River National Battlefield Park, and convey copies of this resolution to the Superintendent, Stones River National Battlefield Park, the Director of the National Park Service, the Secretary of the Department of Interior and to members of our Tennessee Congressional delegation urging them to wholeheartedly support authorization of an (1) expanded park boundary and adequate funding for prompt land acquisition, and (2) development and funding for new facilities and interpretive programs to be completed as soon as practicable thereafter.

Adopted this 17th day of July, 1997

Signed



William E. Shofner,  
President

# COMMENTS

[12] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/6/97 1:32AM (2975 bytes: 1 in)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SRR, Bartehr.house.gov at NP--INTERNET,  
 Senator Thompson@thompson.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET,  
 Senator Frist@frist.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET, GALLICREB@aol.com at  
 NP--INTERNET  
 Subject: Murfreesboro Battlefield Park  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Gentlemen, Ladies & Honorable Congressmen and Senators of the Great  
 State of Tennessee:

I am writing you on behalf of the concerns I, and the men and ladies of the  
 Living History organization known as the 20th South Carolina Volunteers have  
 on the topic of preservation. It was recently brought to our attention that  
 the acquisition of an additional 50 acres of the original battlefield at the  
 Murfreesboro Battlefield Park might be a possibility for the National Park  
 Service. On behalf of myself and the members of my organization, I can not  
 emphasize enough the great value we place on the preserving sites of  
 historical events that represent what we feel is the soul of our nation. We  
 strongly support acquiring the extra land for the National Parks Service.  
 I have had the pleasure to walk the hallowed grounds of the Murfreesboro  
 battlefield several times over the past several years and can not express the  
 reverence sites like this instill upon me. The one thing that disheartens the  
 historically minded individuals, like myself, who take the time to visit,  
 study and remember the struggle which took place on these hallowed fields, is  
 the constant pending doom presented by the encroachment of development into  
 and around these fields. Americans fought and died for this country, their  
 homes, their communities, their friends and families on these fields and  
 fields like this one. They answered the call to duty and gave their last  
 full measure of devotion to their countries. I believe it is our  
 responsibility to do everything in our power to preserve these historic sites  
 to honor those who fought there and to insure that every generation of  
 Americans remembers the sacrifices, as well as the costs of the freedoms we  
 seem to take for granted today. As the famous quote goes, "we must remember  
 our past, or be condemned to repeat it". If one would take all the wars in  
 this great Nation's history combined, they would find that it did not yet  
 total the carnage and loss that the War Between the States suffered on this  
 Nation. It is our duty now to try and preserve every acre possible that  
 represents the tragic struggle to form this Nation.  
 We of the 20th South Carolina Volunteers stand in full support and would like  
 for you to consider doing whatever way be necessary to acquire the addition  
 land for the Murfreesboro Battlefield Park.

Thank you for your considerations, Sincerely

Vincent J. Simonowicz III  
 President of the 20thSCVI

9-4-97

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
 Stones River Battlefield  
 3501 Old Nashville Hwy  
 Murfreesboro, Tennessee, 37129

Dear Miss Peckham:

We, the undersigned members and friends of the John Hunt Morgan Camp 270, Sons of  
 Confederate Veterans of Greenbrier, Robertson County, wish to voice our support for  
 Alternative 1- the acquisition of approx. 600 acres of land to add to the preservation of  
 the Stones River Battlefield.

While there will always be places to build other malls, restaurants, homes, etc- the land  
 on which our forefathers shed their blood cannot be reproduced. This is sacred ground.

Sincerely:

*Mary Ann Peckham*  
*Kenneth P. [unclear]*  
*Marion P. Kemp*  
*Albin [unclear]*  
*Kari & [unclear]*  
*Dee Reed*  
*Dore C. Reed*  
*Cynthia Reed*  
*Betty Ramona Lytle*  
*[unclear]*  
*Virginia B. [unclear]*

# COMMENTS

[2] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/4/97 12:27AM (1063 bytes: 1 in)  
 To: STR1 Administration at NP--SER  
 Subject: Stones River National Battlefield  
 ----- Message Content -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Mrs. Peckham,

I am writing you to express my support for Alternative 1, and the acquisition of the 575 acres of historic land. As a Tennessean, and one who had ancestors fight for our state, I am pleased that you are working to preserve our heritage. We have a beautiful state; we have a state rich in history. We must take steps now to protect it for future generations. I will be sending letters to Senators Thompson and Price concerning this matter. Thank you very much for your work.

Moffatt

Sincerely,  
 Brett

SouthBaird

Aug. 3, 1997

Supernintendent  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 3501 Old Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Sirs,

I recently learned about the NPS plan to increase the boundaries of Stones River National Battlefield. I believe this is an excellent idea. I have visited Stones River on two occasions and while the park service is doing a good job of interpretation with the land that it has, it was very difficult to understand the whole battle with the limited land owned by us, the American public. I thought at the time and still do that the land south and southwest of the park would be a great addition to the park and would allow the staff to properly interpret the battle.

My great great uncle fought with the 36th ILL Inf. at Stones River. I would like the land where he first fought and the spot where his commanding officer Joshua Sill was killed preserved as a memorial to them. The land where the 36th ILL fought so gallantly and lost a commanding officer at Franklin, TN is lost forever to development. We owe it to future generations to preserve this hallowed ground.

I understand the current land owners concerns about their rights, but for the good of the country and future generations, it is imperative that the NPS come to a settlement and preserve this land. If I can be of help in any way to your goal of acquiring this land, please let me know.

Please send me some detailed information as to what land is being considered in this acquisition. I would be happy to pay for the information.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Stevenson DVM

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

# COMMENTS

OCT-13-97 10H 13:48

FAX NO. 8153704363

P.02

Tennessee Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans  
P. O. Box 3443  
Memphis, Tennessee 37024

## Press Release / Statement of Support

The Tennessee Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, is pleased to announce its unconditional support of the Shiloh River National Battlefield Park and the National Park Service in their efforts to expand the boundaries of the park, and to preserve its undeveloped state as a national treasure of historic significance to all Americans.


The Battle of Shiloh River, also known as the Battle of Murfreesboro, fought December 31, 1862 through January 2 of 1863 by a Union Army under the command of Gen. William T. Sherman and Confederate forces commanded by Gen. Braxton Bragg, was one of the bloodiest battles of the entire war between the States. Combined losses for the battles engaged exceeded 24,515 men killed, wounded, or missing.

It is the opinion of the membership of the Tennessee Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans that the land sought by the park for development within its boundaries is nothing less than sacred soil, bought and paid for by the blood of American Patriots both North and South, and that the development of this land for commercial purposes is both inappropriate and undesirable. At the same time, we are fully cognizant of the rights of the current owners of the property, and encourage them to work with the Park Service toward a resolution that is equitable to all parties. With the proper spirit of cooperation, it is entirely possible that this historic property can be preserved and the current owners be fairly compensated.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, founded in 1894, is a patriotic, non-profit, non-political historical organization whose membership is composed of male descendants of Confederate soldiers, sailors, and marines. Nationwide, membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans exceeds 25,000. The Tennessee Division consists of 48 individual chapters, known as Camps, which are located throughout the state, and an approximate membership of 2,100.

Dated this 13th day of October, 1997

Tennessee Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans

by:   
Allen Sullivan, Chief of Staff

[5] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/4/97 11:29AM (1462 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Murfreesboro

----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Superintendent Peckham -

I am writing to you on behalf of the 1st S.C. Regiment of Rifles, known as Orr's Rifles. We are a War Between the States reenacting group that has heard of your current plight with developers over an additional 50+ acres trying to be added to the Murfreesboro Park. We, as a group, would like to let you know that we stand behind the Park Service in acquiring this land and saving it from the dreaded developers of Strip Malls. It would be a great waste of American History, and the loss of such a sacred place where so many men fought and died, would be an unfortunate advancement to those who care nothing about history and honor but would rather look for themselves by trying to line their pockets with even more money at the expense of America's future growing-up without having a place where they can actually see and touch history. Orr's Rifles urges you to continue in your efforts and to spare nothing in your attempt to foil the plans of the property developers. God's Speed and Good Luck in your noble endeavor!

For The Cause!  
Mike Sullivan  
Lt., Commanding  
1st S.C.R.R., Orr's Rifles

## COMMENTS

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

I strongly endorse Alternative 1 as the preferred proposal. As many of the original acres of the Stones River Battlefield must be preserved as possible in the 1860s era appearance, and anything that can enhance the interpretation and significance of the battle should be done. Too many battle sites have been irretrievably lost in America because of short sightedness, ignorance, and so-called progress. As an educator, reenactor, and presenter, I know future Americans will suffer if Alternative 1 is not achieved.

Pvt. Gary Sutherland  
1st Nebraska Infantry Vols.

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

Gary Sutherland

[Redacted Address]

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

I am in favor of alternative two. Do a better job with what you already have.

Mrs James C. Fusin

[Redacted Address]

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Our family would like to respond in opposition to alternative 1 of the proposed action in your General Management Plan. We feel either of the other two alternatives are fine. Basically we feel the park service should just do a better job with what they already have.

The plan for acquiring 759 additional acres costing a minimum of \$25 million is an unwise use of taxpayers' money. (Yes, money from off-shore oil leases is taxpayers' money, too.) The way the Department of the Interior acquires land is grossly unfair to the landowners who don't want to sell. From our investigation, most of the local property owners (our long-time neighbors and family) do NOT want to sell.

We further understand that the Park has had over 200 acres for the past eight years which they could acquire, but have not done so yet. That alone is an outrage! Why don't you finish that project, and improve what you have, and forget about another expansion?

David and Beth Swain 1421 Manson Pike Murfreesboro, TN 37129

*David M. Swain*  
*Beth Swain*

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## COMMENTS

August 8, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

I am writing this on behalf of my mother, who for the last sixty-four years, has owned the forty acres referred to as parcel 2 in the alternative 1 proposed action. I also write this on my own behalf as the owner of a seventy acre farm located at 1513 Manson Pike, also known during the Battle of Stones River as the Widow James' home and General Polk's headquarters. This farm has been my home for the last thirty-nine years, and I have lived on one or the other of these two farms for all of my sixty-three years. Stones River National Battlefield was just in its infancy when Mother and Dad moved here in 1933.

Let me preface my remarks by saying that I have always been a friend of the Park. I appreciate and enjoy the Park, and it has a good place in our community. However, I feel you have proposed a plan of expansion that is unrealistic, unacceptable and unnecessary. I STRONGLY OPPOSE ALTERNATIVE 1 in the Draft General Management Plan for the reason outlined below.

1. The land acquisition process itself. It is unfair, it is slow, it is confusing. There is no one person you can deal with, and no one person who can give you an official, definite answer. The government should either buy the land, or turn it loose and leave the property owner alone. The participants in the three public meetings addressed this problem adequately. Lately it has been disclosed that after a court condemnation trial, the government can refuse to purchase the property. If the property owner later tries to sell it again, the government can come back and condemn the property for a second time. Is this fair? Is this America?

2. The Park Service staff mislead the public with their press releases saying that alternative 1 would cost \$6,373,200. The estimated total cost of \$30 to \$40 million is far too much money to be put into a project with no more benefits than this one. Let's spend our money more wisely.

3. The Park has not purchased over two hundred acres from a plan started over eight years ago. Please do not start another plan until you have finished up the previous one. The Park Service's track record in these matters is questionable in the least.

4. The Park is not adequately maintaining the property they already have. Whether from budget cuts or poor leadership, Stones River National Battlefield doesn't look as good as it did a few years ago. In my opinion, it has deteriorated. The Park doesn't need to expand its borders until the staff can take care of what they already have.

5. The visitor count seems very exaggerated. Without question, the \$20 to \$40 million of property taken off the city and county tax rolls will cost more than would be offset by the few tourist dollars received.

If, in your final decision, you decide to go against local public opinion and recommend alternative 1, I would respectfully ask you to consider altering the proposed authorized boundary within the alternative 1 plan so that it would exclude the forty acre parcel 2 belonging to my mother, Mildred B. Swain. There are several logical reasons for doing this:

1. As you look at the map, this parcel sticks out like a wart. Thompson Lane would make a natural boundary for the east side of the Park. The Park is extended enough nearby major thoroughfares already. Why stick a portion of it across a five-lane, heavily traveled roadway? By excluding this parcel you would eliminate danger and confusion for the Park visitors.

2. On your map which points out important sites from the battle there is nothing significant noted for parcel 2.

3. Your only reason for including parcel 2 is to "preserve the viewshed from the proposed tour stop 1 on the new tour route." You cannot physically see parcel 2 from this proposed tour stop due to trees, bushes and undergrowth. Even more important, you cannot see it because parcel 2 is eighteen feet higher in elevation. At the edge of the property line this elevation levels off, then recedes. So a "visitor experience" here is virtually impossible, making your argument weak, to say the least.

4. My mother, Mrs. Swain, is presently living in a nursing home, where her financial needs are substantial and immediate. This farm is her principal asset which she and my father worked all their lives as a means of security for their old age. This asset does not need to be tied up indefinitely by the Park Service. So if you do indeed go with alternative 1, please exclude parcel 2.

Having said all the above, I would like to go on record as ~~favoring alternative 2~~ in your proposed plan. Improve what you already have.

Sincerely,

Thomas Swain

[Redacted signature]

# COMMENTS

MAYO TAYLOR

Sep: 9, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham,

In response to the Draft General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield now under consideration by the National Park Service, I would like to support the proposed action, Alternative 1.

I believe the addition of new lands to the National Battlefield will both advance the interpretive goals outlined in the GMP, and increase the long term viability of the battlefield park. Certainly, the ability of a facility such as SNRB to continue to meet its mission of historical interpretation is threatened by the rapid encroachment of traffic and development. As a resident of Murfreesboro I welcome the willingness of the NPS to invest in new lands as an opportunity to preserve open space in an area that will soon have little or none without public investment.

However, I also recognize the fiscal and political difficulty of accomplishing Alternative 1 in its entirety, and believe some priorities will have to be identified should Congress choose to authorize an expansion. In the quite possible event that the Park Service is not able to win support for its entire plan, I would urge you to adopt a policy which favors those lands closest to the existing boundaries. In particular, I would like to urge early attention to parcels 3, 4, and 5 as defined in the plan.

The Stones River National Battlefield is a valuable asset for our community and the nation as a whole. As Rutherford County moves toward its projected population of nearly 300,000 people in the coming decades, we will not regret any actions taken now which preserve opportunities for the future.

Sincerely,

*Mayo Taylor*  
Mayo Taylor

Dear Park Superintendent,

I read the article in the *Memphis* about Stones River Battlefield. It was very informative and it would be nice to see it support expansion. Miller, Thomas & McManis are a great group of people & historic preservation. If it is not done soon, it will be gone forever and the opportunity lost. I believe a fair price should be given to landowners for a swap for comparable property elsewhere.

The opportunity to tie the greenbelt with the park & other historic areas will not only further the idea of preservation to save our heritage but also will be beneficial for all the citizens and those who follow us. It is unfortunate that this was not done decades ago; however, it will not get easier to accomplish next year or next decade.

The time to act is now for all our citizens, my 3 boys, & future residents of Rutherford County. If there is anything I can do to support your efforts, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Mayo Taylor*

## COMMENTS

### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

We are opposed to alternative 1 of the National Park Service's proposed General Management Plan for the following reasons:

1. The estimated \$20 to \$40 million cost of this plan is far too much to be put into a project of this type. Our tax dollars would be better used for other things.
2. The 10 to 15 years to implement the plan unnecessarily and unfairly ties up the property of our family and neighbors.
3. Putting a boundary around citizen's homes and farms that you may or may not purchase is contrary to American principles.
4. The NPS already has approximately 200 acres they are legally authorized to buy, but after eight years, they still haven't purchased it. They should purchase what is already authorized before launching into yet another unrealistic project.
5. Stones River National Park now has more land than it can adequately maintain. They should concentrate on doing a better job with what they have and forget about expanding.
6. The land acquisition process by the Department of the Interior unfairly puts the landowner at the mercy of the whims of the government.
7. The tax loss when this property goes off city and county tax rolls will not be offset by tourist dollars, therefore the city and county will have to subsidize the park indirectly.

David & Lucy Swain Trenkle

*David Trenkle*  
*Lucy Swain Trenkle*

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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### RESPONSE FORM

#### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

*In a region where the quality of life is being threatened daily by overdevelopment and commercialization, it is in fact the preservation of green spaces. Alternative 1 of the Draft General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield has the advantage of preserving not only green spaces, but also part of our country's history. The enlarged park will provide a much better understanding of the Battle of Stones River, will be a wonderful educational asset, and will give Murfreesboro a uniqueness that another Wal-Mart will not give it. I have visited many national battlefields and military parks and have always found them to be attractive, well-maintained, and safe. Therefore, I think that Murfreesboro would be lucky to have not only more park area, but to have it maintained by the National Park Service. In the above reasons, I strongly support Alternative 1.*

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stn\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stn_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

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# COMMENTS

26 June 97

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

I am in favor of the Park Service's proposed alternative #1 to expand the park. This expansion would provide economic benefits to the Murfreesboro area through increased tourism; and in preserving and interpreting the site of an important event in U.S. history, it would be a treasure for present and future generations of Americans.

I am well aware of and sympathize with the concerns of the property owners who would be displaced as a result of the acquisition. On the other hand, it is a fact that the large open tracts south of Manassas Pike are not going to remain isolated from the encroachments of the urban expansion of the city of Murfreesboro. Sometime in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the land will go for housing or commercial development if it is not acquired as part of the National Battlefield.

Murfreesboro does not need more subdivisions or more commercial enterprises in the areas the Park Service wishes to acquire; such things would only add to the problems of traffic and congestion that the city already faces.

I believe that many property owners would be willing to deal with the Park Service if the U.S. Government would somehow find a way to provide funds now for the acquisitions rather than prolong the process by tying up land within "Authorized boundaries" for 15-20 years. (It will take nowhere near that long for the land developers to swallow up the area.)

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

Sam Truitt

(I am already on the mailing list.)

[24] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/2/97 11:46PM (3407 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STR1 Administration at NP--SER  
cc: Senator Thompson@thompson.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET,  
Senator F. St. John@stjohn.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET, Bart@hr.house.gov at NP--INTERNET  
Subject: Stones River Battlefield

----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text item

Dear Mrs. Peckham,

As I mentioned to you last week when I called, the Tennessee Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans was contacted by prominent historian Ed Bearss in regards to the proposed expansion of the Murfreesboro battlefield. Mr. Bearss contacted Thomas Cartwright, curator of the Carter House Museum in Franklin. Mr. Bearss had asked for the help of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, especially the Tennessee Division, in an effort to save one of the most significant portions of the Murfreesboro (Stones River) battlefield. I had thought that the acquisition was certainly going forward, and had no idea that there was any dispute. In my capacity as the head of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in Tennessee, and realizing that others were certainly in the dark as well, I posted my information regarding the problems that are taking place with the proposed enlargement.

During my conversation with Thomas Cartwright of the Carter House I mistakenly wrote down that Alternative 1 was for only 55 acres, as opposed to the 575 or so that it actually is. I have been copied to many letters from preservationists and historians, and I see that many have included my remarks that the acquisition is for only 55 acres. We, to a man, completely support the proposal to acquire as much property as possible.

Let me state my position on this matter. I will be working toward this acquisition not for Mr. Bearss nor for the National Park Service, nor for the Sons of Confederate Veterans. I will be doing this for my ancestors who trod on those killing fields. I will be taking a stand for the boys in gray and blue. They can not stand for themselves anymore. The world has never known of such a conflict between men so alike, yet so different.

I believe that there can be a common ground between the owners property rights and the hopes of folks like me. Murfreesboro is known for one thing throughout the world, and that is the battle that took place on her grounds. I drive past innumerable strip malls and shopping centers every time that I visit the park, and I maintain that Murfreesboro does not need another strip mall at the expense of the men who are buried upon that field today. If this property is not acquired in the near future by the NPS, then Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and indeed the world, will be poorer for it.

Please accept this letter as a total endorsement of your plans to expand the park boundaries along the lines of Alternative 1 to include 575 plus acres. I hope that my elected representatives will consider this request as well. I have spoken to the offices of all three that are copied to this, and I hope that they perceive the importance of this once, and last, opportunity of a lifetime. Thank you for your work and for your consideration of my opinion. Let us forget!

James Turner  
Tennessee Division Commander - Sons of Confederate Veterans

## COMMENTS

[15] From: "Daniel C. Tuttle" [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/31/97 2:22 PM (1079 bytes: 1 ln)  
To: STRE Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Expansion of Stones River National Battlefield  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text item

Dear Ms. Peckham,  
This letter is to voice my wholehearted support of the purchase of an additional fifty acres of land to expand the Stones River National Battlefield. As a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans whose ancestors fought with the Army of Tennessee, I can think of no finer tribute than to further hallow the ground on which they fought. I fear that too many of our historical sites are ending up under developments of one sort or another. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help in this matter. Thank You.  
Sincerely,  
Daniel C. Tuttle

|| Come ride The River ----- <http://www.theriver.com/> ||

September 1, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Hurfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

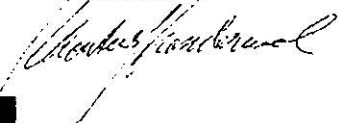
A couple of days ago I learned of the exciting possibility to enlarge your wonderful Battlefield Park. I visited this year on my way to Okishosa, and was immediately struck by the beauty of the landscape, and the wonderful way the cannon and other related items were displayed. The visitor's Center was one of the cleanest I have encountered, and the people on duty, the friendliest, and most informative. No questions without answers. I have recommended to all my Civil War friends that have not seen your Park, that they should make it a point to stop by if in the vicinity.

I am pleased to tell you that I definitely support ALTERNATIVE ONE, as the best alternative of the three presented. It makes sense to preserve as much as possible of the area.

SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE ONE!!!

I hope you and your staff, and the Park Service are able to realize this expansion, and I look forward to the day that I can see the enlarged Park!!!

Sincerely,



Mouten K. Vanderwal  
[REDACTED]

August 2, 1997

Mary Craig, President  
Friends of Stones River NB  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Dear Mary,

Your letter of July 9, 1997 received. please forgive the late reply.

The General Management Plan was awesome reading. If my response is not too late, I certainly favor Alternative 1 of the Plan. Not much else to add, except keep up the good work. Enclosed please find \$10.00 for '97 dues plus \$20 for your general fund.

If you have the opportunity, please say hello to a fellow that is due there in three weeks. That is Brad Quinlin from Georgia, the leader-historian of a great group of Reenactors with Co A 21st OVI from the Atlanta area. They allow me to be a paid-up, non-performing member of their Co A, and showed me a good time at Chuckamauga last fall.

Jim Ogden put me in touch with Brad a few years ago. The results of his research over many, many years is astounding, and he has shared much. My mother's grandfather George Leonard, Co E 49th OVI had a brother that survived four years with Co A, 21st OVI. Both were at Stones River as near as I can tell, along with other cousins/bros-in-law. Absalom Klockner of Co A 21st OVI, at the time a recent groom of Elizabeth Leonard, was killed by a minball in the forehead at about 9 am on Dec 31st. I enclose for your enjoyment a copy of two letters.

Sincerely,

*G. Allan Vaughan*  
G. Allan Vaughan

Civil War Letters. Ohio Soldiers Of Hancock County in the 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry and the 49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, re-transcribed with permission of Michael Leonard of Findlay, Ohio, for the Leonard Family History.

... as excerpt - letters #24 and #25

24. Dear wife Dec 25, 1862 (one day before the Union Army started toward the Rebel Army at Murfreesboro):  
I saw it down to write you a few lines in answer to your letter of the 10th and which I received yesterday the 24th while I was on picket. It was a welcome visitor. It found me well and hearty. I hope when these few lines find their way to my dear one they will find you the same. I was glad to hear that our receipts got home safe. I was usually about them for awhile but all is right about them now. You said you did not know where John got so much money to send home. We only got 3 months pay. I will tell you he did not send any home the last payment before this. He sent \$30 in some of the boys until this payday. He sent 6 months pay this time. That is the reason he had so much money.  
I sent you 3 months pay which amounted to \$50. John sent 6 months pay which was \$60. Now who sent the most money. I don't think there was a man in our company sent as much money home as I did. I lost \$5 more today. I get 8 dollars for it next payday. Now I will tell you why I'll give his money. When we got our money he said he was going to spend every cent of it. I told him he had better send Pap some money for they have had a hard time of it there this fall and he spent most of all the money he could get. I told him I was going to let him have all the money I had to spare. He then told me he would let me have 20 dollars if I wanted it. I thought I had better take it for if I did not he would spend it. I took the money and got a receipt to send home while I was writing a letter to send with the receipt. Walters came and brought him a pair of boots. I then told him he had better let me give Pap then 20 dollars of his. He then told me I should let him have it. Now when you draw your money, I want you to give him what I'll give me. You can tell him how you got the money. They can't blame you for it or me. I do all I could to get him to send it to Pap, but I could not get him to say he would send it to him. I want you to let him have what money I sent to you. If he wants it, when you draw your money you can go and see him whether he wants it or not. If he does, let him have it. You can take a note for it. If he does want it you can do what you think best with it. You wanted to know what I sent that back for. I was afraid some one might get hold of it and read it and make a fuss about it. I thought the safest place would be to send it back. I had no reason to disbelieve one word of it. I always believe all you write in our 12 letters. I forgot this at Christmas. There is nothing going on here today. It is the loveliest Christmas ever I seen. I wish I had something to send you for a Christmas gift, but I have nothing to send. I will send you some money in this letter and you can get one for yourself. I will have to quit writing for this time for it is getting so dark I can hardly see. Excuse me for this time. No more but remain your true husband. Good bye.

Abb E. Klockner to E. F. Klockner

The last letter of the collection written by Abb, six days before he was killed at the Battle of Stones River on December 31, 1862. The following letter was written four days later by his bride of six months, Elizabeth Leonard Klockner.

25. Dearest dear Sabbath afternoon 4 o'clock Jan 4th, 1863 (at home in English Township, near Findlay, Ohio)  
I now sit down to write but who is it I am writing to. Is it a live husband or is it a dead husband. God knows, but I don't know. I hope you are alive. I have a little hope on which to build while writing this letter and that is this. I have asked God for months past to protect my dear husband and to shield you from the bullets providing you were called into a battle. He has promised me the desire of my heart. This is my hope. I know he has answered my prayers in other days, why not now. I know not whether you were in the Battle of Murfreesboro or not. Dispatches have come but not very satisfactory to me. Dispatches say of men officers that were killed belonging to Rosecrans Army. Oh how I dread to hear the true report. I expect I would feel worse if I knew you were killed, but my dear one, I feel from the bottom of my heart today. I hope these few lines will find you still at Nashville alive and well. I am well today. I have got well of the cold I had when I wrote last. I am all right again.  
Pap has had a big time with his teeth, he caught cold in his face or jaw. His face swelled all over to him. I don't think you would have known him. The day we buskbeared he was not able to help. He was in bad part of the race. Silas (Leonard, uncle) and Joe Pickens drove all but salting the meat away. Pap done that himself. We buskbeared the 3rd. It rained both days and both nights. It rained all forenoon today, poured down, but has cleared off now and the sun is shining and getting cold. The mud is almost knee deep on a horse. Last Tuesday, 30th, it snowed all day as hard as it could pour down right on mud and water. The next morning the snow was near 4 inches deep again. The next day eve the snow was all gone again so you grip there is some road here now. I went down to see your

## COMMENTS

folks yesterday after supper. I tell you they are having a time there this winter. Your mother was getting better although am able to sit up out of bed. Day before yesterday she took worse and had a very bad spell. Yesterday forenoon she had another bad spell. She has been very constive ever since she got sick but now worse than before. She has to take physic and when it moves her bowels she told me last night it seemed to her the passage was grinded nearly up, then when the bowels moved it would go to that tight place and there it would stop. Then she says she has such awful pains through her it nearly kills her. She is very low but while there is life there is hope. In the last letter I told you Mary was not well. She did not get any better but grew worse. The first of last week she was taken down bad. She is out of her head most of the time. She knows me last night. She has got so deaf that when they talk to her they talk as if they were talking to someone at the barn. The doc says her fever is the sinking typhus fever, the lowest grade of that fever. The rest of them are well. Fred's wife is still at your Papa's; she helps Amy do the work. Fred is still at the hospital at Lexington. Will has not come yet, neither does he write any. Your mother thinks he certainly will come before many days but I don't know where their hope is for he never said he was coming so soon. I have not been to see Barb since you were away. News came yesterday that Sam Swihart is dead and buried. Joel, George and Ed volunteered. Joel, after he went to camp, got sick. Sam went and took care of him till he was able to come home on furlough after which Sam took the camp chore and has since died. George is sick and in the hospital. Now 3 or 4 more of old Mats family are down with the same disease. I grieve that in all the death I know that has happened since I wrote last. Ken (Galepage) and Mary Wadesy ran off the other day to Michigan (Raf Moore's sister-in-law) to get married. Mary is 17 and Ken 18. Last Monday I washed and knitted a sock. Tuesday I knitted one. Wednesday I commenced the first one of a pair at 10 o'clock and before 9 at night I had the last one of the pair done. If I had commenced at 5 in the morning I could have knitted 3 socks. I was 11 hours knitting that pair and knitted 2 more and fed them in the 11 hours.

... a page appears to be missing? ...

... barrel and then slopped in the night. They awoke and heard something in the kitchen, calling to Dadgones. ... John Dadgones, he got a light and went in and behold it was his old whiskey. I had no air holes and you know how it would sound coming out of the barrel. I wish they had bored a hole in the end of the barrel with a gimlet. ... then it would all run out before he would have heard it. Well, love, I believe I have told you all the news for this time. It is now going on ice. The rest have all gone to bed. I am out to the kitchen writing. I wish you was here to sleep with me tonight. 6 months ago this day I took you to marry. I hope you will be home before 6 months more. Some think the war will soon be over. I hope it will, the Lord grant it. Be a good boy and come home as soon as you can. I would send you a paper if I thought you would get it. No more but ever remain your loving and true wife. Aunt Martha and children are well. Thats all. Write soon. Good night, love. Sweet sleep to you.

E. F. Kleckner to my only and best friend A. E. Kleckner

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1):

I FULLY SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE 1 AND WISH THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENT THIS PLAN. ONE ONLY NEEDS TO GO TO FRANKLIN TN, NASHVILLE, OR TRAVERSO MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN CHATTANOOGA TO REALIZE THAT THE BATTLE TO PRESERVE OUR CULTURAL RESOURCES MUST BE MADE WITH THE SAME. ASSESSMENTS THAT THE POWER OF COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT USE I WILL BE WHILLY NECESSARY TO SEE THAT ALTERNATIVE 1 IS IMMEDIATELY IN USE AS CONGRESSIONAL AND JUDICIAL, INDEED CAN WIN BEING TRAVEL AND RECREATION GROUND. PLEASE TELL ME OF OTHER WAYS I CAN HELP.

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Pockham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address.

John V. Varnum

[Redacted Address]



Sept. 11, 1997

Dear Mary Ann:

We are writing regarding the Dr. of General Management Plan. We hope that you will realize that we have given much thought & consideration to this plan since we would like to be supporters of the Battleground as a neighbor. We support Alternative 3 because it would improve the current Battleground without the loss of privately owned property & without the massive expenditure of money required for the other two plans. We have no much about the federal government needing to cut costs & "park barrel" spending, that it is very difficult for us to understand why on earth the government would want to authorize such an enormous expenditure that is definitely not necessary. We can't think of a more perfect example of "park barrel" spending! We are definitely for preserving the park but not at great monetary expense. For the taxpayers who are already greatly overburdened, not to mention devastating personal expense for those of us who will lose our homes if Alternative 1 is passed.

As a neighbor of the Battleground for many years, we are also astonished that you would want to take on more responsibility than you can obviously handle at present. We are very proud to be living so close to the Battleground, but it is quite obvious that maintenance has been lacking. We are told that your maintenance people can't find things out, that the Battleground is in such a state of disrepair because of lack of funds due to lack of funding. Why on earth would you want to acquire additional responsibility which would require much more additional maintenance when you can't take care of what you have now??

You say you need more property for interpretation. Well, much more interpretation could be done with the current Battleground as it is. I have travelled to many other Battlegrounds during my lifetime, & the present Stone River Battleground is more than enough land to interpret that battle.

Alternative 2 could be seen as a good compromise between Plans 1 & 3. However, we cannot support Alternative 2 because our family would surely lose ownership of the portion of our land already in the authorized boundary, as the plan calls for the new state tour route to run right through that parcel, etc. As we have discussed with you many times before, our doing that acreage will remove us from St. Thomas Greenbelt. Glorification of our land currently has that removal will have a terrible impact on us financially. Neither the National Park Service or the Department of Interior has seen fit to help us work out a solution to that problem. They want our land; yet they don't care about the kind it will put us in. And regardless of your assurance of any kind, Mary Ann, we have been told so many times one occasion, by cocky Park Service officials & by the

(2)

former superintendent of Stone River Battleground, Dr. Magee, that our property will be condemned if we don't do what the federal government says to do. Our property belongs to us, not to the federal government, and you violated our Fifth Amendment rights when you took our land into your boundary without our knowledge.

Alternative 1 is at the least a very greedy, greedy idea! At first may sound wonderful to those who don't know the real story. Unfortunately the National Park Service has conveniently not publicized all the true facts - the real story - the fact that many of us - real people - will lose our cherished homes & habits if Alternative 1 is passed. You told us at a recent meeting when we approached you about the loss of our home, that it was never your intent to take "developed" land. Well, every bit of land you want in "developed" - someone of value. Live there - I know on your map. It is noted that one of our homes are excluded. You say that none of us (the landowners) understand, that there are too many misconceptions. We all understand very well what the Park Service is doing - it is not right! Our family has had to deal with you for too many years not to know. We are all valuable, for all educated people who are, frankly, shocked that our own government would treat us in such an unfair & un-democratic way!

The way we see the government in Alternative 1 is like a big ugly spider weaving its web. The spider (the government) takes what it wants, & then the prey (the landowners) is in that web, it can't get out. And we know that from our past experience. As was mentioned before, two acres of the sixteen we own are within the authorized park boundary. Those two acres were taken into the boundary without our knowledge in 1988, & we were notified about that expansion after the fact. I still have the letter of notification we received at that time, & it plainly states that "perhaps" we had read about this expansion in the newspaper!! Not one Park Service official bothered to contact us to let us know they were even interested in our property. This is a wonderful example of just how the National Park Service walks all over people without any regard for the people's consent, opinion, or anything else. It reminds us of a bulldozer barreling thru & stepping the land of everything in its path.

When we asked in 1988 why we were not notified that there were plans to take our property, we were told that the federal government was unable to find out who owned the land! That how stupid that they think we were?? All they had to do was to look at the Rutherford County tax maps to find the owner! Furthermore, when we were considering the purchase of our land early in 1987, we had questioned whether or not the federal government had interest in the property because there was some talk of the

# COMMENTS

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government's interest in other property. We were told there was not interest in our property. Now, someone was lying! Was it the federal government, Congressman Bart Gordon's office, or was it the realtor? We'll never know because they all denied fault & blamed each other.

Since that time, we have been faced with promises by the federal government of condemnation should we not "accept" them. A couple of "Chicken Feed" offers from the government for our property (2 acres), 1 note with thousands of our land & our home. You are like an infection that spreads & will never go away. If Alternative 1 is passed, all we will have left is a 1-acre pie-shaped lot & it's a big sinkhole in the middle of it!!

It's not that we don't support the Battleground. Our problem is with the way that the National Park Service & the U. S. Department of Interior conduct business. You don't just run over people, take their land into your domain with no monetary compensation. Tell them what they will & won't do with that land, & then maybe decide 1 year later when & if you will purchase that land. If then the price is whatever amount the federal government decides it will be - not what the landowner thinks it is worth. We know this is how you operate because we have lived thru for the past 9 years. You tell us that we can do whatever we want with our property, that is already in your boundary; yet we know that if we tried to develop that acreage in any way, we'd be in the same boat as Dr. Miller & his family. It is shocking that our own government has treated him in such a terrific way, & quite frankly, we don't want to work with anyone who would treat another human being in that manner. But dare you treat honest, hardworking people that way? It is not bright & it surely is not the American way!

It is ironic that one of the reasons we here to make our home here was because the property adjoins Stone River Battleground. We want the Battleground in protection for our property, as a way to maintain our privacy & the beauty of our property without unwanted intrusion. Not in our mind did we ever imagine that the Battleground & the Park Service would become our worst enemies.

Whereas many landowners have expressed concern that the government will pay them only a fraction of the amount they would get from a developer for their land, there are those of us who don't even want to develop our land. We simply want to live on our land & enjoy it, not get money for it. And we want to raise it on to our children who, incidentally, their young ages, have expressed a great desire to live on this land when they are grown.

Our property & our home have been our dream. We have worked hard for everything that we have, & we are

(4)

not about to give that up.

There is a right way to go about purchasing property from those who are interested. A Park Service representative should approach the landowner expressing interest in the property, with money in hand - not the current method of taking land into the boundary first & then in 15-20 years deciding whether or not you will buy a fair price. If an agreement can't be reached, then the Park Service should back off & make an offer only when & if the property ever goes on the selling market.

Finally, we are very tired of having to constantly deal with you. You are indeed a huge black cloud over our lives, & we think what you would do away & leave us alone. All we ever wanted to do was to just live on our land & enjoy it; that is very difficult to do with you hanging over us. We are very disappointed & disheartened that our own government treats its citizens in such a shameful manner.

Sincerely,  
Carmie Shalkers  
Ed & Wilma  
Carmie & Lorry Walker

cc: Senator Fred Thompson  
Senator Bill Pratt  
Congressman Bart Gordon

**Community  
Planning &  
Research, Inc.**  
Private - Local - National

June 27, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

Please accept this letter of support for Alternative 1 in the NPS's General Management Plan for the Stones River National Battlefield. I believe the park service has prepared a carefully thought out plan that goes far in protecting and interpreting the battlefield. Having attended your meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup>, I can sympathize with the property owners directly impacted by future land acquisitions. However, the vast majority of citizens in the county, state and nation will greatly benefit culturally, recreationally and economically by this expanded asset.

One idea that I hope will be considered relates to the James House and surrounding property on Manson Pike. As you know, this house was the headquarters of General Polk. It has survived well intact, and it's surrounding context is essentially undeveloped. While funds may not be available within the near future for acquisition, I hope that further consideration is given toward this site.

Again, I think the park service has done an excellent job, and please keep up the great work.

Sincerely,



Philip J. Walker, AICP

**Community  
Planning &  
Research, Inc.**  
Private - Local - National



November 7, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

In accordance with your letter of August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1997, please accept these comments of my consulting team preparing the *Battlefield Corridor Transportation Plan* with respect to the July 10<sup>th</sup>, 1997 letter from Murfreesboro City Planning Director Joseph Aydelott. Clearly, there are some potential conflicts between the proposed alternatives of the NPS's General Management Plan and the recently developed City and County thoroughfare plans. However, it is also noteworthy that Mr. Aydelott's letter pre-dated our August 12<sup>th</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup> meetings for our *Battlefield Transportation Corridor Plan* in which many of these issues were addressed, and it is likely that some of his initial concerns have now been satisfied. Please consider the following issues raised in his July 10<sup>th</sup> letter:

Manson Pike Improvements

The most recent drafts of the city-wide and county-wide thoroughfare plans propose three 11 ft. lanes for Manson Pike and substantial alignment and clear zone (20 ft.) changes, while our battlefield corridor plan proposes only two 12 ft. lanes, with clear zones and alignment changes being kept to a minimum. For the City and/or County to implement the proposed three-lane scheme, the existing 30 ft. right-of-way would clearly need expanding, as the thoroughfare plan's proposed 36 ft. road curfew could not be accommodated, much less the additional right-of-way needed. NPS acquisition of land south of Manson Pike would result in the local governments having to acquire new ROW land from the NPS rather than a more willing property owner who would directly benefit from such improvements. Our plan's proposed two-lane alternative should be a good compromise that allows the road to be expanded while still protecting the integrity of the battlefield.

Interstate Interchange

At this point in time, it is still unclear whether the proposed interchange at Manson Pike and I-24 will ultimately be included in the thoroughfare plans. However, it is the belief of our project team's transportation consultants that such an interchange is not justifiable anytime within the foreseeable future. If the GMP's proposed acquisition of land at the southeast quadrant of this intersection were to occur prior to the acquisition of land for a new interchange, the necessary land acquisition and development of the interchange would be much more difficult and include Section 106 review in accordance with the 1966 National

Stamp: MAY 11 1997  
List of names with checkboxes:  
Chief Manager  
Staff Manager  
F. STUBBS  
Admin. Off.  
Admin. Clerk  
Chief of Staff  
Maine Ward  
Maine Ward  
Title  
Library  
Research

## COMMENTS

Page 2

Historic Preservation Act. A recent addition to the thoroughfare plans is the provision of an interchange at I-840 and Beasley Road, which our battlefield planning group supports as a means of relieving some traffic demand on the battlefield corridor roads. In short, our plan's support of that interchange while discouraging the I-24 interchange, which we believe to be unwarranted, is a sound compromise.

### Northfield Blvd. Extension

The thoroughfare plans have suggested at least three options for the alignment and termination of the Northfield Blvd. extension. All three options would terminate east of Thompson Lane, with one option being on Thompson Lane north of Manson Pike, another being on Thompson Lane south of Manson Pike, and a third being on Manson Pike itself. Depending upon the road's exact alignment, any or all of these options might conflict with Alternative 1 of the NPS General Management Plan, as they might traverse the property targeted for acquisition by the NPS on the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Manson Pike and Thompson Lane.

### Land Acquisition Alternatives

There is merit to Mr. Aydelott's suggestion that a fourth alternative be considered that would entail the acquisition of land north of Manson Pike and west of Thompson Lane rather than as now proposed in Alternative 1. However, while such an alternative could add contiguous lands to the park while containing the park within key existing road boundaries, it would fail to preserve the most historically significant sites still not included within the NPS-owned national battlefield (Still's Hill, Gresham House Site, Brick Kuhn Site).

### Tour Routes

The proposed tour routes for Alternatives 1 and 2 of the General Management Plan would include portions of Old Nashville Hwy. and Manson Pike beyond the park boundaries, but a significant part of the routes would still remain within the park boundaries. The starting and finishing points for the tour route would also continue to exist within the current park boundaries. While the concerns over potential conflicts between local traffic and visitors is an important issue, it should not preclude routes that leave the NPS boundaries.

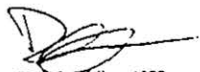
Many national battlefield parks in other parts of the country feature tour routes that leave the park, and they do so without any significant problems. Furthermore, the County recently spent thousands of dollars to develop an expanded tour route brochure to encourage such routes. The "substandard condition of the existing roadway" will be remedied once the City and County thoroughfare plans are adopted and implemented. Most importantly, this issue has been studied by one of our project team members, Ross Tugman of TDA Illinois. His analysis of the GMP's proposed tour route concluded that

Page 3

the Alternative 1 proposal "would function well with minimal conflict between visitor and general traffic." Similarly, Mr. Tugman concluded in his report that Alternative 2 "creates few conflicts with general traffic."

In summary, the Murfreesboro Planning Director's July 10<sup>th</sup> letter raises several good points and, as noted previously, that letter significantly pre-dates the most recent meetings and discussions of the battlefield corridor advisory committee. We believe that the NPS's General Management Plan and the City and County thoroughfare plans do indeed pose some conflicting objectives, but can peacefully co-exist if consensus is reached which balances the key objectives of both documents. A good starting point will be to use our recently-completed *Battlefield Corridors Transportation Plan* as a means of compromise.

Sincerely,

  
Philip L. Walker, AICP  
Principal

cc: Bob Murphy, RPM Associates  
Ross Tugman, TDA Illinois

NOTE: This letter from Philip Walker was written in response to a request by Jim Huhta, Chairman, Steering Committee, Transportation Corridors Plan, and Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent of Stones River National Battlefield. Mr. Walker was asked to comment on the letter that was submitted on July 10, 1997, by Joseph Aydelott, Planning Director for the City of Murfreesboro, which contained comments on the *Draft General Management Plan*. Mr. Aydelott's letter, which is one of the agency letters included in this section of the document, expresses a number of concerns regarding the effect that alternatives 1 and 2 may have on traffic and transportation in the vicinity of the national battlefield. Mr. Walker's firm, Community Planning & Research, recently completed a study for Rutherford County entitled *Stones River Battlefield Transportation Corridors Plan*. The plan offers alternative solutions to transportation improvements that might be prompted by future growth near the national battlefield.

Editor

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (Alternative 1).

*I don't have any specific ideas but  
I do favor Alternative 1 (NPS).*

*Martin F. Warren*

*MARTIN F. WARREN*

Jackie F. Warren

August 19, 1997

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Dear Ms. Peckham:

In regard to the future plans of Stones River Battlefield, I am completely against Alternative 1. I think it's our moral obligation to prevent the National Park Service from acquiring land for which they do not pay current market value at the same exact time of purchase like any other government service or individual in the USA.

Yours truly,

*Jackie F. Warren*  
Jackie F. Warren

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: [stri\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:stri_administration@nps.gov)

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

(1) From: Kory Wells [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 7/15/97 1:39PM (1  
866 bytes: 1 ln)  
To: STAL Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Stones River National Battlefield expansion  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

To: Mr. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
Murfreesboro, TN

From: (Ms.) Kory Wells  
2123 Londonderry Drive  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129-1310  
Kelsey@worldnet.att.net

Dear Ms. Peckham,

I am writing to you to express my dismay over the proposed conditions under which the National Park Service is attempting to expand the boundary of Stones River National Battlefield here in Murfreesboro.

Although I could cautiously support the expansion of the battlefield, I completely oppose the method by which the NPS and Department of Interior may take this property. Condemnation, with the actual purchase some time in the distant future and the purchase price subject to seemingly endless litigation, places affected property owners in an intolerably devastating situation, both financially and emotionally. I find such treatment of my fellow citizens unconscionable.

Perhaps you could pursue the development of an expansion plan which would include immediate and fair market value funding for the purchase of the properties in question, as well as consideration for individual property owners who do not want to immediately move. As the situation stands now, however, I am AGAINST the park expansion. I urge you to develop an expansion plan which is more sensitive to the affected property owners.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Respectfully yours,

Kory Green Wells

Kory Wells  
Kelsey Associates, Inc.  
Kelsey@worldnet.att.net

7/26/97

To Park Officials,

My husband and I have enjoyed the battlefield and its history of Murfreesboro for 11 years.

We are in favor and support any upgrading - expanding or caring for our history of the battlefield and its expansion.

Please use our comment for a positive use of our historic city and battlefield.

Thank you,

The Whitakers

[REDACTED]

# COMMENTS

[23] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/2/97 6:52PM (4073 bytes: 1 ln)  
 To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
 cc: Bart@hr.house.gov at NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Thompson@thorpson.senate.gov at  
 NP--INTERNET, Senator\_Frist@frist.senate.gov at NP--INTERNET, JohnT3@aol.com  
 at NP--INTERNET, GAELICREE@aol.com at NP--INTERNET  
 Subject: Property for Stones River National Battlefield  
 ----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1. Text Item

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
 Stones River National Battlefield  
 3501 Old Nashville Highway  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37219

Dear Mr. Peckham:

I am advised by some of my friends in Middle Tennessee that there has arisen what appears to be an excellent opportunity for the National Park Service to acquire additional lands to incorporate into the Stones River National Battlefield. This area was the scene of a significant struggle during the War Between the States and my wife and I had the pleasure to tour the park last year. We enjoyed our visit and want to let you know that we are pleased with the efforts of the National Park Service in preserving the unique elements of a special part of American history. We just got back from a Labor Day trip to Vicksburg NMP and were pleased to see the high quality of the new publications available and especially the audio tape available for the driving tour. Stones River was our first exposure to the audio tape tours and it certainly enhances the experience of driving through the park.

We support your efforts to improve and expand the park and the presentation of its history. I am opposed to contemporary efforts by various individuals and institutions to rewrite or revise history and believe that the National Park Service, although part of our Federal Government, and as such directly descended from my ancestors' Union adversaries, does an exceptional job in presenting a factual history of our country's struggle during the 1860's.

Only by a fair presentation and treatment of history can the issues of that time be understood by us many years later.

I have absolutely no complaint whatsoever about the taxes that I pay being used, at least in some part, wisely for the preservation, upkeep and improvement of our national historic and natural treasures. I cannot say this about some of the other federal expenditures.

I understand that there may be some opposition to the proposed acquisition of land. As I recall the area in which the Stones River National Battlefield Park is situated, I cannot think of a better use for the adjacent land than to incorporate such into the Park.

I am knowledgeable and sensitive to the conflict between private property rights and the ability of a governmental entity (municipal, state or federal) to "condemn" property under the principles of eminent domain. There is always some measure of sacrifice in an eminent domain proceeding, however, as long as there appears to be a good and justifiable reason for the condemnation, if fair compensation is rendered and due consideration given to the landowner, I sincerely believe that any such sacrifice of the one is justified because of the benefit to all of our citizens. Clearly the highest and best use of any property adjacent to the Park, which has an identifiable connection with the battle or which is necessary for the Park infrastructure, is for such to be included within the Park boundaries.

I urge you to direct your efforts to secure the approval for the acquisition of this land for a fair price and continue to enhance the Battlefield Park. It is an important place in American and Tennessee history and its continued improvement and enhancement should be of the highest priority.

Respectfully,

John T. Wilkinson III  
 Attorney at Law

cc:  
 Congressman Bart Gordon  
 Senator Fred Thompson  
 Senator Bill Frist  
 James Turner, Tennessee SCV Division Commander



## COMMENTS

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

8 September 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Re: Expansion of the  
Stones River National  
Battlefield

Dear Ms. Peckham:

I have followed with interest the debate over the proposed expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield in the Nashville Tennessee, the Daily News Journal and the City Council meeting of 4 September 1997 which was televised.

I am not an involved property owner who will be directly affected by any expansion of the Battlefield. I am an interested taxpayer who will be paying for any such expansion.

I am opposed to any expansion of the Battlefield for many reasons.

Expansion and financing of any purchase is at the whim and discretion of the Congress. The regional director from Denver in his report more than 10 years ago stated he foresaw no realistic chance for financing any acquisition in the foreseeable future. If financing is not available, there is no need to tie up the property or to expand the Battlefield.

The Park Service is probably correct in stating the sale of the property by any property owner is not prohibited. However, when a prospective buyer learns of the involvement of the Park Service, the sale fails.

The constitution forbids the taking of a citizens property without just compensation. Therefore, if the Park Service decides to expand and include properties within its boundary, the Park Service should purchase and pay for the property promptly.

The idea of the value of a property being set by a court in a condemnation proceeding is the American way. But to then say the ruling of the court is bidding upon the property owner and not upon the Park Service and the Federal Government is hypocrisy at its worst.

The advocates of expansion indicated the battle of Stones River includes many thousands of acres of land. What is to keep the Park Service from wanting the entire city of Murfreesboro and/or Smyrna. These cities were within the battle area and should be preserved? If the Park Service is so intent on expansion, the first course should be to secure the money to purchase any coveted property.

The Federal Government presently controls about 30% of all lands. Surely, that is plenty of land held by the government for the good of the people.

The Park Service has not done a proper job in the maintenance of the present facilities. If the Congress will not maintain the property now within the Park Service, and the Park Service does not have sufficient funds to keep up the property, there is no need to take on more land and/or responsibility.

I'll recap by stating I am against the expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield for the several reasons stated.

Sincerely yours,  
*Dick L. Willeford*  
Dick L. Willeford

## History Department

P.O. Box 22  
Middle Tennessee State University  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37132  
(615) 898-2536



Office phone: (615) 898-2633  
email: jhwillia@mtsu.edu

Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3531 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

23 July 1997

Dear Superintendent Peckham:

I have read with enjoyment the draft general management plan and environmental impact statement for Stones River National Battlefield. Of the other GMP's that I have read in my thirteen years of connection with the National Park Service, I found yours to be best overall. It is thoughtfully conceived, thoroughly executed, and beautifully presented.

My comments are from my perspective as a resident of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County, as a historian of early America at Middle Tennessee State University, and as an advocate of national parks and our cultural and natural heritage. I find alternative three an unthinkable choice if Stones River is to maintain any integrity as a historic site. Alternative three would essentially condemn the park to remain a sorry shadow of its potential self. Alternative two is presented as the compromise between alternatives one and three, but I do not see how the NPS can afford to compromise and lose the opportunity to protect significant portions of the battlefield that have not yet been, but will soon be, lost to development. Choosing either alternative two or three, I believe, would be tantamount to violating the NPS mandate in the Organic Act, for neither alternative would adequately and substantially preserve the battlefield unimpaired for future generations.

For many reasons, therefore, I strongly support alternative one, the proposed option. As a historian, I believe that this alternative will best protect the remaining unspoiled area of the original battlefield. It also presents a stunningly different interpretive plan that will radically change the visitor experience and the NPS's success in conveying the events, the meaning, and the significance of the Battle of Stones River. I already await with eagerness the expanded park, redesigned tour road, the walking trail, and the other improvements proposed in alternative one. By choosing alternative one, the NPS would also make Stones River NB a more useful resource for me and my colleagues in our teaching of American history at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

As a resident of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County, I favor alternative one because it will, as it saves battlefield land from development, secondarily protect greenspace from the explosive growth and residential and commercial development that now plagues the city and the county. The city needs greenspace within its boundaries, and the protection of a national

park area is an excellent way to do this while opening some of the land for the enrichment and enjoyment of local residents and visitors from the nation and the world. I especially like alternative one's suggestion to link the battlefield with the Stones River Greenway and to improve the access to and integrity of the McFadden farm area along the river.

Finally, as a member of the National Parks and Conservation Association, Eastern National Parks and Monuments Association, and the Nature Conservancy, among other similar groups, I favor alternative one for the expanded protection it will bring to the historic battlefield. The expansion of the park and the other improvements suggested in alternative one, if implemented, will make Stones River a more significant park within the National Park System and will save the last salvageable parts of the battlefield before it is too late. Alternative one also recognizes and provides for the expanded protection of the nationally significant natural resources that would exist within the new park boundaries. In particular, I noted with interest the recognition of the cedar glade habitat on the battlefield, as well as the lengthy list of endangered and threatened species that the expanded park would allow the federal government to protect.

I conclude by offering my strongest possible support for alternative one. Selection of either of the other alternatives will mean the permanent loss of the last opportunity to make Stones River National Battlefield a truly great Civil War park. I look forward to helping in any way that I can in the implementation of alternative one.

Sincerely yours,

James H. Williams, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor

## COMMENTS

From the desk of ..... Rick Williams  
V.P. Commercial Development

Dear Mary Ann,

I read w/ interest in the recent issue of CW News about your efforts to expand Stones River. I was at your park a year ago for the annual APCW's meeting. I went early + spent my tourism money locally. I plan to return. Please let your neighbors know how a first-class Civil War battlefield can attract affluent businessmen such as myself!

Good  
luck



Rick Williams  
8/15/97

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Monday 8 September, 1997

Subject: Proposed General Management Plan (GMP) for Stones River Battlefield

Dear Superintendent:

I support Alternative 1 of the GMP as it both enlarges the preserved area of the battlefield as well as improves its interpretation for the benefit of the visitor.

The Battle of Stones River was significant for many reasons. It was a major battle of the Civil War and was the biggest battle west of the Alleghenies. Eighty-three thousand men engaged in battle over a three day period resulting in more casualties (24,645) than those at the better known battle of Shiloh (23,741). The total casualties were the eighth highest of any Civil War battle. The Union casualty rate was the highest of the war; the Confederate casualty rate was second only to Gettysburg.

Stones River was the first big engagement of the Union campaign to split the Confederacy which eventually led to Major General Sherman's March to the Sea and his capture of Savannah in December, 1864. The possession of the battlefield by Union forces after Bragg's withdrawal helped offset the Union losses suffered at the battles of Fredericksburg in Virginia and Chickasaw Bayou in Mississippi, both fought earlier in December 1862. President Lincoln telegraphed General Rosecrans on January 5, 1863 expressing his personal thanks and the nation's gratitude. "God bless you and all with you." Soon thereafter, the US Ambassador to England used the good news from Stones River to convince Britain that the United States would eventually win the war and discourage their support for the Confederacy.

Psychologically, the Confederate defeat at Stones River was especially detrimental to the South. The Army of Tennessee had previously been beaten at Shiloh and driven out of Kentucky. The Battle of Stones River not only signified the end of the Confederacy's attempt to recapture Kentucky, it was also their first step on the way to losing control over middle Tennessee. These successive losses for the South caused a feeling of despair that undermined the South's ability to resist the Northern aggressors and helped support a growing opinion that General Bragg was incapable of winning victories. Bragg was eventually relieved of command of the Confederate Army of Tennessee after his loss to the Union Army of the Cumberland at Chickamauga, the same armies that fought at Stones River.

Significant battlefield actions occurred at Stones River including Brigadier General Phil Sheridan's fighting retreat that stalled the Confederate drive on the first morning of battle long enough for the Union army to reestablish itself in the Round Forest and fend off subsequent attacks later that day. Sheridan's action is recognized as one of the most successful fighting withdrawals of the war and launched his reputation which eventually rose to that of Grant's and Sherman's. Incidentally, Sheridan later in the war became mentor to George Armstrong Custer and remained so up to and including the time Custer was defeated at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. Major John Mendenhall's amassing of 57 Union cannons next to Stones River on the last day of battle broke the final charge by Major General John Breckinridge and was one of the early instances in military history where artillery was fired over the heads of its own infantry into

the charging enemy. And, of course, Breckinridge's charge into Mendenhall's artillery firing at the rate of 100 rounds per minute produced 1700 southern casualties out of 4500 engaged, making it one of the bloodiest assaults of the war and ranking it with Pickett's famous charge at Gettysburg.

Stones River has many stories to tell from the human and more personal side of war such as the dramatic death of Lt. Col. Julius Peter Gareche, Chief-of-Staff to Gen. Rosecrans. Gareche's long held belief that he would die in his first battle came tragically true on the first day of battle when he was decapitated by a cannonball while on horse back when accompanying Rosecrans who was personally trying to restore battle lines near the railroad. Although Gareche's blood splattered his friend Rosecrans, Rosecrans could not take time to grieve in the midst of battle but had to carry on his duties instead.

Stones River is home to Hager's Monument, the nation's oldest Civil War monument, erected by the Army of the Cumberland to their fallen comrades who fought so desperately at the Round Forest, as well as to 6000 other Union soldiers buried in the National Cemetery. There is also Fortress Rosecrans, the largest earthen fortress built during the war that later served as a strategic supply depot to General Sherman during his March to the Sea. All the examples described above and many more are of historical and national significance. They are special to Stones River and have earned it a unique and rightful place in our Civil War heritage.

Unfortunately, the Battle of Stones River has become as much a casualty to history as the soldiers themselves who fought and died there. Few Americans even know there was a Battle of Stones River let alone anything about it. Even though it was one of the largest battles in the war and had a major impact on its outcome, Stones River never received the recognition it was due nor the prominence it deserved. Why?

From a military perspective the actual battle ended in a tactical stalemate. The Union was left in control of the battlefield not so much because they defeated the Confederates but rather because General Bragg believed, and rightfully so, that Rosecrans was being resupplied from Nashville and Bragg could ill afford to sustain further losses. Bragg therefore withdrew his troops to winter quarters in Tullahoma. The lack of a clear and decisive victory combined with the budget constraints that existed at the time diluted the effort with which the country decided to honor this particular battle after the war. Instead, other battlefields in the Tennessee area such as Shiloh, Chattanooga and Chickamauga and around the country, particularly in the east, received far greater recognition and overshadowed Stones River. While understandable that our Civil War ancestors at the time would choose to honor those battles where victory was clear and decisive, we of the present generation have the advantage of a historical perspective they did not. Today we can look back with a broader knowledge of just how important Stones River really was; Northern victory began in the western theater of the war, and Stones River was the first real step by the Union to split the Confederacy and ultimately win the war.

More and more battlefield acreage is being lost to commercial development around the country every day, but few of the remaining unprotected battlefields are as important to our national Civil War heritage as Stones River. Commercial growth within our community is so rapid that lands available today to enhance the Stones River story will not be available in the future. Hallowed ground where Civil War soldiers once spilled blood for their beliefs and our freedom is today occupied by a McDonalds fast food restaurant and Wal-Mart Super Center.

## COMMENTS

While I do not oppose progress and am not oblivious to the tax revenue these commercial retailers generate for our community, there is other land available nearby for future development without having to encroach further on the battlefield grounds. Let me also say that I am sympathetic to the local land owners who hold land within the expanded boundaries of Alternative 1 and out of consideration for these people Congress should move quickly to appropriate the monies to compensate them fair market value for their property. However, while there are local issues that need addressing, the battlefield expansion must be viewed from a national perspective. Even though the vast majority of Americans are unfamiliar with Stones River there are still well over 250,000 visitors annually that testify to people's interest from around the country in Stones River battlefield. Therefore, the expansion issue transcends local politics and speaks to our national heritage.

The additional 759 acres of land to be acquired under Alternative 1 is important because it includes not only major events that occurred during the battle but also would better project to visitors just how large an area the battle took place over. The expansion acreage would greatly enhance the ability to more accurately describe the events in the battle and the order in which they occurred. And while this additional acreage would double the existing battlefield size it would still represent only a third of the original 4000 acres of battle area. Though unable to undo the past and purchase the other 2/3 of the original battlefield acreage that has already been lost to commercial development, Alternative 1 provides an appropriate balance between historical battlefield preservation and growth by local business interests. Maintaining this balance between past heritage and future growth is one of the most important features Murfreesboro has to offer as a community in the years ahead. This effort on the local level to preserve its past needs to be supported at the Congressional level as well.

We have an obligation to future generations to tell the Civil War story as completely and accurately as we can. Failure to recognize and establish the Battle of Stones River on a level of national importance with the other great battles of the Civil War would be another missed opportunity. Failure to enact the original 1897 legislation to preserve 3100 acres of battlefield was the first lost opportunity. Because of the politics at the time, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Parks were given priority over Stones River. None the less, our ancestors recognized the importance of Stones River by virtue of their early attempt to establish it too as a Military Park. We can, of course, sympathize with the budget constraints that must have existed then. In 1927, another missed opportunity occurred when the Stones River National Battlefield was finally established but with only 350 acres of the original battlefield acquired. Today we have an opportunity to follow through with the intent and dreams of our ancestors by enlarging the area within the park. Do not allow budget constraints to thwart our efforts again to pay tribute to those who fought and died at Stones River. This opportunity will not come again. To lose this opportunity now will be to lose forever to future generations the importance of this battle, for the significance of Stones River transcends itself. The real story at Stones River was not so much the three day battle that took place here but rather it was the first step in winning the war in the west from which overall northern victory was the eventual outcome. The eastern theater of the war has always received a disproportionate share of the credit for the Union victory. We now have an opportunity to balance the scales of history by telling the story of Stones River a little more completely and a little more accurately. Failure to tell this message now will be the real loss to future generations when they in turn look back and try to understand the Civil War.

I strongly support enacting the proposed plan as outlined in Alternative 1 of the Draft General Management Plan.

Sincerely,

*Steve E. Williams*  
Steven E. Williams  
Member of the Friends of Stones River  
Murfreesboro Resident since 1988  
402 Regal Drive  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129  
Home Tel 615/896-6360  
Work Tel 615/896-5410

cc: US Senator Bill Frist  
US Senator Fred Thompson  
US Representative Van Hilleary  
US Representative John Tanner  
US Representative Bob Clement  
US Representative William L. Jenkins  
US Representative Bart Gordon  
US Representative Zack Wamp  
US Representative Ed Bryant  
US Representative Harold E. Ford, Jr.  
US Representative John J. Duncan, Jr.  
State Senator Andy Womack  
Mayor Joe B. Jackson  
County Executive Nancy Allico

# COMMENTS

[6] From: [REDACTED] (MR THOMAS C WILLIAMS) at NP--INTERNET 9/9/97 9:40 AM (911 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRI Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Park Land Acquisition

----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text item

Supt. Peckham, I want to let you know that I whole-heartedly support the National Park Service in adding acreage to the battlefield park. I think that this additional land will greatly enhance your depiction of events at that crucial battle for Tennessee.

I am proud of my ancestor, Private Sandy Hilliard, Tenth Texas Cavalry, who died on this battlefield in defense of his country, the Confederate States of America. I make no apology for his actions. Please let me know how I can help in halting development of these lands that you need for the park. Yours truly, T. Claybern Williams of Texas

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

I am in full support of alternative 1  
because the battlefield / battlefield  
currently was a major force of the  
war.  
It needs to be protected/preserved.

I would like to be a part / to do  
my share.  
I will volunteer!!

Please send comments by August 12, 1997, to:  
[REDACTED]

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str Administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
W [REDACTED]  
\_\_\_\_\_

# COMMENTS

## RESPONSE FORM

### DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

#### STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Please share your ideas about the alternatives for the future management of Stones River National Battlefield. We are especially interested in your opinion of the National Park Service's proposed action (alternative 1).

Two friends and I, all Civil War scholars, are visiting the WA to tour a number of the battle fields and historic sites. Stones River was an important engagement and we all enjoyed our visit and learnt a lot. However, the present battlefield site covers only a fraction of the field of combat - almost all the site of the fighting in the hot day morning is in private hands. Your proposal would extend this and would enable a visitor to gain a fuller appreciation of this important battle. I wish you well.

Please send comments by September 12, 1997, to:

Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

E-mail Address: str\_administration@nps.gov

If you are not yet on the mailing list and wish to receive future information regarding this project, please give your name and address.

BRUCE A. WILSON, 1 ELIM ROAD

## ALLERGY & ASTHMA SPECIALISTS

BRUCE L. WOLF, M.D.  
General Counsel, NACW, INC.

July 11, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Peckham, Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37219

Dear Ms. Peckham,

This is a letter in support of the proposed expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield Park. As a tax payer in Rutherford County, I would be in favor of "Alternative 1" and maximizing the boundaries of Stones River Park.

Please count my vote of support for this process.

Sincerely,

*Bruce L. Wolf*

Bruce L. Wolf, M.D.

BLW/cyr

cc: The Honorable Bob Clement  
U.S. Representative  
5th District; Tennessee  
2229 Rayburn Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bart Gordon  
U.S. Representative  
6th District; Tennessee  
2201 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bill Frist  
U.S. Senator -- Tennessee  
Russell Building Suite 363  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Fred Thompson  
U.S. Senator -- Tennessee  
506 Dirksen Suite 000  
Washington, DC 20510

*Continued: American Board of Internal Medicine - American Board of Allergy - Immunology*

St. Thomas Medical Building - 4230 Harding Road Suite 307 - Nashville, Tennessee 37203 - Phone 615 292 8799 - Fax 615 283 7993  
OAA Creek - 1245 North Highland Avenue - Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130 - Phone 615 842 6960 - Fax 615 848 6982  
Southern Hills Medical Center - 353 Wallace Road Suite 303 - Nashville, Tennessee 37211 - Phone 615 731 7133



June 18, 1997

Ms. Mary Ann Perkhams  
Superintendent  
Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Dear Ms. Perkhams:

Thank you for sending me a draft of the General Management Plan for the park. I was impressed with the amount of work and thought that went into producing this volume.

Of all the battlefield parks in the country, none are in more need of attention than Stones River. Although a major battle was fought here on a large scale, a visit to the present park does not give the visitor a sense of what happened there or its scale. This is a result of not having a representative section of the actual battlefield within the park borders and an inadequate visitor center which rates as the worst that I have seen in interpreting a battle.

The proposed new plans recognize these weaknesses and address them. Alternative plan 1 goes a long way in bringing the Stones River Battlefield Park up to the standards of other Civil War parks. Of the three alternatives, I could only support alternative 1. It is the only plan that adds enough land to the park to cover every battle segment. The key to improving the park is to add land that includes the area in which Hardee's corps swept Rosecrans' right flank. The park should show how close Hardee came to crushing Rosecrans and cutting him off from the Nashville Pike. I do not want more emphasis on the defense of the center, as it is adequately interpreted at present. The park gives too much credit to the Union defense, and an inadequate amount of credit to Bragg's poor handling of his troops, i.e., his failure to keep funneling troops to Hardee's offensive.

Hardee's offensive was one of the most successful in the war and deserves significant attention. Bragg's failure as an army commander should be a center of focus because it explains the growing discontent among his subordinates, in particular among Hardee's officers. If a visitor can see how Hardee pushed Rosecrans back, the number of guns he captured, and the number of federal units that completely lost their fighting efficiency, then the visitor can understand the problems that Bragg created. The visitor must understand how big the Confederate victory was the first day, not how great the Union defense was. To me the big question was "Why did Bragg react the way he did during the first day of the battle, and why did he react the way he did on the following two days?"

I was somewhat disappointed in the fact that it did not appear that any of the land in which P.M. Cleburne's division was involved was included in the planned acquisitions. I could not tell from the maps if this was true. I had hoped that Cleburne's men would be represented and in particular the brigade of Gen. Liddell. Liddell left a very good record of his brigade's action in the battle in his *Liddell's Record*. His brigade played a key role. As an Arkansawyer I would like to see the land in which Liddell and McNeill's

brigades attacked Baldwin's federal brigade at 7:30. This action is shown on a map on page 91 of Peter Cozzens' book *No Better Place to Die*. This area is significant to Arkansawyers because both of these brigades were comprised of Arkansas regiments. This was the only time during the war that these two brigades made a charge together. It was something of a fluke because they were in different divisions, but it probably represents the greatest concentration of Arkansas troops in any battle east of the Mississippi River. Is this area proposed for addition to the park?

The biggest difference between victory and defeat at Murfreesboro was simply the difference between Bragg's and Rosecrans' mind set. Interpreting the contrast would help the visitor. Instead of representing two long dead headstrong old generals, show how these men's personalities affected their decision making ability. How and why did they make their decisions? We could ask ourselves the same question: how do we make our decisions today? That is thought provoking for a visitor, because all of us make decisions. That might help the visitor get more involved.

Alternative II is watered down too much for me to support, and alternative III is unacceptable. If alternative I cannot be accepted, I would prefer the emphasis to be on enlarging the visitor center, replacing the exhibits with new ones, and providing a new audiovisual presentation. Without the land additions proposed in alternative I, the battle cannot be properly interpreted by a driving tour.

As to specifics of the plan, I would not be that interested in the enlargement of the Chicago Board of Trade Artillery Battery exhibit. To me this is just not that unique in this day of re-enactments and so much television. Why spend more money on areas of the park already properly interpreted? The same goes for Pontrebec Rosecrans' presence in, but don't spend precious few resources on interpreting it until the park can say that it properly interprets the Battle of Murfreesboro.

The proposal for McFadden Farm sounds good, but I would caution that the interpretation would need to give the visitor a sense of what the Confederate soldiers were up against and interpret their experience. The present battlefield is already the most one-sided park in the National Park system in terms of not giving credit to the Confederates in the battle and since McFadden Farm was another federal position it would just add to this feeling if the exhibits did not cover both sides.

In conclusion I appreciate the vision of the National Park Service in addressing the inadequacies of Stones River National Battlefield. Alternative I would make it a very good park and a very good "experience" for a visitor. It would make the park a first rate one. I completely support alternative I, however I would not support either alternatives II or III. A failure to approve alternative I is just reaffirmation that Stones River National Battlefield will continue to be a second rate park.

I hope that my comments will be of some use to you. I applaud the work that you have done to improve the park. Though I think the park in its present condition is very inadequate, I do not mean that as any reflection on you or the staff. You should be proud of the work that you have done to make the battlefield a more meaningful experience. You represent civil service at its finest and I am proud to know that we have such dedicated civil servants as you.

If I can help you please let me know. Due to the distance I doubt that I will be able to attend the public meetings. As a former Chamber of Commerce president in my town, I would urge the good citizens of Murfreesboro and their county to embrace Alternative I and commit to supporting it just like the citizens of Chattanooga did at Chickamauga. I am proud to be a member of the APCWS and I will financially contribute to Alternative I through that organization if it becomes a partner in the land acquisition.

Please keep me informed and I will make sure that our Congressional officials are updated. Since so many Arkansas troops fought at Stones River, the battlefield is of interest to the people of Arkansas. Stones River National Battlefield Park should be the focus of the nation's greatest preservation efforts. It is a shame that we have waited so long that we have already lost much of the battlefield. The good news

## COMMENTS

is that there is still such a good opportunity to preserve enough of the battlefield to properly do justice to it. The possibilities are very exciting and I hope to one day be able to tour the new areas of the park.

Best Wishes,

*DeWitt Young*  
DeWitt Young

cc: President Bill Clinton  
Senator Dale Bumpers  
Senator Tim Hutchinson  
Congressman Snyder  
Dennis Frey, President APCWS  
Jerry Russell, Civil War Round Table Associates

[17] From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 8/31/97 7:17PM (1300 bytes: 1 in)  
To: SIRI Administration at NP--SBR  
Subject: Murphreesboro land acquisition  
----- Message Contents -----

Text item 1: Text Item

Dear Mr. Pockham,

This letter is in support of the Park Services' opportunity to acquire additional land adjacent to the Murphreesboro Battlefield. This land is especially hallowed by me, as my ancestor, Lieutenant Lot D. Young CSA, fought there during the WITS. As I am very interested in studying the Civil War, I have visited many battlefields, none often, and would hate to see the trappings of commerce encroach upon our historic site. As Murphreesboro is world renowned for what happened at the Battlefield, why would someone want to ruin its' appeal to tourism.

Please do whatever you can to obtain this land !

Sincerely,

Kenneth P. Young  
[REDACTED]

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

# COMMENTS

Sept. 10, 1997

Stones River National Battlefield  
1501 Old Nashville Highway  
Murfreesboro, Tenn. 37129

Mr. Paul Zavads

To Whom it May Concern

In looking over the summary of alternatives for the park's new G.M.P. I definitely prefer alternative 1. The only thing I don't like about this alternative is that it does not go far enough in protecting the original battlefield. Instead of just expanding the park's boundary to 1,468 acres I would like to see it expanded to the 4,000 acres covering the entire battlefield. I hope this alternative is chosen and an amended to including the entire original battlefield in expanding the park's boundary. Also will you put me on your mailing list for receiving further information about this project.

Sincerely,

*Paul Zavads*

(15) From: [REDACTED] at NP--INTERNET 9/1/97 9:56PM (1301 bytes: 1 in)  
To: STRE Administration at NP--SER  
Subject: Murfreesboro Battlefield land acquisition  
----- Message Contents -----

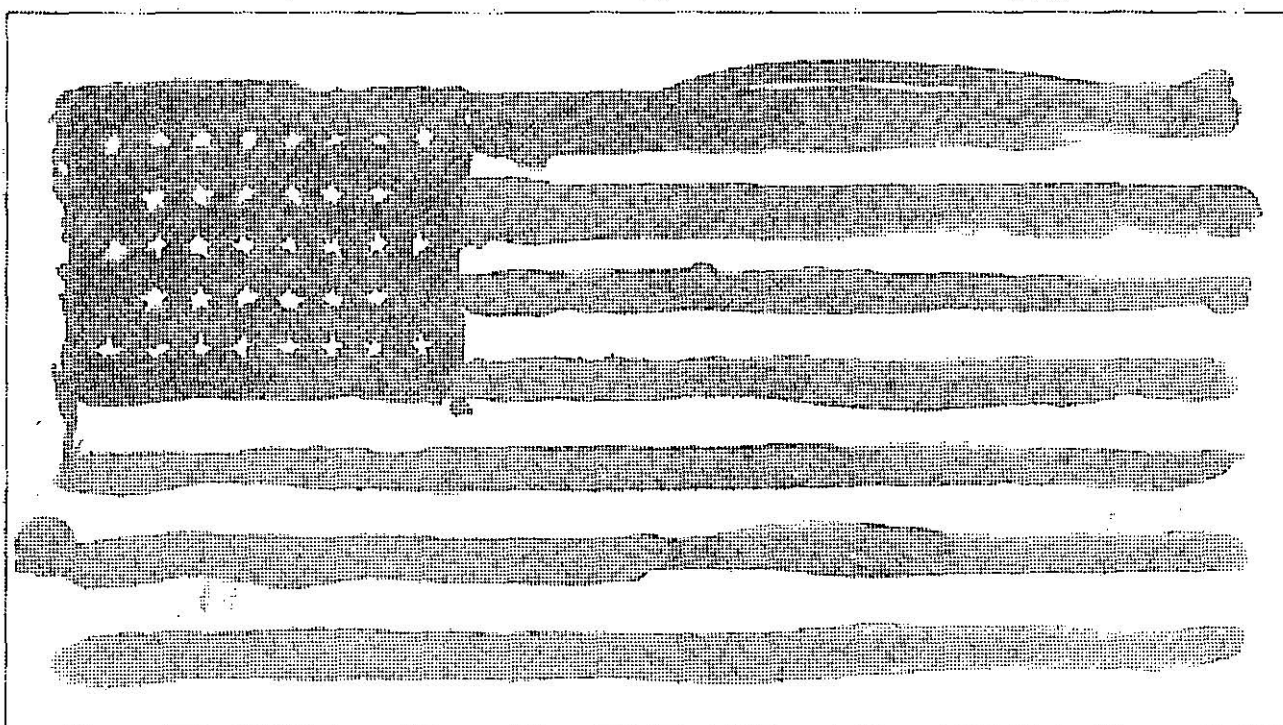
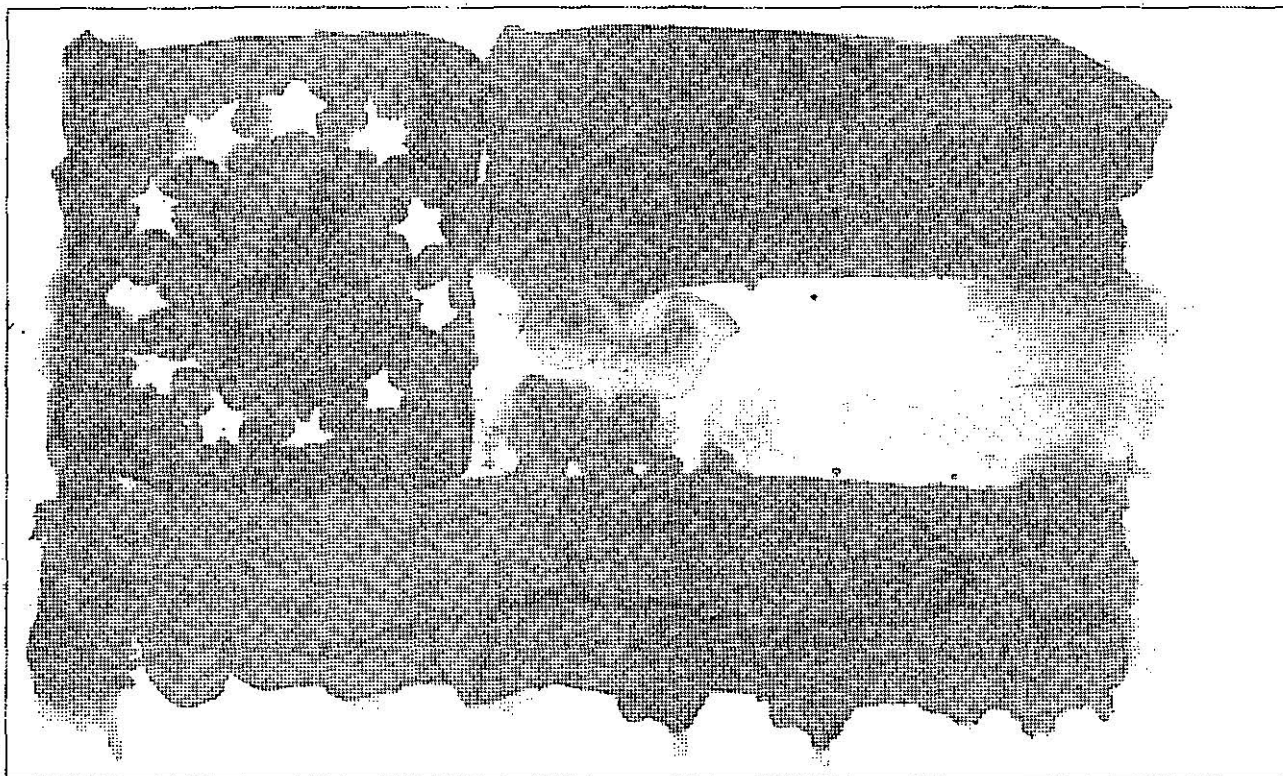
Text item 1: Text item

Dear Ms. Peckham,

I would like to express my support for the Park Service to acquire the additional land to expand the Murfreesboro Battlefield Park. As a 23-year business owner near the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri, I can attest to the value of tourism. I can also attest as a student of our heritage the priceless value of preserving our past. The War Between the States was the most trying time in our nation's past. On both sides, the courage and strength of the American people were displayed unequalled at the time by any other event in world history. I ask that you contemplate future generations and what will be taken away from them if this land is allowed to be developed. Will they have the chance to understand their ancestors as I have had? Will they have the opportunity to stand where a "grandfather" was killed while performing the most noblest of duties...facing the enemy and death guided by his duty to God and his country?

Sincerely,  
Ed Zickner  
Jefferson City, Missouri

APPENDIXES / BIBLIOGRAPHY / PREPARERS / INDEX



Two opposing forces, with no clear victor





## APPENDIX A: LEGISLATION

### 3. Stones River National Battlefield

Establishment as national military park.....	Act of March 3, 1927	Page 326
Establishment act amended.....	Act of April 15, 1930	329
Boundaries revised; name changed.....	Act of April 22, 1960	329

An Act To establish a national military park at the battle field of Stones River, Tennessee, approved March 3, 1927 (44 Stat. 1399)

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That a commission is hereby created, to be composed of the following members, who shall be appointed by the Secretary of War:

Stones River  
National Park.  
Commission  
created.

Army Engineer  
officer.

United States  
Civil War  
veteran.

Confederate  
States Civil  
War veteran.

Qualifications  
of commission.

Inspection and  
report of battle  
field of Stones  
River, for pre-  
serving, etc.

Report of com-  
mission.

Contents.

(1) A commissioned officer of the Corps of Engineers, United States Army;

(2) A veteran of the Civil War who served honorably in the military forces of the United States; and

(3) A veteran of the Civil War who served honorably in the military forces of the Confederate States of America. (16 U.S.C. § 426.)

SEC. 2. In appointing the members of the commission created by section 1 of this Act the Secretary of War shall, as far as practicable, select persons familiar with the terrain of the battle field of Stones River, Tennessee, and the historical events associated therewith. (16 U.S.C. § 426a.)

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the commission, acting under the direction of the Secretary of War, to inspect the battle field of Stones River, Tennessee, and to carefully study the available records and historical data with respect to the location and movement of all troops which engaged in the battle of Stones River, and the important events connected therewith, with a view of preserving and marking such field for historical and professional military study. The commission shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Secretary of War not later than December 1, 1927. Such report shall describe the portion or portions of land within the area of the battle field which the commission thinks should be acquired and embraced in a national park and the price at which such land can be purchased and its reasonable market value; the report of the commission shall also embrace a map or maps showing the lines of battle and the locations of all troops engaged in the battle of Stones River and the location of the land which it recommends be acquired for the national park; the report of the commission shall contain recommendations for the location of historical tablets at such points on the

battle field, both within and without the land to be acquired for the park, as they may deem fitting and necessary to clearly designate positions and movements of troops and important events connected with the battle of Stones River. (16 U.S.C. § 426b, in part.)

SEC. 4. The Secretary of War is authorized to assign any officials of the War Department to the assistance of the commission if he deems it advisable. He is authorized to pay the reasonable expenses of the commission and their assistants incurred in the actual performance of the duties herein imposed upon them. (16 U.S.C. § 426c.)

Assistance of  
War Department  
officials,  
etc.

SEC. 5. That, upon receipt of the report of said commission, the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to acquire, by purchase, when purchasable at prices deemed by him reasonable, otherwise by condemnation, such tract or tracts of lands as are recommended by the commission as necessary and desirable for a national park; to establish and substantially mark the boundaries of the said park; to definitely mark all lines of battle and locations of troops within the boundaries of the park and erect substantial historical tablets at such points within the park and in the vicinity of the park and its approaches as are recommended by the commission, together with such other points as the Secretary of War may deem appropriate: *Provided*, That the entire cost of acquiring said land, including cost of condemnation proceedings, if any, ascertainment of title, surveys, and compensation for the land, the cost of marking the battle field, and the expenses of the commission, shall not exceed the sum of \$100,000. (16 U.S.C. § 426d, as amended. See p. 329.)

Acquiring lands  
by purchase or  
condemnation.  
Duties of com-  
mission.

*proviso.*  
Cost limitation.

SEC. 6. That, upon the ceding of jurisdiction by the legislature of the State of Tennessee and the report of the Attorney General of the United States that a perfect title has been acquired, the lands acquired under the provisions of this Act, together with the area already inclosed within the national cemetery at the battle field of Stones River and the Government reservation in said battle field upon which is erected a large monument to the memory of the officers and soldiers of General Hazen's brigade who fell on the spot, are hereby declared to be a national park, to be known as the Stones River National Park. (16 U.S.C. § 426e. See p. 330 (§ 2).)

To be the  
Stones River  
National Park,  
on cession of  
jurisdiction by  
Tennessee, etc.

SEC. 7. That the said Stones River National Park shall be under the control of the Secretary of War, and he is hereby authorized to make all needed regulations for the care of the park. The superintendent of the Stones River National Cemetery shall likewise be the superintendent of and have the custody and care of the Stones River National Park, under the direction of the Secretary of War. (16 U.S.C. § 426f. See p. 330 (§ 3).)

Control of Sec-  
retary of War.

Superintendent.



Agreement  
with present  
holders of  
lands, for pro-  
tection thereof,  
etc.

SEC. 8. That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to enter into agreements, upon such nominal terms as he may prescribe, with such present owners of the land as may desire to remain upon it, to occupy and cultivate their present holdings, upon condition that they will preserve the present buildings and roads, and the present outlines of field and forest, and that they will only cut trees or underbrush under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, and that they will assist in caring for and protecting all tablets, monuments, or such other artificial works as may from time to time be erected by proper authority. (16 U.S.C. § 426g.)

States may  
mark lines of  
battle of their  
troops.

SEC. 9. That it shall be lawful for the authorities of any State having troops engaged in the battle of Stones River to enter upon the lands and approaches of the Stones River National Park for the purpose of ascertaining and marking the lines of battle of troops engaged therein: *Provided*, That before any such lines are permanently designated, the position of the lines and the proposed methods of marking them by monuments, tablets, or otherwise shall be submitted to the Secretary of War, and shall first receive the written approval of the Secretary. (16 U.S.C. § 426h. See p. 330 (§ 3).)

*Provided*.  
Approval of  
marking, etc.,  
by Secretary of  
War.

Penalty for  
destroying, in-  
juring, etc.,  
property.

SEC. 10. That if any person shall willfully destroy, mutilate, deface, injure, or remove any monument, column, statue, memorial structure, or work of art that shall be erected or placed upon the grounds of the park by lawful authority, or shall willfully destroy or remove any fence, railing, inclosure, or other work for the protection or ornament of said park, or any portion thereof, or shall willfully destroy, cut, hack, bark, break down, or otherwise injure any tree, bush, or shrubbery that may be growing upon said park, or shall cut down or fell or remove any timber, battle relic, tree, or trees growing or being upon such park, except by permission of the Secretary of War, or shall willfully remove or destroy any breastworks, earthworks, walls, or other defenses or shelter, or any part thereof, constructed by the armies formerly engaged in the battle on the lands or approaches to the park, any person so offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof before any court of competent jurisdiction, shall for each and every such offense be fined not less than \$5 nor more than \$100. (16 U.S.C. § 426i.)

Amount  
authorized to  
be expended.

SEC. 11. That the sum of \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended for the purposes of this Act: *Provided*, That no obligation for the purchase of lands shall be incurred until the commission has fixed the boundaries of said park. (16 U.S.C. § 426j.)

*Provided*.  
Conditions.



An Act To amend section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a national military park at the battle field of Stones River, Tennessee," approved March 3, 1927, approved April 15, 1930 (46 Stat. 167)

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a national military park at the battle field of Stones River, Tennessee," approved March 3, 1927, be, and the same is hereby, amended so that the said section will read as follows:

Stones River  
National Park,  
Tenn.  
Vol. 44, p.  
1400, amended.

"That, upon receipt of the report of said commission, the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to acquire, by purchase, when purchasable at prices deemed by him reasonable, otherwise by condemnation, such tract or tracts of lands as are recommended by the commission as necessary and desirable for a national military park; to establish and substantially mark the boundaries of the said park; to definitely mark all lines of battle and locations of troops within the boundaries of the park and erect substantial historical tablets at such points within the park and in the vicinity of the park and its approaches as are recommended by the commission, together with such other points as the Secretary of War may deem appropriate; to construct the necessary roads and walks, plant trees and shrubs, restore and care for the grounds, including the Hazen Monument: *Provided*, That the entire cost of acquiring said land, including cost of condemnation proceedings, if any, ascertainment of title, surveys, and compensation for the land, the cost of marking the battle field, the expenses of the commission, and the establishment of the national military park, shall not exceed the sum of \$100,000. (16 U.S.C. § 426d. See p. 327.)

Acquisition of  
lands by pur-  
chase or con-  
demnation.

Hazen Monu-  
ment included.

*Provided*.  
Cost limita-  
tion.

An Act To revise the boundaries and change the name of the Stones River National Military Park, Tennessee, and for other purposes, approved April 22, 1960 (74 Stat. 82)

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That in furtherance of the purposes of the Act of March 3, 1927 (44 Stat. 1399), authorizing establishment of the Stones River National Military Park, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire by such means as he may deem to be in the public interest, for inclusion in the Stones River National Military Park, such additional lands and interests in lands, not to exceed seven acres, as in the discretion of the Secretary are necessary for the preservation and interpretation of the battlefield of Stones River, Tennessee. (16 U.S.C. § 426k [Supp. II].)

Stones River  
National Bat-  
tlefield, Tenn.  
Boundary re-  
vision.  
16 U.S.C. 426d.

SEC. 2. Stones River National Military Park is hereby redesignated as the Stones River National Battlefield, and any remaining balance of funds appropriated for the purpose of the Stones River National Military Park shall be available for the purpose of Stones River National Battlefield. (16 U.S.C. § 426l [Supp. II].)

Administra-  
tion.

16 U.S.C. 1b.

SEC. 3. The administration, protection and development of the Stones River National Battlefield shall be exercised by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes," as amended. (16 U.S.C. § 426m [Supp. II].)

Public Law 100-205  
100th Congress

## An Act

To amend the boundaries of Stones River National Battlefield, Tennessee, and for other purposes.

Dec. 23, 1987  
[H.R. 1994]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD.

16 USC 426n.

(a) **EXPANSION OF STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD.**—In furtherance of the Act of March 3, 1927 (44 Stat. 1399), as amended, the boundary of Stones River National Battlefield (hereinafter referred to as "battlefield") is hereby revised to include the lands generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Stones River National Battlefield" numbered 327/80,001, and dated March 1987. The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior and in the office of the Superintendent of the Stones River National Battlefield.

16 USC 426.

Public  
information.

(b) **ACQUISITION OF LANDS.**—The Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as "Secretary") is hereby authorized to acquire lands or interests therein within the boundary of the battlefield by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange. Any lands or interests in lands owned by the State of Tennessee or any political subdivision thereof may be acquired only by donation. Lands and interests therein acquired pursuant to this Act shall become part of the battlefield, subject to all the laws and regulations applicable thereto.

## SEC. 2. AGREEMENT.

16 USC 426o.

The Secretary is authorized to enter into an agreement with the city of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, under which (1) the Secretary shall acquire sufficient interest in land and shall construct thereon a trail linking the battlefield with Fortress Rosecrans, (2) the city shall operate and maintain the trail in accordance with standards approved by the Secretary, and (3) the Secretary shall preserve the existing remnants of Fortress Rosecrans and the city shall operate and maintain the fortress.

## SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

16 USC 426p.

There is hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Approved December 23, 1987.

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H. R. 1994 (S. 963):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 100-187 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 100-243 accompanying S. 963 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 133 (1987):

June 29, considered and passed House.

Dec. 11, considered and passed Senate.

Public Law 102-225  
102d Congress

An Act

Dec. 11, 1991  
[H.R. 3881]

To expand the boundaries of Stones River National Battlefield, Tennessee, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD BOUNDARY CHANGE.

The Act entitled "An Act to amend the boundaries of Stones River National Battlefield, Tennessee, and for other purposes", approved December 23, 1987 (101 Stat. 1433), is amended as follows:

16 USC 426n.

(1) In the first sentence of section 1(a) strike "numbered 327/80,001, and dated March 1987" and insert "numbered 327/80,004B, and dated November 1991".

(2) In section 1(b), insert "(1)" after "LANDS.—", and add at the end thereof the following:

"(2)(A) Before acquiring any lands under this Act where the surface of such lands has been substantially disturbed or which are believed by the Secretary to contain hazardous substances, the Secretary shall prepare a report on the potential hazardous substances associated with such lands and the estimated cost of restoring such lands, together with a plan of the remedial measures necessary to allow acquisition of such lands to proceed in a timely manner, consistent with the requirements of subparagraph (B). The Secretary shall submit such report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives.

"(B) The Secretary shall not acquire any lands under this Act if the Secretary determines that such lands, or any portion thereof, have become contaminated with hazardous substances (as defined in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601)).

"(3)(A) Except for property which the Secretary determines to be necessary for the purposes of administration, development, access, or public use, an owner of improved property which is used solely for noncommercial residential purposes on the date of its acquisition by the Secretary may retain, as a condition of such acquisition, a right of use and occupancy of the property for such residential purposes. The right retained may be for a definite term which shall not exceed 25 years or, in lieu thereof, for a term ending at the death of the owner or the death of the spouse, whichever is later. The owner shall elect the term to be retained. The Secretary shall pay the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of such acquisition, less the fair market value of the term retained by the owner.

"(B) Any right of use and occupancy retained pursuant to this section may, during its existence, be conveyed or transferred, but all rights of use and occupancy shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems appropriate to assure the use of

the property in accordance with the purposes of this Act. Upon his determination that the property, or any portion thereof, has ceased to be so used in accordance with such terms and conditions, the Secretary may terminate the right of use and occupancy by tendering to the holder of such right an amount equal to the fair market value, as of the date of the tender, of that portion of the right which remains unexpired on the date of termination.

"(C) This paragraph applies only to owners who have reached the age of majority.

"(D) As used in this paragraph, the term 'improved property' means a detached, year-round noncommercial residential dwelling, the construction of which was begun before the date of enactment of this paragraph, together with so much of the land on which the dwelling is situated, such land being in the same ownership as the dwelling, as the Secretary shall designate to be reasonably necessary for the enjoyment of the dwelling for the sole purpose of noncommercial residential use, together with any structures accessory to the dwelling which are situated on the land so designated."

(3) Section 2 is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. AGREEMENT.

16 USC 426o.

"The Secretary is authorized to enter into an agreement with the city of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, containing each of the following provisions—

"(1) If the city agrees to acquire sufficient interest in land to construct a trail linking the battlefield with Fortress Rosecrans, to construct such trail, and to operate and maintain the trail in accordance with standards approved by the Secretary, the Secretary shall (A) transfer to the city the funds available to the Secretary for the acquisition of such lands and for the construction of the trail, and (B) provide technical assistance to the city and to Rutherford County for the purpose of development and planning of the trail.

"(2) The Secretary shall agree to accept the transfer by donation from the city of the remnants of Fortress Rosecrans at Old Fort Park, and following such transfer, to preserve and interpret the fortress as part of the battlefield.

"(3) In administering the Fortress Rosecrans, the Secretary is authorized to enter a cooperative agreement with the city of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, for the rendering, on a nonreimbursable basis, of rescue, firefighting, and law enforcement services and cooperative assistance by nearby law enforcement and fire preventive agencies."

(4) Redesignate section 3 as section 4, and insert the following new section after section 2:

16 USC 426p.

"SEC. 3. PLANNING.

16 USC 426o-1.

"(a) PREPARATION OF PLAN FOR REDOUBT BRANNAN.—The Secretary shall, on or before February 1, 1992, prepare a plan for the preservation and interpretation of Redoubt Brannan.

"(b) UPDATE OF GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The Secretary shall, on or before March 31, 1993, update the General Management Plan for the Stones River National Battlefield.

"(c) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary is authorized to provide technical assistance to the city and to Rutherford County in the development of zoning ordinances and other land use controls that

would help preserve historically significant areas adjacent to the battlefield.

"(d) MINOR BOUNDARY REVISIONS.—If the planning activities conducted under subsections (a) and (b) of this section show a need for minor revisions of the boundaries indicated on the map referred to in section 1 of this Act, the Secretary may, following timely notice in writing to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate of his intention to do so and providing an opportunity for public comment, make such minor revisions by publication of a revised boundary map or other description in the Federal Register."

Approved December 11, 1991.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 3881:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 137 (1991):  
Nov. 23, considered and passed House.  
Nov. 26, considered and passed Senate.



## APPENDIX B: RESEARCH NEEDS AND ACTION PLANS

Following is a summary of the major plans and studies required to implement the general management plan.

**Administrative history** — The existing "Administrative History" document describes management concerns and significant occurrences at Stones River National Battlefield through 1958. An updated document would cover the period from 1958 to the present.

**Archeological studies** — In those areas of the battlefield that have not been previously surveyed, surveys would be completed prior to any ground-disturbing activities. In the new areas acquired, an archeological overview and assessment would be done to describe and assess potential archeological resources.

**Artillery piece location/management plan** — This plan would determine the most appropriate locations for artillery pieces throughout the national battlefield.

**Cemetery landscape plan** — An updated plan for the national cemetery would allow it to be maintained in the character and spirit of the 1892 design, while allowing for modern techniques in horticultural and agricultural practices, and that recognizes that the cemetery has reached its full design capacity.

**Collections management plan** — Completion of this plan would include a collection storage plan and an update of the collection condition survey.

**Cultural landscape reports** — These reports would assist in establishing a landscape within the boundaries of the national battlefield that returns it as closely as possible to an 1860s era appearance. The reports would address the development history and existing conditions of the battlefield landscapes, would evaluate the integrity of the resources, would give special emphasis to the treatment of degraded lands, would recommend actions for treatment in terms of landforms, land cover, vegetation, and structures, and would define national register boundaries.

**Documentary film of battlefield lands that retain historical integrity** — This film would document all surviving components of the 1862-63 battlefield's cultural landscape.

**Ethnographic overview and assessment** — The full extent of park ethnographic resources needs to be determined. In that regard, this study would identify groups that traditionally define park cultural and natural features as significant to their ethnic heritage, cultural viability, and traditional patterns of use. This study would be coordinated with cultural landscape reports to identify any ethnographically important landscape features and the special meanings attributed to them by the park-associated communities.

**Ethnohistory study** — This study would present a more complete picture of the battle, placing it within a broader context of slavery, plantation economics, and the Civil War.

**Historic resource study** — This study would identify and evaluate battle events and all historic resources, and historic structure reports as deemed necessary.

**Hydrological study** — This study would determine the best method of removing the stone wall along the river and the spring site at McFadden Farm, in order to return the site as closely as possible to an 1860s landscape.

**Integrated pest management plan** — This plan would describe methods of controlling or eliminating nonnative plant species in the park.

**Interpretive plan** — This plan would provide a more detailed description of proposed interpretation and visitor use than is contained in the general management plan. It would describe for the preferred plan all proposed interpretive media within the visitor center and throughout the national battlefield in enough detail to move into the next planning and design phase towards implementation.

**Land protection plan** — An updated land protection plan would address the acquisition and protection of land within an expanded boundary of the national battlefield.



**Photographic monitoring plan** — This plan would determine if acid deposition pollution is affecting the integrity of monuments and other structures.

**Sign plan** — This plan would identify the number, contents, and locations of directional signs to be placed on key roads and highways that lead to and from the national battlefield, in order to assist visitors in finding the park.

**Vegetation management plan** — This plan would describe methods of managing native species in the park.

**Wayside exhibit plan** — This plan would describe location, design, and content of orientation panels, interpretive signs, and interpretive wayside exhibits.



## APPENDIX C: GENERAL INFORMATION ON ROUTE OF INTERPRETIVE DRIVE FOR ALTERNATIVES 1 AND 2

### ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION

The new auto tour route would have one-way traffic, except where the route follows segments of existing two-way traffic roads. In summary, the route of the interpretive drive would be as follows:

- from the visitor center parking lot, drive back out the entrance (two-way traffic)
- east along Old Nashville Highway to historic Van Cleve Lane (two-way traffic)
- south along the now closed Van Cleve Lane to Manson Pike
- enter the section of battlefield land proposed for acquisition south of Manson Pike (the point of *entrance onto the newly acquired land would be determined at a later stage of planning and design, through consultation with city and county transportation officials*)
- generally westward across the historic Harding and Gresham properties on a new segment of park tour road
- north along the historic Gresham Farm Lane to its intersection with Manson Pike
- east on Manson Pike, for about 1 mile (two-way traffic)
- north on a new segment of road to the existing park tour road
- *counterclockwise on the east side of existing park tour road*
- west along the inside edge of the woodbine across the west side of the existing tour loop to intersection with Nickels Lane, on a new segment of road
- north along Nickels Lane to Old Nashville Highway
- east on Old Nashville Highway to the Thompson Lane overpass (two-way traffic)

- north on Thompson Lane to the parking lot near the bridge over Stones River, which would serve both the NPS McFadden Farm area and the north terminus of the city of Murfreesboro's Stones River Greenway (two-way traffic)

### ALTERNATIVE 2

The new auto tour route would have one-way traffic, except where the route follows segments of existing two-way traffic roads. In summary, the route of the interpretive drive would be as follows:

- from the visitor center parking lot, drive back out the entrance (two-way traffic)
- east along Old Nashville Highway to historic Van Cleve Lane (two-way traffic)
- south along the now closed Van Cleve Lane to Manson Pike
- west on Manson Pike, for about ¼ mile (two-way traffic)
- north on a new segment of road to the existing park tour road
- counterclockwise on the east side of existing park tour road
- west along the inside edge of the woodbine across the west side of the existing tour loop to intersection with Nickels Lane, on a new segment of road
- north along Nickels Lane to Old Nashville Highway
- east on Old Nashville Highway to the Thompson Lane overpass (two-way traffic)
- north on Thompson Lane to the parking lot near the bridge over Stones River, which would serve both the NPS McFadden Farm area and the north terminus of the city of Murfreesboro's Stones River Greenway (two-way traffic)



## APPENDIX D: AUTO TOUR ROUTE AND ASSOCIATED TRAIL CONSTRUCTION FOR ALTERNATIVES 1 AND 2

### ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION

Construction of the auto tour route would involve the following:

- Conversion of 4,000 feet of Van Cleve Lane between Old Nashville Highway and Manson Pike to a 12-foot-wide, one-way road. The surface would be strong enough to withstand tourist vehicles, but of a color and texture to approximate the appearance of the road at the time of the battle, when it was known as McFadden Lane. To discourage use of this segment as a thoroughfare between Old Nashville Highway and Manson Pike by people not on the auto tour, appropriate signs would be provided.
  - New construction of 10,000 feet of 12-foot-wide, one-way road through mostly open, agricultural land south of Manson Pike, which would be acquired by the National Park Service within a proposed expanded boundary of the national battlefield. The surface would be paved asphalt.
  - Construction of 5,500 feet of 12-foot-wide, one-way road within the park boundaries including 1,500 feet through the wooded area between Manson Pike and the existing tour loop; 3,000 feet through the field and wooded area between the existing tour loop and Nickels Lane; and 1,000 feet along Nickels Lane to Old Nashville Highway, northwest of the visitor center. These sections would be paved with asphalt.
  - Resurfacing of 2,000 feet of the east side of the existing loop drive to match the newly constructed sections.
  - Obliteration of approximately 7,000 feet of the existing tour route in the park, and revegetation of the corridor to match the surrounding landscape, according to proposed cultural landscape plans.
- Associated trail construction would consist of the following:
- Access from the visitor center to Van Cleve Lane would be served by the proposed two-way visitor center trail.
  - Approximately 21,500 feet (4 miles) of trail would be constructed along the one-way sections of the tour road within the park, including the proposed expansion south of Manson Pike. The new trail would be 4 feet wide, one-way, and attached to the road, or separated from the road by a narrow strip of vegetation. If attached, the surface would be the same as the road — asphalt pavement. If separated, the surface would be the same as that of the visitor center trail — natural colored, fractured, rolled and compacted gravel in an asphalt base.
  - Along Manson Pike between Gresham Farm Lane and where the trail would reenter the park north of the pike, 3,500 feet of the trail would parallel the pike on its south side, within the proposed addition to the park.
  - From proposed tour stop 10 near Nickels Lane and Old Nashville Highway, 1,000 feet of the trail would wind through the woods back to the visitor center.
  - From the visitor center, people using the trail would reach the final two tour stops via the visitor center trail, which would cross Old Nashville Highway east of the Hazen Monument, and via the existing Stones River Greenway to McFadden Farm.

### ALTERNATIVE 2

Construction of the auto tour route would involve the following:

- Conversion of 4,000 feet of Van Cleve Lane between Old Nashville Highway and Manson Pike to a 12-foot-wide, one-way road. The surface would be strong enough to withstand tourist vehicles, but of a color and texture to approximate the appearance of the road at the time of the battle, when it was known as McFadden Lane. To discourage use of this segment as a thoroughfare between Old Nashville Highway and Manson Pike by people not on the auto tour, the intersection with Manson Pike would be designed to facilitate only right-hand

turns onto Manson Pike, and appropriate signs would be provided.

- New construction of 5,500 feet of 12-foot-wide, one-way road within the park boundaries including 1,500 feet through the wooded area between Manson Pike and the existing tour loop; 3,000 feet through the field and wooded area between the existing tour loop and Nickels Lane; and 1,000 feet along Nickels Lane to Old Nashville Highway, northwest of the visitor center. These sections would be paved with asphalt.
- Resurfacing of 2,000 feet of the east side of the existing loop drive to match the newly constructed sections.
- In addition, approximately 7,000 feet of the existing auto tour route within the park would be obliterated, and the corridor revegetated to match the surrounding landscape, according to proposed cultural landscape plans.

Associated trail construction would consist of the following:

- Access from the visitor center to Van Cleve Lane would be served by the proposed two-way visitor center trail.

- Approximately 11,500 feet (2.2 miles) of trail would be constructed along the one-way sections of the tour road within the park. The new trail would be 4 feet wide, one-way, and attached to the road, or separated from the road by a narrow strip of vegetation. If attached, the surface would be the same as the road — asphalt pavement. If separated, the surface would be the same as that of the visitor center trail — natural colored, fractured, rolled and compacted gravel in an asphalt base.
- Along Manson Pike, 1,500 feet of the trail would parallel the Pike, through the woods within the park boundary.
- From proposed tour stop 7 near Nickels Lane and Old Nashville Highway, 1,000 feet of the trail would wind through the woods back to the visitor center.
- From the visitor center, people using the trail would reach the final two tour stops via the visitor center trail and Stones River Greenway.



## APPENDIX E: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS AT MCFADDEN FARM

Visitors arriving by vehicle would park in the city's Greenway parking lot on the east side of the Thompson Lane bridge at Stones River (see the McFadden Farm Development Concept Plan map included in alternative 1 in the "Alternatives, Including the Proposed Action" section). This parking lot is on 11 acres of land owned by the city of Murfreesboro, and although it is within the authorized boundary of the national battlefield, there is currently no intent by the National Park Service to acquire the land. Access to McFadden Farm would be via historic McFadden Lane.

The trail would be about 1,500 feet long and 6 feet wide. The recommended trail surface is natural colored, fractured, rolled and compacted gravel — such as washed brown river gravel — in an asphalt base, to provide a sturdy surface for pedestrians, but to discourage bicycle and roller-balding use so as not to intrude on the desired reverent atmosphere of the site. The footpath would connect to the wider Stones River Greenway, which is already constructed to the NPS boundary. A transition from the wider Greenway to the narrower footpath would occur over a short distance, and be designed to foster the feeling of leaving a recreational area and entering a historic site. Appropriate signs and landscape elements would be employed to enhance the experience of transition.

At the upper end of the trail, near where it connects to the paved section of Van Cleve Lane from Broad Street, an accessible footpath, approximately 150 feet long, would lead to the existing Artillery Monument. The turnoff to the monument would not visually detract from the feeling, view, and perception of an unaltered continuous lane to the river. The design of the path to the monument would be such that it is clearly secondary to the primary trail along McFadden Lane. The path would be designed to be as compatible as possible with an 1860s era scene, while still meeting accessibility standards. Surface material such as compacted gravel would be used.

The trail along McFadden Lane would not be fully accessible for the mobility impaired. Therefore, a parking area would be provided at the upper level of the site, nearer the monument, with vehicle access via Van Cleve Lane (McFadden Lane) from Broad Street. This parking area would include spaces large enough for handicap-accessible vans, and a

passenger drop off and turnaround for a bus. An alternative surface such as grass-Crete would be used for the bus drop off/pickup area. This parking area would also be used by service vehicles, and by visitors when the lower trail was flooded by high river water. The existing parking area at the monument would be removed to more closely restore the area to an 1860s era appearance.

A security gate would be provided on Van Cleve Lane near the NPS west boundary of the site. The city has provided a gate at the parking lot by the river on the east side of Thompson Lane bridge.

An orientation panel would be provided at the entrance to the site near the terminus of the Stones River Greenway to provide orientation and information. Four wayside exhibits would be provided in the area to describe Breckinridge's attack from the Confederate perspective, the attack from the Union perspective, the significance of McFadden's Ford and historic McFadden Lane, and the Confederate crossing of Stones River. Two wayside exhibits would be provided to describe the Artillery Monument and the McFadden Cemetery. A line of 12 cannon would be placed at the top of the hill to enhance the historic scene by helping to interpret the line of cannon that existed during the final day of battle.

One of the proposed cultural landscape reports for the national battlefield would provide the basis for landscaping at the site. Selected trees would be cleared to provide a vista from the monument environs to the river. On parkland across the river, there would be selective clearing to more closely represent an 1860s era appearance. Trees would be maintained along Thompson Lane for a visual and noise screen. Landscape elements such as fencing and lane edge treatment appropriate to the historic scene would be provided. This would include approximately 3,400 feet of split rail fencing along both sides of McFadden Lane on land owned by the National Park Service.

The ca. 1970s stone wall along the river and the spring site adjacent to the river are intrusive design elements and would be removed. A hydrological study, which may incorporate a revegetation plan, would be prepared that would determine the best method of returning the site as closely as possible to an 1860s landscape.



## APPENDIX F: COMPLIANCE CORRESPONDENCE



### United States Department of the Interior

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

446 Neal Street  
Cookeville, TN 38501

May 2, 1994

Ms. Elizabeth A. Janes  
Chief, Branch of Planning, Eastern Team  
National Park Service  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

Re: FWS # 94-1367

Dear Ms. Janes:

Thank you for your letter and enclosures of March 24, 1994, regarding the preparation of a general management plan for the Stones River National Battlefield in Rutherford County, Tennessee. The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the information submitted and offers the following comments.

Review of the Murfreesboro and Walterhill quadrangles of the Service's National Wetlands Inventory reveals that there are no forested, emergent, or scrub-shrub wetlands in the vicinity of the proposed project. Therefore, the Service anticipates that there will be no project-related adverse impacts to valuable wetland resources.

We have also reviewed the proposed action with regard to endangered species. According to our records, the following federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species may occur in the project impact area:

Gray bat (Myotis grisescens) (E)  
Tennessee purple coneflower (Echinacea tennesseensis) (E)  
Leafy prairie clover (Dalea foliosa) (E)  
Guthrie's ground-plum (Astragalus bibullatus) (E)  
Large rock cress (Arabis perstellata var. ample) (PE)  
Stone's River bladderpod (Lesquerella stonensis) (PE)

You should assess potential impacts to these species and determine if the proposed project may affect them. A finding of "may affect" may require initiation of formal consultation. We recommend that you submit a copy of your assessment and finding to this office for review and concurrence.

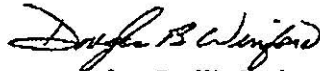
In addition to listed species, there are species that, although not presently listed or proposed, are being considered for listing in the future. Status review (candidate) species that might occur in the vicinity of the proposed project are:

Eastern woodrat (Neotoma floridana magister) (SR)  
Tennessee cave salamander (Gyrinophilus palleucus) (SR)  
Eastern blue-star (Amsonia tabernaemontana var. gattingeri) (SR)  
Water stitchwort (Arenaria fontinalis) (SR)  
Tennessee milk-vetch (Astragalus tennesseensis) (SR)  
Tennessee glade cress (Leavenworthia exigua var. exigua) (SR)  
Gattinger's lobelia (Lobelia appendiculata var. gattingeri) (SR)  
Cleft phlox (Phlox bifida var. stellaris) (SR)  
Limestone flameflower (Talinum calcaricum) (SR)

These species are not legally protected under the Endangered Species Act (Act) at this time, and consultation and biological assessment requirements of Section 7 of the Act do not currently apply to them. However, they are being considered for listing and we would appreciate any measures you might implement to avoid impacting them.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this action. If you have questions, please contact Jim Widlak of my staff at 615/528-6481.

Sincerely,



Douglas B. Winford  
Acting Field Supervisor





STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

To: Elizabeth A. Jones NPS

From: William M. Christie, *wmc*  
Ecological Services Division

Subject: Environmental Review for Threatened and  
Endangered Species.

Date: 3/31/94

Project: Stones River Battleground,  
Murfreesboro, TN

Be advised that a review of our data base indicate recorded threatened and/or endangered species for this specific project area. The information is attached.

Please do not make public the exact location any element listed here-in, as this could lead to possible over-collection and abuse.

The results of this review does not mean that a comprehensive biological survey has been completed.

wmc

Attachment\$



APPENDIX G: BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

**Biological Assessment of Two Proposed Trail Projects  
Stones River National Battlefield  
Rutherford County, Tennessee**

Andrea Brewer Shea  
Division of Natural Heritage  
Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation  
Nashville, Tennessee

July 21, 1996

Submitted To:  
National Park Service  
12795 West Alameda Parkway, PO Box 25287  
Denver, CO 80225  
Work Order Number 1

Approved By:

## **Project Description**

As a part of the General Management Plan for Stones River National Battlefield, the NPS is conducting an environmental impact statement. Two areas within the battlefield are proposed for future development. The two trail areas, McFadden Ford Trail/Artillery Monument and Hazen Trail Connection, require surveys to assess the presence of any threatened, endangered, rare, candidate species, or critical habitat.

## **Description of Site**

The Stones River National Battlefield lies within the Central Basin Physiographic Province of Tennessee. The Basin contains "limestone cedar glades", a critical natural community type in Tennessee. These are open, rocky areas characterized by dry and shallow soils, and a predominance of herbaceous vegetation with many endemic and rare plant species. Wooded areas dominated by Eastern red cedar, *Juniperus virginiana*, typically surround the open glades. Several cedar glades are located on the Battlefield property and have been surveyed extensively by botanists. One Federal Endangered plant species and other State listed plant species have been found on these glades. Other landscape features on the Battlefield property include old fields, cedar-hardwood woodlands, mowed lawns.

## **Literature Review**

In November 1976, Dr. Elsie Quarterman and Miller, Wihry and Lee, Inc., prepared the Stones River National Battlefield Cedar Glade Report for the Denver Service Center, National Park Service. Ecology of the cedar glades was discussed as well as historical interpretation and management recommendations.

The Nature Conservancy funded a project in 1995 for the biological monitoring of the rare species on the Battlefield. The report, by Theresa Hogan, Rob Sutter and Nathan Rudd, is titled "Vascular Plant Inventory, Baseline and Photopoint Monitoring, and Rare Species Monitoring of the Calcareous Glades of Stones River National Battlefield". The rare plant species were inventoried and mapped.

## **Potential Endangered Species**

According to the database at the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, there are no known reports of rare animal species from the Battlefield. One terrestrial species, *Tyto alba* (Barn owl), has been reported from a site two miles to the northeast. Other rare animals in the vicinity are fish species found in the Stones River. There are no waterways on the Battlefield

property; therefore, habitat does not exist for aquatic species. According to the database at the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and the surveys mentioned above, the following rare plant species have been reported from the cedar glade areas located on the Battlefield:

<i>Echinacea tennesseensis</i> (Tennessee coneflower)	- Listed Federal Endangered
<i>Astragalus tennesseensis</i> (Tennessee milk vetch)	- Listed State Threatened
<i>Talinum calcaricum</i> (Limestone Fame-flower)	- Listed State Threatened
<i>Evolvulus nuttallianus</i> (Evolvulus)	- Listed State Threatened
<i>Carex crawei</i> (Crawe's sedge)	- Listed State Special Concern

Other potential Federal and State listed rare plant species that occur within a 5 mile radius of the Battlefield include *Lesquerella stonensis*, Stones River Bladderpod, and *Arenaria fontinalis*, water stitchwort, both found in the floodplain and terrace fields of the Stones River and *Arabis perstellata* var. *ampla*, large rock cress.

Due to extensive vegetation surveys conducted on the Battlefield property and the limited existing habitat types, it is unlikely that other endangered and threatened plant species exist on the property.

## Survey Results

A terrestrial biological survey of the two trail areas was conducted on September 7, 1995. A botanist and biologist from the Division of Natural Heritage staff were accompanied by Gib Backlund, Chief Ranger, during the survey. In general, the variety of habitats present in the surveyed areas include hay field, wooded edge, tree-lined roadway and historic lane, old field (successional), maintained trails and lawns, and wooded floodplain. The entire proposed project was surveyed including a 10 ft. construction buffer on both sides of the trail. No Federal or State threatened and endangered plant or animal species were encountered within the surveyed project areas. No critical habitat, particularly cedar glades, exist within the surveyed project areas.

### Site 1: McFadden Ford Trail/ Artillery Monument

Three portions of the McFadden Ford Trail were surveyed totaling 1.27 acres; the trail alignment, a new parking area and the locations for a number of cannons. The trail alignment consists of the paved deadend of Van Cleve Lane and a tree-lined, nonpaved historic lane (trace) leading south to the floodplain of the Stones River (Figure 1 and 2). An old homesite was located adjacent to the lane and the proposed parking area (Figures 3 and 4). The cannons will be placed on the north and south sides of the trail near the existing monument

(Figure 5) . The habitat types encountered within the project area include a row of trees and shrubs along the lane with weedy herbaceous growth interspersed, a disturbed floodplain with some tree cover and an overgrown homesite and adjacent old field. The following is a list of species identified during the survey.

Tree Species (along the old lane)

*Acer negundo* - box elder  
*Asimina triloba* - pawpaw  
*Fraxinus pennsylvanica* - green ash  
*Maclura pomifera* - osage orange  
*Celtis* sp. - hackberry  
*Juniperus virginiana* - Eastern red cedar

Shrub and Woody Vine Species

*Lonicera japonica* - Japanese honeysuckle  
*Lonicera mackii* - shrub honeysuckle  
*Rosa multiflora* - multiflora rose  
*Ligustrum sinense* - common privet  
*Toxicodendron radicans* - poison ivy  
*Parthenocissus quinquefolia* - Virginia creeper

Herbaceous Species

*Eupatorium coelestinum* - Mistflower  
*Phryma leptostachya* - lop-seed  
*Boehmeria cylindrica* - False nettle  
*Phytolacca americana* - pokeweed  
*Elymus virginicus* - wild rye grass

Tree Species (in the area of the monument)

*Cercis canadensis* - redbud  
*Albizia julibrissin* - mimosa  
*Ulmus americana* - American elm  
*Juniperus virginiana* - red cedar  
*Celtis* sp. - hackberry  
*Robinia pseudoacacia* - black locust

Herbaceous Species

*Festuca* sp. - fescue

## Site 2: Hazen Trail Connection

A total of 1.9 acres of existing trail and new trail right-of-way was surveyed. The portions of the trail connection surveyed include abandoned homesites at Blansett Street (Figure 6), a fence line and tree line on the edge of an open hay field (Figures 7 and 8), the existing trail along Van Cleve Lane and Park Loop Road (Figure 9), and the park visitor stop #6 (Figure 10). The following is a list of species identified during the survey. The vegetation communities adjacent to these open hay fields consist of small stands of successional cedar-oak-hickory forests with trees up to 50 years old.

### Herbaceous Plant Species

*Ambrosia artemisiifolia* - ragweed  
*Sorghum halepense* - Johnson grass  
*Tridens flavus* - purple top grass  
*Lespedeza cuneata* - sericea  
*Plantago rugelii* - plantain  
*Paspalum* sp. - paspalum grass  
*Phytolacca americana* - pokeweed  
*Krigia* sp. - dwarf dandelion  
*Setaria glauca* - foxtail grass  
*Aster* sp. - aster  
*Vernonia* sp. - ironweed  
*Polygala* sp. - polygala  
*Convolvulus arvensis* - bindweed  
*Verbesina virginica* - frostweed  
*Solidago canadensis* var *scabra* - goldenrod  
*Passiflora incarnata* - passion flower  
*Aster pilosus* - frost aster  
*Polymnia canadensis* - bearsfoot  
*Bidens bipinnata* - Spanish needles  
*Rudbeckia triloba* - black-eyed susan  
*Croton monanthogynus* - croton  
*Euphorbia maculata* - spurge  
*Plantago lanceolata* - plantain  
*Asclepias verticillata* - milkweed  
*Lespedeza stricta* - Japanese clover  
*Croton capitatus* - croton  
*Ruellia humilis* - ruellia  
*Achillea millefolium* - yarrow  
*Polygonum* sp. - knotweed  
*Sida spinosa* - prickly mallow  
*Apocynum cannabinum* - Indian hemp  
*Festuca* sp. - fescue

#### Tree Species

*Ulmus serotina* - September elm  
*Maclura pomifera* - osage orange  
*Carya* sp. - hickory  
*Diospyros virginiana* - persimmon  
*Celtis occidentalis* - hackberry  
*Quercus imbricaria* - shingle oak  
*Gleditsia triacanthos* - honey locust  
*Tilia* sp. - basswood  
*Juniperus virginiana* - red cedar  
*Quercus muehlenbergii* - Chinquapin oak

#### Shrub and Woody Vine Species

*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus* - coral-berry  
*Ligustrum sinense* - common privet  
*Lonicera japonica* - honeysuckle  
*Toxicodendron radicans* - poison ivy  
*Rhus aromatica* - fragrant sumac  
*Forestiera ligustrina* - glade privet  
*Rubus* sp. - blackberry

#### **Conclusions**

The on-site biological survey concluded that no Federal or State threatened and endangered plant or animal species exist within the proposed new trail development areas. No critical habitat or critical natural communities, particularly cedar glades, exist within the surveyed project areas. No mitigation measures are necessary. Forested areas located along the edges of the open fields within the new trail right-of-way will not be impacted by the proposed action.

#### **NPS EDITOR'S NOTE:**

The second sentence of the first paragraph on p. 317 should read as follows:

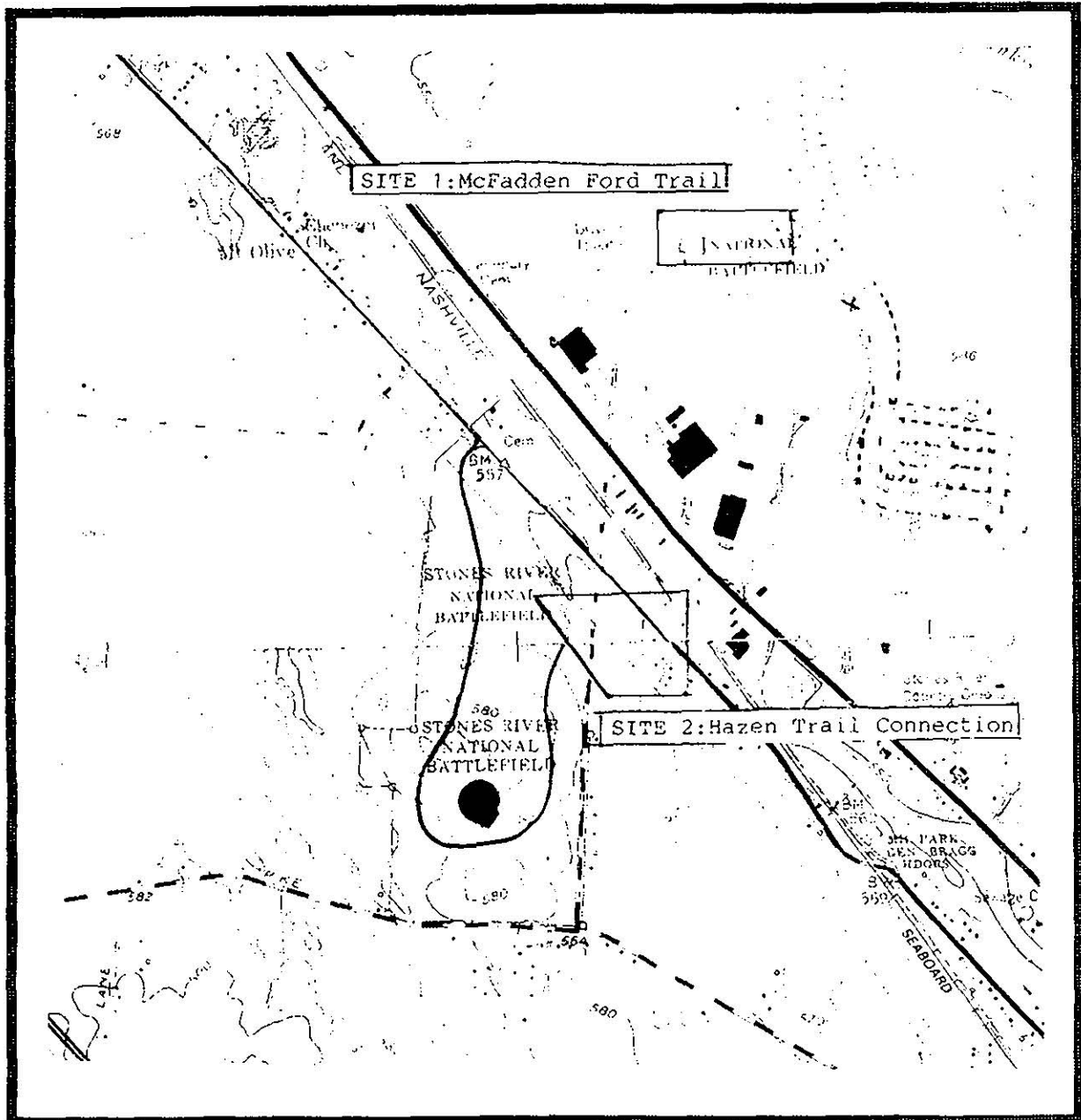
The portions of the trail connection surveyed include abandoned homesites at Blansett Street (Figure 6), a fence line and tree line on the edge of an open hay field (Figures 7 and 8), the existing trail along Van Cleve Lane, the Park Loop Road, the park visitor stop #6, Old Nashville Highway (Figure 9), and the Hazen Monument (Figure 10).

(Note: The captions for Figures 9 and 10 have been changed to reflect the corrected text.)



## PROJECT AREA

### SITES 1 AND 2



**MCFADDEN FORD TRAIL/ARTILLERY MONUMENT**



**Figure 1: Lane - Historic Trace South of Artillery Monument**



**Figure 2: Floodplain along Stones River at End of Lane**



**Figure 3: Proposed Parking Area**



**Figure 4: Old Home Site at End of Van Cleve Lane**



**Figure 5: Artillery Monument and Mowed Grounds**

**HAZEN TRAIL CONNECTION/ARTILLERY MONUMENT**



**Figure 6: Blansett Street and Old Nashville Highway**

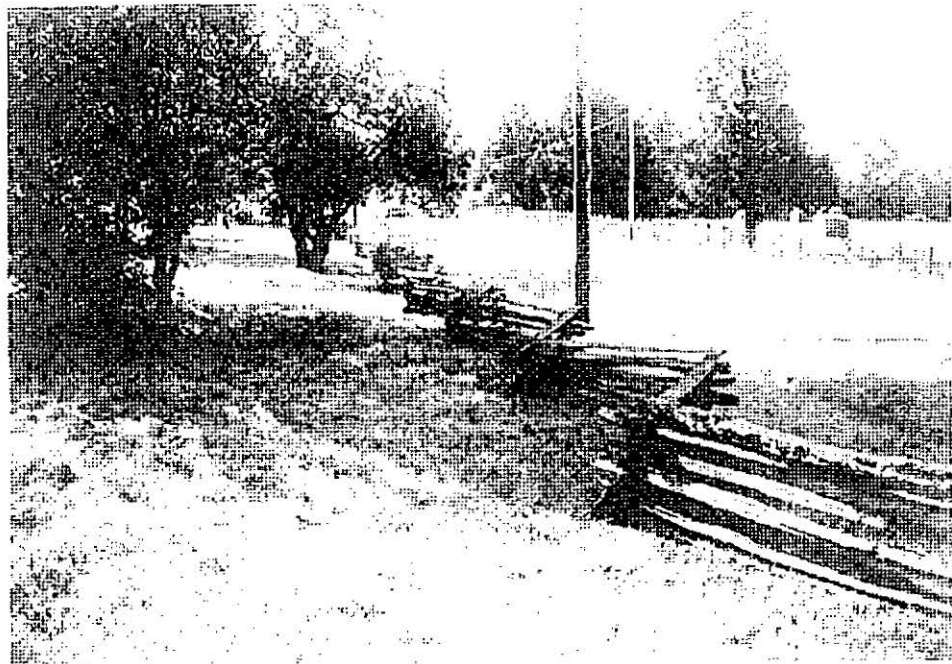


**Figure 7: Fence Line and Open Field**

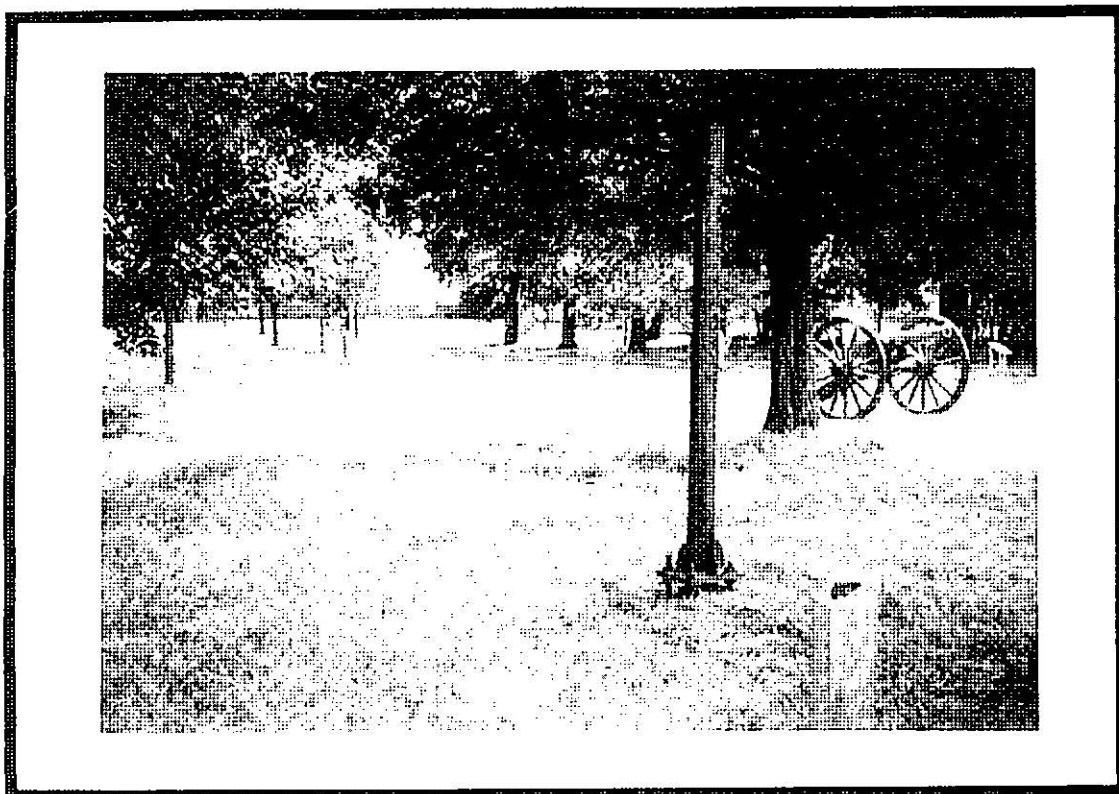




**Figure 8: Tree Line and Open Hay Field**



**Figure 9: Old Nashville Highway**



**Figure 10**      **Hazen Monument**





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