National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2020

Revised: 6/2026



Stonewall NM Landscape

Stonewall National Monument

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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: Stonewall NM Landscape

Resource Level: Cultural Landscape

CRIS-CL Resource ID: 976163

Inventory Status: Complete

Park Information

Park Name: Stonewall National Monument

Alpha Code: STON

Park Organization Code:

Region: Northeast

Restricted: No

Landscape Description:

Stonewall National Monument is located in New York City, in the neighborhood of Greenwich Village on the lower west side of Manhattan. The 7.7-acre national monument was established in 2016 for its significance in the area of gay rights, and as the site of protests, collectively known as Stonewall, that occurred between June 28 and July 3, 1969. The property is anchored by the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar at 53 Christopher Street, and Christopher Park, a small urban park across the street. A series of raids at the Stonewall Inn sparked several thousand rioters to protest police actions, leading to clashes that extended into the surrounding narrow streets for several days and nights. The uprising at Stonewall is widely considered to be the single most important event leading to the gay liberation movement and the modern fight for LGBTQ rights in the United States.

Christopher Park is open daily to the public, surrounded by brick sidewalks and a restored nineteenth-century wrought-iron fence. A brick plaza inside the west half of the park is lined with benches and surrounded by shade trees and beds of shrubs and flowers. Near the center of the space is George Segal's "Gay Liberation," a white lacquer sculpture of two women sitting on a bench and two men standing nearby. Amongst the trees and shrubs in the east half of the park is a sculpture of Phillip Henry Sheridan, a Union General in the Civil War, while just outside the park is a flagpole and plaque honoring another Civil War hero, Colonel Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth. The surrounding streetscape features narrow paved streets, sidewalks lined with trees, and multi-story brick and stone buildings, all of which are part of the Greenwich Village Historic District.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Stonewall NM landscape is within the boundaries of the 220-acre Greenwich Village Historic District that was established by the City of New York Landmarks Preservation Commission on April 29, 1969 and documented in the National Register of Historic Places on June 19, 1979. Significance was identified under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of Architecture, Art, and Literature for the district's collection of major architectural building styles, its place of residence or work for many famous artistic and literary Americans, and its avant-garde attitudes and independent spirit that still existed. The boundaries of the district were increased with the addition of 45 buildings on May 2, 2006 and 235 buildings on June 22, 2010. A 7.7-acre area of the Greenwich Village Historic District was documented separately in the National Register on May 27, 1999 as "Stonewall," a site that included the Stonewall

Inn, Christopher Park, and the nearby city streets. Significance at the national level was identified under Criterion A in the area of Social History for the series of events collectively known as Stonewall, that occurred between June 28 and July 3, 1969, which is regarded by many as the single most important event that led to the modern gay and lesbian liberation movement and to the struggle for civil rights for gay and lesbian Americans.

The 7.7-acre Stonewall area was designated National Historic Landmark on February 16, 2000, possessing national-level significance under NHL Criterion 1 (National Register Criterion A) in the area of Social History for its association with events that outstandingly represent the struggle for gay civil rights in America. The period of significance was documented as June 28, 1969 to July 3, 1969, the dates of the uprising. Stonewall is regarded by many as the single most important event that led to the modern gay and lesbian liberation movement and to the struggle for civil rights for gay and lesbian Americans. The Stonewall uprising was, as historian Lillian Faderman has written, “the shot heard round the world...crucial because it sounded the rally for the movement.”

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The physical integrity of the Stonewall National Monument landscape is evaluated by comparing the landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1969) with those of the existing landscape as assessed in 2020. Many of the historic characteristics and features are still present. The spatial relationships of the streetscape – that of streets and sidewalks bordered by buildings and street trees – are intact, allowing visitors to visualize how the streetscape influenced the clashes and movements of the police and protestors during the uprising. The overall layout of Christopher Park is unchanged, with landscaped open space occupying the park’s western half and plantings filling the eastern half. Residential, commercial, and recreational land uses continue to define the national monument area, although the roster of residents and businesses has predictably changed over the last fifty years. The historic Stonewall Inn at No.53 Christopher Street still operates as a bar, and along with adjacent No.51, retains a historic brick and stucco façade. Mature trees and shrubs meticulously maintained by the Christopher Park Alliance shade and enclose Christopher Park, while lines of street trees surround the park and arch over the adjoining streets. Extant circulation features include sidewalks throughout the neighborhood, a perimeter sidewalk around the park, and a paved interior walkway in the park. Photographed views are still intact from the park to the Stonewall Inn and within the park to the statue of General Phillip Henry Sheridan. In addition to the statue several historic small-scale features also remain, including an iron picket fence with decorative finials around the park, an iron arch that spans the park’s west entrance, and a flagpole and tablet just east of the park memorializing Colonel Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth.

Most of the changes in the Stonewall National Monument landscape since 1969 are compatible with the property’s historic character. The building at No.51 Christopher Street, which was part of the Stonewall Inn at the time of the uprising, is currently vacant. The palette of trees and shrubs in Christopher Park has diversified with the additional plantings of perennials and annuals, while species of trees in the park and along the streets are no longer exclusively oaks. Pavement materials have changed, as all streets are now asphalt, sidewalks are concrete or bluestone, and the park’s perimeter sidewalk and interior walkway are brick. Within Christopher Park, the historic drinking fountain and central lamppost are gone; new lampposts, interior fencing, and benches were added in 1986. Arguably the most popular feature in the park is George Segal’s sculpture “Gay Liberation” installed in 1992 to commemorate the events of 1969. Other small-scale features, typical of an urban streetscape, dot the national monument area, including a variety of homemade enclosures around the street tree wells that have been assembled by residents and businesses to protect flowers.

The Stonewall National Monument landscape is in “good” condition as defined in the CLI Professional Procedures Guide. The property shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The property’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.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

Stonewall National Monument contains one landscape.

Landscape Type:

Historic Designed Landscape

Historic Site

Other Names:

Other Name:	Christopher Park	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Greenwich Park	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Greenwich Village	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	“Greenwijck,” or “Pine District”	**Other Name Type:**	Historic

Site Plan



Site plan for the Stonewall National Monument Landscape, 2020.



Site plan for Christopher Park, within the boundaries of the Stonewall National Monument Landscape, 2020.

Concurrence Information

Superintendent Acknowledgment:

Park Superintendent Acknowledgment: Yes

Park Superintendent Acknowledgment Date: 09/17/2020

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

The CLI was completed by Clelie Fielding, Student Conservation Associate, and Jeff Killion, CLI Coordinator for Region 1. Field work was completed at the park in October 2019. The park's contact for cultural resources is Shirley Y. McKinney, Superintendent, Manhattan Sites: African Burial Ground, Castle Clinton, Federal Hall, General Grant, Governors Island, Hamilton Grange, Saint Paul's Church, Stonewall, and Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace. She can be reached at 212-825-6991.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Stonewall NM Landscape
Stonewall National Monument

Stonewall National Monument concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Stonewall NM Landscape, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

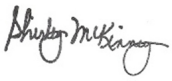
CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

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 Stonewall NM Landscape is hereby approved and accepted.



09/17/2020

Superintendent, Stonewall National Monument — Date

Park concurrence form, 2020.

Cultural Landscapes Inventory
CLI Update Certification Form
2026

Stonewall NM Landscape
Stonewall National Monument

Stonewall National Monument certifies the CLI update for the Stonewall NM Landscape, including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good – Stonewall NM 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 update for the Stonewall NM Landscape at Stonewall National Monument is hereby approved and accepted.

AMY SEBRING Digitally signed by AMY SEBRING
Date: 2026.06.23 07:42:55 -04'00'

Superintendent, Stonewall National Monument Date

Park concurrence form, June 23, 2026.

Seq. No.	File Name	Caption

Revision:

Revised By	Type of Revision	Revision Date	Revision Explanatory Narrative
Jeff Killion	CLI Update	06/23/2026	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 2026 update to the Stonewall NM Landscape 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/Territory	County
New York	New York
New York	New York County

Area (Acres): 7.7

Land Tract Number(s)

Tract 01-101, (0.12 acres)
Tract 01-102 (7.53)
Tract 01-103 (0.05)

Boundary Description:

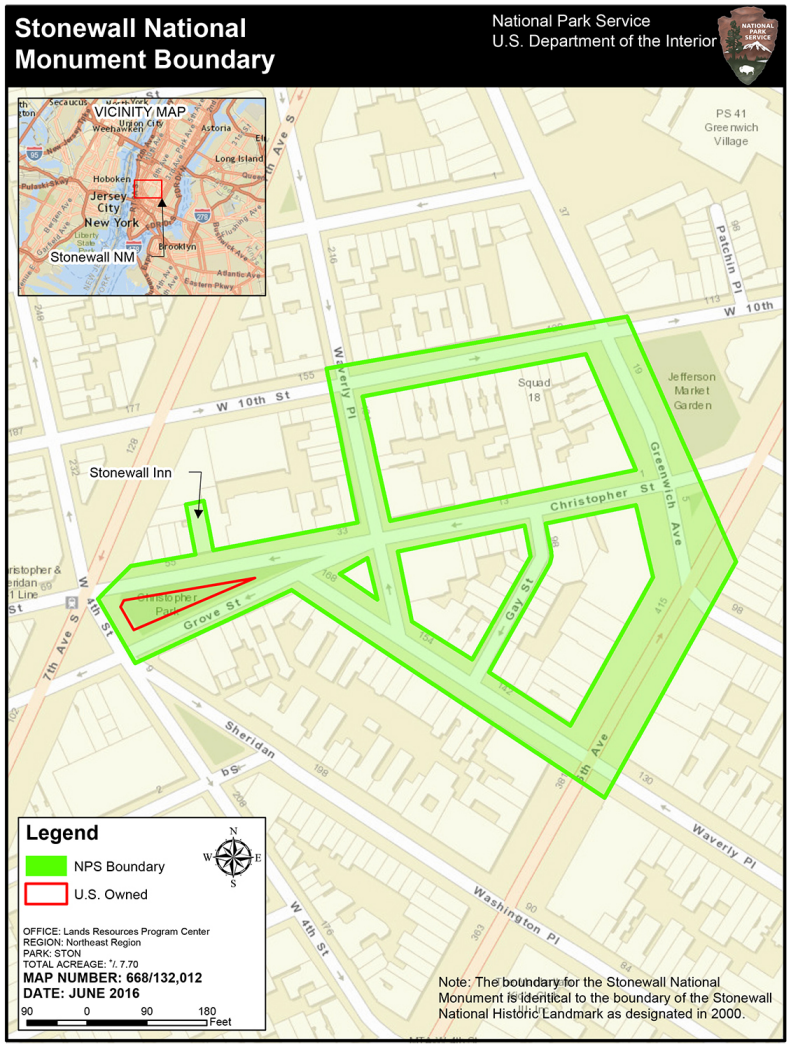
Stonewall National Monument encompasses 7.7 acres, and is bound by portions of Greenwich Avenue, Sixth Avenue, Waverly Place, Grove Street, West Fourth Street, Seventh Avenue South, Christopher Street, and West Tenth Street. It also includes the entirety of Gay Street. Within these boundaries is the 0.12-acre parcel of land known as Christopher Park, which is owned and managed by the National Park Service. The streets and sidewalks are owned by the City of New York and the Stonewall Inn at 53 Christopher Street is privately owned. (FD 2019: 10) Except for No.53, the boundary excludes all buildings that front the streets.

The boundaries of the CLI are coterminous with the boundaries of the Stonewall National Monument and the Stonewall National Historic Landmark District. This boundary includes the documented locations of the series of events that occurred between June 28, 1969 and July 3, 1969.

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
Aerial Photograph	Polygon	40.736	-74.00268	
Aerial Photograph	Polygon	40.733729	-74.002634	
Aerial Photograph	Polygon	40.739111	-74.001309	
Aerial Photograph	Polygon	40.734538	-74.001487	
Aerial Photograph	Polygon	40.734767	-73.999886	
Aerial Photograph	Polygon	40.733813	-73.999255	
Aerial Photograph	Polygon	40.732814	-73.99997	
Aerial Photograph	Polygon	40.733641	-74.001673	
Aerial Photograph	Polygon	40.733354	-74.002485	

Location Map:



Map showing location and boundaries of Stonewall National Monument, 2016. (National Park Service, Foundation Document: Stonewall National Monument, 2019: ii)

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Physiographic contexts include the large-scale physical forms and patterns of the landscape such as hill, plateau, ravine, drumlin, etc. Stonewall National Monument lies on relatively flat land today, as traces of the hills that once dotted the island of Manhattan were long ago leveled to make way for the expansion of New York City and construction of streets and buildings.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Cultural contexts are the general human overlay on the physical form on the landscape. In the twentieth century, Greenwich Village was known as an artists' haven, the Bohemian capital, the cradle of the modern LGBTQ movement, and the East Coast birthplace of both the Beat and 1960s counterculture movements. Greenwich Village, often referred to by locals as simply "the Village," contains Washington Square Park, as well as two of New York's private colleges, New York University and the New School. (Wikipedia: Greenwich Village)

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Political contexts are the overlays imposed on the landscape through general land use, zoning, legal restrictions, transportation, utilities, population, and political jurisdiction. Greenwich Village is a neighborhood in the Borough of Manhattan in New York City. Generally, the village is bounded by 14th Street to the north, Broadway to the east, Houston Street to the south, and the Hudson River to the west. Greenwich Village also contains several subsections, including the West Village west of Seventh Avenue and the Meatpacking District in the northwest corner. Greenwich Village is part of Manhattan Community District 2 and is patrolled by the 6th Precinct of the New York City Police Department. The village covers approximately 0.289 square miles and has a population of 22,785. (Wikipedia: Greenwich Village)

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category:	Category A (High NPS Priority for Preservation and Maintenance)
Management Category Date:	09/17/2020

Management Category Narrative:

Stonewall National Monument meets the "High NPS Priority for Preservation and Maintenance" (formerly "Must Be Preserved and Maintained") management category because the property is nationally significant as defined by National Historic Landmark (NHL) criteria. The 7.7-acre property was designated an NHL on February 16, 2000.

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: Cooperative Agreement

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Narrative:

New York City Department of Parks and Recreation provides maintenance services for Christopher Park including trash and snow removal.

Type of Agreement: Cooperative Agreement

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Narrative:

Christopher Park Alliance opens and close Christopher Park, and maintain the park's gardens.

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Legal Interest Narrative: Christopher Park

Type of Interest: None - Local Government Owned

Legal Interest Narrative: City of New York owns the streets and sidewalks

Type of Interest: None - Privately Owned

Legal Interest Narrative: Christopher & Seventh Realty, LLC, owns the Stonewall Inn, 53 Christopher Street

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Adjacent lands are lands outside the cultural landscape boundary, including lands inside or outside the park. The continuous lines of buildings facing the streets are an important part of the national monument's streetscape. During the Stonewall uprising, the streets and sidewalks created the horizontal plane of the streetscape, while the buildings and street trees defined the vertical and overhead planes. These elements collectively defined the corridors within which protestors and police battled.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Eligibility: Eligible - Keeper

Eligibility Date:

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Individual

Classification: Site

Documentation Narrative Description:

Stonewall National Monument (NM) was established by presidential proclamation on June 24, 2016. Prior to that time the park was documented in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Greenwich Village Historic District and the Stonewall National Historic Landmark (NHL) Site. The park's boundaries are coterminous with boundaries of the NHL designation.

On April 29, 1969, the 220-acre Greenwich Village Historic District was established by the City of New York Landmarks Preservation Commission, and on June 19, 1979 the district was documented in the National Register (NRIS 79001604). Significance was identified under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of Architecture, Art, and Literature for the district's collection of major architectural building styles, its place of residence or work for many famous artistic and literary Americans, and its avant-garde attitudes and independent spirit that still existed. Regarding the landscape, the documentation stated that the village was "noteworthy for the variety of its streetscapes and parks, for its human scale and rows of nineteenth century townhouses." The period of significance for the district was identified as "1800-1899, 1900-x," but no specific dates were given. The boundaries of the district were increased with the addition of 45 buildings on May 2, 2006 and 235 buildings on June 22, 2010.

On May 27, 1999, a 7.7-acre area of the Greenwich Village Historic District was designated as Stonewall, a site that included the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, and the nearby city streets (NRIS 99000562). Significance at the national level was identified under Criterion A in the area of Social History for the series of events collectively known as Stonewall, that occurred between June 28 and July 3, 1969, which is regarded by many as the single most important event that led to the modern gay and lesbian liberation movement and to the struggle for civil rights for gay and lesbian Americans. The documentation thoroughly described the roles of the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, and the nearby city streets during the uprising. The period of significance was documented as June 28, 1969 to July 3, 1969, the dates of the uprising. It also identified Criteria Consideration G: Properties that Have Achieved Significance within the Last Fifty Years.

On February 16, 2000, the 7.7-acre Stonewall site was designated as the Stonewall National Historic Landmark Site, which included the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, and the nearby city streets. Significance at the national level was identified under NHL Criterion 1 under NHL Theme II (Creating Social Institutions and Movements, 2. Reform Movements) in the area of Social History for the site's association with events representing the struggle for gay civil rights in America. The documentation thoroughly described the roles of the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, and the nearby city streets during the uprising. The period of significance was documented as June 28, 1969 to July 3, 1969, the dates of the uprising.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," resources that contribute to the significance of the Stonewall NM landscape have been described in the 1979 and 1999 National Register documentation and the 2000 NHL documentation. The site's areas and periods of significance are also adequately documented. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, Stonewall NM is considered "Entered-Documented."

Pre-CLI Documentation Status: Entered Documented

CLI SHPO/THPO Concurrence Date: 2/16/2000 12:00:00 AM

CLI Concurrence Narrative:

The 7.7-acre Stonewall National Historic Landmark was documented in the National Register on February 16, 2000.

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

The following Statement of Significance is extracted from the 1999 NHL documentation prepared in 1999

and approved on February 16, 2000.

CRITERION A
Social History.
Stonewall National Monument is nationally significant under NHL Criterion 1 (National Register Criterion A) in the area of Social History because it is associated with events that outstandingly represent the struggle for gay civil rights in America. The site encompasses a several block area in Greenwich Village that was the location of a series of events, collectively known as Stonewall, that occurred between June 28 and July 3, 1969. Stonewall is regarded by many as the single most important event that led to the modern gay and lesbian liberation movement and to the struggle for civil rights for gay and lesbian Americans. The Stonewall uprising was, as historian Lillian Faderman has written, “the shot heard round the world...crucial because it sounded the rally for the movement.” (NHL 1999: 7, citing Faderman 1991: 195)

Although Stonewall occurred less than fifty years ago, the site meets the criteria for exceptional significance because its importance was widely recognized by scholars and citizens almost immediately, because it has been the subject of extensive scholarly research and interpretation, because it represents an outstanding and clearly defined episode in the history of civil rights in America, because its significance is recognized internationally, and because it has had a demonstrable effect on the lives of millions of Americans, as well as on American society in general. In the judgement of historian Martin Duberman, “Stonewall is the emblematic event in modern lesbian and gay history. As such,” Duberman asserts, “Stonewall has become an empowering symbol of global proportions.” (NHL 1999: 7, citing Duberman 1993: xv) (Note: Criteria Consideration G no longer applies because fifty years have passed since the historic event occurred).

The Stonewall Inn was a gay bar located at 51-53 Christopher Street in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of New York City. As part of a pattern of raids and harassment of gay establishments, the bar was raided by the New York City police at about 1:30 a.m. on the morning of Saturday, June 28, 1969. The reaction of the bar’s patrons and of the crowd that assembled in the street (which included a diverse segment of the gay community and other Greenwich Village residents and visitors) was not typical of such events. Instead of dispersing, the crowd became increasingly angry as the Stonewall’s employees and patrons were arrested. Soon participants began chanting, throwing pennies, beer cans and other objects, and the police were forced back into the bar. Reinforcements were called in, and for several hours the police tried to clear the streets while the crowd fought back. Over the next few evenings the uprising continued. Two quiet nights followed before the final episode of street fighting occurred, late Wednesday evening and early Thursday morning, July 2nd and 3rd. The street events occurred outside the Stonewall Inn, in Christopher Park (across the street from the bar), along Christopher Street between Seventh Avenue South and Greenwich Avenue, and along adjacent streets, notably Waverly Place, Gay Street, Greenwich Avenue, Sixth Avenue and West 10th Street. At its peak, the crowd included several thousand people. (NHL 1999: 7)

The struggle for gay rights did not begin that night, as groups had previously been organizing in New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Los Angeles and other cities to plead for the recognition of gay and lesbian people and for an end to discrimination. However, Stonewall marked a major change, as gay men and lesbians began to demand their rights vocally and assertively. The events of Stonewall, as the uprising is most commonly referred to, became the major catalyst for change in the self-awareness of gay men and lesbians, for the development of a gay rights movement, and for the beginning of a change in the perception of gay men and lesbians by the heterosexual world. The importance of the event was recognized almost immediately, both by many of those who had participated or been onlookers, and by gay men and lesbians elsewhere in New York and around the country. Franklin Kameny, one of the most prominent early gay activists, remembered that:
"By the time of Stonewall, we had fifty to sixty gay groups in the country. A year later there was at least fifteen hundred. By two years later, to the extent that a count could be made, it was twenty-five hundred. And that was the impact of Stonewall." (NHL 1999: 8, citing Kameny 1994)

Shortly after the rebellion, groups organized to maintain the activism. These included, notably, the Gay Liberation Front, followed soon by the Gay Activists Alliance. A few weeks after the raid, in commemoration of Stonewall, the first gay march took place, with participants parading from Washington Square to the Stonewall site. A year later, in commemoration of Stonewall, the first Christopher Street

Liberation Day march took place, with thousands of gay men and lesbians marching from the Stonewall site to Central Park. Similar commemorative marches occurred in Chicago, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, where the marches were referred to as Christopher Street West. Annual New York marches continue to pass in front of the Stonewall and along the streets where the rebellion occurred. (NHL 1999: 8)

Since 1969, the significance of Stonewall has been recognized internationally. Many historians have discussed the significance of the event in books and articles published by major presses. The uprising marks the emergence of cultural activity with specific and open gay and lesbian themes, inspiring a large body of work in fine arts, poetry, literature, theater, and motion pictures. Marches and parades, attracting tens of thousands of participants, have taken place in commemoration of the uprising in the United States, Europe, and Australia. Large numbers of organizations, institutions, and commercial enterprises have been named for Stonewall and Christopher Street. In 1979, on the tenth anniversary of the uprising, New York City announced that a commemorative statue by George Segal would be placed in Christopher Park. This work, Gay Liberation, was installed twelve years later in 1992. Also as a tenth-anniversary commemoration, the first national gay rights march was held in Washington, D.C. In 1989, in honor of the twentieth anniversary of the uprising, a portion of Christopher Street in front of the Stonewall Inn was renamed Stonewall Place; New York's Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center commissioned a series of major art installations, including several specifically relating to Stonewall; and the United States Post Office offered a special commemorative stamp cancellation. On the twenty-fifth anniversary of Stonewall in 1994, upwards of one million people came to celebrate in New York by participating in the Gay Games and Arts Festival and a massive march, and the New York Public Library organized a major exhibition entitled Becoming Visible: The Legacy of Stonewall. Significant art and architecture exhibitions and conferences were held in association with "Stonewall 25" celebrations. The Stonewall site, which receives visitors from all over the world, continues to be recognized as a place where a major event in the history of civil rights occurred in America. (NHL 1999: 8-9)

National Register Significance Criteria:

Significance Criterion A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

National Register Criteria Consideration:

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

Time Period: CE 1969 - CE 1969

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Creating Social Institutions and Movements	Social and Humanitarian Movements	Civil Rights Movements	

National Register Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Social History

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Narrative:

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Stonewall
NRIS ID:	99000562
Primary Certification Date:	05/27/1999

State Register Documentation:

Identification Number:	99PR04559
Name:	Stonewall
Listed Date:	03/24/1999

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark?	Yes
Theme:	Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Contributing:	
NHL ID:	99000562
NHL URL:	
Date:	02/16/2000

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1500 - 1599	Inhabited	In the 1500s Native Americans known as the Lenape inhabit the area they called Sappokanican where they fished and farmed, known today as Greenwich Village.
CE 1624	Established	The Dutch establish a trading post named New Amsterdam at the southern tip of Manhattan.
CE 1629	Colonized	Dutch West India Company recognizes the Lenape settlement land as valuable, and begins granting large portions of it to its employees.
CE 1633	Farmed/Harvested	Wouter Van Twiller claims two hundred acres of land, and turns it into a successful tobacco plantation beginning in 1633.
CE 1638	Land Transfer	Van Twiller transfers two large parcels of land to Francis Lesley and Jan Van Rotterdam. Present-day Christopher Street follows the border between the two properties, known as “the road along Jan Van Rotterdam’s to the Strand.”
CE 1664	Established	English colonists assume power, renaming the city New York. Wealthy British citizens began buying land in Greenwich to build country homes.
CE 1670 - 1679	Purchased/Sold	In the 1670s Dutch settler Yellis Mandeville purchases a farm in present-day Greenwich Village, and names it “Greenwijck,” or Pine District.
CE 1700 - 1725	Farmed/Harvested	During the first quarter of the 1700s, Trinity Church Farm, Elbert Herring Farm, and the Peter Warren Estate are established in the vicinity of the future Christopher Park.
CE 1740 - 1749	Established	By 1740 the “road along Jan Van Rotterdam’s to the Strand” becomes known as Skinner Road.
CE 1752	Purchased/Sold	The Warren Estate is sold to Charlotte (Warren) Willougby. Richard Amos, and David Mallows. Other country estates and farms in the area are also sold to or inherited.
CE 1788	Platted	Willougby subdivides her land as early as 1788.
CE 1794	Platted	The Herring Farm is divided into lots.
CE 1794	Purchased/Sold	By 1794 Mallows transfers ownership of his land to Abijah Hammond, who in turn grants the riverside lots to the City of New York for the site of a new state prison.
CE 1796 - 1798	Platted	Amos surveys the land from Charles, present-day West Tenth, and Greenwich streets. A survey of Hammond land establishes present-day Bleecker and West Fourth streets and Waverly Place.
CE 1799 - 1822	Inhabited	In 1799-1822, several cholera and yellow fever epidemics strike the city, creating an influx of new residents into the Greenwich Village area.
CE 1799	Platted	Hammond’s property between Bleecker and West Fourth streets is platted in 1799.
CE 1799	Purchased/Sold	The Warren land is acquired by Charles Christopher Amos.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1799	Established	Christopher Street receives its current name.
CE 1799 - 1811	Platted	From 1799-1811 surveys of the south side of Christopher Street lay out present-day Bedford, Grove, Barrow, and Commerce streets.
CE 1800 - 1811	Planned	Common Council of New York drafts plans for the present-day street grid in 1800, but it is not fully realized and developed until 1811 when the city implements a rectangular street grid plan extending from Houston Street, Fifth Avenue, Greenwich Avenue, and West Fourteenth Street northward to 155th Street. The smaller street grids from lower Manhattan to the Greenwich area oriented differently are retained, creating bends in the street patterns and extreme variations in block sizes and shapes.
CE 1807	Platted	Hammond's property between West Fourth Street and Greenwich Avenue is subdivided by 1807.
CE 1825	Built	Sidewalks around Christopher Park and adjacent streets are paved with flat stone slabs.
CE 1825 - 1828	Developed	The Erie canal opens, turning New York into a major seaport. The Christopher Street pier is built in 1828 and becomes the main entry for lumber and building materials.
CE 1826	Platted	The Thomas Ludlow Farm, located east of the Herring Farm, is platted.
CE 1829	Platted	The lots in the Trinity Church lands are laid out.
CE 1833 - 1836	Built	The city erects the Jefferson Market at the eastern end of Christopher Street. Other markets open along Christopher Street but by 1836 on the Jefferson Market remains, and it expands, spewing new growth in the area.
CE 1835	Altered	A large fire destroys a residential building that housed forty-one families on a 0.19-acre triangular-shaped block at the intersection of Christopher, Grove, and West Fourth streets.
CE 1837	Established	Villagers petition for a park on the site of the fire, which is named Christopher Park.
CE 1843	Built	A stable is built at No.51 Christopher Street for A. Voorhis.
CE 1846	Built	A stable is built at No.53 Christopher Street for Mark Spencer.
CE 1850 - 1859	Developed	In the 1850s almost every lot in Greenwich Village is developed.
CE 1865	Inhabited	The demographic of Greenwich Village shifts after the Civil War with a second wave of European immigration to the U.S.
CE 1871	Built	The EL, a steam-powered elevated railroad, is constructed at the western end of Christopher Street.
CE 1872	Built	The Christopher Street Rail Road Company builds a streetcar line along Christopher Street.
CE 1878	Built	A EL line is constructed at the eastern end of Christopher Street.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1885	Altered	In the mid-1880s Calvert Vaux and Samuel Parsons Jr. improved Christopher Park by planting privet hedges and arranging benches along an interior walk.
CE 1898	Altered	The stable at No.51 Christopher Street is expanded to a 3-story building in 1898.
CE 1899	Built	A photograph from c.1899 shows the park bordered by sidewalks and defined by a perimeter fence that was likely part of the Vaux and Parsons design.
CE 1910	Built	Portions of Greenwich Village are razed for construction of Seventh Avenue South and the IRT (Interborough Rapid Transit) subway line. The working-class neighborhood develops to the west, and an artistic, Bohemian neighborhood to the east. Christopher Park, sits alongside the new street.
CE 1916	Planned	Zoning laws institutionalize the separation between east and west portions of Christopher Street. Areas west of Seventh Avenue South are left without restrictions, but to the east of the avenue industries and large manufacturing uses are restricted.
CE 1928	Planted	By 1928 the city replaces the aging trees in Christopher Park with new ginkgo trees and privet shrubs in the west half and oak trees and a small area of grass in the east half.
CE 1928	Altered	By 1928 the streets surrounding the park are paved in brick.
CE 1928	Built	By 1928 a lamppost is located near the center of the park's interior walkway.
CE 1930	Altered	Buildings No.51 and No.53 Christopher Street are combined to function as a bakery with a new façade designed by architect William Bayard Willis. The third floor of No.51 is removed and both facades are faced with brick on the ground floor and stucco on the second floor.
CE 1933	Planted	By 1933 the city installs evenly spaced oak trees, set within rectangular tree wells in the sidewalks surrounding Christopher park and along the adjacent streets.
CE 1934	Altered	The combined space at No.51 and No.53 Christopher Street becomes Bonnie's Stonewall Inn, at which point architect Harry Yarish adds a column surround to the entrance at No.53, and installs a large vertical neon sign, "Bonnie's Stonewall Inn," at No.51.
CE 1935	Built	By 1935, the park's interior walkway is surfaced in macadam and surrounded by 3-foot high iron fencing. The south entrance features three steps while the north entrance features one step (the west entrance is at grade). A drinking fountain stands at the east end of the interior walkway.
CE 1935	Altered	By 1935 the sidewalks surrounding the park are concrete and the streets are paved in asphalt.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1936	Memorialized	A bronze statue of Civil War Union General Philip Henry Sheridan sculpted by Joseph Pollia is installed in the eastern portion of Christopher Park. A flagpole is also placed in the park, commemorating the 11th NY Volunteer Infantry Regiment of 1861.
CE 1936	Altered	The park's interior iron fence is replaced with a 3-foot tall chain link fence (except at the east end that was iron pickets).
CE 1945 - 1950	Platted	Christopher Street is rezoned again, accentuating the division between east and west portions, forcing all restaurants and industrial businesses to move to the west of Seventh Avenue, and pushing clothing stores and antique shops to the east.
CE 1960 - 1962	Preserved	Residents support a special amendment to the 1916 zoning ordinance to further regulate the size of structures in the village. The amendment is approved in 1960, and adopted into city-wide zoning regulations in 1962.
CE 1964	Destroyed	The interior of Bonnie's Stonewall Inn is destroyed by fire. It is essentially abandoned for a few years.
CE 1966	Developed	Four men affiliated with the mafia open a gay bar and dance floor at 51-53 Christopher Street, named the Stonewall Inn. The large front windows are boarded up with plywood and painted black and the vertical neon sign is retained. The bar opens in early 1967.
CE 1969	Established	New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission designates the 220-acre Greenwich Village Historic District, which includes Christopher Park and the surrounding streets and buildings.
CE 1969	Damaged	The Stonewall uprising occurs from June 28, 1969 to July 3, 1969.
CE 1969	Memorialized	On July 27, a group of activists establish a new organization, the Gay Liberation Front that stages the first gay and lesbian march, proceeding from Washington Square Park to the Stonewall Inn.
CE 1969	Abandoned	Still lacking a liquor license, Stonewall Inn closes in October after operating as a juice bar for months.
CE 1975	Altered	The Christopher Corporation, owned by Manny Duell, acquires Christopher Street buildings No.s 51-61 and begins leasing the first floor commercial spaces separately. The deteriorated Stonewall Inn sign is replaced by an illuminated sign with brass lettering and a bronze-colored aluminum background. No.51 opens as the Bagel Place and No.53 is the Bowl & Board.
CE 1979	Established	Greenwich Village Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
CE 1982	Altered	No.53 Christopher Street becomes the Szechuan Cottage Restaurant.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1983 - 1986	Altered	From 1983-1986, The Friends of Christopher Park make improvements under the direction of landscape architect Philip Winslow. Completed in 1986, the redesign includes a reconfiguration and extension of the interior walkway, new gates at the north and south entrances, new interior iron picket fencing, paving the interior walk and exterior walks in brick, new benches and lampposts, planting new shrubs, and addition of an irrigation system. Existing trees are retained, but the steps, drinking fountain, and center lamppost are removed.
CE 1985	Built	Artist George Segal completes a sculpture titled “Gay Liberation” for installation in Christopher Park. The work shows two women sitting on a bench and two men standing nearby. It is not installed due to public opposition and planned improvements to the park.
CE 1987	Altered	No.51 Christopher Street becomes a gay bar named Stonewall as a tribute to the previous establishments. The illuminated vertical Bagel Place sign is refaced to read “STONEWALL.”
CE 1989	Altered	The Stonewall at No.51 Christopher Street closes. The illuminated vertical “STONEWALL” sign is removed.
CE 1989	Memorialized	On the twentieth anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, the city renames the portion of Christopher Street in front of the Stonewall Inn “Stonewall Place.”
CE 1989	Memorialized	In honor of the twentieth anniversary, New York’s Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center commissions a series of major art installations, including several specifically relating to Stonewall.
CE 1990	Altered	No.53 Christopher Street is leased to a bar named “New Jimmy’s” at Stonewall Place. About a year later the bar’s owner changes the name to Stonewall.
CE 1992	Altered	No.51 Christopher Street becomes a men’s clothing store.
CE 1992	Memorialized	The “Gay Liberation” sculpture by George Segal is installed in Christopher Park.
CE 1994	Memorialized	The twenty-fifth anniversary march attracts upwards of one million people. The New York Public Library organizes an exhibition titled “Becoming Visible: The Legacy of Stonewall.” Other significant art and architecture exhibitions and conferences are held in association with the “Stonewall 25” celebrations.
CE 1999	Established	Coinciding with the thirtieth anniversary, a 7.7-acrea are within the Greenwich Village Historic District that includes the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, and nearby city streets are listed on the National Register of Historic Places under the name Stonewall.
CE 2000	Established	On February 16, 2000, the 7.7-acre Stonewall area is designated as a National Historic Landmark for its association with events representing the struggle for gay civil rights in America.
CE 2007	Altered	New lessees take over the Stonewall and rename it Stonewall Inn, which is still open today.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 2014 - 2016	Planted	From 2016-2016 the Christopher Park Alliance installs a new irrigation system, a new planting design for new plantings of perennials, annuals, and spring-flowering bulbs.
CE 2015	Established	On June 23, Landmarks Preservation Commission approves designation of the Stonewall Inn as a New York City Landmark.
CE 2015	Altered	No.51 Christopher Street is occupied by a nail salon.
CE 2016	Established	On June 24, 2016, President Barack Obama designated the 7.7-acre Stonewall National Historic Landmark district a unit of the national park system, under the name Stonewall National Monument, for its pivotal role in LGBTQ history.
CE 2017	Established	A rainbow flag is raised at the Elmer E. Ellsworth flagpole, which is outside federally-owned property.
CE 2019	Memorialized	The fiftieth anniversary Pride Parade brings five million people to march the streets of New York City in rainbow attire.

Physical History:

INTRODUCTION

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the site, organized by time periods. The narrative is extracted primarily from the following sources: “Straight Down Christopher Street, A Tale of the Oldest Street in Greenwich Village” edited by Christine Boyer, (1993); “Designation List 483, LP-2574: Stonewall Inn, 51-53 Christopher Street, Manhattan” by Christopher D. Brazee, et.al. (2015); and the Greenwich Village Historic District [GVHD] Designation Report. Vol. 1 and Vol. 2. by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (1969).

NATIVE AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT

The Stonewall National Monument is within the Greenwich Village area of Manhattan Island, one of the five boroughs in New York City. In the sixteenth century this area was a Lenape camp for fishing and planting known as Sapokanican. Although occasional contact with Europeans occurred in the sixteenth century, it was not until 1624 that a permanent settlement was established by the Dutch at the lower, or southern, tip of Manhattan. Named New Amsterdam, the trading post became the seat of government for New Netherland, a colony of the Dutch Republic that was located on the east coast of America. (Klose 2010: 5)

In 1629 the Dutch West India Company recognized the land near the Lenape camp as valuable real estate and granted large portions of it to its employees, including Wouter Van Twiller, director general of New Amsterdam. Van Twiller claimed a 200-acre portion of this land as his personal plantation, naming it “Bossen Bouwery,” or “Farm in the Woods,” where he cultivated tobacco beginning in 1633 (Figure 1). In 1638 Van Twiller was recalled to Holland and transferred his land to two individuals: Francis Lastley (or Lesley) and Jan Van Rotterdam. Later maps indicate that the boundary between the two plantations eventually became known as “the road along Jan Van Rotterdam’s to the Strand.” The road followed the exact trajectory of what would become Skinner Road by 1740, and then Christopher Street in 1799. The name “Greenwich” appears to be from a settler by the name Yellis Mandeville, who bought a farm in this area in 1670s and named it “Greenwijck,” or “Pine District,” after an old Dutch town on Long Island where he once lived. (Boyer 1993: 36-37; Klose 2010: 5; Bowery Boys, 2009)

The small number of landowners who farmed in the Greenwich area around this time generally abided by the local topography, thus retaining its rural character. However, in 1664 the English conquered New Amsterdam, renaming it New York and assuming control of the island. Wealthy British citizens began to buy land in Greenwich to build country homes away from the island’s rapidly growing lower end. (Bowery Boys 2009). The large tract of land on the south side of Christopher Street was transferred to the Crown, and in 1708 Queen Anne granted it to Trinity Church in hopes of making the Church of England the established church of New York. By the mid-1700s this tract was known as Trinity Church Farm (Figure 2). To the east of the church’s farm and south of Christopher Street was the Elbert Herring Farm. To the east of the Herring Farm and extending across to the north side of Christopher Street lay the 300-acre estate of Admiral Sir Peter Warren. In 1740 Warren built a country house two blocks north of Christopher Street, a site bound by present-day Bleeker, West Fourth, Charles, and Perrv streets. By this time Christopher Street was known as Skinner Road, named for Warren’s son-in-law, and it extended northeastward to the middle of the present-day block between Fifth and Sixth avenues. Heading northwestward was Monument Avenue, which may have been an early Native American trail and later named Strand Road by the Dutch. Today it is named Greenwich Avenue. (Boyer 1993: 37; New York Songlines)

Subdivision of Farms:
After the deaths of Peter Warren in 1751 and his wife in 1752, the Warren estate was divided (Figure 3). The land adjacent to Christopher Street was granted to his daughter Charlotte (Warren) Willougby. Richard Amos acquired the land to the north of Christopher Street between present-day Washington and Hudson streets, while David Mallows acquired the land to the east of Amos’s land, between Hudson and Bleecker streets, and to the west between Washington Street and the river. Other country estates and farms in the area were also sold to or inherited by wealthy citizens. (Boyer 1993: 37; GVHD 1969: 12)

The new owners hired surveyors to lay out their streets and to plot their lands for development. Willougby subdivided her land as early as 1788, and Amos’s land was subdivided into blocks and lots by 1789. The Herring Farm, located on the south side of Christopher Street, was platted in 1794. By that same year Mallows had transferred ownership of his land to Abijah Hammond, who in turn granted the riverside lots to the City of New York for the site of a new state prison. Hammond’s property between Bleecker and West Fourth streets was platted in 1799, while his holdings between West Fourth Street and Greenwich Avenue were subdivided by 1807. The Thomas Ludlow Farm, located east of the Herring Farm, was platted in 1826, and the lots in the Trinity Church lands were laid out in 1829. (GVHD 1969: 11-12)



Figure 1. Map showing the location of the Van Twiller plantation, indicated as #10, dated 1639. (Joan Vinckeboons, "Map of Manhattan, 1639." From the Roll Family Windmill, Genealogy of the Roll and Allied Families, accessed 11 March 2020, https://rollwindmill.org/html/manatvs.html)

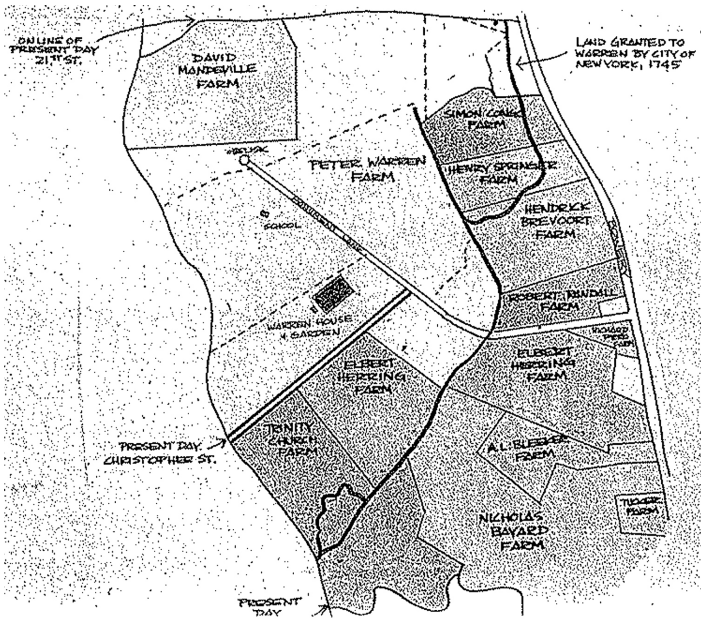


Figure 2. Land ownership along Christopher Street, early 1700s. The red dot represents the approximate location of Christopher Park. (Museum of the City of New York. From Christine Boyer, "Straight Down Christopher Street," 1993: 38)

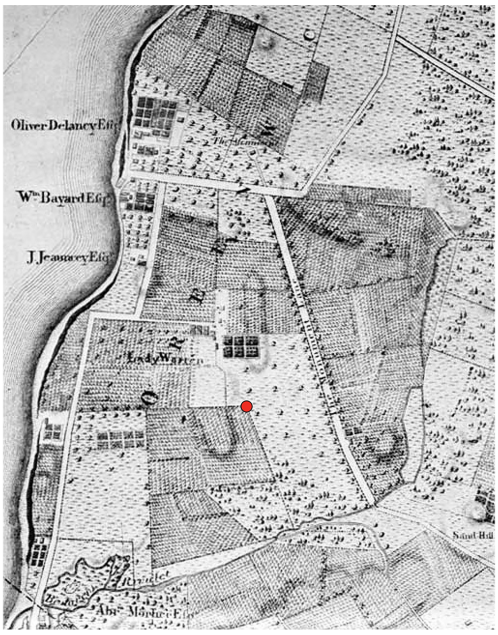


Figure 3. Portion of Bernard Ratzer's map of New York and its suburbs, c.1760. The red dot is the approximate location of Christopher Park. (Bernard Ratzer, "Map of old Greenwich Village. A section of Bernard Ratzer's map of New York and its suburbs, made in the Eighteenth Century, when Greenwich was more than two miles from the city." From Project Gutenberg eText 16907)

MANHATTAN STREET DEVELOPMENT

The layout of streets in lower Manhattan initially developed organically as the New Amsterdam, and then New York, grew. The roads were a mixture of Native American trails, short streets, and country lanes shaped by natural features, topography, and property ownership without any overarching order. This changed around 1800 when the Common Council of New York began to assert authority over the streetscape. Beginning in 1803, the Council started to condemn streets which served no public purpose, and, importantly, took responsibility for building streets, which heretofore had been done by individual property owners. In 1811 the City of New York implemented a rectangular street grid plan extending from Houston Street, Fifth Avenue, Greenwich Avenue, and West Fourteenth Street northward to 155th Street (Figure 4). This gridiron reflected the northeast to southwest orientation of the island. However, the existing collection of smaller street grids from lower Manhattan to the Greenwich area that were oriented differently were retained, creating numerous bending streets and variations in block shapes. The irregular streets grids around Christopher Street would play a crucial role in the Stonewall uprising. (GVHD 1969: 12; Wikipedia: Commissioners' Plan of 1811)

Christopher Street:
Christopher Street received its current name in 1799, when the Warren land was acquired by Warren's eventual heir, Charles Christopher Amos. As a primary road, the street was well-positioned for development. In 1796 Amos surveyed the land from Charles, present-day West Tenth, and Greenwich streets. The same year a survey of the Hammond land located present-day Bleecker and West Fourth streets and Waverly Place. Surveys of the south side of Christopher Street in 1799, 1809, and 1811 laid out present-day Bedford, Grove, Barrow, and Commerce streets. (Boyer 1993: 37-38; Wikipedia: Christopher Street)



Figure 4. Commissioners Plan, 1807, with Greenwich Village indicated in red. (William Bridges and Peter Maverick, "This map of the city of New York and island of Manhattan, as laid out by the commissioners appointed by the legislature, April 3d, 1807 is respectfully dedicated to the mayor, aldermen and commonalty thereof." From Library of Congress, http://hdl.loc.gmd/g3804n.ct000812)

THE GROWTH OF GREENWICH VILLAGE

At the turn of the nineteenth century, the footprint of New York City began expanding northward, closing the gap between itself and Greenwich Village. Developments included construction of the massive Newgate Prison in 1797 at the foot of Christopher Street and the Greenwich Market on Christopher Street between Greenwich and Washington Streets in 1812. Along Christopher Street, most of the land was parceled into lots and sold in the first two decades of the nineteenth century, but the surrounding countryside remained predominantly open. (Boyer 1993: 39-40: GVHD 1969: 12)

These developments, combined with a series of cholera and yellow fever epidemics, fueled migration of new residents into the village, particularly in the 1820s. Construction boomed, especially west of Sixth Avenue (Avenue of the Americas), where small houses, built singly or in groups of threes and fours, lined the streets. These structures were occupied by weavers, sailmakers, carters, shopkeepers, butchers, and craftsmen, but after the 1822 fever subsided many businesses returned to the city. The abandoned structures were eventually filled by immigrants and laborers. A January 18, 1825, article in The Commercial Advertiser recorded the dramatic change: "Greenwich is no longer a country village. In three years' time, at the rate buildings have been built last season, Greenwich will be known only as part of the city and the suburbs will be beyond it." (GVHD 1969: 12; Boyer 1993: 40-41, no citation)

Infrastructure improvements soon followed suit. In 1825 the sidewalks along and around Christopher Street were paved with flat stone slabs. In the same year the city filled in the low land between the present Washington and West streets and extended Christopher Street westward to the river and its current length. The opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 turned New York into a major seaport, and by 1828 a pier was built at the foot of Christopher Street, which served as the main entry for lumber and building materials targeted for the expanding city to the north. (Boyer 1993: 41)

With the closing of Newgate Prison in 1828, the city subdivided the grounds and sold the lots, except

for a space on present-day Weehawken Street that was reserved for a public marketplace. However, in 1833 the city decided to erect the Jefferson Market at the eastern end of Christopher Street instead, at the junction of Greenwich and Sixth Avenues. Following the vocal objections of property owners, however, the Weehawken Market opened one year later. Competition between the three markets eventually drove the Weehawken Market and the earlier Greenwich Market out of business, but the Jefferson Market thrived, expanding in 1836 to include fishermen, poultrymen, and hucksters alongside the butchers. (Boyer 1993: 40-41) The market's expansion spawned the growth of Sixth Avenue as a shopping and municipal center. and spurred the development of the eastern stretch of Christopher Street with townhouses, in contrast with the shops and taverns clustered near the pier on the street's western blocks. (GVHD 1969: 12)

Protests and Christopher Park:
The 1830s marked the beginning of a new social consciousness within Manhattan, and Greenwich Village in particular, as protests brought artisans, laborers, and tradespeople alike to take political action in debates of the time. In 1834, stonecutters protested in nearby Washington Square on the use of Sing Sing prisoners to cut stone for the new buildings at New York University. Closer at hand was the 2-story triangular-shaped brick Northern Dispensary building, a medical institute founded built in 1831 and expanded in 1854 to treat the poor living outside Lower Manhattan. (Boyer 1993: 42) GVHD 1969: 155)

Villagers also pressed the city for additional park spaces as their neighborhood became increasingly congested. Along the middle stretches of Christopher Street, the residential character had begun to change with the appearance of boarding houses and multi-family dwellings. Author Christine Boyer suggests that the village was beginning to experience the same overcrowding that affected much of the city to the south. When fire destroyed several "disease breeding" structures that housed forty-one families in 1835, villagers petitioned for a park on the site. The city agreed and through condemnation in April 1837 designated this triangular-shaped block at the intersection of Christopher, Grove, and West Fourth streets as Christopher Park (Figure 5). Unfortunately, there are no further details about the appearance of the park until the 1880s. Note: the park was renamed Greenwich Park in 1856, but it is rarely known by that name. (Boyer 1993: 42)

In the 1840s the commercial and manufacturing character of Christopher Street was well established. The number of shopkeepers continued to rise and more and more structures that were once strictly residential now contained retail businesses on their first floors. Among the new buildings constructed were two 2-story stables on Christopher Street opposite the new park: the stable at No.51 Christopher Street was erected for A.Voorhis in 1843, and a stable at No.53 for Mark Spencer in 1846. The two stables would eventually become the Stonewall Inn. (Boyer 1993: 43; NHL 1999: 10)

By the 1850s, nearly every lot in Greenwich Village was developed. Christopher Street had become the main artery of the village, providing commercial services to the residential community that inhabited the adjoining streets. A new type of housing, the tenement, also emerged in the village around this time. Built in 1856 by Samuel Taylor, the 6-story brick structure at No.98 Christopher Street was designed compactly with reduced ceiling heights on each floor. More tenements soon began to replace the 2- and 3-story town houses along Christopher Street. This period also witnessed the demise of an important link to the past, the Warren Mansion, which was replaced in 1865 with rows of townhouses that still stand today. (Boyer 1993: 43-45)

By the time of the Civil War, Greenwich Village had unmistakably transformed from a rural village to an urban village. A city report from 1865 described the area of village west of Sixth Avenue between Houston and Fourteenth streets as a neighborhood containing 2.5- to 3-story brick structures, of which 80 percent were single-family houses. The remainder were converted private residences that housed multiple families, or tenement houses. (Boyer 1993: 45)

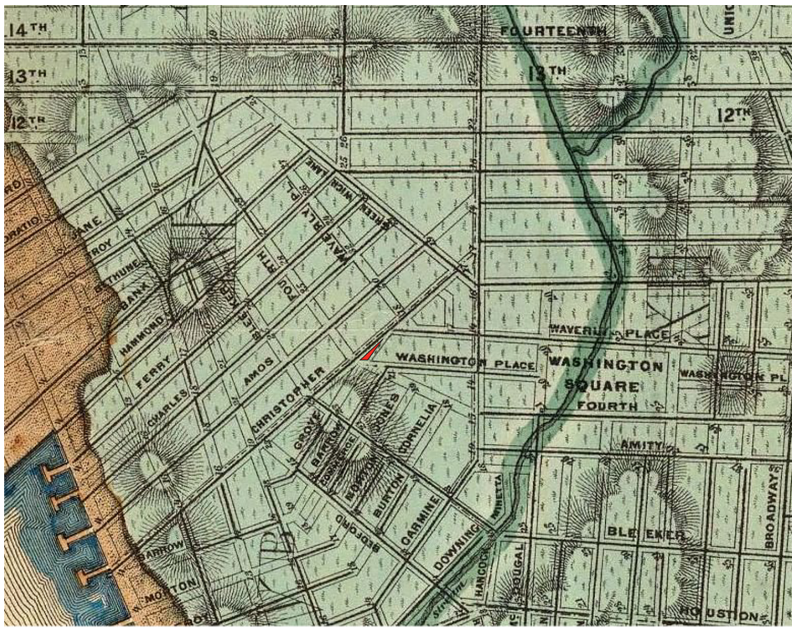


Figure 5. Portion of map showing the location of Christopher Park (in red at image center), dated 1874. (Egbert L. Viele, "Sanitary Topographic Map of the City and Island of New York," 1865. From "Greenwich Village: The Magnificent Origin When it was Green and a Village," 2009)

NEW RESIDENTS AND NEW TRANSPORTATION

After the Civil War the ethnic diversity of Christopher Street expanded when a second wave of European immigration arrived, bringing Irish and German settlers, as well as French, British, and other western European families. This influx of immigrants eventually displaced first and second generation Irish and black populations in Greenwich Village, pushing them uptown to Harlem, San Juan Hill, and the Tenderloin. The village had been home to about a quarter of the city's African-American population, but this decreased from 1880 onwards. In addition, the retail center shifted eastward from the village into the blocks around Union Square and northward along Broadway to Twenty-third Street. With new residents came an increase in New York City's industrial base, fueling a growth in population that reached around 1.5 million in 1890. (Klose 2010: 7-8; Boyer 1993: 45)

The EL:
In the 1870s new transportation lines afforded village residents numerous rapid transit options. In 1871 the Manhattan Railway Company constructed a steam-powered elevated railroad, which featured an elaborately simulated "Swiss chalet" station at the western end of Christopher and Greenwich streets (named the Ninth Street Line). Nicknamed the "EL" for elevated, the line tracked alongside buildings at the second story level. Housewives were allegedly so upset with the dirt and noise instigated by the EL that they regularly threw bricks at the trains. Nonetheless, by avoiding street traffic, the EL enabled workers to travel to work quickly and easily. The EL proved so popular that another line and station was built at the eastern end of Christopher Street in 1878 (Sixth Street Line). In 1872 the Christopher Street Rail Road Company constructed a horsecar line from the Tenth Street Ferry on the East River, across Eighth Street, past Cooper Union, and along Christopher Street to the Hoboken Ferry at the west end of the street. (Boyer 1993: 46)

Christopher Park Improvements:
Back on Christopher Street, Christopher Park in the 1870s was in decline due to the absence of regular care and maintenance. In the mid-1880s, British architect Calvert Vaux and American landscape architect Samuel Parsons Jr. improved the park by planting hedges and arranging

benches on both sides of an interior walkway. A photograph from c.1899 shows the park bordered by sidewalks and defined by a perimeter iron picket fence that was likely part of the Vaux and Parsons design (Figure 6). The size of the trees shown in this photograph suggest they were planted before 1880. The earliest detailed map of the park dates to 1899, which identifies the space as “Park” (Figure 7). The map shows the streetcar line along Christopher Street and details about the surrounding blocks of buildings, including the future Stonewall Inn buildings, No.51 and No.53. Both are shown as brick structures; by this time No.51 is a 3-story building and No,53 remains a 2-story building. (Cultural Landscape Foundation, 2018; NHL 1999: 10; Klose 2010: 9)

The earliest photograph of the park that shows detail dates to c.1910 and provides additional information about the park. The perimeter iron picket fence was five feet high and featured decorative iron pickets, and wood benches were arranged around the interior walk (Figure 8). This photograph shows mature trees (one with recent cuts) that appear to be sycamores, and several shrubs in the planting beds between the interior walkway and fence. Another photograph from the same period shows that the perimeter fence was anchored into 6-inch high granite coping stones and that the perimeter sidewalks were constructed with concrete or bluestone and bordered by curbs (Figure 9). A 1916 map confirms the presence of the interior walk, which was accessed from three points: on the west from West Fourth Street, on the south from Grove Street, and on the north from Christopher Street (Figure 10). A c.1920 photograph shows the west entrance was at grade with the perimeter sidewalk and marked with a decorative iron arch supported by the perimeter fence (Figure 11). There were also several benches placed on the sidewalks outside of the fence.

The Subway and Seventh Avenue South:
The turn of the twentieth century saw an increase in Christopher Street’s population, with many of the new residents living in a new iteration of housing – 6- to 7-story apartment buildings occupying several building lots. These new buildings, often ornamented with a variety of stylistic motifs such as Romanesque Revival arches or fanciful terra-cotta elements, began to replace the smaller brick houses along Christopher Street, especially in the blocks between Hudson and Bleecker streets. (Boyer 1993: 47)

In 1904 the Municipal Arts Society of New York proposed widening Christopher Street and extending it northeast on its diagonal to Union Square. The plan was intended to encourage the flow of commercial and industrial activity but ultimately was not implemented. Instead, manufacturers and wholesale merchants were increasingly moving into the western areas of the village where the land was relatively inexpensive and the rents were low. The new developers began to construct warehouses and loft buildings to house the expanding drug, leather, hardware, and ironware industries, as well as printing, publishing, and plumbing establishments. (Boyer 1993: 47-48)

In 1910 physical layout of Greenwich Village was drastically changed with construction of a subway line and a new surface street, named Seventh Avenue South, which ran above it. The impetus of the project began in 1903 when the Interborough Rapid Transit Company (IRT) acquired the Manhattan Railway Company’s elevated trains. The IRT opened he first subway line in 1904, operating between City Hall in Lower Manhattan and 145th Street at Broadway. In 1910 the IRT began construction on a new line that passed through Greenwich Village, which ran diagonally and parallel to Hudson Street to the west and Sixth Avenue to the east. To make way for a street level subway station and Seventh Avenue South, numerous buildings were demolished, including those along both sides of Christopher and Grove streets immediately west of Christopher Park. A comparison of maps from 1899 and 1916 shows the enormous impact of the new street on the neighborhood, which physically divided Greenwich Village into two halves and displaced hundreds of residents (see Figures 7, 10). (Cudahy 1995: np)

By 1916 a new zoning law solidified the distinction between the eastern and western sections of Christopher Street. West of Hudson Street, the waterfront blocks were left without restrictions, thereby
permitting any type of building and land use. To the east was an area where all industries and large manufacturing establishments were excluded. The dividing line was essentially the new Seventh Avenue South: to the west, the ground floors of tenement houses were occupied by saloons and stores, while to the east were commercial establishments, such as Prohibition-style tearooms,

nightclubs, bookstores, clothing shops, and gift stores. With so many aspects of the village changing, the Greenwich Village Improvement Society, founded in 1903, called for the city to build more play spaces for children, install better lighting and public comfort stations, and repave the streets. (Boyer 1993: 48-49; Village Alliance, 2015)



Figure 6. View looking west at Christopher Park, with Christopher Street (image right), Grove Street (center), and Waverly Place (left), c.1899. Note the mature trees and perimeter fence in the park. (Percy Loomis Sperr. From New York Public Library, Digital Collections, #718783F)



Figure 7. Sanborn map of Greenwich Village, dated 1899. Christopher Park is at image center, in green. (Sanborn-Perris Map Co. Limited, "Insurance Maps for the City of New York, Borough of Manhattan, Plate 35," 1899. From New York Public Library, Digital Collections)



Figure 8. View looking southwest at the perimeter fence, benches, and two mature trees in Christopher Park, c.1910. (Christopher Park Alliance)



Figure 9. View looking northeast across West Fourth Street to the Greenwich Village Theatre, 1908-1916. Two tall trees stand in the foreground in Christopher Park (image far right). Note the concrete sidewalks and coping stones that support the iron picket fence. (Christopher Park Alliance)

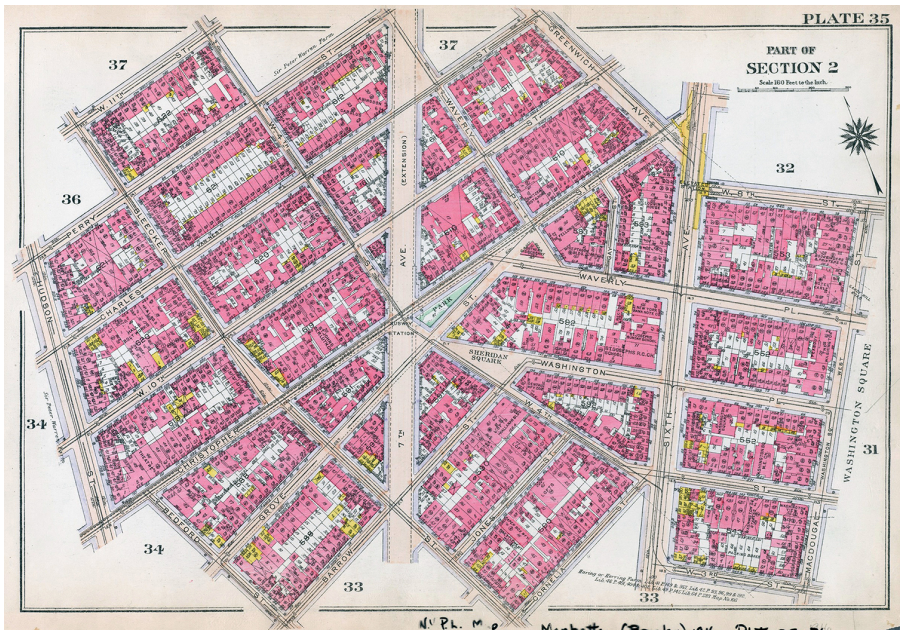


Figure 10. Bromley map of Greenwich Village, dated 1916, with Christopher Park at image center, in green. The map also shows the addition of Seventh Avenue South. (G.W. Bromley and Co., "Atlas of the Borough of Manhattan, City of New York, Plate 35," 1916. From New York Public Library, Digital Collections)



Figure 11. View looking southeast down West Fourth Street from Christopher Street, c.1920. Note the decorative iron arch at the park entrance. (Christopher Park Alliance)

THE ARTISTIC COMMUNITY EMERGES

At the time of these transportation projects, Greenwich Village was a congested maze of crooked streets populated by a diverse working class. Author Olivia Klose writes that in the years leading up to the First World War, "Greenwich Village gained a new cultural prominence as writers, artists,

political radicals and well-educated, liberal-minded people began to colonize the neighborhood." They were drawn to the village by its narrow streets, old buildings, inexpensive rent, ethnic diversity, bohemian style, and mix of formal and informal venues that enabled them to express profound views on global politics, the arts, society, as well as improvement to their local neighborhood. (Klose 2010: 9)

The construction of the subway and Seventh Avenue, and the ongoing real estate boom, made Christopher Street a social and commercial attraction by the mid-1920s. Historian Caroline Ware described the two groups of residents that lived within this setting: the "locals" and the "villagers." The locals lived on the western side of Seventh Avenue and were descended from immigrant families who settled during the last decade of the nineteenth century. The working-class locals supported the cut-through of Seventh Avenue as they believed it would clear up some of the congested streetscapes and improve business in the village. The Villagers were the newcomers, well-educated and sophisticated; socialists, poets, and writers, who inhabited modern high-rise apartments on the east side of Seventh Avenue. The divergent groups shared little common ground, yet Christopher Street was a rare unifying space between working class residents and the free-thinking Bohemians. (Boyer 1993: 49)

The late 1920s saw construction of even taller apartment buildings in the village. Facing Christopher Park were two such structures, a 14-story building on Grove Street built in 1928-1929 and a 15-story building on Christopher Street built in 1930-1931. "Of late years," noted one 1932 account, "Greenwich Village has increased its regular popularity by leaps and bounds as a result of the many beautiful new apartment buildings that have replaced the old rattletrap shacks here, and are bringing in a more circumspect type of resident to the community." But the Great Depression and then World War II soon brought an end to extensive redevelopment. Only one structure was built on Christopher Street between 1933 and 1945. Widespread unemployment affected both locals and villagers, and brought an end to the Bohemian culture in Greenwich Village. (Boyer 1993: 50, citing Chase 1932: 266)

Christopher Park Improvements:
By 1928 the city replaced the aging trees in Christopher Park with new trees, and planted masses of new shrubs in the planting beds (Figures 12, 13). By this time a lamppost stood near the center of the interior walkway. A 1928 photograph also shows the streets surrounding the park were paved in brick and some were inlaid with streetcar tracks. At this time there were no street trees in the park's perimeter sidewalks, but that changed by 1933 when the city installed evenly spaced trees, set within rectangular tree wells here and along the adjacent streets (Figure 14).

An existing conditions plan from 1935 confirms many of the aforementioned features and reveals additional details about the park (Figure 15). The park's interior walkway was surfaced in macadam and edged by a 3-foot high iron picket fence. The park's south entrance featured three steps while the north entrance featured one step (the west entrance was at grade). A drinking fountain stood at the east end of the interior walkway. Shrubs filled most of the park's edges, highlighted by four ginkgo trees in the western half and oak trees and a narrow area of grass in the eastern half. The perimeter street trees were also oaks, set in tree wells within concrete sidewalks.

In 1936 the city prepared plans to redesign Christopher Park, which proposed extending the interior walkway eastward to the location of a new focal point in the park: a statue of Civil War General Phillip Henry Sheridan (Figures 16, 17). Highlights of the plan included surfacing the entire interior walkway with hexagonal pavers, removing the drinking fountain and interior iron picket fence, and shifting the north and south entrances eastward to align with the statue. The planting plan proposed moving two of the ginkgos to the far west end of the park, planting additional pin oaks, and installing privet hedges and additional benches.

Most of the proposed hardscape and landscape changes were not implemented, except for the replacement of the interior fence with a 3-foot tall chain link fence (except at the east end that was iron pickets) and installation of the Sheridan monument. The statue was made of bronze by Joseph Pollia and dedicated in a ceremony at the park on October 19, 1936 (Figure 18). A flagpole was also added to the eastern tip of the park at this time (Figure 19). Erected by the Greenwich Village

Historical Society, the base of the flag featured a tablet dedicated to Colonel Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth, who served in the Civil War and at the age of 24 was the first of his rank killed in 1861. (NHL 1999: 5; NYC Parks)

Stonewall Inn:
In 1930, the stable at No.51 and a bakery that by this time occupied No.53, were combined into a single commercial space by architect William Bayard Willis (Figure 20). The structures were merged by removing the third floor from No.51 and constructing a new façade across both buildings featuring a brickclad ground floor and stuccoed second story, with small projecting iron flower-box holders (on No.51). The combined space housed a bakery until it became Bonnie's Stonewall Inn in 1934, at which point architect Harry Yarish altered the building, adding a column surround to the entrance at No.53, and installing a large vertical neon sign "Bonnie's Stonewall Inn" at No.51 (Figure 21). (Brazee et.al. 2015: 2,6; Stonewall 50 Consortium, 2019: 2; NHL 1999: 4,10)

Bonnie's Stonewall Inn was originally located at 91 Seventh Avenue South. The Inn served light meals and non-alcoholic beverages, but was raided by prohibition agents in December 1930 for operating as a speakeasy. In late December 1933 prohibition was repealed, allowing restaurants and bars serving alcohol to have a much more visible presence. However, the New York State Liquor Authority directed police to interrupt and condemn the serving of alcohol in establishments or to people labeled as "disorderly," meaning gay, lesbian, crossdressing, drag queens, or anything non-gender conforming. Thus, serving alcohol to gay people in any bar became practically illegal, as police raids were routine events. (Brazee et.al. 2015: 2,6; Codrea-Rado, 2016)



Figure 12. View looking east at Christopher Street and young trees and shrubs in Christopher Park, 1928. (New York Public Library, Digital Collections, #718791F)



Figure 13. View looking south at the some of the shrubs that filled the planting beds in Christopher Park, 1930. (Christopher Park Alliance)



Figure 14. View looking west at Christopher Street on May 1, 1933, showing young trees along Christopher Street and within the sidewalks surrounding Christopher Park. (Percy Loomis Sperr. From New York Public Library, Digital Collections, #718783F)

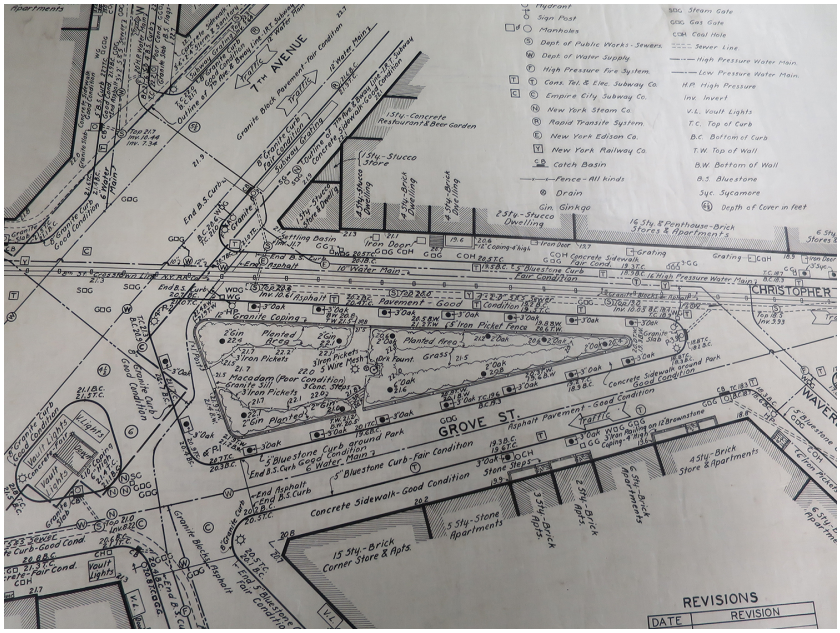


Figure 15. Existing conditions drawing of Christopher Park, dated 1935. (City of New York, Department of Parks, Topographical Division, "Topographical Map of Christopher Park, Borough of Manhattan," # M-T-12-100, May 11, 1935)

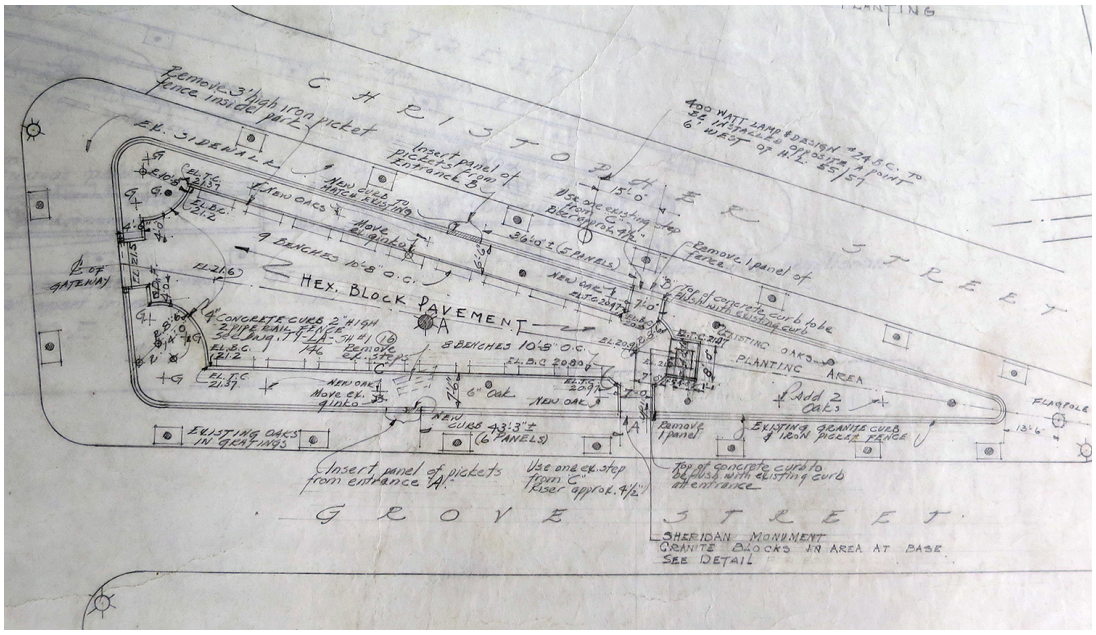


Figure 16. Proposed layout changes for Christopher Park, dated 1936. (City of New York Department of Parks, Arsenal, Central Park, "Christopher Park, Borough of Manhattan, Construction Plan," # M-L-12-100, July 16, 1936)

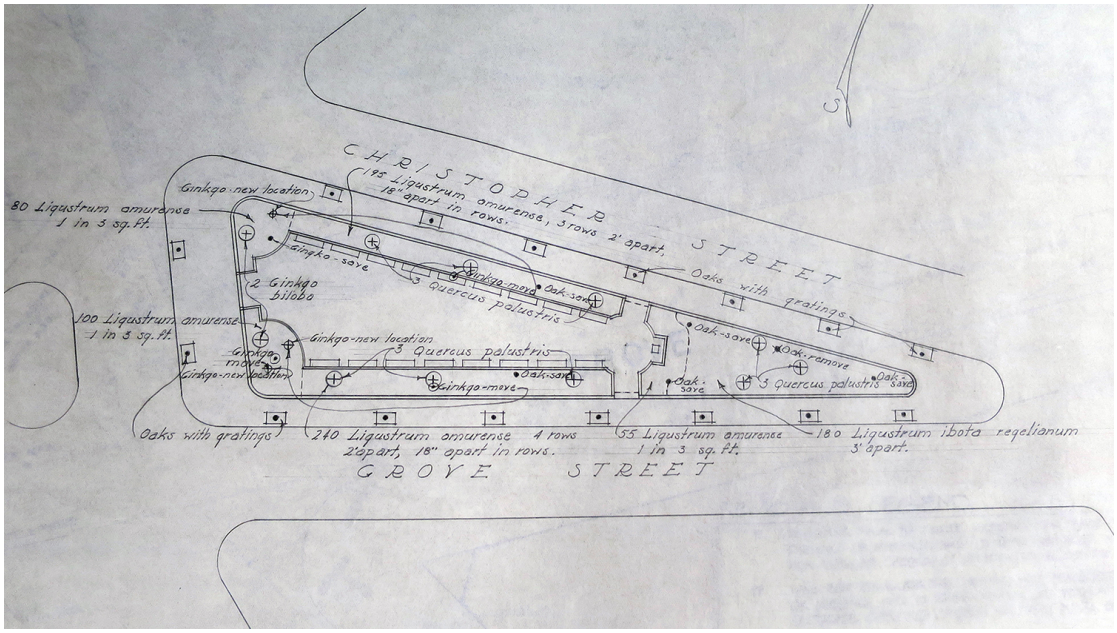


Figure 17. Proposed planting plan for Christopher Park, dated 1935. (City of New York Department of Parks, Arsenal, Central Park, "Christopher Park, Borough of Manhattan, Planting Plan," # M-L-12-101, July 10, 1935)



Figure 18. Dedication ceremony for the General Sheridan monument and Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth flagpole at Christopher Park, October 19, 1936. (NYC Parks, Photo Gallery)



Figure 19. Looking west at the Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth flagpole, down Grove Street to the left and Christopher Street to the right. October 19, 1936. (Museum of the City of New York)



Figure 20. View looking northeast at building No. 53 (bakery), No.51 (stable), and No.49, in 1928, prior to the expansion of the bakery. (Percy Loomis Sperr. From New York Public Library, Digital Collections, #718784F)

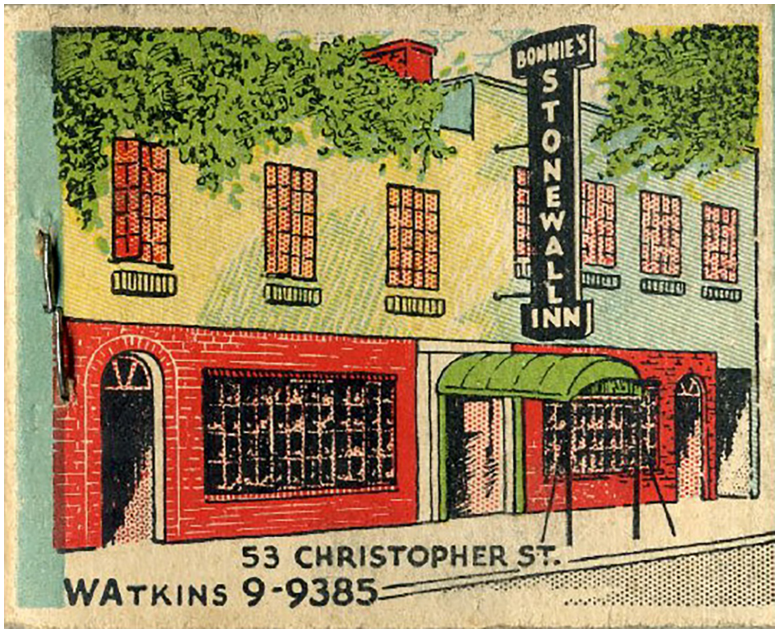


Figure 21. View looking northeast at the remodeled No.53 and No.51, c.1934. (Illustration: Courtesy of Tom Bernadin. From Christopher D, Brazee et.al., Landmarks Preservation Commission, 2015: 22)

GROWING TENSIONS AND PRESERVATION EFFORTS

With World War II coming to a close, another shift in the character of Greenwich Village was underway. In 1945 Christopher Street was rezoned, sharpening the division between the east and west parts of the village by forcing clothing stores and antique shops to the east of South Seventh Avenue, and pushing restaurants and industrial operations to the west. At the same time, the village's population steadily declined through the 1950s as people moved uptown or farther away into the suburbs. In their place came black citizens who were spitefully referred to as "A-trainers" by some longtime residents. This was perhaps the most hostile relationship in the village to date, with racial antagonism building between the new residents and the established community. This, along with other various social tensions around the plethora of night clubs and large homosexual population adamant about gay rights, led to periodic street brawls. (Boyer 1993: 50-51)

In the 1950s Greenwich Village residents joined in a united effort to preserve the distinctive historical and architectural character of their community, which was increasingly under threat by urban renewal projects and associated road-building proposals. Their first objective was to submit to the New York City Planning Commission a proposed special amendment to the 1916 zoning ordinance that would further regulate the height and bulk of buildings in the village. The amendment was approved in 1960 and was incorporated in the new City-wide zoning regulations that took effect in 1962. At the same time, a campaign was initiated to have the village protected under a proposed Landmarks Preservation Law. Ten thousand residents signed the petition in support. (Klose 2010: 11; GVHD 1969: 13-14)

In the 1960s advocates promoted the creation of a Greenwich Village Historic District to protect the neighborhood's historic character. At a public hearing held on December 9, 1965, forty-one people spoke in favor, dozens wrote letters of support, and twenty-three opposed it. The multi-year effort was rewarded on April 29, 1969 when the 220-acre Greenwich Village Historic District was established by the City of New York Landmarks Preservation Commission (Figure 22). The district encompassed 2,050 early and mid-19th-century structures, ensuring the permanence of the neighborhood's distinct character and sense of place. Christopher Park and the surrounding streets and buildings were included in the district. (GVHD 1969: 7; Klose 2010: 12)

Christopher Park:
A series of historic photographs documents the character of Christopher Park from the late 1930s through the 1960s (Figures 23, 24, 25, 26, 27). During this time trees in the park were well maintained and pruned to maintain high canopies. Belgian blocks were added to infill some of the sidewalk tree wells bordering the park. Collectively, the three 1960s photographs illustrate conditions that were present during the events of June and July 1969.

Stonewall Inn:
By the 1950s the Stonewall Inn was known as the Stonewall Inn Restaurant, but in 1964 a fire destroyed the interior and the business closed. In 1966 the space and namesake opened as private bar that catered to gay men. The new owners removed the columned entrance surround and painted the storefront windows black, which was a typical practice at LBGTQ bars of the period. Although the restaurant signs above the storefront windows were removed, the owners retained the large neon sign topped by the word restaurant, even though no food was served (Figure 28). The bar opened in early 1967. (NHL 1999 :10; Brazee et.al. 2015: 4-5)

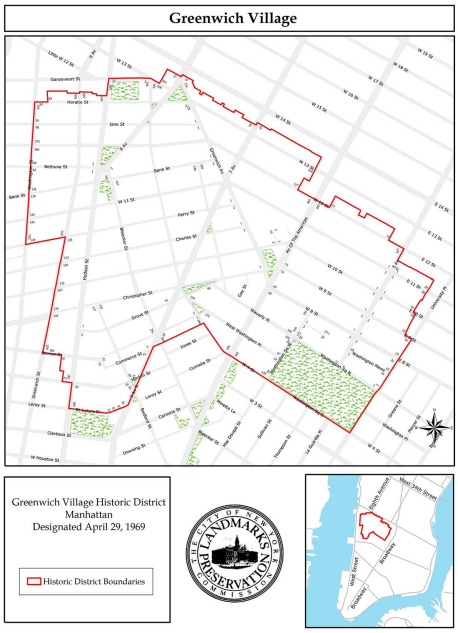


Figure 22. Map showing the boundaries of the Greenwich Village Historic District in 1969, which included Christopher Park and the Stonewall Inn. The district has since been expanded twice since 1969. (Landmarks Preservation Commission)



Figure 23. View looking east at the lawn fronting the General Sheridan monument, 1939. (New York Public Library, Digital Collections, #718796F)



Figure 24. View looking west at Christopher Park. "Diane Baker and Hope Lange cross Christopher Street in a screen capture from the film - The Best of Everything - 1959." Note the high limbs of the trees in the park and along the surrounding streets. (NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project, "Manhattan, Christopher Park, also known as Stonewall National Monument.")



Figure 25. View looking southeast at the west entrance to Christopher Park, c.1965. Note the chain link fence that borders the interior walkway. ("Bob Dylan sitting on bench along Christopher Park fence at West 4th Street circa 1965." From Christopher Park Alliance)



Figure 26. View looking east at the tree pits edged with Belgian blocks along Christopher Street, 1967. (NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project, "Manhattan, Christopher Park, also known as Stonewall National Monument.")



Figure 27. View looking northeast through the park's west entrance and the asphalt-surfaced interior walkway and wood benches, 1967. (New York City Parks Photo Archive)



Figure 28. The Stonewall Inn, on or after June 29, 1969. (Diana Davies, NY Public Library Digital Collection)

THE STONEWALL UPRISING

The 1960s were a period of tremendous social change in the United States. Sexual liberation, the anti-Vietnam War movement, the black civil rights movement, and the women's rights movement changed the character of American society. These trends also influenced homophile activist groups founded the 1950s that strove to merely have their right to exist recognized. The two major homophile organizations of this period were the Mattachine Society, established in 1950 by five gay men in Los Angeles, followed by the Daughters of Bilitis, one of the first lesbian organizations, founded in San Francisco in 1955. The Mattachines began a New York branch in 1955, and the Daughters of Bilitis began a New York branch in 1958. (NHL 1999: 9-10; Brazee et.al. 2015: 5; Stonewall 50 Consortium 2019: 5)

The two coalitions, along with others, were significant forces in the growth of the gay rights movement. From 1965-1969 a series of peaceful July 4th demonstrations demanding equality took place in front of Independence Hall in Philadelphia. These annual events were the largest peaceful demonstrations for gay rights of their time. In New York in 1966, members of the Mattachine Society staged "sip-ins," in which members of the group would approach bartenders and state that they were gay. Their actions prompted a court case, and the court's decision forbade the New York State Liquor Authority from refusing to serve gay men. (Brazee et.al. 2015: 5; NHL 1999: 10)

Greenwich Village:
Greenwich Village had long been attracting people who chose not to conform to society's expectations. Associated with creativity and political activism, the village became known within New York City and the country as a place that embraced unconventional lifestyles. The neighborhood's tolerance made the village a haven for gays and lesbians as far back as the early twentieth century and by the 1930s the village's gay reputation was firmly established. (Brazee et.al. 2015: 5)

The village's gay reputation made it the focus of the aggressive anti-gay policing policy that emerged in the 1950s. During election years, gay bars became targets of clean-up campaigns, and consequently many bars only survived a few months at a time. These discriminatory practices continued in the 1960s and were particularly acute during the 1964-1965 World's Fair when almost all of the city's gay and lesbian bars were shut down. However, after the fair many new gay bars opened in the village, including the Stonewall Inn in 1967. (Brazee et.al. 2015: 5)

Stonewall Inn and Christopher Park:
The 1967 version of the Stonewall Inn was operated by four men who had grown up together in the city's Little Italy section and were affiliated with the Genovese crime family. At the time, it was common for organized crime figures to be involved with gay establishments, as they could either obtained illegal licenses, or open bars without licenses and pay off the police. Like others of its type, the Stonewall did not have a liquor license. Rather, it was considered to be a "private club," since such businesses did not have to be licensed by the State Liquor Authority. Because it was a club, all patrons were supposed to be members and no money was supposed to change hands for drinks. Admission into the bar was accepted or declined by a doorman looking through a peephole who checked the identity of the patron, making sure that there were no plainclothes police welcomed inside. Patrons paid an admission fee of three or four dollars for two drink tickets, and were required to sign in before entering. Judy Garland, Elizabeth Taylor, and Donald Duck were frequent visitors, as patrons often did not use their given names. (NHL 1999: 11; NYC LGBT)

Across the street from the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park had become a destination for LGBTQ youth, some of whom had run away from home or been kicked out of their homes. The park provided a place of refuge as well as a gathering space and a platform to voice demands for LGBTQ rights. Drag queens and gay men rallied in the area, as the park and the Christopher Street piers were some of the only places in the entire city to able to congregate publicly without being physically harassed or arrested. (NPS 2019: 3; Codrea-Rado, 2016)

June and July, 1969:
In June 1969, the Public Morals squad of Manhattan's First Police Division was instructed to increase and intensify LGBTQ bar raids. Led by detective Charles Smythe and deputy inspector Seymour Pine, five LGBTQ bars in Greenwich Village were raided in the last three weeks in June, including the Stonewall Inn on Tuesday June 24. Employees were arrested, the bar's illegal liquor was seized, and patrons were forced to vacate the premises. The Stonewall Inn reopened the next day without any sign of defeat from the night previous, much to the frustration of Smythe and Pine who had hoped to instigate a more detrimental impact. Therefore, the team planned another raid at Stonewall for Friday night, June 27, when the bar was expected to be more crowded. The Stonewall employees were not expecting a raid as it was uncommon for two to occur in the span of a week at the same bar. This time Smythe and Pine came armed with reinforcements: an agent from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, an inspector from the Department of Consumer Affairs, two undercover policewomen, four plainclothes policemen from the Morals squad, two patrolmen, and a warrant authorizing them to search for the illegal sale of alcohol. The team waited in Christopher Park until Pine gave the official order to begin the raid around 1:20 a.m. Saturday morning, June 28. They burst into the bar and began requiring identification from all of the patrons, frisking those who refused to show an ID, and looking to verify each person's sex, as the presence of one transvestite drinking was enough to shut the business down. (Brazee et.al. 2015: 8)

A large crowd formed outside the Stonewall Inn, filling Christopher Park and the adjoining streets as those who were released waited for their friends to emerge. Proud and exhilarated by their bold stance against the police, the customers exiting the bar took a moment to strike campy poses to an applauding and cheering crowd, which attracted passersby from neighboring streets and late night bars. When several police paddy wagons arrived and the bar owner, employees, and three transvestites were escorted from the bar and forcibly shoved into the wagons, the gathered crowd suddenly surged. Infuriated by the officers attempting to make several arrests, they began shouting and crowding around the police cars. Reportedly, the crowd's turning point from passive to aggressive came after a woman was picked up and thrown into a police car as she yelled "Why don't you guys do something!" The crowd sprung to her cry, hurtling bricks, stones, cans, and anything they could grasp at the policemen and the building. The eight officers were forced to retreat back into the bar for shelter, barricading the door against the intensified wake of protestors shouting "Gay power!" and "We want freedom!" and hurtling any objects they could find against the building. (NHL 1999: 14; Brazee et.al. 2015: 8)

Afterward, the police admitted that they were shaking hours after the riot calmed down, afraid that the adrenaline-angered crowd would burst through the door, which was eventually smashed open by

thrown bricks. At about 3:00 a.m. fire trucks and members of the Tactical Patrol Force (TPF) arrived on the scene. The TPF was a trained riot-control force, outfitted with helmets, visors, and clubs, and were able to disperse an estimated four hundred to a thousand people after several confrontations. Although the riot lasted only two hours that night, the news of the raid and the uprising traveled quickly, gathering supporters to the site. (NHL 1999: 14)

Despite significant damage, the Stonewall Inn reopened on Saturday, June 28, serving non-alcoholic soft drinks free of charge. The broken entrance door remained open for all, and the smashed glass windows that had been temporarily boarded up was covered with protest messages such as, "TO FIGHT FOR OUR COUNTRY THEY INVADED OUR RIGHTS," and "GAY PROHIBITION CORUPT$ COP$ FEED$ MAFIA." By Saturday afternoon the small bar was packed and a large overflow crowd had gathered in Christopher Park. Thousands of demonstrators joined the protest that night, having heard the radio and newspaper accounts of the raid and riot. People present at the site the night previous returned, joined by friends who stood in solidarity with members of the LGBTQ community from the entire region. A participant of the riot remembers, "The amazing part of Stonewall is how many people started coming down there as word spread. People came from every borough, people who never came to the village were there. And if you were there, you were part of it." (Brazee et.al. 2015: 10; NHL 1999: 15)

In the early hours of Sunday morning, June 29, Christopher Street was again packed from Greenwich Avenue to Seventh Avenue South, nearly a solid mass of people blocking cars and pedestrians for blocks. Anticipating an even more contentious gathering than the night before, police squad cars arrived around 2:15 a.m. with around one hundred police officers from neighboring precincts. With this the crowd turned violent, hurtling the contents of garbage cans and debris at the officers. The TPF officers were again called in to take control of the crowd, arriving in city buses at the corner of Greenwich Avenue and Christopher Street. In an attempt to clear the area where the crowd had spilled out onto Greenwich Avenue, the TPF rushed at the mass in a line, forcing those at the edges to move west onto West Tenth Street or south on Sixth Avenue. This was only temporarily successful, as the protestors who were familiar with the irregular street pattern ran down both arms of Waverly Place, circling back onto Christopher Street and rejoining the crowd. The TPF, who were unfamiliar with the neighborhood's street layout, proceeded to push the crowd westward down Christopher Street as far as Waverly Place. Once again, the local protesters circled back around the side streets, reappearing at the east end of Christopher Street, behind the TPF officers. Thrilled with their ingenuity and ability to outsmart the TPF, a group of gay men and street youths formed a taunting chorus line in front of the officers and began dancing and singing "We are the Stonewall girls, We wear our hair in curls…" The TPF finally dispersed the protestors and regained control of the street at about 4:30 a.m. (NHL 1999: 15-16; Brazee et.al. 2015: 9)

Sunday afternoon, June 29, brought hundreds of gays and lesbians back to the Stonewall Inn and Christopher Park, unwilling to calmly release the injustice that had occurred two nights earlier. In a peacemaking meeting between the New York Police Department, mayor's office, and Mattachine Society, it was proposed and agreed upon that further protests should be discouraged. A new sign tacked up in the Stonewall windows stated the following: "WE HOMOSEXUALS PLEAD WITH OUR PEOPLE TO PLEASE HELP MAINTAIN PEACEFUL AND QUIET CONDUCT ON THE STREETS OF THE VILLAGE – MATTACHINE" (see Figure 28). The truce was successful, as there were no protests on Monday, June 30, and Tuesday, July 1, perhaps due to the inclement weather. However, on Tuesday evening the Village Voice newspaper hit the stands with a detailed report of the weekend's events at Stonewall on the front page, empowering an energetic crowd to gather around 10 p.m. on Wednesday night, July 2. In the early hours of Thursday morning, July 3, the third and final chaotic street uprising ensued in the Christopher Park area (Figure 29). The TPF arrived on the scene once again, attempting to scatter the crowd. A protester was beaten and a melee erupted for a short period of time. Eventually, the officers dispersed the crowds and the Stonewall uprisings finally came to an end. (NHL 1999: 16; Brazee et.al. 2015: 10)

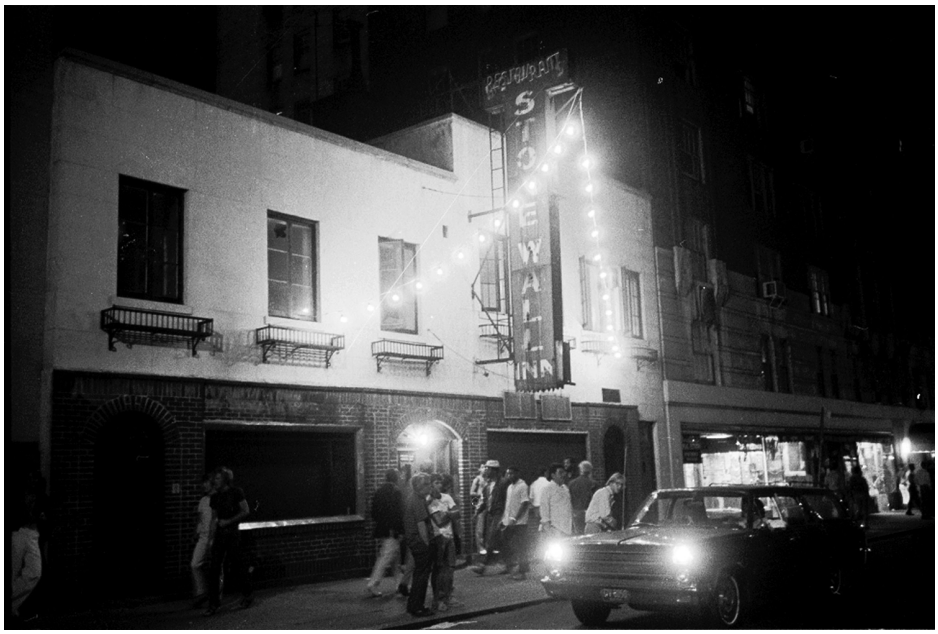


Figure 29. The Stonewall Inn on the evening of July 2, 1969. (Larry Morris, New York Times)

EARLY COMMEMORATIONS OF STONEWALL

On July 27, 1969, one month after the Stonewall uprisings, a group of activists staged the first gay and lesbian march from Washington Square Park to the Stonewall Inn to commemorate the spontaneous demonstration on Christopher Street in 1969 (Figure 30). Other homophile groups across the nation were encouraged to follow suit in holding marches. Organizers then decided that the march would become an annual event, and should be called "Christopher Street Liberation Day." By the end of July, activists had established the Gay Liberation Front "a self-proclaimed revolutionary organization in the style of the New Left" that sought to ally itself with other radical groups, such as the Black Panthers, in order to change American society. Within a few months, less revolutionary members left the organization to establish the Gay Activists Alliance, a group dedicated specifically to seeking gay rights. (NHL 1999: 19, citing D'Emilio 1983: 233)

On June 28, 1970, the first anniversary of Stonewall was commemorated as Christopher Street Liberation Day. The march again ended at the Stonewall Inn, but this time began in Central Park, which had its own unique association with the LGBTQ community as a place of social activism. Marches were also held in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Chicago, and in the years that followed the celebrations expanded to LGBTQ Pride Month, with events held annually throughout the world. (NYC LGBT, 2017; Brazee et.al. 2015: 2)

The tenth anniversary of the Stonewall uprising in 1979 was a momentous occasion in Greenwich Village, New York City, and across the country. The city declared June as Lesbian and Gay Pride and History Month, and the city's Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center commissioned several art installations throughout the city specifically relating to Stonewall. The tenth anniversary was also celebrated with the first national march on Washington, D.C. for lesbian and gay rights, attended by several hundred thousand people and the largest march that had ever taken place in Washington up to that time. (NHL 1999: 4,21-22; Brazee et.al. 2015: 13)

That same year, Peter Putnam, a wealthy arts patron from Louisiana, commissioned a monument that would honor the gay rights movement and commemorate the events at the Stonewall Inn. Putnam selected New York City artist George Segal, and placed one stipulation on the piece; "it had to be loving and caring, and show the affection that is the hallmark of gay people…and it had to have equal representation of men and women." Segal's sculpture, entitled Gay Liberation, displayed two women sitting on a bench and a pair of men standing. Although the work had received all of its community and design approvals by 1982, public opposition and a planned renovation of Christopher Park sidelined the project. In the meantime, a second cast of the sculpture was installed at Stanford University before the original was introduced at Christopher Park in 1992. (NYC Parks, no citation)

No.51 and No.53 Christopher Street:
After the uprising, the Stonewall Inn's owners operated the business as a "juice bar," due to a lack of liquor license. However, by October 1969 they were forced to close after a swift decline in business. The building apparently sat vacant until 1975 when Manny Duell acquired buildings No.51 through No.61 and began leasing the first floor of each for commercial use. No.51 opened as the Bagel Place and No.53 became the Bowl & Board. The vertical Stonewall Inn sign on No.51, which was very deteriorated by this time, was replaced by an illuminated sign with a bronze-colored duranodic aluminum background and brass lettering. (Brazee et.al. 2015: 11; Stonewall 50 Consortium, 2019: 4)

In 1982, No.53 became the Szechuan Cottage Restaurant, and in 1987, No.51 operated as a gay bar named Stonewall. The illuminated vertical Bagel Place sign was refaced to read "STONEWALL," but the sign was removed after the bar closed in October 1989. (Brazee et.al. 2015: 11; Stonewall 50 Consortium, 2019: 4)



Figure 30. Activist Marty Robinson addresses a crowd in Christopher Park, July 27, 1969. This perspective suggests he is likely standing on the drinking fountain. In the background is the decorative iron arch that stands at the park's wet entrance. (Courtesy of the Estate of Fred W. McDarrah. From NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project, "Manhattan, Christopher Park, also known as Stonewall National Monument," https://www.nyclgbtsites.org/site/christopher-park/.)

CHRISTOPHER PARK IMPROVEMENTS

In 1983 improvements at Christopher Park were proposed by the Friends of Christopher Park, a community volunteer group organized in the late 1970s to maintain and beautify the space. Under the direction of landscape architect Philip Winslow, over $130,000 was spent to restore the site, which reopened in 1986. The most significant change was changing the grade of the interior walkway to widen the north and south entrances and remove the steps at those entrances. Another alteration involved changing some the straight edges of the interior walkway to curves and creating a semicircular-shaped eastward extension of the interior walkway (Figure 31). The extension was marked by a new section of 5-foot tall steel picket fencing that matched the historic perimeter iron picket fence, which itself was restored. New 3-foot tall steel picket fencing set on granite curbing was installed around the rest of the walkway, replacing the previous chain link fence. Other improvements included installation of brick pavers in the interior walkway and perimeter sidewalks, double steel gates at the three entrances, "World's Fair" benches, and new lampposts in the planting beds. The park's drinking fountain and center lamppost were removed.

For the plantings, all existing trees were retained, which by this time included several species added sometime after 1936 (Figure 32). In the western half of the park, only the ginkgo at the southwest corner remained, as the three at the other corners had been replaced by sycamores, as well as an additional sycamore on the north side. Winslow replaced all of the shrub beds around the interior walkway with groups of wintergreen barberry, dense yew, inkberry, English ivy, varieties of azalea, and kept two yews. Two 2-foot wide perennial beds flanked the west entrance. In the eastern half, scattered oaks, and hawthorns, dotted the area. Winslow planted azaleas next to the semicircular fence and retained the oval area of grass just west of the Sheridan statue. By this time narrow flagstone paths tracked through this area. Installed sometime between 1936 and 1983, the paths were intended for use by maintenance staff and not the public. (NYC Parks; NHL 1999: 5,32)

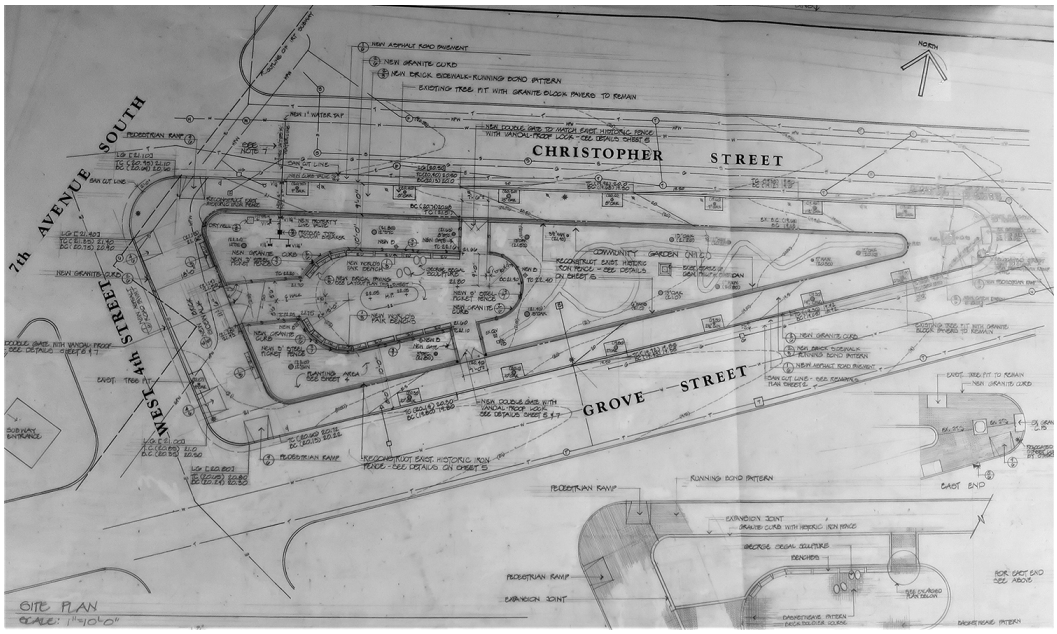


Figure 31. Philip Winslow's proposed layout for Christopher Park, 1983. (City of New York, Department of Parks and Recreation, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, "Reconstruction of Christopher Park, Christopher, Grove, and 4th Sts, Manhattan: Layout and Grading Plan," #M-12-180, 1983)

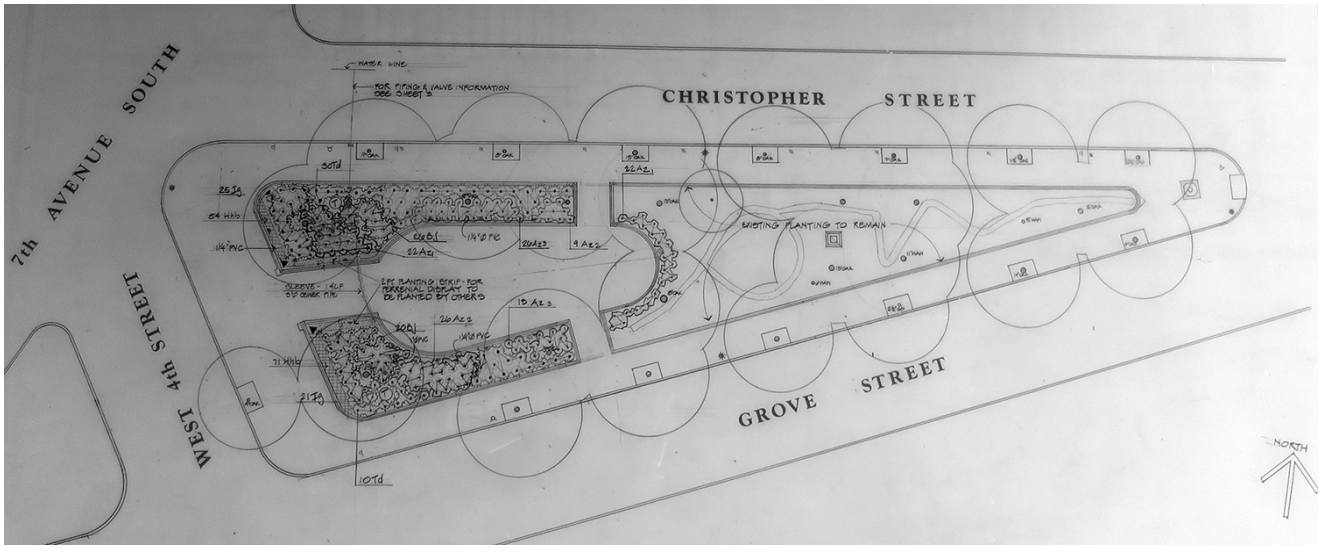


Figure 32. Philip Winslow's proposed plantings for Christopher Park, 1983. (City of New York, Department of Parks and Recreation, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, "Reconstruction of Christopher Park, Christopher, Grove, and 4th Sts, Manhattan: Planting and Irrigation Plan," #M-12-180, 1983)

NEW CHALLENGES IN GREENWICH VILLAGE

During the early 1970s crime and homelessness steadily increased in Greenwich Village, as did the traffic from an exceptionally large number of private clubs. Several land use debates occurred, including the future use of the demolished Women's House of Detention site at the east end of Christopher Street. Some residents favored development of the site as the Urban Center of the New School, while those in the gay community promoted a community center for local groups. Eventually, the former prison site was made into a public garden, while the adjacent courthouse became a library. By the 1980s, Christopher Street had reached a stable commercial period, with businesses coming and going, but minimal new developments. As one example, the Landmarks Commission rejected an architect's proposal to construct apartment buildings on a Christopher Street parking lot, as the design failed to harmonize with the established streetscape. (Boyer 1993: 51-52; Jefferson Market Garden, 2019)

Against this backdrop were troubling reports in 1981 of gay men becoming sick or dying, mainly in New York and San Francisco. By 1982 the term AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) was formally introduced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the disease that began sweeping through the country, and decimating the gay population in Greenwich Village. By 1985 many gay bars in the village were forced to close, and those that remained open operated undercover as private bars, similar to the pre-Stonewall standard. In 1986, the Bailey House opened at the western end of Christopher Street, serving as the country's first housing complex for HIV/AIDS sufferers. Among the many victims was Christopher Park's Philip Winslow, who died in 1989 from complications with the virus. AIDS cases in the city reached their peak in 1993, and then began steadily declining as drugs and treatment drastically improved. (Codrea-Rado, 2016; Cultural Landscape Foundation, 2018)

Through the 1990s the village's population declined, as the majority of the neighborhood's gay residents were gone; many had died and others moved away. The AIDS epidemic, and a rise in crime and drug use, shifted the village's demographic from predominantly white gay men to black and Hispanic. In 1994 Rudy Giuliani became mayor, and his office implemented the "Broken Windows" initiative to revive the city. Although the village transformed and flourished in exterior aesthetic, it became increasingly less affordable to the groups who once lived there and defined its vibrant character. (Codrea-Rado, 2016)

No.51 and No.53 Christopher Street:
In 1989, the twentieth anniversary of the uprising, the City Council voted to rename the strip of Christopher Street in front of Stonewall as "Stonewall Place." In 1990, the space at No.53 previously occupied by the Asian restaurant was leased to a bar named New Jimmy's at Stonewall Place. The bar was renamed Stonewall the following year and operated until 2006. In 1992, the space at No.51 became a men's clothing store. (Brazee et.al. 2015: 11,13; Stonewall 50 Consortium, 2019: 4)

LATER COMMEMORATIONS OF STONEWALL

Among the celebrations recognizing LGBTQ rights in the 1990s was the illumination of the Empire State Building in lavender (the color associated with the gay rights movement) from June 22-24 in 1990 in recognition of the lasting importance of the Stonewall uprisings. The lavender illumination has been repeated every year since, and in 2018 and 2019 it was replaced with a full rainbow. (NHL 1999: 22)

The twenty-fifth anniversary of Stonewall was a momentous occasion in New York City, with a march and Pride Parade in June 1994, attracting upwards of a million participants. The main march passed by the United Nations and then into Central Park, while an alternate march lead by Mattachine founder Harry Hay and a group of Stonewall veterans marched from the Stonewall Inn to Central Park. One of the numerous special events held throughout the city that day was an extensive exhibit organized by the New York Public Library, entitled "Becoming Visible: The Legacy of Stonewall." (NHL 1999: 8-9,22; Brazee et.al. 2015: 13)

On the thirtieth anniversary of Stonewall, a 7.7-acre area of the Greenwich Village Historic District comprised of the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, and the nearby city streets was listed on the National Register of Historic Places under the name Stonewall, for its association with the gay rights movement. That same year, the updated edition of the New York City Landmark Preservation Commission's Guide to New York City Landmarks included an entry about the Stonewall Inn in the section covering Greenwich Village Historic District, stating "…Although the raid itself was not an unusual event, the fact that the bar patrons fought back, forcing the police to retreat, galvanized the community." On February 16, 2000, the same 7.7-acre area was designated as a National Historic Landmark for its association with events representing the struggle for gay civil rights in America. (NHL 1999: 27, citing Dolkart 1997: 42)

On June 23, 2015 the city's Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on a proposed designation of Stonewall Inn as a New York City Landmark. With over a hundred testimonies given, either at the meeting or written preceding it, Stonewall Inn was designated without one voice of descent. Three days later on June 26, 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling in the Obergefell vs. Hodges case, that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples. Moments after the ruling, the LGBTQ community flooded the streets around the Stonewall Inn and Christopher Park to celebrate the Court's acceptance of a constitutional right to a same-sex marriage (Figure 33). A few days later, the celebration continued with Governor Andrew Cuomo officiating the marriage of two gay men directly outside the Stonewall Inn. (Proclamation 9465, 2016: 42215; Brazee et.al. 2015: 1)

No.51 and No.53 Christopher Street:
In January 2007, new lessees took over the Stonewall at No.53 and renamed it the Stonewall Inn, making major renovations to the interior and replacing the roof. By 2015, the men's clothing store that had occupied No.51 was replaced by a nail salon. (Brazee et.al. 2015: 11; Stonewall 50 Consortium, 2019: 4)



Figure 33. View looking south at New Yorkers gathering in front of the Stonewall Inn to celebrate the passage of the same-sex marriage bill, June 26, 2015. (C.S. Muncy, Newsday)

STONEWALL NATIONAL MONUMENT

When news of an Orlando gay nightclub shootings on June 12, 2016, reached New York, the LGBTQ community and their supporters congregated in solidarity at Christopher Park. This event, and many that had come before it, illustrated the important roles of Christopher Park and its surroundings as a central gathering place for the LGBTQ community. (Proclamation 9465, 2016: 42215)

On June 24, 2016, President Barack Obama designated the 7.7-acre Stonewall National Historic Landmark district a unit of the national park system, under the name Stonewall National Monument, for its pivotal role in LGBTQ history. The boundaries of Christopher Park are identical to those established in the 1999 National Register of Historic Places listing and the 2000 National Historic Landmark listing. The boundary includes Christopher Park, buildings No.51 (currently vacant) and No.53 (Stonewall Inn) on Christopher Street that historically housed the Stonewall Inn, and many of the surrounding streets and sidewalks that were key features of the prolonged uprising in the summer of 1969. The 0.12-acre Christopher Park parcel is owned and managed by the National Park Service, the Stonewall Inn is privately owned, and the streets and sidewalks are owned by the City of New York. The entirety of the Stonewall National Monument also falls within the Greenwich Village Historic District (designated April 1969) and is protected by the city's Landmarks Law. (NPS 2019: 3,10; Stonewall 50 Consortium, 2019: 4; Brazee et.al. 2015: 11)

In 2017, a pride flag was added to the Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth flagpole at the eastern end of Christopher Park, which is outside the federally-owned portion. In early June 2019, nearing the fiftieth anniversary of the Stonewall uprisings, commissioner James O'Neill of the New York City Police Department made a statement that for the first time apologized for the officers' actions during the 1969 uprising. O'Neill vowed to embrace and protect all New Yorkers, commenting, "I think it would be irresponsible to go through World Pride month, not to speak of the events at the Stonewall Inn in June of 1969…I do know what happened should not have happened. The actions and the laws were discriminatory and oppressive, and for that, I apologize." (Gold and Norman, 2019)

In 2019 over three million people gathered in New York City for the Pride Parade, the largest crowd to rally yet in the city, with subsequently increasing numbers in cities around the world. The day was decorated with bright rainbow flags and blaring bands, as well as a moment of silence in remembrance those who have endured violence and discrimination in pursuit of LGBTQ civil rights (Figure 34). (NYC LGBT).

Christopher Park Improvements:
By 2014 Christopher Park had slowly fallen into disrepair. The wrought-iron perimeter fence was deteriorating, the irrigation system had failed, and the plantings were overrun with ivy and other invasive shrubs. The Christopher Park Alliance was formed to raise $50,000 to revitalize the park, and in the first year raised $30,000 in donations from area residents and businesses. The funds made possible the installation of a new irrigation system, new plantings of perennials and spring-flowering bulbs, and decorative trash receptacles. In 2015 additional donations resulted in a new planting scheme with dozens of perennials in the western half of the park and additional spring bulbs. In the spring of 2016, the Alliance purchased and planted more than 500 annuals to bring color throughout the gardens. The perimeter iron fence and iron arch were also restored. (Christopher Park Alliance)



Figure 34. Park rangers and others celebrating the 50th anniversary of Stonewall uprising, at the 2019 Pride Parade in New York City. (NPS photo. From National Park Service, Foundation Document: Stonewall National Monument, 2019: 3)

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Commerce/Trade	Restaurant (Bar, Lounge)	Restaurant (Bar, Lounge)	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Sculpture (Statuary)	Outdoor Sculpture (Statuary)	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Urban Park	Yes	Yes	Yes
Landscape	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Streetscape	Yes	Yes	No

Public Access:

Public Access: Other Restrictions

Public Access Narrative:

The western half of Christopher Park is open dawn to dusk, but the eastern half is accessible only to maintenance staff. All other areas of the national monument are open all year.

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 the Stonewall National Monument include natural systems and features, spatial organization, land use, buildings and structures, vegetation, circulation, views and vistas, and small-scale features. Several landscape characteristics have associated features that contribute to the site's overall integrity and significance, as well as features that do not contribute.

INTEGRITY

The National Register of Historic Places defines integrity as the ability of a property to convey its significance through physical resources. This is evaluated through seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Retention of these qualities is necessary for a property to convey its significance, however, not all seven aspects must be present for a property to retain integrity. Analysis of the Stonewall National Monument landscape reveals that the overall landscape retains sufficient integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, setting, and association.

Location:
Location is the place where the cultural landscape was constructed or the landscape where the historic event occurred. The locations of the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, and the streetscape where the Stonewall uprising occurred is unchanged.

Design:
Design is the combination of elements that create form, plan, space, structure, and style of a cultural landscape. Despite some modifications to the interior walkway, the overall design of Christopher Park is intact. The western half of the park still features a paved interior walkway defined by benches, fencing, and planting beds filled with trees, shrubs, and flowers. The eastern half accommodates planting beds that surround the historic General Sheridan statue, one of the park's focal points. The other focal point is the non-historic "Gay Liberation" statue, which is compatible with the park's setting. A historic iron fence still surrounds the park, and the flagpole still occupies the eastern tip of the park parcel. Although there is a wide range in heights and ages of the street trees, the design intent of equidistant spacing is intact, although some tree wells are missing trees.

Setting:
Setting is the physical environment of the cultural landscape. The historic setting of the national monument has been retained, due in part to its inclusion in the Greenwich Village Historic District and design review by the City of New York's Landmark Preservation Commission. The essential elements of the streetscape remain: streets, sidewalks, street trees, and continuous lines of building facades.

Materials:
Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during the particular period(s) of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form the cultural landscape. The historic perimeter iron fence and arch, and the bronze General Sheridan statue atop a granite pedestal, are extant. With some exceptions, plant material in Christopher Park and the species of street trees are not original, but the overall character is intact. The current brick paving materials in the park and on the surrounding sidewalk are not original, but do not distract from the overall historic appearance.

Workmanship:
Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. The workmanship of the perimeter iron fence and the General Sheridan statue are evident due to recent restoration efforts. Although the George Segal statue is not historic, its workmanship is clearly evident.

Feeling:
Feeling is a cultural landscape's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. The streets, street trees, sidewalks, and buildings still convey the labyrinth of crooked and narrow streets in which

the police and protestors repeatedly confronted each other. Although a few buildings have been replaced, some paving materials have changed, and the Stonewall Inn no longer operates in two storefronts, the overall feeling associated with the events of June and July 1969 remains strong due to the continued presence of these features. In particular, the continued uses of the Stonewall Inn at No.53 Christopher Street and Christopher Park, enhance the historic feeling.

Association:
Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a cultural landscape. The association to the Stonewall uprising remains strong because the historic physical layout of the streetscape and appearance of the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, are preserved.

Landscape Characteristics and Features
The next section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics, their associated features, and corresponding CRIS-HS names and numbers, if applicable, at Stonewall National Monument. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (1969), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is non-contributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource. If a feature is non-contributing, it is evaluated as "compatible" (visually congruent with the historic character of the landscape) or "incompatible" (visually incongruent with the historic character of the landscape).

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Historic and Existing Conditions:
Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation. Approximately 12,000 years ago during the last cooling event, the Laurentide Glacier retreated and left behind the island currently known as Manhattan, bound by the Hudson River on the west and the East River on the east. The island's topography was more varied than it is today, with several hills, streams, and eventually an abundance of pine trees. The Dutch named a portion of Manhattan "Greenwijck" or "Pine District" because of the presence of pine trees, and this area later became Greenwich Village. One such grove of trees was located near today's Grove Street, so named for the trees that were partially cleared to build the street.

A diverse collection of plant and animal species on the island gave way to early settlements and agricultural development that cleared the island of Manhattan. In the Greenwich Village area, the locations of hills and streams made for crooked property lines and road alignments for the early European residents. In the late eighteenth century and early nineteenth century their farms and estates were subdivided. Although the hills were leveled and wet areas were drained, the resulting street grids followed the existing skewed boundaries, thus intersecting each other at odd angles.

The elevations of Christopher Street today range from 9 feet at its west end (West Street) to 20 feet at its east end (Sixth Avenue). Around a block west of Christopher Park is the street's high point – 34 feet – which corresponds to a hill that was once in this location. Traces of other natural systems and features were long ago concealed by the village's dense urban landscape.

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Historic Condition (to 1969):
Spatial organization is the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in a landscape, including the articulation of ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces. The division of eighteenth-century farms and estates in the Greenwich Village area responded to landform characteristics, resulting in straight but skewed property lines arranged approximately parallel or perpendicular to the course of the Hudson River. Roads were eventually built along some of these lines, including the current Christopher Street and Greenwich Avenue. In the late 1700s and early 1800s the lands were sold and platted, but at different times, resulting in a collection of individual street grids confined by the older property boundaries. In 1807 the city implemented a uniform rectangular street grid across areas to the north and east of the village, but left intact the village's collection of existing street grids. Lining the streets were tightly packed 2- and 3-story buildings, many of which would later be replaced by taller structures. In the 1870s elevated train lines were constructed, adding a new spatial element to the building-lined streetscape. Some of the triangular-shaped parcels formed by the junctions of the different street grids became open space, such as Christopher Park in 1837. The western half of the park was its widest, and this area became a public seating area surrounded by planting beds, while the narrower eastern half was reserved exclusively for plantings. By the 1880s the beds were filled with tall trees, and in the 1930s street trees were planted along the sidewalks, collectively introducing a new type of vertical element to the streetscape.

The village's spatial relationships were dramatically altered in 1910 with construction of Seventh Avenue South, a broad cut-through road that sliced across the existing street grids, dividing and truncating blocks. Numerous buildings were razed, while the sides and backs of other buildings once hidden became visible. Up until this time, Christopher Park was hemmed in by buildings on all three sides, but the new street removed the buildings just to the west, creating a new triangular-shaped parcel that became a subway entrance. Seventh Avenue South soon became the dividing line between the east and west halves of the village, in terms of zoning, land uses, and demographics.

The village's unique layout of streets was a key element of the Stonewall uprising in the summer of 1969. When the trained police riot squad arrived on the scene of thousands of protestors, they were unfamiliar with the village's street organization. The protestors, on the other hand, understood the labyrinthine network of narrow streets and successfully doubled back and around the police lines, causing and extending the chaos for hours and days.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Since the Stonewall uprising, the organization of spaces within and adjacent to the national monument has remained largely unaltered (Figures 35, 36, 37). Christopher Park is still characterized by two district areas, the shaded seating area in the western half and the plantings in the eastern half. Street alignments are intact and the density of buildings facing the streets has not changed. There are many variations in the height of buildings, and some new construction has replaced a few older buildings, but zoning law changes enacted in the 1960s and historic district guidelines have resulted in designs that are compatible with the historic streetscape. The hardscape continues to be softened by the plantings in Christopher Park and the canopy of shade trees that arc over the streets.

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
Relationship between Building Facades, Sidewalks, Street Trees, and Streets	187754	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 35. View looking west at the spatial relationships around Christopher Street, from near the intersection of Christopher Street (image right) and Grove Street (left). (OCLP 2019, DSC-5568)



Figure 36. View looking northeast at the streetscape of Christopher Street, across from Christopher Park (image left). (OCLP 2019, DSC-5806)



Figure 37. View looking northeast at the streetscape of Grove Street, across from Christopher Park (image right). (OCLP 2019, DSC-5523)

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Historic Condition (to 1969):
Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize the landscape as a result of human interaction. The land that would become Greenwich Village was for centuries farmed by the Lenape tribe, then the Dutch, and lastly by the English. Around the turn of the nineteenth century the farms and estates were sold and subdivided, and agricultural uses gave way to new streets, homes, and businesses as the City of New York slowly expanded northward from lower Manhattan. The transformation from a rural village into an urban neighborhood was essentially complete by 1830, and over the next 100 years residential, commercial, and industrial land uses in the village responded to the city's changes in demographics, transportation, and zoning. Set along the crooked streets were residences, businesses, and small parks.

The village became known within New York City and the country as a place that embraced creative pursuits, political activism, and unconventional lifestyles. The many bars, restaurants, bookstores, theatres, galleries, and other businesses reflected the wide array of activists, intellectuals, and workers living there. The neighborhood's tolerance made the village a haven for gays and lesbians as far back as the early twentieth century, and by the 1930s the village's gay reputation was firmly established. The village also became the target of aggressive anti-gay policing policies in the 1950s and continued into the 1960s, culminating in the 1969 riots at the Stonewall Inn.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The land uses today are as diverse as they were in 1969. The Stonewall Inn at No.53 Christopher Street is currently privately-owned and operated as a bar, and Christopher Park still functions as an outdoor public space, owned by the National Park Service. Bordering the national monument boundaries are apartment buildings, restaurants, bars, cafes, retail shops, offices, and a fire station.

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
Christopher Park	187755	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Historic Condition (to 1969):
Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape, while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity. As the City of New York expanded from its origins in lower Manhattan, buildings housing residents and business were constructed along the new streets in Greenwich Village. Most were initially 2-and 3-story wood-frame structures, but they were soon replaced by fireproof brick and masonry buildings, many of which reached five floors or higher. Over time, large apartment buildings appeared in the village, some occupying multiple lots and reaching upwards of fifteen floors.

The two Christopher Street structures that would eventually become the Stonewall Inn began as 2-story stables: No.51 for A. Voorhis in 1843, and No.53 for Mark Spencer in 1846. The stable at No.51 was expanded into a 3-story building in 1898, but was reduced back to two floors in 1930 when architect William Bayard Willis combined it with No.53 as a single commercial space. To visually unify the buildings, Willis faced both facades with brick on the ground floor and stucco on the second floor, and added small projecting iron flower-box holders on No.51. The combined space at No.51 and No.53 Christopher Street initially housed a bakery until 1934 when it became Bonnie's Stonewall Inn. In 1934 Architect Harry Yarish added a column surround to the inn's entrance at No.53, and installed a large vertical neon sign, "Bonnie's Stonewall Inn," at No.51.

The interior of Bonnie's Stonewall Inn was destroyed by fire in 1964 and the business did not reopen. The two buildings sat vacant until 1967 when new renters opened a gay bar and dance floor, naming it the Stonewall Inn. The large front windows were boarded up with plywood and painted black, and the vertical neon sign was retained. In April 1969, the Stonewall Inn and adjacent buildings were included in the 220-acre Greenwich Village Historic District, which recognized the village's rich variety of architectural building styles.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The Stonewall Inn at No.51 and No.53 Christopher Street was damaged during the June and July 1969 protests. After the broken windows were temporarily boarded up the business reopened, but it closed in October of that year. The buildings again sat vacant until 1975 when new owner Manny Duell began leasing the two first floor commercial spaces separately. The deteriorated Stonewall Inn sign was replaced by an illuminated sign with brass lettering. No.51 opened as the Bagel Place and No.53 housed the Bowl & Board. In 1982 No.53 became the Szechuan Cottage Restaurant, and in 1987 No.51 was a gay bar named Stonewall, as a tribute to the previous establishments. The illuminated vertical Bagel Place sign was refaced to read "STONEWALL," but the sign was removed when the Stonewall closed in 1989. In 1990 No.53 was leased to a bar named "New Jimmy's" at Stonewall Place, which a year later changed its name to Stonewall. New lessees took over the business in 2007 and changed the name to Stonewall Inn. In 1992, No.51 was occupied by a men's clothing store, and by 2015 it housed a nail salon.

Today, the historic buildings at No.51 and No.53 Christopher Street stand wedged between a 4-story brick building to the west and a 15-story brick building to the east (Figure 38). The privately-owned buildings remain separated: No.51 is currently vacant and is not within the boundaries of the Stonewall National Monument, while No.53 is still a bar operating as the Stonewall Inn and is within the boundary. Although there are no other buildings within the national monument boundaries, the buildings that line the streets are part of the Greenwich Village Historic District. Design guidelines associated with the Greenwich Village Historic District, and oversight by the city's Landmarks Preservation Commission, has preserved much of the historic architecture in the facades of the buildings that border the national monument.

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
No.53 Christopher Street (Stonewall Inn)	187756	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 38. View looking northeast the historic Stonewall Inn buildings, No.51 (image right) and No.53 (left). (OCLP 2019, DSC-5817)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic Condition (to 1969):
Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. Christopher Park was established in 1837, but documentation concerning the park's vegetation do not appear until the mid-1880s when Calvert Vaux and Samuel Parsons Jr. improved the park with privet hedges. However, tall trees visible in the park in an 1899 photograph suggest they were planted well before the privets, probably in the 1850s. Later photographs from the 1910s and 1920s show some of these trees in the western half of the park.

By 1928 the city replaced the vegetation in Christopher Park, planting four ginkgo trees and privet shrubs in the western half and six oak trees and a narrow area of turf bordered by shrubs in the eastern half. When a statue of General Phillip Henry Sheridan was placed at the east end of the

grass area in 1936, a plan was made to reconfigure the park's interior walkway and the adjacent planting beds, but it was not implemented. It was also around this time that the city installed equidistant rows of oak trees in the sidewalks surrounding the park, as well as along adjacent streets. By the 1960s Belgian blocks were placed in some of the tree wells bordering the park, and it is possible that some of these stones may have been hurled by the Stonewall protestors.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
During the uprising, plantings and street trees in and around Christopher Park were likely damaged by the huge crowds, but it was not until the mid-1980s that the park's plantings were updated. Completed in 1986 under direction of landscape architect Philip Winslow, shrub beds around the interior walkway were replaced with wintergreen barberry, dense yew, inkberry, English ivy, varieties of azalea. A 2-foot wide perennial bed flanked either side of the west entrance, while azaleas were planted along a new semicircular fence erected next to the park's north and south entrances. Existing trees in the park were retained, which by this time included several tree species added sometime after 1935. In the western half, only the ginkgo in the southwest corner remained, as the trees at the other three corners had been replaced by sycamores, plus an additional sycamore on the north side. In the eastern half there were scattered oaks, and hawthorns, and an oval of grass just west of the Sheridan statue. An irrigation system was also installed throughout the park. Street trees surrounding the park were all oaks at this time, although some tree wells were missing trees.

By 2014 the plantings in Christopher Park were overrun with ivy and other invasive shrubs. In 2014 -2016 a new volunteer group called the Christopher Park Alliance successfully raised funds to install a new irrigation system, replenish the soils, and implement a new planting design that introduced numerous perennials, annuals, and especially spring-flowering bulbs.

The overall character of the park's plantings, that of shrub beds dotted with mature shade trees, is intact today (Figures 39, 40). However, storm damage, age, and disease have altered tree locations and species since Winslow's work in 1986. In the western half, the ginkgo that was present in 1986 is gone, but two of the sycamores (Platanus occidentalis) remain. New trees include two birches (Betula spp.) and a hawthorn (Craetegus spp.). In the eastern half there are three red oaks (Quercus rubra) and two hawthorns. Volunteers with the Christopher Park Alliance maintain the planting beds throughout the park, which feature a large variety of shrubs, perennials, and annuals. The Alliance also maintains plantings in a narrow median that extends east from the east tip of Christopher Park. This bed was installed around 2002 and was initially planted only with shrubs, but now also includes shrubs and several trees: Callery pear (Pyrus calleryana), Japanese tree lilac (Syringa reticulata), and plum (Prunus spp.) (Figure 41).

In 1982 the New York Times printed a report about the city's street trees and offered information to the public about how to acquire street trees in front of their businesses or homes, and how the park's department was working to introduce more trees into the city. This may explain why the roster of street trees in the national monument area today has diversified considerably beyond oaks. The street trees surrounding Christopher Park still include pin oak (Quercus palustris), red oak (Quercus rubra), and swamp white oak (Quercus bicolor), but now there are also cherry (Prunus serotina), hickory (Carya spp.), honeylocust (Gleditsia triacanthos), hornbeam (Carpinus betulus), littleleaf linden (Tilia cordata), and redbud (Cercis canadensis). Along the adjacent streets that comprise the national monument there are also honeylocust, pin oak, and swamp white oak, as well other trees species like ash (Fraxinus spp.), basswood (Tilia americana), Callery pear (Pyrus calleryana), ginkgo (Ginkgo biloba), goldenrain tree (Koelreuteria paniculate), hackberry (Celtis occidentalis), Japanese pagoda (Styphnolobium japonicum), little leaf linden (Tilia cordata), London planetree (Platanus x acerifolia), serviceberry (Amelanchier canadensis), and zelkova (Zelkova serratta). In addition, some village residents and businesses have planted flowers in some of the tree wells and in building window boxes (Figure 42). Like the number of tree species, the ages and conditions of the street trees vary considerably, and some tree wells are empty. The street trees are maintained by the New York City Parks Department, as well as volunteers. Many of the retail and eating establishments also feature moveable planted pots and flower boxes in front of their storefronts.

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
Christopher Park – Trees	187757	Contributing					No
Christopher Park – Shrubs and Perennials	187758	Contributing					No
Street Trees	187759	Contributing					No
Island Plantings (east of Christopher Park)	187760	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 39. View looking east at the plantings in the western half of Christopher Park. The perimeter iron fence, gates, and arch were restored in the 2010s. (OCLP 2019, DSC-5521)



Figure 40. View looking east at plantings and flagstone path in the eastern half of the park. The statue of General Philip Henry Sheridan was restored in 2000. (OCLP 2019, DSC-5575)



Figure 41. View looking southeast at the plantings in the road median. (OCLP 2019, DSC-5704)



Figure 42. View of two street trees and flowers in one of the tree well enclosures. (OCLP 2019, DSC-5625)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic Condition (to 1969):
Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. The layout of streets transformed Greenwich Village from a rural settlement to an urban enclave, shaping the construction of buildings, development of parks, and ultimately the outcome of the Stonewall uprising. Christopher Street, which fronted the Stonewall Inn, played a key role in the historic narrative, as did nearby Grove Street, Waverly Place, Gay Street, Greenwich Avenue, Sixth Avenue, and West Tenth Street. Protestors occupied these streets during the rebellion, successfully maneuvering through them to confront and evade the authorities. A brief historical overview of each street is provided here:
-- Christopher Street and West Tenth Street: "The road along Jan Van Rotterdam's to the Strand" developed in the seventeenth century along the property line of two plantations once owned by Wouter Van Twiller. By 1740 it was named Skinner Road after Colonel William Skinner, whose father-in-law, Sir Admiral Peter Warren, owned much of what would become Greenwich Village. When the land was acquired by Charles Christopher Amos around 1799 he gave his names to three successive streets (Amos Street was renamed Tenth Street in 1857). (NY Songlines)
-- Grove Street: Named for trees through which the street was originally built. The first recorded name was Columbia Street, later renamed Cozine Street after a prominent family, and then Burrows Street after Lieutenant William Burrows, who died during the victory of his ship Enterprise over the British ship Boxer. It was later renamed Grove Street to avoid confusion with Barrow Street. (NY Songlines)
-- Waverly Place: "Waverley" was the name of a novel by Sir Walter Scott. The street was renamed (and misspelled) in 1833, a year after Scott's death, at the demand of Scott's many Greenwich Village admirers. Formerly the street was named, in various sections, Catherine Street, Eliza Street, Factory Street, and 6th Street. (NY Songlines)
-- Gay Street: This street, originally a stable alley, was probably named for an early landowner. The city widened it in 1833 since it was too narrow to be a full-fledged street. (Wikipedia: Gay Street)

-- Greenwich Avenue: This road may have been a Native American trail. The Dutch called it Strand Road, and the English named it Monument Lane for an obelisk erected to General James Wolfe, who captured Quebec for the British. It was also called Greenwich Lane at various times. (NY Songlines)
-- Sixth Avenue: The street was laid out in the Commissioners' Plan of 1811. In 1945, at the behest of Mayor Fiorello La Guardia, the street's official name was changed to Avenue of the Americas to honor the nations of Central and South America, and to encourage those countries to build consulates along the avenue. (Wikipedia: Sixth Avenue)

In 1825 the city began paving its sidewalks with flat stone slabs, including along and adjacent to Christopher Street. Christopher Park was established in 1837, but information regarding circulation in the park does not come until the mid-1880s when Calvert Vaux and Samuel Parsons Jr. made improvements, which included adding benches along the interior walkway. Glimpses of this interior walk and the park's west entrance can be seen in photographs from c.1899 and c.1910, but it is a 1928 photograph and a 1935 plan that provide the best details. At this time the edges of the park's interior walk were comprised of straight lines; the longest edges ran parallel and perpendicular to Christopher and Grove streets, while shorter edges connected the two sides at different angles. The west entrance was accessed at the same grade as the exterior sidewalk, but the north entrance had one step up from the exterior sidewalk and the south entrance had three steps up. The surface of the interior walkway was macadam and the perimeter sidewalks were concrete. Combinations of materials defined the adjacent circulation features; streets were paved in brick or asphalt, curbs were a mix of bluestone and granite, and sidewalks were either concrete or bluestone. Most of these circulation characteristics and features were extant at the time of the Stonewall uprising in 1967.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The design and layout of the streets and sidewalks in the national monument has not changed significantly since 1969. The layout of adjacent streets and sidewalks are extant, but some materials have been replaced over time. Today, all of the streets feature asphalt paving and the sidewalks are predominately concrete. Historic circulation features along and inside Christopher Park are extant but have been altered. In Philip Winslow's 1983 redesign, the exterior sidewalks and the interior walkway were replaced with red brick pavers and edged with granite curbs. The configuration of the interior walkway was also changed, maintaining its long edges parallel to Christopher and Grove Streets but replacing the short straight edges with curves to connect them. The interior walk was extended eastward into a semicircular area, which mirrored the new curves at the west end of the walkway. The steps at the north and south entrances were removed, making each entrance into the park accessible. These updates are extant today (Figures 43, 44, see also 40). A flagstone path meanders through the eastern half of the park, including around the area next to the General Sheridan statue that was once grass. The path was installed sometime between 1936 and 1983.

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
Christopher Street	187761	Contributing					No
Grove Street	187762	Contributing					No
Waverly Place	187763	Contributing					No
Gay Street	187764	Contributing					No
Greenwich Avenue	187765	Contributing					No
Sixth Avenue	187766	Contributing					No
West Tenth Street	187767	Contributing					No
Concrete Sidewalks	187768	Contributing					No
Brick Sidewalks	187769	Contributing					No
Christopher Park – Brick Walkway	187770	Contributing					No
Christopher Park – Flagstone Path	187771	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 43. View looking east at the interior walkway in Christopher Park. The brick paving, interior iron fencing, benches, and lantern style lampposts were among the improvements completed in 1986. (OCLP 2019, DSC-5520)



Figure 44. View looking west-southwest at the interior walkway in Christopher Park. (OCLP 2019, DSC-5576 and 5577)

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Condition (to 1969):
A view is the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision that may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. A vista is a controlled prospect of a discrete, linear range of vision, which is deliberately contrived. The construction of street grids lined with multi-story buildings that began in the nineteenth century, unintentionally created countless views and vistas up and down the crooked streets of Greenwich Village. The focal points of these vistas were skylines comprised of tall buildings, rooftop water towers, smokestacks, and billboards, but in 1837 a different type of focal point emerged: Christopher Park, a new open space at Christopher, Grove, and West Fourth streets. The view of the park changed over time, as young plantings grew into tall shade trees by the mid-1880s. In the 1930s the city replaced them with all new trees and planted trees along the streets. In 1936, a statue of General Phillip Sheridan was erected in the eastern half of the park. Facing west, the statue was fronted by a small area of grass and flanked by trees and shrubs, creating a new focal point within the park. By the late 1960s, the views and vistas up and down the streets were framed by building facades and trees, an important quality that was recognized in the establishment of the Greenwich Village Historic District.

During the Stonewall uprising, views and vistas up and down the streets around Stonewall Inn and Christopher Park area affected both the police and protestors. Although the police were able to see the movements of the crowds, they were quickly overwhelmed by protestors who were joined by people from the neighborhood who saw and heard the mayhem. The unique street views also allowed the protestors to outflank the police and prolong the riot.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The street views in and around the Stonewall Inn and Christopher Park remain today, much as they appeared during the uprising. Views from the park to the Stonewall Inn across the street are still framed by vegetation and the perimeter fence, and the General Sheridan statue remains a focal point within the park.

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
Christopher Park – Views between Park Stonewall Inn	187772	Contributing					No
Christopher Park – Vista to Sheridan Statue from West Entrance	187773	Contributing					No
Views and Vistas along Streets	187774	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Historic Condition (to 1969):
Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. During the historic period, Christopher Park included small-scale features such as fencing and gates, benches, a light, a drinking fountain, and a statue of

General Phillip Sheridan. The 5-foot high perimeter iron picket fence with decorative finials and gates was erected between 1837 and 1899, but likely dates to park improvements initiated by Calvert Vaux and Samuel Parsons, Jr. in the mid-1880s. By c.1910 the perimeter fence supported a decorative iron arch over the west entrance. By 1935 there was an interior 3-foot high iron fence along the edges of the interior walkway, but at this time it was removed and replaced with a 3-foot high chain link fence. Vaux and Parsons, Jr. also installed benches inside the park. A photograph from c.1910 shows wood benches along the edges of the interior walkway, and another from c.1920 reveals wood benches along the exterior of the park, on the west side. The first indication of lighting inside the park comes from a 1930 photograph and a 1935 plan, which shows a single ornate lamppost around 25 feet tall in the eastern part of the interior walk. The same plan shows a drinking fountain on the east edge of the interior walkway, roughly between the north and south entrances and near the lamppost.

In October 1936 the statue memorializing Union General Phillip Henry Sheridan was dedicated. The General Sheridan Memorial Committee had been organized in 1924 to raise money for a statue in Christopher Park, and in 1935 Italian-born sculptor Joseph Pollia completed statue. The larger-than-life statue depicted Sheridan standing in full Union Army regalia, booted and spurred, with a sword swinging at his side. The bronze statue was set atop a granite base that included an inscription on its north face attributed to General Ulysses S. Grant: “He belongs to the first rank of soldiers, not only of our country, but of the world.” A time capsule, including the names of all contributors, was sealed at the base of the statue. (NYC Parks) (Note: For purposes of the CLI, the statue is evaluated as “Non-Contributing-Compatible” because it not associated with the National Register or National Historic Landmark areas or periods of significance for Stonewall.)

Small-scale features in areas outside of the Christopher Park boundaries include a flagpole and tablet, lights, and benches. The flagpole, located just outside the perimeter fence at the east end of Christopher Park, was dedicated at the same time as the Sheridan statue. It was erected by the Greenwich Village Historical Society to commemorate several of the 1861 Fire Zouaves, an elite Civil War unit that wore uniforms styled after those worn by North African tribesmen. The bronze tablet at the base of the flagpole featured a tablet memorialized Colonel Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth, who served in the Civil War and at the age of 24 was the first of his rank killed in 1861. Streetlights began replacing gas lamps in the late 1880s, and the style of lamp in the Greenwich Village area was called “Bishop’s crook,” which was topped by a semicircular arm braced with ornate scroll-shaped supports. This style appears in lampposts shown in historic photographs from 1899 onward. By 1936 there were three such lampposts in the sidewalks around Christopher Park, and others at adjacent intersections. In the 1950s and 1960s the city began introducing mercury-vapor streetlights with “cobra head” fixtures, and it is likely some Bishop’s crook lampposts in the village were replaced. Benches constructed with wooden slats bolted to iron frames were placed outside the park’s west entrance as early as 1920, and were still present in the mid-1960s. Other typical small-scale features along the streets included fire hydrants, fire call boxes, parking meters, trash cans, mail boxes, and subway vent grates inlaid in the sidewalks.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Several historic small-scale features are extant in Christopher Park. The perimeter iron fence, gates, and arch were restored and painted in the mid-2010s, an effort that replaced missing pickets and finials (see Figure 39). In 2000 the City Parks Foundation-Monuments Conservation Program completed conservation of the General Sheridan statue. It was rededicated in a ceremony that recalled the original dedication, and a time capsule of new contributors was buried near the base of the monument (see Figure 40). (NYC Parks)

Other historic small-scale features in the park were altered or replaced as part of landscape architect Philip Winslow’s improvements in 1986 (see Figure 43). At this time the interior chain link fencing was replaced with 3-foot tall iron picket fencing, continuing the effort to protect the planting beds around the interior walkway. The single ornamental lamppost in the interior walkway was removed and replaced with four lampposts positioned in the planting beds around the interior walk. The lights featured single poles capped with lantern-shaped fixtures. New “World’s Fair” benches were installed around the interior walk, constructed with wood slats and armrests secured to black iron frames. The historic drinking fountain was removed as part of the 1986 project.

Small-scale features added to the park since 1969 include wayside signs that feature fiberglass panels framed in metal and attached to metal supports, and steel-framed trash cans that fit in unobtrusively with the park by imitating the picket fences. Perhaps the most popular and photographed feature in the park is a sculpture by George Segal (Figure 45). The piece, "Gay Liberation," features four figures – two standing males and two seated females – in natural, easy poses. It was installed in 1992 to commemorate the gay rights movement that began at the Stonewall Inn in 1969. As described on the Christopher Park Alliance's website, "Using a process in which bronze casts are made from plaster moulds from the human models, Segal tempers the realistic surfaces with an unearthly white-painted finish. The result is specific, evocative, and understated, showing the public comfort and freedom to which the gay liberation movement aspired." (Christopher Park Alliance)

Outside of Christopher Park, the historic Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth flagpole and tablet are extant. In 2017 a pride flag was added to the flagpole. Several "Bishop's hook" lights still stand, but are likely reproductions of the historic lights. There are also numerous "cobra head" streetlights, held by curved arms attached to spun-aluminum and poles, which contrast with the area's historic character. Other typical small features along the streets include fire hydrants, fire call boxes, centralized parking pay stations, black painted trash cans, green recycling cans, mail boxes, mail storage boxes, and subway vent grates. There are also miscellaneous utility boxes throughout the area.

One of the more unique small-scale features in the national monument area are the enclosures around some of the sidewalk tree wells (see Figure 42). Street trees began to appear in the area beginning in the 1930s, but the rectangular-shaped wells in which they were planted were either left bare or partially filled in with granite blocks. The materials and designs of the enclosures vary considerably: untreated or painted dimensional wood, steel or wire hoops, or low wrought iron ornamental fences. Some of the enclosures protect flowers and vines, while others are bare. Lastly, the crosswalk at the corner of Christopher Street and West Fourth Street is painted with rainbow lines to further identify the area (see Figure 36).

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
Christopher Park – Perimeter Iron Fence	197725	Contributing					No
Christopher Park – Interior Iron Fence	197728	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Christopher Park – “Lantern Style” Lampposts	197773	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Christopher Park – “Bishop’s Crook” Lampposts	197783	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Christopher Park – General Phillip Henry Sheridan Statue	197795	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Christopher Park – “Gay Liberation” Sculpture	197802	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Christopher Park – Trash Cans	197809	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Christopher Park – “Worlds Fair” Benches	197818	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Christopher Park – Wayside Signs	197826	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Colonel Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth Flagpole and Plaque	197834	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
“Cobra Head Style” Lampposts	197841	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Tree Wells Enclosures	197845	Undetermined					No
Fire Hydrants	197850	Undetermined					No
Fire Call Boxes	197855	Undetermined					No
Subway Grates	197856	Undetermined					No
Trash Cans	197859	Undetermined					No
Parking Meters	197864	Undetermined					No
Mailboxes and Mailer Storage Boxes	197867	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

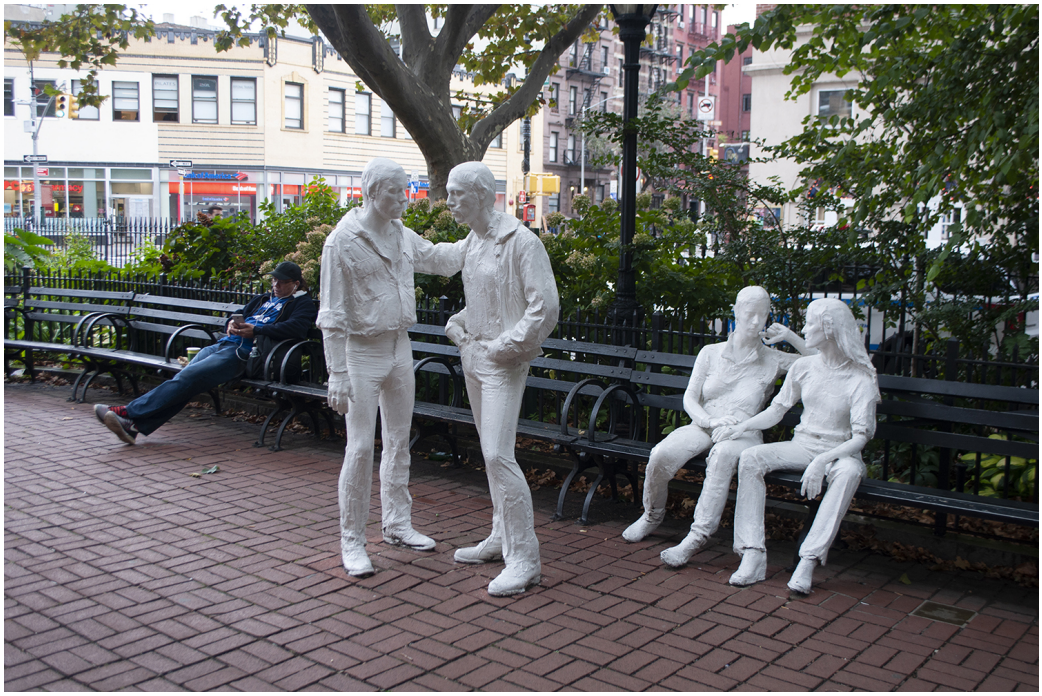


Figure 45. George Segal's "Gay Liberation" was installed in 1992. (OCLP 2019, DSC-5578)

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 06/23/2032

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 06/23/2026

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

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

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/21/2020

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The Stonewall National Monument landscape is in “good” condition as defined in the CLI “Professional Procedures Guide”: the property shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces; the property’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.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Disruption/Loss of Plant Species

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Narrative: Several of the tree wells along the sidewalk surrounding Christopher Park, and along other streets within the national monument, are missing trees. The bare tree wells pose a tripping hazard.

Date Identified: 09/21/2020

Resolved? No

Type of Impact: Other

Other Impact: Loose Stones

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Some of the Belgian blocks that fill the tree wells in the sidewalks surrounding Christopher Park are loose or missing, and pose a tripping hazard. Note: The City of New York owns the sidewalks.

Date Identified: 06/23/2026

Resolved? No

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Document Type: Other Document

Document Date: 2019-01-01

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

As stated in the 2019 “Foundation Document: Stonewall National Monument,” the purpose of the park is to “preserve and protect Christopher Park and the historic resources associated with it and to interpret the Stonewall National Historic Landmark’s resources and values related to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender civil rights movement.” However, no specific landscape treatment approach – preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, reconstruction – has yet been articulated in an approved park planning document. (NPS 2019: 8)

With the federal ownership limited to Christopher Park, the National Park Service has established cooperative partnerships with existing and organized groups and government agencies to preserve related resources. The presidential proclamation that established the national monument directed the National Park Service “to use applicable authorities to see to enter into agreements with others…to enhance public services and promote management efficiencies.” To date this includes the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation and the Christopher Park Alliance. (NPS 2019: 10)

Treatment Type: Undetermined

Treatment Completed: No

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Landscape Documents:

File Name	Date	Attachment Type	Source
STON_Stonewall NM Landscape CLI Update Notes_2026.pdf			