

6-7-73

Chalmers P. Wylie

STATE: Ohio

COUNTY: Franklin

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: _____ DATE: APR 11 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



1. NAME

COMMON: Camp Chase Site

AND/OR HISTORIC: _____

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 2900 Sullivant Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Columbus

STATE: Ohio CODE: 039 COUNTY: Franklin CODE: 049

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: National Cemetery Supervising Office/ U.S. Government

STREET AND NUMBER: 2800 South 20th Street

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 042

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: National Archives

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 011

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Ohio Historic Landmarks Survey Phase I

DATE OF SURVEY: 1967 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Ohio Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: 1982 Velma Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Columbus STATE: Ohio CODE: 039

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Original: The flat, farming land which became Camp Chase was leased to the U.S. Government at the beginning of the Civil War. On the camp site 160 houses were built to replace the overflowing barracks at Camp Jackson on the north side of Columbus. When the first prisoners of war arrived, a stockade was built on the southeast corner of the camp grounds. This stockade rested on a 1/2-acre plot, and accommodated 450 prisoners in three single-story frame buildings with partitioned rooms and tiered bunks. Two of the buildings measured 100' by 15', while the third measured 70' by 20'. A plank wall 12' high with towers on two sides surrounded the stockade, named Prison No. 1. More buildings were added in November, 1861, to relieve the critical housing shortage caused by incoming prisoners. Three 100' by 15' barracks, designated as Prison No. 2, were added on land contiguous to the first stockade. As more prisoners of war filled the camp grounds, additional barracks were needed. Prison No. 3, a three-acre unit, was built in March, 1862. Huts arranged in a cluster of six formed a nucleus. Each hut was made of planks and light frames measuring 20' by 14'. The huts in each cluster were spaced 2 1/2' apart, while series of clusters formed four parallel lines. Narrow dirt roads separated each parallel line. In the summer of 1864, the huts of Prison No. 3 were demolished to make way for seventeen new barracks, each 100' by 22' long, with space for 198 prisoners. Volunteer prison labor built the barracks with old lumber from the previously demolished site.

Present: None of the original structures on the Camp Chase site exist today. All were dismantled at the end of the Civil war. A cemetery, established in 1863, now occupies less than two acres of the original camp grounds. A stone wall, built in 1921, encloses the graves of 2,199 Confederate soldiers who died while prisoners of war. A memorial arch of granite blocks, unveiled in 1902, spans a large boulder just 75' inside the Sullivant Avenue entrance. Above the arch rests a bronze statue of a Confederate soldier facing south, and on the keystone of the arch is the inscription-- AMERICANS. Marble headstones, granted by an Act of Congress in 1906, identify the grave of each soldier. A speaker's platform, also made of stone and completed in 1921, stands directly behind the memorial arch along the north wall.

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SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

 Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1861-1865

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

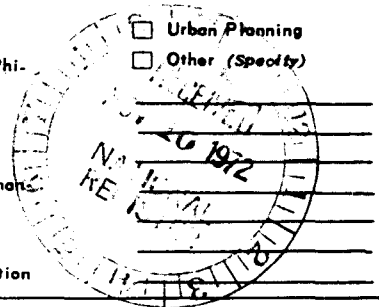
Aboriginal

 Prehistoric Historic Agriculture Architecture Art Commerce Communications Conservation Education Engineering Industry Invention Landscape Architecture Literature Military Music Political Religion/Phi-

losophy

 Science Sculpture Social/Human-

itarian

 Theater Transportation Urban Planning Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Camp Chase, officially dedicated on June 20, 1861, is named in honor of Salmon Portland Chase (1808-1873), former Governor of Ohio, Treasury Secretary under President Abraham Lincoln, and later Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Initially designated as a training camp for new recruits in the Union Army, Camp Chase was converted to a military prison as the first prisoners of war arrived from western Virginia.

In the early months of the Civil War, Camp Chase primarily held political prisoners-- judges, legislators, and mayors from Kentucky and Virginia accused of loyalty to the Confederacy. In early 1862, Camp Chase served briefly as a prison for Confederate officers. But with the opening of a military prison for Confederate officers at Johnson's Island, Ohio, Camp Chase housed only non-commissioned officers, enlisted men, and political prisoners until the end of the Civil War.

Camp Chase, according to an exchange agreement reached by North and South on July 22, 1862, was to be a way station for immediate repatriation of Confederate soldiers. When both sides formally ended this agreement on July 13, 1863, Camp Chase swelled with new prisoners. Military prisoners quickly outnumbered political prisoners by heavy margins. By war's end, Camp Chase held 26,000 of all 36,000 Confederate prisoners of war in Ohio military prisons.

Crowded and unhealthy living conditions at Camp Chase eventually took a heavy toll among prisoners. Despite newly-constructed barracks in 1864 which raised the prison's capacity to 8,000 men, the prison soon operated over capacity. Rations for prisoners were reduced in retaliation against alleged mistreatment at prisoner of war camps in the South. Many prisoners suffered from malnutrition, and died from smallpox, typhoid fever, and pneumonia. Others who received meager clothing provisions suffered severe cases of exposure from the cold Ohio winter of 1865. In all, 2,260 soldiers died at Camp Chase by July 5, 1865, when the camp officially closed.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Anonymous, Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C. (pamphlet)
 Breen, Donald J., and Shriver, Phillip R., Ohio's Military Prisons in the Civil War, Columbus, Ohio State University Press, 1964
 Dodds, Gilbert F., Camp Chase, Columbus, Franklin County Historical Society, 1961 (pamphlet)
 Knauss, William H., Story of Camp Chase, Nashville and Dallas Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1906

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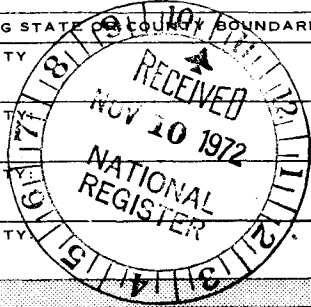
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39 ° 56 ' 37 "	83 ° 04 ' 34 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.40

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: William H. Carlile

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: July 10, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: 10 North Drexel Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Columbus STATE: Ohio CODE: 039

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: William H. Carlile

Title: Ohio Liaison Officer

Date: 31 Oct. 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/11/73

ATTEST: William H. Carlile
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4.3.73