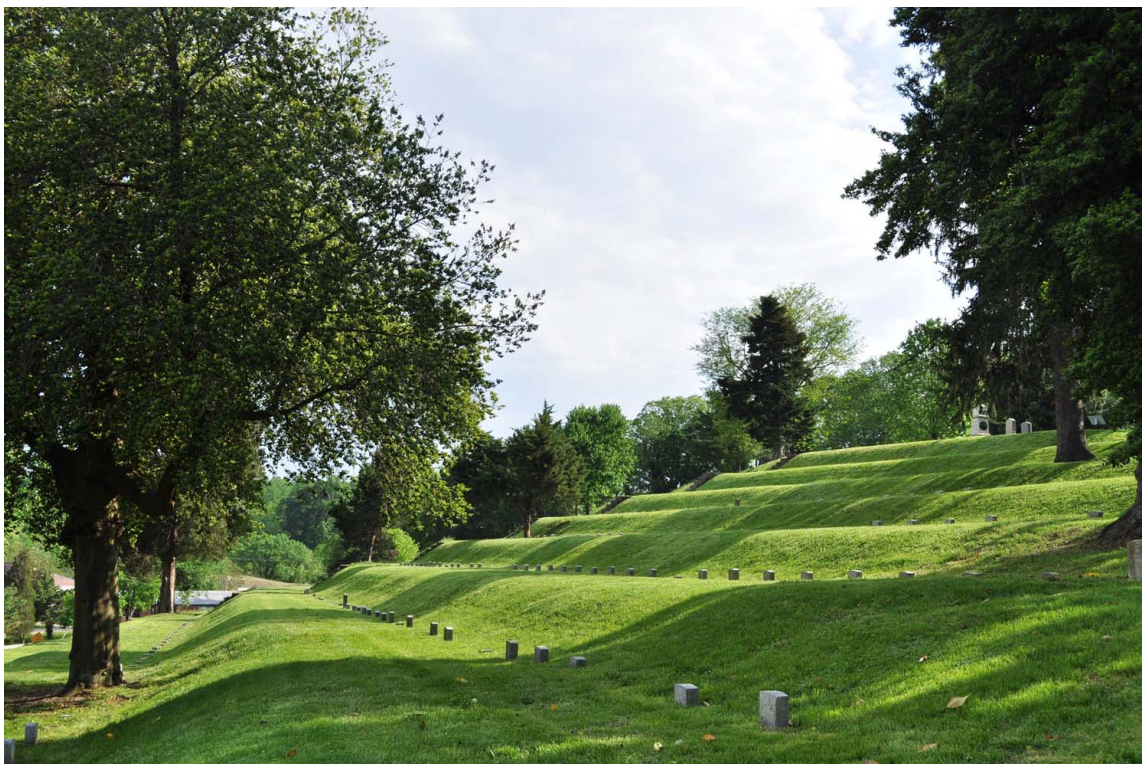

National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2011

Revised: 3/2025



Fredericksburg National Cemetery
Fredericksburg National Cemetery

Table of Contents

Introduction

General Information

Concurrence Information

Geographic Information and Location Map

Management Information

National Register Information

Chronology & Physical History

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Uses

Condition

Treatment

Bibliography & Supplemental Information

Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Fredericksburg National Cemetery
Resource Classification:	Cultural Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	300179
Parent Landscape:	300179
Inventory Status:	Complete

Park Information

Park Name:	Fredericksburg National Cemetery
Alpha Code:	FRED
Park Organization Code:	4379
Park District:	FRED
Region:	Northeast
Restricted:	Yes

Landscape Description:

Fredericksburg National Cemetery is located in the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, approximately fifty-five miles from Washington, D.C., and is part of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. The twelve-acre cemetery is located on Willis Hill, situated at the southern end of Marye's Heights—a formidable position held by the Confederates during the Federal attacks on December 13, 1862. The cemetery was established in 1865 to inter the thousands of Union soldiers who died of illness in the camps around Fredericksburg, or were killed in the four major Civil War battles that took place around Fredericksburg (1862-1864) as well as the Mine Run and North Anna campaigns. The federal government established the cemetery as part of the first systematic national effort to provide burial grounds for those who died in service to the country. The U.S. War Department (later Department of the Army), maintained exclusive control over the national cemetery and park until 1933 when it transferred the properties to the National Park Service within the Department of the Interior. Today, Fredericksburg National Cemetery is one of fourteen of the nation's 147 national cemeteries within the National Park Service.

Fredericksburg National Cemetery contains over 15, 000 Union soldiers who died in the battles and camps around Fredericksburg. These burials are marked by granite and marble headstones inscribed with the soldier's name and state. Most of the graves at the cemetery contain the remains of unidentified soldiers and are marked by simple square granite posts inscribed with the number of the grave plot and the number of bodies in the grave. Fredericksburg National Cemetery remains predominately a Civil War cemetery, but does contain approximately one hundred graves containing veterans of later wars. The cemetery was closed to veteran interments in 1945.

Fredericksburg National Cemetery remains relatively unchanged since 1945. Situated atop Willis Hill, at the southern end of Marye's Heights, the cemetery is characterized by the asymmetrically designed open space bounded by the eleven-sided brick inclosure (perimeter) wall with granite and iron entrance gates. It includes thousands of granite and marble gravestones and numerous monuments set within lawns dotted with trees. The graves are laid out along terraces and square- or rectangular-shaped grids, themselves defined by brick roads and grass paths. Other historic features that remain include a stone Second Empire style superintendent's lodge, a hitching post, flagstaff, boxwood hedge, and a variety of deciduous and evergreen specimen trees.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Establishment and Creation of Fredericksburg National Cemetery, 1865-1868:

In June 1865, two months after Confederate General Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, the U.S. Government took the initial efforts to inter Union dead who remained unburied in the South. Assigned to the work were Brevet Major James M. Moore and Colonel Charles P. Bird's First United States Veteran Volunteers (referred to as the First Regiment). In the course of the expedition, the First Regiment had buried nearly 1,500 skeletons, constructed headboards over the graves of 785 known soldiers and marked as unknown the graves of many more, and established two cemeteries, Wilderness National Cemetery No. 1 and Wilderness National Cemetery No.2.

Shortly after the establishment of the two cemeteries by the First Regiment, Congress authorized the Secretary of War to purchase the land from Douglas Gordon for a national cemetery in Fredericksburg. Construction of Fredericksburg National Cemetery initially began in June 1866, approximately two years before the Government formally settled its claim with Gordon. Situated at the southern end of Marye's Heights near the Sunken Road, itself the site of fierce battles, the cemetery as constructed had eleven sides and was asymmetrical in shape. Its northern and eastern sides were relatively straight, whereas the southern and western sides, following the contours of the winding bluff that overlooks Hazel Run, were broken and irregular. The plateau, which rose 100 feet above the surrounding plain, was reasonably level with gentle undulations. Its southern and eastern slopes, by contrast, fell sharply away and were subject to erosion after heavy rains. Although the Quartermaster Department originally condemned just eight acres at the top of the hill, a year later they acquired the hill's eastern slope and cut into it parallel terraces—eight north of the entrance road and nine south of it. The terraces, intended to decrease erosion, were between eight and ten feet tall and fourteen to seventeen feet in width. Once the terraces were created, sod was installed, two sets of wooden steps were constructed, and brick-lined gutters were placed at the foot of each terrace to carry away the excess water.

The cemetery entrance stood at the northern end of the east wall, entering onto what was then called the Spotsylvania Court House Road. From the entrance gate, a carriageway led to the crest of the hill. Halfway up the hill, it divided to create a triangular grassy plot unoccupied by graves. The two branches of the entrance road continued up the hill in opposite directions until they reached the plateau. Once there, they ran along the crest of the hill to the enclosing wall. The road branched then ran along the inside of the wall, encircling the plateau. In an effort to control runoff and erosion, the Quartermaster Department installed 378 feet of wooden-lined gutters along the borders of the roads traversing the plateau. At the top of Willis Hill, located at the southern end of Marye's Heights, engineers laid out a grid of grassy roads at right angles to one another and divided the property into four larger areas known as divisions, which were lettered A through D. Each division was in turn subdivided into smaller areas known as sections. Although the sections were not uniform in size or shape, graves were laid out in parallel rows. On the eastern slope of the hill, graves were identified by terrace rather than by section. At the center of the plateau, at the intersection of two roads, engineers constructed a circular mound for a flagstaff. At the southern end of the property, a second mound was constructed and set aside for a future Soldiers' Monument.

United States soldiers collected and buried the Union dead at Fredericksburg until June 1866 when the Government began hiring private laborers to do the work. Known as the burial corps, the laborers consisted of former slaves, Irish immigrants, and Confederate veterans. In the first six months of operation, the burial corps interred the remains of 2,442 soldiers at Fredericksburg National Cemetery. By the time they finished in 1868, the corps had buried the remains of more than 15,000 men. The graves in the Wilderness cemeteries were also later consolidated and reinterred at the national cemetery. The Quartermaster Department worked on landscape improvements, building the main carriageway and roads, constructing a central wooden flagstaff on a small circular mound, installing four upright Columbiad cannon tubes around the flagstaff, and constructing a fence around the perimeter of the cemetery to protect the graves from livestock. This fence was a whitewashed picket style supported by cedar posts with black-painted tops.

War Department Period, 1869-1933:

After the burial corps was disbanded, administration was assumed by the U.S. War Department, which continued to maintain and develop the cemetery landscape through the Office of the Quartermaster General and on-site supervision of a cemetery superintendent. The development of the landscape and buildings was standardized throughout the national cemetery system and adapted to local conditions as necessary. Standard improvements at Fredericksburg National Cemetery included a stone Second Empire style lodge (1871) based on a prototype designed by Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs, a perimeter hedge of Osage orange (1871), brick inclosure wall with granite and iron gates (1873-1874), granite headstones for known graves and granite block for unknown graves (1874), deciduous and evergreen trees (1876-1885), and iron tablets (1882). Additional buildings and outbuildings that

were constructed included a greenhouse (1873-1878), brick toolhouse (1881-1960), cart house (1888), rostrum (1888-1930s), and woodshed (1888-1906).

In the four decades that followed, additional improvements were made to the cemetery landscape including the installation of monuments, which included the Moesch Monument (1890), Butterfield Monument (1900), 127th Pennsylvania Monument (1906), and Humphreys Monument (1908). A Gettysburg Address tablet was added to the lodge in 1909. Some landscape features were changed during this time, including the establishment of boxwood hedges, and relocation of the flagstaff (1906).

National Park Service Period, 1933-Present:

On February 14, 1927, Congress created Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County National Military Park to preserve and protect four major Civil War battlefields in the Fredericksburg area. The War Department continued to administer Fredericksburg National Cemetery until June 10, 1933, when it transferred Fredericksburg and ten other cemeteries to the National Park Service under authority of Executive Order 6166. Following the acquisition of the cemetery by the National Park Service, flowerbeds, shrubs, and specimen trees were removed in response to natural decline and efforts to decrease maintenance. In the 1960s, the National Park Service replaced the 1881 brick toolhouse with a concrete block maintenance building. Shortly thereafter, it added a Civil War cannon, an audio station, a directional compass, and two interpretive signs to the grounds. Later the National Park Service authorized the construction of a small marker to Parker's Battery, near the site of the former rostrum (bandstand); and in the 1990s it installed an irrigation system on the terraces. Most recently, the agency added an interpretive panel near the Parker's Battery Memorial.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park is nationally significant under National Register Criteria A and D within the context "Civil War Military Action around Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania Court House (1862-1865)," for its recurring role in the American Civil War as a theater of military action and for its potential to yield archeological information about the associated battles. The park is nationally significant under National Register Criterion A and meets Criteria Considerations D and F, within the context "Shaping the Battlefield Park Landscape, subtheme Memorialization and Commemoration on the Battlefields (1865-1942)," for its important role in the memorialization efforts carried out by Civil War veterans, citizens, and the federal government. The park is nationally significant under National Register Criterion A, within the context "Shaping the Battlefield Park Landscape, subtheme Military Park Development by the War Department, Civilian Conservation Corps, and the National Park Service (1927-1956)," for its role in the federal battlefield park development efforts carried out first by the War Department, and continued with the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps during the 1930s, and by the National Park Service. Several of the cultural resources preserved within the park are significant on the state level under National Register Criterion C, within the context "Architecture and Landscape Architecture of the Middle Peninsula (1768-1965)," as outstanding architectural examples from the antebellum plantation period in Virginia with elements of landscape architecture from late eighteenth century and early twentieth century design traditions.

Based on the revised National Register documentation for the park and the Multiple Property Listing (MPDF), "Civil War Era National Cemeteries," Fredericksburg National Cemetery is significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of military history and commemoration (Listed as "other" in the National Register documentation). In the area of military history, Fredericksburg National Cemetery is significant for its association with the Civil War and as a component of the National Cemetery System. In the area of commemoration, the cemetery is significant for its role in the memorialization and commemoration efforts carried out by Civil War veterans, citizens, and the federal government. The National Cemetery also derives significance under Criterion C in the area of landscape architecture for illustrating the initial development of the National Cemetery System through the early 1880s and its subsequent development through the 1930s under War Department administration. Fredericksburg National Cemetery also meets Criteria Consideration D as a primary memorial to the military history of the United States and Criteria Consideration F as a commemorative property for its role in the memorialization and commemoration efforts carried out by Civil War veterans, citizens, and the federal government.

The period of significance for the Fredericksburg National Cemetery is 1865 to 1945. Under Criterion A and Criterion Considerations D and F, the period begins with the establishment of the cemetery in 1865 through the last veteran burial in 1945. Under Criterion C, the period of significance begins with the construction of the cemetery in 1866 through the end of the War Department management period in 1933.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The physical integrity of Fredericksburg National Cemetery is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1865-1945) with current conditions. Many of the landscape's historic characteristics and features are still intact. The cemetery is characterized by the asymmetrically designed open space bounded by the eleven-sided brick inclosure (perimeter) wall. Inside the brick wall, the property consists of various sized granite and marble grave markers, mowed turf, and scatterings of deciduous and evergreen trees. While the eastern hillside of the cemetery is arranged along terraces, each containing one row of graves connected by a series of brick steps, the majority of the cemetery is relatively level, laid out in square grids with parallel rows of graves; and are defined by a series of brick roads and grass paths. The carriageway, the main road, begins at the gated entrance to the cemetery on the east side and is the only paved route in the burial grounds. Two buildings currently exist at the entrance to the cemetery, however only the stone Second Empire style superintendent's lodge is historic. The viewsheds also remain intact, which includes views atop Willis Hill and the view and vista of the flagstaff from the graves and carriageway. Other historic features that remain include the concrete walks at the lodge, the numerous markers and monuments, a hitching post, flagstaff, and a boxwood hedge.

While the overall historic character of the Fredericksburg National Cemetery is intact, there have been some changes since 1945. Following its transfer to the National Park Service, changes were made to address visitor accessibility, interpretation, and safety. These improvements include benches, a Civil War cannon, an audio station, a directional compass, and two interpretative signs. Additional changes included the replacement of the brick maintenance building with a concrete garage/equipment shed, and the installation of a small marker to Parker's Battery and irrigation system on the terraces. Despite the loss of vegetation over the years, the Fredericksburg National Cemetery retains overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The condition of Fredericksburg National Cemetery is "fair" because it shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. The poor condition of the headstones, external erosion concerns (along the southern boundary), and repointing needed on the perimeter wall require corrective action. If left to continue without appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the property to degrade to a poor condition.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

In the Cultural Landscape Inventory database, three landscapes have been identified for the park: the Fredericksburg National Cemetery, Fredericksburg Battlefield-South, and Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Landscape. Ellwood, Chancellorsville Battlefield, Spotsylvania Battlefield, Wilderness Battlefield, Chatham Manor, and Sunken Road are component landscapes of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Landscape.

Landscape Type:

Historic Designed Landscape

Other Names:

Other Name: Fredericksburg National Cemetery

Other Name Type: Both Current And Historic

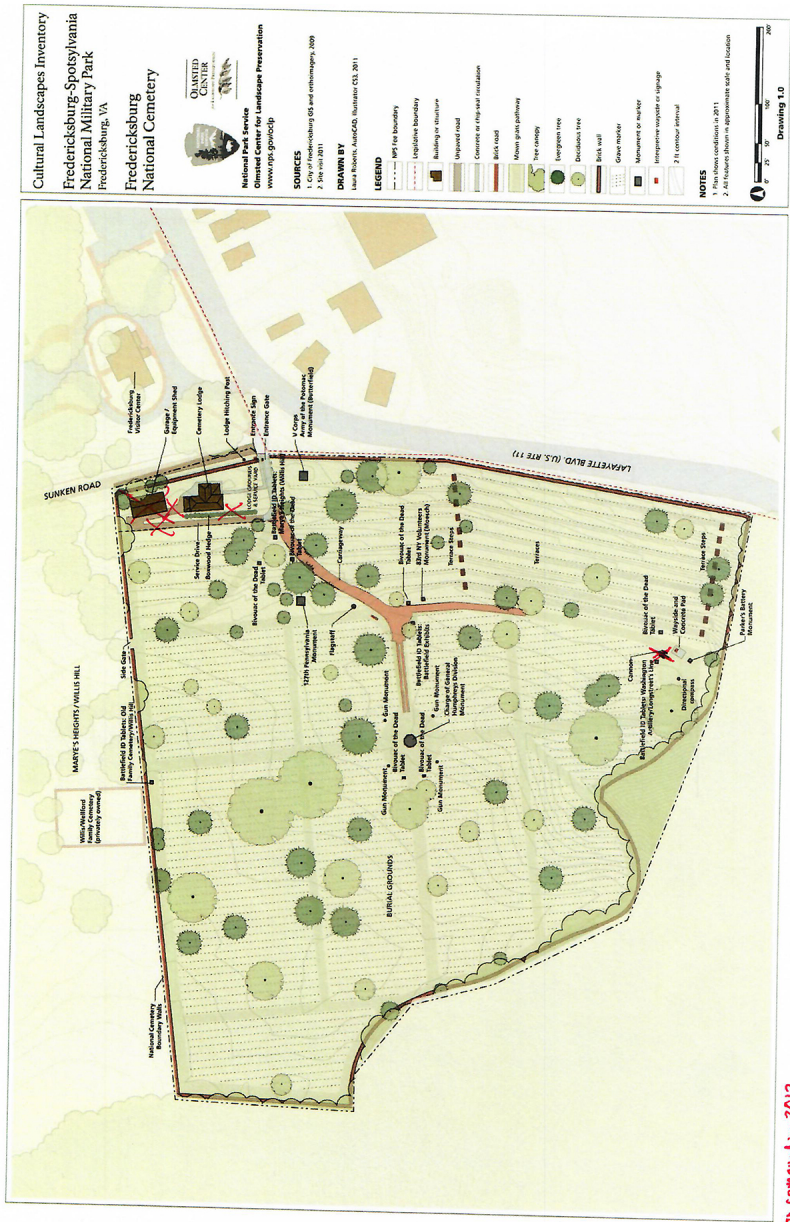
Site Plan

Fredericksburg National Cemetery

Fredericksburg National Cemetery



Existing Conditions Plan for Fredericksburg National Cemetery, 2011.



Canon removed in 2012
PEPC 63866 Repair and Replace Concrete Entrance Drive and Sidewalk at Fredericksburg National Cemetery - 2016
PEPC 74354 Installation of Fire Suppression System in Fredericksburg National Cemetery Lodge - 2020
PEPC 94640 Removal of Non-Contributing Structure - Fredericksburg National Cemetery Garage - 2024
PEPC 120368 Remove Asphalt From Around National Cemetery Garage - 2024

Site map, 2025 edits.

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	09/19/2011

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

In April 2011, existing conditions at the Fredericksburg National Cemetery were inventoried and mapped. Historical Landscape Architect Michael Commisso and Student Conservation Association intern Laura Roberts with the National Park Service's Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation in Boston completed the field work. The park contact for the Cultural Landscapes Inventory is Eric Mink, Historian and Cultural Resources Program Manager. He can be reached by telephone at (540)371-6416 or by email at Eric_Mink@nps.gov.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Fredericksburg National Cemetery
Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Fredericksburg National Cemetery including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Fredericksburg National Cemetery is hereby approved and accepted.

Russell P. Smith 9/19/11
Superintendent, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park Date

Park concurrence form, September 19, 2011.

by identification number within each battlefield might be the best way to arrange the inventory in this case. The inventory will contain similar information presented in the FSNMP-All Resource Inventory that was created by the Paula Reed & Associates and accompanied the draft nomination. We have indicated on the first page of that inventory the basic information needed for our inventory. Are the "NR #'s in this inventory assigned by the Park or a system created by the authors of the nomination? I do find them useful for identifying the resources in association with each of the battlefields.

Concerning the entire draft nomination, we agree with Patrick Andrus's findings that the documentation prepared by Paula S. Reed & Associates is of high quality and is clearly stated and articulated. For the most part, our comments, edits, and questions are directly indicated on the draft itself. More specific comments follow.

Section 1: The name of the NR listing in 1966 for the battlefields park was "Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park and Cemetery". The NPS website and park brochure indicate the name of the park has not changed ("and Cemetery" was added to the name of the original nomination), so why is a new name being proposed here? I would think we should continue the same name for the revised nomination unless the NPS wants to change the name. Obviously, the name chosen will need to be correctly cited throughout the nomination. If the name remains the same as the original listing name, the abbreviation "FSNMP" may not be applicable unless it is explained in the nomination that it is a shortened acronym for the park.

Section 2: List the counties and the City of Fredericksburg where all four battlefields are located as well as their codes.

Section 5 (Classification): The "inholders" mentioned on p. 1 seems to indicate private property is included within the district. If land authorized for future park acquisition is part of the revised nomination, we know private property will also be included.

Section 5 (Related Multiple Property Listing): Civil War in Virginia, 1861-1865, Historical and Archaeological Resources MPS should be indicated here.

Section 5 (Number of Resources within Property): As we have indicated in the nomination, on the maps, and in the FSNMP All Resource Inventory, these numbers should change as we have found some resources should not have been counted; others perhaps should be excluded from the district; and the contributing/noncontributing status of some resources should be changed if the period of significance is extended and the architecture area of significance is more fully developed as we recommend. Also, be sure the 24 resources previously listed in the NR are not counted in the Number of Resources within Property entries.

→ Section 8 (Areas of Significance): We believe the "Engineering" Area of Significance should either be better developed in Section 8 of the nomination or omitted. Also we prefer "Other: Commemoration" here since "Commemoration" is not among the choices

post-Civil War architecture (not just those of exceptional significance) and to include Mission 66-era buildings and structures if the period of significance is extended to 1965.

Section 9: Bibliography looks fine.

Section 10: The UTM references are outside the battlefield units on the USGS maps submitted. They should be located at various points along the boundaries of each battlefield unit including each discontinuous unit associated with a battlefield. Only one UTM point is necessary if the discontinuous unit is less than 10 acres.

USGS Maps: The boundaries of each battlefield unit should be clearly indicated on the USGS maps. I saw no drawn lines at all—only UTM reference points that are outside the boundaries of each battlefield unit. As stated above, UTM points should be located on boundaries of each battlefield unit and discontinuous units associated with battlefields. DHR will need a set of USGS maps in addition to those submitted to the NPS.

Maps 1 through 44:

- 1) These maps are great for showing contributing and noncontributing resources in relation to each other and to each battlefield unit; however, the district boundaries for each battlefield unit are very difficult to see in most cases. Thin blue lines that seem to indicate district boundaries on some maps need to be highlighted (bolded?) for better clarity and indicated as boundaries in a map key.
- 2) On some maps district boundaries (thin blue lines?) do not coincide with district boundaries on USGS maps (see Maps 1 and 3). Also, areas that presumably are not owned by the Battlefields Park and indicated on maps as excluded from the district need to be included within the nominated district even though they are privately owned, and perhaps noncontributing, because the National Register program does not allow “donut holes” in districts (see Maps 11, 18, 27, and 38).
- 3) It appears that some areas shaded in the National Park brochure as “Land authorized for future park acquisition”, although privately owned, should be included in the revised district boundaries. In this way some discontinuous units could then be absorbed into larger contiguous land areas of the battlefield.
- 4) Some important resources, like Brompton and Braehead on Map 5, appear to be outside district boundaries. See also Maps 1, 8, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 21, 22, 25, 27, 33, 34, 35, and 36 for other resources that appear to be outside district boundaries.
- 5) Two areas on Map 5 are outlined in blue lines (district boundaries?) but contain no resources according to map.
- 6) Map 8 shows CH00121, CH00122, CH00159 and CH00163, but the All Resource Inventory shows the same resources as FR00121, FR00122, FR00159,



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

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Secretary of Natural Resources

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September 2, 2010

Elizabeth Igleheart
National Register Coordinator
History Program
Northeast Region
15 State Street
Boston, MA 02109

Re: Updated National Register Nomination for Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park

Dear Ms. Igleheart:

Thank you for sending us the updated draft nomination of **Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park**. I am very glad that this updated nomination has been produced and we will have a more substantial and detailed document building upon the 1966 listing/1972 nomination, referred to at that period as **Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park and Cemetery**. I have asked Marc Wagner, Registers Program Manager, and David Edwards, Northern Region Preservation Office Director, review the draft and provide comments. Our overall recommendation is that your nomination should go ahead (assuming our comments will be addressed). We agree with boundaries and the resources that are recommended as contributing and non-contributing in your inventory.

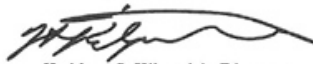
I will be sending staff comments, drafted directly on the nomination, which will also include those that result from Historian Dr. Kelly Spradley-Kurowski's review of Section 8. At present, the major points that David Edwards noted were the lack of survey forms entered into the DHR Data Sharing System database; an inventory format that is unusual for our standard nomination format; no legal notification labels and accompanying required state-level processing forms; there was no map that recorded contributing and non-contributing resources. I am aware that Marc Wagner has spoken to you about the need for notification labels for owners that may have property inside the boundaries and for owners adjacent to the boundaries. He has also mentioned the eventual need for a public hearing, following notification of all owners and adjacent owners, prior to taking the matter to our Boards for Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places consideration. We would also encourage contact and meetings with owners prior to the required Board meeting public hearing so they have an opportunity to comment early in the process.

SHPO concurrence letters, September 2, 2010 and March 11, 2011 (8 pages).

We will finish our review of the draft and send along our comments. I would ask that you work directly with David Edwards as you go forward. His address is DHR-NRPO, P.O. Box 519, Stephen's City, Virginia 22655 and his phone number is 540-868-7031.

We look forward to finalizing this greatly improved nomination. Please feel free to contact me, if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Kathleen S. Kilpatrick, Director
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State Historic Preservation Officer



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

Douglas W. Domenech
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March 9, 2011

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Ms. Elizabeth Igleheart
National Register Coordinator
History Program
Northeast Region
15 State Street
Boston, MA 02109

RE: Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park

Dear Elizabeth,

I enjoyed our recent conversation. Thank you for your patience awaiting our review and comments on the draft of the revised Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park National Register nomination and accompanying materials. Kelly Spradley-Kurowski of the DHR Register Program in the Richmond Office and I were the principal reviewers.

Before commenting on the document, however, as we discussed, DHR requires all historic district nominations (including battlefields) to be accompanied by survey files on all contributing and noncontributing resources within the district. DHR uses a database called Data Sharing System (DSS) to record these resources. Each survey file consists of the following: a hard-copy DSS survey form on the primary resource (also includes any secondary resources associated with the property); a simply sketched site plan of the property; black-and-white photos of all the resources associated with the property (buildings require only exterior photographs); and a photocopied section of a USGS map indicating the location of the property in relation to the district (or battlefield). Survey materials for about five properties in the proposed district are placed in large file envelopes (provided by DHR) for our Archives. DHR offers one-day (or more) training in the use of DSS in the Richmond Office of DHR and we can send more information on DSS if requested. We also have a Survey Manual that provides more detailed information on conducting architectural surveys in Virginia.

Once the survey data is entered into the DSS database, an inventory, consisting of brief information on each resource, can be generated by DSS. The inventory is a DHR requirement and it is added to the end of Section 7 in the nomination. The inventory entries are arranged in a logical sequence, usually by address if applicable, but a system

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10 Courthouse Ave.
Petersburg, VA 23803
Tel: (804) 862-6416
Fax: (804) 862-6196

Capital Region Office
2801 Kensington Office
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Fax: (804) 367-2391

Tidewater Region Office
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Tel: (757) 886-2807

Western Region Office
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Salem, VA 24153
Tel: (540) 387-5428
Fax: (540) 387-5446

Northern Region Office
5357 Main Street
PO Box 519
Stephens City, VA 22655
Tel: (540) 868-7031

in the list of Areas of Significance in NPS Bulletin "How to Complete the National Register Registration Form" (Bulletin 16A).

Section 8 (Period of Significance): We believe a better ending date would be 1965. Although it extends beyond the traditional fifty-year period of evaluation, the period of significance should include the entire Mission 66 era because of its significant impact on the Park. We feel the buildings and structures designed in the Mission 66 architectural style are significant resources that are important to recognize as contributing resources if they retain sufficient integrity. The authors considered these resources as noncontributing. Another reason for extending the period of significance is to capture the monuments and other improvements in the Park that resulted from the nation's commemoration of the Civil War Centennial which ended in 1965.

Section 7, p. 2: "ID Tablets (NR#AU0275)" should be either individually counted as resources or not counted at all because they are not "substantial in size and scale" (see NPS Bulletin 16A, p. 17). "Museum Collection (NR#AU0276)" on p. 2, "Collection of Period Furnishings (NR#JS01651)" on p. 30, and "Authentic Jackson Items (NR#JS0165e)" on p. 30 should not be counted as resources per NPS Bulletin 16A.

Section 7, p. 15: In the second paragraph, the post-Civil War buildings constructed up to 1965 (if the period of significance is increased) that retain integrity should be considered contributing if the argument for architecture as an area of significance is strengthened and more fully developed for post-Civil War resources in the discussion of the context entitled Architecture and Landscape Architecture of the Middle Peninsula (1768-1959) beginning on p. 43. Please consider changing noncontributing buildings and sites to contributing throughout the nomination where post-Civil War resources are concerned.

Section 7, p. 22: In the discussion of the Ellwood Pump House and Outbuildings in the first paragraph, a reference is made to the Virginia SHPO recommending these post-Civil War resources as not eligible and, therefore, noncontributing. These resources should be considered contributing within the context of this revised nomination, as architecture is an area of significance (1768-1965?) that was not included in the original nomination. Other such references to the recommendations of resource ineligibility by the Virginia SHPO should be re-evaluated where relevant.

Section 8: Continuation Sheet Page Numbers should be in sequential order regardless of section; therefore, the first page of Section 8 should be Page 72 in this draft nomination. Pages in Sections 9 and 10 should be similarly numbered.

Section 8: DHR prefers endnotes rather than footnote references and references (in parentheses) within the text.

Section 8, p. 29: Make sure Chickamauga is spelled correctly.

Section 8, p. 43: The historic context entitled "Architecture and Landscape Architecture of the Middle Peninsula (1768-1959)" will have to be revised to address contributing

and FR00163. Which are correct? Are they associated with the Battle of Chancellorsville or the Battle of Fredericksburg?

- 7) On Map 29, FR0140 is a noncontributing site. It is not clear why the area around it is a discontinuous unit of the battlefield. Perhaps something important was standing here or happened during the Battle of Fredericksburg? If the area is to be included in the district, an explanation is necessary in the nomination.
- 8) DHR will need a final set of Maps 1-44 in addition to the set submitted to the NPS.

Photographs:

- 1) An excessive number of photographs (314) were submitted for the National Register nomination. We recommend submitting fewer photos concentrating on the principal resources within the battlefields park.
- 2) A few photographs are underexposed (such as photos FR-74, FR-83, FR-87, JS-5, JS-6, JS-7, and JS-12); others are unnecessarily repeated (photos JS-9 and JS-10; WI-5 and WI-6; CH-28 and CH-29); and others do not adequately show the resources—too far away or poorly framed and are unacceptable—such as photos CH-8, CH-10, CH-30, FR-63, FR-98, FR-100, JS-18, SP-1, SP-2, SP-4, WI-3, WI-8, WI-28, and WI-63—however, most photos submitted are of good quality.
- 3) At the top of each photo are the letters “FRSP” which I assume stands for Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania. We prefer each photo be labeled “Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park” if the original name of the nomination is still used. I realize that is a long title, so perhaps the alternative method of labeling photos, outlined in Bulletin 16A, p. 64, should be adopted here. That method involves using continuation sheets to provide information common to all photographs and focuses on the information peculiar to each photo.
- 4) DHR will need a final set of black-and-white photographs in addition to those submitted to the NPS.

Overall Boundary Map: I am unsure DHR received the “Overall Boundary Map from the FSNMP General Management Plan (1986)” that is mentioned in the Verbal Boundary Description; therefore, I cannot comment on it.

DHR Nomination Check List and Legal Requirement Form: I have enclosed a DHR Register Nomination Check List that consultants writing NR nominations are required to submit to DHR. Consultants find it very helpful in completing a nomination submission to DHR. Section E of the Check List mentions a separate Legal Requirement Form (also enclosed) that must be submitted with mailing labels for all property owners within the nominated district as well as property owners whose properties are adjacent but outside the boundaries of the proposed district. Tax parcel information is also required. This

information is needed because DHR is legally required by act of the state legislature to notify by letter all property owners within the district and adjacent to the district.

In closing, I want to thank you for allowing DHR to review and comment on this nomination. Despite the number of items needing attention from our standpoint at DHR, it is a good nomination and one that we encourage the Park Service to continue to revise and strengthen to obtain a product of which we are all satisfied.

Please call on me in the future to assist you in any way with this nomination. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at 540-868-7030 or david.edwards@dhr.virginia.gov.

Sincerely yours,


David Edwards

Cultural Landscapes Inventory
CLI Update Certification Form
2025

Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park
Ellwood, Fredericksburg National Cemetery, Sunken Road Landscape

Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park concurs with the updates for the following CLIs, including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair – Ellwood
 Good – Fredericksburg National Cemetery
 Good – Sunken Road Landscape

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit’s cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The CLI Updates at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park are hereby approved and accepted.

LEWIS ROGERS Digitally signed by LEWIS ROGERS
Date: 2025.03.25 13:08:15 -04'00'

Superintendent, Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park Date

Park concurrence form, March 25, 2025.

Revision:

Revised By	Type of Revision	Revision Date	Revision Narrative
Jeff Killion	CLI Update	03/25/2025	Three levels of effort have been developed for CLI Updates: A, B, and C. Level C is limited to a condition reassessment of the landscape; Level B includes C and is a targeted update of select data fields; Level A includes C and is a comprehensive update of all data fields. This 2025 update to the Fredericksburg National Cemetery CLI has been conducted at a Level C effort. See Landscape Documents in CRIS-CL for correspondences with park.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Virginia	Spotsylvania & Orange County
Virginia	Fredericksburg City

Size (Acres): 12

Land Tract Number(s)

02-112

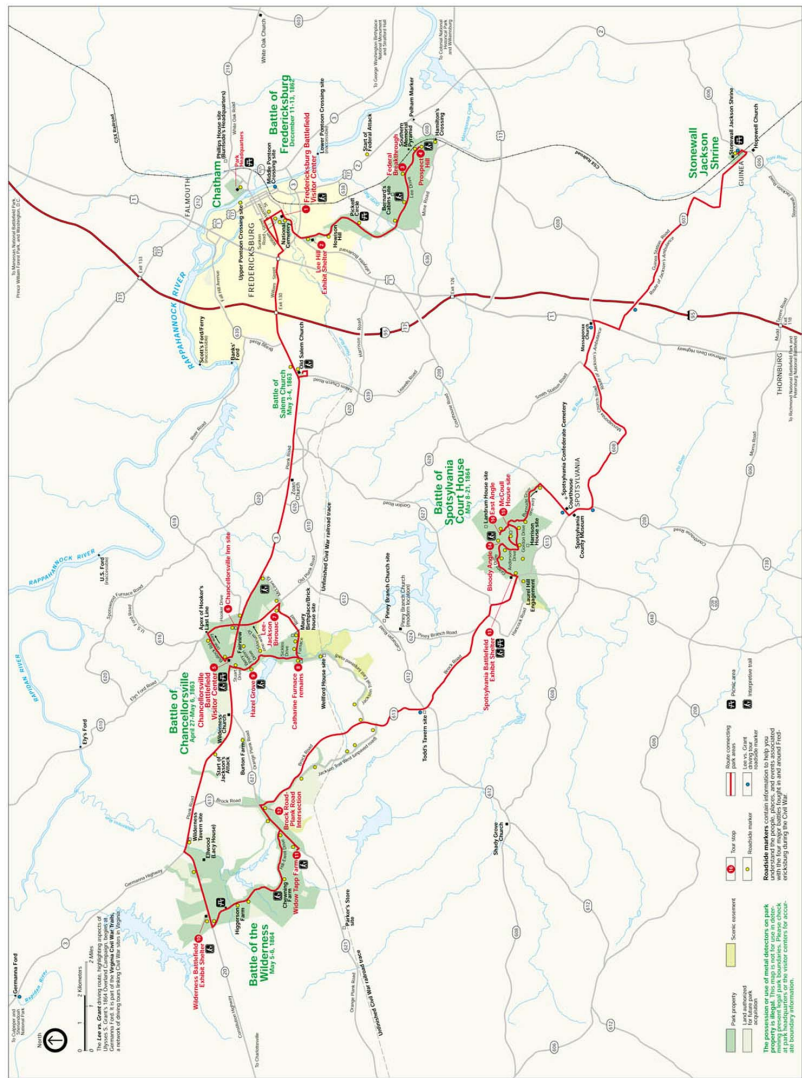
Boundary Description:

The Fredericksburg National Cemetery (tract no. 02-112) is asymmetrical in shape and has eleven sides. Its northern and eastern sides are relatively straight, but the southern and western sides are broken and irregular since they follow the contours of the winding bluff that overlooks Hazel Run. On the north and east, the cemetery is bounded by National Park Service owned property (tract nos. 02-103 [formerly Montfort Academy] and 01-160 [Howison Mill Property]). On the east, the cemetery is bounded by the Sunken Road and Lafayette Boulevard.

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-77.4965672197142	38.320720413556	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-77.4272574549298	38.3104624293312	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-77.4304713731324	38.2405639019749	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-77.0855174761456	38.364566006965	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-77.7699453357743	38.3245797725194	

Location Map:



Location Information. Fredericksburg National Cemetery is part of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. The park encompasses four major Civil War battlefields.

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Fredericksburg National Cemetery is located in the Virginia Piedmont, the rolling uplands west of the Tidewater halfway between Washington, D.C. and Richmond (see Regional Landscape Context graphic). The closest urban area is the city of Fredericksburg, located along the Rappahannock River in the transitional zone between the Piedmont and the Tidewater known as the Fall Line that roughly parallels Interstate 95. The site, located on Willis Hill, at the southern end of Marye's Heights, is largely open with scatterings of deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Before the Civil War, the area now known as Fredericksburg National Cemetery was owned by the Willis family who had constructed a small family cemetery and several buildings there. The area was taken over by the Confederates during the Battle of Fredericksburg in 1862 and Chancellorsville Campaign in 1863. Following the Civil War, the War Department selected the site for a cemetery for deceased Union soldiers. It was administered by the War Department between 1865 and 1933 after which point it was transferred to the National Park Service for inclusion into Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Fredericksburg National Cemetery is a unit of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park (FSNMP). The park forms a discontinuous historic district made up of four discrete National Park Service units, each a separate Civil War battlefield park in four Virginia Counties. The Fredericksburg region is part Virginia's urban corridor, which stretches from suburban Washington, D.C., through Richmond. The park lies midway between the two cities, about 55 miles from each.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/19/2011

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

Fredericksburg National Cemetery meets the management category, "Must be Preserved and Maintained" because it was specifically legislated with the passage of the Omnibus Act (Public Law 165, 37th Congress) passed on July 17, 1862. The National Cemetery Act (Public Law 37), approved on February 22, 1867, later authorized the Secretary of War to acquire land for national cemeteries, enclose them with stone or iron fences, and construct caretaker lodges.

The cemetery also relates to the legislated significance of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. The park was authorized by an act of Congress on February 14, 1927 (44 Stat. 1091). The purpose of the park, as stated in the act, is "to commemorate the Civil War battles of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania Court House, Wilderness, and Chancellorsville, including Salem Church...and to mark and preserve for historical purposes the breastworks, earthworks, gun emplacements, walls, or other defenses or shelters used by the armies in said battles...and together with such additional land as the Secretary of War may deem necessary for monuments, markers, tablets, roads, highways, paths, approaches, and to carry out the general purposes of this Act."

Management Agreements:

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative:

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Lands outside of the boundaries of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park are directly related to the significance of the cemetery and park. The lands on Marye's Heights, which encompasses federal and privately-owned properties (Brompton property and Willis/Wellford family cemetery), was chosen as a formidable Confederate position during repeated attacks by Union soldiers on December 13, 1862. At the conclusion of this battle, approximately 8,000 Union soldiers had been shot in a plot of a few acres of land in front of Mary's Heights. Many were later interred in Fredericksburg National Cemetery. Today, these lands consist of federally-owned properties and suburban development.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: SHPO Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park was established by Congress on February 14, 1927 (44 Stat. 1091), under the name Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park. It was transferred from the War Department to the National Park Service on August 10, 1933.

The National Military Park was administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966 with passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. National Register documentation for the park was approved on May 23, 1978 under the name Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park and Cemetery. The documentation identified significance under Criterion A in the area of military and Criterion C in the area of architecture for 23 resources associated with the battlefields of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, The Wilderness, and Spotsylvania, including the entire National Cemetery site and specifically Quarters #1 (Lodge). The period of significance was listed as 1700-1899, with a specific span of dates from December 1862 and the Battle of Fredericksburg, to May 1864 and the Battle of the Wilderness. While the documentation established the significance of the cemetery within the larger context of the Civil War and the battles of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County, it did not adequately address the significance of the cemetery landscape.

The National Military Park's National Register documentation is currently under revision to address park property added after 1978 and more thoroughly document the list of resources and areas of significance. In the draft documentation dated February 2010, significance is identified under four historic contexts under Criterion A in the area of military; Criterion B for associations with Lieutenant General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, General Robert E. Lee, Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, Major General Joseph Hooker, and Major General Ambrose Burnside; Criterion C in the areas of architecture, landscape architecture, and engineering; and Criterion D for archeology (historic—non-aboriginal). The property also meets Criteria Considerations D (Cemeteries) and F (Commemorative Properties). The overall period of significance in the February 2010 draft begins in 1768 with construction of Chatham Manor, the oldest dated architectural resource in the district, and ends in 1959 to comply with the National Register eligibility 50-year rule, 1959 being 50 years from the date of completion of this nomination. Significant dates include 1768 for the construction of Chatham, 1921 for the Chatham garden designed by Ellen Shipman, 1862 and the Battle of Fredericksburg, 1863 and the Battle of Chancellorsville, 1864 and the Battles of Wilderness and Spotsylvania, 1865 for the establishment of the National Cemetery, 1927 for the year the park was established, and 1933 when construction by the Civilian Conservation Corps began. The Fredericksburg National Cemetery (#FR147a) is identified as a contributing site and is described as a large leveled area and an east facing terraced hill with grave markers, as well as monuments, plantings, brick walkways, and a Gate Keeper's lodge. The documentation specifically identifies the following resources as contributing: the lodge (#FR00147e); concrete slab walkways in the front and rear of the lodge building (#FR0147b); gate posts, iron gates, and brick walls that enclose the cemetery (#FR00147d); six Bivouac of the Dead tablets (#FR0147c); stone grave markers (#FR0147f); two sets of brick steps (#FR0147g); the cemetery's original brick and concrete road (#FR0147h); the gravel carriageway leading from the Sunken Road past the lodge building (#FR0147i); cast iron hitching post (#FR0147j); and numerous monuments and signs including the Charge of General Humphreys Division Monument (#FR0147l), the V Corps Army of the Potomac Monument (#FR0147m), the 127th Pennsylvania Monument (#FR0147n), the 83rd NY Volunteers Monument (Moesch Monument) (#FR0147q), and cast aluminum or cast iron ID Tablets (#AU0275). Non-contributing resources include the Garage/Equipment Shed (#FR0147k) and the Parker's Battery Memorial (#FR0147p). Additionally, Fredericksburg National Cemetery (#FR0147a) is identified as a contributing archeological resource.

On September 2, 2010, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (SHPO) conducted a preliminary review of the February 2010 draft of the National Register documentation and agreed with its proposed boundaries and list of contributing and noncontributing resources. However, in a letter dated March 9, 2011, the SHPO provided additional comments on the February 2010 draft and recommended extending the end date of the overall period of significance from 1959 to 1965. Extending the end date, and also revising the historic context "Architecture and Landscape Architecture of the Middle Peninsula," would recognize post-Civil War resources with architectural significance. Extending the end date would also recognize the monuments and other improvements in the park that resulted from the commemoration of the Civil War Centennial that ended in 1965. The SHPO suggested changing the draft's evaluations of post-Civil War buildings and sites from noncontributing to contributing throughout the nomination and re-evaluating the SHPO's previous evaluations of post-Civil War resource ineligibility, where relevant. Revisions of the draft are currently underway. Resources at the National Cemetery that could be impacted by the March 2011 letter include the Garage/Equipment Shed (#FR0147k).

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the proposed areas and periods of significance for Fredericksburg National Cemetery landscape are within the overall areas and periods of significance for the park as proposed in the February 2010 draft National Register documentation and that received concurrence from the SHPO on September 2, 2010 and March 9, 2011. The revised documentation also adequately describes the site's numerous historic resources that contribute to its significance. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, Fredericksburg National Cemetery is considered "SHPO-Documented." Although the SHPO recommended revising one of the context themes to address post-Civil War architecture, an evaluation of architectural significance is beyond the scope of this cultural landscape inventory.

Aside from its listing as part of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, the Fredericksburg National Cemetery meets the registration requirements of the National Register MPDF submitted by the Department of Veterans Affairs and approved by the Keeper of the National Register on October 14, 1994. Since that time, many Civil-War-era national cemeteries administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs have been listed in the National Register according to the requirements of the MPDF. Many of these cemeteries were developed at the same time as Fredericksburg National Cemetery with many of the same standardized features. Because the cemetery is administered by the National Park Service, it has not been included as part of this MPDF.

Eligibility: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 03/09/2011

Concurrence Narrative:

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Individual

Classification: Site

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

FREDERICKSBURG AND SPOTSYLVANIA NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

In the February 2010 draft of the National Register documentation, the park's individual historic resources are evaluated within specific periods of significance for three historic themes (and two subthemes). The park's overall period of significance begins in 1768 with the start of construction of Chatham Manor. The

Virginia Department of Historic Resources (SHPO) has recommended extending the end date to 1965 for buildings completed as part of the National Park Service Mission 66 program and for monuments and other improvements in the park that resulted in the nation's commemoration of the Civil War Centennial that ended that year.

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park is nationally significant under National Register Criteria A and D within the context "Civil War Military Action around Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania Court House (1862-1865)," for its recurring role in the American Civil War as a theater of military action and for its potential to yield archeological information about the associated battles. The park is nationally significant under National Register Criterion A and meets Criteria Considerations D and F, within the context "Shaping the Battlefield Park Landscape, subtheme Memorialization and Commemoration on the Battlefields (1865-1942)," for its important role in the memorialization and commemoration efforts carried out by Civil War veterans, citizens, and the federal government. The park is nationally significant under National Register Criterion A, within the context "Shaping the Battlefield Park Landscape, subtheme Military Park Development by the War Department, Civilian Conservation Corps, and the National Park Service (1927-1956)," for its role in the federal battlefield park development efforts carried out first by the War Department, and continued with the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps during the 1930s, and by the National Park Service. Several of the cultural resources preserved within the park are significant on the state level under National Register Criterion C, within the context "Architecture and Landscape Architecture of the Middle Peninsula (1768-1965)," as outstanding architectural examples from the antebellum plantation period in Virginia with elements of landscape architecture from late eighteenth century and early twentieth century design traditions.

FREDERICKSBURG NATIONAL CEMETERY

Based on the revised February 10, 2010 draft of the National Register documentation for the park and the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), "Civil War Era National Cemeteries," Fredericksburg National Cemetery is significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of military history and commemoration (Listed as "other" in the National Register documentation). In the area of military history, Fredericksburg National Cemetery is significant for its association with the Civil War and as a component of the National Cemetery System. In the area of commemoration, the cemetery is significant for its role in the memorialization efforts carried out by Civil War veterans, citizens, and the federal government. The National Cemetery also derives significance under Criterion C in the area of landscape architecture for illustrating the initial development of the National Cemetery System through the early 1880s and its subsequent development through the 1930s under War Department administration. Fredericksburg National Cemetery also meets Criteria Consideration D (Cemeteries) as a primary memorial to the military history of the United States and Criteria Consideration F (Commemorative Properties) for its role in the memorialization and commemoration efforts carried out by Civil War veterans, citizens, and the federal government.

The period of significance for the Fredericksburg National Cemetery is 1865 to 1945. Under Criterion A and Criterion Considerations D and F, the period begins with the establishment of the cemetery in 1865 through the last veteran burial in 1945. Under Criterion C, the period of significance begins with the construction of the cemetery in 1866 through the end of the War Department period in 1933.

Criterion A and Criteria Considerations D and F:

Military History.

Fredericksburg National Cemetery derives its primary significance under Criterion A in the area of military history for its association with the Civil War and as a component of the National Cemetery System. This area of significance is presently documented in the MPDF, signed by the Keeper on October 14, 1994: "The Civil War-era national cemeteries were created originally to afford a decent resting place for those who fell in the defense of the Union. These cemeteries began the ongoing effort to honor and memorialize eternally the fighting forces who have and continue to defend our nation. Today, the entire national cemetery system symbolizes, in its gracious landscapes and marble headstones, both the violence of the struggle and healing aftermath. The Civil War era national cemeteries are nationally significant under Criterion A, both for their symbolic and physical representation of that war, and for representing the origins

of the National Cemetery System (Sammartino, 1994:Section F: 3).”

Situated on the south side of Marye’s Heights—the formidable Confederate position which had proven so impregnable to repeated Federal attacks in December 1862, Fredericksburg National Cemetery is associated with the Civil War through its interment of approximately 15,000 soldiers who died in the war. The majority of these soldiers buried at the cemetery were those who died at nearby battlefields, such as Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania Court House, as well the Mine Run and North Anna campaigns, or camps near Fredericksburg. However, there are approximately one hundred graves containing veterans of later wars. The cemetery was closed to interments in 1945.

In addition to its direct association with the Civil War, Fredericksburg National Cemetery derives military significance for its association with the National Cemetery System, and in particular as a component of the system’s initial development in the years following the Civil War. Fredericksburg National Cemetery was one of eight national cemeteries established in 1865, which together with several established during the war formed the basis of the National Cemetery System. The cemetery reflects its association with the National Cemetery System through its design and standardized landscape features including a lodge, inclosure (perimeter) brick wall and gates, and Civil War headstones.

Commemoration.

Under the context “Shaping the Battlefield Landscape, subtheme Memorialization and Commemoration on the Battlefields (1865-1942)” in the February 2010 draft of the National Register documentation, Fredericksburg National Cemetery is cited under Criterion A and Criteria Considerations D (Cemeteries) and F (Commemorative Properties) for its role in the memorialization and commemorative efforts carried out by Civil War veterans, citizens, and the federal government. Immediately following the war, memorialization began with the establishment of the Fredericksburg National Cemetery where approximately 16,000 Union soldiers were eventually interred. The carefully designed landscape was located on Willis Hill, at the southern end of Marye’s Height. Interments continued at the cemetery through 1945, which serves as the end of the period of significance specifically for the Fredericksburg National Cemetery with Criteria Considerations D and F applied” (National Register, draft February 2010: Section 8, pgs. 2-3).

On July 17, 1862, Congress passed the National Cemetery Act. Section 18 of the Act provided “That the President of the United States shall have power, whenever in his opinion it shall be expedient, to purchase cemetery grounds and cause them to be securely enclosed, to be used as a national cemetery for the soldiers who shall die in the service of the country.” In the eastern theater of the war, however, as the battles raged on in primarily Confederate territory, little could be done to establish cemeteries dedicated to the Union dead until after Lee’s surrender at Appomattox (National Register, draft February 2010: Section 8, pg. 21, citing MPD).

With the cessation of hostilities in April 1865, the War Department stepped up its efforts to establish a system of national cemeteries that would serve the numerous sites of conflict throughout the South as well as in the West and North. Beginning with a program to locate and identify the dead, Capt. James M. Moore was detailed to the Wilderness and Spotsylvania battlefields in June 1865. Fredericksburg National Cemetery was established shortly after Capt. Moore’s visit on July 15, 1865 for the burial of “Union dead from all the local fields” (National Register, draft February 2010: Section 8, pgs. 21-22, citing Happel 1955: pg. 24):

“Actual work began in the summer of 1866. The operations were completed in the fall of 1869, with a total expense of about \$180,000. At first, the Cemetery was enclosed by a picket fence instead of the later brick wall, and the first markers were not stone. According to an early account, the interments numbered 12,601 unknown and 2,467 known, making a total of 15,068 (Happel 1955: 24, citing “Roll of Honor, No. XXV. Names of the Soldiers Who Died in Defense of the Union, Interred in the National Cemeteries at Fredericksburg, Virginia...”GPO, Washington, 1870).

The 12-acre parcel on Marye’s Heights was actually purchased on Oct. 5, 1868 from Douglas H. and Eliza Gordon of Baltimore (Fredericksburg Deed Bk. V, p. 39, in Happel 1955: 24). The tract included the relatively level top surface of the hill’s south end, and then followed the contours of the hill down its east face, ending at the bottom of the hill at the intersection of the Sunken Road and Lafayette Boulevard. The hillside was terraced and a gently curving carriage road led up the hillside from the cemetery gates to the

grave sites above. Pedestrians could climb the hill via steps from Lafayette Boulevard (National Register, draft February 2010, Section 8, pg. 22, citing Fredericksburg Deed Bk. V: p. 39, in Happel 1955: pg. 24). The national cemetery at Fredericksburg was among ten national cemeteries established by Capt. Moore in Virginia by 1866, and among 73 established nationwide by 1870 (Steere 1953: 16). Everything about the Fredericksburg National Cemetery was according to federal design, including the gates, roads, headstones, surrounding wall, and the superintendent's lodge. On February 22, 1867, Congress approved An Act to Establish and to Protect National Cemeteries, in which the Secretary of War was authorized "to have every national cemetery enclosed with a good and substantial stone or iron fence; to cause each grave to be marked with a small headstone or block; to direct the appointment of reliable veterans as cemetery superintendents, and to erect adequate quarters to house cemetery superintendents" (National Register, draft February 2010: Section 8, pg. 22-23, citing Steere 1953: pg. 16).

Criterion C:

Landscape Architecture.

Under the context "Architecture and Landscape Architecture of the Middle Peninsula (1768-1965)" in the February 2010 draft of the National Register documentation, Fredericksburg National Cemetery is cited under Criterion C as a designed landscape that commemorates and memorializes those who perished during the Civil War battles (National Register, draft February 2010, Section 8, page 52).

A more extensive discussion of this area of significance is documented in the MPDF, which identifies significance in the area of landscape architecture for illustrating the initial development of the National Cemetery System through the early 1880s and its subsequent development through the early 1930s under continued War Department administration. This area of significance is documented in the MPDF, which identifies significance for the familiar layout of the cemeteries and standardized features, such as the headstones, inclosure (perimeter) walls, and lodges built according to a design developed by Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs. With regard to the landscape, the MPDF states: "The Civil War era national cemeteries are...nationally significant under Criterion C for embodying an important and commonly recognized landscape design and for establishing certain landscape features that have been retained for over 100 years...The serene national cemeteries offer perpetual testimony of the concern of a grateful nation that the lives and services of members of the Armed Forces, who served their nation well, will be appropriately commemorated (Sammaritino, 1994: Sec. F, Pg. 3).

With exception to the terraces that were created along the eastern slope of Willis Hill, Fredericksburg National Cemetery was laid out on a square grid in 1866, and by 1873, the majority of the grave sites were filled and marked by wooden headboards. A mounded flagstaff, four gun monuments, and a circulation system of gravel and brick-gutter lined roads was completed by this time. Under the direction of the cemetery superintendent, a number of flowerbeds were also established.

Over the course of the next decade, the War Department implemented a program of development and beautification that resulted in the addition of a Second Empire style stone lodge and brick inclosure wall, designed according to prototypes by Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs; a ninety-foot tall wooden flagstaff followed by a replacement forty-five foot flagstaff; a series of outbuildings; granite grave markers with headstones for known burials and blocks for unknown burials; iron tablets citing regulations and four-line verses from the poem "The Bivouac of the Dead;" and a planting program that included flowerbeds, rosebushes, hundreds of specimen trees and shrubs (mostly placed along the roads, but also scattered informally within each parcel); and a perimeter Osage orange hedge. These improvements reflected standardization intended to create uniformity among units of the National Cemetery System, and to provide a recognizable federal presence. As a result, the national cemeteries had a military feeling in their simplicity, symmetry, and repetition that set apart from their contemporary high-style civilian picturesque rural cemeteries.

During this decade of improvements and standardization, several substantial changes were made to the initial design of the cemetery. Between c. 1872 and 1874, the roads within the burial grounds were changed from gravel to turf, and by 1881, the brick-lined gutters were removed or covered. These changes reflected ongoing efforts to reduce maintenance costs. Into the late 1920s, changes included the construction of a rostrum (bandstand) and additional outbuildings, improvements to the utility systems, and installation of commemorative monuments. The most notable change to the landscape during this time

was the interment of additional graves resulting in the loss of some roads and the relocation of the flagstaff.

After the transfer of Fredericksburg National Cemetery to the National Park Service in 1933, the landscape underwent several changes. Most notable were the loss of specimen trees and plantings including the Osage orange hedge and the majority of boxwood hedges, flowerbeds, and rosebushes. In the 1960s the National Park Service replaced the brick maintenance building with a concrete maintenance building, and added a Civil War cannon, audio station, directional compass, and two interpretive signs to the grounds. Later the agency authorized the construction of a small marker to Parker's Battery near the site of the former rostrum (bandstand). In the 1990s, the National Park Service installed an irrigation system on the terraces. Most recently, it removed the audio station and added an interpretive panel near the Parker's Battery Memorial.

Because these changes are not reflective of the historic design and development of national cemeteries nor associated with the Civil war, the history of Fredericksburg National Cemetery after 1933 under National Park Service administration is not significant under National Register Criterion C. Although there were changes made during the Mission 66 era at the cemetery, notably the construction of the concrete maintenance garage, they were not particularly significant under Criterion C with the early development of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. While involvement of the Civilian Conservation Corps is often considered a basis for significance under Criteria A and C, its involvement at the cemetery was limited and did not attest to any particular craftsmanship or design.

Architecture.

Under the context "Architecture and Landscape Architecture of the Middle Peninsula (1768-1965)" in the February 2010 draft of the National Register documentation, the lodge at Fredericksburg National Cemetery is cited for its architectural significance. The building, with its stone construction and slate-covered mansard roof, was designed by Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs in the Second Empire style (National Register, draft February 2010, Section 8, page 60).

National Register Significance Criteria:

- A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
- C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Military

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Other

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative: Commemoration

Area of Significance Category: Landscape Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

National Register Criteria Consideration:

D -- A cemetery

F -- A commemorative property

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1865 - CE 1945

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Expressing Cultural Values	Landscape Architecture	Rural Cemeteries	
Shaping the Political Landscape	Political and Military Affairs 1865-1939	The Reconstruction Era, 1865-1877	

NRIS Information:

Other Name:	NRIS # 66000046
Primary Certification Date:	10/15/1966
Other Name:	Multiple Property Listing
Primary Certification Date:	10/14/1994

State Register Documentation:

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark? No

Theme:

Contributing:

NHL ID:

NHL URL:

Date:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

World Heritage Site? No

Category:

WHS ID:

WHS URL:

Date:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1862	Established	On April 3, 1862, General Orders No. 33 directs commanding generals to establish cemeteries near battlefields, to mark graves with headboards, and to keep a register of burials. Omnibus Act authorizes president to establish national cemeteries on July 17, 1862.
CE 1865	Established	In July 1865, Congress authorizes the establishment of a National Cemetery in Fredericksburg to honor the Federal soldiers who died on the battlefields or from disease in camp.
CE 1866	Military Operation	Military authorities confiscate the Fredericksburg Fairgrounds to prevent desecration of Union graves.
CE 1866	Developed	In April 1866, Congress authorizes the Secretary of War to protect Union graves from desecration and to provide suitable burial places for them. In June 1866, Construction on Fredericksburg National Cemetery begins.
CE 1866	Built	Cemetery terraces are constructed. Terraces feature two sets of wooden steps.
CE 1866 - 1868	Built	At the top of Willis Hill, engineers laid out a series of grass roads at right angles to one another to form a grid.
CE 1866 - 1868	Built	Construction of wooden lodge, wooden toolhouse, enclosing fence, gutters, flagstaff and headboards.
CE 1868	Moved	Cannon monuments shipped to cemetery.
CE 1868	Built	Four stands of 24-pounder cannonballs are installed around the flagstaff area.
CE 1868	Built	Well is dug near the entrance to the cemetery, but later removed for the construction of a stone lodge.
CE 1868	Land Transfer	The United States receives title to cemetery land.
CE 1869	Military Operation	Last occupation troops leave Fredericksburg.
CE 1870 - 1874	Planted	Rosebushes and flower beds are planted throughout the national cemetery, notably in the triangular area created by the carriageway fork.
CE 1871	Planted	Osage orange hedge planted inside picket fence. By the 1940s, the hedge is removed.
CE 1871	Moved	Wooden lodge and toolhouse are moved 50 feet for construction of new stone lodge.
CE 1871	Built	Construction of stone lodge (one story structure)
CE 1871	Built	Construction of well in northeast corner of cemetery.
CE 1873	Removed	Wooden toolhouse is removed.
CE 1873	Destroyed	First flagpole blows down.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1873	Designed	Secretary William W. Belknap directs Quartermaster Department to begin using "Civil War" style headstones. Congress later appropriates \$1,000,000 to replace wooden headboards with stone markers. This bill authorized the burial in national cemeteries of Civil War veterans who died subsequent to the war.
CE 1873 - 1874	Built	Construction of brick wall begins in September 1873; it is completed in December.
CE 1874	Built	Constructions of a brick walk from main gate to stone lodge. The brick walk is later repaved in cement in the 1900s.
CE 1873	Built	Construction of greenhouse.
CE 1873 - 1874	Altered	Stone lodge is remodeled (addition of second story).
CE 1873	Built	Construction of second flagpole.
CE 1874	Memorialized	Installation granite headstones.
CE 1874	Altered	Flagstaff mound regraded.
CE 1874 - 1875	Altered	Brick-lined gutters, culverts, and drains are altered.
CE 1875	Built	Brick terrace steps are constructed.
CE 1875 - 1879	Removed	Brick-lined gutters are removed from terraces.
CE 1876 - 1877	Planted	Three hundred trees are planted.
CE 1876 - 1885	Planted	The Quartermaster Department plants additional trees in the late 1870s and early 1880s. About half the trees were deciduous, the rest were evergreens.
CE 1877 - 1878	Built	Second flagpole breaks; third flagpole installed.
CE 1878	Removed	Greenhouse is removed.
CE 1878 - 1879	Built	Hotbed is constructed.
CE 1881	Built	Brick toolhouse is constructed.
CE 1880 - 1882	Memorialized	Cast-iron tablets are installed throughout the cemetery.
CE 1882	Memorialized	"Bivouac of the Dead" tablets are constructed.
CE 1882	Planted	Vines are planted along the brick wall's inner face.
CE 1882 - 1883	Built	Side entrance with wooden gateposts is constructed.
CE 1888	Built	Construction of cart house, cistern, and rostrum (bandstand).
CE 1888 - 1906	Built	Construction of woodshed.
CE 1888	Removed	35 graves are removed from terrace 8 to terraces 6 and 7.
CE 1889	Built	Service Road to maintenance yard is built.
CE 1890	Memorialized	Moesh Monument is constructed and dedicated.
CE 1891	Land Transfer	U.S. Government takes possession of National Boulevard (now Lafayette Blvd.).
CE 1896	Altered	National Boulevard (now Lafayette Blvd.) is macadamized.
CE 1897 - 1914	Built	After 1897, Civil-War style marble headstones are installed at Fredericksburg National Cemetery. Ironically, most soldiers who receive this type of headstone are not Civil War veterans, but men who served in the Spanish-American War.
CE 1897	Established	City water is introduced into cemetery.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1897	Built	Two hydrants are added to the cemetery for irrigation purposes. However, by 1914, only one hydrant remained.
CE 1898 - 1920	Altered	Beginning in 1898, the short roads that separate Parcel CD from CE and Parcel CE from Parcel CF are filled with graves.
CE 1900 - 1915	Planted	Boxwood hedges are established within the lodge grounds. A 1906 photograph shows a twelve-foot tall hedge running along the length of the porch, on its east side. The same photograph shows a three foot-tall hedge running from the service road entrance to the lodge walkway. Small boxwoods run along the eastern side of the lodge walkway. All that remains today is the boxwood hedge along the service road.
CE 1900 - 1905	Established	Decorative vase is installed on the east side of the walkway that leads between the carriageway and the lodge.
CE 1900 - 1905	Altered	A railing is added to east side of the stone lodge porch.
CE 1900	Built	The Society of the Army of the Potomac lays the cornerstone for the Butterfield Monument.
CE 1901	Moved	The four stands of 24-pounder cannonballs surrounding the flagstaff are moved to the Butterfield Monument.
CE 1901 - 1906	Memorialized	Small bronze shields are affixed to the gateposts.
CE 1905	Altered	Kitchen, bathroom, and running water are added to the lodge. Other additions included the construction of a new chimney, a large atrium window for the north room, and possibly a back porch.
CE 1905	Removed	Cistern is filled in.
CE 1905	Built	Third flagpole removed; new iron flagpole constructed at brow of hill. Two stands of 12-pounder round shot are installed at the base of the new flagstaff.
CE 1906	Memorialized	127th Pennsylvania Monument is constructed and dedicated.
CE 1906	Memorialized	In 1906, the Quartermaster Department affixed small bronze shields, bearing the words "U.S. National Cemetery," on the gateposts.
CE 1907	Built	Hitching posts are installed.
CE 1908	Memorialized	Humphreys Monument is constructed and dedicated at site of former flagpole.
CE 1909	Memorialized	Gettysburg Address tablet is erected.
CE 1914 - 1945	Memorialized	Beginning in World War I, the War Department adopts a new style marble headstone for all graves except those of Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans.
CE 1917	Removed	Hotbed is removed.
CE 1920 - 1940	Altered	Beginning in 1920, the longer north-south avenue that separates Parcels CA from CB, Parcel BA from BB, and Parcel BC from BD are filled with graves.
CE 1921	Established	Sewage system is introduced into cemetery.
CE 1922	Altered	National Boulevard (now Lafayette Blvd.) is paved in concrete.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1922 - 1925	Established	Telephone service is introduced into cemetery.
CE 1923 - 1924	Removed	The well house and woodshed are removed.
CE 1924	Established	In May 1924, electricity is introduced into cemetery.
CE 1925	Land Transfer	National Boulevard (now Lafayette Blvd.) is transferred to State of Virginia.
CE 1926	Built	Iron gateposts at side entrance are constructed.
CE 1926 - 1928	Removed	Cart house and water hydrant are removed.
CE 1927	Established	Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park is established.
CE 1927 - 1950	Removed	Although uncertain, the rostrum (bandstand) is removed sometime after 1927.
CE 1929	Altered	Cellar and furnace are added to lodge.
CE 1933	Established	National Boulevard is renamed Lafayette Boulevard.
CE 1933	Removed	Flowerbeds were removed following the National Park Service's acquisition of the cemetery in 1933.
CE 1933	Land Transfer	The United States Quartermaster Department transfers Fredericksburg National Cemetery transfers to the National Park Service.
CE 1934	Removed	By 1934, just 197 trees remained in the cemetery—fewer than 20 percent of the number that had been planted just 40 years earlier.
CE 1940 - 1950	Altered	Lodge porch is enclosed, creating an anteroom on the north side of the kitchen.
CE 1945	Memorialized	The last veteran is interred at Fredericksburg National Cemetery in 1945.
CE 1950 - 1960	Removed	Decorative vase is removed in the 1950s.
CE 1960	Built	Cinderblock maintenance building is constructed.
CE 1960 - 1970	Established	In the 1960s, the National Park Service adds a Civil War cannon, an audio station, a directional compass, and two interpretative signs to the grounds. It later authorized the installation of a small marker to Parker's Battery Memorial.
CE 1973	Memorialized	Parker's Battery Memorial is built and dedicated.
CE 2000 - 2005	Removed	The audio station is removed in the mid-2000s.
CE 2004 - 2005	Stabilized	The National Park Service repoints the cemetery boundary walls.

Physical History:

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the site, organized by time periods. Graphics associated with this section are located at the end of this report.

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The history of the Fredericksburg National Cemetery is detailed in “Where Valor Proudly Sleeps: A History of Fredericksburg National Cemetery, 1866-1933” (2007) by Donald C. Pfanz. The majority of the site history that follows is extracted from this report.

PRE-CEMETERY PERIOD, TO 1862

Prior to European settlement in Virginia, American Indian settlement followed the physiographic boundary of the Fall Line, with Algonquians in the Tidewater and Sioans in the Piedmont. In the early seventeenth century, a village of the small Siouan-speaking Manahoac tribe is believed to have been located near present-day Fredericksburg. By 1669, the Manahoac's essentially disappeared, probably due to conflicts with neighboring tribes and contact with European diseases to which they had no immunity. Although the exact date of the first English settlement at Fredericksburg is uncertain, the land on which the city was founded was part of a tract patented in 1671. At this time, the colonial governor granted two-thousand acres along the Rappahannock River to John Buckner and Thomas Royston of Gloucester County. In 1727, fifty acres along the river were purchased from Robert Buckner and John Royston, the heirs of the original Leaseland patent holders. Shortly thereafter, the new settlement was named Fredericksburg, in honor of Frederick Prince of Wales. By the mid-1730s, Fredericksburg had begun to develop as a center of commerce and trade, although many of the downtown lots remained unsold. As Fredericksburg grew in importance, the surrounding landscape began to reflect the status born of the now-extensive economic activity, focused on tobacco and wheat, milling and mining, as well as filling the needs of a growing urban population.

In 1734, Buckner sold his half of the remaining patent lands to Henry Willis, a younger son of a prominent coastal family who had set out to make a name for himself in the frontier. Willis owned a number of lots downtown, both along the public square and along the waterfront, where he built the town's first public tobacco warehouses, as well as the public wharf and ferry. The 929-acre parcel he acquired from Buckner extended southwest from the edge of town, encompassing a small plain that rose gently for approximately a quarter-mile before rising more steeply into overlooking heights, which became known as Willis Hill. Following the death of Henry Willis in 1740, ownership of Willis Hill passed to his son Lewis, who continued to live for many years in Fredericksburg. The Willis family eventually established a family cemetery and constructed numerous buildings on Willis Hill. A sandstone quarry on the southwestern slope of the hill, near a stream called the Hazel Run, was also established during this time.

In 1803, Lewis Willis vacated his home on Willis Hill and moved back to downtown Fredericksburg. The property was transferred to his son, Byrd C. Willis, who occupied the family home on the hill until it and all outbuildings were destroyed by fire in 1817. Willis choosing not to rebuild, moved his family to downtown Fredericksburg, and later sold the property to John S. Wellford and Robert S. Chew in 1821. The land acquired by Wellford and Chew totaled 182 acres, and included not only including Willis Hill but part of the plain to the east sloping down towards Fredericksburg. Wellford and Chew continued to maintain Willis Hill as part of a working farm, and also acquired a mill that was constructed on the Hazel Run. Wellford took exclusive possession of the property in 1830. When he died in 1852, his executor deeded the property to John Howison. At that time, the 1000-acre property included Willis Hill, the mill on the Hazel Run, and the farmed plain to the east of Telegraph Road (now known as the Sunken Road).

In 1854 Howison sold off most of the property he had acquired in the vicinity of Willis Hill, though he retained the mill property on the Hazel Run and a large tract of land to the south on which he built his home, Braehead. The Willis Hill parcel was sold to William Mitchell, with the exception of the one-acre brick-walled cemetery that was retained by the heirs of the Wellford family. At the time, the property was listed as devoid of any structural improvements, and was likely in agricultural use. In 1860, on the eve of the Civil War, Mitchell's trustee sold the property to Douglas H. Gordon.

THE CIVIL WAR, BATTLES OF FREDERICKSBURG AND SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, 1862-1864

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, it seemed certain that Fredericksburg would be a major point of conflict between the two armies. The town was situated halfway between Washington, D.C., and the Confederate capitol of Richmond. The road network across central Virginia fed through town, it was a port community along the strategically-important Rappahannock River, and it possessed an established railroad infrastructure. Due to this confluence of factors, Fredericksburg soon became one of the Confederacy's most important logistical bases. Mercer Square, the fairgrounds east of Willis Hill and Telegraph Road, was converted into a training and encampment facility for Confederate troops, and became known as Camp Mercer.

First Battle of Fredericksburg:

In November 1862, the Union Army of the Potomac began to move towards Fredericksburg. General Ambrose Burnside had only commanded the Federal Army of the Potomac for two weeks when he brought it to the east bank of the Rappahannock, opposite the City of Fredericksburg. Although he had an adequate plan, delays in the arrival of his pontoon bridges kept him from crossing the river until December 11. By that point, Confederate General Robert E. Lee had learned of Burnside's plans and quickly moved the Army of Northern Virginia up from Winchester. On December 11, after a heavy bombardment, the Army of the Potomac crossed the Rappahannock via three pontoon bridges and took control of downtown Fredericksburg. On December 13, the Federals moved towards the heights west of town. Marye's Heights, a prominent ridgeline just west of the City of Fredericksburg, was seen as one of the most promising roads of attack for the Federals because the terrain between there and the river was less steep than elsewhere, and the proximity of downtown Fredericksburg offered some shelter from which to advance. However, to the dismay of the Federals, the Confederates had already established defensive lines along the ridge.

The battle of December 13 unfolded in a natural amphitheater formed by the river to the east and the curving ridgeline to the west. This topography provided Lee and the Confederates with an exceptionally good defensive position. Artillery was placed atop Marye's Heights and fortified with earthen lunettes, four of which were located at the southern end of the heights atop Willis Hill. Infantry were stationed at the base of the heights, where the stone wall on the east side of Telegraph Road and the partially-sunken character of the well-used roadbed created a ready-made shelter trench. The houses in the area, evacuated by their inhabitants in advance of the battle, provided additional positions for Confederate sharpshooters. Burnside launched his men into the teeth of this formidable defense, resulting in 8,000 Federal casualties in a plot of a few acres in front of Marye's Heights.

Two days after the December 13, 1862 fighting at Fredericksburg, General William B. Franklin requested a truce for the purpose of caring for the wounded and burying Union soldiers of his division. While his soldiers were hastily buried in a series of long, shallow trenches located between the lines, other Union soldiers who died in front of Marye's Heights and Willis Hill remained exposed to the elements until December 16. In the following days, General Ambrose Burnside assigned General Edwin V. Sumner, commander of his Right Grand Divisions to bury the remaining dead. He in turn enlisted Colonel John R. Brooke of the 53rd Pennsylvania Volunteers to command the burial details. To bury the corpses, Union soldiers dug trenches, placed the bodies side by side, and covered them with soil. Although many bodies were left unburied, between December 17 and 18, approximately 900 bodies were interred in mass graves or individual graves in the vicinity of Willis Hill ("Where Valor Proudly Sleeps: A History of Fredericksburg National Cemetery, 1866-1933," hereafter WVPS, 2007: Pg. 18-22).

Second Battle of Fredericksburg:

The second and final major conflict to take place at Fredericksburg during the Civil War came the following spring, in May 1863. The Second Battle of Fredericksburg was part of the Chancellorsville Campaign, most of which unfolded further west of town in Spotsylvania County. Again, the landform of Marye's Heights and the stone wall and "sunken road" beneath it played a major role in the fighting. Shelter trenches were constructed atop Willis Hill and a horseshoe-shaped earthwork was built on the north slope of the hill.

Unlike the first battle at Fredericksburg, by May 1863 the Confederate forces had been divided, with most of their strength located to the west. The troops remaining in Fredericksburg were spread out thinly along the ridgeline west of the town. With the memory of the first battle still lingering, the Federals under Major General John Sedgwick proceeded with caution. On May 3, Federal troops were finally able to reach the stone wall and take Marye's Heights through the ravine between Willis Hill and Marye's Hill. In contrast to Burnside's efforts to bury the dead following the first battle of Fredericksburg, Union commander Joseph Hooker did not send troops back to the battlefields to inter the dead. Instead he left the job to the Confederates, who disposed of the bodies by throwing them into trenches or burying them in shallow, unmarked graves. Many were not buried at all. Although control of Fredericksburg would change hands between Confederate and Federal forces a total of seven times during the course of the war, the battle of May third was the last major fighting to touch the city (Figure 1) (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 26).



Figure 1. View looking northeast towards Fredericksburg from Marye's Heights on May 3, 1864. Note the stone wall at the foot of the hill and the trace of the Telegraph Road cut-off (Lafayette Blvd) entering the Sunken Road from the right (FRSP Archives).

CREATION OF FREDERICKSBURG NATIONAL CEMETERY, 1865-1869

In response to the deaths of an estimated 350,000 Union and 250,000 Confederate soldiers during the Civil War, the United States Government between 1862 and 1870 created a system of national cemeteries in which to bury the Northern dead. The first burial regulation of the Civil War, General Orders No. 75 issued on September 11, 1861, was intended to improve the burial process. It made Commanding Officers responsible for burials, and gave the Quartermaster General—traditionally the army office that administered supplies—the responsibility of overseeing the registration of burials and providing headboards. General Orders No. 75 did not, however, provide authority for acquisition of land for burials. This was provided eight months later in General Orders No. 33 issued on April 3, 1862, which gave generals the authority to lay out burial grounds near the battlefields. Together, these two General Orders resulted in the establishment of military cemeteries near hospitals, on battlefields, at Army posts, and in plots provided by private cemetery associations. On July 17, 1862 with escalation of the war and increasing casualties, Congress passed an act giving the President authority "...to purchase cemetery grounds...to be used as a National Cemetery for soldiers who shall have died in the service of the country." This legislation, together with the General Orders, formed the basis for a system of national cemeteries. By the end of 1862, fourteen national cemeteries had been established near battlefields and in private cemeteries, primarily to relieve crowding at existing military installations (WVPS, 2007: 13-16).

During the Civil War, the Quartermaster Department assumed responsibility for burying the dead, but could do very little while the fighting was still in progress. As a result, wartime cemeteries were for the most part hastily developed, lacking in uniformity and able to accommodate only a small percentage of Union soldiers killed in action. By the end of the war, only 101,736 of the total 359,520 total Union dead had been buried in permanent graves according to the wartime procedures; the majority still lay on the battlefields in temporary graves or on the ground (WVPS, 2007: 13-16).

In June 1865, two months after Confederate General Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, the United States Government took initial efforts to inter Union dead who remained unburied

in the South. Assigned to the work were Brevet Major James M. Moore and Colonel Charles P. Bird's First United States Veteran Volunteers (referred to as the First Regiment). One of their first tasks was to inter the dead left unburied from the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House battles; the majority of soldiers that had died during the first and second battles of Fredericksburg were already buried at that time. In the course of the expedition, the First Regiment buried nearly 1,500 skeletons, constructed headboards over the graves of 785 known soldiers and marked as unknown the graves of many more, and established two cemeteries, Wilderness National Cemetery No. 1 and Wilderness National Cemetery No. 2 (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 30-43).

Establishment of Fredericksburg National Cemetery, 1865:

By October 1865, citizens loyal to the United States advocated for the construction of a cemetery in the Agricultural Fairgrounds located at the foot of Marye's Heights. The confiscation of the fairgrounds by the United States Quartermaster Department brought their plan one step closer to fruition. However, plans were stalled when Moore informed Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs that the grounds were not suitable for burials since the water table was just three feet below the ground surface, and the site was subject to drainage from the nearby heights. He suggested that the cemetery instead be placed on Willis Hill, located at the southern end of Marye's Heights (Figure 2) (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 62).

Although the proposed location for the cemetery was initially met with opposition from local citizens, Congress eventually authorized the Secretary of War to purchase the land for the national cemetery. It was stipulated that if the Government could not agree with the owner on a price, Congress authorized the Secretary to confiscate the land, paying the owner its appraised value as later determined by a court of law. Using that authority, Moore condemned eight acres of Douglas Gordon's 23.5-acre tract, offering to pay him 125 dollars an acre for the land. Gordon, not pleased with the price, offered to sell the lands for 300 dollars an acre. After a year of negotiations, the Government agreed to pay Gordon 250 dollars an acre for 12.005 acres of land—a total of 3,001.25 dollars. The parties formally signed the deed on November 5, 1868 (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 64).

Design of the Cemetery:

Construction of Fredericksburg National Cemetery initially began in June 1866, approximately two years before the Government formally settled its claim with Douglas Gordon. As constructed, the cemetery parcel had eleven sides and was asymmetrical in shape. Its northern and eastern sides were relatively straight, whereas the southern and western sides, following the contours of the winding bluff that overlooks Hazel Run, were broken and irregular. The crown of Willis Hill, which rose 100 feet above the surrounding plain, was reasonably level with gentle undulations. Its southern and eastern slopes, by contrast, fell sharply away and were subject to erosion after heavy rains. Although the Quartermaster Department originally condemned just eight acres at the top of the hill, a year later they acquired the hill's eastern slope and cut into it parallel terraces; eight north of the entrance road and nine south of it. The terraces, which were intended to decrease erosion, were between eight and ten feet tall and fourteen to seventeen feet in width. Once the terraces were created, sod was installed, two sets of wooden steps were constructed, and brick-lined gutters were placed at the foot of each terrace to carry away the excess water (Figure 3) (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 66).

The cemetery entrance stood at the northern end of the east wall, entering onto what was then called the Spotsylvania Court House Road (today the northern stretch of road is known as the Sunken Road, and the southern end—from the entrance gate to the cemetery's southeast corner—is Lafayette Boulevard). From the entrance gate, a carriageway led west to the crest of the hill. Halfway up the hill, it divided creating a triangular grassy plot unoccupied by graves. The two branches of the entrance road continued up the hill in opposite directions until they reach the plateau. Once there, they ran along the crest of the hill to the enclosing wall. The road divided then ran along the inside of the wall, encircling the cemetery. Finally, in an effort to control runoff and erosion, the Quartermaster Department installed 378 feet of wooden gutters along the borders of the roads traversing the plateau (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 66).

According to the National Cemetery Administration, most national cemeteries created after the Civil War "were variations on a circular plan or a square or rectangular grid," featuring "a central flagpole and burial sections defined by paths, roads, and graves." Fredericksburg National Cemetery neatly fit

that description. At the top of Willis Hill engineers laid out a series of grassy roads at right angles to one another and divided the property into four larger areas known as divisions, which were lettered A through D. Each division was in turn subdivided into smaller areas known as sections. Although the sections were not uniform in size or shape, graves were laid out in parallel rows. On the eastern slope of the hill, graves were identified by terrace rather than by section. At the center of the plateau—at the intersection of two roads, engineers constructed a circular mound for a flagstaff. At the southern end of the property, a second mound was constructed and set aside for a future Soldiers' Monument (Figure 4) (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 69).

United States soldiers collected and buried the Union dead at Fredericksburg until June 1866 when the Government began hiring private laborers to do the work. Known as the burial corps, the laborers consisted of former slaves, Irish immigrants, and Confederate veterans. In the first six months of operation, the burial corps interred the remains of 2,442 soldiers at Fredericksburg National Cemetery. By the time they finished in 1868, the corps had buried the remains of more than 15,000 men. The graves in the Wilderness cemeteries were also later consolidated and reinterred at the national cemetery. When cemetery officials installed headstones in 1874, they gave them consecutive numbers, running from 1 to 6604. The numbers started at the eastern end of the cemetery, on Terrace 9, and ended at the western end, Section AB. Later, they created more graves sites by eliminating roads and by adding plots to the end of existing rows. As a result, headstones with numbers greater than 6604 are in no particular order. Similar to the numbering system, the wooden headboards also followed a system. Those on terrace 1—at the crest of the hill, faced west toward the adjacent avenue, while those on terraces 2 through 9 faces east, toward modern day Lafayette Boulevard. The orientation of the headboards situated on the plateau was more complex. There, graves in the eastern half of each division face east, while those in the western half face west. However, over the years, these patterns have not always been consistently followed (Figure 5) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 72-74).

While burials were the focus of the burial corps, the United States Quartermaster Department worked on landscape improvements. They built the main carriageway and roads; erected a central wooden flagstaff on a small circular mound; installed four upright Columbiad cannon tubes around the flagstaff; and, as required by War Department regulations and Congressional legislation, erected a fence around the perimeter of the cemetery to protect the graves, primarily from livestock. The fence was a whitewashed picket fence supported by cedar posts with black-painted tops (Figures 6-7) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 70-82).



Figure 2. View looking west toward Willis Hill, located at the southern end of Marye's Heights, as seen from a point just south of Fredericksburg, c.1874 after the construction of the cemetery (FRSP Archives).



Figure 3. View looking southwest toward the terraces prior to 1890 showing the unpaved carriageway running up the hill between two "Bivouac of the Dead" signs (FRSP Archives).

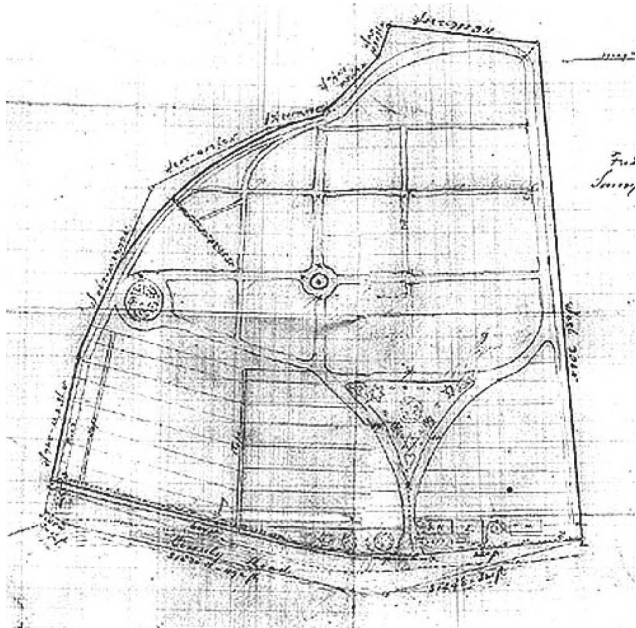


Figure 4. An 1873 plat of Fredericksburg National Cemetery showing circular drives for the flagstaff mound (center), the triangle formed by the forks of the carriageway, and the cluster of structures near the cemetery entrance (FRSP Archives).

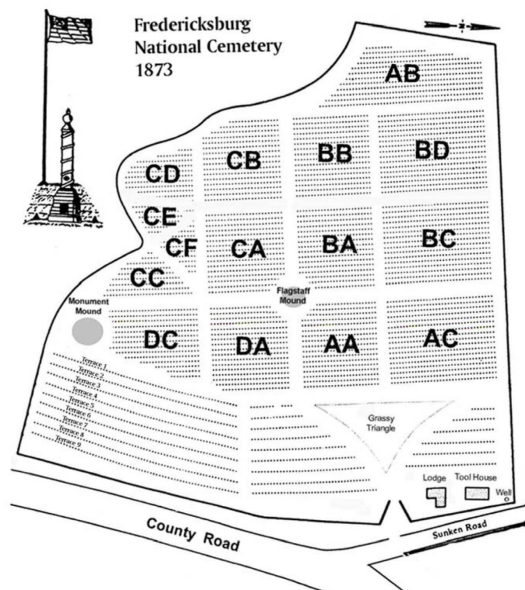


Figure 5. A plan showing the original identification system for Fredericksburg National Cemetery in 1873 ("Where Valor Proudly Sleeps, A History of Fredericksburg National Cemetery," 2007).



Figure 6. View looking west toward the original wooden entrance gate into the cemetery. In 1874, the Army replaced the picket fence with a brick wall and substituted the grand arch with modest gateposts made of stone (FRSP Archives).



Figure 7. This image, looking southeast from the flagstaff mound, shows the 24-mounder cannonballs and gun monuments that stood adjacent to the flagstaff mound. The cannonballs were later moved to the Butterfield Monument (FRSP Archives).

WAR DEPARTMENT PERIOD, 1869-1933

The Fredericksburg National Cemetery landscape was changed considerably in the years after 1869 in keeping with the War Department's changing regulations for national cemeteries. These

regulations led to a standardized landscape design that accommodated local materials and growing conditions, and minimized maintenance. Early in the development of the country's new national cemeteries, Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs recognized the need to hire individuals to protect and maintain the country's new national cemeteries. Shortly thereafter, he began developing plans for substantial stone lodges to be built at each national cemetery to house these individuals. In 1867, Congress directed the Secretary of War to appoint superintendents to administer the national cemeteries and to construct "caretaker lodges" for them. The lodges were to be placed at the cemetery entrances, where visitors could easily find them (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 105-120).

In 1871, construction began on a new stone lodge. It was built just inside the cemetery gate on the lowest terrace, in the former location of an earlier 1866 wooden lodge and tool house that were moved 50 feet north for the stone lodge. The new one-story lodge was made of sandstone blocks and was designed in the Second Empire style using plans developed by Meigs. Like most Meigs lodges, the caretaker's house was "L"-shaped and had just three rooms: a 17-square foot office and two private rooms. A second story was later added to the lodge in 1873. The Quartermaster Department remodeled the original wooden lodge and used it as a tool house, kitchen, and privy (Figure 8) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 105-120).

By the 1870s, the Quartermaster's office began developing plans for building permanent standardized inclosure walls at the national cemeteries. At that time, many wood fences within the national cemeteries were in disrepair. At Fredericksburg, Superintendent Charles Fitchett wrote that the wood had decayed to the point where nails would no longer take hold. As an interim measure to enhance the deteriorating wood fence and act as a barrier to keep out livestock, the Quartermaster had an Osage orange hedge planted along the interior of the fence surrounding the cemetery (Figure 9). Two years after the hedge was planted, the Quartermaster's office awarded a contract to Fredericksburg businessman George W. Wroten to construct a new wall. By 1874, the brick wall was completed. It was seven feet high, approximately 3,000 feet long, and included four cut stone gate posts, two small iron gates, and one large iron gate. The Quartermaster Department later affixed small bronze shields, bearing the words "U.S. National Cemetery," at the center of the gateposts (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 81-85).

With the wall complete, the Quartermaster Department focused on replacing the two sets of wooden steps that were located on the terraces, which by 1873 had started to decay. Inspector G. D. Chenoweth recommended eliminating the center stairway and replacing the wooden steps bordering the South Road with ones made of either stone or iron. Six months later, he submitted a second report in which he advocated constructing three sets of granite stairs, two on the south terraces and one on the north. The total cost for the project was 2,600 dollars, but was more than his superiors in the Quartermaster Department were willing to pay. They then asked Chenoweth to solicit estimates on brick steps. The brick steps ranged in price from 900 to 1,600 dollars. His superiors chose the less costly option. Construction of the brick steps took place in the spring of 1875.

Underground utilities were also constructed throughout the cemetery landscape. Earlier in 1868, workers had dug a well near the entrance of the cemetery, but workers destroyed it during construction of the stone lodge. In 1871, the Quartermaster Department constructed a new well in the northeast corner of the cemetery, north of the wooden tool house. Shortly thereafter, a cistern was constructed to supplement the cemetery's water supply. The cistern appeared in 1873 plat of the premises between the lodge and the tool house. The cistern was later removed in 1881 during the construction of a brick maintenance building.

Between 1866 and 1873, soldiers buried at Fredericksburg National Cemetery received rounded, wooden headboards over their graves (Figure 10). However, by the 1870s, the wood grave markers at Fredericksburg—and nearly every other national cemetery—were decayed and/or had fallen and required replacement. In an Act of June 8, 1872, Congress specified that graves in national cemeteries be identified by a stone marker. The War Department developed two patterns: one for identified soldiers and one for unidentified soldiers. Headstones for identified soldiers were granite and had a slab design with a slightly rounded top. They were ten inches wide, four inches deep, and extended one foot above the ground and two feet below. Chiseled into the face of the stone were two lines. The top line was the soldier's name and rank and the bottom line was letters indicating the state for which the man had fought. The graves of unidentified soldiers featured a granite block, six

inches square and thirty inches long. The top of the stone was flat and included two numbers: a grave number and a second figure indicating the number of soldiers buried there. Headstones displaying only the grave number held the remains of just one soldier (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 89-102).

Shortly after the Quartermaster Department ordered Fredericksburg's headstones, Secretary of War William W. Belknap changed the design. In 1873, Belknap directed that future headstones be polished white marble with a curved top, and an inscription of raised letters be placed inside a recessed shield indicating the name, state regiment, and grave number. Because they were ordered prior to Belknap's directive, most of Fredericksburg's headstones did not conform to this design. Only Civil War veterans buried after 1897 received the "Civil War" marble design mandated by Belknap (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 89-102).

At Fredericksburg, drainage was one of the most pressing issues of the 1870s. Between 1873 and 1874, the rotted wood gutters and culverts along the carriageway and roads were replaced with brick, but they continued to be washed out. In an effort to control the runoff, the Quartermaster Department scattered soil over the gravel roads and seeded them with grass. The only surface left in gravel was a short walk from the main gate to the lodge. While the new turf on the majority of the roads did improve runoff, eventually a portion of the carriageway leading up the hill had to be resurfaced in stone, gravel, clay, and ashes because of the poor surface drainage caused by the cemetery's steep eastern slope. In the ensuing years, the brick gutters were also removed to improve drainage. The bricks were eventually reused to construct a brick toolhouse in 1881 (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 75-79).

The greatest drainage problem that Fredericksburg National Cemetery faced, however, came from water outside its walls. The cemetery's eastern wall stood just eighteen inches from a steep, seven-foot-high escarpment. At the foot of the escarpment was a two-foot-deep ditch bordering the Spotsylvania Court House Road (currently Lafayette Boulevard). Engineers pointed out that water in the ditch threatened to undercut the terrace. If nothing was done, they warned, the terrace would eventually give way, and the wall on top of it would collapse. The presence of a natural spring near the base of the terrace, about halfway between the cemetery gate and its southeast corner complicated the situation still more. This and other drainage problems prompted the Quartermaster Department to dispatch Civil Engineers William B. Gaw and Oliver Cox to the scene in October 1875. The two men constructed three underground sewers to carry water from the west side of the county road to the east side, where they discharged into a ravine that led to Hazel Run (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 77).

Aside from the major structural elements in the landscape—the wall, buildings, roads and walks, and gravestones—the landscape of Fredericksburg National Cemetery was enhanced during the 1870s and early 1880s through the replacement of the flagstaff, and the addition of ornamental plantings, benches, and signs. For years a flagstaff stood at the center of Fredericksburg National Cemetery. The original wooden flagstaff, erected around 1868 on a small six to eight feet tall circular earthen mound, blew down in an 1873 storm, but was replaced shortly thereafter. The new flagpole was approximately 90 feet, ten feet of which were below the ground surface, and the mound was reduced to approximately four feet in height and ten feet in width. The flagstaff lasted just four years before it too had to be replaced. The 1877 flagstaff stood approximately 45 feet above the ground, considerably shorter than its predecessor. The mound remained unchanged (Figure 11) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 130-131).

Similar to other national cemeteries throughout the country, Fredericksburg National Cemetery established flowerbeds and ornamental shrubs as part of the beautification program of the 1870s. Each spring, usually in May, the Quartermaster Department sent a large shipment of flowers to Fredericksburg from its greenhouses at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. The superintendents potted the flowers and later planted them in beds outside the lodge and in the triangle created by the carriageway fork. At one time or another, zinnias, geraniums, dahlias, hyacinths, and tulips all blossomed within the cemetery walls. Another flowerbed stood just inside the cemetery entrance, to the left of the carriageway, where the Quartermaster Department later placed the Butterfield Monument. In addition, two borders measuring two feet wide and eighteen feet long stood somewhere near the lodge. The national cemetery also included boxwood hedges within the lodge grounds and rose bushes scattered throughout. To raise the plants needed to adorn the

cemetery, the Quartermaster Department constructed a greenhouse in 1873. The greenhouse, built between the carriageway and the lodge, however dominated the entrance to the cemetery and detracted from the beauty of the lodge (Figure 12). It was later removed in 1878. In its place, a hotbed was constructed adjacent to the cemetery's north wall, a few feet west of the side gate. It too was removed, in 1917 (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 159).

In addition to the flowerbeds and ornamental shrubs, trees were also planted in the early 1870s and 1880s. Fredericksburg National Cemetery had few trees or shrubs when the Quartermaster Department began burying soldiers there in 1866. Whatever trees had existed prior to the Civil War were lost when Confederates occupied the area in the winter of 1862-1863. In 1870, Congress appropriated \$20,000 to landscape national cemeteries, and at Fredericksburg, the Quartermaster Department planted hundreds of trees and shrubs. However, because of Virginia's hot, dry summers, many trees died. In the late 1870s and early 1880s, the Quartermaster Department planted additional trees, about half were deciduous and half were evergreens. The deciduous trees included elms, maples, silver poplars, chestnuts, and ashes, while the evergreens consisted of mostly hemlocks, pines, cedars, and spruce. Once they took root, the trees thrived and grew, aided by liberal applications of manure and compost. In all, more than 1,000 trees were planted in Fredericksburg National Cemetery (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 151-152).

The placement of vegetation generally followed a predetermined design. For instance, evergreens ran along the inside of the enclosing wall, but only on the southern and western sides. Along the north wall, deciduous trees mixed with the evergreens, and trees alternated with shrubs. Lines of trees marked the boundaries of each parcel. For Divisions A and C, the Quartermaster Department used deciduous trees, but around Divisions C and D, it used both deciduous trees and evergreens. Evergreens alone separated the parcels in Division C. Inside each area was a mix of trees and shrubs—mostly pines or cedars but occasionally deciduous trees as well. The trees on the terraces likewise had a distinct design. Evergreens bordered the stairways; otherwise, evergreens and deciduous trees alternated—one and then the other—in vertical rows that started at the top terrace and ran with military uniformity down the eastern hill slope. On the southern terraces alone, there were no fewer than twenty-five rows of trees, not counting four rows that bordered the steps. The greatest concentration of vegetation was in the triangle formed by the fork in the carriageway and at the southeast corner of the plateau, the area later occupied by the rostrum (bandstand). The Quartermaster Department had purposely left those areas free of graves, but cemetery personnel later filled the voids with trees and shrubs (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 151-152).

During the initial development of Fredericksburg National Cemetery, signs were placed throughout the landscape. Some carried practical messages, while others contained poetry. Among the earliest signs in the Fredericksburg National Cemetery were from George Meitike's 1861 patriotic poem, "The Stripes and the Stars." These signs stood at the northwest and southwest corners of the square opening that now surrounds the Humphrey's Monument. In the early 1880s, the cemetery replaced Meitike's poem with cast-iron signs featuring stanzas from Theodore O'Hara's poem, "The Bivouac of the Dead." In all, Fredericksburg National Cemetery had no fewer than ten "The Bivouac of the Dead" placards, embracing seven different stanzas of the poem. Six of those signs still exist (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 139-140).

Landscape Maintenance, 1882-1933:

Over the years, the earth around the graves and headstones in the cemetery settled, leaving the ground surface uneven and unattractive. To fill the unsightly depressions, the cemetery officials took topsoil from a narrow strip of land that the government owned just outside the cemetery's west wall. The Government later signed a five-year lease with John G. Lane for the use of a 0.75-acre parcel of land immediately north of the cemetery. Some soil excavated from Lane's land may have come from earthworks built on Willis Hill during the Civil War. Because the only entrance to Fredericksburg National Cemetery was along the Spotsylvania Court House Road (now Lafayette Boulevard), cemetery workers had to load the soil onto a cart, haul it down Willis Hill, transport it along the Sunken Road, then carry it back up a steep slope into the cemetery. To simplify the process, the Quartermaster Department determined to construct a gate at the crest of the hill on the north wall. The opening, which was likely constructed in the winter of 1882-1883, was 12 feet across, just wide enough for a horse and cart to comfortably pass through. A double gate made of painted wood

covered the opening until from 1918 until 1927, after which the Quartermaster Department replaced it with one made of iron (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 88).

Between 1888 and 1898, there were a number of improvements at Fredericksburg National Cemetery. Within the service yard, a cart house, cistern, and woodshed were constructed in 1888. Shortly thereafter, in an effort to improve access to the maintenance yard, a gravel service road was constructed from the maintenance yard to the carriageway along the west side of the lodge. To construct the road, the Quartermaster Department had to relocate thirty-five graves from the terrace just above the lodge. The most notable structure constructed at this time was the addition of a rostrum (bandstand) where speakers gave memorial addresses. The rostrum (bandstand), located between a copse of trees and graves near what formerly had been Parcel DC at the south end of the cemetery, was an octagonal pavilion with cast-iron posts and wrought-iron ornamentation, set on a raised brick foundation, measuring approximately sixteen feet in diameter with a ceiling height of ten and one-half feet. It was covered with vines and had steps on the southeast side. In 1892, the landscape was documented on a plat plan, presumably drawn by the Quartermaster's office, showing the roads, walks, inclosure walls, central flagstaff, buildings, and trees and shrubs (Figure 13) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 121-149).

The first monument to commemorate the officers and soldiers who had fallen during the Civil War was installed in the cemetery on September 24, 1890. Constructed by surviving comrades of the 83rd New York Volunteers, the monument memorialized Colonel Joseph Moesch who died in battle during the Wilderness Campaign. In the ensuing years, additional monuments were constructed including the 5th Corps Army of the Potomac Monument, also known as the Butterfield Monument (1900), 127th Pennsylvania Monument (1906), and Charge of General Humphrey's Division Monument (1908). The 24-pounder cannonballs surrounding the flagstaff were later relocated to the Butterfield Monument. In 1909, a bronze tablet containing the text of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was affixed to the lodge wall. The tablet, which still remains, measures 56.5 inches in height, 33.5 inches in width, and is one inch thick (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 143-147).

Although Fredericksburg National Cemetery had few open plots, there were new burials made between 1898 and 1920s. The most active years for burials were after the Spanish-American War and World War I. At that time, the short roads that separated Division CD from CE and Division CE and CF were abandoned and filled with graves. In 1920, the longer north-south road that separated Divisions CA from CB, Division BA from BB, and Division BC from BD were also filled. For these later burials, the Quartermaster used the marble Civil War style headstones even though most of the men were not Civil War veterans at all, but men who had served in the Spanish-American War. During World War I, the War Department adopted a new style of headstones—called the “general-style”—that were made of white marble, forty-two inches tall, thirteen inches wide, and four inches thick with inscriptions featuring the soldier's name, rank, regiment, division, death date, and state. Later, these headstones began to carry emblems identifying the soldiers' religion (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 97-98).

At the end of the 1890s, underground utilities at the cemetery were improved beginning with the introduction of city water in 1897. Initially water only went to the maintenance building, but the city extended the water service to the lodge in 1905 after the Quartermaster Department added a kitchen and lavatory to the building. Shortly thereafter, two hydrants were added to the cemetery for irrigation purposes. By 1914, only one hydrant remained. In addition, with it no longer needed, the cistern and well house were eventually removed. Other utility improvements included the introduction of electrical and sewage systems and telephone service in the 1920s.

Between 1900 and 1915, notable additions and changes to the cemetery plantings included the installation of arborvitae and boxwood hedges within the lodge grounds and service yard. A 1906 photograph shows a twelve-foot tall hedge running along the length of the lodge's porch, on its east side, screening it from the nearby road (now known as the Sunken Road). The same photograph shows a three foot-tall hedge running from the service road entrance to the lodge walkway and small boxwoods along the eastern side of the lodge walkway (Figure 14). In 1921, the War Department sent Fredericksburg five different types of flowers—165 plants in all. The superintendents potted the flowers and later planted them in beds outside the lodge and in the triangle created by the

carriageway fork. At one time, zinnias, geraniums, dahlias, hyacinths, and tulips all blossomed within the cemetery walls (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 153-157).

Other changes during the 1900s included the relocation of the flagstaff at the center of the cemetery and the installation of hitching posts. In October 1905, the government removed the flagstaff and replaced it with a 75-foot tall, single-masted, steel flagpole. The new flagstaff—the cemetery's fourth—was moved to a new location just north of the carriageway, at the point where it crested the hill. Although it is uncertain, the War Department probably moved the flagpole in order to make it more visible to train passengers and to people in the town (in 1908, the Humphreys Monument was built at the site of the old flagpole). In 1907, Superintendent Jeffrey's installed two metal hitching posts featuring a horse's head. One was located next to the Sunken Road, while the other stood inside the cemetery, at the point where the service drive intersected with the main carriageway. Following these improvements, few changes took place within the cemetery landscape for the next three decades.



Figure 8. View from the early 1880s looking northeast toward the new lodge, constructed in 1871. Originally, the lodge was a one-story building. The second story was added in 1873 (FRSP Archives).



Figure 9. Image looking northeast toward the terraces and Osage orange hedge. The hedge was planted in 1871 on the inside of the picket fence that circled the grounds (FRSP Archives).



Figure 10. View of the original headboards at Fredericksburg National Cemetery, c.1873-1874. Note the brick inclosure wall in the background (FRSP Archives).



Figure 11. View of the cemetery looking northwest toward the third flagstaff, prior to 1885. The image was taken from the site of the current Parker's Battery Monument (FRSP Archives).

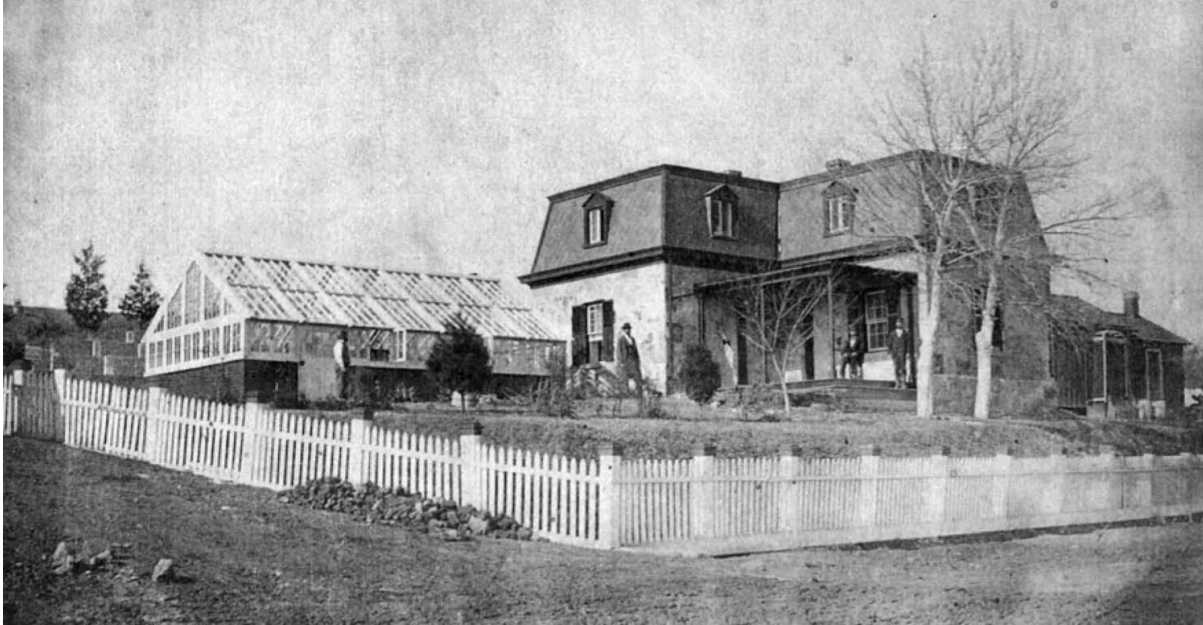


Figure 12. View looking northwest toward the lodge, greenhouse, and toolhouse, c.1873 and 1878, showing the greenhouse that the Quartermaster Corps constructed in the fall of 1873. Cemetery inspectors removed it about five years later (FRSP Archives).

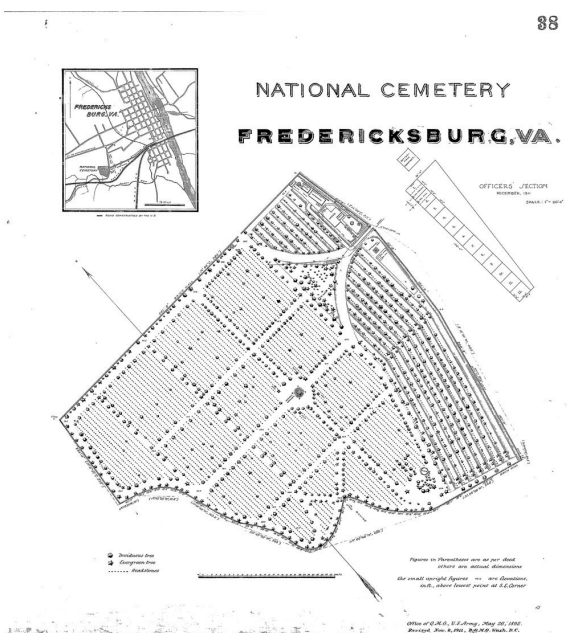


Figure 13. An 1892 plat showing the cemetery grounds including the lodge and maintenance structures (FRSP Archives).



Figure 14. View looking northwest towards the cemetery, c.1906-1907. The image shows the 127th Pennsylvania Monument, stone lodge, boundary wall and entrance gate, hitching post, and boxwood hedges within the lodge grounds (FRSP Archives).

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PERIOD, 1933-PRESENT

On February 14, 1927, Congress created Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County National Military Park to preserve and protect four major Civil War battlefields in the Fredericksburg area. The War Department continued to administer Fredericksburg National Cemetery until June 10, 1933, when it transferred Fredericksburg and ten other cemeteries to the National Park Service under authority of Executive Order 6166. Under special agreement with the National Park Service, the War Department continued to carry out certain responsibilities at these cemeteries for several more years. Among the duties it retained were the verification and authorization of interment requests, the approval of private memorials, and the maintenance of interment records.

Following the acquisition of the cemetery by the National Park Service, flowerbeds, shrubs, and specimen trees were removed in response to natural decline and disaster, lack of replacement, and efforts to decrease maintenance. By 1934, just 197 trees remained in the cemetery; fewer than twenty percent of the number that had been planted just forty years earlier. A decorative vase, installed within the lodge grounds in the earlier 1900s, was also removed in the 1950s. In the 1960s, the National Park Service replaced the 1881 brick tool house with a concrete block maintenance building. Shortly thereafter, it added a Civil War cannon, an audio station, a directional compass, and two interpretive signs to the grounds. Later the National Park Service authorized the construction of a small marker to Parker's Battery, near the site of the former rostrum (bandstand); and in the 1990s it installed an irrigation system on the terraces. Most recently, the park has removed the audio station and added an interpretive panel near the Parker's Battery Memorial. In 2005, the park began repointing the brick boundary walls, which continues today. Otherwise, the cemetery appears much today as it did when the agency first received the property.

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Funerary	Cemetery	Cemetery	No	Yes	Yes
Funerary	Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	No	Yes

Public Access:

Public Access: Unrestricted

Public Access Narrative:

Fredericksburg National Cemetery is open to visitors year round from dawn to dusk.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Narrative:

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Landscape characteristics identified for Fredericksburg National Cemetery include natural systems and features, spatial organization, land use, circulation, topography, vegetation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, small-scale features, and archeological sites. Many of these characteristics have associated with them features that contribute to the site's overall historic setting significance and identity, as well as features that do not contribute or are undetermined.

The physical integrity of Fredericksburg National Cemetery is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1865-1945) with current conditions. Many of the landscape's historic characteristics and features are still intact. The cemetery is characterized by the asymmetrically designed open space bounded by the eleven-sided brick inclosure (perimeter) wall. Inside the brick wall, the property consists of various sized granite and marble grave markers, mowed turf, and scatterings of deciduous and evergreen trees. While the eastern hillside of the cemetery is arranged along terraces, each containing one row of graves connected by a series of brick steps, the majority of the cemetery is relatively level, laid out in square grids with parallel rows of graves; and are defined by a series of brick roads and grass paths. The carriageway, the main road, begins at the gated entrance to the cemetery on the east side and is the only paved route in the burial grounds. Two buildings currently exist at the entrance to the cemetery, however only the stone Second Empire style superintendent's lodge is historic. The viewsheds are also remain intact, which includes views atop Willis Hill and the view and vista of the flagstaff from the graves and carriageway. Other historic features that remain include the concrete walks at the lodge, the numerous markers and monuments, a hitching post, flagstaff, and a boxwood hedge.

While many historic characteristics remain at Fredericksburg National Cemetery, there have been some changes since 1945. Following its transfer to the National Park Service, changes were made to address visitor accessibility, interpretation, and safety. These improvements include benches, a Civil War cannon, an audio station, a directional compass, and two interpretative signs. Additional changes included the replacement of the brick maintenance building with a concrete garage/equipment shed, and the installation of a small marker to Parker's Battery and irrigation system on the terraces. Despite the loss of vegetation over the years, the Fredericksburg National Cemetery retains overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

INTEGRITY

Location:

Situated on Willis Hill, at the southern end of Marye's Heights, Fredericksburg National Cemetery remains in the same location as it did when it was laid out in in the mid-1860s. It also retains all twelve acres of land that was included in its initial development.

Design:

Fredericksburg National Cemetery retains the original burial plan as laid out in 1866, comprised of parallel rows of graves set within terraces and rectangular grids defined by paths and roads, together with the lodge grounds and service yard. The cemetery also retains built features that convey the original design and historic development of the cemetery, including the Meigs-type lodge and inclosure wall and gates. The historic design of Fredericksburg National Cemetery has been slightly diminished through the continual loss of some specimen trees.

Setting:

The cemetery itself retains overall historic setting defined by gravestones set within an expanse of lawn and surrounded by a brick inclosure wall and a cluster of buildings at the entrance. In terms of the larger setting, the cemetery is surrounded by mostly National Park Service property. In recent years, the National Park Service has rehabilitated the adjacent Sunken Road landscape to more closely resemble conditions during the Civil War, specifically with the removal of post-war buildings and structures. Because of these efforts the cemetery's surroundings have been well preserved. However, future expansion by nearby Mary Washington University has the potential to adversely impact the setting of the cemetery.

Materials:

Fredericksburg National Cemetery retains the majority of its built and natural materials. Within the cemetery, these elements can be seen in the buildings, structures, and small-scale features, as well as circulation systems, with stone, brick, granite, marble, and iron on the buildings, walls, grave markers, monuments, and roads. While there has been a loss in vegetation over the years, the general palette of plant materials, including the lawn, specimen trees, and shrubs, remains consistent with those used during the historic period.

Workmanship:

Fredericksburg National Cemetery retains workmanship characteristic of its initial development in the 1860s, in its stone and woodwork of the lodge; in the masonry of the inclosure wall, the metal work of the gates and gun monuments, and in the headstones. However, the workmanship of some of the headstones and blocks has been diminished due to deterioration of the marble.

Feeling:

Because the setting and design have largely remained unchanged since the historic period, the historic feeling has been retained. The cemetery continues to serve as a location for solitude, contemplation, and reflection where visitors can go to honor the courageous contributions and sacrifices of many individuals in a peaceful environment. It also remains as an outdoor museum that tells the story of how the United States honored the Union dead following the Civil War.

Association:

Fredericksburg National Cemetery remains associated with the Civil War, containing the graves of over 15,000 United States soldiers who died in the battles and camps around Fredericksburg. Approximately 100 soldiers are twentieth-century veterans. The cemetery landscape also retains many of its physical resources that illustrate its historic association with the National Cemetery System, including the inclosure walls and gates, the lodge, flagstaff, monuments, markers, and headstones.

The following section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics that apply to the cemetery landscape and their associated features and corresponding List of Classified Structures names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (1865-1945), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource.

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Historic and Existing Conditions:

Natural systems including geology, soil structure, and hydrology played an important role in the development of the Fredericksburg National Cemetery. The cemetery is located along a transitional zone between the Piedmont plateau and the coastal plain. To the west, Marye's Heights represents the eastern edge of the Piedmont, and is underlain by bedrock of the Potomac Group. The bedrock is composed primarily of fluvial-deposited sandstone and conglomerate. The high quality of sandstone at the southern end of the Marye's Heights, known as Willis Hill, made it a desirable location for quarrying activities beginning in the mid eighteenth century and continuing into the twentieth century. The quarrying activity appears to have contributed to erosion and subsidence currently occurring on the southwest slope of Willis Hill behind the cemetery (Figure 15).

During the initial stages of the cemetery's development, citizens advocated turning the fairgrounds at the foot of Marye's Heights into a national cemetery. The area was a logical place since many Union soldiers were already buried there and would not have to be reinterred. In addition, the fairgrounds offered ample space for a large cemetery, stood in full view of both the railroad and the town, and could be purchased at a cheap price. However, it was determined that the land was unsuitable for burials as the water table was just three feet below the ground surface. Subsequently, Willis Hill, located at the southern end of Marye's Heights, was recommended by General Montgomery Meigs. The native surface soils on Marye's Heights were relatively gravelly, which provided excellent drainage but made it unsuitable as prime farmland. This natural aspect had a major influence siting the cemetery at this location since it was mostly undeveloped at the time of its construction in 1866.

Although not within the cemetery, important hydrologic features are concentrated primarily in a small valley on the southwest side of Willis Hill. Several springs, located along the slopes and at the base of the cemetery terraces, give rise to small streams, which join a larger stream known as the Hazel Run. These water sources eventually spurred the development of a grist mill in the valley adjacent to the cemetery, which continued operations for nearly one hundred years.

Items noted in the table below with an () are described in the draft National Register documentation.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Willis Hill/Marye's Heights*	153649	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 15. View looking northeast towards the escarpment along the south boundary of the national cemetery (Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, hereafter OCLP, 2011).

Landscape Characteristic: Topography

Historic and Existing Conditions:

Topography played a crucial role in the battles fought at Fredericksburg during the Civil War. Marye's Heights and the small valley on the back side of Willis Hill provided Confederate troops with an excellent natural defensive position which was enhanced in the days and weeks prior to the battles with constructed earthworks. At this time, a series of lunettes and shelter trenches were built atop Willis Hill, while a narrow military road was cut into its west side to transport men and supplies between the sheltered valley and the heights above.

In the initial development of the cemetery, the natural contours and earthworks were manipulated to provide even, level surfaces adequate for burials. To prevent erosion, the steep eastern side of the cemetery was cut into parallel terraces—eight north of the entrance road and nine south of it. The terraces were between eight and ten feet tall with terreplains at their bases measuring between 14 and 17 feet in width. Once the terraces were created, they were sodded and brick-lined gutters were installed at the foot of each terrace. However, the brick-lined gutters were later removed. The only other topographic feature within the landscape was a flagstaff mound that was initially built between 1866 and 1868 as a six to eight-foot high, fifteen-foot wide earthen mound. With replacement of the original flagstaff in 1873 and 1877, the mound was reduced in height and width. When the flagstaff was relocated in 1905 just north of the carriageway, at the point where it crested the hill, it was eventually removed. The terraces along the eastern boundary of the cemetery remain (Figure 16).

Items noted in the table below with an () are described in the draft National Register documentation.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Cemetery Terraces*	153765	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 16. View looking west towards the terraces, constructed in 1866. The terraces are between eight and ten feet tall with terreplains at their bases measuring between 14 and 17 feet in width (OCLP, 2011).

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Historic and Existing Conditions:

During the historic period, Fredericksburg National Cemetery was a distinct space defined at first by a wooden fence and then a brick inclosure wall. Within the cemetery, the landscape was defined by the burial grounds as the major space, and the lodge grounds and service yard bordering the main entrance. Since the historic period, the spatial organization has been altered through the loss of plant materials. Despite this change, the landscape retains the overall organization that has defined it since its initial development in the late 1860s.

The burial grounds, laid out beginning in 1866, comprise the primary space of the cemetery, defined externally by the service yard and lodge grounds, and internally by the rectangular burial plan and plantings. During the historic period, the eastern portion of the burials grounds were cut into terraces—eight north of the entrance road and nine south of it. The remaining portion of the property, at the top of Willis Hill, was laid out in a grid of grass roads and paths. The roads dissected the parcels into parcels known as sections. Within each section, graves were arranged in parallel rows. At the center of the cemetery, a circular mound was constructed with a flagstaff. In the late 1870s and early 1880s, deciduous and evergreen trees were planted throughout the cemetery. Trees lined the inclosure wall and marked the boundaries of each parcel, while others were scattered throughout. Following the historic period, the layout of the burial grounds remained relatively unchanged. However, many trees have been lost over the years. Despite the loss of vegetation, the burial grounds remain a character defining space in the cemetery landscape (Figures 17-18).

The lodge grounds and service yard, developed beginning in c.1868, is defined by the inclosure wall, carriageway, and burial grounds. It occupies the northeast portion of the cemetery, immediately north of the entrance gate. During the historic period, the lodge grounds and service yard included the lodge completed in 1872, several outbuildings, and variety of ornamental plantings. By the end of the historic period, many plantings and outbuildings were removed. In 1960, the National Park Service replaced an 1881 maintenance building with a concrete block building. Today, the lodge grounds and service yard included two buildings, a service drive, and a boxwood hedge (Figure 19).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Burial Grounds	153821	Contributing					No
Lodge Grounds and Service Yard	153817	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 17. View of the burial grounds, particularly the grave markers (foreground) and the Charge of General Humphrey's Division monument (background) (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 18. View of the lawn and specimen trees, located within the burial grounds (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 19. View looking east towards the lodge grounds and service yard. Shown in the image is the garage/equipment shed (c.1960) and the lodge (c.1870) (OCLP, 2011).

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Historic and Existing Conditions:

While the vast majority of the burials were made as reinterments between 1866 and 1868, new burials continued throughout the historic period, but were few in number. New burials ceased after 1945. Similar to other national cemeteries, Fredericksburg National Cemetery eventually received gun monuments and cannon stands (1868), a rostrum (1888), and numerous monuments, tablets, and markers between 1890 and 1930, which reflect its commemorative uses. In addition to visitation to individual gravesites, the cemetery hosted public ceremonies and events, in particular on Memorial Day. These events continue today. Since 1997, Fredericksburg National Cemetery has held the annual Illumination program, which consists of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts lighting 15,300 candles in the cemetery to honor the dead. Held on Memorial Day, the event attracts an average of 4,000 people each year. With the establishment of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park in 1927, the cemetery began to be used formally for interpretative purposes.

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic and Existing Conditions:

The vegetation of Fredericksburg National Cemetery was characterized historically by lawn and specimen trees. Shrubs, hedges, vines, and flowerbeds were generally secondary features. The amount of vegetation was at its greatest from the initial beautification of the cemetery during the 1870s through the 1890s. Following the cemetery's acquisition by the National Park Service, the vegetation was reduced, especially flowerbeds and shrubs, in response to natural decline and disaster, lack of replacement, and efforts to decrease maintenance. Although the amount of vegetation has declined and several new species have been introduced since the end of the historic

period, the overall character of the vegetation within the cemetery created, by collection of specimen trees distributed across the landscape remains, largely intact.

Cemetery Specimen Trees.

Fredericksburg National Cemetery had few trees or shrubs when the Quartermaster Department began burying soldiers there in 1866. Whatever trees had existed prior to the Civil War were lost when Confederates occupied the area in the winter of 1862-1863. Fredericksburg was not alone in that regard. Most other national cemeteries throughout the country lacked greenery too. Congress addressed the situation in 1870, appropriating 20,000 dollars to landscape national cemeteries. At Fredericksburg, the Quartermaster Department planted hundreds of trees and bushes, but many withered and died as growing trees on Willis Hill during Virginia's hot, dry summers was a challenge. Although the Quartermaster Department tried to replace them, it could not keep up. By 1876, Inspector James Gall, Jr., found Fredericksburg National Cemetery "exceedingly bare of trees." Gall petitioned his superiors in the Quartermaster Department for funds to purchase three hundred new trees, offering to personally supervise their planting. Just two years later, the Quartermaster Department had to move several of the trees because they interfered with the lawnmowers.

The Quartermaster Department planted additional trees in the late 1870s and early 1880s. About half the trees were deciduous; the rest were evergreens. The deciduous trees included elms, maples, silver poplars, chestnuts, and ashes, while the evergreens consisted of mostly hemlocks, pines, cedars, and spruce. Once they took root, the trees thrived and grew, aided by liberal applications of manure and compost. The cemetery staff pruned the trees and inspected them regularly for harmful insects, such as worms and bores. In all, the Quartermaster Department planted more than 1,000 trees in Fredericksburg National Cemetery. It followed a predetermined design, but not very rigidly. For instance, evergreens ran along the inside of the enclosing wall, but only on the southern and western sides. Along the north wall, deciduous trees mixed with the evergreens, and trees alternated with shrubs. Lines of trees marked the boundaries of each parcel. For Divisions A and C, the used deciduous trees, but around Divisions C and D, it used both deciduous trees and evergreens. Evergreens alone separated the parcels in Division C. Inside each parcel was a mix of trees and shrubs—mostly pines or cedars but occasionally deciduous species as well. The trees on the terraces likewise had a distinct design. Evergreens bordered the stairways; otherwise, evergreens and deciduous trees alternated—one and then the other—in vertical rows that started at the top terrace and ran with military uniformity down the eastern hill slope. On the southern terraces alone there were no fewer than 25 rows of trees, not counting four rows that bordered the steps. The greatest concentration of plant life was in the triangle formed by the fork in the carriageway and at the southeast corner of the plateau, the area later occupied by the rostrum (bandstand). The Quartermaster Department had purposely left those areas free of graves, and cemetery personnel later filled the voids with trees and shrubs. Unfortunately nature killed the trees as fast as the Quartermaster Department planted them. Snow, sleet, and ice destroyed trees in the winter, while windstorms claimed victims year round. The elms and the chestnuts fell to disease. Fires from lightning strikes scorched the cedars. The cumulative impact of these hazards was devastating. By 1934, just 197 trees remained—fewer than 20 percent of the number that had been present just 40 years earlier. Over the years, the park has replaced trees that have been lost. Today, the park includes approximately eighty-five to ninety specimen trees; many of which are non-historic (see Figures 17 and 18).

Cemetery Shrubs.

The earliest and most visible plant in Fredericksburg National Cemetery was the Osage orange hedge. Planted in 1871 on the inside of the picket fence that circled the grounds, the hedge acted as barrier to keep out dogs, pigs, and other animals that might root up the graves. The hedge became superfluous two years later when the Quartermaster Department erected a brick wall around the premises. At that time contractors removed the hedge, leaving just the part that ran inside the east wall. The surviving portion of the hedge extended on both sides of the carriageway. North of the carriageway, it ran between the east wall and maintenance building. Across from it, on the west side of the maintenance building was an arborvitae hedge. Approximately five feet wide, the arborvitae hedge ran along the base of the bottom terrace in a line with both the terrace and the building. It was still living as of 1937. Despite an inspector's recommendation in 1888 that it be

torn out, the Osage orange hedge continued to thrive for many years. The Government finally removed it sometime before 1942. Other shrubs that existed during the historic period included rosebushes, but they were all removed following the cemetery's acquisition by the National Park Service (WVPS, 2007: Pg. 153).

Boxwood hedges also grew in the cemetery. A 1906 photograph shows a twelve-foot-tall hedge running along the length of the porch, on its east side, screening the porch from vehicles in the roads below. That same photograph shows a three foot- tall hedge running from the service drive entrance to the lodge walkway, then turning northward to a point opposite the decorative vase. On the other side of the lodge walkway, small individual boxwoods bushes ran in a line from the vase south to the pedestrian walkway, then down the slope to the carriageway entrance. The purpose of the small boxwoods was to create a hedge east of the lodge walkway that mirrored the one west of it. Although it took nearly half a century, the hedge finally grew in. Today the boxwood hedge along the service drive is all that remains of the shrubs in the cemetery (Figure 20).

Cemetery Lawn.

The cemetery lawn dates back to the initial development of the cemetery in 1866. It was initially a discontinuous and uneven lawn due to the presence of grave mounds. By the 1880s, the last of the grave mounds was leveled, and together with change from gravel to turf on the roads by 1878 and 1880 and removal of the brick-lined gutters by 1879, the lawn became an expansive and unifying feature of the landscape. Since the historic period, the park has maintained the cemetery lawn much as it had been during the historic period (see Figures 17-18).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Cemetery Specimen Trees	153865	Contributing			Asset	10151	No
Cemetery Shrubs (Boxwood Hedge)	153889	Contributing			Asset	10152	No
Cemetery Lawn	153921	Contributing			Asset	558539	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 20. View looking north towards the service drive, boxwood hedge, and lodge (OCLP, 2011).

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic and Existing Conditions:

As initially developed, circulation was a primary characteristic of Fredericksburg National Cemetery, but as the landscape was developed through the late nineteenth century, the circulation system within the cemetery grounds became less visible with the change from gravel to turf surfaces and removal of brick-lined gutters. With the exception to the paving of the carriageway in concrete and brick, circulation in the cemetery retains the general character present at the end of the historic period.

Roads.

The roads within the burial grounds are the primary, wider circulation routes between burial sections, averaging twelve to fifteen feet wide. The roads were constructed between 1866 and 1868 with gravel surfaces and brick-lined gutters. Between 1878 and 1880, the roads were changed to turf due primarily to maintenance concerns (difficulty in keeping grass from growing in the gravel). By 1879, the brick-lined gutters were filled and covered with turf for erosion and maintenance purposes. With these changes, the roads became subtle features in the landscape, defined only by the voids between grave sections. Beginning in the late 1890s, and continuing into the 1920s, some of the roads were filled in with graves of Spanish-American War veterans and World War I and II veterans. Today the roads have remained largely unchanged since the historic period (Figures 21-22).

Terrace Steps.

When the Quartermaster Department first built the terraces, they featured two sets of wooden steps, one adjacent to the south road and the other located near the center of the south

terrace—the same positions that they are in today. By 1873, the steps had started to decay and were eventually replaced with brick steps. The brick terrace steps remain today (Figure 23).

The Carriageway.

The main carriageway begins at the front gate, divides at the triangle, and then circles the plateau, running along the inside of the enclosure. Inside the carriageway a series of roads run at right angles to one another, dividing the cemetery into sections. Finally, two steep roads—called the North Road and the South Road—run along the edge of the terraces, adjacent to the brick walls. The North Road was particularly important, for at one time it provided the only formal access to the maintenance buildings. When they were first constructed, the carriageway and roads were fifteen wide and paved with gravel. Despite having brick drains on either side, the main carriageway washed out after heavy rains, creating gullies up to 150 feet in length on the hill's eastern slope. The steep 1:5 grade of the slope and the high volume of carriage traffic that cut ruts into the unstable surface were the primary problems.

Sometime between 1878 and 1880 the Quartermaster Department scattered soil over the gravel roads and seeded them with grass. The only surface left in gravel was a short walk from the main gate to the lodge. Cemetery inspector James Gall, Jr., had great hopes for the new grassy surface. He believed the roads would support a handsome carpet of grass as early as the summer of 1884. Unfortunately, his optimistic prediction did not apply to the main carriageway was concerned. In 1884, Major C. W. Foster reported that runoff on the cemetery's steep eastern slope, combined with surface drainage from the lodge, had created gullies in the carriageway below the point where it forked. Even at the top of the hill, the grass was not taking hold. Foster reported stretches of up to 50 feet in length where there was no vegetation whatsoever. Superintendent Charles Fitchett thought that the Quartermaster Department had spread too little soil over the gravel surface, but Major Foster believed heavy carriage traffic was at fault. To support his theory, he pointed to the side roads. Carriages were forbidden there, and the grass was doing well. His solution was to pave the lower end of the carriageway and ban vehicles from the grounds. Civil Engineer W. H. Owen inspected the cemetery in 1886. Although he did not support Foster's prohibition on carriages, he did agree that the carriageway leading up the hill should be paved: "The grade is steep & the gravel washes badly," he reported, "It is expensive to keep in order & seldom looks well." Owen recommended paving the carriageway with small cobblestones from the entrance gate to the crest. In addition, he suggested installing a drainage basin at the point where the road forked. Rather than washing out the road, water running down the slope would enter the basin and leave the cemetery by means of a pipe placed under the carriageway. Owen's superiors adopted his suggestion regarding the drainage basin, but they resisted recommendations to pave the carriageway. As late as 1909, the lower third of the carriageway surface consisted of a curious mixture of stone, gravel, clay, and ashes. In later years, concrete and brick were installed (Figure 24) (WVPS, 2007:Pgs. 73-74).

Service Road.

Prior to the late 1880s, the only access to the maintenance building was by a steep road that ran along the north wall. A man could climb the hill well enough, but it was too steep for a horse or mule to use while drawing a cart. To reach the top, the animal had to tread across the graves immediately west of the lodge, and then take the carriageway to the top. To rectify this situation, the Quartermaster Department in December 1888 removed 35 graves from the terrace just above lodge and reinterred them on the next two higher terraces, inserting them between graves that were already there. It then constructed a gravel service road from the maintenance yard to the carriageway along the west side of the lodge. That road still exists. Unlike the current road, however, the 1889 road stopped short of the north wall, turning abruptly east at a point directly opposite the maintenance building. Not until the twentieth century did the Quartermaster Department extend the road all the way to the north wall. Workers had to move additional graves to make room for the extension. As before, they transferred the graves to the adjacent terraces (see Figure 20).

Lodge Walks.

Following construction of the brick wall in 1874, the Quartermaster Department installed a brick walkway leading up Willis Hill along the eastern edge of the cemetery from the north pedestrian

gate at the main entrance. A short distance up the slope, it made a ninety-degree turn to the right and ran back to the lodge. The walk wrapped around the east side of the building, and by 1911 terminated at a work area paved with brick located next to the back porch. The entire walk was made of brick until about the 1890s, when concrete replaced the bricks between the southeast corner of the house and the back porch. The rest of the walk remained paved in brick until the twentieth century, when it too was repaved in concrete (Figure 25).

Items noted in the table below with an () are described in the draft National Register documentation.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
National Cemetery Road*	153879	Contributing			Location	23732	Yes
National Cemetery Steps*	153885	Contributing			Asset	558432	Yes
National Cemetery Carriageway *	154091	Contributing			Asset	17587	Yes
National Cemetery Lodge Walks *	154093	Contributing			Asset	18452	Yes
Service Road	154095	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 21. View looking south toward a drive within the burial grounds. The Parker's Battery monument and cannon can be seen in the background (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 22. View looking west of a brick surfaced drive and the Charge of General Humphrey's Division monument (1908). Note the gun monuments and Bivouac of the Dead tablets surrounding the monument (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 23. View looking at the brick terrace steps, constructed in 1875 (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 24. View looking northwest toward a portion of the carriageway that is not paved in brick or concrete. The majority of the drives are surfaced in turf (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 25. View looking north of the lodge, constructed in 1871, and the front concrete walk (OCLP, 2011).

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Historic and Existing Conditions:

Buildings and structures at Fredericksburg National Cemetery are clustered at the entrance to the cemetery. Buildings that were removed during the historic period included the first wooden lodge (1866-1881), toolhouse (1866-c.1870s), well house (c.1870s-1924), greenhouse (1873-1878), hotbed (1878-1917), brick maintenance building (1881-1960), cart house (1888-1926), and woodshed (1906-1924). Notable lost structures include the system of brick-lined gutters that lined the roads in the burial grounds (c.1865-c.1870s). While there was substantial change during the historic period, historic buildings and structures that currently exist have remained largely unchanged since the end of the historic period in 1945. Following the historic period, a new concrete-block garage/equipment shed was constructed in the former location of the brick maintenance building. Built in 1960, the building is visible from within the cemetery and detracts from the historic setting.

Lodge.

The lodge, located at the cemetery entrance gates, is a small two-story house with a mansard roof that historically functioned as the residence of the cemetery superintendent and his family. It replaced a frame lodge built in 1866 on the north side of the drive, and was designed according to a prototype plan in the Second Empire style by Meigs. Work on the building, initially designed to be brick, began in 1871 on the north side of the main drive. The old frame lodge was moved approximately fifty feet to the rear of the lodge for use as a kitchen wing, but was removed with the construction of a brick maintenance building in c.1881. In 1905, a bathroom and kitchen wing was added to the north elevation of the lodge. In c.1909, a standard iron tablet with Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, known as the Lincoln Memorial tablet, was affixed to the front of the lodge. Since the end of the historic period, there have been no substantial changes to the exterior of the lodge. The lodge remains a character-defining feature of the landscape that identifies Fredericksburg National Cemetery as a Civil War era National Cemetery. The lodge is similar in style and overall plan and details to the lodges at Richmond, Fort Harrison, Cold Harbor, Seven Pines, Yorktown, and Culpeper National Cemeteries, among others (see Figure 25).

Gates and Walls.

The cemetery wall and gates delineate the perimeter of the cemetery and were built based on a prototype plan made in 1870 by Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs. Initially begun in 1873 to replace a white painted wood paling fence erected in 1866, the Fredericksburg National Cemetery inclosure wall and entrance gates were built in 1873 by George Wroten. The wall, measuring 3,000 feet long was constructed of red brick. As first constructed, the wall remained obscured from inside the cemetery by a perimeter hedge of Osage orange. The entrance gate, built of granite posts with iron gates, was characteristic of larger national cemeteries with two pedestrian passages flanking a central vehicular way. In 1906, two metal plaques in the shape of a shield with the words "U.S. National Cemetery" were added to the granite posts. In 1882-1883, a gate was constructed at the crest of Willis Hill on the north wall. The opening was twelve feet across, just wide enough for a horse and cart to pass through. A double gate made of painted wood covered the opening until the 1920s, after which the Quartermaster Department replaced it with one made of iron. In recent years, the wall has been repointed. The inclosure wall and entrance gates remain intact and are character-defining features of Civil War era national cemeteries (Figure 26).

Garage/Equipment Shed.

The garage/equipment shed, one-story concrete block building with a gable roof, is located in the service yard near the entrance to the cemetery. The building was constructed in 1960 by the National Park Service in the former location of an 1881 brick maintenance building (see Figure 19).

Items noted in the table below with an () are described in the draft National Register documentation.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
National Cemetery Gates and Wall *	154097	Contributing			Asset	558530	Yes
National Cemetery Lodge *	154099	Contributing			Location	23735	Yes
National Cemetery Garage/Equipment Shed *	154101	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 26. View looking west toward the cemetery entry gate and brick inclosure wall. The 5th Corps Army of the Potomac (Butterfield) monument can be seen in the background (OCLP, 2011).

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Condition and Existing Conditions:

The strategic views from atop Marye's Heights were critically important during the battle of Fredericksburg in December 1862. Confederate fortifications and artillery along the heights provided the best vantage point from which to see the westward advancing Union army. It was these views, along with the high ground and formidable defenses that ultimately resulted in the slaughter of 8,000 Federal soldiers in a few acres of land at the base of Marye's Heights.

These views, overlooking pastoral farmland and the City of Fredericksburg in the distance, were also important in the development of the national cemetery. The creation of the national cemetery on the summit of Willis Hill, at the southern end of Marye's Height, was intended to promote a sense of peace and calm. Since the historic period, panoramic views of the countryside from atop the cemetery plateau can still be obtained and continues to be a character-defining feature of the landscape (Figure 27).

Similar to other national cemeteries created during the National Cemetery System's initial development in the years following the Civil War, Fredericksburg National Cemetery was laid on a square or rectangular grid featuring a central flagstaff and burial sections defined by paths, roads, and graves. The plan was devised so that the flagstaff would be visible from all graves and that the vista of the flagstaff upon approach along the carriageway (main drive) would direct visitors to the center, from where individual graves could be accessed via the roads. However, the relocation of the flagstaff in 1905—just north of the carriageway, at the point where it crests the hill, has diminished aspects of the original plan. In the growth of specimen trees at the entrance to the cemetery has obstructed the views to the flagstaff. Although diminished, the view and vista of the flagstaff remains a character-defining feature of the landscape.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Views from Cemetery Plateau	154103	Contributing			Asset	10156	Yes
View of Flagstaff from Carriageway	154105	Contributing			Asset	10158	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 27. View from atop the cemetery parcel looking northeast toward a Bivouac of the Dead tablet and surrounding Fredericksburg. This Bivouac of the Dead tablet is one of six currently located within the cemetery (OCLP, 2011).

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Historic Condition and Existing Conditions:

Historically, the landscape of Fredericksburg National Cemetery was dominated by small-scale features that were standard elements in Civil War-era national cemeteries. Most important were the grave markers (1866 1945 [last soldier interred]); along with four gun monuments and cannonball stands (1868) placed symmetrically around the central flagstaff and cast-iron signs known as tablets (c.1881) on which were cast the four-line verses from the poem, “The Bivouac of the Dead.” Other features include the numerous monuments constructed between 1890 and 1908, the hitching post (1909), the Gettysburg Address tablet (1909), and battlefield ID tablets installed in the 1930s. Following the historic period, the National Park Service added features for visitor comfort, accessibility, and safety including interpretative and informational signage and benches.

Grave Markers.

Between 1866 and 1873, soldiers buried at Fredericksburg National Cemetery received rounded, wooden headboards over their graves. However, by the 1870s, the wood grave markers at were replaced by granite markers. The War Department developed two patterns: one for identified soldiers and one for unidentified soldiers. Headstones for identified soldiers had a slab design with a slightly rounded top. They were ten inches wide, four inches deep, and extended one foot above the ground and two feet below. Chiseled into the face of the stone were two lines. The top line was the soldier's name and rank and the bottom line was letters indicating the state for which the man had fought. The graves of unidentified soldiers featured a granite block, six inches square and thirty inches tall. The top of the stone was flat and included two numbers: a grave number and a second figure indicating the number of soldiers buried there. Headstones displaying only the grave number

held the remains of just one soldier.

Shortly after the Quartermaster Department ordered Fredericksburg's headstones, Secretary of War William W. Belknap changed the design. In 1873, Belknap directed that future headstones be polished white marble with a curved top, and an inscription of raised letters be placed inside a recessed shield indicating the name, state regiment, and grave number. Because they were ordered prior to Belknap's directive, most of Fredericksburg's headstones do not conform to this design. Only Civil War veterans buried after 1897 received the "Civil War" design mandated by Belknap.

During World War I, the War Department adopted a new style of headstone for all graves except those of Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans, which retained Belknap's design for the sake of uniformity. "General" type headstones, as the new generation of markers was called, were made of white marble. They were 42 inches tall, 13 inches wide, and four inches thick with inscriptions that featured the soldier's name, rank, regiment, division, death date, and state. Like the Civil War-style headstones that preceded them, the top two feet of the "General" headstones stand above ground, making them twice as tall as the slab stones erected over the graves of known Civil War soldiers and four times as tall as the granite blocks marking the unknown graves. At Fredericksburg, all Government-funded headstones for World War I and World War II veterans are of this design. In 1922, General-style headstones began to carry emblems identifying the soldiers' religion.

War Department regulations permitted family members to erect a private headstone over the grave of a loved one so long as they received prior approval and paid for the stone with private funds. Fredericksburg has fifteen such stones, only two of which belong to soldiers who died in the Civil War. Others belong to veterans who resided in Fredericksburg who died in later years. Six of those belong to cemetery superintendents or their spouses (Figure 28).

Today, many of the headstones are in poor condition as decades of exposure and wear have left their marks. Aside from the chips and cracks caused from modern lawnmowers, many headstones—notably the General-style marble headstones installed after 1920—are covered with dirt, lichens, and mold, while others are engulfed by trees. Some headstones tilt forward and require straightening and many headstones are sunken into the ground or stand too high.

Monuments.

A quarter century passed before the first monument was erected at Fredericksburg National Cemetery. On September 24, 1890, veterans of the 83rd New York Volunteers traveled to the town to dedicate a monument over the grave of their former commander, Colonel Joseph A. Moesch, who had died in the May 5, 1864, fighting in the Wilderness. Moesch's body had been buried in an unmarked grave at Ellwood and remained there until October 1887 when Superintendent Andrew J. Birdsall and two members of the regiment exhumed the body and reburied it in the national cemetery. Three years later members of the regiment traveled to Fredericksburg and dedicated a monument over his remains. The 83rd NY Volunteers Monument, also referred to as the Moesch Monument, is approximately five feet tall and has a square granite base topped by a granite obelisk (Figure 29) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 143-148).

On May 25-26, 1900, the Society of the Army of the Potomac held its 31st reunion at Fredericksburg—the first such meeting to be held in the South. On the first day of the reunion, Union veterans gathered at the national cemetery to lay the cornerstone for a monument honoring the Fifth Corps, whose soldiers had attacked Marye's Heights in 1862. The monument stood to the left of the main carriageway, just inside the front gate. General Daniel Butterfield, who had commanded the Fifth Corps at Fredericksburg, privately funded the monument. Unfortunately, the general's failing health prevented him from attending the ceremony. In his absence, Colonel Edward Hill of the 16th Michigan and Secretary of War Elihu Root committed the monument to the care of the Fredericksburg and Adjacent Battlefields National Park Association. Union veterans formally dedicated the monument in 1901. The Fifth Corps Army of the Potomac Monument, located at the entrance to the cemetery, is a granite and bronze columnar monument (see Figure 26) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 143-148). The Butterfield Monument, as it also became known, was the

first of four cemetery monuments dedicated to military units.

The second monument came five years later with the dedication of a monument to the 127th Pennsylvania Volunteers. A nine-month regiment, the 127th Pennsylvania participated in just two battles—both at Fredericksburg. Veterans of the regiment and their guests traveled to Fredericksburg in June 1906 to watch Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker of Pennsylvania convey title of the monument to the General Ezra A. Carmen, representing the United States Government. The 127th Pennsylvania Monument currently stands west of the cemetery entrance and is a gray granite marker with a stepped base, topped by a pointed pediment (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 143-148).

Two years later, in 1908, veterans dedicated another monument to Pennsylvania troops, the Charge of General Humphreys Division Monument. Humphreys commanded eight regiments, each hailing from the Keystone State. To honor these men, the Pennsylvania legislature appropriated 23,500 dollars for a monument and hired sculptor Herbert Adams to craft it. It even offered to pay the transportation costs of any honorably discharged veteran from the division who wished to attend the dedication. As a result of the legislature's generosity, 3,000 people attended the November 11 unveiling. The monument stands at the center of the plateau, in the location previously occupied by the cemetery flagstaff. It is approximately twenty feet tall and has a pink granite pedestal atop a stepped octagonal base (see Figure 22) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 143-148).

The most recent monument erected in Fredericksburg National Cemetery was dedicated in 1973. It honors the men of Captain William W. Parker's Virginia battery, which defended Marye's Heights during the Second Battle of Fredericksburg. The monument has several distinctions: It is the only Confederate monument in Fredericksburg National Cemetery; it is the only park monument dedicated to a Virginia military unit; and it is the only monument connected to the Second Battle of Fredericksburg. Thomas Brown McCune, a descendant of one of the battery's officers, funded the monument. He dedicated it on May 3, 1973, approximately 110 years to the day after Parker's men lost two guns defending the Heights. The Parker's Battery Memorial is a bronze plaque on a gray marble base (Figure 30) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 143-148).

Signs.

Among the earliest signs in the cemetery were from George Meitike's 1861 patriotic poem, "The Stripes and the Stars." These signs stood at the northwest and southwest corners of the square opening that now surrounds the Humphrey's Monument. In the early 1880s, the cemetery replaced Meitike's poem with cast-iron signs featuring stanzas from Theodore O'Hara's poem, "The Bivouac of the Dead." In all, Fredericksburg National Cemetery had no fewer than ten "The Bivouac of the Dead" placards, embracing seven different stanzas of the poem. Six of those signs still exist. In 1909, a bronze tablet containing the text of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was affixed to the lodge wall. The tablet, which remains, measures 56.5" in height, 33.5" inches in width, and is one inch thick. Between 1928 and 1933, metal plaques were installed by the War Department as part of the development of the battlefield as a public park. The plaques mark strategic positions and direct visitors to sites of military interest. At the cemetery, three plaques were installed marking the locations of the Willis Hill cemetery, Marye's Heights, and the site of Washington's Artillery/Longstreet's Line. In the 1990s, the park installed an additional plaque indicating the direction to the battlefield exhibits.

Flagstaff.

The landscape of Fredericksburg National Cemetery was enhanced during the 1870s and early 1880s through the replacement of the flagstaff. For years a flagstaff stood at the center of the cemetery. The original wooden flagstaff, erected around 1868 on a small six to eight feet tall circular earthen mound, blew down in an 1873 storm, but was replaced shortly thereafter. The new flagpole was approximately 90 feet, ten feet of which were below the ground surface, and the mound was reduced in height and width to approximately four feet in height and ten feet in width. The flagstaff lasted just four years before it too had to be replaced. The 1877 flagstaff stood approximately 45 feet above the ground, considerably shorter than its predecessor. The mound remained unchanged. The third flagstaff stood until October 1905 when the Government removed it in favor of 75-foot-tall, single-masted, steel flagpole with ornamental balls. This new flagstaff—the cemetery's fourth—was relocated just north of the carriageway, at the point where it crested the hill.

It has remained there ever since. The Quartermaster Department probably moved the flagpole in order to make it more visible to train passengers and to people in the town. In recent years, the metal flagpole was replaced with aluminum pole and is stabilized with four guy wires (Figure 31).

Gun Monuments and Cannonballs.

From the cemetery's earliest years, four upright Columbiad cannon tubes adorned the original flagstaff mound. The Quartermaster Department shipped the black "gun monuments," as they were called, to Fredericksburg National Cemetery in the fall of 1868. They must have been erected soon after, because they needed a new coat of paint by the summer of 1871. The cannon tubes were set out in the shape of a square and stood about 30 feet from the northeast, southeast, northwest, and southwest corners of the flagstaff mound. They have never been moved.

In addition to the cannon monuments, the original flagstaff area featured four stands of 24-pounder cannonballs. Each stand had a white wooden base and was four tiers high. Installed in the late nineteenth century, the cannonballs stood on the northeast, southeast, northwest, and southwest edges of the flagstaff mound, mirroring the cannon monuments. The cannonball stands remained in place until the twentieth century, at which point things began to change. A photograph taken early in the century seems to show the stand of cannonballs in the northeast corner reduced to just two tiers. On top of the pyramid was a 24-pound ball, while the three balls underneath it appeared to be from a 12-pounder gun. Shortly after the construction of the Butterfield Monument in 1901, the four stands of 24-pounder shot, each three tiers high, were relocated to the monument. In 1905, officials moved the flagpole from the center of the cemetery to its present location at the brow of the hill. They removed the center mound and installed two stands of 12-pounder round shot at the base of the new flagstaff.

Lodge Hitching Post.

Prior to the advent of the automobile, most people visited the cemetery on a horse or in a horse-drawn carriage. An approximate three-foot high cast-iron hitching post featuring a horse's head stood next to the Sunken Road, a short distance north of the pedestrian gate. The post is still there today. An identical post stood inside the cemetery, at the point where the service road left the main carriageway. That post has been removed. Both hitching posts had a large rectangular block of stone at their base to assist visitors who were alighting from their carriages. Superintendent M. M. Jefferys installed the posts in May 1907 (Figure 32) (WVPS, 2007: Pgs. 150).

National Park Signs and Furnishings.

Following the historic period, the National Park Service added features for visitor comfort, accessibility, and safety including interpretative and informational signage and benches. In the 1960s, the National Park Service added a Civil War cannon, an audio station, a directional compass, and two interpretive signs to the grounds (Figure 33). Most recently, the National Park Service removed the audio station and installed an irrigation system on the terraces and an interpretive panel set in a concrete pad near the Parker's Battery Memorial.

Items noted in the table below with an () are described in the draft National Register documentation.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Charge of General Humphreys Division Monument *	154107	Contributing			Location	23722	Yes
V Corps Monument (Butterfield) *	154109	Contributing			Location	23723	Yes
83rd NY Volunteers Monument (Moesch) *	154111	Contributing			Location	44802	Yes
127th Pennsylvania Monument *	154113	Contributing			Location	23726	Yes
Lodge Hitching Post *	154115	Contributing			Asset	18163	Yes
National Cemetery Grave Markers *	154149	Contributing			Asset	558538	Yes
Bivouac of the Dead Tablets *	154151	Contributing			Asset	17871	Yes
Battlefield ID Tablets: Old Family Cemetery/Willis Hill *	154153	Contributing			Asset	1331991	No
Battlefield ID Tablets: Marye's Heights (Willis Hill) *	154155	Contributing			Asset	1331991	No
Battlefield ID Tablets: Washington Artillery/Longstreet's Line *	154119	Contributing			Asset	1331991	No
Flagstaff	154121	Contributing			Asset	18162	Yes
Gun Monuments and Cannonballs	154123	Contributing			Asset	1319656	Yes
Parker's Battery Memorial (1973) *	154125	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Battlefield ID Tablets: Battlefield Exhibits	154127	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1331991	No
National Park Service Utilities, Signs, and Furnishings	154129	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Directional Compass	154131	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 28. (top left) Headstone for identified Civil War soldier (top right) Headstone for unidentified Civil War soldier (bottom left) Civil War-style headstone installed after 1897; (bottom right) General-style headstone (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 29. View of the 127th Pennsylvania Monument, constructed in 1906 (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 30. View of the Parker's Battery Memorial that was installed in 1973 (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 31. View looking northwest toward the flagstaff, located at the brow of the hill. Two stands of 12-pounder round shot are installed at the base of the flagstaff. The 83rd New York Monument (Moesch) is on the left (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 32. View looking north toward the Sunken Road and a hitching post. The hitching post was installed in 1907. Note the lodge and the inclosure wall on the left (OCLP, 2011).



Figure 33. View of the directional compass installed by the National Park Service (OCLP, 2011).

Landscape Characteristic: Archeological Sites

In the February 2010 draft of the National Register documentation, the Fredericksburg National Cemetery (#FR0147a) is described as a contributing archeological site within the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. The documentation notes that there are over 15,000 (mostly unidentified) Union dead from battlefields throughout central Virginia that have been buried in the cemetery. It also notes that the cemetery may also contain the remains of the Mitchell House as well as the earthworks of an artillery battery on the south end of the cemetery ridge above Hazel Run. The battery played a key role in the military events of both Fredericksburg battles. No subsurface archeological investigation has taken place within the cemetery walls due to the likelihood of disturbing human remains (National Register, draft February 2010, Section 7, pg. 37-38).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Fredericksburg Cemetery (FR#0147a)	153753	Contributing					No

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 03/25/2031

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 03/25/2025

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The overall landscape is well-maintained and in good condition.

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 09/21/2021

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Provisional. The condition reassessment for this CLI has been delayed due to Covid-19 travel restrictions and staffing shortages. In the meantime, the most recent condition assessment will remain in place until it is reassessed as part of a comprehensive update of the entire CLI. Planning and scheduling this update will occur in FY 2022.

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 09/19/2011

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The Fredericksburg National Cemetery meets the definition of "fair" because it shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. The poor condition of the marble headstones, external erosion concerns (along the southern boundary), and repointing needed on the perimeter wall require corrective action. If left to continue without appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the property to degrade to a poor condition.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Future expansion by Mary Washington University has the potential to adversely impact the views from the cemetery.

Date Identified: 09/27/2011

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Decades of exposure and wear have left their marks on many of the headstones. Aside from the chips and cracks caused from modern lawnmowers, many headstones are covered with dirt, lichens, and mold, while others are engulfed by trees. Some headstones tilt forward and require straightening and many headstones are sunken into the ground or stand too high. A survey done in 2006 identified 319 headstones that are significantly low. Of that number, 65 have sunken so far into the earth as to cover all or part of their inscriptions. Far fewer are the headstones that stand too high. These granite shafts have risen from the earth to reveal their rough-hewn bases. The 2006 survey identified just 52 of them.

Date Identified: 09/27/2011

Type of Impact: Erosion

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Erosion of an escarpment along the southern and western boundary of the property continues to threaten the boundary walls along the southern and western boundaries of the cemetery.

Date Identified: 09/27/2011

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Preservation

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: General Management Plan

Document Date: 1986-08-28

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

Broad direction on the treatment of the Fredericksburg National Cemetery is currently found in the park's General Management Plan, last adopted in 1986. The plan called for the identification and stabilization of historic buildings and sites and minimal development within the "Preservation Subzone," which included the national cemetery. It further stated that the cemetery be "maintained in a manicured condition in commemoration of the interred Union soldiers" as part of the park's "Commemoration Subzone." The park's current work on a new general management plan is revisiting recommendations from previous park planning and will provide an approach for future landscape treatment for the national cemetery.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography:

Citation Author	Citation Title	Year of Publication	Citation Publisher	Citation Type	Citation Location	Citation Number
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	Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center					
	List of Classified Structures Database					
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Auwaerter, John	"Cultural Landscape Report for Poplar Grove National Monument"	2009	U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Lands			
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Fredericksburg National Cemetery
Fredericksburg National Cemetery

Sammartino, Therese T.	"National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, Civil War Era National Cemeteries"	1994	Department of Veterans Affairs			
Pfanz, Donald C.	"Where Valor Proudly Sleeps: A History of Fredericksburg National Cemetery, 1866-1933"	2007	n/a			
National Park Service	"Director's Order #61: National Cemetery Operations"	2010	n/a			

Landscape Documents:

File Name	Date	Attachment Type
FRSP_Ellwood-Cemetery-Sunken Road_CLI Update Notes_2025.pdf		

Source