

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Warren County Multiple Resource Area Addition: Civil War Fortification Thematic Resource

WA-B-227 Site No.

1. Historic Name(s) Fort Webb

Original Owner

2. Present Name Fort Webb

3. Location Country Club Drive

4. Owner's Name City of Bowling Green Charles Coates (City Manager)

5. Owner's Address 1001 College Street

6. Open to Public Yes X No Private Local L State Federal

8. Site Plan with North Arrow See Attached Maps.

9. Architect/Builder

10. Date 1861-1865 A. L4 B.

11. Style A. N/A B.

12. Original Use Military L

13. Present Use Landscape/Park N

14. Condition Good LB

15. Stories, No. of

16. Description Located .2 Mile off Beech Bend Road on Country Club Drive, Fort Webb is approximately 2,600 yards north of Fort C.F. Smith (WA-B-232). This is the most complete of the three surviving fortifications and comprises 90-100% of the original construction work.

Fort Webb is situated about 200 feet southwest of a parking lot. Access to the fort from the parking lot is via a path through a fairly level expanse of exposed limestone outcroppings.

(Continued on back) (Continue on Back)

17. Single Pile Double Pile NA

18. Floor Plan

19. Structural Fabric Earth/Rock A. LG B. B

20. Decorative Fabric A. B.

21. Roof Form & Material

22. Foundation Material

23. Outbuildings

24. Alterations Moved Wall Treatment Additions

25. History During the Civil War, Bowling Green became an important military, as well as political center. Bowling Green's location among rolling hills on the Barren River and its (Continued on back)

Significance Between 1861 and 1865, Bowling Green served as an important military stronghold for both Confederate and Union armies. (Continued on back)

27. Source of Information Warren County Courthouse Kentucky Library - WKU

28. ADD/County Barren River/Warren City 114

29. U.S.G.S. Quadrant (15'/75') Bowling Green North G.I.S. Mod.

30. UTM Reference Zone Easting Northing 16 550380 409720

31. Coordinate Accuracy

32. Prehistoric Site Object Historic Site Structure Building Other

33. National Register District Name:

34. Significance of Evaluation National Register D

35. Status National Landmark National Register Landmark Certificate Kentucky Survey Local Landmark HABS/HAER

36. Historic Theme Primary Architecture C Secondary Military T Other

37. Endangered Yes No X

38. ATTACH PHOTO

Roll No. Picture No. Direction

39. Prepared by: Kevin A. Hunter

40. Organization Landmark Association P

41. Date September 7, 1984

42. Revision Dates 43. Staff Review

## DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The main structure is a "U" shaped embankment composed of three arms, each roughly 80 feet long and 20 feet wide at the base. This embankment faces northeast, is 6-7 feet wide at the top, has 2-4 foot interior walls and 8-10 foot exterior walls. Timber steps were placed on the northeast face for access to the fort's interior during construction of Fort Webb Park. A path has been worn into the top of the embankment. A single park bench is located in the center of the embankment's interior.

Two trenches and outer embankments flank the main embankment on the north and south sides. These 6-10 foot wide trenches were cut into the natural limestone during original construction of the fort. The outer embankments are 80-100 feet long, 15 feet wide at the base and are 4-6 feet in height.

Fort Webb site is located at the city's northern edge in a predominately agricultural area on a heavily wooded 1.2 acre property owned by the City of Bowling Green. The fort is positioned at the southwest end of this property. Although the property is maintained in its natural state, weeds and underbrush have been allowed to overgrow in the trenches and the fort's interior. Other features added during the park's construction include a split rail fence running along the northwest and southeast property boundaries, a 9 space parking lot adjacent to Country Club Drive, a wood sign at the parking lot's northwest end, a flagpole about 50 feet from the fort's northeast face, and two park benches between the parking lot and fort.

## HISTORY (Continued)

position between Nashville and Louisville on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad made the town a strategic stronghold (one of five) midway along the Confederate line running from eastern Kentucky to western Tennessee. On September 18, 1861 General Simon Bolivar Buckner occupied Bowling Green with 4,500 troops. While Confederate forces occupied Bowling Green, a series of eight major earthen fortifications were constructed on the hills surrounding the town. These fortifications were designed to protect the railroad, river and roads entering Bowling Green. Although General Buckner was unable to assault Louisville from Bowling Green, he was able to disrupt traffic on the Green River and Louisville and Nashville Railroad. When Forts Henry and Donelson in western Tennessee were captured by the Union Army, the Confederate position in Bowling Green became untenable and was evacuated February 14, 1862. Upon capture of Bowling Green by Federal forces on February 15, 1862, the incomplete fortifications were improved and occupied by the Union Army for the duration of the war. Fort Webb, named by the Union forces, was known locally as Webb's Hill. This one acre property was donated to the City of Bowling Green in the early 1970's and is now part of the city's park system. The park was improved by the Parks and Recreation Department for passive recreational use.

## SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Construction of the original fortifications was begun by the Confederate Army and was improved by the Union Army under the direction of Colonel Benjamin Harrison. Today, Fort Webb is one of three surviving visual reminders of Bowling Green's original Civil War fortifications.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY SUPPLEMENT  
BOUNDARY AND LOCATION INFORMATION

Historic Property Name Fort Webb Site #WA-B-227

Multiple Resource/Thematic Nomination Title  
Warren County Multiple Resource Area Addition: Civil War Fortification Thematic Resource

U.T.M. Coordinates - List multiple UTM's if property is ten or more acres.

A. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_ E. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_ F. \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal Boundary Description

Acreage Approximately 1.2 Acres

See Attached Deed.

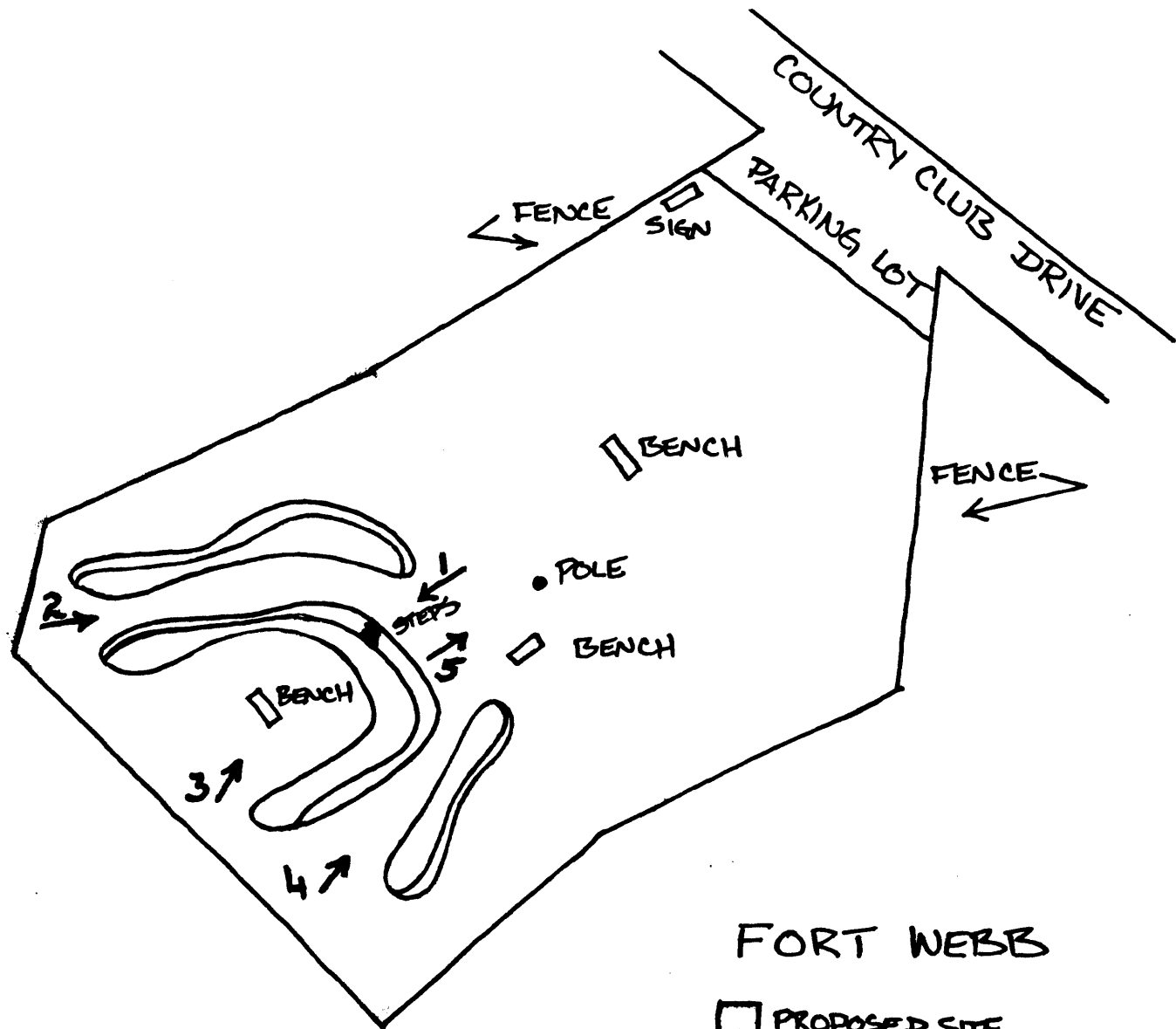
Sketch of Site Plan (Showing outbuildings, structures, landscape features  
and the site boundary as described above.)

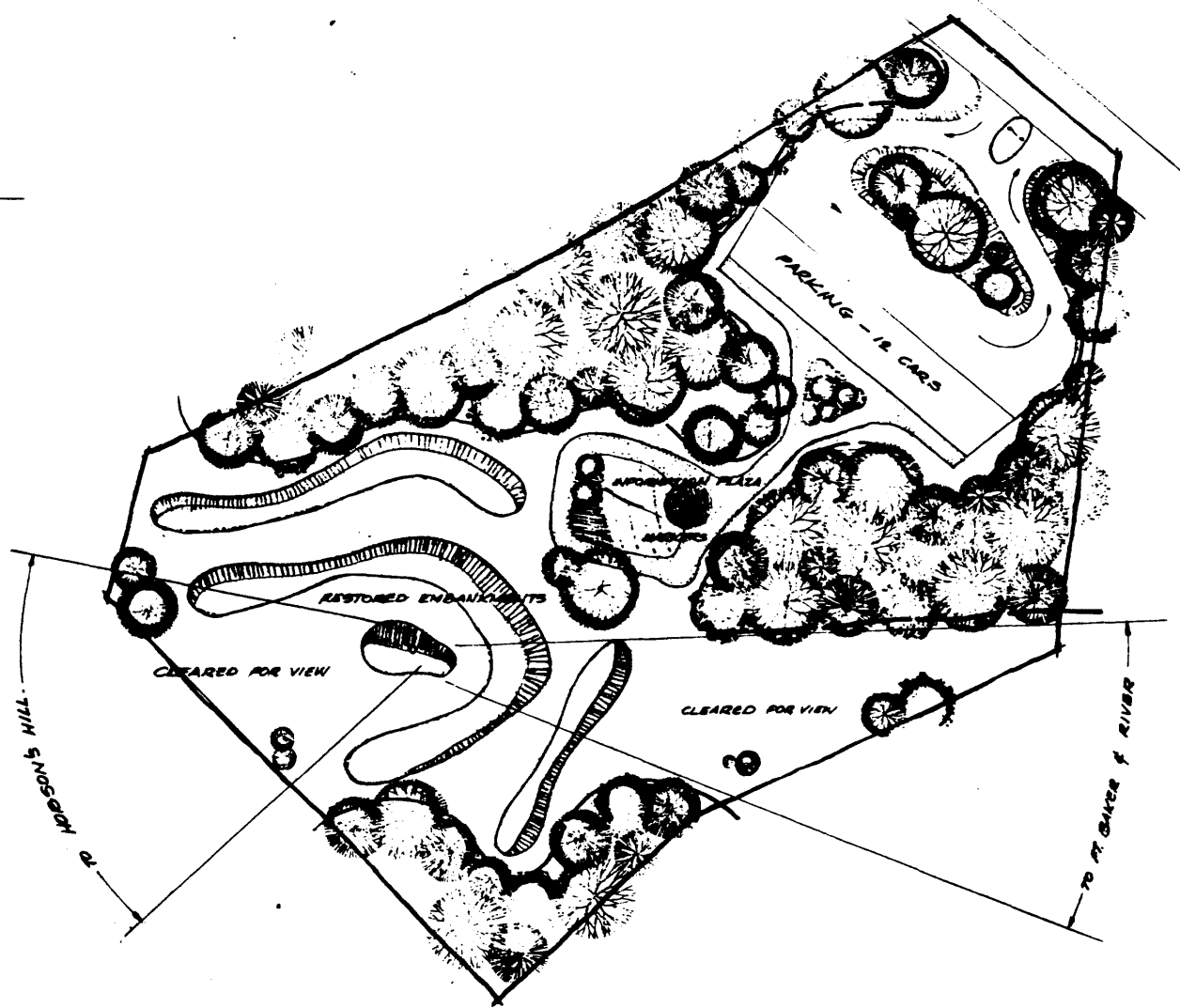
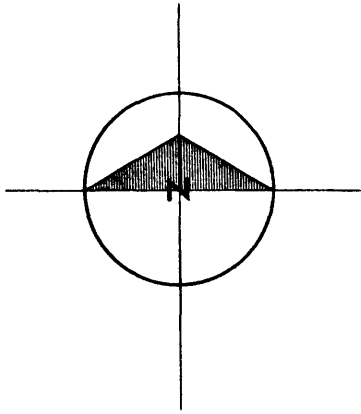
See Attached Maps.

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Official Courthouse Property Reference:

Warren County Courthouse  
Deed Book 409 Page 166





# PROPOSED FT. WEBB HISTORIC PARK

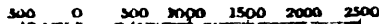
MAP  
OF

DWLING GREEN, Ky.,

SHOWING ITS

APPROACHES AND DEFENSES.

Scale of Feet



Surveyed and Drawn under authority of

Maj. J. H. SIMPSON, Chief Engr.

DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO,

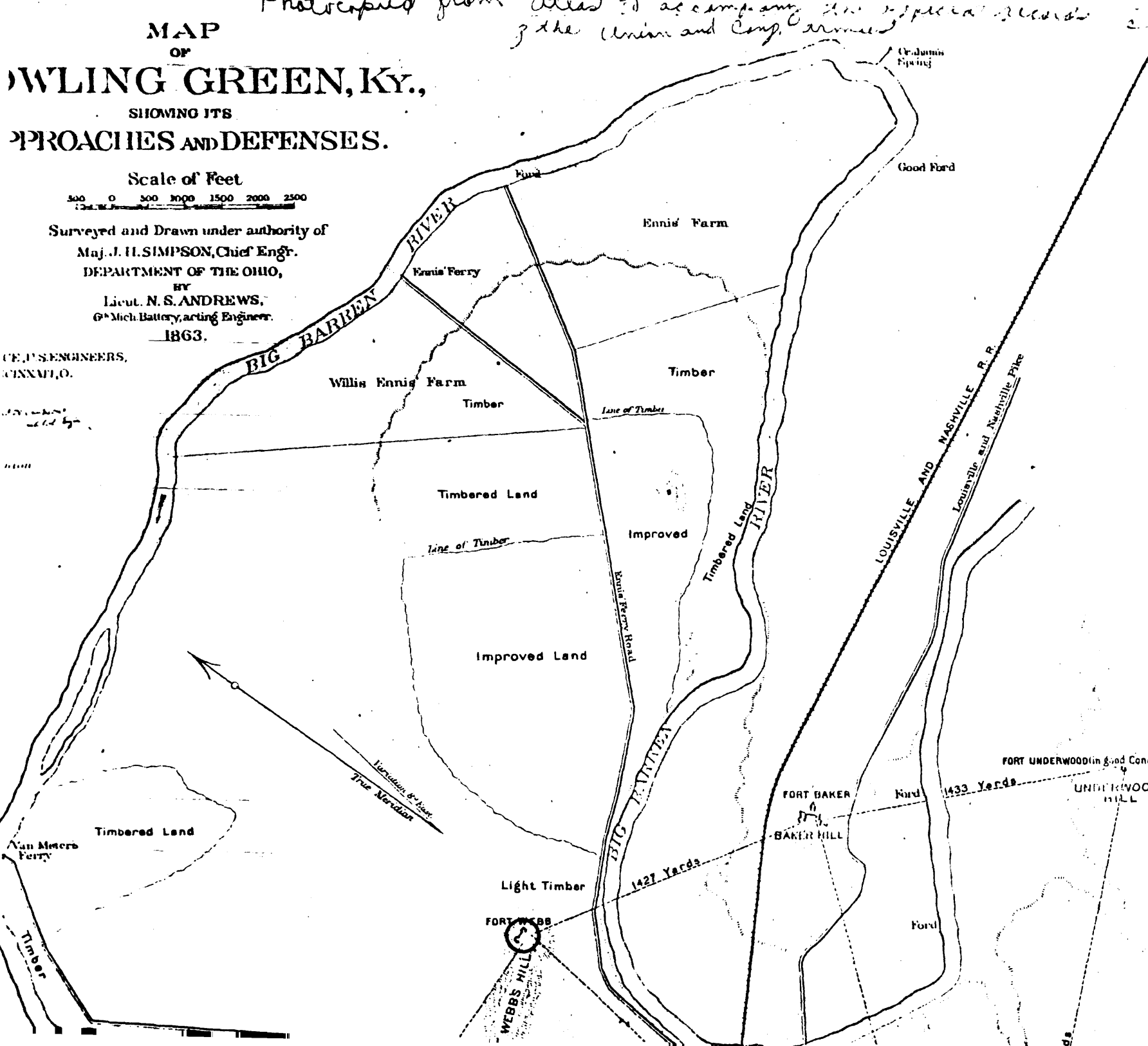
BY

Lieut. N. S. ANDREWS,

6th Mich. Battery, acting Engineer.

1863.

ENGINEERS,  
CINCINNATI, O.



*Photographed from atlas to accompany the Special Reports of the Union and Conf. Armies*

*Hand-drawn by*

*1863*

FORT UNDERWOOD (in good Condition)

UNDERWOOD HILL

FORT BAKER

BAKER HILL

FORT WEBB

WEBB HILL

1433 Yards

1427 Yards

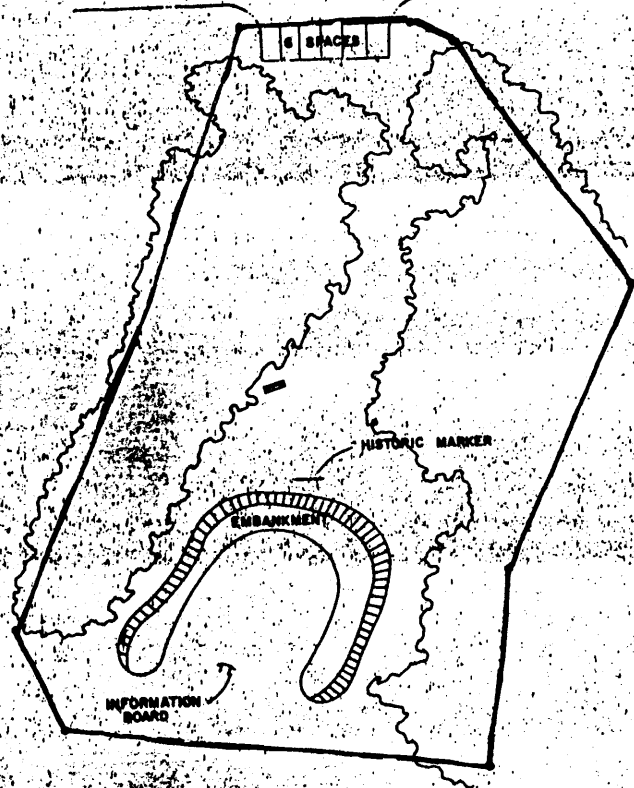
LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE R. R.  
Louisville and Nashville Pike

True Meridian



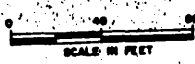


COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE



**LEGEND**

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| ▣ SWINGS         | — HAND WALKS     |
| ∩ SLIDES         | ⊙ CRAWL THROUGH  |
| ⊥ SEE-SAWS       | h GRILLS         |
| ⊙ MERRY-GO-ROUND | ⊞ PICNIC TABLES  |
| ⊙ JUNGLE GYM     | ⊞ PICNIC SHELTER |
| ⊞ HORSE SHOES    | ⊞ STAGGERED BARS |
| — WATER MAIN     | — SANITARY SEWER |
| — FORCE MAIN     |                  |



**FORT WEBB**

**REAL PROPERTY LEDGER**

A record of land, land improvements and buildings

Owned by City of Bowling Green, Ky.

Plat Book--Land

Parcel No. \_\_\_\_\_

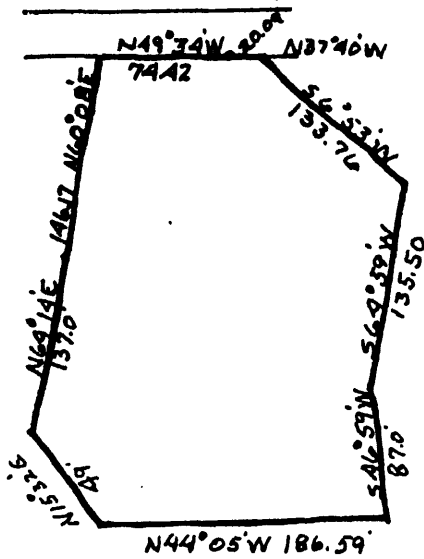
Lot No. \_\_\_\_\_

Subdivision No. \_\_\_\_\_

Building Record No. \_\_\_\_\_

Property No. \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION **FORT WEBB**



Location: BOWLING GREEN COUNTRY CLUB ROAD

Size of: 1.2 A±

Purpose for which obtained: PARK

Present use of property: PARK

Legislation

Resolution No. Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Resolution No. Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ordinance No. Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

Deed

Reversion Clause? Yes No  
 If yes, give deed conditions:

Grantor

Type of Deed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recorded: Book of Deeds No. 409  
 Note Bk.No. \_\_\_\_\_ Vol. \_\_\_\_\_ page 166  
 Copy on File with:

Cost

Price paid for property \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cost of Construction \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Voucher No. \_\_\_\_\_ Work Order No. \_\_\_\_\_

How Acquired

	From General Bond Issue
Purchase:	" Current Revenues
Contract:	" Gifts
Force Acc't:	" Spec.Ass.Mun-Share
Bequest:	" " Prop-Owner
Grant:	" Federal Grants

Property surplus to needs

Is all property described above needed for public use? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Describe part not needed: \_\_\_\_\_

Survey by: \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL LEDGER

Property Value used in G.L. Control \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Add: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deduct: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Land \$ Appraisal per A. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Bldgs. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose of appraisal: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Appraised by: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessed Value

Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Land: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bldgs: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Improv't \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To show last assessment on property.

Picture

If land, picture should show all building improvements.

Disposition Recommended

Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

Disposition Made

Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_