United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory -- Nomination Form
For Federal Properties

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries -- Complete applicable sections

1 NAME

Historic
Andrew Johnson National Historic Site

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN: Greenville
STATE: Tennessee
VICINITY OF: 1st

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 47

3 CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>Unoccupied</td>
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<td>Work in progress</td>
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<td>In process</td>
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<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td>Being considered</td>
<td>Yes: Restricted</td>
<td>Government, Scientific</td>
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</table>

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: National Park Service, Southeast Region

STREET & NUMBER: 1895 Phoenix Blvd.

CITY, TOWN: Atlanta
STATE: Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Andrew Johnson NHS Park Files

STREET & NUMBER: Andrew Johnson National Historic Site

CITY, TOWN: Greenville
STATE: Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: 

DATE: 

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: 

CITY, TOWN: 
STATE: 
### DESCRIPTION

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DESCRIPT THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Andrew Johnson National Historic Site, established in 1942, preserves important buildings and sites associated with the 17th President of the United States, Andrew Johnson. These structures assist in telling the story of the life and accomplishments of the ex-President and help to maintain these resources. In 1942 when the National Park Service took over the administration of the area, there were five recognized historic structures: the Homestead, the Tailor Shop, a Building which housed the Superintendent of the National Cemetery under the War Department's jurisdiction, a marble shaft over the grave of the President and Mrs. Andrew Johnson, and a concrete wall surrounding the National Cemetery. Today the Andrew Johnson National Historic Site is made up of three separate units totalling 16+ acres. They are the Andrew Johnson Visitor Complex; the Andrew Johnson Homestead; and the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery.

The Andrew Johnson Visitor Complex is located on the two corners of College and Depot Streets. As the headquarters of the Historic Site, it includes the Memorial Building which encloses the Tailor Shop, Museum, and Visitor Center; and the Andrew Johnson House (1830's-1851) situated across the street. In 1830, Andrew Johnson bought the famous Tailor Shop (No. HS 11) located on the northwest corner of Depot and College Streets, where he established himself in trade and politics. The Tailor Shop was known as a center for political discussion among the plain, laboring men of the town.

The shop is a one story, one room framed structure. It appears to have been well built with poplar weather boarding applied to the exterior walls, wide boards applied to the interior walls, and shingles placed on the roof. The floor has been covered with pine flooring approximately 6" wide. The floor, the interior pine walls, and the ceiling material were constructed by the Tongue and Groove method. The structure is in fairly good condition and has not been substantially altered since the days of Johnson's occupancy. The building measures 14' x 21' and is enclosed in a brick building. The Tailor Shop is displayed as a partially furnished tailoring establishment of the 1830's.

The Memorial Building (No. HS 13) constructed by the state of Tennessee in 1923 was built to protect and house the Tailor Shop which had been purchased from the Johnson family in 1921. The Memorial Building itself is a one story, two room brick, wood and glass construction. The room housing the Tailor Shop is 30' x 40' and of sufficient height to afford plenty of air space above the shop. The Tailor Shop enclosure remains practically unaltered from its 1923 appearance, where as, the second room which was originally built as quarters for a caretaker, was completely renovated in 1956-58 for use as a museum. The museum room is approximately 18' x 26' with a 9' ceiling. Both rooms of the Memorial are in good condition.
## SIGNIFICANCE

### PERIOD
- **PREHISTORIC**
- **1400-1499**
- **1500-1599**
- **1600-1699**
- **1700-1799**
- **1800-1899**
- **1900**

### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW
- Archeology - Prehistoric
- Archeology - Historic
- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Art
- Commerce
- Communications
- Community Planning
- Conservation
- Conservation
- Economics
- Education
- Engineering
- Exploration/Settlement
- Industry
- Invention
- Landscape Architecture
- Law
- Literature
- Military
- Music
- Philosophy
- Politics/Government
- Religion
- Science
- Sculpture
- Social/Humanitarian
- Theater
- Transportation
- Other (Specify)
- Utilitarian
- Commemorative

### SPECIFIC DATES

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Andrew Johnson National Historic Site preserves important buildings and objects associated with the 17th President of the United States. Each of the three units of the Site represents a step in his career. The Visitor's Center which includes the Tailor Shop, the Museum, and the Andrew Johnson House (1830's-1851), is closely associated with Johnson's early professional, educational, and political life. The Homestead was purchased in 1851 after he retired from the tailoring business. It is this house which is most closely identified with Johnson's rise to fame and historical importance. While he lived there he was U.S. Congressman until 1853, Governor of Tennessee for two terms, U.S. Senator in 1858, Military Governor of Tennessee during the Civil War in 1862, Vice-President of the United States in 1864, President of the United States in 1865-1869, and finally U.S. Senator again in 1875. Specifically, the house depicts the living condition of the Johnsons during their latter years: 1869-75. The National Cemetery memorializes Andrew Johnson's convictions in himself and the people who motivated his whole political career. "His faith in the people never waivered." The Marble Monument over his grave features a hand resting on a Bible and a scroll representing the Constitution, symbolizing Johnson's strict adherence to what guideline of government. The Cemetery Lodge and Wall are historical registers of the development of the area since its purchase by the federal government in 1908.

Andrew Johnson's love for the democratic process under the Constitution coupled with the fulfillment of a fundamental principle of American democracy—(that a man, no matter how humble his origin or his environment, can make his way even to the Presidency)—were the major contributing factors in the establishment of the National Historic Site.
9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


Ernest A. Connally, "The Andrew Johnson Homestead at Greenville, Tennessee". Reprinted from East Tennessee Historical Publications No. 29, 1957. (cont.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 16.55

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

A 17 31351490 2010.314 20

B 17 31351490 2010.314 20

C 17 31351490 2010.314 20

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Identical to boundaries of Andrew Johnson National Historic Site

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Hugh A. Lawing, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

Andrew Johnson National Historic Site

DATE

12/7/74

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

638-3551

CITY OR TOWN

Greenville

STATE

Tennessee

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES__ NO__ NONE__

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

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

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Deputy Assistant Secretary

DATE

NOV 24 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

2/13/77
Across the street from the Tailor Shop and the Memorial Building stands the Andrew Johnson House (No. HS 10), 1830's-1851 (also known as the Kerbaugh House). The Andrew Johnson House had several owners between 1851 and 1963, when it was purchased by the National Park Service, none of whom appreciably altered the structure. Only the last owners, the Kerbaughs, made any major changes. These alterations included wiring the house for electricity, filling in the basement kitchen, applying a tin roof, and laying a new floor in the dining room area.

The Andrew Johnson House is a two story brick with a one story ell, extending back from the basic block one room deep. The basic block measures approximately 26' x 21' and the ell measures approximately 17' x 14'. The interior woodwork of the house is particularly interesting, styled from the pre-Greek Revival period. It appears to be substantially intact. The building since being altered by the Kerbaughs needs to have partial interior and exterior restorations. It will eventually be used as a house museum.

The Andrew Johnson Homestead (No. HS 01), although not the only house in which Johnson lived, is the one most clearly identified with his rise to fame and historical importance. Situated on South Main Street between Main and College, Johnson owned the house from 1851 to his death in 1875. After his death the house was continuously occupied by three generations of descendants who preserved everything associated with the ex-President. Restoration began in 1956. With the help of his countless personal belongings, a high degree of accuracy was attained in the planning of the restoration of the house (which had been modernized several times). The house today stands as it did between 1869-75.

The original house of circa 1850 consisted of a simple, two-story brick block with a one story ell extending towards the rear with six rooms above ground and two semi-basement rooms. In 1869, after the military occupation of the house during the Civil War, a second story was added to the ell. There were several alterations made after Johnson's death, but it was at this point that the house was kept while Andrew Johnson lived and the model to which it has been restored.

The house consists of 11 rooms. The basement room is completely exposed which gives the effect of three stories at the extreme end of the ell. A wide veranda wraps around a portion of the basic block and extends the full length of the ell. The basic block measures approximately 39' x 20' and the ell measures 30' x 18'. With the exception of the porch floors, it is in excellent condition. The structure is being used as a house museum.

The grounds of the Homestead today are nearly 2 acres. However, Andrew Johnson owned only 1½ acres during 1869-75. He bought 3 lots including and surrounding
the house in the years 1851, 1856, and 1870. In 1905 and 1906, Andrew John Patterson, his grandson, purchased 2 more lots which brought the acreage up to the present amount. The Homestead now has a frontage of 219 feet on Main Street and 187 feet on Water Street, extending completely through the block to College Street.

None of the outbuildings of Johnson's time still exist. All references to any outer buildings have been taken almost exclusively from recollections of various members of the family. The buildings most known about were the springhouse, barn and stables, privy, and probable smokehouse. The general character of these buildings probably conformed to those in a typical backyard of latter 19th century Greeneville.

The landscaping of the Homestead is more of a background for the house than an actual period setting. The house originally set directly on the street without a front yard. There were several trees in front of the sidewalk, a picket fence, a number of apple and willow trees on the sides and back of the house, and a garden behind the kitchen. The house is still next to the street and there are trees on the sides and back of the house. Only the shade trees in front and the garden have been noticeably removed.

The Andrew Johnson National Cemetery was the first of the components of the Historic Site to be preserved. The family burial ground at the end of Monument Avenue was given to the federal government in 1908 as a national cemetery. Between 1906 and 1942, the Cemetery was under the jurisdiction of the War Department with the first Superintendent arriving in 1908.

Between the years of 1908 and 1942 routine maintenance of buildings, roadways, walks, improving the drainage system for surface water, establishing sod over the entire cemetery and handling a few interments occupied the Superintendent. In 1942, the area became part of the National Park Service within the Andrew Johnson National Historic Site.

When Andrew Johnson died he was buried on a hilltop of his own selection about a mile from the Homestead. As a part of the National Cemetery, the family burial ground is located in the middle of the 14.25 acres with a spiral road leading up to it. It was here that the family raised a tall monument in memory of President Johnson. The Andrew Johnson Grave Marker (No. HS 12) is 27 feet high, with a measurement of 9' x 7' at the base. The base is of gray granite and is composed of three pieces: the low broad arch and the two supports which rest upon a limestone foundation set five feet in the solid slate of Monument Hill. This arch spans the graves of President and Mrs. Johnson some three feet above the ground surface. On each arch rests a die about three feet high and four feet square, flanked on either side by a pyramidal wing. On top of the wings stands an urn holding a
funeral torch. Above the die is the pedestal, also three feet high and two feet square. The bottom and top are both ornamented with a molding, bead fillet and concave. Above the pedestal stands the shaft of white Italian marble about fifteen feet high, square with beveled corners and plain at the bottom. The upper half is draped with stars and stripes and surmounted with a globe on which an outspread eagle is perched. Also made of Italian white marble, the eagle is poised in an aggressive manner. The pedestal is decorated with a scroll Constitution immediately above an open Bible, on the left hand page of which an open hand rests, pointing towards the Constitution. The hand is also representative of the act of taking oath of office. Only the east face of the monument bears an inscription. The marker is in good condition.

Other dominant structures within the cemetery boundaries are the Cemetery Lodge and the Cemetery Wall. The Cemetery Lodge (No. HS 15), located on the immediate left of the entrance, was built as a residence for the superintendent under the War Department. Periodically, the building interior has been altered to meet the needs of the occupant. It bears no historical significance other than the fact that it is more than 50 years old, unless there is none other like it built by the War Department as a National Cemetery Lodge. It is a two story brick structure, with a basement of poured concrete walls extending above ground three or four feet to the first floor level. The building measures approximately 30' x 30'.

The Cemetery Wall (No. HS 14) also built in 1908, has not been altered since its construction. It is a concrete wall which surrounds the National Cemetery consisting of pillars spaced approximately 10 feet apart. Decorative concrete sections are interspaced between the pillars and all are capped with concrete coping. The gates are made out of iron styled abstractly. The wall’s use is utilitarian and it is in very good condition.

The landscape of the cemetery is basically wooded, with grass lawns interspersed between the graves, monuments, roadways, and walks.

Perhaps of all the units of the Historic Site, the Cemetery required the least attention to bring it into acceptable condition. The biggest problem facing administrators is the number of burials conducted at the National Cemetery. Interments have risen over the past years from 10 per year in 1950 to 50 in early 1970.
ANDREW JOHNSON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

No. 9 Major Bibliographical References


The Andrew Johnson National Historic Site is located in Northeast Tennessee near the town of Greenville.

The site, which includes the tailor shop and two homes of the 17th President of the United States is on the National Register of Historic Places.

One of the buildings within the National Historic Site administered by the National Park Service is the residence of Andrew Johnson, owned and occupied by him between 1831 and 1851, which is located across the street from the tailor shop and park Visitor Center.

The house was a four room, two story brick structure fronting College (formerly Water) Street, to which an "ell" addition was added at an unknown date.

Open to conjecture is the exact date of house construction. In addition the construction of the "ell" is uncertain but possibly took place during Johnson's period of ownership.

Many minor modifications took place after Johnson gave up his interest in the property which obscures an understanding of the building's architectural history during Johnson's ownership.

Documentary background on the house is sparse, mainly consisting of details of lot ownership and a few old photographs. An architectural study was carried out recently which summarizes the known dates (Jones, 1975).

In recent years there has been severe disturbance of the grounds surrounding the house. This disturbance has resulted from attempts to obtain architectural data without the benefit of archeological controls.

Controlled archeological excavations are necessary to gather data in order to determine the construction date of the "ell" and of the back porch attached to it. In addition it is necessary to determine if the back porch
originally ran the length of the "ell" or covered only the area from the house wall to the brick foundation wall, as presently reconstructed. Archeological Investigations will also be necessary to determine the nature of outbuildings; well, springhouse, walkways and other ancillary features. These investigations will require controlled archeological excavations under and adjacent to the architectural features in question.

METHODS

There are three main areas of concern at the Andrew Johnson National Historic Site: 1. The unknown extent of the back porch, 2. Former outbuildings for the house have not been located and 3. Ground level in the front of the house has been disturbed. It should be noted that a high water table in this area will probably make it necessary to utilize pumps to keep the excavation units clear.

1. The Back Porch - Historical and architectural research has not provided information on the exact nature and date of the "ell" structure and the back porch of the Johnson House. The reconstructed porch presently runs halfway along the "ell" terminating at an existing brick foundation wall. Originally it may have run the full length. By careful excavation of test pits near the house in this area it may be possible to find support posts or artifact concentrations that would indicate the edge of a porch. On other historic sites such structures have been located by this means. Occasionally, artifacts (small ceramic fragments, etc.) will align themselves in rows where they fell through cracks in the deck of the porch. The presence of nails might also indicate a back porch. Through artifact ceramic analysis possibly a date of "ell" construction can be obtained. Other possible sources of
evidence on porch construction would include foundation remnants on or next to the "ell" foundation and differing ceramic sequences inside and outside of the possible porch area.

Outbuildings - While there is no information concerning backlot elements, it is suspected that such features were present on the site at one time. A springhouse, privy or other structures might be present.

To locate these, probing with metal rods or a soil auger a series of excavations will be undertaken. Probing or augering will reveal foundations or other structural remains and possibly such features as latrines or trash pits. If any structures are located, the contracting officer or his representative will be consulted to determine if full excavation will be conducted.

Grade in the Front Yard - This will be the most difficult task. The front steps are a twentieth century alteration added when the sidewalk was lowered. This lowering of ground level probably removed any data relevant to historic reconstruction. However, a test excavation is merited in this area.

Artifacts recovered during this project will be returned to FSU for cleaning, cataloging (utilizing NPS form 10-251 and the standards of the SEAC/FSU curatorial program), and analysis. All excavation units will be backfilled to restore the current surface level and preserve any structural remains located. A complete report will be produced and submitted to the Southeast Archaeological Center.
BUDGET - ANDREW JOHNSON

1. Field phase - 6 weeks (3 ppds)
   a. Crew chief (Chad Braley) at $60 per ppd $1,380.00
      Retirement and social security at 15.05% 207.69
      Health at 8.43 per ppd 25.29
   b. Field assistant at 430 per ppd 1,290.00
   c. Fieldcrew (labor) of 3 at 3.75 per hour 2,700.00
   d. Per diem at 225 each 1,125.00
   e. Unemployment at .6% of total salaries 32.22
   f. Overhead at 31% of total salaries 1,664.70
      Field Phase Total 8,424.90

2. Analysis phase - 11 weeks (5.5 pay ppds)
   a. Crew chief (Braley) at $460 per ppd $2,530.00
      Retirement and social security at 15.05% 380.77
      Health at 8.43 per ppd 46.37
   b. Lab assistant at 1/2 time for 215.40 per ppd 1,184.70
   c. Unemployment at .6% 22.29
   d. Overhead at 56% of total salaries 2,080.23
      Analysis Phase Total 6,744.36

3. Miscellaneous costs
   a. Travel for principal investigator - 2 trips 580.00
   b. Vehicle expenses - gas and maintenance 250.00
   c. Supplies - report preparation, etc. 500.00
      Total 1,330.00
      TOTAL $15,999.26

0.72% of this negotiated rate is for the statewide cost allocation agreement and will be returned to the State of Florida when final plan is approved by DHEW auditors.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Andrew Johnson National Historic Site (Additional Documentation)

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number

city or town Greeneville

state Tennessee code TN county Greene code 059

zip code 37744

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X nationally __ statewide ___ locally. ( ___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

State or Federal agency and bureau
USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
Andrew Johnson National Historic Site

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: ______________________
Date of Action: 12/11/95

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

[ ] private
[ ] public-local
[ ] public-State
[ ] public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

[ ] building(s)
[ ] district
[ ] site
[ ] structure
[ ] object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed properties in the count)

Contributing Noncontributing

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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 7

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)

- FUNERARY/cemetery
- RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument/marker
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/animal facility
- LANDSCAPE/street furniture/object
- TRANSPORTATION/road-related
- DOMESTIC/institutional housing

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- FUNERARY/cemetery
- RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument/marker
- LANDSCAPE/street furniture/object
- TRANSPORTATION/road-related
- DOMESTIC/institutional housing
- OTHER/National Historic Site
- OTHER/NPS maintenance facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals
- Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation: concrete
- walls: brick
- roof: slate, tin
- other: granite, marble, limestone, iron, wood, asphalt, shale

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)

- **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.
- **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.
___ D a 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)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1875-1942

Significant Dates
1875, 1898, 1906, 1908, 1942

Significant Person
('Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Johnson, Andrew

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
War Department

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.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # TN-142

___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # ______

Primary Location of Additional Data

___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other

Name of repository: Andrew Johnson National Historic Site, Greeneville, TN

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 16.55

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

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See continuation sheet.

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

There is no change in the existing district boundary.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)
11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Maureen Carroll, Historian, and Jill Hanson, Historian

organization  National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office

date  

street & number  75 Spring Street, S.W.  telephone  (404) 331-5988

city or town  Atlanta  state  GA  zip code  30303

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps
  A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
  A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
  or numerous resources.

Photographs
  Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner  (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name  National Park Service

street & number  P.O. Box 37127  telephone  

city or town  Washington  state  DC  zip code  20013-7127
This documentation amends existing documentation for the Andrew Johnson National Historic Site (NHS) District, which was entered in the National Register October 15, 1966, upon passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. Documentation for the district was accepted by the Keeper of the National Register on March 3, 1977. Presidential proclamation established the Andrew Johnson National Monument August 29, 1935. One component of the site, the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery, was created earlier. Following Johnson's death in 1875, his daughter, Martha Johnson Patterson, maintained the grave site and arranged to establish a public park on the site. In 1906, federal legislation established a fourth class national cemetery under the jurisdiction of the War Department on the land. National Park Service (NPS) administration of the site began in 1942 when it was transferred from the War Department to the Department of the Interior. This amendment clarifies the periods and areas of significance for the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery and adds contributing historic structures and landscape features for the cemetery and Andrew Johnson Homestead that were omitted from the earlier district nomination. The district boundaries will remain the same. Photographs of the contributing properties are included.

Description of Historic Resources

Previously Listed Resources
Andrew Johnson National Cemetery

Andrew Johnson Monument, LCS Number 05218, HS-4-01, 1878

A 28-foot-high marble monument founded on a 9.5-by-6.8-foot open rectangular granite base with an arch motif carved into the stone. A 21-foot, broken, octagonal column rises from battered piers and is flanked by flaming urns on pedestals. The shaft of the column is set on an octagonal base with molded trim and a raised Bible with a hand resting on the open page and a scroll with "Constitution of the United States" in raised lettering. The column has no capital but is instead surmounted by a draped American flag, globe, and eagle poised for flight. The east side of the shaft is inscribed with the words: "Andrew Johnson/Seventeenth President/of the United States/Born December 29, 1808/Died July 31, 1875/His Faith In The People Never Wavered." The monument marks the graves of Andrew Johnson and his wife, Eliza McCardle Johnson. It was placed by the Johnson family and remains as the centerpiece of the Johnson family grave site.

Cemetery Lodge, LCS Number 05219, HS-4-04, 1908

A 34-by-38.5-foot, two-story, four-square house with a hipped roof and a front one-room projection with a flat roof. The house has a brick exterior, slate roof with metal trim along the ridge and cornice, and a 5-foot-high concrete
foundation scored to resemble stone. The front facade has four bays on the first story with three two-over-two, double-hung wood sash windows and main entry, three bays on second story with three two-over-two windows, and an eyebrow window dormer centered on the roof. A front porch covers the entry and one window and has a hipped roof, Tuscan columns, and stick balusters. The rear elevation has four bays on the first story, three bays on the second story with six-over-two, double-hung wood sash windows, and an eyebrow window dormer centered on the roof. The back entry is covered by a porch with a hipped roof, chamfered posts and pilasters, and stick balusters. Both the front and rear porches are reached by concrete steps with metal railings that are not original. All the windows have louvered shutters. The house has two interior brick chimneys. The War Department constructed the lodge for cemetery superintendent housing and followed standard War Department plans.

Cemetery Wall and Gate, LCS Number 05220, HS-4-06, 1908

A 3-to 5-foot-high, 3,062-foot-long concrete wall surrounding the cemetery. The wall is set on a molded base and has a crown molded cap. It is divided every 10 feet by a column with a recessed vertical panel. Two recessed horizontal panels form the wall between each column. The original, gated opening to the wall is on the north side of the cemetery. The two gates, one for pedestrians and the other for vehicles, are made of wrought iron with painted flag emblems in the center and "National Cemetery" lettering across the top of the vehicle gate. The gates are set between concrete columns featuring recessed vertical panels with raised "U.S." lettering. The wall is part of the original War Department landscape design for the cemetery. In 1970, NPS removed a column and turned the panels of the wall inward to make an opening on the southwest side of the cemetery at Vann Road. A modern metal gate was added at the new entrance. In 1994, the park reconstructed the Vann Road entrance, adding two new concrete wall panels and columns with raised "U.S." lettering which replaced the metal posts and fence panel. The new entrance more closely resembles the historic gate at the main entrance.

Additional Contributing Resources
Andrew Johnson National Cemetery

Johnson Family Markers, LCS Number 91200, HS-4-02, 1878-1892

Eighteen Johnson family markers surround the Andrew Johnson Monument marking the graves of Andrew Johnson and his wife, Eliza McCardle Johnson, inside a historic fence and a modern fence. The graves inside the historic fence include those of Johnson's mother, Mary McDonough Johnson Daugherty (reinterred July 1944); his wife Eliza's mother, Sarah Phillips McCardle Whiteside (reinterred July 1944); and four of his five children: Andrew Johnson, Jr., Robert Johnson, Charles Johnson, and Mary Johnson Stover. The markers are made of marble, limestone, and granite. Andrew Johnson, Jr.'s grave marker stands
3.5 feet high and replicates a Greek temple. It has a 7-by-3-by-1-foot granite base of two beveled stone runners and four square marble posts at each corner. The posts support a cross-gabled marble roof surmounted in the center by a marble urn adorned with ivy. Raised inscriptions are on each elevation in the cornice. The graves of Robert and Charles Johnson are located side-by-side within a beveled marble border and marked by marble head and foot stones with rounded tops. Raised letter inscriptions are centered on projecting panels on each head stone with their names, ages, military ranks, and dates of death. Mary Johnson Stover's grave is marked by a granite cross in the form of wood logs. The cross is founded on an octagonal, marble base set on a two-tier square, marble foundation. The top square bears an inscription with her name and dates of birth and death.

Johnson Cemetery Fence, LCS Number 91206, HS-4-03, 1880-1885

A 4-foot-high, 112-foot-circumference, ornamental wrought-iron fence that surrounds the Andrew Johnson monument and the Johnson family grave site. The fence features paired balusters connected at the top, alternating with individual arrow-tipped pickets, and has one gate with elaborately cast posts and arrow-tipped pickets. Johnson's family placed the fence around the site in 1880, prior to War Department administration of the cemetery. The historic fence is surrounded by a lower, rectangular metal fence that is a modern NPS addition, placed at the Johnson family's request.

Stable, LCS Number 91024, HS-4-05, 1906

A 38-by-17.5-by-17.8-foot, one-and-one-half-story stable with a side-gabled roof and a one-room, one-story bathroom addition on the west. The stable has brick exterior walls, slate roof, concrete foundation, and wood trim. The front facade has a central, arched opening enclosing a modern garage door that originally was flanked by two six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows. The window on the west has been replaced by a door. The roof features include a metal ridge plate, dorsal motif gable-end finials, and decorative sawn rafter ends. The stable was rehabilitated in 1936 for use as a utility building and to provide public restroom facilities. A one-story, flat-roofed utility building was placed perpendicular to the stable building on the west in 1950 and expanded in 1972.

Monument Drive, LCS Number 91201, HS-4-07, 1906-1908

A 16-foot-wide asphalt-surface road running 1,210 feet from the cemetery gate up to the Andrew Johnson Monument and forming a loop around the Johnson family grave site. The road has an inside concrete curb and gutter. The drive was paved for the first time in 1926. Repeated surfacing and widening covered the outside curb and gutter and elevated the roadbed. The drive is part of the original War Department landscape design for the cemetery.
Memorial Approach Stair and Walkways, LCS Number 91202, HS-4-08, 1908

A 3-foot-wide, 181-foot-long concrete approach with thirteen sets of stairs with three to five steps each set within a raised concrete curb. The approach leads from Monument Drive at the base of Monument Hill to the drive's loop surrounding the Johnson Monument. A prominent cross-shaped landing with a gravel flagstaff base punctuates the approach. The concrete retains the original textured pattern on the stair landings and walkway. Another walkway constructed as part of the original War Department plan is the walk from the main entrance gate up to and partially encircling the Cemetery Lodge. The Memorial Approach Stair and Walkways are part of the original War Department landscape design for the cemetery.

Cemetery Flagstaff, LCS Number 91203, HS-4-09, 1908

A 75-foot-high, four-part, telescoping iron flagstaff anchored with four guy wires. The pole has a concrete base founded in gravel inside the recessed, concrete, cross-shaped landing on the Memorial Approach Stair. The flagstaff is an original design element of most War Department cemeteries.

Cemetery Rostrum, LCS Number 91205, HS-4-10, 1931

A 12-foot-high by 58-foot-diameter, octagonal, cast-iron rostrum with a raised-seam tin roof, eight cast-iron posts, and an iron stick railing set on a concrete octagonal platform with a concrete pier foundation. A spiked finial surmounts the octagonal pyramidal roof, and a cast-iron spindled frieze decorates the cornice.

National Cemetery Markers, LCS Number 05221, HS-4-11, 1890-1994

The National Cemetery is still active and contains the grave sites of Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War casualties and veterans. Some markers were placed by private parties following the 1906 establishment of a national cemetery. Standard War Department headstones of marble with simple curved-top designs are the norm throughout the cemetery. The oldest markers are located in a semicircle south of the Johnson Monument.

Noncontributing Resources
Andrew Johnson National Cemetery

Machine Gun Marker

The machine gun marker is a World War I, German-made machine gun placed on a 6-foot-by-8-foot concrete pad. A limestone plaque bears the inscription: "To Our World War Dead/Erected by American Legion/May 30, 1936." The marker does not contribute to the areas or periods of significance for the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery.
Additional Contributing Resources
Andrew Johnson Homestead

Homestead Retaining Wall, LCS Number 90621, HS-3-02, 1851-1875

An 85-foot-long, 3-to 4-foot-high, dry-laid shale wall adjacent to the Andrew Johnson Homestead. The wall dates from the Johnson era, serving as a foundation for several different types of fencing. The wall has an eroded cement coping and is currently surmounted by a stick picket and post and rail fence that is a reconstruction of the Johnson-era fence. It corrects a grade change between Main Street, the visitor parking area to the west, and the rear yard.

Homestead Spring Wall, LCS Number 90614, HS-3-03, 1851-1875

A 24-foot-long, 4-foot-high, horseshoe-shaped spring headwall located south of the Andrew Johnson Homestead. The wall is dry-laid shale with several original stone steps remaining on the southeast side. The west wall has a new granite slab lintel. The wall served as the foundation for a spring house located on the property during the Johnson era. NPS constructed a split rail fence around the perimeter of the wall.
The National Register of Historic Places documentation for the Andrew Johnson National Historic Site nominated the site as a nationally significant district associated with the life of Andrew Johnson, seventeenth President of the United States. The documentation described the historical and architectural significance of buildings and structures associated with the Andrew Johnson Visitor Complex, Andrew Johnson Homestead, and Andrew Johnson National Cemetery. The primary significance remains in the district's association with Johnson. This additional documentation places the creation of the cemetery in the context of national cemetery development in the United States and establishes the significance of the cemetery as a designed historic landscape. The Homestead retaining wall and spring wall are added as contributing features under the significance statement of the original documentation.

The period of significance for the cemetery begins in 1875 when Johnson was buried at "Signal Hill" on twenty-three acres of land he owned southwest of Greeneville, Tennessee. In 1898, his daughter, Martha Johnson Patterson, made provisions in her will for the creation of a public park on the land. In 1906, Congress passed legislation establishing the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery, and in 1908, the War Department undertook administration of the site. The period of significance ends in 1942 when cemetery administration was transferred from the War Department to the National Park Service.

The National Cemetery System

The Civil War provided a catalyst for the creation of a National Cemetery system. The Union possessed greater resources than the Confederacy for establishing cemeteries for the war dead and participated in widespread cemetery development during and after the war. The U.S. War Department established a standard burial policy for its dead early in the conflict and urged Congress to authorize the acquisition of land for burial purposes. By contrast, the Confederate army relied heavily on the patriotic donation of land and services by local communities for burials. Seven weeks after the first Battle of Manassas, the Department of War issued General Order (G. O.) Number 75 (September 11, 1861), which delegated responsibility for burial of officers and soldiers to the armies' commanding officers. The Quartermaster General established procedures for burial, one of which was to provide a registered wood headboard upon each soldier's grave. By April 1862, the War Department issued G. O. Number 33, which authorized commanding officers to designate a portion of each battlefield for burials and required these officers to officially identify those buried. Both of these orders were largely ignored. However, the 37th Congress passed an Omnibus Act, July 17, 1862, extending authority to President Lincoln to purchase land for use as national cemeteries. The first twelve cemeteries established under this act did not include combat burial grounds—although Alexandria National Cemetery in Virginia served those
Union troops stationed to defend the Capitol—but they established an important precedent.¹

Until 1863, the burial policy for Union dead, although regulated by the War Department, was in practice the responsibility of soldier comrades and troops garrisoned at hospitals. Union and Confederate forces often hastily buried their dead on the battlefields in shallow graves and vacated the area. Few of these graves were marked or inventoried. The Battle of Gettysburg proved the catalyst for the intervention of private and nonfederal government interests in the burial of the Union dead. Because of the massive carnage and hasty retreat associated with this battle, the State of Pennsylvania, urged by citizen-activist and lawyer David Wills,² acted quickly to establish a cemetery at Gettysburg. Identified Confederate dead were sent to Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond for permanent interment. When President Lincoln dedicated the Gettysburg cemetery on November 19, 1863, William Saunders, Superintendent of Gardens and Grounds for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, had already laid out a semi-circular burial ground, with sections designated by state and paths radiating from the central monument court.

Designated the Soldiers' National Cemetery by its founders, the Gettysburg cemetery established many precedents followed in later national cemetery development. In 1865, the Select Committee for the Soldiers' National Cemetery reported that five lots comprising seventeen acres had been set aside for burials. By March 21, 1864, the cemetery held the remains of 3,512 Union casualties, many identified through the examination of letters, diaries, receipts, and photographs buried with the bodies. Samuel Weaver, Superintendent of Disinterments appointed by the Gettysburg Cemetery Board of Managers, supervised the exhumation and identification of the remains strewn across the battlefield. A local contractor performed the disinterments, but Weaver, through careful documentation of the exhumed graves, recorded a poignant tribute to the humanity of the fallen soldiers and magnified the commemorative purpose of the cemetery.³


²Wills engineered the land transactions that formalized the cemetery boundaries, but a fellow Gettysburg lawyer, David McConaughy, also deserves credit for the cemetery's establishment. See Kathleen R. Georg, "'This Grand Enterprise': The Origins of Gettysburg's Soldiers' National Cemetery and the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association," Unpublished draft (Gettysburg National Military Park, November 1982).

The Gettysburg cemetery established a design precedent as well as a commemorative tradition that was adopted in most of the national cemeteries created by the War Department after 1865. Saunders and subsequent national cemetery designers borrowed landscape design elements established during the 1850s in private cemeteries that came to be known as lawn-park cemeteries. Characterized by landscaped lawns, uncluttered vistas, trees with rounded silhouettes, and meandering paths and roads, the naturalistic lawn-park cemeteries exemplified the aesthetic of the "beautiful," wherein nature was subordinated to civilization. The lawn-park approach to cemetery design rapidly replaced the rural-cemetery design philosophy with its greater emphasis on picturesque effects. Popular during the 1830s and 1840s, rural-cemetery design was exuberantly and influentially executed at Mount Auburn Cemetery near Boston. Advanced by English-trained landscape architect Adolph Strauch, lawn-park cemetery design significantly reduced the abrupt, irregular, and rugged features of the picturesque landscape in favor of harmony, balance, smooth transitions, softer forms, and professional control over design and subsequent grounds maintenance. Strauch introduced his approach to cemetery design when he developed a swampy section of the Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati in 1855 into a greensward with a lake and a few wide lanes flanked by modest monumentation.

By the 1850s, designed rural cemeteries had greatly altered funerary customs and transformed the austere American burial ground into a historical place suitable as a commemorative setting for honored familial, local, and national figures. The lawn-park, or landscape lawn, cemeteries that followed the rural

"Literary in their origins, the aesthetic categories of the "sublime," the "beautiful," and the "picturesque" emerged from the writings of Edmund Burke, Sir Uvedale Price, and Richard Payne Knight in eighteenth-century England. Relying heavily on English precedents, the American Andrew Jackson Downing (1815-1852) advanced definitions of the beautiful and the picturesque applicable to landscape design, which he popularized, complete with examples, in his work, Landscape Gardening: A treatise on the theory and practice of landscape gardening, adapted to North America (1849), discussed in Ann Leighton, American Gardens of the Nineteenth Century (Amherst, Massachusetts: University of Massachusetts Press, 1987), 164-72.


Sloane, 79; Blanche Linden-Ward, "Putting the Past Under Grass: History as Death and Cemetery Commemoration," Prospects, 10 (1985): 280, 308-09. Linden-Ward briefly outlines the design influences for Mount Auburn and eventually traces "the blending of monuments in a picturesque, commemorative environment" to eighteenth-century English landscaped gardens. The broader theme of commemoration and landscape dominates this work, and the author views
cemeteries reduced the individual lot-holder's expressions of grief or grandeur, typically reflected in monumental grave ornaments and decorative vegetation, and attempted to impose greater regularity and harmony upon the landscape. Private memorials, fenced plots, profusely vegetated landscapes, and serpentine paths and carriage roads had reduced many rural cemeteries to cluttered and unharmonious commemorative labyrinths. At Gettysburg, Saunders strove to create a landscape of "simple grandeur" that would convey the appropriate solemnity that befitted the first, self-consciously national, commemorative landscape. Inspired by the aesthetic of the beautiful and Strauch's landscape lawn plan, Saunders wanted a landscape that would maintain its harmony and quiet beauty as it matured and vegetation changed. The large number of interments and the emphasis on shared sacrifice for democratic ideals in Union soldiers' cemeteries militated against the individualist expressions common in private cemeteries and virtually compelled a formal, geometric ordering of the headstones at Gettysburg. Saunders's design included ample lawns that afforded unobstructed views of the proposed central monument and limited tree and shrub planting to minimize the infringement of vistas. Ten-inch wide granite headstones set in concentric arcs formed a continuous line of graves set nine inches above the ground. Each row of interments could be accessed along five-foot-wide grassed paths. A stone wall with a heavily dressed coping stone and iron gates enclosed the grounds.º Saunders recognized that the grounds would require maintenance and expected some aspects of his design to change, but he adamantly opposed the alteration of vistas, the addition of fences or roads, and the unchecked erection of monuments.º

The design and materials adopted by Saunders at Gettysburg later found widespread application in the National Cemetery system authorized by Congress for Civil War battlefields and other sites. The national cemeteries developed in the postwar period, borrowed the principal design characteristics that Saunders established at Gettysburg, including expansive, closely trimmed lawns, artfully placed trees, gates, modest monumentation, and meandering lanes. The cemeteries as the consummate example of commemorative landscapes.

º"Revised Report of the Select Committee Relative to the Soldiers' National Cemetery, Together with the Accompanying Documents, As Reported to the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania" (Harrisburg, Penn.: Singerly & Myers, State Printers, 1865), passim, 7-148; see also Reed L. Engle, "Cultural Landscape Report: The Soldiers' National Cemetery, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania" (Gettysburg National Military Park, 1994), 67-68. Despite Saunders's thoughtful opinions on the necessity of design integrity and the need to restrain expedient or impulsive alterations, the structural and vegetative scene has changed dramatically over the years. The decision in 1934 to bury the raised granite concentric arcs to at-grade level to accommodate mowing significantly affected the cemetery's design integrity.

ºSloane, 114-115.
War Department development standards generally dovetailed neatly with these pastoral landscapes, adding small scale buildings, stone and brick walls, and garden structures and ornaments such as settees and rostrums. However, during the commemorative period, between the 1890s and 1930s, cemetery superintendents, veterans' groups, and the local citizenry embellished these landscapes with elaborate flower beds, iron work, walkways and paths, and in some cases monumentation, that frequently cluttered the spare landscape lawn plans and transformed cemeteries into commemorative gardens. As Saunders had predicted, subsequent designers and caretakers would alter the vegetation and some aspects of his simple design. Despite these changes, the cemeteries retained their association with the beautiful primarily because the layout of roads, tree placement, and expansive lawns remained intact.

On April 13, 1866, a Joint Resolution of Congress authorized and required the Secretary of War to "take immediate measures to preserve from desecration the graves of soldiers." Shortly thereafter, on February 22, 1867, Congress directed the Secretary of War to impose a system of standards upon the national cemeteries that included enclosing the grounds, appointing a superintendent, providing a lodge, and purchasing lands for additional cemeteries. Although the federal government delayed accepting responsibility for the state-owned cemeteries at the Gettysburg and Antietam battlefields until 1870, it had established battlefield cemeteries as early as 1865, especially where the former battlegrounds had been occupied by Federal troops. During the war years, eleven national cemeteries were established at or near Civil War battlefields. Many of these cemeteries began as military hospital burial grounds or were located near depot centers for theater operations. In the postwar period, national cemetery grounds were prepared to inter thousands of remains hastily buried on adjacent battlegrounds or along campaign routes. By 1870, the War Department had completed the initial development of the cemetery system, determining the location and classification of the burial grounds, and had established seventy-three national cemeteries that contained the remains of 299,696 Union soldiers.

Despite the high mortality rate in the field and at hospital sites, the War Department had to establish most national cemeteries from whole cloth after the war, especially in combat zones where orderly burial policies were rarely

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enforced. At the Stones River battlefield, located northwest of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, thousands of Union casualties killed in the two-day conflict were buried in scattered graves. Although a federal fort had been established upon the battlefield in the spring of 1863, the occupying troops did not practice a formal burial policy until Gen. George H. Thomas, Commander of the Department of the Cumberland, established the national cemetery in 1864. Thomas directed Chaplain William Earnshaw, an Ohio native, to design and construct the cemetery and direct the reinterment of the thousands of Union dead buried in the Murfreesboro vicinity. Earnshaw conducted an extensive search over an 80- to 90-mile radius around Murfreesboro for Union remains. The chaplain also searched the mountain passes trod by Gen. William S. Rosecrans and his army after the Battle of Stones River. Altogether, Earnshaw collected over 3,000 Union remains for burial at Stones River National Cemetery.11

Similar efforts had begun throughout former combat zones even before Congress passed the national cemetery legislation in 1867. In addition to establishing the Stones River site, Thomas also directed the creation of the national cemeteries at Nashville, Chattanooga, and Marietta, Georgia, utilizing the expertise of Earnshaw and a fellow Ohioan, Chaplain Thomas B. Van Horne. Concurrently, Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs, appointed with the authority to oversee the reburial program in 1865, wrote Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton seeking permission to establish national cemeteries at Pittsburg Landing (Shiloh), Corinth, Natchez, Vicksburg, and Fort Donelson. In 1867, the Secretary of War authorized ten new cemeteries in Virginia and nine additional cemeteries in Tennessee.

At the conclusion of the program to establish national cemeteries, c. 1870, nearly 300,000 Civil War Union dead had been reinterred in seventy-three national cemeteries. With the transfer of Gettysburg and Antietam National Cemeteries to federal jurisdiction, the War Department took full control of the completion and maintenance of all the national cemeteries. In 1873, Congress authorized the War Department to expand the interment policy to allow burial privileges for all honorably discharged Union veterans, not only active-duty soldiers.12 In the same year, the department formalized some aspects of

11MacCloskey, 32-33;

12This policy resulted from pressure applied from several sources and eventually overturned the restrictive burial policy. Union veterans and their immediate kin, particularly wives, lobbied the War Department and Congress throughout the period 1868-1873 to accept burial of their remains in the national cemeteries. Quartermaster General Meigs staunchly resisted these lobbying efforts. However, two important precedents, among many, helped the veterans gain legislation removing the existing burial restrictions. Post cemetery policies, which preceded the national cemetery system, had followed local burial customs and included wives and children. In addition, Maj. Gen.
cemetery design by replacing the wood headboards with stone markers and erecting cast-iron tablets in the cemeteries. The project to replace wood headboards with stone markers began in 1873 and ended in 1877. To provide access to some of the remote cemeteries, the department had to build roads that crossed nonfederal lands. Each of these road projects required congressional authorization and appropriations and often took years to accomplish.

In the immediate postwar period, cemetery development progressed rapidly, but landscaping standards, the construction of access roads, and grounds maintenance regimens evolved over a broader period. Landscape improvements increased as commemorative activities gained popularity throughout the 1880s and 1890s and as the national cemeteries became the focal point of community and national patriotic rituals. The Quartermaster General dispatched engineers from the Department of the Army to propose solutions to inadequate drainage and poor soil and to make recommendations on functional and aesthetic landscape embellishments such as brick walkways, cast-iron settees, rostrums, cisterns, arbors, and the careful placement and cultivation of trees, shrubs, and grasses.

The War Department profoundly influenced the built environment at the national cemeteries. At least two standard lodge designs were adopted: a modest Second Empire brick dwelling and a substantial four-square brick lodge. Auxiliary buildings tended to be utilitarian one-story gabled brick buildings with decorative window and door arches and steeply pitched roofs. The cemetery enclosure walls varied greatly depending on available local materials, including brick, stone, and concrete, but nearly all of them possessed iron gates. As the 1890s progressed, vigorous monument erection in the cemeteries by veterans' groups expanded and required road and bridge development and maintenance to accommodate increasing visitation. The 1890s also witnessed intensified lobbying efforts by veterans' groups that led to congressional action and the expansion of commemorative landscapes from cemeteries to the battlegrounds themselves.


13These tablets contained legislative passages, most notably the 1867 Act to establish national cemeteries throughout former combat zones, and verse, particularly the Gettysburg Address and various stanzas of Theodore O'Hara's "The Bivouac of the Dead."

14MacCloskey, 37-43.
Andrew Johnson National Cemetery

The establishment of Andrew Johnson National Cemetery in 1906 differed in many ways from earlier national cemetery development. It was not created as a result of Civil War interment activities, and it did not accompany the commemoration of a battlefield. Its unique creation centered, instead, around the wish of Martha Johnson Patterson, Johnson's eldest daughter, to commemorate the life of the seventeenth President of the United States and preserve his burial ground as a family grave site.

Following Johnson's death on July 31, 1875, he was buried on a hill, called "Signal Hill" for the role it played in the Civil War, located on twenty-three acres of land he purchased in 1852 near Greeneville, Tennessee. His family commemorated his life and political career by placing a monument over the graves of Johnson and his wife, Eliza McCardle Johnson. Unveiled June 5, 1878, the 28-foot-high marble monument incorporated an American flag, eagle, globe, Bible, and scroll of the U.S. Constitution meant to symbolize Johnson's dedication to public service. The towering presence of the monument in Greeneville created a local shrine and influenced the change in the name of "Signal Hill" to "Monument Hill." At some point after the placing of the monument, probably between 1880 and 1885, the family had a wrought-iron fence constructed around the grave site.15

Like other prominent families during the mid-nineteenth century, the Johnson family sought to establish a permanent grave site that not only commemorated a former U.S. President, but also provided a family plot in the tradition of the rural cemetery. The rural cemetery style, beginning with the establishment of Mount Auburn Cemetery in 1831, created a design precedent for cemeteries throughout the United States. The style focused on the family plot as the centerpiece of the cemetery. Families owned individual plots and were responsible for erecting monuments and maintaining plantings and other features. The Johnson family owned the land, erected a monument, and built an elaborate fence around the monument and markers in their plot. However, instead of establishing a private cemetery on the land with other family plots in the traditional manner of rural cemeteries, Martha Johnson Patterson, heir to the Johnson estate, requested the federal government to maintain the Johnson grave site, thus ensuring the future protection of the site and releasing the family from maintenance responsibilities. As a result, the cemetery designed by the War Department followed the design precedent of the lawn-park or landscape lawn cemetery established at Gettysburg and other national

15 NPS Report, Account 224, September 1943, ANJO files; Cultural Resources Planning Division, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service, Andrew Johnson National Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report, April 1993, 3.
cemeteries.\textsuperscript{16}

Martha Patterson played a key role in the construction and care of the Johnson monument. In order to provide for the continuing preservation of the grave site, she originally instructed in her will of September 2, 1898, that the future owner of the Johnson Homestead be responsible for the care of the grave site at Monument Hill, including all land within a 60-foot radius from the center of the monument and a roadway leading from Monument Street to the burial plot. She also made provisions for the enlargement of the iron fence surrounding the site to include a 60-foot radius. In 1900, Martha took her desire to preserve the site to the federal level in order to provide the site with even greater protection. In a codicil to her will dated May 24, 1900, she noted that U.S. Representative W.P. Brownlow of the First Congressional District of Tennessee agreed to introduce a bill "providing for the establishment and maintenance of a Public Park, at Greeneville, Tennessee, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Ex-President, Andrew Johnson, my father, such Park to include the Grave of my said father."\textsuperscript{17} Her will conveyed title to Monument Hill to the federal government upon passage of the bill. She also provided for the reversion of the land to her heirs if the government did not preserve the monument, graves, and surrounding grounds.\textsuperscript{18}

Representative Brownlow introduced the bill in 1904 and on June 12, 1906, an act of Congress established the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery. The act authorized the Secretary of War to:

\begin{quote}
accept, under the will of Martha J. Patterson and from the heirs of W.B. Bachman, all descendants of Andrew Johnson, late President of the United States, free of cost to the Government, the tract of land where the said Andrew Johnson's remains now lie, known as 'Monument Hill', consisting of not exceeding 15 acres and situated in Greene County, and in or near the town of Greeneville, Tennessee, and upon presentation of good and perfect title to said tract, the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to establish thereon a National Cemetery of the Fourth Class.\textsuperscript{19}
\end{quote}

The cemetery remained under the jurisdiction of the War Department until May 23, 1942.


\textsuperscript{17}Hugh A. Lawing, Administrative History of Andrew Johnson National Historic Site (Greeneville, Tenn.: Andrew Johnson National Historic Site, 1971), 37.

\textsuperscript{18}Lawing, 35-37.

\textsuperscript{19}Lawing, 38.
Congress created the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery to preserve the grave site of a nationally significant figure and thus distinguished the cemetery from the national cemetery system created for Civil War burials. Yet, the plans for the buildings and structures and the physical layout of the cemetery followed design precedents established in other War Department cemeteries. Like Gettysburg, the cemetery plan focused on a centrally placed monument. Unlike most national cemeteries, the hilly terrain disrupted the serried ranks of gravestones, limiting the appearance of a symmetrical design.

Monument Hill dominated the layout of the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery. Situated southwest of the city of Greeneville, the relatively small cemetery consisted of approximately fifteen acres of land with the single hill in the eastern half creating a steep grade across 80 percent of the grounds. In addition to the cemetery proper, Martha Patterson included the road from Main Street to the cemetery (now known as Monument Avenue) in the land deeded to the federal government. By November 13, 1908, the War Department constructed a lodge, stable, and enclosing wall on the grounds and made arrangements for grave sites following original General Development Plans. The wall marked the boundary for the entire cemetery, but the plan clustered other structures on the eastern half of the grounds. The original plan also called for a curvilinear road to enter the cemetery from Monument Avenue, ascend Monument Hill, and form a loop around the Johnson monument. By 1908, the road was graded and surfaced with gravel. This road replaced an unpaved wagon trace in existence as early as Johnson's burial in 1875.20

The lodge followed standard War Department plans for a brick, two-story, four-square house with a hipped, slate roof that replicated the second lodge constructed at Gettysburg in 1907. The stable was a brick, one-and-one-half-story, side-gable building with a slate roof. Wrought-iron gates provided an entrance on the north side of the cemetery's concrete wall. Monument Drive provided a 50-foot-wide, 720-foot-long right-of-way from what was then South Main Street to the cemetery gates and continued inside the grounds to form a loop around the Johnson Monument. Other War Department landscape features constructed in 1908 included a 75-foot flagstaff, memorial approach stairs, and walkways from the entrance gate to the lodge and monument. The walkways directed foot traffic from the main gates to the lodge and continued adjacent to Monument Drive to the base of Monument Hill. The walk then met the memorial approach stairs and climbed the hill past the planned location for a rostrum, the officers section of graves, and the flagstaff set on a cross-shaped landing. From the landing the walkway led to the loop of Monument Drive and the Andrew Johnson Monument. The superintendent also ordered iron settees for the park, and these were placed around the flagstaff and in other locations for

20 Andrew Johnson National Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report, 3-6.
When the federal government opened the national cemetery, only eleven graves, those of Andrew Johnson and family members, occupied the site. The 1908 General Development Plan called for 368 grave sites to be placed throughout nine sections of the cemetery, eight for enlisted men (Sections A-H) and one for officers. Sections A-H were located on the southern and western sides of Monument Hill, and the officers section was placed on the eastern side of the hill. By 1942, the cemetery held 139 graves. The process of digging graves in the rocky terrain frustrated superintendents throughout the history of the cemetery. The high content of slate and limestone in the ground required the use of explosives and forty to fifty man hours to dig each grave, and significantly limited the amount of burial space available at the cemetery.22

The War Department regulated the landscapes of national cemeteries, but did not prescribe specific planting plans. In the tradition of the lawn-park or landscape lawn cemetery, maintaining a neat lawn was a high priority, with cemetery staffs instructed to cut the grass frequently and limit the number of weeds. The War Department frowned on the planting of flowers, instead favoring the use of trees and shrubs:

A well-kept sward, graceful shade trees, pretty shrubs and evergreens are of greater importance and contribute more to the beauty of the cemetery than a promiscuous distribution of flower beds. A few flowers about the lodge and at one or more other prominent points are all that should be maintained, as the expense and attention required in the cultivation of a large number of flowers can be better utilized in the care of lawns.23

At Andrew Johnson National Cemetery, the maintenance of a lawn on the hilly terrain occupied much of the superintendents' time. Inadequate mowing equipment and an abundance of weeds frustrated attempts to follow War Department regulations and resulted in an often shaggy ground cover. Superintendent reports described the lawn as looking "like a wheat field at harvest time" and referred to the weeds as "out of control" with dandelions, buttercups, narrow leaf plantain, and wild onion growing on the cemetery lawn,

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21Reed L. Engle, "Cultural Landscape Report: The Soldier's National Cemetery, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania" (Gettysburg National Military Park, 1994), 137; ANJO correspondence files, 1907; Lawing, 38; Andrew Johnson National Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report, 6-7.

22Andrew Johnson National Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report, 6-7.

especially on the north and east slopes of Monument Hill.\textsuperscript{24} The superintendent left existing trees to mature, but there is no evidence of a specific planting plan at the cemetery.\textsuperscript{25}

Following the initial development of the cemetery in 1908, the War Department conducted routine maintenance on the site and undertook new projects. The 1908 General Development Plan proposed the addition of several landscape features including gun monuments placed on Monument Hill.\textsuperscript{26} In 1926, the department paved Monument Drive. The same year U.S. Representative B. Carroll Reece introduced a bill to construct a chapel at the cemetery, but the legislation failed. The War Department added another traditional element to the site in 1931 with the construction of an octagonal cast-iron rostrum, called for in the original General Development Plan. In 1936 the department converted the stable to a utility building, and added public restroom facilities to the west side of the building.\textsuperscript{27} These were the last major changes undertaken by the War Department.

On June 10, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order Number 6166, transferring military cemeteries under the War Department and other nationally significant properties to the Department of Interior. After some protest by Acting Secretary of War Harry Woodring, and NPS Director Horace Albright, who both believed the War Department better equipped to deal with the responsibilities of burials in the cemeteries, Roosevelt issued Executive Order Number 6228, July 28, 1933, postponing the transfer of active national cemeteries, including Andrew Johnson National Cemetery. On August 29, 1935, Roosevelt established the Andrew Johnson National Monument to include the Andrew Johnson Tailor Shop, a historic site administered by the state of Tennessee and housed in a Memorial Building constructed in 1923, the Andrew Johnson Homestead, and the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery. A Presidential Proclamation issued April 27, 1942, marked the official acquisition of the Tailor Shop and Homestead and on May 23, 1942, NPS officially acquired the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery.\textsuperscript{28}

\textsuperscript{24}NPS Report, Account 207, September 1943, ANJO files.

\textsuperscript{25}Andrew Johnson National Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report, 7-8.

\textsuperscript{26}Park files contain photographs of the Civil War-era gun monuments from the 1950s, but the monuments have since been removed from the cemetery.

\textsuperscript{27}Lawing, 40-41.

\textsuperscript{28}National Park Service, "National Cemetery Operations Guideline, NPS-61" (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1985), 2.2-2.3; Harlan D. Unrau and G. Frank Williss, Administrative History: Expansion of the National Park Service in the 1930s (Denver: Denver Service Center, 1983), 59-61; Lawing, 65-67; Johnson owned the Homestead from 1851 until his death in 1875. NPS did not acquire the
When NPS acquired the cemetery, the burial of veterans ceased. This policy immediately drew criticism from patriotic, veterans, and civic organizations in the local community. In 1943, the American Legion's Tennessee branch passed resolutions asking Congress to transfer the national cemetery back to the War Department so the burial program could be reinstated. In 1944, perhaps because of World War II, interest in the cemetery as a venue for patriotic ceremonies grew. Superintendent reports recorded events such as an Elk's Club flag raising ceremony and a sunset memorial service conducted by the American Legion, "erstwhile arch-enemy of Service policy."\(^{29}\) In March 1945 the park received a letter from the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) asking for support of a change in the interment policy for veterans. The cemetery custodian, James W. Holland, had in fact already requested the change in February 1944. In a lengthy letter to the director of NPS he recommended that the park resume the burial of qualified veterans, stating that "the symbolism of the monument would be enhanced, rather than the reverse, by having the headstones of lesser men of like spirit grouped in symmetrical design below the burial place of the man who was once Commander in Chief..."\(^{30}\) However, as late as December 1945, NPS Director Newton B. Drury maintained the position that the park was created chiefly to protect the burial ground of Andrew Johnson and that the rocky terrain was unsuitable for burials. NPS officials felt that future burials would fill the cemetery with grave sites and compromise the memorial character of the monument.\(^{31}\)

In a memo to Interior Secretary Julius A. Krug dated August 21, 1946, Director Drury advised that NPS could no longer maintain its past position on the cemetery's burial policy. Legislation introduced in the last session of Congress sought to return the cemetery to War Department administration so burials could resume. He pointed out that burials continued to occur at other national cemeteries transferred to NPS and the return of remains from World War II would increase pressure to reopen the cemetery for burials. Lastly, he preferred reinstituting burials under NPS administration over transferring the cemetery back to the War Department. On September 12, 1946, NPS voluntarily reopened the cemetery for burials. The cemetery conducted its first interment of a World War II casualty on November 3, 1947.\(^{32}\)

After World War II, future planning for the park occurred as a result of the service's "Mission 66 Recommendations." Completed recommendations for the

Andrew Johnson House, his home from 1831 until 1851, until December 11, 1963.

\(^{29}\)Lawing, 71.

\(^{30}\)ANJO correspondence files, February 17, 1944.

\(^{31}\)Lawing, 71-74; ANJO correspondence files.

\(^{32}\)ANJO correspondence files.
cemetery included the 1950 construction and 1972 expansion of a maintenance shed adjacent to the stable/utility building and the 1950 and 1991 expansion of the building's parking area, the installation of brick walkways and a hedge around the Johnson grave site in 1960, and the construction of a second fence around the Johnson grave site in 1970. In 1973, an opening in the cemetery wall at Vann Road created a second entrance that opened directly upon a new section of grave sites. The pieces taken out of the wall were turned back to flank the beginning of the drive, and a new gate was erected to secure the drive. Concrete stairs and walks connected the new drive to the new grave sections and to the Andrew Johnson Monument. The new drive remained separate from the original drive. None of the modern changes are visible from the original entrance to the cemetery.33

Andrew Johnson Homestead Landscape Features

The Andrew Johnson Homestead, purchased by Johnson in 1851, is a two-story brick house with a side-gable roof, a rear ell extension, and Greek Revival features. The house underwent an extensive restoration in 1956-1957 that removed Victorian detailing added in 1884-1885 and several additions and alterations made to the house between 1900 and 1948. The property includes a spring wall and retaining wall that are the only original, extant landscape features. Both date from the construction of the Homestead, c. 1849, and NPS restored both structures during the Homestead restoration.

The spring wall served as the foundation for a spring house included in Johnson's original purchase of the Homestead. Johnson's great-granddaughter, Martha Landstreet Willingham, described the spring house as an approximately 12-foot-square, wood frame structure with a shed roof. A heavy wood box with a hinged lid stood over the spring, inside the spring house. The original stone foundation and steps leading down into the spring are the only remaining features of the spring house.34

The retaining wall is a dry-laid shale wall that served as the foundation for the wood picket fence adjacent to the front of the house on the southern side of the property. The wall also corrects a grade change from the sidewalk on Main Street to the new parking area on the southern side of the house. The wall dates from the construction of the house and has served as the foundation for many different types of fencing. The current fence is a reconstruction of the Johnson-era stick picket fence.

33Andrew Johnson National Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report, 8-12.

Integrity

The Andrew Johnson National Cemetery was established according to family wishes to preserve and commemorate the life and work of the seventeenth President of the United States in a park-like setting. In 1908, the War Department established the national cemetery to fulfill this request, and the National Park Service continued the tradition when it received jurisdiction over the park in 1942. NPS maintained the integrity of the cemetery as created by the War Department by acknowledging and continuing the basic historic elements of the cemetery's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

In some cases, the rising number of interments at the cemetery forced NPS to compromise the historic integrity of the site. These infringements included the construction of an expanded maintenance facility adjacent to the War Department-era utility building, the expansion of the parking area at the utility building, the construction of a second entrance with gate and drive at Vann Road, and the addition of grave sections and walkways. Original War Department plans called for none of these additions. The central focus of the cemetery, the Andrew Johnson monument and grave site, have, however, been preserved and maintained in the manner in which his family proposed.

NPS maintained the integrity of two of the Andrew Johnson Homestead landscape features. The restoration of the house in the 1950s returned these two features to their 1870s appearance. During the restoration, NPS rebuilt portions of the retaining wall that were removed during work on the house and constructed a new section of wall adjacent to a new parking area on the west side of the house. In addition, they constructed a split-rail fence around the spring wall in order to provide protection from vandalism. The fence does not adversely affect the integrity of the wall. Both the retaining wall and the spring wall are protected as the only extant landscape structures from the Johnson era.
Bibliography


National Park Service files. 1907-1944. Andrew Johnson National Historic Site.


Photograph 1
Photographs 2 and 3
Photographs 4, 5, and 6
Photographs 7, 8, and 9
Photograph 10
Photograph 11
Photographs 12 and 13
Photographs 14 and 15
Photograph 16
Photograph 17
Photograph 18
Photograph 19
Photograph 20
Photograph 21

Andrew Johnson Monument
Cemetery Lodge
Cemetery Wall and Gate
Johnson Family Markers
Johnson Cemetery Fence
Stable
Monument Drive
Memorial Approach Stair and Walkways
Cemetery Flagstaff
Cemetery Rostrum
National Cemetery Markers
Andrew Johnson Homestead
Homestead Retaining Wall
Homestead Spring Wall