

DATA SHEET

*already on NR
April 22, 1968*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 7 1977

DATE ENTERED *Approved 1/26/78*

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Stones River National Military Park

AND/OR COMMON

Stones River National Battlefield

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Old Nashville Pike, Route 2

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Murfreesboro

VICINITY OF

4

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

COUNTY

Rutherford

CODE

149

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(if applicable)*

Southeast Region - Department of Interior

STREET & NUMBER

1895 Phoenix Blvd.

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

VICINITY OF

Georgia

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Rutherford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Public Square

CITY, TOWN

Murfreesboro

STATE

Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

April 1941

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Rutherford County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Murfreesboro

STATE

Tennessee

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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

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

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

1. Stones River National Cemetery-HS #10

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

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

First Order of Significance

UTM Reference: 16/551180/3970740

Recommended Treatment - Partial Reconstruction

Cost Estimate: \$62,000

2. U.S. Regulars Monument-HS #18

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

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

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

Erected in 1863 the Hazen Brigade Monument may be the oldest Civil War Monument. It honors not only those members of the brigade that died at Stones River, but also those who fell at Shiloh in 1862 and Chickamauga-Chattanooga in the fall of 1863.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bearss, Edwin C., The History of Fortress Rosencrans, Manuscript N.P.S., 1960.
Calvary Operation of Stones River, Manuscript N.P.S., 1959.
The Artillery and Breckinridge's Attack, Manuscript, N.P.S., 1959
Fence and Ground Cover Map, Manuscript, N.P.S., 1961
 Smith, W.D., Col., The Battle of Stones River Tennessee, December 31, 1862-January 2, 1865
 Manuscript, N.P.S. 1932 Continued on Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 351 acres

UTM REFERENCES - See maps

A	1 6	5 5 2 0 0 0	3 9 7 2 0 0 0	B	1 6	5 5 3 7 4 0	3 9 6 8 0 0 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1 6	5 5 0 0 0 0	3 9 6 8 0 0 0	D	1 6	5 5 0 0 0 0	3 9 7 2 0 0 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The irregular boundary of Stones River National Battlefield District begins on the southern boundary at the intersection of Manson Pike and Van Cleve Lane and proceeds west along the north side of Manson Pike for approximately 767 yds. It makes a 90 degree turn and runs north for 533 yds. It then makes a 90 degree turn west 133 yds. then another 90 degree turn to the north for 233 yds., It then makes a 90 degree turn east for 200 yds., and then turning north again and running for 1,100 yds., turning N.E. for 433 yds. to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, then the northern boundary parallels the railroad east for 967 yds. It turns 90° (cont.)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ron A. Gibbs, Chief I, & RM

September 22, 1975

ORGANIZATION

Stones River National Battlefield

615-893-9501

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2, Old Nashville Highway

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Murfreesboro

STATE

Tennessee

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES _____ NO _____ NONE _____

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE *See letter dated June 01 1978*

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST: *Charles Adams*

DATE 1-26-78
 REGISTER ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 1-24-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

2. US Regulars Monument - Continued

Significance: First Order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: 0

3. Hazen's Brigade Monument-HS #11

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

The monument is surrounded by the graves of fifty-five members of the brigade. The graves and monument are enclosed with a 100' X 30' limestone rock wall. The monument is probably one of the oldest existing Civil War Monuments. (Weathering has made the inscriptions nearly illegible.)

Significance: First Order

Recommended treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: \$730.00

4. Van Cleve Lane-HS #14

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

Significance: 2nd Order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: 0

5. Old Nashville Highway-HS #15

This road traverses the park in an east-west direction for .6 of a mile between the visitor center and the National Cemetery. At present it is a county secondary, two-lane, asphalt road that has been paved and the road bed raised in low spots since 1929. At the time of the battle it was a toll dirt road and served as the route of march of the Federal left under Major General Thomas L. Crittenden. By noon of December 31, 1862, the Nashville Pike remained the only supply line open to General Rosecrans. The successful Federal defense of this road was a deciding factor in the Federal victory gained on January 2, 1863.

Significance: 2nd Order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: 0

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

6. Forty-Third Wisconsin and 180th Ohio Monument-HS #19

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

Significance: 2nd Order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: 0

7. The Artillery Monument-HS #12

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

Significance: 2nd Order

Acreage: 9.25

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

UTM Reference: 16/551800/3971490

Cost Estimate: \$3,700.00

8. Redoubt Brannon-HS #13

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

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

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

8. Redoubt Brannon-Continued

Significance: First Order

Recommended Treatment-Preservation

Cost Estimate - 0

Acreage: 4.6

UTM Reference: 16/554320/3968240

9. Bragg's Reservation - HS #16

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

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

Significance: 2nd Order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: \$400.00

Acreage: 1/4 acre

UTM Reference: 16/552420/3969320

10. Rosecrans' Headquarters - HS #17

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

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

Significance: 2nd order

Recommended Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: \$300.00

Acreage: 1/4 acre

UTM Reference: 16/550240/3971630

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 & 10 PAGE 1

9. Bibliographic References - Continued

- Stevenson, Alexander F., The Battle of Stones River Near Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Boston, James R. Osgood and Co., 1884.
- Willet, Ann W., A History of Stones River National Military Park, Manuscript, N.P.S., 1958.
- Morton, J. ST. Clair, Memoir Explaining the Situation and Defense of Fortress Rosecrans, 1863, Record Group 77, National Archives.

10. Geographical Data - Continued - UTM Reference

- Redoubt Brannon - 16/554320/3968240
- Bragg's Headquarters - 16/552420/3969320
- Rosecrans' Headquarters - 16/550240/3971630
- Artillery Monument - 16/551800/3971490
- Historic Site
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| A) 16/552000/3972000 | 16/551160/3971000 | |
| B) 16/553740/3968000 | 16/551810/3970100 | E) 16/550660/3970630 |
| C) 16/550000/3968000 | 16/551430/3968910 | |
| D) 16/550000/3972000 | 16/550510/3969010 | |

Cemetery
16/551180/3970740

Verbal Boundary Description - continued

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

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

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

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

Rosecrans Headquarters - Located a 1/2 mile west of Stones River National

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 & 10 PAGE 2

Battlefield on the south side of the Old Nashville Highway. It is on the edge of a large stone quarry.

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