NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)	OMB No. 1024-001	
United States Depart National Park Servic NATIONAL REGIS REGISTRATION F	NATIONAL REGISTER, HIS. UN & EDUCATION STER OF INSIONAL (PARKASERVICE	NAT REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE REGUVE 861
1. Name of Property	/	
historic name <u>Ca</u>	amp Nelson	
	nber: Office of State Archaeology site numbers l ucture number Js56 and Js187	5Js78, 96, 97, 112, 113, 130 and Kentucky
2. Location		

street & number U.S. 27	not for publication
city or town Nicholasville, KY	vicinity x
state <u>KY</u> code <u>KY</u> county <u>Jessan</u>	<u>nine code 113 zip code 40356</u>

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this $\frac{X}{A}$ nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property __x___ meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally. (______ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Date

David L. Morgan, Executive Director and SHPO Signature of certifying official

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register
determined eligible for the National Register
determined not eligible for the National Register

____ removed from the National Register other (explain)

Signature of Keeper

___See continuation sheet. ___See continuation sheet.

Date

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Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

<u>x</u> private

- x public-local (Jessamine County Fiscal Court)
- <u>x</u> public-State (Kentucky Transportation Cabinet)
- x public-Federal (Camp Nelson National Cemetery)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- ____building(s)
- <u>x</u> district
- site
- _____ structure
- ____ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

1

31 buildings (1 office, 1 church, 5 houses, 24 barn/stable/shed/garage)

^	
5	sites
18	structures
	objects
24	<u>31</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register <u>2</u> (Fort Bramlette, Camp Nelson National Cemetery)

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Defensive Cat: military facility, fortification, <u>Sub:</u> Civil War, African-American refugee camp Other Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Recreation and Culture Sub: Cat. museum Agriculture/Subsistence agicultural field, animal facility (barns) Domestic single dwelling, secondary structure (sheds, etc.) Religious religious facility Funerary cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

(Oliver Perry House) Mid-19th Century-Greek Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

founda	tion <u>limestone</u>
roof	asphalt shingle
walls	frame, weatherboard
other	brick chimney

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- <u>x</u> A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- \underline{x} D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- <u>x</u> D a cemetery. (Camp Nelson National Cemetery, and Hall cemetery)
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Military-Civil War
Archaeology:Historic-Non-aboriginal
Ethnic Heritage-Black

Period of Significance June, 1863 - June, 1866

Significant Dates <u>N/A</u>

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation African-American, Union Civil War

Architect/Builder U.S. Army of the Ohio Engineer Corps, Simpson, Lt. Col. J. H.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References ____ (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.) Previous documentation on file (NPS) preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. x previously listed in the National Register (Fort Bramlette) previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # Primary Location of Additional Data x State Historic Preservation Office x Other State Agency (KY Transportation Cabinet) x Federal agency (National Archives) x Local government (Jessamine County) (University of Kentucky Special Collections and William S. Webb Museum of <u>x</u> University Anthropology/Office of State Archaeology; Berea College Library) x Other Name of repository: Camp Nelson Preservation and Restoration Foundation 10. Geographical Data سر میں میں <u>اس میں میں سے میں تک نا</u>ل ن _____ Acreage of Property 900 UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet) all Zone 16 easting northing

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Α	710731.9175	4186077.967
В	712031.7319	4186080.453
С	712196.1978	4186044.959
D	712304.4216	4185984.083

x See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By	
name/title <u>Dr .W. Stephen McBride</u> organization street & <u>number 1632 Courtney Avenue</u> city or town <u>Lexington, Ky</u> state_KY zip code <u>40505</u>	date <u>March 15, 2000</u> telephone_606-233-4690
======================================	
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.) see attachment sheet, multiple owners	

PS Form 10-900-a OMB No. 1024-0018 (8-86) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET Section _7_ Page _1_ <u>Camp Nelson Civil War District</u>_____ name of property <u>Jessamine, Kentucky</u>______ county and State

7. Narrative Description

The Camp Nelson Historic District is made up of approximately 900 acres, in southern Jessamine County, six miles south of Nicholasville, Kentucky. This district includes the wellpreserved areas of what was a large Civil War era Union Army supply depot, recruitment camp, hospital facility, and African-American refugee camp. The district consists of five sites (main encampment area site, Home for Colored Refugees site, Fort Bramlette site, Camp Nelson National Cemetery site, Hall cemetery site), 1 building (Oliver Perry House/White House at the main encampment site), and 18 structures (the infantry entrenchment, 10 forts, an earthen magazine complex, and three roads at the main encampment site, one stone fence at the cemetery site, and two streets at the refugee camp site) (Figure 1). The main encampment area, National Cemetery and Fort Bramlette have excellent integrity of setting (landscape), feeling, association, and location. The refugee camp and Hall cemetery also have excellent integrity of setting, association, and location, but the viewshed to the south is somewhat interrupted by the present hamlet of Hall, which was the descendent of the refugee camp and contains approximately 25 late nineteenth to middle twentieth century dwellings.

Present Condition

The present appearance of the main encampment area is very similar to its appearance just before the Civil War, and presents a high degree of visual integrity. The main encampment area is primarily in pasture, small agricultural plots (tobacco or corn), or woods (Photo 1). The vegetation landscape has an appearance very much like that illustrated in the 1864 "Camp Nelson and its Defenses" map (Figure 2) and in an 1864-1865 photograph of Camp Nelson (Photo 2). The viewsheds from the pasture lands on the eastern side of U.S. 27 present broad views of rolling park land or karst topography. Because of the undulating topography, these views vary considerably every few yards. The main concentrations of wooded lands occur in the Hickman Creek and Kentucky River ravines, in the sinkholes, and along U.S. 27. The condition of the camp is especially remarkable when compared to other large supply depots and recruitment and training centers across the state and region. Most of the other centers were located in cities or towns, such as Louisville, Paducah, Lexington, and Nashville, and have been destroyed by urban growth.

The most significant difference from the Civil War period is the absence of the Camp Nelson buildings. However, these structures were seen as temporary by the Federal army and were largely gone by the end of the war, having either been dismantled by the army or sold for their lumber. The only standing building from the Civil War era is the Oliver Perry house or "White House" as it was called by the Army (Photos 3 and 4). This two-story, hipped roofed, frame

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house of the Greek Revival style was built in ca. 1855 by Oliver and Fannie (Scott) Perry and maintains an appearance very close to that of the Civil War period, having been renovated by Jessamine County Fiscal Court in 1998-1999 to its Civil War appearance. It was the Quartermaster and Commissary officers quarters during the Camp Nelson era and is a contributing building to the district.

Other visible and contributing structures in the main encampment site include the remains of eight earthen fortifications and their connecting rifle entrenchments along the northern fortification line, the remains of two earthen fortifications further down Hickman Creek (Fort Studdiford and the Stone Fort), the remains of the main earthen powder magazine complex on the south end of the camp, and the remnants of three Civil War era roads in the main camp (Figure 1, 2). The condition of the fortifications vary from excellent (Fort Jones, Fort Studdiford, and the Stone Fort) to good (Forts Hatch, Nelson, Jackson, and McKee) to poor (Forts Putnum, Pope and Taylor). The excellent condition of Fort Jones, Fort Studdiford, and the Stone Fort is due to their location in wooded environments and the lack of cultivation. Forts Jones and Studdiford have well preserved embankments, sometimes up to 10 ft tall and with only small amounts of erosion, and Fort Jones has visible signs of well preserved interior features such as the powder magazine and gun platforms (Photo 5). The Stone Fort consists of a well preserved limestone wall in the shape of an arc. Those forts that are in good condition generally also have well preserved embankments and ditches, especially in the central areas, but exhibit some erosion on the ends, where the relief differences are more in the area of 5 to 8 ft feet rather than 7 to 10 ft. (Photo 6). Fort Jackson does have a well preserved powder magazine, however, with no signs of roof collapse. The three forts in the poorest condition, Putnum, Pope, and Taylor, exhibit embankments that are from 1 to 3 ft high, and only shallow ditches remaining. These forts do have excellent archaeological remains, however (see below). The rifle pits and entrenchments are moderately well preserved, being between 2 ft to 6 inches deep between Fort Jones and Fort McKee and very well preserved north of the "White House," where they are between 2 ft to 3 ft deep (Photo 7). These features tend to be better preserved when they occur near the forts.

The remains of three Civil War era roads are visible within the main encampment site. These occur north east of the northern fortification line, south of this fortification line, and near the middle of the site (Figure 1). These roads are generally eroded grass covered ditches one to four feet deep and five to eight feet wide. The western part of the more central road is still a dirt farm road. These roads are all visible on the 1864 and 1866 maps of camp (Figures 2 and 3).

Three houses, and 20 barns/sheds/garages which postdate the Civil War and are therefore noncontributing are present in the bounded main encampment area. The majority of these are barns or small sheds, which do not seriously detract from the integrity of setting, since other

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barns would have been standing in the area during the period of significance (Photos 8 and 9). These residences include an early 1900s frame farm house (Fanny Glass house) (Photo 10), and two later frame houses (Photo 11). Two of these dwellings are along U.S. 27 or old U.S. 27 (the Lexington-Danville Turnpike) and do not detract significantly from the camp landscape (Figure 1).

In the center of the main encampment area is the Camp Nelson National Cemetery, a contributing site. This 30 acres cemetery was founded in 1863 and designated a National Cemetery in 1866 and contains the graves of over 7,500 soldiers from the Civil War as well as later veterans. In 1998 the Civil War sections of this cemetery were placed on the National Register. The original section of the cemetery (Sections A-D), which is a contributing site, contains the graves of 1,183 Civil War soldiers buried between July, 1863 and February, 1866 (Figure 4). The majority of these soldiers died at Camp Nelson. The eastern half of the original cemetery was expanded and 2,023 Civil War dead from Perryville, Richmond, London, Covington, and Frankfort, Kentucky were reinterred (Sections E-G). Other sections of the cemetery (Sections H-K) contain the graves of soldiers from later wars. The earlier 9.75 acres of the cemetery is enclosed in a stone wall completed in 1868. The brick office (2nd empire style) built in 1875, and three brick utility buildings are non-contributing (Photo 12).

The encampment area is split by the old Lexington and Danville Turnpike and U. S. 27. The turnpike was present during the Civil War and maintains its original bed in most places. This road is two-lane from the northern limits of the site to near the cemetery entrance, where it ends. The original two-lane road picks up again south of the cemetery entrance on the east side of present U.S. 27, which is a four-lane highway extending north-south through the entire camp.

The Fort Bramlette site is on a ridge top overlooking the Kentucky River (Figure 2). It is presently in woods consisting of small and medium-sized trees. The fort is bordered on the north and east by pasture land. The earthen fortification remains are in excellent condition and include the glacis, ditch, rampart, powder magazine, bomb proof, and a stone-lined cistern. The fort is a six-sided redoubt 350 ft long by 200 ft wide and the magazine and bomb proof mound is 128 ft long. It was nominated to the National Register in 1975.

The Home for Colored Refugees site is located on the northern edge of the present Hall community, which developed as an outgrowth of this refugee home (Figures 1 and 3). The refugee camp site, which contains approximately 100 acres, contains archaeological deposits from the refugee camp, two of the original streets (Church and Ison streets, which are partly in use today and partly indicated by slightly sunken linear features), and the Hall cemetery, which ia a grassy area with headstones. Most of the refugee camp site is in grass or woods. Some parts of the eastern slope have been cultivated recently. The Hall cemetery contains the marked graves

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of four African-American Civil War soldiers (U.S.C.T) as well as marked graves of later Hall residents (Photo 13). Large sections of the cemetery are unmarked and reportedly contain graves of more soldiers and refugee camp residents who are known to have died of disease while at the camp. Non-contributing elements within the nominated area at Hall include two post-Civil War frame houses, one post-Civil War church, and one post-Civil War barn (Photos 14 and 15). The main part of the contemporary Hall community is south of the nominated area and contains approximately 23 post Civil War houses or house trailers. A small area of the original refugee camp that has several twentieth century houses and yards is excluded from the nominated boundaries.

Historic Condition

Between June, 1863 and June, 1866, Camp Nelson was a large Union Army depot and encampment and contained numerous buildings, corrals, forts, and tents (Figures 2 and 3). All or parts of five to ten regiments generally occupied the camp and over 1,000 civilian employees worked there, with some civilians housed in the camp's barracks. Fortunately, three maps of the camp exist as well as a collection of photographs. Together, these documents present a good picture of the camp's appearance. The maps are "Camp Nelson and its Defenses (1864)," "Defenses of Camp Nelson (1864)" (Figure 2), and "Map of Camp Nelson (1866)" (Figure 3). Detailed engineer's plans of each fortification also exist (Figure 5). Numerous detailed written descriptions of the camp also exist in U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps records in the National Archives.

The total encampment area contained approximately 4,000 acres. It was bounded on its southern and western sides by the deeply entrenched Kentucky River and on the east by the entrenched Hickman Creek. This location made the camp easily defendable. The only vulnerable part was the northern edge. Here, a line of eight forts or batteries, connecting rifle pits, and abatis were constructed. These forts, from west to east, were named Forts Hatch, Nelson, Jackson, Putnum, Pope, Taylor, McKee, and Jones. All trees were cleared to the north of this line to a distance of 1,500 yards except on the slope between the two eastern forts (McKee and Jones) (Official Records, Series 1, Vol. 39, Part III:772-774). Additional fortifications were also placed to the south along Hickman Creek (Fort Studdiford and the Stone Fort) and near the bridge and ford across the Kentucky River (Fort Bramlette).

The forts along the northern line were all of earthen and rock or timber construction, and all were battery fortifications (redans) except Fort Jones, which was a redoubt. The forts had six to twelve cannon platforms and all had powder magazines except Fort Putnum. The forts were built from east to west and Fort Putnum, which is set back from the other forts, was constructed on a high point to cover the eastern line before Forts Pope, Taylor, McKee, and Jones were

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completed (Official Records, Series 1, Vol. 39, Part III:772-774). Only Forts Nelson, Jackson, and Taylor were armed with artillery. Each has six 12 pounder Napoleons and one 30 pounder Parrot Rifle. The Hickman Creek forts, Studdiford and Stone, were both smaller batteries. Fort Bramlette was also a redoubt with a powder magazine, bomb proof and cistern. It was by far the largest single fortification, being 350 ft long and 200 ft wide.

Within the camp, over 300 buildings were constructed which were associated with the functions of a quartermaster depot, recruitment center, and hospital (Figures 2 and 3). These buildings included dozens of warehouses to store rations, clothing, and equipment; stables, cribs, and sheds to house horses and mules and their feed; blacksmith shops; a harness shop, a wagon shop; offices; mess halls; the recruiting rendezvous (later U.S.C.T. barracks) and barracks. The warehouses were placed in a sunken area in the center of the camp so they would not be visible from the road or other observation points outside the camp (Hall 1865). Other buildings and structures included the ornate camp headquarters (Photo 16), the large quartermaster offices, the bakery (which baked 10,000 rations of bread daily) (Photo 17), the saw mill, the Adam's Express Post Office, the woodworking machine shop, ordnance warehouses, the magazines, and a prison with its provost office (Photo 18).

The Nelson Hospital consisted of ten large hospital wards (Figure 3), a laundry, offices, nurses quarters, dead houses, and a convalescent camp of tents. The hospital received running water from a 500,000 gallon reservoir located on the hill west of the hospital. Water was pumped up to the reservoir from the large pump house on the Kentucky River 470 feet below. Water from the reservoir was also pumped down to the warehouses and sheds, for fire prevention, and to the U.S. Sanitary Commission run Soldiers' Home. The Soldier's Home was used "for the accommodation of soldiers temporarily sojourning the Camp en route to join their Regiments at the front" (Hall 1865). The camp employed over 1,000 civilians, white and free African Americans, in the occupations of laborers, carpenters, blacksmiths, wagon makers, teamsters, and clerks, among others. Many of these civilians lived in barracks or tents in the camp (National Archives, RG 92, Box 720). Over 1,000 enslaved African Americans were also impressed into labor service for the Army at Camp Nelson and primarily worked on building fortifications, and improving roads within and south of camp.

Period photographs indicate that most Camp Nelson buildings were of board and batten construction, had wooden shingle roofs, and were up on wooden piers (Photo 19). The camp headquarters was a more substantial building with horizontal weather boarding. The photographs and the map entitled "Camp Nelson and its Defenses" also illustrate numerous tents over the camp which were likely used for storage and housing (Figure 2). The photographs and maps indicate that the interior camp ground surface was in grass or dirt, with few trees left.

A number of domestic structures within the camp were commandeered and used by the army.

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These included the Owen's house near the post office, the Oliver Perry house ("White House") near Fort Jackson, the Mary Scott house near the hospital, and a tavern called the Camp Nelson House (Figures 2 and 3).

Two documented cemeteries were located at Camp Nelson after July, 1863. These included Graveyard #1, west of the hospital, which contained the graves of soldiers who died of contagious diseases such as smallpox, and Graveyard #2 at the south central part of camp where the National Cemetery is now situated. Graveyard #1 and #2 had 379 and 1,183 men, respectively, interred in them between June-July, 1863 and February, 1866. In 1866 Graveyard #2 was designated a National Cemetery by a joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives and the graves from Graveyard #1 were moved here. The location of Graveyard #1 is unknown, but it is likely west of the hospital.

After March 1864, Camp Nelson became Kentucky's largest recruitment and training camp for African- American troops, designated United States Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.). These men were housed in various tents and barracks across camp, and toward the end of the camp's existence, in a multitude of buildings, including the hospital wards, the soldiers' home, and the recruiting rendezvous. These soldiers also brought their wives and children into camp and in December 1864, the Army established the "Home for Colored Refugees" in the southwestern corner of the camp. Teachers and missionaries were sent by the American Missionary Association to educate the refugees and doctors and nurses were provided by the U.S. Army.

The refugee camp was illustrated on the "Map of Camp Nelson" (1866) (Figure 3), and in a map in the Freedman's Bureau records, and in numerous period photographs (Photos 20 and 21). The refugee camp eventually contained 97 duplex cottages in three rows, a school, a mess hall, a hospital, a reception ward, a commissary, store rooms, a barracks, a laundry, a lime kiln, offices, and surgeons's and teachers' lodgings, and a private sutler's establishment. This camp was built to house, feed, and educate the families of the U. S. Colored Troops and at some points housed over 3,000 people (Fee 1891). These numbers led to the use of many tents and shacks located to the north of the cottages as additional housing. John Fee stated that there were 60 tents and 50 cabins at the camp in October, 1865 (Fee 1891).

List of Resources (all are numbered on Figure 1)

Contributing Resources:

Sites

- 1. Main Camp Nelson encampment site
- 2. Camp Nelson National Cemetery
- 3. Refugee Camp
- 4. Hall/Refugee Camp cemetery
- 5. Fort Bramlette

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Buildings

6. Oliver Perry House/" also called "White House"

Structures

- 7. Infantry entrenchment
- 8. Fort Hatch
- 9. Fort Nelson
- 10. Fort Jackson
- 11. Fort Putnum
- 12. Fort Pope
- 13. Fort Taylor
- 14. Fort McKee
- 15. Fort Jones
- 16. Stone Fort
- 17. Fort Studdiford
- 18. Magazine complex
- 19. Road north of fortification line, main camp
- 20. Road south of fortification line, main camp
- 21. Road in middle of main camp
- 22. Ison Street, refugee camp
- 23. Church Street, refugee camp

Non-Contributing Resources: (all later than period of significance, all are buildings)

ř,

At main encampment site:

- 24. Shed/garage, board and batten
- 25. Barn, wooden
- 26. Barn, wooden
- 27. Barn, wooden
- 28. Shed, wooden
- 29. Barn, wooden, for tobacco
- 30. Barn, wooden
- 31. Barn, wooden, for tobacco
- 32. Shed, wooden
- 33. Shop/Garage, wooden
- 34. House, frame, 1.5 story, weather boarded
- 35. House, frame, 1.5 story, late 20th century, concrete foundation
- 36. Shed, wooden, gable roof
- 37. Shed/garage, wooden

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38. Stable, wooden

39. Barn, wooden, tobacco

40. The Fanny Glass House, two story frame built circa 1903, limestone foundation

41. Barn, wooden, tobacco

42. Shed, board and batten, limestone foundation, gable end

43. Shed, board and batten, gable end

44. Barn, wooden, stock barn

45. Small shed, one pen, shed roof

46. Barn, wooden, tobacco

47. Barn, wooden, tobacco

at National Cemetery site

48. National Cemetery, office, brick, 2nd Empire, built 1875

49.Utility building

50.Utility building

51.Utility building

at Refugee Camp site

52. John Fee Memorial Presbyterian Church, frame, concrete foundation, weather boarded, circa 1900

53. Presbyterian Church minister's house, frame, limestone foundation, weather boarded, circa 1900

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54. William Overstreet House, 2 story, frame, with shed addition, late 19th century

55. Overstreet barn, wooden

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8. Statement of Significance

Introduction

Camp Nelson was a large Union quartermaster and commissary depot, recruitment and training center, and hospital facility located in southern Jessamine County, Kentucky (Figures 2 and 3). The camp was established in June 1863, under orders of Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside, commander of the Army of the Ohio, and it stood until June, 1866. After March, 1864 it became Kentucky's largest recruitment and training center for African-American troops (U.S.C.T.) and also contained a large refugee camp for the wives and children of these soldiers. Camp Nelson has national significance under the areas of Military- Civil War, Ethnic Heritage-Black, and Archaeology-Historic-Non-Aboriginal. It is eligible under National Register Criteria A and D. In order to place this camp into a broader perspective, the historic context "Union Occupation of Kentucky" has been developed.

Historic Context: Union Occupation of Kentucky

Camp Nelson is significant under the broad context of the Union occupation of Kentucky during the Civil War. This occupation was critical to the Union victory since it helped hold Kentucky for the Union, helped secure much needed supplies and protect the transportation arteries to move them, and provided safe bases for the recruitment of large numbers of Union soldiers, including after March 1864, African-American troops. In fact, the Union military occupation of Kentucky was the beginning of the end of slavery in Kentucky. Previous to the recruitment, slaves entered Union bases as runaways and as impressed laborers. Over 20,000 African-American men were then legally freed through enlistment, and following the March 1865 Federal Act, the wives and children of these soldiers were also legally freed. By the passage of the 13th Amendment in December 1865, it has been estimated that approximately 70% of Kentucky's slaves were already freed through military participation or other federal measures (Lucas 1992).

The Union military occupation of Kentucky began in the summer of 1861, and the northern two-thirds of the state was soon in Union hands. This occupation continued throughout the War. Only during the August-October 1862, Bragg-Kirby Smith invasion of Kentucky was this occupation severely threatened. Following this invasion and John Hunt Morgan's Christmas Raid (Dec. 1862 - Jan. 1863), there was a concerted effort by the Union command to strengthen Kentucky's defenses, particularly those around vital transportation routes, supply depots, and other vital centers. Rings of fortifications were constructed or improved around a number of Ohio River urban centers, including Louisville, Covington, Owensboro, and Paducah. Fortifications were also strengthened at the Louisville and Nashville Railroad and Kentucky Central Railroad bridges and at important centers along these railroads, such as Bowling Green,

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Munfordville, Glasgow, and Paris, and at the capital, in Frankfort. These forts included earthen redans and redoubts and wooden blockhouses, and were constructed to more easily defend these points against Confederate raiders and pro-Confederate guerrillas. Fortification improvements normally included larger garrisons at these strategic points. As both the Army of the Cumberland and the Army of the Ohio were supplied through Kentucky during their movements through Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia, it was vital to keep Kentucky's main transportation routes open.

The Union army also improved its supply system by creating an efficiently organized hierarchy of regional depots. This system utilized both previous depots and newly created ones, such as Camp Nelson. Larger depots were usually located at or near large- to medium-sized cities on important transportation routes, such as Louisville and Bowling Green, but this was not always the case. Camp Nelson was established in a rural area along a rather rough road. Louisa also became a moderate center for extreme eastern Kentucky. Smaller subsidiary depots were established at smaller towns, such as Munfordville, London, and Mt. Sterling or at strategic rural points such as Point Isabel (Camp Burnside) and Cumberland Gap. Camp Nelson was the highest order (largest) depot in Central and Eastern Kentucky and supplied subsidiary depots at Lexington, Crab Orchard, Camp Burnside, and Cumberland Gap. Kentucky's system of depots and their adjacent transportation arteries, whether railroads, roads, or rivers, supplied numerous campaigns and garrisoned troops in Tennessee and the lower South. Camp Nelson, for instance, supplied Maj. General Ambrose Burnside's Knoxville, Tennessee campaign of August-November 1863, Maj. Brig. Gen. Stephen Burbridge's and Maj. Gen. George Stoneman's Southwestern Virginia campaigns of October 1864 and December 1864, respectively. Louisville and other depots along the Louisville and Nashville Railroad supplied the Army of the Cumberland in their campaigns between Nashville and Atlanta and for their occupation of Tennessee.

Numerous Union recruitment camps were established across the Commonwealth, with the first being at Camp Dick Robinson, Garrard County. Recruitment and training facilities were established at most of the large and moderate sized depots and here recruits from within Kentucky and pro-Union East Tennessee were trained. While most of these soldiers were sent to frontline action in the western Theater, thousands stayed within Kentucky and joined other Union troops, primarily from the Midwest, to perform garrison and defensive duty.

Besides protecting depots and transportation networks, these occupation forces also pursued raiders and guerrillas who threatened strategic points and stability. They also attempted to enforce military orders regarding citizen loyalty and interstate commerce. The enactment of these orders sometimes led to tension between the Union army and civilian population.

The Union Army presence, including a strong system of garrisons, forts, and depots was also necessary for the successful recruitment or African-American troops. Without the strong

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presence of the Federal Army, including recruiters and secure garrisons, it is unlikely that large scale African-American recruitment and enlistment could have occurred, given strong opposition from local whites. In fact, this opposition delayed the recruitment of African-American troops until March 1864, a year after active recruitment had begun in most other states. Once recruitment began in Kentucky, however, it progressed very rapidly. By July 1864, 15 U.S. Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.) regiments had been organized and 16,000 men had volunteered. In all, 23,703 Kentucky African Americans served in the Union Army, the second greatest number of African-American soldiers from any state. These U.S.C.T. were recruited and trained in heavily fortified recruitment camps at Paducah, Columbus, Owensboro, Bowling Green, Lebanon, Louisville, Covington, Camp Nelson, and Louisa. Upon enlistment, these men attained their freedom were given a chance to fight for the freedom of others. Kentucky's U.S.C.T. fought in a number of battles and skirmishes in Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky and performed garrison duty at numerous strategic points in Kentucky (Butler 1997; Lucas 1992; Mulligan 1997).

When the African-American soldiers entered the Union camp life, they sometimes brought their families, for whom they were seeking refuge and possibly freedom. Initially the Union army did not want these refugees within their encampments, but by late 1864, they changed their policy and accepted these refugees within encampments (Butler 1997; Lucas 1992; Sears 1986). Finally, the March 1865 Congressional Act extended freedom to the wives and children of U.S.C.T. The recruitment of African-American men, and the emancipation of their families, was the beginning of the end for slavery in Kentucky. The use of military recruitment as a means to end slavery in Kentucky was made explicit by Maj. Gen. John Palmer, commander of the District of Kentucky.

The Significance of Camp Nelson

Camp Nelson is extremely significant at a national level as a Civil War site for the many critical functions it provided for the Union war effort and for the role it played in the freedom of Kentucky's enslaved population. These functions or activities included: 1) African-American recruitment and training center; 2) African-American refugee camp; 3) fortified military supply depot and garrison; 4) supply center for three important military campaigns; 5) recruitment center for Central and Eastern Kentucky and East Tennessee troops; and 6) hospital. These six functions will be further discussed below. As a Union depot within slave-holding, but Union-leaning, state, and as a recruitment and refugee camp for formerly enslaved African Americans, Camp Nelson represents a microcosm of the burning social and political issues that divided the nation and brought on the Civil War.

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1) African-American Recruitment and Training Center.

Camp Nelson has an especially important place in the history of U. S. Colored Troops in Kentucky, being the largest recruitment and training center. Kentucky's particular situation during the war helped shape this history. As a non-seceding state, Kentucky was not affected by the Emancipation Proclamation. Any issues touching on slavery were sensitive ones during the war years, and many white Union leaders in the state were against recruitment and emancipation of slaves, although some slaves were pressed into service and Adj. Gen. Lorenzo Thomas did authorize some recruitment in western Kentucky in 1863. However, Lincoln and the Federal government were hesitant to push recruitment of slaves in Kentucky in 1863, after it had begun elsewhere, because they still feared secession. Finally, in February-March 1864, with lessened fear of secession and resistance and the need to reach enlistment quotas, the Federal government passed acts which allowed the enlistment of African Americans within the borders of Kentucky. Kentucky slaves and freedmen were being enlisted in large number by late spring, 1864. Loyal slaveowners were supposed to be compensated, and all able bodied slaves and free African Americans were eligible. By the end of 1865, nearly 25,000 African Americans had enlisted in the state (Howard 1983; Lucas 1992; Mulligan 1997).

These changes had major impacts upon Camp Nelson. During the Spring and Summer, 1864, a flood of ex-slaves began arriving at Camp Nelson. By August, 1864, 2,000 African American enrolles were at the camp (Lucas 1989:442). By the end of 1865, about 10,000 men, or forty percent of Kentucky's U. S. Colored Troops, had passed through Camp Nelson, making it the most important recruitment center for U. S. Colored Troops in Kentucky (Lucas 1989:441). Enslaved men continued to be enlisted at Camp Nelson as a means of emancipating them until December, 1865, when the 13th Amendment was ratified (Lucas 1989). The U. S. Colored Troops soldiers were housed in barracks and in tents. Later, as the camp was being downsized, they were housed in the Recruiting Rendezvous (Photo 21), in the Soldiers' Home, and even in the hospital wards (Hall 1865; Resticaux 1865). U. S. Colored Troops regiments formed at Camp Nelson included the 114th, 116th, 119th, and 124th U.S. Colored Infantry; the 5th and 6th U.S. Colored Cavalry; and the 12th and 13th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery Regiments (Dyer 1959:1720-40). The 115th, 117th and 123rd U.S. Colored Infantry was also stationed at Camp Nelson for a time (Dyer 1959).

The U. S. Colored Troops primarily performed garrison duty at Camp Nelson; at other camps or forts in Kentucky such as at Paducah, Smithland, and Camp Burnside; and at fortifications (primarily railroad) in Tennessee. This duty was critical in holding Union territory, protecting supply lines, and freeing other regiments from these duties so that they could be sent to the front lines. A number of these regiments did see action, however. The 5th and part of the 6th U.S. Colored Cavalry regiments were involved in both battles of Saltville, Virginia (October and

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December, 1864). In fact, these regiments took the highest casualties at the first Battle of Saltville and over 45 of their wounded and captured soldiers were murdered by Confederate Tennessee soldiers after the battle (Davis 1971). The 6th U.S. Colored Cavalry was also involved in the Battle of Marion, Virginia.

Two Camp Nelson infantry regiments, the 114th and 116th U.S. Colored Infantry, were transferred to Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler's Army of the James in October to December, 1864. The 114th was placed in the all African American 25th Corps, while the 116th was placed in the 10th Corps and then in the 25th Corps (Dyer 1959; Longacre 1981). Both regiments performed siege and fatigue duty at Bermuda Hundred and at Petersburg, and the 116th saw action in Richmond. Both regiments were with the Army of the James in its pursuit of Lee to Appomattox Courthouse in March-April, 1865.

Camp Nelson U.S.C. T. regiments were also involved in a number of skirmishes within Kentucky. The 12th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery fought off raids at Big Springs and Fort Jones on the L & N Railroad. The 119th U.S. Colored Infantry was involved in skirmishes at Glasgow and Taylorsville and the 5th or 6th U.S. Colored Cavalries participated in skirmishes at Harrodsburg, Simpsonville, and Smithfield.

2) African-American Refugee Camp.

The U. S. C. T. recruits not only brought themselves to Camp Nelson, they often brought their families as well. Families were brought for many reasons, including fear of retaliation from angry slaveholders and anticipation of better opportunities or even emancipation for the entire family. Questions about the safety of the families of the new recruits were prominent at all recruitment centers, but were finally resolved with the events at Camp Nelson (Lucas 1989; Sears 1986b). At Camp Nelson, these "refugees," as they were called, initially lived in hastily constructed shacks and were cared for by missionaries, most notably John G. Fee of the American Missionary Association (Lucas 1989; Sears 1986b, 1987). The presence of these women and children in the camp posed difficult problems for army officials. No clear policy existed in the U.S. Army for the treatment of refugees in non-seceding states, and it was not even clear whether the families should be allowed to stay within the camp. In July, 1864, Adjutant General Lorenzo Thomas finally ordered Camp commanders to eject the refugees (Lucas 1989; Sears 1986b, 1987). This order was quickly rescinded, however, when irate reports reached Washington (Berlin 1982:195-196). The situation was once again ambiguous, and each commander had to set his own policy.

In the summer and fall of 1864, Brig. Gen. Speed S. Fry, the commander of Camp Nelson, began harassing and expelling refugees from the camp and cooperating with slaveowners to return their slaves (Lucas 1989:445-446). New refugees kept arriving, however, and previous ones kept

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returning. Finally in November, 1864, Fry decided to expel all the refugees and, to prevent their return, destroy their shanties. Hundreds of refugees died of exposure or disease in the cold November weather or soon after as a result of this action (Sears 1986b:13; 1987:40). Fry was severely criticized by the northern press, the U.S. Sanitary Commission, and congressional investigators and by the missionary to the refugees, John G. Fee (Sears 1986b; U.S. Senate Serial Documents). Fry's actions also enraged the U. S. Colored Troops at Camp Nelson and undermined the recruitment of U. S. C. T. (Berlin 1982:196). Because of the complaints and reactions, Washington directed Adj. Gen. Lorenzo Thomas and Fry to establish a camp for the refugees within Camp Nelson in December 1864 (Figure 3). A direct result of Fry's actions at Camp Nelson and the uproar which followed was the passage into law in March, 1865, of the Joint Act of Congress which freed the wives and children of the ex-slave enlistees (Lucas 1992).

Assistant Quartermaster Captain Theron E. Hall was appointed superintendent for the refugees and immediately built barracks to house them in the southwestern part of Camp Nelson (Lucas 1989:448; Sears 1986b:15). The camp eventually grew in size and complexity (see above under Historic Condition), similar to other contraband camps in the Western Theater, such as Cairo, Illinois and Corinth, Mississippi (Nicholson 1924; Walker 1974).

Missionaries from the American Missionary Association assisted the army in caring for the refugee families. They provided teachers for the school, ran church services, provided clothing and other supplies, and generally helped administer the camp. The U. S. C. T. soldiers also attended the school and church services at the refugee camp. Some U. S. C. T. soldiers, most notably Gabriel Burdett from Garrard County, also helped teach in the school. The earliest and longest-term missionary to the refugee camp was the Rev. John G. Fee, the founder of Berea College. After the war ended, Fee split his time between Camp Nelson, where he founded Ariel Academy, and Berea, Kentucky, where he founded and ran Berea College, the first integrated school in the South (Sears 1986b). Fee also encouraged the educated U. S. C. T. soldiers and family members from Camp Nelson to move to Berea and attend the college.

Other missionaries to the refugee camp were Abisha Scofield and Leonard Williams. All missionaries and paid teachers in the camp were white except for Belle Mitchell, who was an African-American teacher brought in by Fee. Ms. Mitchell only stayed a short while, however, and was dismissed when Fee was away from the Camp in Berea (Sears 1986b).

Following the June 1866 closure of Camp Nelson, the refugee camp school and other administrative buildings were purchased by the Freedman's Bureau and administered by Abisha Scofield, John G. Fee, and Gabriel Burdett of the American Missionary Association and the cottages continued to be lived in by the African-American families. John G. Fee later (1868) bought 130 acres, including the refugee camp land, which is part of the nominated district, plus additional farmland and sold or leased lots back to the residents. Through his actions Fee began

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the American Missionary Association's policy of purchasing land and selling it back to freedman (McPherson 1964). The refugee camp became the community of Ariel, now named Hall.

3) Fortified Military Supply Depot and Garrison.

Camp Nelson is also significant as a supply depot for Union troops operating in central and eastern Kentucky, eastern Tennessee, northern Alabama, and Southwestern Virginia, and was especially significant as the supply center for three important Union invasions in 1863 and 1864. The supply and shipping functions of Camp Nelson are reflected in its 20 warehouses (Photo 22) to store two million rations, clothing, and equipment; its stables, cribs, barns, sheds, and corrals to house thousands of horses and mules and their feed; and its six industrial-sized workshops, which were established to manufacture wagons, traces, harnesses and horse/mule shoes for the transportation of these supplies (Photo 23). Union supplies were shipped to Nicholasville via railroad from Cincinnati and then brought to Camp Nelson by wagon. Supplies were stored in the various warehouses and sheds at Camp Nelson until needed by the Union Army operating in central Kentucky or further south, primarily in eastern Tennessee, southeastern Kentucky, northern Alabama, and southwestern Virginia. These goods would be carried overland by wagon. Most of these wagons were actually constructed or repaired at shops located within Camp Nelson (Hall 1865). Supplies were sent out to smaller depots, such as Crab Orchard and Camp Burnside, and to regiments doing garrison and guard duty in this region.

Union troops supplied by Camp Nelson, including those stationed at the camp, performed important defensive duty against Confederate raiders and guerrillas which helped secure the resources and transportation routes of Kentucky and eastern Tennessee for the Union. The camp itself was the major defensive establishment for central and eastern Kentucky. The fortifications and troops of Camp Nelson protected the quartermaster and commissary stores and discouraged raids into central Kentucky. Unlike the army warehouses and sheds at surrounding centers, such as Lexington and Mt. Sterling, those at Camp Nelson were never destroyed. The importance of Camp Nelson is exemplified in the statement of Assistant Adjutant General Bates Dickson during Morgan's raid of June, 1864 to "protect Camp Nelson at all hazards" (O.R. Series 1 Vol. 39 Pt. 2:101).

4) Supply Center For Three Important Military Campaigns.

Camp Nelson was critical in providing supplies and soldiers for Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside's Knoxville campaign of August-December, 1863; Maj. Gen. Stephen Burbridge's southwestern Virginia campaign of September-October 1864; and Maj. Gen. George Stoneman's Southwestern Virginia campaign of December, 1864 (O.R. Series 1 Vol. 30 Pt. 2:566, 573; Pt. 3:473, 556, 591, 719; Vol. 45 Pt. 1:931, 980-982).

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Burnside's invasion was successful in capturing and defending the Cumberland Gap, Knoxville and much of Pro-Union eastern Tennessee. The loss of Knoxville destroyed the Confederacy's rail connection to the Tennessee River and opened the resources and manpower of Pro-Union eastern Tennessee to the Union (Seymour 1963). The success at Knoxville also had political consequences, as it fulfilled a promise made by President Lincoln to the people of eastern Tennessee. Burnside's invasion was also important because it drew General Longstreet's Confederate Corps away from Chattanooga, which greatly helped Union Generals Grant and Sherman defeat the Confederate Army of Tennessee and secure this city and its railroads for the Union. The supply line for this campaign began at Camp Nelson and stretched to subsidiary depots at Crab Orchard, Kentucky to Camp Burnside at the mouth of the South Fork of the Cumberland River and then either to the Cumberland Gap or down the South Fork River into Tennessee. This supply line covered rough territory and was difficult to traverse, but important supplies, including rations, ammunition, horses, and digging tools did reach Knoxville. Camp Nelson was referred to as "the outfit post of all [wagon] trains" going to Knoxville or the Gap (O.R. Series 1 Vol. 30 Pt. 2:573).

The second Union campaign to be supplied from Camp Nelson was Maj. Gen. Stephen Burnside's September-October 1864 Southwestern Virginia Campaign. The objective of this campaign was to destroy the King Salt Works at Saltville, Virginia, the Confederacy's primary source of salt (Davis 1971; Mays 1991; Walker 1985). Many of the regiments participating in this campaign began their march from Camp Nelson. This included the 5th and 6th U. S. Colored Cavalry regiments, which were organized at Camp Nelson. This campaign culminated in the Battle of Saltville on October 2, 1864, when Burbridge's forces engaged and were defeated by Confederates under Maj. Gen. John C. Breckenridge. This battle is most significant for the heavy engagement and later massacre of soldiers from the 5th U. S. Colored Cavalry. The 5th and 6th anchored the left wing of the Union assault and took heavy casualties (Davis 1971; Mays 1991). Before Breckenridge stopped the massacre, at least 45 African American soldiers had been murdered (Davis 1971; Mays 1991).

The third Union campaign which was supplied by and partly initiated from Camp Nelson was Maj. Gen. George Stoneman's December 1864 Southwestern Virginia campaign. Union forces in this campaign included soldiers who marched out of Knoxville under Maj. Gen. Stoneman and those who marched out of Kentucky under Maj. Gen. Burbridge. Many of Burbridge's forces left from Camp Nelson and included the 5th and 6th U. S. Colored Cavalry, the 8th Tennessee Cavalry, and Battery E 1st Kentucky Light Artillery, all Camp Nelson organized units. As the Union troops prepared to move out of Kentucky, Maj. Gen. Burbridge ordered "Let all move, night and day, and have them armed and equipped and supplied with ammunition; draw from Camp Nelson" (O.R. Series 1 Vol. 45 Pt. 1:980). This campaign resulted in Union victories in the Battles of Kingsport and Bristol, Tennessee, and Marion, Abingdon, and Saltville, Virginia;

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the destruction of the saltworks at Saltville, Virginia; the destruction of the lead mines and smelter at Austinville, Virginia; the destruction of numerous iron furnaces and foundries in the region, and severe damage to the Virginia and East Tennessee R. R. (O.R. Series 1 Vol. 45 Pt. 1:816-818; Walker 1985). Both the Saltville saltworks and the Austinville lead mines were the largest such operations in the Confederacy and their destruction was a major blow. The lead mines did not reach full operating capacity again until late March 1865 and the saltworks never fully recovered from this raid (Walker 1985).

5) Recruitment center for Central and Eastern Kentucky and East Tennessee troops.

From its establishment, one of the missions of Camp Nelson was to recruit and train soldiers. Men primarily from Central and Eastern Kentucky and East Tennessee came to Camp Nelson to become soldiers. The Tennessee recruits were Unionists from the eastern mountains who came to Kentucky on their own to escape the Confederate occupation. Early regiments or companies organized at Camp Nelson include the Forty-seventh and Forty-ninth Kentucky Mounted Infantries, Battery E of the First Kentucky Light Artillery, Companies E-K of the Eight Tennessee Infantry, the Eight Tennessee Cavalry (originally the Fifth and Tenth East Tennessee cavalries), Companies B and C of the Ninth Tennessee Cavalry, Companies A-D of the Eleventh Tennessee Cavalry, and Batteries B and E of the First Tennessee Light Artillery.

These units performed a variety of duties throughout the war, including garrison duty in Kentucky and Tennessee, protecting railroad bridges in Kentucky and Tennessee, and participating in a number of skirmishes, battles, and campaigns. Some of these battles and campaigns include Burnside's 1863 Knoxville campaign and the siege of Knoxville, the September 1863 capture of the Cumberland Gap, the June 1864 battle of Cynthiana, Sherman's Atlanta campaign, the battles of Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee, and the December 1864 battles of Marion and Saltville, Virginia.

6. Hospital.

The Nelson General Hospital was built at the southwestern side of the camp (Figure 3). This was the primary hospital of the Army of the Ohio and consisted of 10 large hospital wards, surgeon's and nurse's quarters, numerous support buildings, and a convalescent camp of tents. Thousands of wounded and sick soldiers from the front lines and from garrisons, including Camp Nelson, were sent to the Camp Nelson hospital to receive treatment. Many of those soldiers died at this hospital and were buried in Camp Nelson Cemetery #2, now the National Cemetery.

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Issues relating to Criterion D Significance and Integrity

Camp Nelson is not only a significant place because of its association with and major role in the American Civil War, but also because of the data it still contains in its archaeological deposits, within the entire nominated area. The establishment and operation of Camp Nelson involved excavation by the Union Army to establish buildings, fortifications, and features such as privies and trash pits. The occupation of the camp led to the loss/ discard of many artifacts and food processing residue into the ground. While almost all of the above-ground buildings from the Camp were dismantled and taken away in 1866 or soon after, the below*ground resources have remained, and are an important source of information about the history of Camp Nelson, and Civil War camp life in general. They give Camp Nelson great significance under Criterion D.

Previous archaeological survey and excavation has established the integrity and research potential of the archaeological deposits at Camp Nelson. This research began with preliminary planning for the expansion of U.S. 27 as early as 1976 (Bartnik 1976), followed by archaeological reconnaissance in 1987 (Janzen 1987). Limited archaeological testing (Schock 1987) led to the conclusion that the deposits at Camp Nelson were eligible for National Register of Historic Places listing. This assessment set the stage for larger excavations in the highway right-of-way. Meanwhile, test excavations along the highway easement for placement of a fiberoptics line led to more extensive archaeological testing, and the identification of features such as trash pits and building remains, along with significant quantities of Civil War artifacts at the sites of the camp headquarters (15Js96), the Owens House/post office (15Js97), and the hospital/convalescent camp (15Js112) (McBride and Sharp 1991). This work reinforced the awareness of Camp Nelson as an important archaeological site. Since the hospital/convalescent camp (15JS112) was little impacted by the AT & T line and not impacted by the later U.S. 27 realignment project, this site still remains intact.

In 1994 and 1995, as final preparations were underway for the U.S. 27 realignment, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet sponsored extensive archaeological excavations at Camp Nelson as part of their Section 106 responsibilities. These excavations focused on four main site areas: 15Js96, Headquarters; 15Js97, Owen's House/Post Office; 15Js113, Machine Shop; and 15Js130, Northwestern Barracks. Many features, including post molds, refuse pits, refuse ditches, privies and cellars, building walls, piers and chimneys, and activity areas for blacksmithing and other tasks were excavated (Photos 24 and 25). The excavations revealed that the Army maps, as detailed as they are, do not include all of the buildings established at the camp. The front yard or eastern edge was the only portion of the Northwestern Barracks (15Js130) site impacted by the U.S. 27 realignment, and thus most of this site is still preserved.

The U.S. 27 realignment excavations have resulted in the collection of a large volume of artifacts for future study. Research on these materials has focused on determining functions of

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different areas within these sites and how functions changed over time; differences in material culture consumption and diming patterns for white troops, U.S. Colored Troops, officers, and civilian employees; variation in building construction and symbolic dimensions of camp architecture; and general issues of furnishing and supply (McBride 1994; McBride et al. n.d.). While the below ground resources in this strip of the camp have been destroyed by the highway construction, many additional studies will be possible with these artifacts. A continuation of these studies will also be possible with artifacts from other areas of Camp Nelson.

In addition to this rich source of archaeological collections from Camp Nelson, many archaeological resources still exist in the ground. The highway construction only destroyed a very small portion of the entire site. Additional archaeological survey which began in 1997 and is continuing today in the main camp area has verified the widespread nature of archaeological remains (D. McBride 1998). The initial survey focused on the approximately 200 acres surrounding the White House and northern line of fortifications recently purchased by Jessamine County. Subsurface remains of two fortifications were identified and two encampment areas were located by concentrations of bottle glass, ceramics, buttons, and other metal items. Survey and excavation of several test units at the prison site, just southeast of the Oliver Perry or "White House" indicated that Civil War refuse is preserved in this area, as are remains of the prison's stockade trench (Photo 26). Excavation of three test units at Fort Taylor verified Excavations at Fort Putnum preservation of remains from its powder magazine (Photo 27). documented that archaeological evidence is preserved even in the case of extensive disturbance. This fort was buildozed by a previous owner in the 1950s, to facilitate farming. Extensive excavation at Fort Putnum identified 110 postmolds (Photo 28), marking the entire line of wooden revetment, and the outlines of the ditch which was in front of the revetment. The gun emplacements had been destroyed by the bulldozing, but their locations could be determined by the presence of prepared clay platforms. A thinner layer of prepared clay was also documented for most of the fort's interior. Fort Putnum will now be reconstructed, based upon the excavations and the Army plans. It is certain that much more remains of the other northern and Hickman Creek forts, since all reveal more intact contours from the surface, and from the many buildings and activity areas scattered throughout the main camp (see Figure 3).

Archaeological survey conducted in the Hall community in 1994 and 1995, with funding from a Kentucky Heritage Council grant, documented the presence of a thin sheet midden, containing mid-nineteenth century ceramics, bottle glass, cut nails, and window glass in the area where the original Refugee Cottages were located. This area is used for pasture, and growing tobacco and corn, with a few twentieth century houses and yards (most later development of Hall occurred to the south, on the higher and flatter ground). Plain whiteware, window glass, and cut nails have also been recovered from around the Presbyterian church and its parsonage, which is where the larger administrative and dormitory-like buildings of the Refuge Camp were located. A large stone foundation, likely from the nineteenth century school, is also present in this area.

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This work has been very preliminary (shovel test excavation only) but is suggests that intact refuse midden and architectural and refuse features are preserved (K. McBride 1997a and b). These features, and the material culture, can provide details about the layout of the camp, structure of the refugee housing, and provisioning of foods and clothing and other material culture, and activities which took place at the camp. The Refugee Camp is not as well documented in the National Archives records as the military parts of Camp Nelson, and the archaeological deposits assume greater significance for understanding this important part of the total Camp Nelson story.

Most areas of the main encampment have not received formal archaeological survey, but from reconnaissance (walking survey) they appear to have high potential, being mainly in pasture or small woods, and in many areas with no signs of disturbances. Architectural remains of a number of structures, including the bakery and the warehouses, and the waterworks were located through reconnaissance. These remains were in the form of a stone foundation (bakery) and stone piers (warehouses, and waterworks, on Ky River north of refugee camp). Civil War refuse from a number of sites on the south end of camp, including encampments and the U.S.C.T. barracks, have also been observed (Wayne Hayden, personal communication 1999) Since in every case where archaeology has been conducted, intact deposits have been documented, there is good reason to assume that a similar degree of preservation holds for most of the district, especially given the low level of post-Civil War construction in this area.

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UTM	References C	ontinued, all zone 16
	Easting	
Α	710731.9175	
B	712031.7319	
C	712196.1978	
D	712304.4216	
Ē	712399.1174	,
F	712488.6182	
G	712534.3972	4185510.604
Ĥ	712570.3131	
I	712507,3412	
J	712246,9277	
Κ	712138,7039	4184766.565
L	711952.6943	4184698.925
Μ	711853.2135	4184619.022
Ν	711759.7467	4184446.767
0	711583.9228	4184183.315
Р	711034.2839	4183717.947
Q	710861.8584	4183555.822
Ŕ	710736.7165	4183496.473
S	710657.3909	4183538.902
Т	710624.7642	4183617.503
U	710707.705	4184147.416
V	710869.1222	4184137.731
W	710923.197	4184240.231
Х	711264.5945	4184147.416
Y	711288.8071	4184225.704
Ζ	710831.1892	4184366.944
AA	710802.9411	4184278.164

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UTM References Continued, all zone 16 Easting Northing 710670.1502 BB 4184268.036 4183989.668 CC 710488.606 DD 710161.8264 4184168.187 EE 710031.5841 4184335.844 FF 710013.6108 4184435.546 GG 710067.6855 4184531.589 HH 709952.2722 4184602.613 Π 709843.3155 4184458.952 JJ 709535.4988 4184622.047 KK 709510.8952 4184682.015 LL 709532.4731 4184767.283 MM 4185084.985 710058.9513 NN 710136.5639 4185087.855 00 710207.2125 4185054.728 PP 4184844.722 710229.6615 4184484.972 QQ 710211.8961 RR 710373.6059 4184451.9 SS 4184521.641 710436.2631 ΤТ 710605.7426 4184505.3 UU 710716.5065 4184455.075 VV 710996.3352 4185368.869 WW 711051.1053 4185377.043 XX 711063.2301 4185517.368 YY 710953.827 4185554.433 ZZ 710867.1759 4185378.678 AAA 710794.4216 4185413.012 BBB 710773.6567 4185467.902 CCC 710783.8532 4185659.088 DDD 4182178.832 711235.1799 EEE 711319.7595 4181916.318 FFF 711125.6824 4181929.613

Verbal Boundary Description:

Main Encampment and Refugee Camp (and including National Cemetery and Hall cemetery): The boundary around the main encampment follows just outside of the area shown to have had forts, buildings, or concentrations of tents on the 1864 and 1865 maps of Camp Nelson (see Figures 2 and 3). The boundary begins at Point A 300 feet northwest of Fort Hatch on the 800 ft contour line and extends eastward 4,300 ft to Point B just north of the Engineer's Camp (Figure 1). From here the boundary bends to the southeast to Point F and south 3,900 ft to

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Camp Nelson Civil War District name of property Jessamine, Kentucky county and State

Points H and I below Fort Jones. The boundary then follows the 740 ft contour line to a steep slope below Battery Studdiford (Point O) where it moves up and begins following the 840 ft contour line to the end of the ridge (Points Q to T) and then turns to the north to Point U, east to Point V and north to the south side of Christopher Drive which extends from the old turnpike (Point W). From here the boundary follows the south side of Christopher Drive and a row of modern houses and loops north of the houses and extends to the west until it meets the northern side of the drive which it follows to the turnpike (Point BB). The boundary continues to the south until it crosses U.S. 27 to Point CC. West of the highway right-of-way the boundary turns to the northwest and extends 1500 ft to Point DD before it turns to the northwest and extends 1000 ft. to just west of the Fee Presbyterian Church (Point EE). From this point the boundary turns to the northeast and follows the east side of Ison road until it passes the house at the corner (Point GG) and then encircles the Ison street houses and crosses Church Street (Point II). From here the boundary turns to the northwest and parallels Church Street until it extends past the Hall cemetery (Point LL) where it turns to the northeast and extends to the Kentucky River (Point MM). The boundary then follows the bank of the river for 55 ft to Point OO and then turns southeast and extends up the drainage 2300 ft to the south side of the Hall Road (Point RR) where it turns to the east and follows the Hall Road to U.S. 27 (Point UU) and turns to the northeast on the eastern edge of the U.S. 27 right-of-way. The boundary parallels the eastern side of U.S. 27 to just past the National Cemetery entrance, where it extends to the east side of the old turnpike. It then follows the east side of this road 1900 ft, to Point VV and then bends to the northeast to bypass a cluster of modern houses, until it meets a gravel road (Point XX). The boundary then turns to the west and continues along this line across the turnpike and U.S. 27 (Point YY) and then turns to the southwest. It extends to the southwest 1200 ft to Point ZZ, bends around to the north (points AAA and BBB) and extends 2750 ft to the beginning.

<u>Fort Bramlette</u>: For this site the 1975 National Register boundary is utilized. This boundary is shown on the National Register nomination form as a circle surrounding Fort Bramlette that has a diameter of 430 ft.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries drawn around the main encampment area and the refugee home encircle much of the occupied extent of these two areas as shown on the 1864 and 1865 Camp Nelson maps and photographs. The encampment area boundary is drawn to include the northern line of fortifications, and the engineer's camp, and then bend around to include Battery Studdiford and the tent concentration shown in 1864 below the Old Headquarters. The boundary then loops to the east to exclude a cluster of six modern houses and their outbuildings. The boundary then encloses the hospital facility and convalescent camp area, on the west side of U.S. 27 and extends westward to the original refugee camp. The boundary lines for the refugee camp are drawn to enclose the area illustrated in the 1865 map plus the slope to the northeast where a historic

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photograph shows refugee tents and shacks and the base of the bluff where the waterworks was located. The southern boundary includes only that part of the Hall community which follows the northwest to southeast orientation of the original refugee camp. From the Hall Road the boundary recrosses U.S. 27 to its east side and extends northward to exclude a cluster of five modern houses and again recrosses U.S. 27 (to its west side) to include the sites of the quartermaster stables, the barracks, and Forts Hatch and Nelson. This recrossing of U. S. 27 excludes the commercial area west of U. S. 27, which visual and archaeological examination indicated was disturbed (McBride and Sharp 1991).

The Fort Bramlette boundary is that used in the 1975 National Register nomination. This boundary includes Fort Bramlette and an area surrounding it which might include tents.

11. Property owners

1. PVA map 38, lot 1, ? acres; Norton, Simon Art Foundation, 411 W. Colorado Blvd, Pasadena, CA 91105.

2. PVA map 38, lot 2, 39.59 acres; West, Eugene M., 868 Della Drive, Lexington, KY 40504.

3. PVA map, 38, lot 3, .01 acres, C. N. Community Cemetery, Hall Road, Nicholasaville, KY 40356

4. PVA map 38, lot 4, 30.27 acres; Payne Bros, Wm J. Payne, 106 Evergreen Court, Nicholasville, Ky 40356 and Nature Conservancy, 642 W. Main Street, Lexington, KY 40508.

5. PVA map 38, lot 5, 133.47 acres; Carson, Paul C., 305 Belle Chase, Nicholasville, KY 40356

6. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 1, 2.44 acres; Payne, Ambrose Jr., 301 Beulah Drive, Nicholasville, KY 40356

7. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 2, 3.96 acres; Ison, Jeff estate, Rt. 3, Nicholasville, KY 40356

8. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 3, .44 acres; Railey, Willie D., 303 E. Chestnut St., Nicholasville, KY 40356

9. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 4, ? acres; Mulligan, Lewis, 1420 Hall Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356

10. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 6, 1.58 acres; Stewart, Helen Booker, 1425 Hall Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356

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11. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 7, 2.53 acres; Spillman, Carrie Estate, 1320 Hall Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356

12. PVA mpa 38-4, block 1, lot 9, 1.95 acres; Gates, Antonia D and William T., PSC 1, Box 3621, APO, AE 09009.

13. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 10, 6.65 acres; Robertson, John W., 1598 Kirk St, Lexington, Ky 40511

14. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 12, ? acres; Frye, James H., 960 Evanston Road, Aurora, CO 80011.

15. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 13, 3.84 acres; Payne Estate, Church Street, Poortown, Nicholasville, Ky 40356.

16. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 15, 7.08 acres, Jessamine County Fiscal Court, 101 N. Main St., Nicholasville, KY 40356.

17. PVA map 38-4, block 1, lot 16, Clay, Robert E, 2613 W. Madison St, Louisville, KY 40211.

18. PVA map 38-4, block 2, lot 1, Ison, Jeff estate, Rt. 3, Nicholasville, KY 40356.

19. PVA map 38-4, block 2, lot 2, .44 acres; Overstreet, Daniel Sr., 6307 Sherlock Way, Louisville, KY 40228.

20. PVA map 38-4, block 3, lot 2, Frye, Joseph J and Freda, 4300 Clemens Drive, Lexington, KY 40514

21. PVA map 38-4, block 3, lot 3, .38 acres; Payne, William J. and Thelma F., 106 Evergreen Ct, Nicholasville, KY 40356

22. PVA map 50, lot 1, 72.9 acres; Corman, Carl Jr. and Ruby M., 6454 Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

23. PVA map 50, lot 2, 65.15 acres; Rhineheimer, Mary, 6531 Danville Rd., Nicholasville, KY 40356

24. PVA map 50, lot 3, 5.7 acres; Simpson, Larry R. and Patricia J., 6601 Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

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25. PVA map 50, lot 5, 192.68 acres; Jessamine County Fiscal Court, 101 N. Main St., Nicholasville, KY 40356

26. PVA map 50, lot 6, 5.14 acres; Black, Betty Jo, 218 Edgewood Drive, Nicholasville, KY 40356

27. PVA map 50, lot 9, 10.29 acres; Morguelan, Marty, 6681 Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

28. PVA map 50, lot 10, 19.78 acres, Glass, Charles Wilton and Betty, 6700 Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

29. PVA map 50, lot 11, 15.76 acres; Adams, Benjamin F. and Barbara, 6707 Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

30. PVA map 50, lot 12, 31.77 acres; Glass, Charles Wilton and Betty, 6700 Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

31. PVA map 50, lot 13, 1.84 acres; Glass, Dan C. and Thelma, 6724 Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

32. PVA map 50, lot 14, 50.17 acres; Glass, Margaret, 6692 Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

33. PVA map 50, lot 16, 139.13 acres; Jessamine County Fiscal Court, 101 N. Main St., Nicholasville, KY 40356

34. PVA map 50, lot 17, 79.99 acres; Stoll, Walt, 267 Yorkshire Ct, Gurnee, IL 60031.

35. PVA map 50, lot 18, 32.32 acres; United States of America (Camp Nelson National Cemetery), 6980 Danville Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356 (on National Register already).

36. PVA map 50, lot 20.0, 223.05 acres; Scott, Hugh L. Estate, 596 Medina Dr, Augusta, GA 30907-9446.

37. PVA map 50, lot 20.01, Scott, Hugh L. Estate, 596 Medina Dr, Augusta, GA 30907-9446.

38. PVA map 50, lot 21.01, Scott, Hugh L. Estate, 596 Medina Dr, Augusta, GA 30907-9446.

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39. PVA map 50, lot 21, 4 acres; Anderson, Gerald and Catherine, 7112 Old Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

40. PVA map 50, lot 23, 5.03 acres; Peel, Gordon E. and Charlotte A., 210 Simpson Rd, Lancaster, KY 40444

41. PVA map 50, lot 26, 100.66 acres; Christopher, Ruth Trust, 7210 Old Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

42. PVA map 50, lot 27, 37.61 acres; Cosby, Tex and Jo Ann, 7264 Old Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

43. PVA map 50, lot 30, 67.5 acres; Royalty, Bobby G. and Virginia, 2298 Sugar Creek Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

44. PVA map 50, lot 33, 60.97 acres; Jessamine County Fiscal Court, 101 N. Main St., Nicholasville, KY 40356

45. PVA map 51, lot 1, ? acres; Switzer, Jeffrey K and Susan K, 3210 Lexington Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356

46. PVA map 51, lot 2, 13.5 acres; Kindred, Mary L., 7376 Old Danville Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356

47. PVA map 51, lot 23, 301.97 acres; Graham, Marshall and Moon Whang, 611 Sussex Lane, Nicholasville, KY 40356 (Fort Bramlette, already on National Register)





Figure 2. Camp Nelson and its Defenses (Simpson 1864, National Archives).

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Figure 4. Camp Nelson National Cemetery.



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Office U.S.Engineers Cincinnati O.

Official :

J.H.Si LICK Figure 5. Fort Jackson Plan (National Archives).

Defences of Camp Nelson Ky ,

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Figures to accompany nomination:

Figure 1 Camp Nelson District

Figure 2. Camp Nelson and its Defenses (Simpson map, 1864, from National Archives)

Figure 3. Map of Camp Nelson, KY (Miller map, 1866, from National Archives)

Figure 4 Camp Nelson National Cemetery

Figure 5. Fort Jackson plan (National Archives)

<u>Photographs to accompany nomination:</u> photo #s 1, 4-15, 25-29 were taken by W. Stephen McBride or J. David McBride, negatives in possession of W. Stephen McBride, will be curated by Jessamine County and Camp Nelson Restoration and Preservation Foundation.

photo #s 2, 3, 16-24 are historic photographs, photographer unknown, negatives at National Archives

25. Excavation, Feature 10, 15Js96northeast26. Excavation, Feature 109, 15Js97west27. Excavation, prison stockade trenchnortheast28. Excavation, Fort Taylor powder magazine (Resource 13)west	oking)
29. Excavation, Fort Putnum revetment postmolds (Resource 11) west end	