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Camp Nelson National Monument
Nicholasville, Kentucky

Camp Nelson National Monument
Cultural Landscape Report



Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science Division
Interior Region 2: South Atlantic – Gulf

Camp Nelson National Monument

Cultural Landscape Report

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Under the direction of
National Park Service
Interior Region 2: South Atlantic – Gulf
Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science Division



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About the cover: View of the snake rail fence at Camp Nelson National Monument (Source: WLA Studio, 2022).

Camp Nelson National Monument
Cultural Landscape Report

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Foreword

We are pleased to make available this cultural landscape report, part of our ongoing effort to provide comprehensive documentation for the landscapes and historic structures of National Park Service units in Interior Region 2. A number of individuals and institutions contributed to the successful completion of this work. We would particularly like to thank the staff at Camp Nelson National Monument for their assistance throughout the process. We hope this study will be a useful tool for park management in continuing efforts to preserve the historic structure and to others interested in the significance of the park's many cultural resources.

Barbara Judy

Program Manager, Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science Division

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Introduction

Management Summary

This Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) is for Camp Nelson National Monument (CANE) located twenty miles southwest of Lexington, Kentucky, in the north-central portion of the state (**Figure 1.1**). The 464-acre site is situated in Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass region, which is characterized by its karst geology, picturesque rolling hills, sinkhole depressions, and the palisade cliffs along the meandering course of the Kentucky River. The property was the location of Camp Nelson—a US Army supply depot, hospital, refugee site, and US Colored Troops (USCT) recruitment center during the Civil War (1860-1865). After the war, the US Army dismantled and abandoned the site (1866-1868), and previous owners reoccupied the property and resumed farming the land. The community of Ariel/Hall developed in the area previously occupied by the Home for Colored Refugees.

In 1866, the War Department designated a portion of Camp Nelson Cemetery #2 (also known as Graveyard #2) as the Camp Nelson National Cemetery. The remainder of Camp Nelson returned to agricultural and residential use. The owners of these properties subdivided and sold their land over the subsequent century. Jessamine County Fiscal Court began acquiring parcels in the 1990s to create the Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park. Recognizing its historic significance, the Camp Nelson Civil War District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2001. In 2013, Camp Nelson was designated a National Historic Landmark. A Presidential Proclamation on October 26, 2018, established Camp Nelson National Monument.

Since acquiring CANE in 2018, the National Park Service has maintained the site while preparing reports to inform the site's management and maintenance going forward.[1] This work is guided by the park's purpose statement, which is as follows:

> Camp Nelson National Monument in Jessamine County, Kentucky, preserves and interprets the historic and archeological resources of a Union Army [US Army] supply depot that became one of the largest Civil War-era recruitment and training centers for United States Colored Troops and an African American refugee camp. The monument is a testament to the courage, resiliency, and perseverance of those seeking freedom from slavery and pursuing self-determination during and after the Civil War.[2]

To date, the NPS has produced few planning reports pertaining to CANE, but the national monument does have a foundation document. That document identifies the Camp Nelson cultural landscape as a fundamental resource. This cultural landscape report (CLR) is the is the first cultural landscape-specific report produced for the site. In conjunction with this report, the national monument is producing a historic structure report (HSR) for the Fee Memorial Church. There is no general management plan (GMP) for the national monument.

Historical Overview

The cultural and environmental history of the site dates back millennia and includes the time in which Native Americans lived throughout the region. Here in the Inner Bluegrass region, many generations of Native Americans—most recently the Shawnees—drew from the natural environment's bountiful resources, established

1. Property acquisition at Camp Nelson National Monument occurred in stages, with Jessamine County Fiscal Court transferring the final parcel to the NPS in July 2021. The last large parcel acquired by the NPS is sometimes referred to as "the Glass farm" and consists of land in the center of the main park property in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area and the Maintenance Character Area.
2. National Park Service, "Foundation Document Camp Nelson National Monument," April 2020, 8.

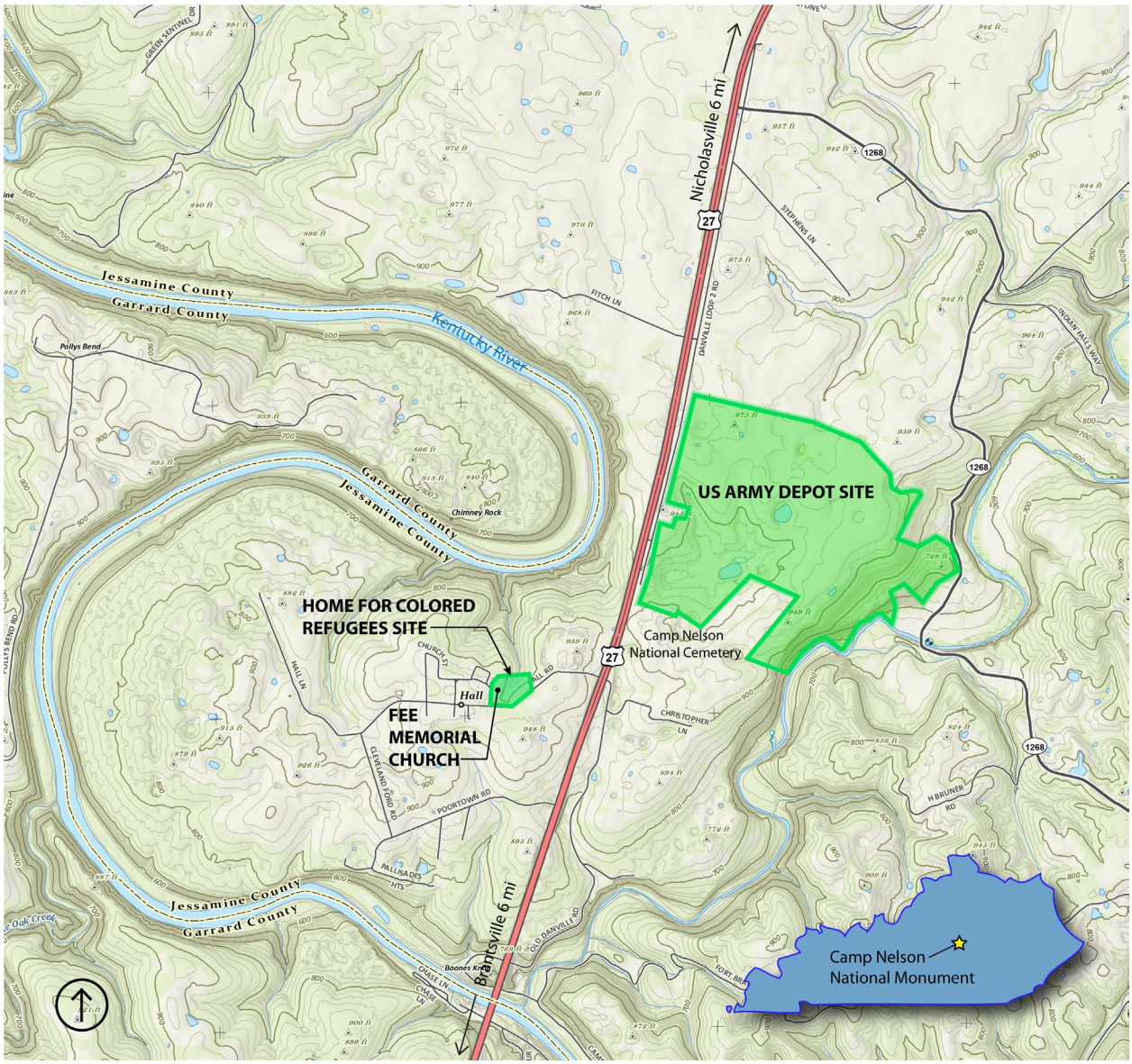


Figure 1.1. Camp Nelson National Monument site map (Source: USGS, WLA Studio, 2021).

extensive trading networks between towns and developed rich and multifaceted cultures. However, by the early 1700s the Shawnees were in crisis due to conflict and disease. Soon thereafter, encroachment by Anglo-European emigrants forced the Shawnees into treaties that eroded their territory. Despite the treaties, Anglo-Europeans continued their unsanctioned advance into remaining Shawnee lands. The continued intrusion escalated into war between the Shawnees and the British in 1774. The one-year-long conflict ended with the defeat of the Shawnees. Their defeat, coupled with the United States' victory in the American Revolution, made it possible for White emigrants to reside in what would soon become Kentucky.

The initial wave of White European emigrants into the region established scattered farmsteads and mills at sites known as "stations." After the Revolution, thousands more ventured into the territory, drawn to the gentle topography the region offered. They established communities and towns. Concurrently, wealthy planters, including those who receive land grants for military service, brought enslaved African Americans and established large-scale plantations in the Inner Bluegrass region. Land use patterns in and around the project site mirrored that of other parts of the region, with a collection of families running farms, mills, taverns, distilleries, and other establishments.

When the Civil War began, Kentucky chose not to secede even though it was a southern state that allowed enslavement. Camp Nelson played a key role in the US Army's strategy to hold onto Kentucky. It served both as a supply depot and as a recruitment center for African American troops. African American men became eligible in 1863 to enlist in the US Army. Enslaved men were not allowed to enlist until 1864. By the peak of its operations in 1865, the four-thousand-acre Camp Nelson functioned as a small, fortified town, complete with a hospital, numerous warehouses, workshops, barracks, kitchens, and other support buildings. It also served as a refugee camp for both African American and some White refugees. In total, Camp Nelson garrisoned two thousand to eight thousand soldiers and employed between one thousand and two thousand civilian workers.

After the Civil War, the US Army closed the camp and the majority of the four-thousand-acre site reverted to agricultural use. The US Army sold most of the camp's buildings for lumber. However, a group of White ministers and missionaries purchased several of the remaining buildings associated with the former Home for Colored Refugees. This allowed some members of Camp Nelson's African American community—whose future in America was still uncertain—to continue living on site. The refugee camp later became the community of Ariel or, as it was later known as, the Hall. This community has maintained a presence in the vicinity of Camp Nelson since that time.

The historic significance of Camp Nelson National Monument is tied to its multi-faceted role in the Civil War. Early commemoration efforts included the designation of a portion of the Camp Nelson cemetery as a National Cemetery in 1866. Roughly one hundred years later, archeological investigations of the Camp Nelson landscape began, which revealed a site rich with artifacts and associations. Based on this work, advocates petitioned for the preservation of the landscape. In 2001, Jessamine County established the Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park. The same year, the Camp Nelson Civil War District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Then in 2013, the six-hundred-acre Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District was designated as a National Historic Landmark. Most recently, the federal government purchased portions of the historic Camp Nelson property in 2018 and 2021. Established October 26, 2018, by presidential proclamation, Camp Nelson National Monument consists of two discontiguous units associated with Camp Nelson that are divided by US 27 (Danville Road).[3]

This cultural landscape report aims to synthesize our understanding of the cultural landscape of the site and offer recommendations to guide its future use. The site history section of this report organizes the site into periods of development. These periods reflect both broad themes in regional history as well as specific events related to the ownership of the project site.

These periods are:

- Native Americans of the Inner Bluegrass
- Antebellum Central Kentucky (1775-1860)
- The Civil War (1860-1865)
- Post-Bellum Central Kentucky (1866-1992)
- Preservation of Camp Nelson (1993-Present)

Scope of Work and Methodology

Per the Scope of Work, this project consists of an updated CLR Parts I and II, according to the format and contents outlined in *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports Contents, Process and Techniques* (1998). This CLR will (1) describe the historical development of the areas; (2) document the existing site conditions; (3) provide analysis of the landscape's potential National Register significance; (4) identify and assess integrity of character defining features; (5) determine appropriate treatment strategies; and (6) develop treatment recommendations that facilitate preservation of these resources, address park management concerns, and inform ongoing and proposed facility development.

The site history included in this report gives an overview of the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape. Research for the site history

3. The John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act of 2019 contradicted the name of the national monument given in the original Presidential Proclamation by adding "Heritage" into the national monument's name. The NPS has proceeded with using the original name "Camp Nelson National Monument."

included consultation of both primary and secondary sources of information. The existing conditions section provides a comprehensive description of cultural landscape features, including natural and cultural resources. The inventory includes information gathered during site visits by project team members in October 2020, November 2021, and December 2021. During this period, CANE staff were adjusting maintenance practices, especially at the forts and infantry entrenchments, and relocating some office uses. In October 2020, the brick house owned by the park and located on Danville Loop 2 Road was leased as a residence, and the NPS did not own the parcel of land known as the Glass farm, which is located in the center of the main park site. The NPS acquired this property in July 2021. By December 2021, the NPS had moved the Facilities and Maintenance into the former residence on the Glass farm. These types of changes during the project are noted throughout the text.

The analysis and evaluation section uses criteria developed by the National Register of Historic Places and the *Secretary of Interior Standards for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* to evaluate the historic integrity of existing landscape resources. The section on treatment recommendations provides guidance for future management decisions related to the site's historic landscape resources.

Primary and secondary sources inform the narrative history of CANE in the site history section. These sources include autobiographies, historical photograph collections, interviews, and previously completed NPS reports. Sources for contextual information include several National Register of Historic Places nomination forms, and a variety of scholarly texts that address both broad and specific histories related to the development of central Kentucky and Camp Nelson. Information pertaining to the development history, determination of the periods of development, and historical analysis of the resources draws heavily from these sources. Several repositories were not available for in-person research during the COVID-19 pandemic. These included the Jessamine County Public Library Special Collections, Berea College Special Collections, and National Archives. Many items from the National Archives have been obtained by previous researchers, specifically Dr. W. Stephen McBride. Dr. McBride shared scans of historic photographs, a 1937 aerial, and past archeological studies with WLA Studio to produce this CLR document. These resource materials were critical for production of this document. Dr. McBride also consulted on the production of this document's site history, providing an historical overview and detailed information about past archeological work at the site. During the first site visit, researchers scanned documents located in the CANE administrative offices. At that time, the archival information at the administrative offices was scant and had not been accessioned by the NPS. Therefore, there are no accession numbers for these documents.

Using information gathered during site documentation field work, this CLR identifies landscape characteristics and associated features that contribute to the historic significance of the site. This CLR compares the historic condition of a particular resource with its current condition to evaluate its historic integrity.

Description of Study Boundaries

The study boundaries include the entirety of the 464-acre CANE property. The study area for the project consists of two discontiguous units associated with Camp Nelson that are divided by US 27 (Danville Road). The larger unit, located east of the highway, encompasses approximately 457 acres of the core historic Civil War-era Camp Nelson site and is the primary visitor contact area. The second unit, which sits 1.5 miles south of the Camp Nelson site on the west side of US 27, includes approximately 7 acres of the former Home for Colored Refugees site that is now part of the modern-day community of Hall. At the outset of the project in 2020, the NPS managed but did not own all of the property within the

Summary of Previous Mapping for Camp Nelson National Monument

The initial legislative maps for Camp Nelson National Monument have been incomplete and show an incorrect boundary in many instances. An April 2018 map associated with Presidential Proclamation establishing the national monument shows an incorrect park boundary on the parcel associated with the Fee Memorial Church, west of US 27. The boundary appears to include property not owned by the federal government. Additionally, this April 2018 map grossly

oversimplifies the eastern park boundary. In 2018, the NPS completed a boundary survey for the national monument. An updated legislative map from September 2018 shows the correct boundary for the property associated with the Fee Memorial Church and shows a more accurate eastern boundary. However, this September 2018 map shows that the property known as the Glass farm as not included in the national monument boundary. In 2018, the Glass farm was under NPS management, and it was included in the enabling legislation for the national monument, but it was still owned by Jessamine County Fiscal Court. Also, approximately eighteen acres of this property is allocated to be sold to the Veterans Administration for expansion of the Camp Nelson National Cemetery.[4] In October 2019, the NPS produced an updated map for the national monument.

This map shows an inaccurate boundary for the property associated with the Fee Memorial Church (similar to that shown on the April 2018 Presidential Proclamation map). This map does show the property known as the Glass farm as included in the national monument boundary, but it inaccurately includes an area of about eighteen acres in the boundary that has been identified by the Veterans Administration for cemetery expansion. A foundation document, dated April 2020, also shows an incorrect boundary for the national monument. That map shows an incorrect boundary at the Fee Memorial Church site and the aforementioned cemetery expansion area is incorrectly shown as included in the national monument.

Camp Nelson Cultural Landscape Character Areas

In order to describe the site, this report uses character areas to distinguish the different zones in the national monument (**Figure 1.2**). The character

4. Public records do not show that this property has transferred to the Veterans Administration at the time of this report draft.

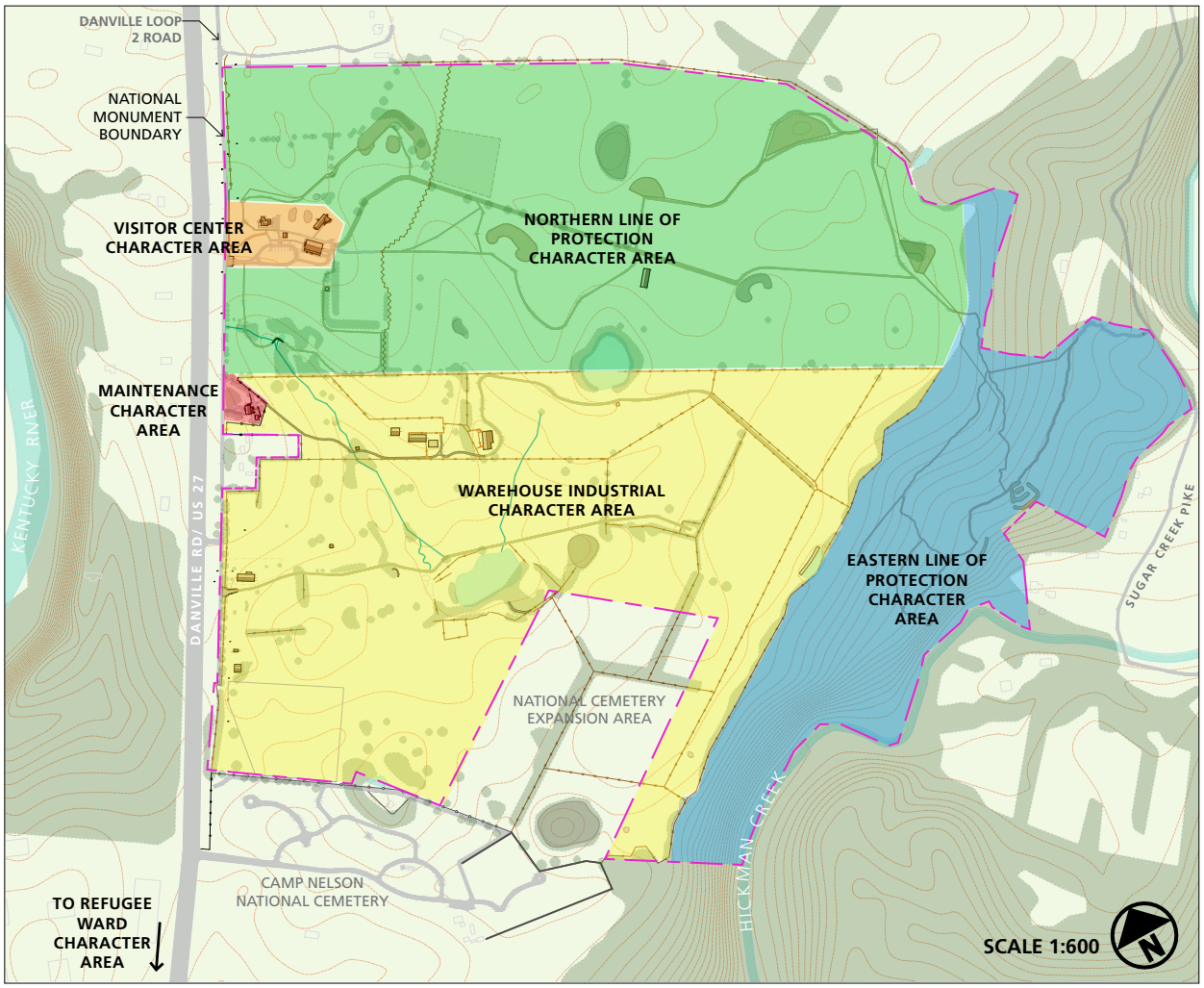


Figure 1.2. Map of character areas at Camp Nelson National Monument. For an enlarged version, see Illustration 3.1 (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

areas are fully described in the Existing Conditions section of the CLR and include the Visitor Center, Northern Line of Protection, Eastern Line of Protection, Warehouse Industrial, Maintenance, and Refugee Ward Character Areas.

Visitor Center Character Area – This character area includes the entry drive, the main parking lot, the Visitor Center, Barracks, Storage Building (known by some park staff as the Buggy Shed), and White House (Oliver Perry House). The northern boundary of this character area is just south of the infantry entrenchment and the Fort Trail. The western boundary is a stone wall along Danville Loop 2 Road (old US 27 / Lexington-Danville Turnpike), the southern boundary is the edge of the entry drive, and the eastern boundary is the eastern edge of the former maintenance parking area east of the Visitor Center (now known as the service parking area).

Northern Line of Protection Character Area – This character area includes the main interpretive area of the national monument. Features include the infantry entrenchment, forts, the prison site, Spring Reservoir, Cemetery #1, Barn #1, and several sinkholes. The western boundary is the post and rail fence along Danville Loop 2 Road, the southern boundary is a fence line between the main interpretive areas and property currently maintained for agricultural use, the eastern boundary is the tree line delineating the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area, and the northern boundary is the property line.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area – This includes the forested portions of the national monument east of the Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas. Landscape features include Fort Jones, the North Stone Wall, the South Stone Wall, infantry entrenchments, and walking trails. There is a gated vehicular access to this area off Sugar Creek Pike. The southern, eastern, and northern boundaries are formed by the property line, which includes Hickman Creek, while the western boundary is a tree line.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area – This character area includes property recently acquired by the national monument that is still actively used for agricultural purposes. The area includes agricultural buildings, equipment for livestock, the Griffing family cemetery, two ponds, several sinkholes, and pastures. The northern boundary is the fence line shared with the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, the western boundary follows a fence line along Danville Loop 2 Road, the southern boundary is Camp Nelson National Cemetery, and the eastern boundary is the tree line at the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area.

Maintenance Character Area – This character area includes a small parcel with a brick house, which serves as the Facilities and Maintenance Office, detached garage, and the surrounding landscaped yard.

Refugee Ward Character Area – This character area includes the part of the national monument on the west side of US 27. Features include the Fee Memorial Church, a foundation of a former parsonage/manse, and a remnant of a non-historic amphitheater. The site is partially mown and partially forested. The boundaries are the property lines along Hall Road and Church Street.

Summary of Findings

This CLR includes National Register level significance evaluation. The evaluation is based on existing National Register documentation for Camp Nelson, including the National Register nomination (2001) and National Historic Landmark (NHL) documentation (2013). Camp Nelson National Monument is part of the Camp Nelson Civil War District and the Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District. The National Register nomination states that the district is eligible for listing under Criteria A and D and Criteria Consideration D. Criteria Consideration D is applicable because of the inclusion of Camp Nelson National Cemetery and Hall Cemetery in the district. These cemeteries are outside the CLR study area and national monument boundary. The Griffing family cemetery is included in the national monument boundary. The areas of significance are Military – Civil War, Archeology: Historic-Non-aboriginal, and Ethnic Heritage – Black. The National Register and NHL nominations identify the period of significance as 1863 to

1866.[5] This cultural landscape report uses the NHL period of significance for the evaluation of contributing and noncontributing features. Based on analysis of historic condition and changes to the landscape since the period of significance, the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape retains sufficient integrity to the period of significance to convey its historic association. The cultural landscape retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association to the period of significance. The site retains enormous potential for future archeology.

As a newer unit of the National Park Service, Camp Nelson National Monument currently has several management documents under development. There is currently no general management plan, and the CLR relied upon the foundation document as guidance for overall treatment. The goals for treatment in this CLR are aimed at supporting future studies and providing the national monument with guidance for some immediate site needs. For example, the national monument has funded projects for a comprehensive wayside plan (FY 2022) and for an archeological survey (formulated for FY 2023). The national monument also has plans to initiate a long range interpretive plan (FY 2023). All of these plans will be critical guiding documents for the national monument and treatment of the cultural landscape. Specific treatment recommendations and guidelines address vegetation management, visitor arrival, safety, access to former agricultural areas, potential interpretation strategies, and universal accessibility. A draft list of Project Management Information System (PMIS) statements formulated from the treatment recommendations has been included as an appendix in this draft.

5. The National Register nomination describes the period of significance with months: June 1863 – June 1866, while the NHL nomination lists only the years 1863-1866.

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Site History

This Cultural Landscape Report references and quotes historical documents that contain offensive and/or racist terminology. These historic passages are included verbatim. The document provides source information in the notes and bibliography.

Introduction

Camp Nelson National Monument is located in southern Jessamine County, Kentucky, about one mile north of the Kentucky River and twenty miles south of Lexington. This region—known as the Inner Bluegrass—is characterized by karst topography that includes rolling pasture, hay fields, woods, surface springs, sinkholes, and caverns. Two water courses, the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek, acted as geographic boundaries and barriers for the historic Camp Nelson Civil War Depot (1863-1866). The United States Army (US Army) established Camp Nelson as a supply depot, hospital, recruitment, and training center. Camp Nelson also became a refugee camp for Black families from Kentucky and White families from east Tennessee. Prior to the arrival of European American emigrants, Native Americans had occupied this area for thousands of years. After the forced removal of the Native American communities in the late-1700s, White farmers and enslaved Black people moved into the region, introducing new agricultural practices and industries that transformed the landscape.

After the Civil War, much of the former US Army depot at Camp Nelson became farmland again, and the US Army sold off many of the buildings located at the site for their lumber. Minister and missionary John G. Fee (1816-1901) and his wife Matilda Fee (1824-1895) purchased some of the remaining property in the refugee camp, and African Americans continued to live at the site. The site of the refugee camp later became the community of Ariel, now known as Hall. In 1866, a portion of the Camp Nelson cemetery was designated as a National Cemetery. The remainder of Camp Nelson returned to agricultural and residential use. The owners of these properties subdivided and sold their land over the subsequent century.

Jessamine County Fiscal Court began acquiring parcels in the 1990s as part of the development of the Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park. Recognizing its historic significance, the Camp Nelson Civil War District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2001. A Presidential Proclamation established Camp Nelson National monument in 2018 and by 2021, the NPS had purchased all of the property included in the enabling legislation for the national monument. Today, the area surrounding the Camp Nelson National Monument remains largely agricultural.

Native Americans of the Inner Bluegrass

The earliest human occupation in the area now known as Kentucky likely occurred around 15,000-12,000 BCE, although the earliest verifiable occupation dates to about 9500 BCE.[6] This group of people, referred to as Paleoindians by archeologists, lived in small, mobile multi-family bands and subsisted on now-extinct large animals (megafauna) during the late Pleistocene era (127,000-9,700 BCE).[7] The people in these communities also hunted smaller game and gathered edible plants such as nuts, seeds, and berries. Paleoindian sites are identified by the presence of fluted projectile points (spear points) known as Clovis and eared lanceolate projectile points. Known Paleoindian sites in the Inner Bluegrass region include Clay's Ferry Crevice in Fayette County, the Adams Mastodon site in Harrison County, and Big Bone Lick in Boone County.[8] Archeologists have recovered Late

6. Kenneth B. Tankersley, "Ice Age Hunters and Gatherers," in Kentucky Archaeology, ed. R. Barry Lewis (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1996), 21.
7. Most scholars currently state that the Late Pleistocene was from 129,000 – 11,700 years before present (yBP). This date was formatted to BCE for consistency in this text.
8. Tankersley, "Ice Age Hunters and Gatherers," 27.

Paleoindian artifacts, dating from about 8500-8000 BCE, at Camp Nelson National Monument.[9]

As the climate warmed and the megafauna became extinct, the subsistence activities of the Native Americans of the Inner Bluegrass region gradually shifted to more generalized hunting and gathering. This subsistence pattern characterized the Archaic period (8000-1000 BCE). Archaic people lived in small, multi-family bands that moved during the seasons in search of game. Over time, they became more sedentary and lived in larger groups, especially in areas where their subsistence became focused on riverine shellfish or plants, especially starchy seeds.[10] Archaic sites, which are identified by the presence of notched and stemmed projectile points and ground stone tools, are ubiquitous across Kentucky. Archeologists have found projectile points and ground stone tools from the Archaic period in the Camp Nelson National Monument area.[11]

The next Native American period of occupation, the Woodland period (1000 BCE-CE 1000), is defined by the presence of pottery and smaller stemmed and notched projectile points, reflecting the use of the bow and arrow. By this period, people had domesticated local grasses which produced starchy seeds, so Woodland people pursued a semi-sedentary life in somewhat larger hamlets or villages. By the Late Woodland period (CE 800-1000) corn had been introduced from Mexico. These Woodland people also constructed monumental earthworks that included conical burial mounds, known as Adena mounds, and geometric enclosures. Evidence suggests that they also participated in the trading of goods over long distances. Exotic items such as galena, barite, copper, marine shell, and mica are present at sites from this period.[12] Woodland sites are common across Kentucky. Although archeologists have not recovered any Woodland period pottery from Camp Nelson National Monument, they have found Woodland projectile points including Adena, Jack's Reef, and Lowe types.[13]

The next period, the Late Prehistoric period (CE 1000-1680) is distinguished by two different cultural traditions: Mississippian and Fort Ancient. Mississippian sites are not found in central Kentucky. Fort Ancient is defined by large permanent villages with one hundred to three hundred people; corn, bean, and squash agriculture; and a hunting tradition focused on deer.[14] Diagnostic artifacts from this period include small triangular arrow points (Madison points); limestone tempered and then shell tempered pottery in a large variety of forms; and stone, shell, and bone jewelry. Archeologists have excavated one Fort Ancient village site, the Muir site, in Jessamine County that is located north of Camp Nelson National Monument. No Fort Ancient villages are known to exist within the boundaries of the Camp Nelson National Monument, although archeologists have identified Madison triangular projectile points at this location.[15]

Some European trade goods, particularly glass trade beads and copper/brass artifacts, began to appear on late Fort Ancient sites in the late-1600s. Due to geopolitical activities, the fur trade, and European diseases, Late Prehistoric people abandoned their Fort Ancient villages by the 1680s. These people, perhaps Shawnees or precursors to the Shawnees, moved to north of the Ohio River and to other locales.[16] They then established at least two Shawnee trading villages, Lower Shawnee Town and *Eskippakithiki*, in Kentucky in the 1700s, but people abandoned both towns in the 1750s before European settlement.[17]

9. Melody Pope, "Prehistoric Artifacts from 15Js97," in From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center, the Archaeology of Camp Nelson (Lexington, KY: Wilbur Smith Associates, 2003), C.9.
10. Richard W. Jeffries, "Hunters and Gatherers after the Ice Age," in Kentucky Archeology, by R. Barry Lewis (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1996), 40–61.
11. Pope, "Prehistoric Artifacts from 15Js97," C.9-10, 12.
12. Jimmy A. Railey, "Woodland Cultivars," in Kentucky Archaeology, ed. Lewis R. Barry (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1996), 90.
13. Pope, "Prehistoric Artifacts from 15Js97," C.10.
14. William E. Sharp, "The Fort Ancient Farmers," in Kentucky Archaeology, ed. R. Barry Lewis (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1996), 178–79.
15. Pope, "Prehistoric Artifacts from 15Js97," C.11; Sharp, "The Fort Ancient Farmers," 162–64.
16. A. Gwynn Henderson, Cynthia E. Jobe, and Christopher A. Turnbow, "Indian Occupation and Use in Northern and Eastern Kentucky during the Contact Period (1540-1795): An Initial Investigation" (Frankfort, KY, 1986), Kentucky Heritage Council; Sharp, "The Fort Ancient Farmers," 181.
17. Henderson, Jobe, and Turnbow, "Indian Occupation and Use," 21–62; Sharp, "The Fort Ancient Farmers," 175.

European-Native American Relations

Although the Shawnees had largely avoided direct contact with European explorers longer than Native Americans in other regions, European diseases were transmitted indirectly via trade networks and likely reached the Shawnee people by the late-1600s. Lacking immunity to these new pathogens, European diseases had a devastating impact on the Shawnees and other Native American peoples in the area.[18] In addition to the outbreak of disease, the Shawnees were also embroiled in ongoing conflict with the Seneca Haudenosaunee (Iroquois Confederacy), who were fighting to gain control of the area and its valuable hunting grounds. When a smallpox outbreak crippled Shawnee allies, the Haudenosaunee tribes gained the upper hand and forced the Shawnees to abandon their settlements in present-day Kentucky by 1720, leaving the state largely unpopulated.[19]

The Shawnees began returning to the region in the 1730s and repopulated Lower Shawnee Town in what would become northeast Kentucky, near Portsmouth. The Shawnees were joined by peoples from numerous other Native American tribes, such as the Delaware and Mingo, and Lower Shawnee Town became a multi-tribal settlement with a Shawnee majority. It served as the center of Native American trade and diplomacy in the region.[20] There was an "array of nations, divisions, factions, and bands settled at the lower Shawnee Town, [and] it is not surprising that the French characterized the lower Shawnee Town as a republic."[21] Despite their diversity the inhabitants of Lower Shawnee Town "shared many basic social, political, and economic ideas."[22] However, political factions and internal differences meant that "tribal leaders could not present a politically united front, a common characteristic of many tribal societies. Because of this very unstable political situation, Europeans found diplomatic relations difficult to establish."[23] Even though they had differences in diplomatic leadership styles, the inhabitants shared beliefs in the importance of kinship and practices related to village-based tribal societies.[24] In addition to repopulating sites along the Ohio River, the Shawnees also sought to establish control over central Kentucky by repopulating *Eskippakithiki* in what would become central Kentucky, near present-day Lexington.[25]

The Native American peoples of the region were actively involved in trade with the French and British, and Lower Shawnee Town became an important center of commercial activity, particularly for the deerskin trade.[26] While the Shawnees sought to maintain control over this region, the French and British were both eager to establish their own footholds in the area by the mid-1700s. The region that would become central Kentucky offered a bounty of land and hunting grounds, while the Ohio River Valley to the north offered access to expansive waterways and trade networks.[27]

In 1744, the British and Iroquois agreed on the Treaty of Lancaster, which included a cession of Iroquois land. Many British and American land speculators misinterpreted the Treaty of Lancaster to include all the land south of the Ohio River. By 1749, British land speculators had begun to venture into this area to survey the land.[28]

For Native American peoples in the Ohio River Valley region, the growing British presence in the area was an unwanted development. Similarly, British encroachment in the area also threatened French trade interests. By the 1750s, tensions between these competing groups escalated. The Shawnee tribe maintained an alliance with the French. In turn, the Shawnees were involved in several skirmishes with the British and British-allied tribes who were attempting to explore and

18. A. Gwynn Henderson and David Pollack, "A Native History of Kentucky," in *Native America: A State-By State Historical Encyclopedia*, vol. 1 (Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood Press, 2012), 16–17, https://heritage.ky.gov/Documents/Native_History_KyTeachers.pdf.
19. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition: 8–9.
20. Henderson and Pollack, "A Native History of Kentucky," 22–23.
21. A. Gwynn Henderson, "The Lower Shawnee Town on Ohio: Sustaining Native Autonomy in an Indian 'Republic,'" in *The Buzzel About Kentuck: Settling the Promised Land*, ed. Craig Thompson Friend (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1999), 33.
22. Henderson, "The Lower Shawnee Town on Ohio," 33.
23. Henderson, "The Lower Shawnee Town on Ohio," 36–37.
24. Henderson, "The Lower Shawnee Town on Ohio," 33.
25. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition:10.
26. Henderson and Pollack, "A Native History of Kentucky," 22–23.
27. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition:10–11.
28. Henderson and Pollack, "A Native History of Kentucky," 21.

hunt in the area. In 1754, the conflict escalated into war, beginning the French and Indian War. This war was part of a larger, global conflict called the Seven Years War, during which rival colonial powers sought to establish their dominance outside of Europe.[29]

After the onset of the French and Indian War, the Shawnee and French-allied tribes faced attacks from the British and British allies. As a result, the Shawnee and other Ohio River Valley tribes migrated north and abandoned their settlements south of the Ohio River.[30] By the 1760s, the area that would become Kentucky was, once again, largely depopulated. Although the Shawnees had relocated their permanent settlements north of the Ohio River, they still considered what would become northern and central Kentucky a part of Shawnee territory. This region was crucial to their overall economy, and they remained active in the region, hunting the land and collecting hides for trade.[31]

The French and Indian War ended in 1763, and the British emerged as the victors. The French withdrew their claim to land in the Americas, and their trade operations along the Mississippi River came to a halt. As the British were set to inherit French territory and trade networks, formerly French-allied tribes like the Shawnee were left in a vulnerable position.[32]

Over the next ten years, a series of treaties with the British rapidly eroded Native American territory in the region, including what would become present-day Kentucky. Under the 1768 Treaty of Fort Stanwix, the Iroquois ceded their claim to land south of the Ohio River to the British. The Cherokee surrendered their Kentucky territory to Virginia in 1772.[33] By this time, British and American explorers had become increasingly brazen, venturing further into the area that would become Kentucky to hunt and survey land. Long Hunters from nearby colonies entered Kentucky with growing frequency, using the Cumberland Gap as their entry point. Named for the months-long nature of their expeditions, these Long Hunters occasionally crossed paths with Shawnee and Cherokee hunters, who viewed the Long Hunters as trespassers interloping on their territory.[34] The Long Hunters exploited the rich forests and rivers of the region to supply markets with pelts, meat, and other products. Given the nomadic and solitary nature of their activity, the Long Hunters did not attempt to create permanent settlements in the region. Daniel Boone, perhaps the most well-known Long Hunter, had spent four years exploring the region before he joined an expedition to establish the first British settlement in Kentucky in 1773 with his family and fifty others.[35]

Angered by the growing presence of White colonists in this part of their territory, the Shawnees and their remaining allies went to war against the British. Lasting from 1774 to 1775, Lord Dunmore's War ended with the defeat of the Shawnees. Under the Treaty of Camp Charlotte, Shawnee leadership formally ceded their claim to the land south of the Ohio River. While this treaty effectively opened the doors for White settlement in Kentucky, not all the Native Americans peoples in the region accepted the terms set by the Treaty of Camp Charlotte. The next several decades were punctuated by reoccurring conflict and violence between the remaining Native Americans and White emigrants attempting to establish permanent settlements in this area.[36]

Landscape Summary (Native American Occupation – 1775)

During the Paleoindian and Archaic periods, the occupants of the region made few changes to the natural environment, excepting their possible contribution to the extinction of certain megafauna toward the end of the Pleistocene era. The warming of the climate during this period also led to changes in plant life, including the expansion of deciduous forests.

29. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition:11–12.
30. Henderson and Pollack, "A Native History of Kentucky," 24.
31. Henderson and Pollack, "A Native History of Kentucky," 19.
32. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition:14.
33. Henderson and Pollack, "A Native History of Kentucky," 25.
34. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition:16–17.
35. Marion B. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky, Volume 1: From Slavery to Segregation, 1760-1891* (Frankfort, KY: Kentucky Historical Society, 1992), xi.
36. Henderson and Pollack, "A Native History of Kentucky," 25–27.

During the later Woodland and Late Prehistoric periods, Native American communities altered the local landscape more significantly by clearing forests for agricultural fields, constructing buildings and villages, and cutting trees for firewood. People cleared fields through a combination of tree cutting (especially girdling) and burning. Earthwork construction also created new landscapes. As trade expanded in the Woodland period, Native American peoples in the region created more well-maintained trails and roads. The westward expansion of the fur trade in the 1700s may have adversely affected some animal populations, particularly beaver and deer. As there is no evidence of Woodland or Late Prehistoric villages at Camp Nelson National Monument, it is unclear if any major forest clearing occurred there before European American settlement.

Settlement Period and Antebellum Central Kentucky[37] (1775 - 1860)

White Settlement and Development

White emigration to present-day Kentucky began in earnest in the 1770s, despite the risk of violent retaliation. The earliest White settlements in the area south of the Ohio River were Harrodsburg and Boonesborough, established in 1774 and 1775, respectively. In 1776, Kentucky was claimed as a county of Virginia. While many early White residents were of more modest means, some were more well-off. These wealthier emigrants brought enslaved Africans with them. As one historian wrote, "Blacks and whites entered Kentucky together," and in turn, this arrangement shaped the landscape through settlement patterns, agricultural activity, and town development.[38]

During this period, many emigrants of European descent and enslaved Black persons lived in stockaded forts, known in Kentucky as "stations." One such station, called Black's Station, was established in present-day Jessamine County by 1783. Typically, stations included a house and a crop of corn. They varied in size and number of buildings and generally "house[d] more than one family, although the occupants were often related by blood or marriage."[39] Stations were also fortified to protect travelers and visitors from Native American attacks or other perceived threats. According to historian Nancy O'Malley, "Most of the stations, particularly those built before the end of the Revolutionary War, were only temporary residences, and their occupants put relatively little effort into solid construction designed to last."[40] Stations were located along well-traveled wagon roads and trails, typically at least twenty miles apart.

By the end of the Revolutionary War, roughly twelve thousand emigrants had reached Kentucky. Around this time, the use of stations declined. People from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia began arriving in Kentucky to establish farms on land grants provided to Revolutionary War veterans or their heirs.[41] A subset of this group were well-educated planter class individuals born to wealthy families, primarily from the Tidewater region of Virginia. The planters typically sent an overseer and enslaved laborers ahead of their arrival to clear the land and build dwellings for themselves and the planter's family.[42]

A steady influx of emigrants continued to arrive in Kentucky through the end of the 1700s. According to the first United States census conducted in Kentucky in 1790, there were 73,677 total inhabitants recorded. This included 15,154 free White males over sixteen, 17,057 free White males under sixteen, 28,922 free White females, 114 other free people, and 12,430 enslaved persons.[43] In 1792, Kentucky was formally granted statehood, becoming the fifteenth state in the United States.[44]

37. The period 1775-1820 is typically referred to as the "settlement period" in Kentucky historical contexts. This nomenclature is misleading as Native American groups had lived in Kentucky for thousands of years. The period 1820-1860 is typically referred to as the Antebellum period in Kentucky historical contexts (https://heritage.ky.gov/Documents/Outbuildings.pdf).
38. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, xi.
39. Nancy O'Malley, "Stations," in *Kentucky Encyclopedia*, n.d., 851.
40. O'Malley, "Stations," 851.
41. Peter C. Smith and Karl B. Raitz, "Negro Hamlets and Agricultural Estates in Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass," Geographical Review 64 (1974): 221.
42. Smith and Raitz, "Negro Hamlets and Agricultural Estates in Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass," 221.
43. Don Rubarts and Suzanne Yelton Shephard, "1790 First Census of Kentucky," accessed June 10, 2021, http://www.kykinfolk.com/carroll/1790census.htm.
44. Henderson and Pollack, "A Native History of Kentucky," 25–27.

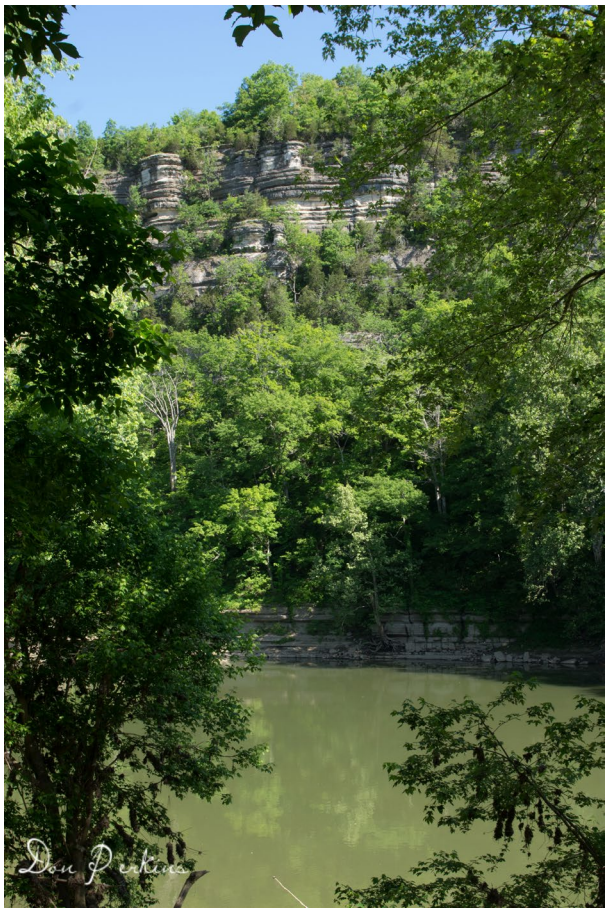


Figure 2.1. 2021 view of the Kentucky River and the palisade on the north side of the river, near what would become Camp Nelson (Source: ©Donald Perkins, 2021).

Transportation

Emigrants to central Kentucky used both old and new transportation routes that took advantage of the region's natural features. Such routes included water (rivers) or topographic features (mountain passes and valleys). Two of the most important early transportation routes in the area were the Kentucky River and the Cumberland Gap.

Kentucky River

Kentucky's multiple interconnected rivers and waterways, namely the Kentucky, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers, were an important means of transportation. Prior to the establishment of White settlements in the area, these waterways were central to Native American life in the region. They were key to transportation and trade networks while also providing reliable resources such as food and water.[45] In central Kentucky, the Shawnees often situated their settlements near the Kentucky River, which offered them several important benefits. The river provided valuable food sources, such as fish and mussels, and the nearby soil was especially fertile, which the Native Americans used to grow staple crops like corn, beans, and squash. Additionally, the nearby saltlicks attracted large game animals, which they hunted.[46]

A narrow, meandering 255-mile waterway, the Kentucky River is formed by the meeting of three tributaries, the North, Middle, and South Forks, which flow down the slope of the Appalachian Mountains on the state's eastern border. The Kentucky River cuts diagonally through the state and flows northwest. It meets the Ohio River at present-day Carrollton.[47] Weaving back and forth through the limestone surface rock of central Kentucky, the river has formed a deep canyon over millions of years of gradual erosion, creating steep cliffs the run alongside the river, called the Palisades (**Figure 2.1**).[48]

The Kentucky River is prone to periods of extended drought and low water, punctuated by sudden flash floods caused by runoff from its tributaries. These rapid changes in water level, combined with the river's narrow channel and numerous sharp turns, make the river exceptionally difficult to navigate. High, fast-moving water makes it difficult to steer and maintain control around the river's bends, while low water carries the risk of becoming beached on rocks or sand bars.[49]

The Native American peoples of the region used canoes to navigate the Kentucky River, made from dugout tree trunks or large pieces of fastened bark.[50] Canoes had many advantages when it came to traveling along the Kentucky River. They tended to sit relatively high in the water compared to larger vessels, making them less susceptible to snagging on the rocks and sandbars that were hazardous in shallow water. Additionally, they were light enough

45. Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet, "An Introduction to the History of the Kentucky River as a Transportation Route," 2, accessed June 8, 2021, https://finance.ky.gov/offices/kra/Pages/default.aspx.
46. Leland R. Johnson and Charles E. Parrish, "Kentucky River Development: The Commonwealth's Waterway," 1999, 3, https://finance.ky.gov/offices/kra/Pages/History.aspx.
47. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 3.
48. Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet, "History of the Kentucky River," 1.
49. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 2.
50. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 3.

that they could be towed by rope or by hand through areas that were otherwise impassible.[51]

The earliest waves of European explorers followed the example of the Native Americans and adopted canoes as their primary means of travel along the Kentucky River, and early records from European explorers repeatedly reference their use of canoes.[52] French and the British emigrants became reliant on the Kentucky River for their own trade and transportation needs.

As the population in Kentucky swelled towards the end of the 1700s, there was a growing need to improve trade and transportation conditions along the Kentucky River. In the 1780s, flatboats were introduced as an alternative to canoes. Named for their flat bottoms, which were helpful in shallow waters, flatboats became essential to transportation on the Kentucky River. Large enough to accommodate considerable amounts of cargo, flatboats were often used to transport agricultural goods and livestock out of Kentucky's interior, reaching cities located along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers.[53]

Flatboats were also used as ferries to cross the Kentucky River, often referred to as "ferry flats."[54] The first ferry crossing in Kentucky was established at Boonesborough in 1779. Six years later, in 1785, residents established a second ferry crossing at the mouth of Hickman Creek. This ferry connected the road that ran from Danville to Lexington. There was a ford at this point in the river, which travelers relied on for crossing. This intersection was particularly advantageous because the Kentucky River and Lexington-Danville Turnpike were both vital corridors in central Kentucky at that time. Consequently, the mouth of Hickman Creek became an important hub for trade and industry.[55]

While flatboats were ideal for transporting goods downriver, they were poorly suited for the return journey and struggled against the current moving upriver. For these trips, Kentuckians relied on keelboats, which were long and narrow with a pointed bow. In addition to masts that caught the wind, keelboat crews used long poles to push against the river bottom and propel to the boat forward against the current. Keelboats were essential to bringing finished goods and manufactured items to people living in the state's interior.[56]

Salt, iron, and coal were major exports produced in central Kentucky, and they reached the marketplace via the Kentucky River and its tributaries. By 1805, flatboats were carrying iron and coal along the Kentucky River to markets in Lexington, Frankfort, and Louisville. Boats traveling the river faced a hazardous journey, and wrecks on the South Fork and Kentucky River were common. The loss of valuable product encouraged early efforts to make improvements to these waterways by removing obstructions and implementing a lock and dam system to control water levels.[57]

Another driving force behind the push for a lock and dam system was the introduction of steamboats. The first steamboat to reach Kentucky was the *New Orleans*, which traveled along the Ohio River in 1811. In 1816, a group of shippers constructed a steamboat called the *Kentucky* at the mouth of Hickman Creek, the site of present-day Camp Nelson.[58] On April 21, 1816, the *Kentucky* departed down the Kentucky River, journeying to New Orleans.[59] Although the *Kentucky* and the steamboats that followed represented a new era in maritime technologies, trade along the Kentucky River still faced several practical obstacles. One of the most pressing challenges was the seasonal reoccurrence of low-water periods from July to October. Additionally, when the water was high, the Kentucky River was hazardous and difficult to navigate.[60]

51. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 6.
52. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 4.
53. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 6.
54. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 6.
55. Bennett H. Young, *A History of Jessamine County, Kentucky, From Its Earliest Settlement to 1898* (Louisville, KY: Courier-Journal Job Printing Company, 1898), 37.
56. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 9.
57. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 11.
58. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 12.
59. J. Winston Coleman, "Kentucky River Steamboats," The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society 63, no. 4 (1965): 300.
60. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 13–14.

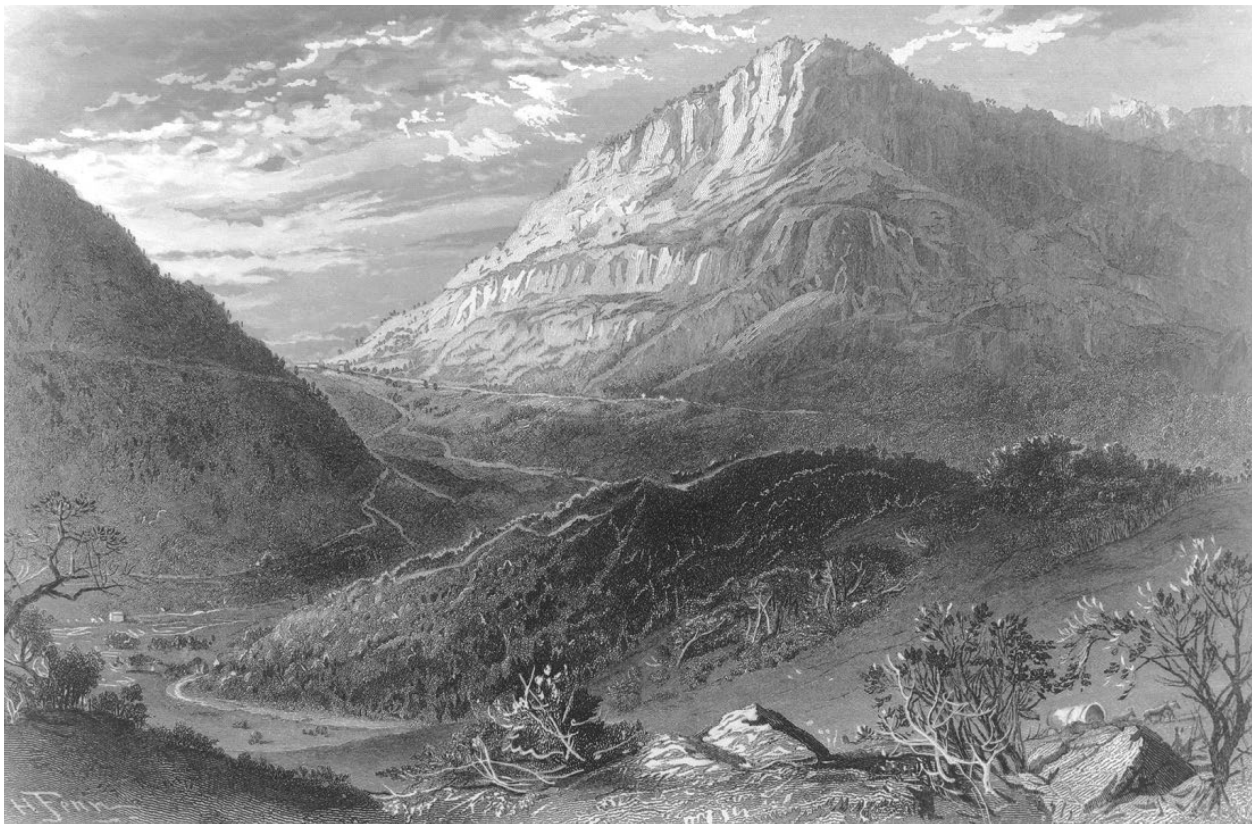


Figure 2.2. Drawing of the Cumberland Gap, the mountain pass that provided access to the western United States and Kentucky by S. V. Hunt, 1893 (Source: Library of Congress, record 95513932).

By 1820, the Kentucky legislature began funding several projects to make the Kentucky River easier to navigate and better-suited for steamboats. One of the earliest efforts allotted $40,000 to clear Kentucky's rivers of obstructions, with $10,000 pledged specifically to the Kentucky River and the South Fork tributary. During this project, workers "cleared snags. . .removed fishtrap dams, blasted away obstructive rocks, and built timber dams to guide river flow." Unfortunately, however, this effort was poorly planned and under-funded. The Kentucky River's routine floods quickly undid any progress that was made, and the project was largely a failure.[61]

Throughout the 1820s and 1830s, the Kentucky state government made several efforts to improve internal transportation systems, including turnpikes roads, railroads, and locks and dams. In 1835, the Kentucky state legislature embarked on an ambitious plan to overhaul the state's infrastructure. One of the primary objectives was to improve the navigability of the Kentucky River by constructing locks and dams to create year-long slack water.[62] In 1835, the state granted $5,000 for the clearance of obstructions along the Kentucky River. In 1836, the state approved the construction of five new six-foot lock and dams along the Kentucky River.[63] Despite financial setbacks, the final project created ninety-five miles of slack water that could be navigated year-round.[64] The improved navigability of the Kentucky River was a boon for commercial activity, and business along the river was thriving by 1845.[65] Kentucky exports included "thousands of dollars [*sic*] worth of hempen bagging and bale rope, wheat, flour, corn, grain and meats to the South." Interstate trade of enslaved people, who were "bound for the malaria-ridden cotton, rice and sugar-cane plantations" in the South, also increased during this period.[66]

Funding and long-term maintenance issues plagued the lock and dam system. The dams were expected to finance maintenance and operation costs themselves through toll funding, operating

61. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 13.

62. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 15.
63. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 36–37.
64. Coleman, "Kentucky River Steamboats," 305.
65. Coleman, "Kentucky River Steamboats," 310.
66. Coleman, "Kentucky River Steamboats," 313.

similarly to the state's toll roads and turnpikes. While this plan seemed adequate initially, increased reliance on railroads ate away at toll revenues, and by 1854 the lock and dam system operated at a deficit.[67] Lacking the funding to make necessary repairs, the lock and dam system suffered from poor maintenance in the years prior to the Civil War.

Roads

The earliest roads in Kentucky were essentially trails cut through sparsely inhabited areas, reinforced over time by frequent travel. These worn-in pathways, often called trace roads, were common throughout the state's interior, connecting many of the small settlements in central Kentucky.[68] These roads were often rugged and irregular, creating hazardous conditions for travelers. One of the most well-known routes in the state passed through the Cumberland Gap.

Located in the state's southeastern corner, the Cumberland Gap is a natural passageway through a ridge in the Cumberland Mountains, part of the larger Appalachian Mountain range (**Figure 2.2**). Complex geological processes involving an intersection between the Pine Mountain Thrust Sheet and the Rocky Face Fault formed the Cumberland Gap. This intersection created conditions that accelerated erosion and weathering processes, gradually forming this mountain pass.[69]

The Cumberland Gap was an important threshold for wildlife, and it is likely that migrating herds of pre-historic elk and bison formed a pathway through the area over time.[70] The pass was also a significant passage for Native American peoples in the region. In particular, the Shawnee and Cherokee tribes used the Cumberland Gap as part of a game trail that extended through Kentucky and Tennessee, which the Shawnees called *Athiamiowee*.[71]

When European-Americans arrived in the area, they quickly recognized the significance of the Cumberland Gap as a passageway through the Appalachian Mountains. In 1750, the Loyal Land Company hired Thomas Walker to venture into Kentucky and survey the land for future settlement. While passing through, Walker named the gap and a nearby river after the Duke of Cumberland.[72]

The Cumberland Gap would serve as a crucial entry point for the influx of White emigrants into Kentucky. By the 1760s, British Long Hunters began entering Kentucky through the Cumberland Gap, trespassing on Native American territory to explore and hunt.[73] Despite ongoing conflict and tense negotiations between Europeans and Native Americans, British colonists were intent on making headway into Kentucky. In 1775, Long Hunter Daniel Boone embarked on a journey to create a clear pathway from the Cumberland Gap through central Kentucky. Accompanied by a group thirty-five people, including enslaved laborers, Boone began carving out a new pathway, called Wilderness Road.[74]

Narrow and treacherous, Wilderness Road went northward from the Cumberland Gap, running through central Kentucky (**Figure 2.3**). Around the middle of the state, the road forked. One path continuing north toward Boonesborough and the Kentucky River, and the other turned northwest towards Louisville.[75] By the late-eighteenth century, White settlement in Kentucky had begun to increase dramatically. For emigrants and explorers traveling from eastern colonies, the Cumberland Gap and Wilderness Road served as the primary means of entry into Kentucky.[76] Additionally, it was

67. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 69.
68. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky,* Second edition:74.
69. Matthew M. Crawford and Hanna Hunsberger, *Geology of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park*, [Geologic Map and Chart], 1:100,000, Series XII, 199 (Lexington, KY: Kentucky Geological Survey, University of Kentucky, 2011).
70. Crawford and Hunsberger, "Geology of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park."
71. National Park Service, "Warriors' Path - Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (US National Park Service)," Warrior's Path, April 14, 2015, https://www.nps.gov/cuga/learn/historyculture/warriors-path.htm.
72. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition:11.
73. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition:15.
74. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition:26.
75. Thomas L. Connelly, "Gateway to Kentucky: The Wilderness Road, 1748-1792," The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society 59, no. 2 (April 1961): 110, http://www.jstor.org/stable/23374499.
76. Connelly, "Gateway to Kentucky: The Wilderness Road, 1748-1792," 109.



Figure 2.3. Portion of a 1784 Map of Kentucky by John Filson with the Wilderness Road and the approximate future location of Camp Nelson National Monument Indicated (Source: Library of Congress, record 2001623605).

Figure 2.4. Portion of a 1793 Map of Kentucky with the road crossing at the Kentucky River at the mouth of Hickman Creek indicated (Source: Library of Congress, record gm71000976).

crucial for the transport of goods and livestock necessary for people to establish permanent settlements in the state.[77]

Recognizing the potential economic benefits of improved transportation networks, the first formal effort to improve and maintain existing road networks came from the Virginia government. In 1785, the Virginia state government mandated that three days of every year would be dedicated to maintaining roads and required the participation of all men sixteen and older.[78] Virginia also allowed for the creation of new point-oriented roads, connecting important settlements throughout Kentucky's interior.[79]

When Kentucky achieved statehood in 1792, the new state government borrowed from precedents established in Virginia to create a statewide system for road construction, maintenance, and funding. The first major initiative was the widening of Wilderness Road in 1797, which the state funded using toll roads. In 1817, the government commissioned the construction of two new turnpike roads running out of Lexington, with one going to Louisville and the other to Maysville.[80] Over the next several decades, there was a drastic increase in the construction of turnpike roads throughout Kentucky, which were funded using a combination of state-sponsored lotteries and toll road funds. As with most industries at the time, road projects used enslaved laborers. Between 1834 and 1842, ninety-three turnpike road projects were underway.[81]

During Kentucky's colonial period and early statehood, Danville was an important center of economic and political life, and it was the setting for multiple conventions that met to draft Kentucky's state constitution.[82] Although Lexington eventually eclipsed Danville in size and significance, Danville remained an important location in central Kentucky, and travel between the two towns was common. A 1793 map of Kentucky made by Matthew Carey shows a road running north from Danville to Lexington, crossing the Kentucky River at the mouth of Hickman Creek (**Figure 2.4**).[83] An 1818 map by Hugh Anderson shows the same road leading from Danville to Lexington, again crossing over the Kentucky River at the mouth Hickman Creek (**Figure 2.5**).[84]

At the beginning of the statewide roadway construction boom in 1834, the road from Danville to Lexington was officially incorporated as a turnpike. This road became the Danville, Lancaster, and Nicholasville Turnpike, more commonly known as Lexington-Danville Turnpike (present-day US 27/Danville Road) (**Figure 2.6**).[85] As part of the Lexington-Danville Turnpike project, the state constructed a bridge to replace the flatboat ferry crossing at the mouth of Hickman Creek (**Figure 2.7**). Designed by Lewis B. Wernwag (1769-1843), the bridge was made from poplar and pine, spanning 270 feet between Garrard and Jessamine County. Built in 1838, the Hickman Bridge (also known as the Wernwag Bridge) took six months to complete. Builders constructed the bridge in pieces upriver and floated segments down to their intended location, where workers assembled them.[86] Originally from Germany, Lewis B. Wernwag was a well-known bridge builder based out of Philadelphia. Wernwag constructed twenty-nine bridges during his twenty-seven-year career.[87] The Hickman Bridge was reported to be the longest cantilevered wooden bridge in the United States. Wernwag was responsible for other historically significant bridges constructed in the

77. John E. Kleber, "Kentucky: A Historical Overview," in The Kentucky Encyclopedia (University Press of Kentucky, 1992), xx, http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt130htnj.
78. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition: 53.
79. Karl Raitz and Nancy O'Malley, "Local-Scale Turnpike Roads in Nineteenth-Century Kentucky," Journal of Historical Geography 33, no. 1 (January 1, 2007): 5, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhg.2005.12.003.
80. Raitz and O'Malley, "Local-Scale Turnpike Roads," 6.
81. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition: 115.
82. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition: 65–70.
83. Elihu Barker and Mathew Carey, *A Map of Kentucky from Actual Survey* (Philadelphia, PA: Engraved for & sold by Mathew Carey, 1793), Library of Congress, https://www.loc.gov/item/gm71000976.
84. Luke Munsell and Hugh Anderson, *A Map of the State of Kentucky: From Actual Survey;* Also Part of Indiana and Illinois (Frankfurt, KY, 1818), Library of Congress, https://www.loc.gov/item/75653132/.
85. Michael J. Denis, "Turnpike Roads of Boyle County, Kentucky" (Parksville, KY), 7, accessed June 11, 2021, http://sites.rootsweb.com/~kyboyle2/Boyle-General/Turnpikes%20in%20Boyle%20County.pdf.
86. Young, *History of Jessamine County*, 153.
87. Sandra L. Tatman, "Wernwag, Lewis (1769-1843), Engineer," Philadelphia Architects and Buildings, 2021, https://www.philadelphiabuildings.org/pab/app/ar_display.cfm/22960.



Figure 2.5. Portion of an 1818 map with the road crossing the Kentucky River near the mouth of Hickman Creek indicated (Source: Library of Congress, record number 75653132).



Figure 2.6. Undated view of the Lexington-Danville Turnpike, likely 1860s (Source: Stereoscope "Gems of Kentucky Scenery" by Carpenter and Mullen Collection, University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center).



Figure 2.7. View of the Hickman Bridge over the Kentucky River, taken around 1864 (Source: 77pa102, Camp Nelson Photographic Collection, 1864, University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center).

early-1800s, including the Lancaster Schuylkill Bridge (1812-1813, burned 1838)—also called the "Colossus of Fairmount"—near Philadelphia.[88]

Railroads

During the 1830s, several major transportation related initiatives were underway in Kentucky. In addition to the ambitious lock and dam system along the Kentucky River, there was also a statewide push to build a railroad system.[89] The first major rail project in the state was the Lexington & Ohio Railroad. This rail line was intended to run from Lexington to Frankfort, and from Frankfort to the Ohio River, just south of Louisville. The purpose of this rail line was to improve trade networks and reduce shipping costs for goods coming and going from central Kentucky.[90]

In the decades before the Civil War, there were several additional rail lines built out of Lexington, including the Covington & Lexington, Maysville & Lexington, and Lexington & Danville railroads. Chartered in 1850, the Lexington & Danville Railroad Company proposed a rail line that would start in Lexington and cross through Nicholasville in Jessamine County, before passing over the Kentucky River to reach Danville. Originally, the rail line was supposed to cross the river just north of where the Dix River met the Kentucky River. Facing a two hundred-foot-drop-off on either side of the riverbed, John A. Roebling was hired to design a bridge that could make the crossing.[91] Before the bridge or the rail line could be completed, the Lexington & Danville Railroad Company faced financial troubles that delayed further construction. Following the Panic of 1857 and the economic recession that followed, the Lexington & Danville Railroad Company was unable to sell bonds to secure enough investment to continue building. By this point, the thirteen-mile section of rail linking Lexington and Nicholasville was complete and operational, but the remainder of the original plan was left unfinished.[92]

88. Tatman, "Wernwag, Lewis."
89. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 15.
90. Lexington History Museum, "Development of Railroads in Central Kentucky," accessed June 11, 2021, http://lexhistory.org/wikilex/development-railroads-central-kentucky.
91. Lexington History Museum, "Lexington & Danville Railroad," accessed June 11, 2021, http://lexhistory.org/wikilex/lexington-danville-railroad.
92. Lexington History Museum, "Lexington & Danville Railroad."

Industry, Agriculture, and Economy

Slavery in Kentucky

All these transportation projects were in service to industry—primarily agriculture and trade. In Kentucky, enslavement was legal, and the Bluegrass region had the highest rate of enslavement in the state. The land itself was well suited for agriculture, and the region "consisted of level farmland and slightly rolling hills covered by deep, fertile soil with a high phosphorus content."[93] Enslaved laborers produced agricultural products, bred and cared for livestock, nannied children, and worked as domestic servants or as bondsmen, a term for highly skilled enslaved laborers who were hired out to neighboring farms or the factories in urban centers.[94]

Historians note that while patterns of enslavement varied across the state, enslavement was a practice "shared by small farmers and large-scale planters alike."[95] Not all enslavers in Kentucky were large-scale agriculturalists, and many enslaved between one and five persons. However, the favorable conditions in the Bluegrass region encouraged large-scale agricultural production and encouraged the exploitation of enslaved laborers. Consequently, in this area, "slavery came the closest to the plantation form it took in the Deep South."[96] On plantations in central Kentucky, enslaved laborers grew hemp, tobacco, corn, barley, oats, hay, wheat, sweet and Irish potatoes, cotton, flax, apples, peaches, and other vegetables. Many farms also bred livestock with imported breeding stock from Europe, including beef and dairy cattle, horses, and sheep.[97]

The planter class and its accumulated wealth was dependent of the exploitation of enslaved people's labor and the domestic slave trade. Between 1820 and the onset of the Civil War, Kentucky was one of the largest slave-exporting states. Slave auctions in Louisville and Lexington supplied slave markets throughout the Deep South.[98] The 1860 census counted 225,483 enslaved individuals in Kentucky, accounting for nearly 20 percent of the total population.[99] While still a significant percentage, this figure is lower than other southern states.

Jessamine County

In 1798, Jessamine County was created from Fayette County, and the county seat, Nicholasville, was established in 1812. Prominent Revolutionary War veterans who settled in present-day Jessamine County included Benjamin Netherland, Joseph Crockett, Percival Butler, John Price, and George Walker. Additional emigrants included John, Jacob, and Samuel Hunter, who settled in farmsteads along upper Hickman Creek in 1779.[100] By 1800, Jessamine County had 5,461 inhabitants, including 3,879 White residents, 1,561 enslaved African Americans, and 21 free African Americans. By 1810, Black persons, the vast majority of whom were enslaved, made up 30 percent of the population of Fayette, Woodford, Scott, Jessamine, and Jefferson counties.[101]

Slavery in Jessamine County

In the antebellum period, hemp was the primary agricultural product produced by enslaved laborers in Jessamine County. The National Register nomination for Jessamine County Multiple Resource Area described the importance of this early crop:

> Much of the early growth and agricultural prosperity of Jessamine County was due to the success of a cash crop, hemp. Hemp was a popular crop in central Kentucky from about 1796 because of the lack of a close market for tobacco, the largest cash crop today, and because it produced the greatest return for the use of the land and slave labor--it is estimated that three slaves could cultivate 51 acres in hemp. By 1840 two thirds of the Kentucky hemp crop was produced in the Bluegrass region, and Nicholasville had a number of hemp factories. Although the less hilly sections of Jessamine County operated largely on a cash crop basis, the farms, averaging between 50 and 500 acres,

93. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, xvii.
94. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, 102.
95. Anne E. Marshall, *Creating a Confederate Kentucky: The Lost Cause and Civil War Memory in a Border State* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010), 12.
96. Marshall, *Creating a Confederate Kentucky*, 11.
97. Young, *History of Jessamine County*, 143.; Smith and Raitz, "Negro Hamlets and Agricultural Estates in Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass," 221.
98. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, 100.
99. William A. Dobak, *Freedom by the Sword: The U.S. Colored Troops 1862-1867* (Washington, D.C.: Center of Military History, United States Army, 2016), 381.
100. Young, *History of Jessamine County*, 72.
101. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, xvii.

were not as large as the plantations of the Deep South.[102]

In the decades preceding the Civil War, Jessamine County experienced economic growth as enslavers' wealth grew. According to the Jessamine County Multiple Resource Area National Register nomination,

> Hemp production and livestock raising continued to provide a strong basis for the Jessamine County economy through the Civil War and were largely responsible for one of the county's greatest building periods, between about 1835 and 1860.... In general, the decades prior to the Civil War were marked by local political stability, cash crop prosperity, the solidification of the county's largest farms, the height of slavery in the county, and a greater importing of outside luxury goods and services.[103]

The 1860 census showed that on average in Jessamine County, 48.3 percent of the White population lived with enslaved persons, and on average, each enslaver held 7.5 enslaved people.[104] That year, Jessamine County had a population of 9,465, of which 3,821 were African Americans (3,725 enslaved, 96 free). Based on these figures, African Americans accounted for 40 percent of Jessamine County's total population at that time.[105]

Camp Nelson Site

People and Property

In the antebellum period, there were several homesteads situated in the area where Camp Nelson was established. Early landowners included James and Jaily Higginbotham, Robert and Mary Scott, George Walker, John May, Joseph Jones, William and Ray Moss, and Jasper and Elizabeth Griffing.[106] The Griffing Farm was one

102. Kenneth T. Gibbs and Carolyn M. Wooley, "Jessamine County Multiple Resource Area," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (Jessamine County, KY: Kentucky Heritage Council, March 1984), 2, 123847514, National Archives, https://catalog.archives.gov/id/123847514.
103. Gibbs and Wooley, "Jessamine County Multiple Resource Area," 5.
104. Aaron Astor, *Rebels on the Border: Civil War, Emancipation, and the Reconstruction of Kentucky and Missouri* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2012), 22.
105. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, xx.
106. Young, *A History of Jessamine County,* 35, 45.



Figure 2.8. View of Boone's Knob, located south of Camp Nelson National Monument (Source: 77pa102, Camp Nelson Photographic Collection, 1864, University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center).

of the earliest homesteads, settled before 1799.[107] According to census records, the Higginbotham, Moss, Scott (Mary and son Thomas B.), Perry, and Griffing families enslaved men, women, and children at their farms.[108] In 1783, a group of emigrants, many from Virginia, established the town of Twin Villages. The town was located on the cliffs above the north bank of the Kentucky River, and below a stone outcropping known as Boone's Knob (**Figure 2.8**).[109] Boone's Knob took its name from Boone's Cave, which was located nearby. This cave was named for Daniel Boone, who spent the winter of 1769 there. Hickman Creek was named for Rev. Hickman, a Baptist preacher and early White resident in the area.[110]

The Higginbothams owned what became northern and western Camp Nelson. The Griffings owned central Camp Nelson, and the Scotts owned much of southern Camp Nelson. The Mosses owned part of the area that became the Ariel/Hall community.[111] An 1816 map of James and Jaily Higginbotham's property was included in his estate settlement, illustrating his house and various outbuildings (**Figure 2.9**).[112] This map reveals that the estate included land on both sides of Hickman Road (which followed the alignment of current US 27/Danville Road). Fields of various sizes are located on both sides of the road. The main dwelling is sketched as a two-story, hall-parlor dwelling with two ell additions, labeled "Mantion [mansion?] house." The home is situated west of Hickman Road. The stables are shown directly across from the main dwelling, east of Hickman Road. A three-part barn is centrally positioned on the eastern half of the property. South of the barn, there is a spring and a still house. North of the barn, there is an orchard. The southeastern portion of the property is labeled "woodland pasture." Archeological evidence from the site of the Owens House (previously the Higginbotham's house) indicates that there were likely several additional outbuildings, such as "smokehouses, meathouses, slave quarters, privies, chicken houses, laundry houses, and woodsheds," located on the house lot.[113] Archeological evidence suggests that there was a dwelling for the people enslaved by the Higginbothams south of the main dwelling.[114] The Higginbothams lived in the main dwelling for "at least nine years and Jaily for perhaps eleven years or longer," until 1816, when an unknown surveyor produced the map.[115] "Archival records indicate that Jaily [Higginbotham] retained ownership of the property until her death in 1851, but may not have lived continuously in the dwelling after her husband's death. . . . the paucity of artifacts that date to this period (1816-1851) shows that she and her family continued to live in the Owens House occasionally. It would not have been uncommon for her (a young widow with small children) to stay with relatives or in another residence for part of each year."[116]

Mary Scott (1786-1869), widowed following the death of her husband Robert Scott in 1817, purchased both the former Higginbotham and Griffing farms in the 1850s.[117] Mary Scott then owned much of the property that would become Camp Nelson.[118] An 1866 map of Camp Nelson identifies the former Higginbotham house as the "Owens House." David Owens, a local tavern

107. Susan C. Andrews, "The Antebellum Component of 15Js97," in *From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center, the Archaeology of Camp Nelson*, by Stephen McBride et al. (Lexington, KY: Wilbur Smith Associates, 2003), B.1; "Jessamine County Tax Roll 1799" (Nicholasville, KY: Jessamine County Courthouse, n.d.).
108. Ancestry.com. *1860 US Federal Census - Slave Schedules*, Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010.
109. Young, *History of Jessamine County*, 151.
110. Young, *History of Jessamine County*.
111. "Deed Book B:103" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, n.d.); Stephen McBride and William E. Sharp, "Archaeological Investigations at Camp Nelson: A Union Quartermaster Depot and Hospital in Jessamine County, Kentucky," Archaeological Report, University of Kentucky Program for Cultural Resource Assessment (Lexington: University of Kentucky, 1991), 15–18.
112. "Will Book B: 101" (Nicholasville, KY: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1816).
113. McBride and Sharp, "Archaeological Investigations at Camp Nelson," 44.; While the condition of the landscape at present-day Camp Nelson National Monument is not recorded during this period, it is likely that other property owners would have converted the level, arable land to agricultural use and built necessary farmhouses, outbuildings, and fences throughout the project site.
114. McBride and Sharp, "Archaeological Investigations at Camp Nelson," B.14, B.44.
115. McBride and Sharp, "Archaeological Investigations at Camp Nelson," B.1.
116. McBride and Sharp, "Archaeological Investigations at Camp Nelson," B.1.
117. "Deed Book T:256" (Nicholasville, KY: Jessamine County Courthouse, n.d.); McBride and Sharp, "Archaeological Investigations at Camp Nelson," 15–18.
118. McBride and Sharp, "Archaeological Investigations at Camp Nelson," B.2.

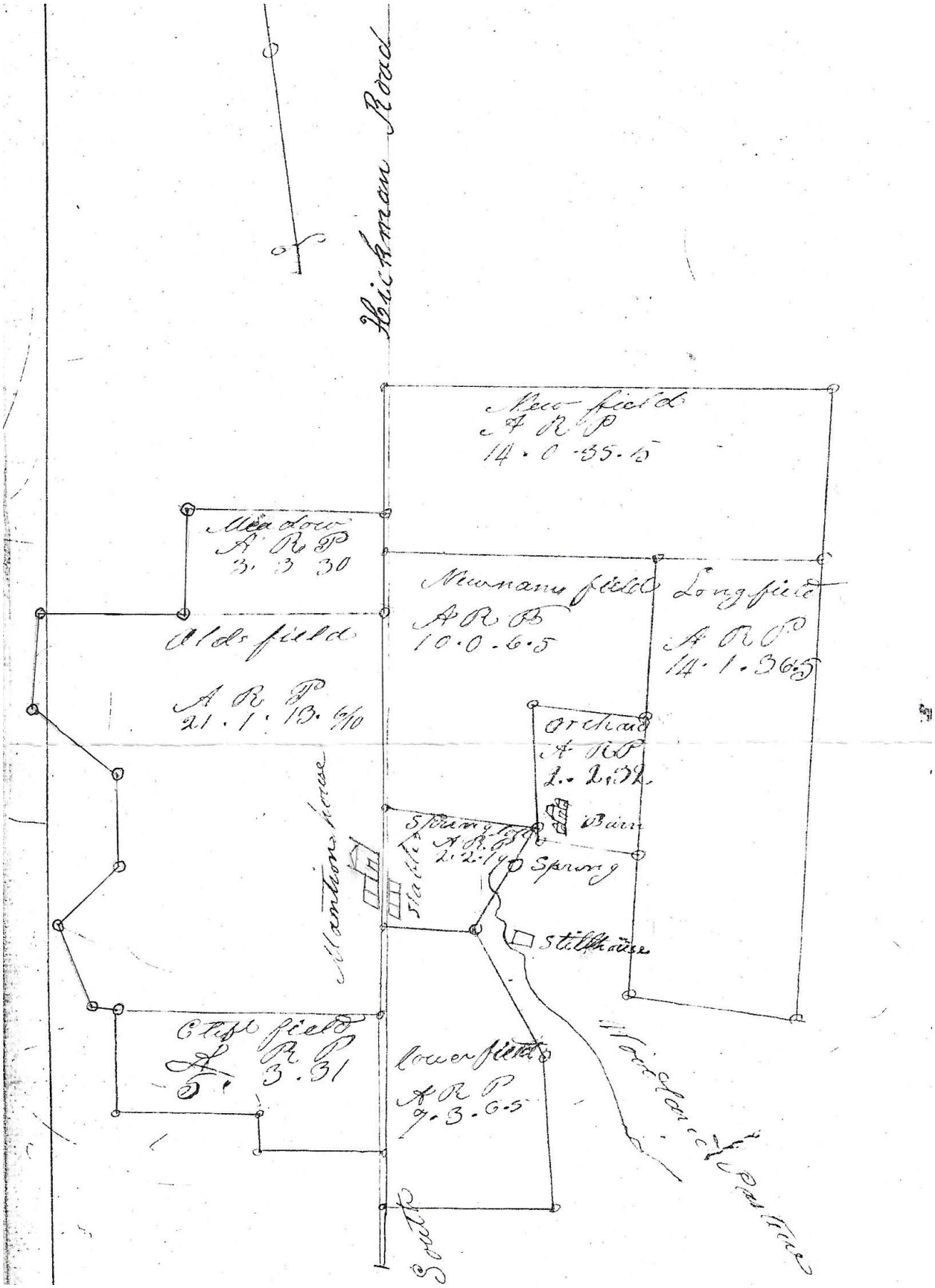


Figure 2.9. 1816 plat of James Higginbotham Lands (Source: Jessamine County Will Book B:101, estate settled between 1814-16).

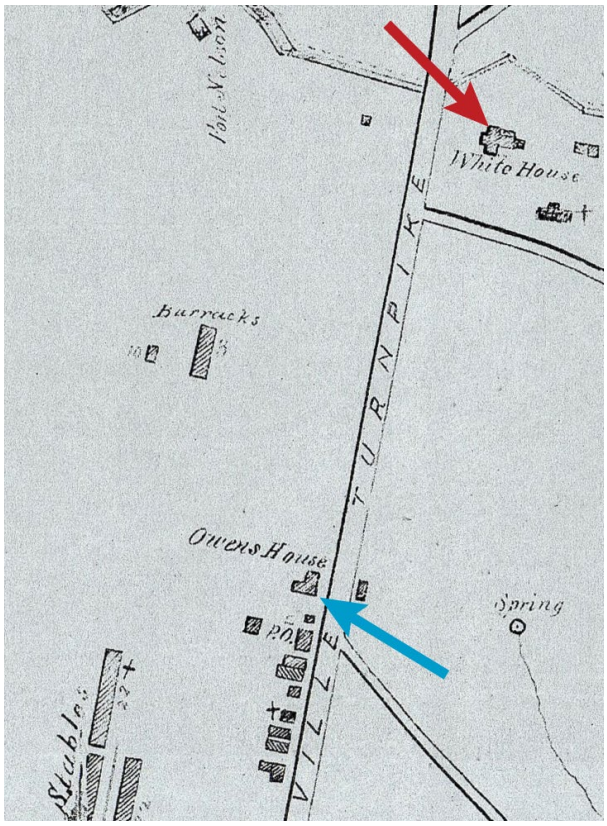


Figure 2.10. 1866 map of Camp Nelson with existing house locations indicated. "White House" is indicated with the red arrow. "Owens House" is indicated with the blue arrow (Source: Cartographic Section, National Archives, RG 92, 1.158-f).

keeper, rented this house from Mary Scott and operated it as a tavern. Mary Scott and her son-in-law, Oliver H. Perry, constructed another house on the former Higginbotham farm sometime around 1856.[119] The 1866 map identifies his house as the "White House" (**Figure 2.10**). The White House or Oliver Perry House is situated south of the earthworks on the north side of Camp Nelson, on the east side of the turnpike. The US Army used the building as officers' quarters during the Civil War.

The 1866 map also shows three other buildings labeled "Dwellings." These were the homes of Jasper Griffing, Mary and Thomas B. Scott, and Joseph Moss (**Figure 2.11**). These buildings were on the south end of Camp Nelson, one on the east side of the turnpike and two on the west side of the turnpike.

Transportation, Industry, and Economy

Much of the local economy in this period revolved around producing agricultural products for the market, including hemp, corn, and tobacco. The government assisted in this endeavor, and in 1783, the Virginia legislature established a tobacco warehouse at the mouth of Hickman Creek. A public ferry began operating there in 1785.[120]

The Kentucky River was also a primary factor in local economic development. Settlements were established around the ferry landings on both sides of the river in the early-1790s. By the late-1830s, the community at the ferry site was known as Fitchport. It was named after Philonzo S. Fitch (1810-1877), a New York-born farmer who operated the ferry landing.

Other local industries included mills for processing locally grown crops. Mary Scott operated a grist/flour mill on lower Hickman Creek along Sugar Creek Pike. William Potts and Mr. F. Watts also operated mills along Hickman Creek (**Figure 2.12**).[121]

Another early industry that developed during this period was the distillation of spirits. Boone's Knob Distillery, located adjacent to the Boone's Knob topographic feature, was established around 1820.[122] James Higginbotham also had a whiskey or brandy still house. John James Dufour, an immigrant from Switzerland, established the first commercial winery in the United States in 1799,

119. The National Register nomination lists the date of construction as 1855 for the White House. However, Mary Scott did not own the property until 1856. Mary's second will (undated) describes loaning her daughter Fannie $3,000 for the construction of a "good home on the Thomas Farm", referring to the White House. In 1855, Mary and her son Thomas Scott had been appointed caretakers of the orphaned infant grandchildren of Jaily Higginbotham, Daniel Thomas and Josephine Thomas, inheritors of Thomas Farm. Mary "purchased" the land from her infant charges in 1856, effectively robbing the children of their family land and inheritance. However, it is possible Mary's daughter Fannie and son-in-law Oliver H. Perry built their home on the Thomas property prior to Mary owning the land, but an 1856 date seems more probable.

120. Young, *History of Jessamine County*, 37; Lisa Power, "My Old Kentucky Home on the Block," *Cincinnati Enquirer*, April 21, 1985, 12.

121. E. A. and G. W. Hewitt, *Topographic Map of the Counties of Bourbon, Fayette, Clark, Jessamine, and Woodford, Kentucky* (New York: Smith Gallup and Co., 1861), Library of Congress, http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3953b.la000225.

122. Andy Mead, "Fire Destroys Former Distillery in Jessamine" Lexington Herald-Leader (August 12, 1986): B1.

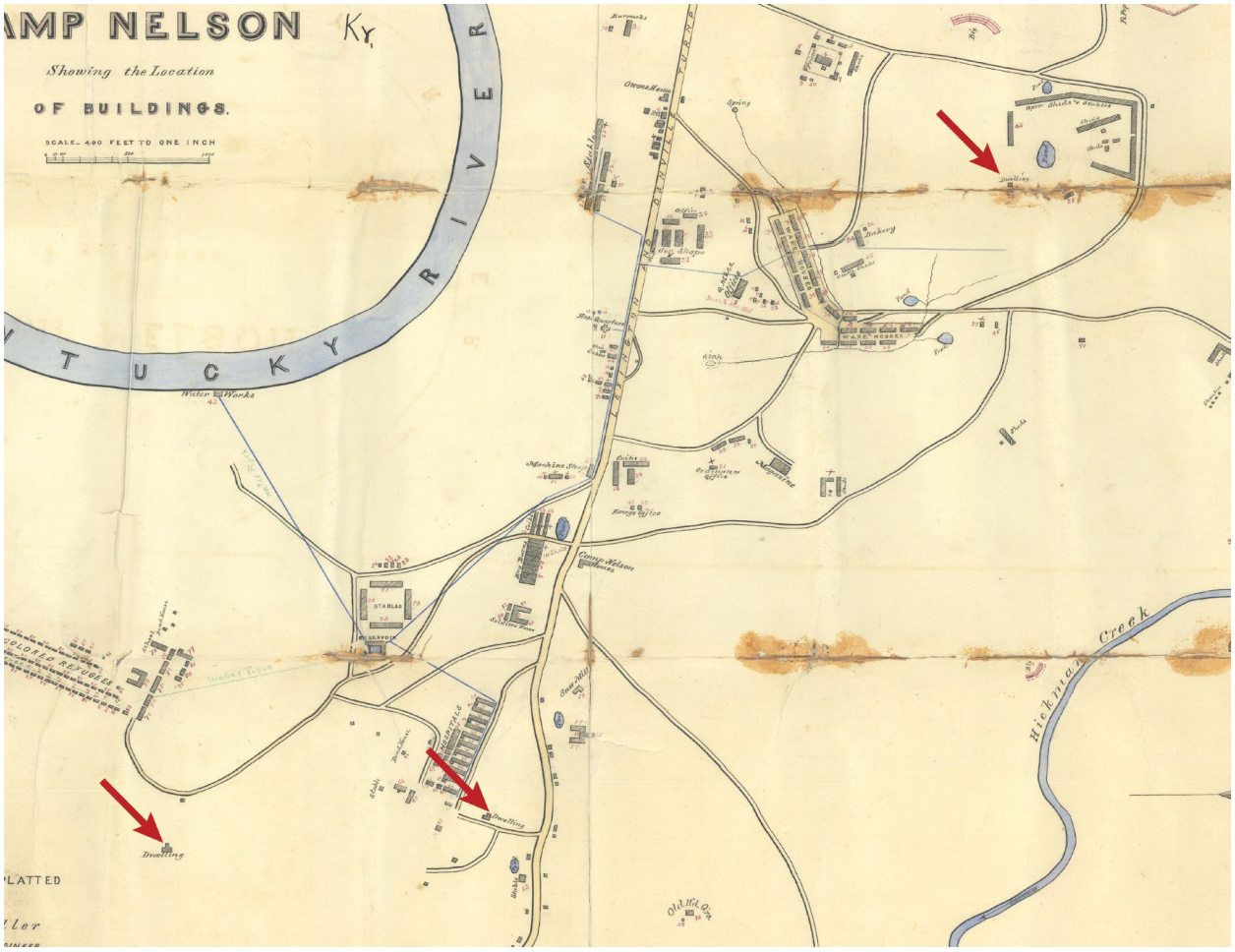


Figure 2.11. 1866 map of Camp Nelson with dwellings indicated. The northeast dwelling is difficult to see due to quality of map (there was a crease in the drawing located just north of the depicted location). These were the houses occupied by Jasper Griffing, Mary Scott/Thomas B. Scott, and J. Moss prior to the Civil War (Source: Cartographic Section, National Archives, RG 92, 1.158-f).

located about three miles southeast of Boone's Knob.[123]

Landscape Summary (1775 – 1860)

Illustration 3.1 depicts the landscape near present day Camp Nelson National Monument prior to the Civil War.

During the antebellum period, the land use where Camp Nelson National Monument would later be established consisted of farms owned and operated by several different landowners. These farms likely had a mixture of fields under cultivation, fields enclosed with fences, and fields with ancillary buildings like sheds. The farms had woodlots and undisturbed areas of forest, which would later be cleared to develop Camp Nelson. The farms also had developed areas, where the farmers constructed the buildings where they lived and worked, including farmhouses, barns, sheds, and animal pens.

In terms of natural features and systems, the farms that became Camp Nelson National Monument were located north and east of the Kentucky River, and west of Hickman Creek. Limestone cliffs flanked these two water courses. Major circulation included Lexington-Danville Turnpike, also known as Hickman Road, which ran roughly north-south from mouth of Hickman Creek on the Kentucky River to Nicholasville, the Jessamine County Seat. The Hickman or Wernwag Bridge crossed the river at the site of a former ferry. Sugar Creek Road, branching off the turnpike, crossed Hickman Creek at the location of a sawmill and gristmill by 1861.

123. Thomas S. Beall III, "First Vineyard National Register Nomination" (Nicholasville, KY, August 2015), 3, https://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/places/pdfs/15000656.pdf.

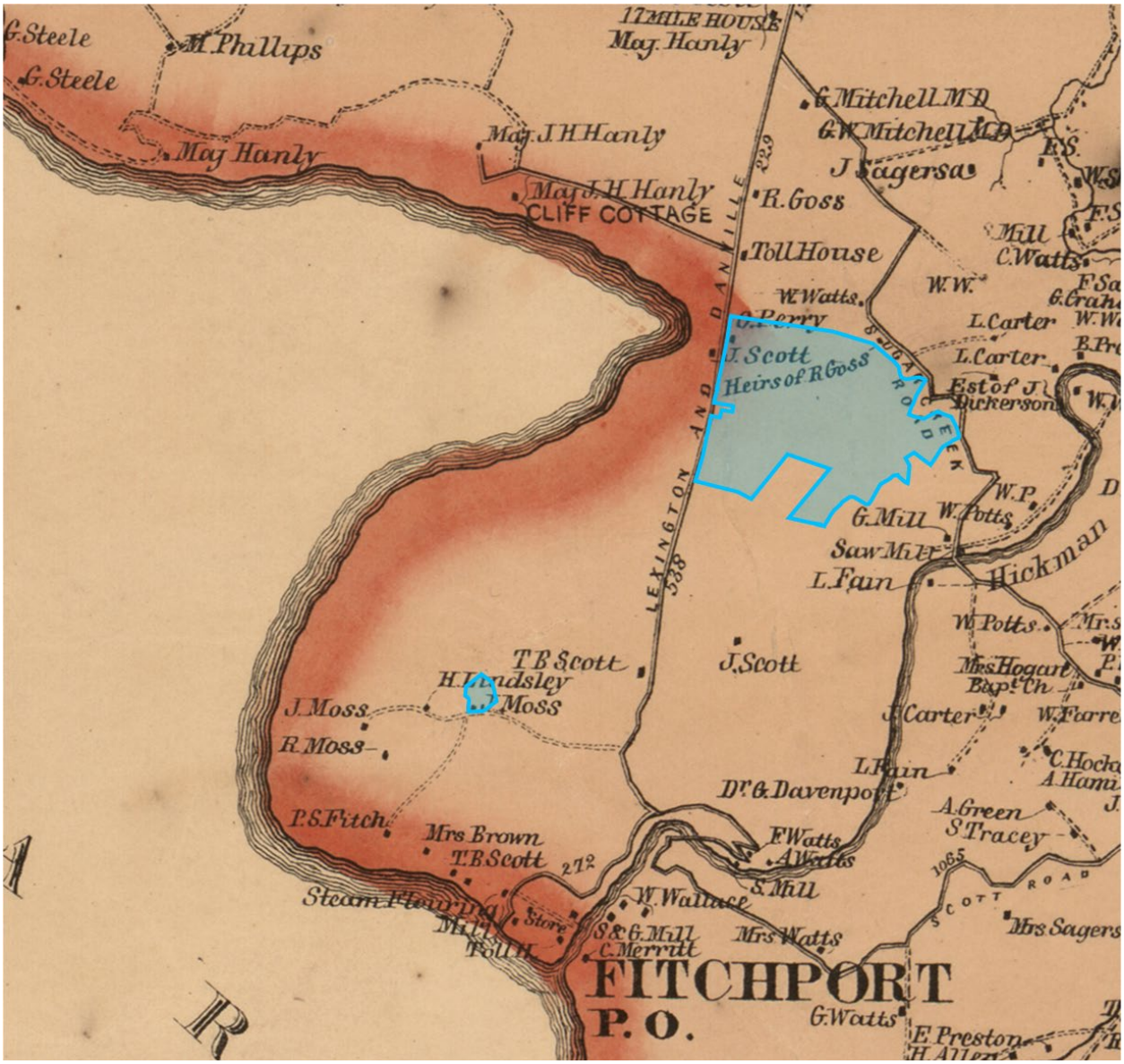


Figure 2.12. A portion of an 1861 map showing property showing locations of owners and features near the future site of Camp Nelson National Monument with approximate location of the national monument indicated (Source: Library of Congress, Record Number 2011588004).

An 1818 map depicts the Higginbotham property and a portion of the future site of Camp Nelson Monument, including buildings, circulation elements, field locations, and natural features. A "woodland and pasture" area is noted in the southeastern portion of the property. The main dwelling is located on the west side of Hickman Road (later Danville Loop 2 Road), which bisects the property. Stables and a three-part barn are shown on the east side of Hickman Road. There is a still house located on the stream, just south of the property boundary. Land uses include various fields, likely used for agricultural production.

An orchard is depicted east of Hickman Road. Archeology suggests that there were additional buildings at the site, including housing for persons enslaved by the Higginbotham family, located west of the road and south of the main dwelling. The main dwelling was later converted to a tavern and referred to as the Owens House. Owners of properties surrounding the Higginbotham property included the Moss and Griffing families. Their houses are depicted on a Civil War-era map, including two on the west side of Hickman Road and two on the east side of the road. Though it is not shown on maps, the Griffings established a cemetery approximately 2,400 feet east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike, which included at

least three burials, including Jasper Griffing, Sr., and his wife Elizabeth Griffing. On the east side of the former Higginbotham property, there was a two-story building, later referred to as the White House or Oliver Perry House, constructed by the Scott-Perry family around 1856. This house likely had secondary buildings used to house enslaved persons. Archeological evidence suggests a detached kitchen and a Civil War era photo suggests that there was at least one and maybe two barns east of the White House.

The Civil War (1860-1866)

A National Crisis

The American Civil War was a response to long-simmering political and economic tensions among culturally diverse regions of the United States. As Manifest Destiny and westward expansion enabled the American government to gain more land, the question of whether slavery would be allowed to expand into future states became one of the central political issues in the first half of the 1800s. Sectional discord intensified between 1800 and 1860 as states in the northern United States continued to urbanize and industrialize, while the economy in the South remained dominated by plantation-based agriculture. Debates concerning slavery increased in the United States Congress, with polarized interests largely falling along political lines. Historians note that support for pro-slavery interests rose in Kentucky after abolitionist John Browns' raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859.[124]

Political leaders in the South feared the new administration would support calls for the abolition of slavery following the election of Republican President Abraham Lincoln in November 1860. On December 20, 1860, a "Convention of the People of South Carolina" voted unanimously to adopt an ordinance "To Dissolve The Union Between the State of South Carolina and Other States United with Her Under the Compact Entitled 'The Constitution Of the United States of America.'" Four days later, on December 24, the convention adopted a "Declaration of the Immediate Causes which Induce and Justify the Secession of South Carolina from the Federal Union." In this document, the convention outlined perceived "encroachments" on the state's sovereignty. With the installment of a Republican administration, according to the document, "The guaranties of the Constitution will no longer exist; the equal rights of the States will be lost. The slaveholding States will no longer have the power of self-government, or self-protection, and the Federal Government will have become their enemy." As a result, "the Union. . .is dissolved."[125] Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, and Georgia soon passed their own decrees of secession. The Civil War officially began on April 12, 1861, when Confederate forces under General P. G. T. Beauregard bombarded Fort Sumter in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina, as the US Army attempted to resupply soldiers stationed there.[126] Eleven southern states had seceded from the United States and created the Confederate States of America by June 1861, and what followed was a divisive and bloody war that claimed over 620,000 lives.[127]

Conflict spread across the region, extending from Mississippi to Virginia after the initial engagement involving both armies at Bull Run and Manassas in Virginia in July 1861. The war evolved into three areas of engagement—the Eastern Theater, the Western Theater, and the Trans-Mississippi Theater. A succession of United States generals faced Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia in the Eastern Theater, primarily in the land between and around Washington, D.C. and Richmond, Virginia. In the Western Theater, which extended from North Carolina to Florida and west to the Mississippi River, United States forces began occupying strategic points along the Atlantic coast and along the Gulf Coast. General-in-Chief for the United States Army, Winfield Scott, devised a military strategy to envelop the South by setting up a blockade along the Atlantic seaboard and using gunboats to control the rivers leading into the

124. Victor B. Howard, *Black Liberation in Kentucky: Emancipation and Freedom, 1862-1884* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1983), 3.

125. Confederate States of America, "Declaration of the Immediate Causes Which Induce and Justify the Secession of South Carolina from the Federal Union," *The Avalon Project*, http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/csa_scarsec .asp.

126. James M. McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* (New York: Ballantine Books, 1989), 273.

127. Drew Gilpin Faust, *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2008), xi.

Confederacy. The "Anaconda Plan," as it became known, was designed to squeeze the life out of the Confederacy. The US Army Department of Missouri, under the command of Major General Henry W. Halleck, moved into Kentucky to prepare for an attack against the Confederate Second Department concentrated in north Tennessee.

Border State Kentucky

Although slavery was legal in the state, Kentucky never seceded from the United States and remained part of the United States throughout the conflict. This position made it hotly contested from the onset of the war. In September 1861, Confederate forces moved out of Tennessee and occupied Columbus, Kentucky. General Henry W. Halleck ordered Brigadier General Ulysses S. Grant to occupy Paducah, Kentucky. The subsequent conflict, the Battle of Belmont, drew heavy losses and was considered a draw between the US Army and the Confederacy; however, it was this battle that propelled Grant into the eyes of President Lincoln. A few days later, US Army troops under General Charles Ferguson (C. F.) Smith occupied Smithland, Kentucky. By September 7, 1861, United States troops controlled the mouths of the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers. The Kentucky General Assembly, which had tried to maintain a stance of neutrality up to this point, voted to expel Confederate troops from the state. When the Confederate troops refused to leave, Kentucky ended its neutrality and cast its fate with the United States.

According to historian Michael Rhyne,

> Although the Kentucky legislature refused to call a secession convention, the state produced a number of Confederates, including at least twenty-five thousand regular soldiers, along with prominent leaders such as John C. Breckinridge. Yet politically and militarily, the commonwealth proved to be a far more significant supporter of the Union war effort. By most estimates, nearly twice as many white Kentuckians served in the ranks of the Union army as joined the Confederacy, along with approximately twenty-four-thousand African American Soldiers.[128]

Two more early Confederate attempts to extend north into Kentucky ended unsuccessfully after defeats at the Battles of Wildcat Mountain in Laurel County and Mill Springs in Pulaski and Wayne counties in October 1861 and January 1862, respectively.[129] After the US Army occupied Fort Donelson in Dover, Tennessee in February 1862, federal troops effectively controlled most of Kentucky. The Confederate Army, however, made one final attempt to invade Kentucky in the fall of 1862. This campaign resulted in a Confederate defeat at the Battle of Perryville in Boyle County in October 1862.[130] Following Perryville, the US Army began to fortify strategic locations within Kentucky.

As a result, military engagements in Kentucky for the remainder of the war consisted primarily of smaller scale conflicts between US Army garrisons and Confederate cavalry raiders. These raids were intended to disrupt transportation, especially railroad networks, and replenish Confederate supplies, particularly livestock and other foodstuffs. Although some of these raids were successful, they had a minimal effect on the US Army's ability to wage war against the Confederacy.

Beginning in late March 1863, Confederate General John Pegram invaded Kentucky to capture horses and cattle. For nine days, his calvary cut a path across Kentucky, at one point chasing federal troops into southern Jessamine County near the Hickman Bridge. Federal troops under the command of General Quincy Gilmore exchanged cannon fire with the Confederates near the future site of Camp Nelson.[131]

Hickman Bridge was the only bridge that crossed the Kentucky River upriver from Frankfort, and it was essential to any potential invasion of Tennessee. As a result, ensuring US Army control of Hickman Bridge was imperative, and one of

128. J. Michael Rhyne, "'A Blood Stained Sin': Slavery, Freedom, and Guerrilla Warfare in the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky, 1863-65," The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society 112, no. 4 (Autumn 2014): 554.
129. Lowell H. Harrison, *The Civil War in Kentucky* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1975), 19, 24–28.
130. Harrison, *The Civil War in Kentucky*, 50–54.
131. Harrison, *The Civil War in Kentucky*, 63–64.

Camp Nelson's main objectives was to protect the bridge from Confederate forces.[132]

Camp Nelson in the Civil War

Changing circumstances in the Western Theatre of the Civil War influenced the decision to establish a US Army camp in central Kentucky. By February 1862, General Ulysses S. Grant had secured control of west Tennessee for the United States. However, east Tennessee remained under the purview of the Confederacy, leaving Kentucky in a vulnerable position. Kentucky was strategically important for the US Army's interests. Located in the southeastern corner of the state, the Cumberland Gap provided a passageway through the Appalachian Mountains, which allowed easier access to east Tennessee. On one hand, Kentucky was the best option for invading east Tennessee and striking a major blow against the Confederacy. On the other, the Cumberland Gap made Kentucky vulnerable to Confederate attacks.[133]

In March 1863, General Ambrose E. Burnside took command of the Department of the Ohio and was tasked with invading east Tennessee by way of Kentucky. Military leaders encouraged Burnside to launch an attack on the Confederacy while simultaneously using his position in central Kentucky as a gathering place for manpower and supplies. This position would also provide protection for critical transportation networks in Kentucky's interior. Ultimately, the US Army designated the land on the Jessamine County side of Hickman Bridge as the ideal spot for Burnside's new US Army camp, as it was naturally fortified on multiple sides by the steep palisades of the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek.[134]

Chief Quartermaster Capt. Theron E. Hall said the following concerning the defensive position of Camp Nelson:

> It is naturally fortified on three sides by the river and creek, the cliffs of which average four hundred feet high and perpendicular. Across the narrow neck from the river [the only exposed part of camp] are fortifications of a most formidable character connected by rifle pits and protected by *abatis*. Every approach to the camp is commanded by mounted guns and so far as its natural defenses are concerned it is one of the most impregnable points in the country.[135]

It was determined that Hickman Bridge was key to any potential invasion of Tennessee and that maintaining control of the bridge was paramount for US Army interests.[136]

A second objective of Camp Nelson was to concentrate troops and resources in central Kentucky, serving as a supply depot that would provide provisions for the force invading Tennessee. For this purpose, Camp Nelson's site was particularly advantageous, as it was situated "at Hickman Bridge, on the Lexington-Danville Turnpike, near Nicholasville, Danville, Lancaster, Lexington, Lebanon, Richmond—close to the many routes south to Tennessee."[137]

In total, the defensive perimeter at Camp Nelson encompassed nearly four thousand acres, bound by the curve in the Kentucky River to the west and south, Hickman Creek to the east, and the US Army-constructed Northern Line of Protection spanning between the two waterways across Lexington-Danville Turnpike. Fortifications included eight forts (Forts Hatch, Nelson, Jackson, Putnam, Pope, Taylor, McKee, and Jones), the connecting infantry entrenchment on the Northern Line, Battery Studdiford and two stone walls along Hickman Creek, and two structures (Fort Bramlette and Battery Fitzgerald) overlooking the Hickman Bridge across the Kentucky River.

Camp Nelson was named for Major General William Nelson (1824-1862), who "had served, at President Lincoln's behest, as the primary recruiting officer for the Union Army in Kentucky" and had "established Camp Dick Robinson in Garrard County."[138] Nelson had been murdered outside of his office by a lower ranking officer, Gen. Jefferson C. Davis, following an argument.[139]

132. Richard Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky: A Civil War History* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2002), xxi–xxii.
133. Richard D. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, x-xx.
134. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, x-xxi.
135. Theron E. Hall, "Report to M. C. Meigs, May 30, 1865," 1865, National Archives Military Records.
136. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxi-xxii.
137. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxi-xxiii.
138. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 4.
139. Due to US Army's dire need for experienced field commanders at the onset of the war, Davis received no punishment for the murder of General Nelson. He remained in military service until his death.

Camp Nelson normally garrisoned two thousand to eight thousand soldiers and provided supplies for camps in central and east Kentucky and east Tennessee. The camp also employed between one thousand and two thousand civilian workers. This number included the many carpenters, blacksmiths, teamsters, cooks, and laborers necessary to operate and maintain the facilities, build roads, and haul supplies. Many of these workers were impressed enslaved individuals.[140]

To accommodate its many functions, Camp Nelson had over three hundred wooden buildings and tents and thirteen fortifications spread over four thousand acres on both sides of Lexington-Danville Turnpike (present Danville Loop 2 Road).[141] An 1866 map drawn by A. B. Miller depicts the many features at the site (**Figure 2.13**). There were twenty warehouses for rations, clothing, and equipment. The camp had facilities to stable and corral fourteen thousand horses and mules and their feed. The US Army built six large workshops where workers made and repaired wagons, ambulances, and harnesses. There were buildings to shod horses and process lumber. Two ordnance warehouses and a large powder magazine were also on site. Administrative buildings included the camp headquarters, Quartermaster and Commissary offices, and the provost marshal's office. Housing and support facilities included two large barracks, tents, the US Sanitary Commission's Soldiers' Home, mess halls, and a large bakery that produced ten thousand bread rations a day.[142] Additionally, workers constructed a waterworks consisting of a steam driven pump on the river and a five hundred thousand-gallon reservoir. In addition to the government buildings, Camp Nelson contained private businesses including saloons, hotels/taverns, and stores.[143]

Another important function of Camp Nelson was as a major hospital. This facility consisted of the ten-ward, seven hundred-bed Nelson General Hospital.[144] The camp also had a measles hospital, a smallpox hospital, prison hospital, and later a Black refugee camp hospital.[145] Numerous surgeons, nurses, and orderlies worked in these facilities.[146]

Camp Nelson was built "rapidly, expensively, and expansively" according to Richard Sears, with construction continuing constantly throughout its four year existence, eventually becoming a massive installation.[147]

Challenging Logistics

Despite the expectation that this location would be well-suited to support an invasion of Tennessee, Camp Nelson faced major logistical challenges. In August of 1863, General Burnside left Camp Nelson with fifteen thousand soldiers and marched south to invade Tennessee. Camp Nelson's role was to provide resources and maintain supply lines for soldiers on the front lines, but executing this duty proved to be incredibly challenging. As General Burnside's troops advanced, the roads from Camp Nelson became muddy and hazardous.[148]

Almost immediately, supply lines faltered. Men were short-supplied, lacking sorely needed goods and material provisions. Horses and mules were worked to the point of exhaustion, and inadequate amounts of feed caused many of them to starve to death. Horses and mules were supposed to be rotated out from labor, with fresh mounts resupplying the front lines at regular intervals. However, the difficult terrain made transporting large numbers of animals exceptionally difficult. There was also a shortage of teamsters available who could accompany supply shipments from Camp Nelson to Tennessee. In November of 1863,

140. Theron E. Hall, "List of Persons and Articles Employed at Camp Nelson, Kentucky, June 1863-Oct 1864" (Washington, D.C., 1864 1863), National Archives Military Records; Capt. E. B. W. Restieaux, "List of Persons and Articles Employed at Camp Nelson, KY, Jan - Dec 1865" (Washington, D.C., 1865), National Archives Military Records; Capt. E. B. W. Restieaux, "List of Employees, August 31, 1865" (Washington, D.C., 1865), National Archives Military Records.
141. Col. R. E. Batchelder, "List of Public Buildings at Camp Nelson, February 1866." (Washington, D.C., 1866), National Archives Military Records; Capt. E. B. W. Restieaux, "Letter to Brig. Gen. Robert Allen, March 20, 1865" (Washington, D.C., 1865), National Archives Military Records.
142. Hall, "Report to M. C. Meigs, May 30, 1865."
143. Hall, "Report to M. C. Meigs, May 30, 1865"; Restieaux, "Letter to Brig. Gen. Robert Allen."
144. Hall, "Report to M. C. Meigs, May 30, 1865"; Restieaux, "Letter to Brig. Gen. Robert Allen."
145. Hall, "Report to M. C. Meigs, May 30, 1865"; Restieaux, "Letter to Brig. Gen. Robert Allen."
146. Hall, "List of Persons and Articles Employed at Camp Nelson"; Restieaux, "List of Persons and Articles"; Restieaux, "List of Employees."
147. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxx.
148. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxiv-xxv.

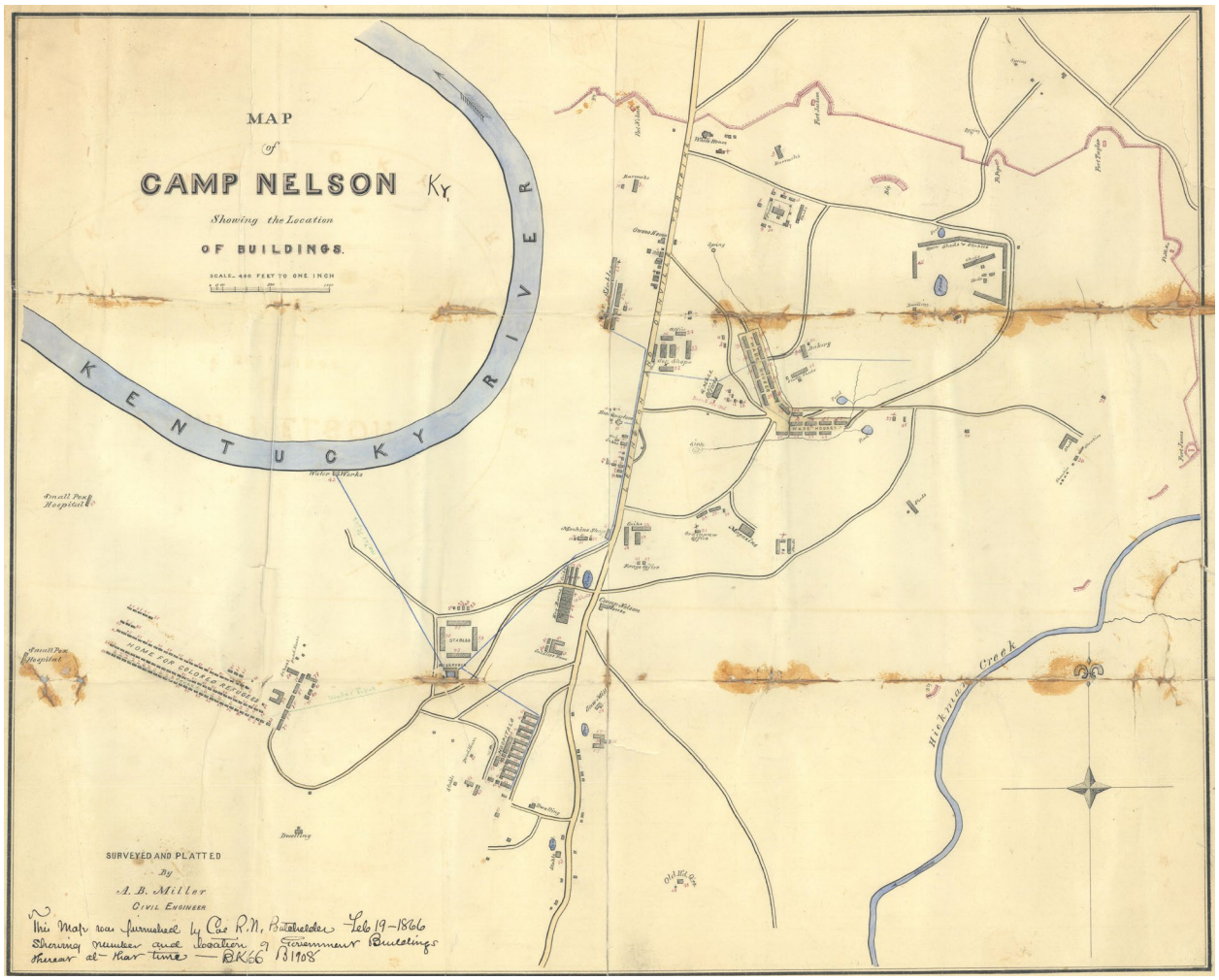


Figure 2.13. 1866 map by A. B. Miller showing the "full build out" of Camp Nelson including its forts, buildings, and structures. An enlarged version is included in Appendix A (Source: National Archives, Cartographic Section, National Archives, College Park Maryland).

Secretary of War Edward M. Stanton "issued a direct order…to employ Kentucky slaves as teamsters," hoping to alleviate the labor shortage.[149]

However, additional labor was not sufficient to overcome the problem of the long journey and unforgiving terrain. Soldiers faced pressing supply shortages. Ammunition and foodstuffs were low, and many men lacked adequate clothing and shoes, even as winter weather approached. In December, General Jacob D. Cox described the condition of the men, noting that "The want most felt was that of clothing and shoes…Many of the soldiers were literally in rags, and none were prepared for winter." Additionally, Cox touched upon on the immense sacrifice of horses and mules along the way. During his journey from Lexington to Knoxville, Cox describes how "the way was lined by the carcasses of dead horses and mules…In the twenty miles of that day's journey we counted a hundred and fifty dead draught animals."[150]

Despite the difficulties and the immense cost of supplying Burnside's campaign from Camp Nelson, Burnside successfully took control of the Cumberland Gap and invaded east Tennessee, securing Knoxville for the United States.[151] After the US Army successfully took Tennessee, there was some question about the future of Camp Nelson. Camp Nelson had fulfilled its initial purpose, and "provisions for Knoxville and the rest of East Tennessee were no longer such a problem once Chattanooga with its railroad was in the hands of the Union." General William Tecumseh Sherman recommended that Camp Nelson be phased out, and General Ulysses S. Grant was frustrated by the immense cost required to build

149. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* xxvi.

150. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxvii.
151. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxviii.

Camp Nelson, especially given that its role as a supply depot was suddenly less imperative.[152] On March 17, 1864, Grant wrote to General Schofield and expressed his thoughts about Camp Nelson, saying the following:

> I have had an inspection made of Camp Nelson and Mount Sterling. It shows a wasteful extravagance there and also that the points are badly selected. It seems to me that Camp Nelson should be broken up entirely and the public property issued where it will be of service… Cannot Cumberland Gap be supplied from Knoxville better than as now supplied?[153]

Despite Camp Nelson's shortcoming as a supply depot, it provided other critical functions for the US Army, specifically as a recruitment center and refugee camp. Originally, Camp Nelson was "conceived as a recruiting center for white soldiers," and "the first regiments formed there were composed of young men who were refugees from East Tennessee."[154] White regiments formed at Camp Nelson included the 47th and 49th Kentucky Mounted Infantries, Battery E of the 1st Kentucky. Light Artillery, Companies E-K of the 8th Tennessee Infantry, the 8th Tennessee Cavalry, Companies B and C of 9th Tennessee Cavalry, Companies A-D of 11th Tennessee Cavalry, and Batteries B and E of the 1st Tennessee Light Artillery.[155] Various regiments from New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania were garrisoned here in 1863 as part of Burnside's Ninth Corps, while units from Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois were garrisoned at the camp as part of the Twenty-Third (XXIII) Corps.[156]

Camp Nelson also helped accommodate early waves of White refugees fleeing the Confederacy. Following Burnside's initial invasion of East Tennessee, there was still lingering fear among Tennessee loyalists that they would face harsh punishment from Confederate forces should Burnside be forced to relinquish control of the state. As a result, "People swarmed north by the thousands," and many ended up in Camp Nelson, as it was "squarely on the route of the Union soldiers coming back from Tennessee." Once they reached Camp Nelson, many White refugees were cared for by the Sanitary Commission, while others continued northward to urban centers such as Cincinnati.[157]

Through the war had only begun, those in the health and aid professions recognized that the US Army was in dire need of aid for the growing number of maimed and sick federal troops. In June of 1861, with the approval of President Lincoln, Reverend Henry Bellows established the United States Sanitary Commission, and located the organization in Washington, D.C. The private agency served as the first "federally authorized civilian organization that supported the health and comfort of Union soldiers by soliciting donations of cash and supplies."[158] Though headed by Bellows along with landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, much of the on-the-ground fundraising and other activity was carried out by White women, with African American women disallowed from participation with the organization.[159] Over the course of the war, the agency raised over twenty-five million dollars, along with "clothes, food, medicines, bandages, and whatever else that was designated as needed in careful lists circulated by the Commission."[160]

The US Sanitary Commission also sought to overhaul the federal army's approach to practicing medicine and hygiene. Its early reporting on the Army's preparedness and effectiveness in regard to sanitation and aid for troops led to "legislation reorganizing the Army's Medical Department, increased the number of military medical employees as well as the rank conferred

152. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxx.
153. Lieutenant General Grant, Quoted in Sears *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* 51.
154. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* xxxv.
155. "Return of Posts, Camp Nelson, Kentucky" (Washington, D.C., 1865 1863), National Archives Military Records.
156. Maj. Murray Davis, "Inspection Report of Camp Nelson, Kentucky, May 13, 1865" (Washington, D.C., 1865), Record Group 159, Entry 15, Box 7, Folder 6, File D-17, National Archives Military Records; Lafayette Hammond, "Letter to Capt. Harlan, June 10th, 1865," 1865, National Archives Military Records.
157. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxii-xxxiii.
158. Leslie A. Schwalm, "A Body of 'Truly Scientific Work': The U.S. Sanitary Commission and the Elaboration of Race in the Civil War Era," *Journal of the Civil War Era* 8, no. 4 (2018): 651.
159. Schwalm, "A Body of 'Truly Scientific Work,'" 651.; African American women meanwhile provided aid through a number of other organizations.
160. Elizabeth Stevenson, "Olmsted on F Street: The Beginnings of the United States Sanitary Commission," *Records of the Columbia Historical Society*, Washington, D.C. 49 (1973): 128.

on them, and secured a new appointee as surgeon general."[161] Olmsted wrote "urgent reports to the Army and to the Secretary of War about filthy latrines, dirty food, and the unsuitable swampy ground chosen for camps. He analyzed the poor enlistment procedures which had brought boys, old men, and physically disabled and ill recruits into the Army; he saw them in the camps forlorn and unable to serve. He proposed ways of instituting proper elimination of those physically and mentally unfit at enlistment time."[162]

The agency also expanded its work into the field of "race science," which sought to qualify and classify people by racial characteristics through invasive questioning and body inspections. Such investigations mirrored "the practices of whites in the slave markets and slave trade of the South, where they prodded, inspected, and assessed the worth of enslaved men."[163] On battlefields, refugee camps, agents collected a massive amount of data. The findings would in time be used to in support of scientific racism that followed the war.

A description of the conditions of White refugees at Camp Nelson in an excerpt from the 1871 *US Sanitary Commission in the Valley of the Mississippi During the War of the Rebellion* states the following:

> The refugees were in many instances compelled to leave their homes and all they possessed to save their lives, while the majority started for this 'city of refuge' because their fathers, husbands and brothers were in the army, and no men were left to afford them protection…The privations and sufferings of those who encountered the long journey to this camp were extremely severe, many dying on the rocky hills or by the dreary roadside, and in nearly every instances the sight which nearly every family on arriving presented, was intensely pitiable.[164]

Describing the level of care they received upon their arrival, Butler notes the prompt and comprehensive efforts taken at Camp Nelson to address the needs of the incoming refugees. As Butler recalls:

> Rations were issued, an officer appointed to devote himself solely to their care, a surgeon and hospital appropriated, and access opened to the seat of authority at all times. Thus all possible measures were adopted by the representatives of the Government to express its design to provide for such people as were refugees by necessity of the fidelity and loyalty, as far as possible to relieve the sufferings which had been thereby occasioned.[165]

Most of the White refugees arriving at Camp Nelson were women and children whose husbands and fathers had joined the US Army. There is not a lot of documentation on these refugees, but the best sources are the reports by Camp Nelson US Sanitary Commission Home superintendent Thomas Butler and Camp Nelson Ration Books (August 1864-September 1865).

According to Thomas Butler, initially steps were taken by the US Army to care for these people: "Buildings were set aside for their use, Rations were issued, an officer appointed to devote himself solely to their care, a surgeon and hospital appointed. . . ."[166] After February 1864, the care of these people was apparently shifted to the US Sanitary Commission as the US Army was overwhelmed by their numbers. The sick were housed and cared for in the US Sanitary Commission Home (USSC Home) and others in "houses in the camp."[167]

Housing for the White refugees from east Tennessee at Camp Nelson is unclear but was likely irregular. "They were apparently scattered in different places over the camp in tents and homemade shanties."[168] Historical records related to the east Tennessee refugees are scant—Richard

161. Schwalm, "A Body of 'Truly Scientific Work,'" 653.
162. Stevenson, "Olmsted on F Street," 126–27.
163. Schwalm, "A Body of 'Truly Scientific Work,'" 659.
164. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* 37.
165. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* 37-38.
166. John S. Newberry and United States Sanitary Commission, Western Department, "The U.S. Sanitary Commission in the Valley of The Mississippi, during the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1866" (Cleveland, Fairbanks, Benedict & Co., printers, 1871), 530, Library of Congress.
167. Newberry and United States Sanitary Commission, Western Department, "The U.S. Sanitary Commission in the Valley of The Mississippi, during the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1866," 530–31.
168. W. Stephen McBride and Kim McBride, "Civil War Housing: Insights from Camp Nelson, Kentucky," in *Huts and History: The Historical Archaeology of Military Encampment during the American Civil War*, ed. Clarence Geier and Matthew Reeves (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2006), 148.

Sears notes, "of all the denizens of Camp Nelson, these people were—perhaps surprisingly—on the lowest social level, ignored and disregarded by virtually everyone."[169] Many of these refugees may have been relocated out of the South. One report notes that these refugees were to be provided with clothing and shelter and "transportation, to enable them to go into the Northern States, where they may find homes and employment for their support."[170] A report notes that the Sanitary Commission for White refugees at Camp Nelson,

> Admitted several members of one family, numbering forty persons, coming in by wagon train, and within three days procured their removal to Cincinnati. After their departure others came, and from the scarcity of accommodations in the camp adopted a rule to admit to the home such persons as were willing and able to go North. To such were furnished meals, lodgings, clothing . . .The larger portion of the persons so aided were women and children, either sick, destitute, or so situated as to be utterly unable to proceed further without help. . . . During most of the time the refugees occupied any portion of the camp.[171]

Later, many of the refugees were housed outside of Camp Nelson. As Butler stated, "A series of rooms and cabins, which once comprised the homestead of a large Kentucky plantation, was first appropriated to the use of the refugees . . ."[172] The refugee families were "scattered through the camp, and for six to eight miles beyond."[173]

One possible location of the temporary accommodations for the Tennessee refugees was the "Sheds and Shanties" area shown on a Civil War era map (the 1866 Miller map). These were a collection of buildings located on the western edge of the wooded area along Hickman Creek. Future archeological work may reveal additional connections between the Tennessee refugees and the Camp Nelson landscape.

Butler complained about the better treatment given to the African American refugees in comparison to the White ones. This extended to both rations (Black refugees got more according to Butler) and housing. According to Butler, "Good buildings were erected for the negroes, while the white refugees remained in old log huts and miserable dilapidated places."[174]

The best estimate for the number of these Tennessee refugees comes from the Camp Nelson Ration Books for 1864-1865. These records give the number of people (men and women) and rations for two-to-four-week periods. Hundreds of White women (and certainly children) are listed in these ration books. Unfortunately, children are not listed separately, but are probably counted under "Women." The numbers range from 29 in August 1864 to 224 in May 1865 and generally number over 100 per month until the summer of 1865 when they started decreasing. After September 1864, many women are listed by name (except those that are listed as "Sick" in the USSC Home). Since there are usually 2 to 5 people listed under each name, these counts probably represent family units. They could represent the mother, sister, grandmother, and children.[175]

African American Routes to Freedom

Given Kentucky's strategic importance to the US Army, government officials attempted to placate Kentucky political leaders by allowing slavery to continue for the entirety of the war. As the war proceeded, disruptions in food supply, plantation management, and transportation networks allowed enslaved persons to escape plantations and migrate toward US Army-occupied military installations. The Second Confiscation Act of 1862, intended to "suppress Insurrection, to punish Treason and Rebellion, to seize and confiscate the Property of Rebels, and for other Purposes" declared that enslaved persons who escaped from their

169. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxiii.
170. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 170.
171. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 44–45.
172. Newberry and United States Sanitary Commission, Western Department, "The U.S. Sanitary Commission in the Valley of The Mississippi, during the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1866," 531.
173. Newberry and United States Sanitary Commission, Western Department, "The U.S. Sanitary Commission in the Valley of The Mississippi, during the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1866," 532.
174. Newberry and United States Sanitary Commission, Western Department, "The U.S. Sanitary Commission in the Valley of The Mississippi, during the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1866," 533.
175. US Army, Camp Nelson Ration Books, August 1864-September 1865. NARA RG 393, Part 4, Entry 904/908/909, Volume 112, Washington, D.C.

captor were permanently freed.[176] Under the law, US military officers could not return formerly enslaved persons, even those from Union-held states. The Act also "allowed for the employment or even enlistment of African Americans into the military, and the issuance of the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation."[177] Northern journalists and United States military officials began to use the term "contraband of war" to describe the African Americans who fled to federal camps from Confederate-held states. A thematic study for Reconstruction Era National Monument notes that the term contraband "was widely used in international law but novel in its application to people; it suggested the runaways' in-between and somewhat uncertain legal status."[178] Rather than equate the Black freedom seekers with confiscated property, abolitionists preferred the term "refugee," in an appeal for the humane treatment of the people fleeing for their lives and towards a hope for freedom.[179] The term refugee also "evoked both their liminal status and their compelling need for protection."[180]

As early as 1861, considerable numbers of refugees were arriving at federal camps. The reception refugees faced when arriving at these camps was less than welcoming. For the first two years of the Civil War, there was an "absence of a consistent Federal policy" dictating how to handle Black freedom seekers in federal camps, and "generals reacted individually." Typically, Black refugees from Confederate states were permitted to stay, but refugees from US border states faced the threat of being returned to their enslaver.[181]

By the fall of 1861, the United States military began sheltering and soon employing African Americans who made their way to federal strongholds. In turn, Congress passed legislation to codify the legalization of capturing Confederate property—including enslaved individuals. In Kentucky, the protection of "contrabands" was inconsistent, given the complexity of the political climate in the state. As William Dobak explains,

> When federal troops abandoned their advanced posts in northern Alabama during the fall of 1862 and hurried north to intercept the invasion of Kentucky, they brought with them thousands of black refugees from slavery in parts of the South that the Union could no longer hold. White Kentuckians leapt at the chance to reenslave the new arrivals. Local authorities arrested those who strayed too far from the protection offered by Northern soldiers, who by this time in the war often practiced emancipation, even though they might disagree with it in theory. In Kentucky, black people without passes faced jail and the auction block. By April 1863, the military Department of the Ohio, which administered all but the westernmost part of the state, had to issue an order on the subject and stop the abuse. Having found and freed for a second time perhaps as many as a thousand of these former slaves, military authorities put the adults among them to work, the men laboring on construction projects and the women in army hospitals.[182]

At Camp Nelson, officials valued the acquisition of Black refugees as a means of procuring laborers. In a letter from October 28, 1863, Brigadier General JT Boyle wrote to General Burnside, expressing the need for increased numbers of contraband workers to complete several road-building projects. In the letter, he states:

> Gen Fry & Maj Simpson are confident that sufficient labor cannot be gotten from the Negroes of the state & are anxious to procure Contrabands…Will you order Maj Simpson to go & see Gen Grant to procure order for 2 or 3000 of them to put on the R R & plant Roads… if we had 2000 or 3000 Contrabands, the Road could be completed to Somerset or North of Big South Fork.[183]

Camp Nelson relied on both Black refugees and impressed enslaved Black people for labor. In Kentucky and other slave-owning states, it was a

176. "Chap. CXCV - An Act to Suppress Insurrection, to Punish Treason and Rebellion, to Seize and Confiscate the Property of Rebels, and for Other Purposes (The Second Confiscation Act)" (1862).
177. W. Stephen McBride, "Camp Nelson Is Now Our Canada," *Kentucky Humanities*, Fall 2013, 11.
178. Gregory Downs and Kate Masur, "The Era of Reconstruction: 1861-1900, A National Historic Landmarks Theme Study," 2017, 10.
179. Amy Murrell Taylor, Embattled Freedom: Journeys Through the Civil War's Slave Refugee Camps (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2018), 10; This report opts for the term "refugee" as well, except in context of military use.
180. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 10.
181. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 148.
182. Dobak, *Freedom by the Sword*, 381.
183. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 29.

common and long-standing practice for enslavers to lease or hire-out enslaved persons for profit. Leased enslaved persons might perform any number of tasks, including agricultural labor, domestic work, manufacturing, deliveries, skilled crafts and trades, and various other service industry tasks.[184] This practice carried on into the Civil War, as the federal government impressed enslaved people from Kentucky to provide labor for the US Army. Impressed people were used to "build roads, to cut timber for building new bridges and repairing old ones, to chop wood for fueling railway engines, and to labor on Federal riverboats." Initially, the US Army only impressed enslaved persons from those enslavers they believed to be disloyal. However, when faced with an increased demand for labor, "Federal officers began impressing slaves without regard for ownership."[185] Enslavers deemed loyal to the United States were often compensated for the use of their "property," while the US Army directly paid enslaved persons from disloyal owners.[186]

On several occasions, free Black men were also impressed to meet US Army labor demands. In Louisville in 1862, both enslaved persons and free Black men were targeted by city officials and forced to work on building fortifications. This also occurred in Cincinnati, where city police impressed free Black men and "rounded up blacks wherever they found them, dragging them without explanation from their homes, places of employment, and the street…they were caged like animals…Upon reaching Kentucky, their harsh treatment continued," and they were forced to dig entrenchments for roads. Throughout the state, "impressed blacks and refugees performed most of the labor that supported the Federal war machine in Kentucky."[187]

This was also true in Camp Nelson, where "from the beginning the primary laborers on Camp Nelson's fortifications were black men." Additionally, "contrabands, impressed slaves, and prisoners served as the chief laborers on the road and railroad projects." Impressed persons were also instrumental as teamsters, helping ensure the transport of supplies from Camp Nelson to the frontlines.[188] On August 10, 1863, Brigadier General Boyle issued General Orders No. 41, which established the US Army's policies concerning the use of impressed enslaved persons. This first three orders are as follows:

> I. The construction of military roads in the State being a necessity, by the order of the Major General commanding the Department, six thousand laborers from the negro population of the country through the roads pass will be impressed.
>
> II. The negro laborers will be impressed first from the following counties: Harrison, Bourbon, Scott, Clarke, Fayette, Woodford, Jessamine, Mercer, Boyle, Garrard, Lincoln, Marion, Washington, and Nelson.
>
> III. Male negroes from the ages of sixteen to forty-five both inclusive, are subject to this impressment.[189]

A somewhat sympathetic excerpt from the diary of Frances Dallam Peter, dated December 13, 1863, describes a scene of United States soldiers impressing enslaved people against their will. Her description is as follows:

> The darkies met with a great mishap this evening. Just as their churches [*in Lexington*] were being dismissed a number of soldiers who had been stationed out side rushed upon the unsuspecting negroes capturing all the men they could lay hands on. The darkies in great terror ran in all directions…The soldiers however caught a good many whom they sent off to Camp Nelson to work on the wagon road they are going to make to Cumberland Gap…It was right mean of them to be 'pressing' the darkies on Sunday…[190]

The contradictory practices of refugee employment and impressment or outright kidnapping of free and enslaved individuals into forced labor by the US Army is indicative of the unstable position of African Americans in the United States.

US Colored Troops in Kentucky

In addition to utilizing African Americans' physical labor, the US Army eventually recognized the

184. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 101-104.
185. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky,* 150-151.
186. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 150.
187. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky,* 150-151.
188. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxiii-xxxv.
189. Brig. Gen. Boyle, "General Orders No. 41," in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* 9.
190. Frances Dallam Peter in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 34.

necessity to recruit and enlist Black troops. The United States government prohibited men of African descent from enlisting until July 1862. Northern Black residents attempted to enlist as early as 1861, but Secretary of War Simon Cameron instituted a policy against black enrollment.[191] According to US Army historian William Dobak,

> A few Northern generals with profound antislavery convictions tried to raise regiments of former enslaved people, but their efforts were thwarted by worries at the highest levels of government that such moves would alienate potentially loyal Southerners and drive the central border state, Kentucky, into the Confederacy. A quip attributed to Lincoln, 'I would like to have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky,' remains apocryphal, but sums up nicely the predicament of US strategists. What finally tipped the balance in favor of the black recruitment was the US Army's demand for men.[192]

In July 1862, the United States Congress passed the Militia Act of 1862. The Act stated,

> SEC. 12. And be it further enacted, That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to receive into the service of the United States, for the purpose of constructing intrenchments, or performing camp service or any other labor, or any military or naval service for which they may be found competent, persons of African descent, and such persons shall be enrolled and organized under such regulations, not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws, as the President may prescribe.
>
> SEC. 13. And be it further enacted, That when any man or boy of African descent, who by the laws of any State shall owe service or labor to any person who, during the present rebellion, has levied war or has borne arms against the United States, or adhered to their enemies by giving them aid and comfort, shall render any such service as is provided for in this act, he, his mother and his wife and children, shall forever thereafter be free, any law, usage, or custom whatsoever to the contrary notwithstanding: Provided, That the mother, wife and children of such man or boy of African descent shall not be made free by the operation of this act except where such mother, wife or children owe service or labor to some person who, during the present rebellion, has borne arms against the United States or adhered to their enemies by giving them aid and comfort.
>
> SEC. 14. And be it further enacted, That the expenses incurred to carry this act into effect shall be paid out of the general appropriation for the army and volunteers.
>
> SEC. 15. And be it further enacted, That all persons who have been or shall be hereafter enrolled in the service of the United States under this act shall receive the pay and rations now allowed by law to soldiers, according to their respective grades: Provided, That persons of African descent, who under this law shall be employed, shall receive ten dollars per month and one ration, three dollars of which monthly pay may be in clothing.[193]

After the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation was issued, the War Department actively and publicly authorized the recruitment of Black men to the US Army, though not without reticence ranging from caution to outright bigotry on the part of military leadership. Nevertheless, "the force known generally as the U. S. Colored Troops was organized in regiments that represented the three branches of what was then known as the line of the Army: cavalry, artillery, and infantry."[194] By the end of the Civil War, the United States Colored Troops (USCT) made up over 10 percent of US Army forces.[195]

It would take over one year before Black soldiers could enlist in Kentucky. Initially, Kentucky was excluded because the Emancipation Proclamation only applied to Confederate States; therefore, the legal status of enslaved Black people in Kentucky did not change. In October of 1863, all border states, except Kentucky, "became liable for black enlistment." Kentucky was excluded because such a large number of enslaved Kentuckians were "being impressed by the army to labor on military roads." Contributing to this rationale was the

191. Dobak, *Freedom by the Sword*, 6.
192. Dobak, *Freedom by the Sword*, 7.
193. "An Act to Amend the Act Calling Forth the Militia to Execute the Laws of the Union, Suppress Insurrections, and Repel Invasions," Pub. L. No. 12 Stat. 597 (1862).
194. Dobak, *Freedom by the Sword*, 11.
195. Dobak, *Freedom by the Sword*, 5.

desire to quell the anxiety of enslavers in Kentucky, who feared that Black recruitment would mean the end of slavery.[196]

For enslaved people in Kentucky who wanted to enlist, they first had to cross the Ohio River and join in a free state, or travel to Tennessee and join in an US Army occupied state. However, in 1863, there was incremental progress towards allowing Black Kentuckians to enlist, and President Lincoln made it legal for free Black men to enlist in Kentucky. The following year, in 1864, there was an enlistment shortage in Kentucky, and the state failed to meet its' quota. On February 24, 1864, the United States Congress amended the Enrollment Act, which allowed for a census (referred to as enrollment) of Kentucky's able bodied African American men as potential soldiers. As a result, enlistment was expanded and made available to all Black men, and in March of 1864, "recruiting of blacks began in earnest."[197]

This act led to considerable resistance in the state. Recruiters and would-be soldiers faced hostility from White Kentuckians, which hindered recruitment efforts. District Commander Major General Stephen G. Burbridge issued General Order 34 on April 18, 1864, in response, which restricted enlistment to freedmen and enslaved men at their owner's request. This order placed enlistment authority under the district provost marshals and county deputy provost marshals, requiring would-be recruits to make an often dangerous journey between the county and district offices. Following enlistment, the soldiers were then required to travel to Louisville to acquire equipment and subsequently sent to locations outside of the state. Due to the logistical hurdles, risks imposed by travel, and eligibility restrictions, this order was not successful in raising many USCT and resulted in much violence toward enlisting men while traveling to and from enlistment stations. Only one regiment, the 100th Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, was raised under all the above restrictions.

Because of the violence perpetrated against the enlistees or potential enlistees, Brigadier General. Stephen Burbridge, with concurrence from Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, lifted the "owners' request" restriction on May 13, 1864.[198] Burbridge ordered Provost Marshal General of Kentucky, Major W. H. Sidell, "Please direct your Provost Marshals to secure all Negroes who offer themselves regardless of the wishes of their owners."[199]

This change led to a major increase in enlistment. On May 23, 1864, 250 men "thirsting for freedom" arrived at Camp Nelson from Danville, Kentucky, where they had been subjected to much violence and were unable to enlist.[200] Upon their arrival at Camp Nelson, the camp's commander Colonel Andrew Clark refused to enlist these men, stating that "he had no authority to do so" since he had no enlistment provost marshal.[201] Colonel Clark, frustrated, wrote his superiors for instructions and assistance. By May 27, the number of men seeking freedom had risen to 400.[202] Finally, on May 28, two to three deputy provost marshals arrived from Lexington and began enlisting these men.[203]

On June 13, 1864, Adjutant General Lorenzo Thomas, who oversaw USCT recruitment in the Mississippi Valley, issued General Order 20 which more formally removed the "owners' request" restriction and also designated at least eight official USCT enlistment and training centers (including

196. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxvii.
197. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 152-153.
198. Brig. Gen. Stephen G. Burbridge, "Order to Maj. W. H. Sidell, May 13, 1864" (Morrow, GA, 1864), National Archives Military Records; Maj. C. W. Foster, "Order from Sec. of War to Maj. W. H. Sidell, May 13, 1864," 1864, National Archives Military Records.
199. Burbridge, "Order to Maj. W. H. Sidell, May 13, 1864."
200. Thomas Butler, "Reports of Mr. Butler: What the Sanitary Commission Did for Colored Recruits at Camp Nelson, Ky.," in The U.S. Sanitary Commission in the Valley of the Mississippi During the War of the Rebellion, by John S. Newberry (Cleveland, OH: Fairbanks, Benedict, and Co., 1871), 519–26.
201. Col. Andrew H Clark, "Letter to Major, May 23" (Washington, D.C., 1864), Record Group 383, part 4, Entry 902, p. 8, National Archives Military Records.
202. Col. Andrew H Clark, "Letter to Lieut., May 31" (Washington, D.C., 1864), Record Group 383, part 4, Entry 902, p. 58, National Archives Military Records.
203. Clark, "Letter to Lieut., May 31"; Col. Thomas Sedgewick, "Letter to Maj. W. H. Sidell" (Morrow, GA, 1864), National Archives Military Records.

Camp Nelson) across the state.[204] This made enlistment much safer for the men. This order also authorized the creation of invalid regiments for the infirm, old, and young, so these enlistees would not be sent back to their owners and be subjected to violence. Invalid troops were often assigned duties such as guarding plantations from assaults and "the tasks of protecting the women and children, the aged and the infirm."[205]

To prevent interferences from angry White citizens, the federal government began offering protection to enslaved Black men who came forward to enlist by the summer of 1864, and "Anyone who interfered with black recruiting was promptly arrested." The offer of protection from vengeful enslavers made enlisting a real possibility for enslaved Black people in Kentucky, and "they responded by the thousands in order to achieve their freedom."[206]

In May of 1864, there were only 8 Black volunteers at Camp Nelson. However, by June there were 574, and by July there were 1,370. In total, an estimated 5,405 Black enlistees (40 percent of Kentucky's African American soldiers) passed through Camp Nelson. Eight USCT regiments were founded there, making it the third largest such center in the United States. Black regiments that were formed at Camp Nelson include the following: six companies of the 5th US Colored Cavalry, four companies of the 6th USCC, the 114th, 116th, 119th, and 124th United States Colored Infantry, and the 12th and 13th US Colored Heavy Artillery.[207] Parts of five other US Colored regiments were trained or stationed at Camp Nelson, including the 72nd, 117th, 120th, 121st and 123rd Infantry regiments.[208]

After their training, US Colored Troops performed garrison duty at Camp Nelson and other Kentucky posts. They also guarded the Louisville & Nashville and Kentucky Central Railroads, critical to holding US territory and supply lines.

Camp Nelson's USCT were involved in large campaigns and battles. The US Army's October 1864 attack on Saltville, Virginia, the main salt works of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia, is noteworthy. The 5th and 6th US Colored Cavalry regiments suffered high casualties at the first battle of Saltville, after which Confederate Tennessee soldiers brutally murdered about forty-six of their wounded and captured soldiers.[209] The 5th and 6th U. S. Colored Cavalry regiments were also involved in the December 1864 battles of Marion and Saltville, Virginia. The 114th and 116th US Colored Infantry regiments were at the sieges of Richmond and Petersburg, respectively. The 116th participated in the last battle at Appomattox Court House on the morning that General Robert E. Lee surrendered.

At Camp Nelson, many enlistees got their first taste of freedom, although tempered by military life. Sergeant Elijah Marrs of the 12th US Colored Heavy Artillery (USCHA) wrote his feelings about this change in status:

> I can stand this . . . this is better than slavery, though I do march in line at the tap of a drum. I felt freedom in my bones, and when I saw the American eagle with outspread wings, upon the American flag, with the motto E Pluribus Unum, the thought came to me, 'Give me liberty or give me death.' Then all fear banished.[210]

A friend of Sergeant Marrs, Corporal George Thomas, also of the 12th, stated his strong feelings on escaping enslavement:

204. According to the Notable Kentucky African Americans Database, "In Kentucky, there were twenty-three volunteer regiments formed between 1863 and 1865, with a total of 23,706 soldiers. Kentucky provided 13% of the African American soldiers who enlisted in the Union Army, second only to the state of Louisiana." In Kentucky, USCT regiments were organized in: Columbus (Hickman County), Camp Nelson (Jessamine County), Paducah (McCraken County), Covington (Kenton County), Louisville (Jefferson County), Bowling Green (Warren County), Baltimore (Graves County), Henderson (Henderson County), and Maysville (Mason, KY). https://nkaa.uky.edu/nkaa/items/show/3129.
205. John Eaton, *Grant, Lincoln, and the Freedmen: Reminiscences of the Civil War with Special Reference to The Work for the Contrabands and Freedmen of the Mississippi Valley* (New York: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1907), 109-112.
206. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 153-154.
207. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxviii-xxxix.
208. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxviii-xxxix.
209. William C. Davis, "The Saltville Massacre," Civil War Times Illustrated, 1971, 46–47; Thomas D. Mays, The Saltville Massacre (Fort Worth, TX: Ryan Place Publishers, 1995), 72.
210. Elijah P. Marrs, *Life and History of the Reverend Elijah P. Marrs*, First Pastor of Beargrass Baptist Church, and Author (Louisville, KY: Bradley and Gilbert, 1885), 22.

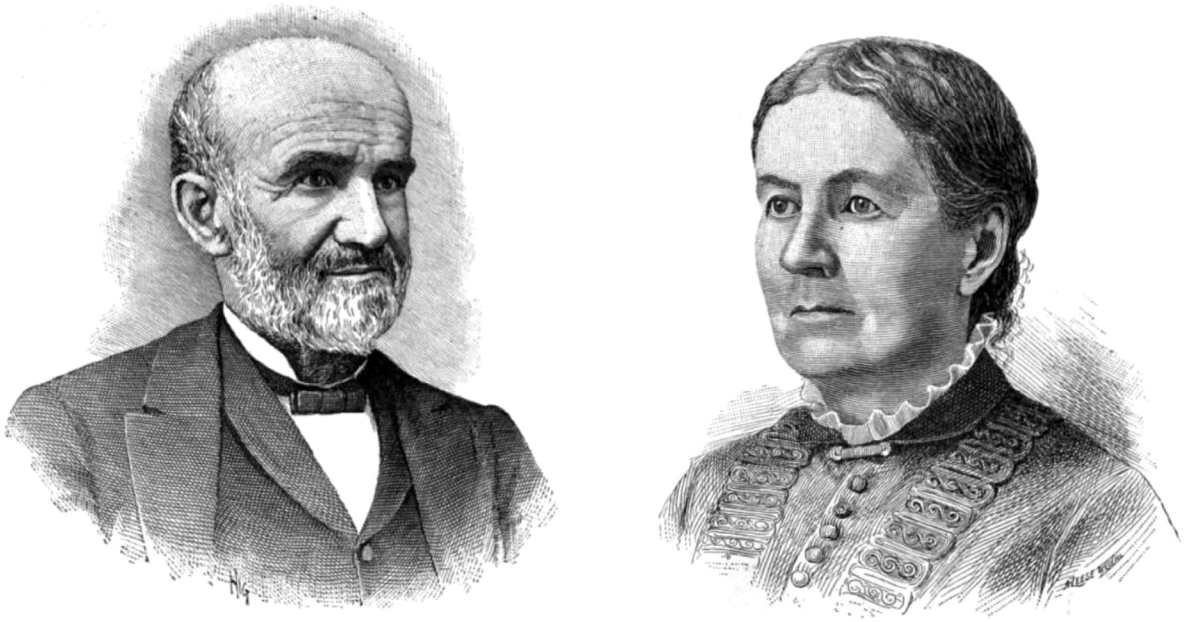


Figure 2.14. Rev. John G. Fee and Matilda H. Fee, 1891. Abolitionist, minister, educator, and founder of Berea College, John G. Fee was the strongest ally of the Ariel community, school, and church from his arrival at Camp Nelson in 1864 until his death in 1901. Fee's tireless advocacy for Black freedom, equality, and opportunity helped to sustain the community and its institutions through the difficult decades after the Civil War. A partner in her husband's work, Matilda H. Fee sold her inheritance to raise the remaining funds to buy the National Home for Colored Refugees site so that it could be sold to Black veterans and developed as the community of Ariel (now Hall) (Source: John G. Fee, Autobiography of John G. Fee, Berea, Kentucky, (Chicago, IL: National Christian Association, 1891), frontispieces).

> I enlisted in the 12th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery in the fall of 1864, and my only sorrow is that I did not enlist sooner. I see, as it were a nation born in a day- men and women- coming forth from slavery's dark dungeons to the noonday sunshine of the greatness of God's gifts- Liberty.[211]

A USCT sergeant stated, "See how much better off we are now than we was four years ago. It used to be five hundred miles to get to Canada from Lexington, but now it is only eighteen miles! Camp Nelson is now our Canada."[212]

Rev. John G. Fee, of the American Missionary Association (AMA), who taught and ministered to the soldiers, described working with the USCT's men:

> Here are thousands of noble men, made in the image of God, just emerging from the constraints of slavery into the liberties and responsibilities of free men, and of soldiers. I find them manifesting an almost universal desire to learn; and that they do make progress… I feel that it is blessed to labor with such people…[213]

Rev. John Gregg Fee

Rev. John Gregg Fee was born in Kentucky in 1816 into a middle-class slaveholding family. Fee's upbringing convinced him that slaveholding was sinful and "like every other evil institution, bore evil fruits, blunted the finest sensibilities and hardened the tenderest hearts."[214] Fee became a minister after receiving education in Ohio and Kentucky. He was ordained a Presbyterian minister and married Matilda Hamilton in 1844, who was also a devoted abolitionist (**Figure 2.14**). Fee's ardent abolitionist views often put him at odds with leadership in the Presbyterian church and with his own family. His father disinherited him due to his outspokenness regarding the institution of slavery. Rev. Fee and Matilda Fee aided enslaved persons seeking freedom and were known conductors

211. Edwin S. Redkey, *A Grand Army of Black Men: Letters from African American Soldiers in the Union Army, 1861-1865* (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992), 189.
212. Joseph Simpson, "Letter to James H. Tuke and Frederick Seebchom, July 1, 1865" (London, England: Friends Central Committee for the Relief of Emancipated Negroes, 1865), 23.
213. John G. Fee, "Letter to Brother Jocelyn" (Berea, Kentucky: Berea College, August 8, 1864), American Missionary Association Archives.
214. John G. Fee, *Autobiography of John G. Fee* (Chicago, IL: National Christian Association, 1891), 11.

of the Underground Railroad.[215] According to historian Amy Murrell Taylor, he argued:

> . . . that true Christians could not worship with those who perverted their faith in the defense of slavery, a stance that put him at odds with his fellow Presbyterians and prompted his departure from the church. Fee went on to envision the model Christian church as a nonsectarian one, firmly committed to anti slavery principles and to racial equality. He spent much of the 1840s and 1850s, with the assistance of the nonsectarian AMA, working to establish independent churches in Kentucky where white and black people could worship together on an equal basis.[216]

Rev. Fee applied to the American Missionary Association (AMA) for a commission in 1848 and established Berea College in Berea, Kentucky, in 1858-1859. "From its founding the college was an anomaly—an interracial, co-educational, cohabitating institution, opposed to slavery and caste within than antebellum, slaveholding South. To break the system of caste, the school founders committed themselves to providing a church and free education to all."[217] Fee and his family were forced into exile a year later, and they lived in the suburbs of Cincinnati, Ohio, until 1864.[218] Fee called Camp Nelson, "the cradle of liberty to central Kentucky."[219] He wrote "there the thousands, men, women and children, received their passports from government officials, into that freedom which naturally is the heritage of all men."[220] Like other missionaries called to work in refugee camps during the Civil War, Rev. Fee had a long-time association with the AMA, but he differed from most other AMA missionaries in that he was a Southerner and came from a slaveholding family.

215. The NPS defines the Underground Railroad as "resistance to enslavement through escape and flight." "Help came from diverse groups: enslaved and free blacks, American Indians, and people of different religious and ethnic groups." (https://www.nps.gov/subjects/undergroundrailroad/what-is-the-underground-railroad.htm) Those who aided in the resistance to enslavement were sometimes known as "conductors."
216. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 189.
217. Berea College, "John G. Fee," Carter G. Woodson Center, accessed March 14, 2022, https://www.berea.edu/cgwc/john-g-fee/.
218. Fee, *Autobiography of John G. Fee*, 149–54.
219. Fee, *Autobiography of John G. Fee*, 178.
220. Fee, *Autobiography of John G. Fee*, 178.

Rev. Fee authored the *Autobiography of John G. Fee, Berea, Kentucky* (1891), which describes his life, work, and philosophy and discusses his time at Camp Nelson.

Nowhere to Turn

When Black men arrived to enlist at Camp Nelson, they were often followed by their family members. Some families fled in groups, while others were staggered, and family members followed behind. Enslaved family members left behind were in a precarious and often dangerous position. Those who stayed faced mistreatment from vengeful enslavers, who often beat them as punishment. Others were evicted from their homes, forced out with nothing. In either case, enslaved people with enlisted family members often found themselves headed towards Camp Nelson.[221]

Unfortunately, the families of Black servicemen were not initially welcomed at Camp Nelson, and they faced repeated mistreatment from White soldiers, White civilians, and US Army officials. Brigadier General Speed S. Fry was particularly hostile to Black refugees, and he repeatedly expelled them from Camp Nelson. General Fry issued an order requiring all enslaved refugees to be returned to their owners if they were not fit for military service.[222]

"Initially, the army did not have a clear policy for these refugee women and children but allowed them to establish their own encampments and even live in tents with their soldier husbands/fathers. But, soon the army began ordering that 'the negro women here without authority will be arrested and sent beyond the lines.'"[223] In a letter dated July 6, 1864, Fry wrote to "Issue an order that all negro women and children & men in camp unfit for the service will be delivered to their owners, the delivery to commence on Monday next and continue from day to day until all are sent off."[224] In one instance, when three women returned to camp after being expelled, "Fry had them bound and whipped as an example for all."[225]

221. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, I-li.
222. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 161.
223. McBride, "Camp Nelson Is Now Our Canada," 12–13.
224. Brigadier General SS Fry in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 93.
225. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 161.

Despite relentless harassment, family members continued to find their way to Camp Nelson. They lived on the outskirts of and within the camp, and "lived in small tents, crude huts, and shanties built from scrap material." They were faced with inadequate "food, shelter, clothing, and healthcare," which "created some of the worst living conditions of the Civil War."[226] In 1864, orders stated,

> Information has reached these Headquarters that a bevy of women and children are quartered near the Commissary Warehouses…You are directed to place the whole kit beyond the lines five (5) miles, with a parting injunction to not return on pain of being imprisoned.[227]

On November 23, 1864, General Fry carried out orders for another expulsion of refugee families, stipulating that their makeshift houses be destroyed to discourage them from returning. That morning, on a winter day with temperatures below freezing, General Fry and his soldiers rounded up 400 women and children and expelled them into the cold. Of the 400 refugees expelled that day, 102 died from exposure.[228]

There was considerable outcry from military personnel stationed at Camp Nelson, specifically from Captain and Assistant Quartermaster Theron E. Hall and Captain and Assistant Adjunct General J. Bates Dickson. They maintained correspondence, both writing to commanding officers repeatedly imploring them to force a reversal of General Fry's expulsion order. General Fry tried to defend his actions arguing that he had not violated military orders. "He felt he was only following the order sent down by the adjutant general the previous summer which was to 'discourage as far as possible negro women and children coming into the camp.'"[229] Other military officials disagreed.

On November 26, 1864, Captain Hall wrote to Captain Dickson, saying:

> The colored women and children are still being put out of the Camp. It is done by the order of Genl Fry. Many of them are lying about the Depot in Lexington and are in a suffering condition. It is reported that one child was frozen to death the day they were sent out.[230]

The next day, November 27, Captain Hall wrote to Colonel J. S. Brisbin, asking him to intervene on the behalf of the refugees. He wrote the following:

> More than four hundred poor women and children families of Colored soldiers have been sent from Camp the past week. Some have died and all are in a starving condition…Can you not induce the General to interfere on their behalf. No more potent weapon could be placed in the hands of the rebels to prevent enlistment than this. The whole community are loud in denouncing the outrage. Please answer.[231]

Captain Hall took it upon himself to supply food for the refugees who had been expelled, and personally purchased "200 rations of meat, bread, coffee and sugar which I caused to be distributed among them."[232] Also on November 27, Captain Dickson wrote to Major General S. G. Burbridge, with a similar request. In his correspondence, he wrote:

> I understand Gen'l Fry has turned out of Camp Nelson the Colored women and Children. They are coming here where there is no shelter for them. They are suffering and should be taken care of at Camp Nelson. Please telegraph Gen'l Fry to take care of them at Camp Nelson.[233]

Among those expelled was the family of Black soldier Joseph Miller, a former enslaved person from Lincoln County, Kentucky. On November 26, 1864, Miller detailed his experiences in an affidavit sent to the Freedmen's Bureau by Captain Hall. Below is Miller's statement:

> I was a slave of George Miller of Lincoln County, Ky. I have always resided in Kentucky and am now a soldier in the service of the United States. I belong to Company I 124 U.S.C. Inft now Stationed at Camp Nelson Ky. When I came to Camp for the purpose of enlisting about the middle of October 1864 my wife and

226. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 2003, 161.
227. Quoted in McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 159.
228. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 161-162.
229. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 202.
230. Captain T. E. Hall in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 136.
231. Hall in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 136.
232. Hall in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 136.
233. J Bates Dickson in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 137.

children came with me because my master said that if I enlisted he would not maintain them and I knew they would be abused by him when I left. I had then four children, ages respectively ten nine seven and four years. On my presenting myself as a recruit I was told by the Lieut. in command to take my family into a tent within the limits of the Camp. My wife and family occupied this tent by the express permission of the aforementioned Officer and never received any notice to leave until Tuesday November 22" when a mounted guard gave my wife notice that she and her children must leave Camp before early morning. About eight O'clock Wednesday morning November 25" a mounted guard came to my tent and ordered my wife and children out of the Camp. The morning was bitter cold. It was freezing hard. I was certain that it would Kill my sick child to take him out in the cold. I told the man in charge of the guard that is would be the death of my boy…I told him that my wife and children had no place to go and I told him that I was a Soldier of the United States. He told me that it did not make any difference…he had orders to take all out of Camp. He told my wife and family that if they did not get up into the wagon which he had he would shoot the last one of them. On thus being threatened my wife and children went into the wagon. My wife carried her sick child in her arms. When they left the tent the wind was blowing hard and cold and having had to leave much of our clothing when we left our master, my wife with her little ones was poorly clad. I followed them as far as the lines. I had no Knowledge of where they were taking them. At night I went in search of my family. I found them at Nicholasville about six miles from Camp. They were in an old meeting house belonging to the colored people. The building was very cold having only one fire. My wife and children could not get near the fire, because of the number of colored people huddled together by the soldiers. I found my wife and children shivering with cold and famished with hunger. They had not received a morsel of food during the whole day. My boy was dead. He died directly after getting down from the wagon. I know he was killed by exposure to the inclement weather. I had to return to Camp that night, so I left my family in the meeting house and walked back. I had walked there. I travelled in all twelve miles. Next morning I walked to Nicholasville. I dug a grave myself and buried my own child. I left my family in the Meeting house – where they still remain.[234]

Records from Camp Nelson indicate that Joseph Miller, his wife, and their three remaining children all passed away by January of 1865. According to Camp Nelson Sexton Albert A. Livermore, Joseph Miller, prior to his own passing, told him that "his wife and children had contracted disease in consequence of their exposure," leading to their deaths.[235] Joseph Miller's affidavit was published in several newspapers across the country, including the *N.Y. Tribune* and the *Liberator*.[236] The Miller family's plight illustrates the omnipresent threat of violence the formerly enslaved experienced during the Civil War from both Confederate and United States forces.

Miller's story also reflects the fact that the refugees who gathered at US Army camps and fortifications received little if no medical attention when they arrived. Historian Jim Downs states of the refugees, "Once they became sick, they often got sicker and many died. Any folk remedies or cures they may have developed while enslaved were impossible while they were on the move."[237] It often took weeks for the formerly enslaved to make it to safety, and the lack of shelter and food often resulted in severe illness. Death from exposure was not uncommon, and "the folk remedies that enslaved people had developed during the antebellum period for minor aches and pains, noncontagious illnesses, and childbirth proved inadequate to combat the onslaught of contagious illness and epidemic outbreaks."[238]

When the story of the refugee expulsion at Camp Nelson and Joseph Miller's affidavit reached the press, there was public outrage, turning the incident into a national embarrassment for the War Department. On November 28, the *N.Y. Tribune* published a letter written by Captain Hall under the pen name "Humanitas."[239] The article, entitled

234. Joseph Miller in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 135-136.
235. Albert A. Livermore in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 220.
236. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 140.
237. Jim Downs, *Sick from Freedom: African-American Illness and Suffering During the Civil War and Reconstruction* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2012), 19.
238. Downs, *Sick from Freedom*, 24.
239. T. Michael Rhyne, "'A Blood Stained Sin,'" 578.

"Cruel Treatment of the Wives and Children of US Colored Soldiers," contained the following:

> This camp has recently been the scene of a system of deliberate cruelty, which in ferocity of design and brutality of execution, suggests painful misgivings as to whether we, indeed, live in an enlightened age and a Christian land. At this moment, over *four hundred* helpless human beings—frail women and delicate children—having been driven from their homes by *United States soldiers*, are now lying in barns and mules sheds, wandering through woods, languishing on the highway, and literally starving, for no other crime that their husbands and fathers having thrown aside the manacles of slavery to shoulder Union muskets.[240]

In response to the blatant cruelty, unnecessary loss of life, and unwanted public attention caused by General Fry's expulsion of Black refugees from Camp Nelson, orders to reverse his policy came quickly. On November 27, Major General Burbridge wrote to General Fry and said, "You will not expel any Negro women or children from Camp Nelson but give them quarters and if necessary erect buildings for them and allow back all who have been turned out."[241] On November 28, Captain Dickson wrote to General Fry and outlined new policies for the Black refugees at Camp Nelson, saying the following:

> The General Comd'g directs that the Colored women and children who seek refuge at Camp Nelson be sheltered and fed there. So far as practicable they will be employed by the Government at such labor as they are fitted to perform. Capt T.E. Hall A.Q.M. has been placed temporarily in charge of arrangements for the care of these people and the Gen'l Comd'g directs that you afford him every facility in carrying out this instruction.[242]

News of the policy reversal at Camp Nelson also reached the press. On December 24, 1864, the *National Anti-Slavery Standard* published an update on the situation at Camp Nelson in a section called "Wrongs Redressed." The article stated the following:

> Respecting the cruelties inflicted upon the wives, children, and other relatives of the black soldiers enlisted at Camp Nelson, Ky., we are happy to state now, upon the authority of the correspondent of the Boston *Journal*, that the wrongs alluded to have been redressed. The poor refugees from slavery were expelled from Camp Nelson under circumstances of great cruelty. The fact having been reported to Gen. Burbridge, Commandant of the District of Kentucky, that officer *immediately revoked the unjust order, and directed that the families should be returned to camp.*[243]

In December of 1864, orders were issued removing General Fry from his post at Camp Nelson.[244] He was replaced by Lieutenant Colonel L. H. Carpenter of the Fifth US Colored Cavalry, and Fry was eventually transferred to a position fighting Confederate guerrillas elsewhere in Kentucky.[245]

A Home for Colored Refugees

Rev. John G. Fee who had been an active missionary at Camp Nelson since July 4, 1864, was also instrumental in providing care for Black refugees and advocating on their behalf for improved treatment. Sponsored by the AMA, Fee's intention was to "provide religious instruction, school, and clothing for black people at Camp Nelson."[246] On September 22, 1864, Fee wrote to Brother Strieby and expressed a need for a refugee camp to house the families of Black soldiers, saying, "A Government Camp for Wives of Soldiers & other refugees… I feel that such a camp is needed. For months the officials here have tried the experiment of sending women out of camp… Like flies they soon come back." Fee reasoned that a refugee camp was needed for the following reasons:

> 1 Tis hard to see the wife of a soldier driven back to a cruel master
>
> 2 Colored women like white women are sometimes vile…These if in camp having no other shelter when night comes on they seek the tent karalls…

240. *N.Y. Tribune* in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 138.
241. Major General Burbridge in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* 137.
242. J Bates Dickson in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 137.
243. "Wrongs Redressed," *National Anti-Slavery Standard*, December 24, 1864, 3.
244. Dickson in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 144.
245. Rhyne, "'A Blood Stained Sin,'" 578.
246. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xliii-xlv.

> 3 These women could be made useful in doing work for the government and soldiers[247]

Following the expulsion of four hundred Black refugees that November and the tragedy that resulted, "through the combined efforts of Rev. John G. Fee and Capt. Theron E. Hall, an official, government-sponsored Refugee Home was opened at Camp Nelson." On December 15, 1864, General Lorenzo Thomas issued Orders No. 29, which stated the following:

> Having ascertained that in many cases the families of Colored Soldiers are suffering for the want of proper shelter at the Camps of Rendezvous, causing many of the soldiers to complain that their families are not provided for, and preventing the enlistment of others… Major General Burbridge will see that the humane intention of the General Government respecting these people, as far as possible, may be carried out. Accordingly, at Camp Nelson… he will cause the erection of suitable buildings on an economical scale, for their quarters, and otherwise provide for their comfort.[248]

Another important consequence of the tragic events at Camp Nelson was an act of Congress on March 3, which extended freedom to the wives and children of Black men enlisted in the United States military. Relayed to troops in Kentucky under General Orders No. 10 on March 12, 1865, the General Orders stated that:

> The wives and children of all colored men who have heretofore enlisted, or hereafter enlist, in the military service of the Government, are made free.
>
> This act of justice to the soldiers claims from them renewed efforts, by courage fortitude, and discipline, to win a good name, and be shared by a free wife and free children. To colored men not in the army it offers an opportunity to coin freedom for themselves and posterity.[249]

Even after the establishment of a Refugee Home and the extension of freedom and legal protections, Black women and children still faced immense hardship at Camp Nelson. Due to the small-scale nature of slavery in Kentucky, where the average enslaver owned fewer than ten enslaved people, "most of the black refugees had never been exposed to common communicable diseases." Additionally, "many of the refugees had been starved, beaten, and half-frozen." As a result, they had severely compromised immune systems, and they were highly susceptible to illness and disease.[250]

These issues were compounded by the crowded conditions they faced at the Refugee Home at Camp Nelson. Initially, the housing accommodations were similar to military barracks, and refugees crowded in "by the hundreds." Rev. Fee and Captain Hall sparred about the proper accommodations for refugees, and Fee was insistent that they allow each family to have their own private room and wanted the US Army to build them cottages rather than barracks.[251] Food access was also an issue. Major General John M. Palmer noted in a March 1865 letter that it was an "urgent necessity" that not only cabins be constructed for the refugees, but that each lot should have its own garden or cropland.[252] Eventually, Captain Hall agreed, and more permanent cottages were constructed. By the end of the Civil War in April, "ninety-seven cottages had been built specifically for the refugees."[253] "Each 16-by16-foot half cottage was occupied by eight to ten people. The wards were later reserved for single women, elderly, and the sick."[254]

Regardless of improved accommodations, death and disease continued to plague the Black refugees living at Camp Nelson. In the three-month period between April 16 and July 16, 1865, 103 women and 409 children living at the Refugee Home died.[255] Writing to Brother Whipple on June 27, 1865, Fee lamented the death rate among the refugees, saying, "The people continue to die in a ratio terrible, at a rate of 190 per month out of a population of near twenty five hundred—12

247. Rev. John G. Fee in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 119.
248. General Lorenzo Thomas, Orders No. 29 in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 149.
249. Major General Palmer, General Orders No. 10 in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 183.
250. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 163.
251. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 163.
252. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 187.
253. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, lviii.
254. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 145.
255. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, liii.

[*months*] would waste all at that ratio."[256] The Refugee Home provided medical care for the sick women and children, but mortality rates remained high.[257]

It is unknown to what extent medical racism played a role in the high mortality rates of refugees at Camp Nelson. Brevet Brigadier General James A. Hardie, Inspector General reported in 1865 that Black troops were less likely to have a regimental surgeon on the front lines to treat injuries in the field, thus leading to higher mortality rates among Black soldiers. The inspector also reported that "diseases are said to be more generally fatal" to Black patients, referring to racist beliefs pervasive in medical practice at the time that claimed medical differences between races.[258] Many doctor's unwillingness to treat Black patients, the overcrowded conditions, scarcity of food, and a lack of medical understanding of bacteriology and disease undoubtedly played a dominant role in high loss of life at the Camp Nelson prior to the construction of the Home for Colored Refugees. Additionally, "The majority of Union physicians and military officers during the Civil War viewed sickness among emancipated slaves as the result of their physiological inferiority and inherent vulnerability to disease."[259]

In addition to medical care, the Refugee Home provided several important services for the people living at Camp Nelson. After his arrival, Fee requested teaching missionaries from the AMA, and on August 19, 1864, William L. Lowrey and John B. Lowrey arrived at Camp Nelson. They opened a schoolroom for Black refugees and soldiers, where they taught classes on reading, writing, and arithmetic. According to their records, the school at Camp Nelson was well attended, with 150 people present for the largest session, and an average attendance of 80.[260] On October 4, 1864, William L. Lowrey wrote to Brother Whipple to discuss the school at Camp Nelson, saying "Our school is well attended. The scholars manifest a great desire to learn."[261]

Rev. Fee noted that many of the refugees already had some reading and writing skills prior to coming to Camp Nelson. That half the student population at the school at camp Nelson could read and/or write. This was likely due to refugees "long-standing history of schooling. Long before the Civil War, enslaved people had seized any secrete means at hand to learn how to read and write."[262] Rev. Fee and Gabriel Burdett (1829-1914), who was born enslaved and later became a minister and USCT enlistee, led efforts to establish a school at the camp. "They erected two tents and inside them, on July13, established the very first formal school at the camp, which they named the Camp Nelson School for Colored Soldiers."[263] Rev. Fee and Gabriel Burdett "knew that schooling, and especially the teaching of reading and writing, offered the necessary foundation on which their religious mission could be built."[264] From the US Army's point of view, "Schooling was essential to groom [soldiers] to become leaders in a military system that was profoundly depended on the written word."[265] For the most part, schooling was limited to adult males at Camp Nelson in its early period. According to historian Richard Sears, "of the 700 students, 692 were males, 8 were females, all students over the age of 16."[266] By October 1864, more women were engaged in formal schooling at Camp Nelson, with "40 young women and girls and 30 boys" in attendance.[267]

For Black soldiers, the ability to read and write offered them opportunities to climb the military ranks more quickly. Elijah P. Marrs, a Black recruit from Kentucky, was promoted to Third Duty Sergeant of his Company after it was discovered that he could read and write. Similarly, his brother Henry C. Marrs was promoted to Sergeant Major.[268] After the war, Elijah P. Marrs would go on to become an educator, minister, and author, writing a memoir entitled *Life and History of the Reverend Elijah P. Marrs, First Pastor of Beargrass Baptist Church, and Author*.[269]

Another important service offered by the Refugee Home, missionaries, and literate servicemen

256. Rev. John G. Fee in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 221.
257. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, liii.
258. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 203.
259. Downs, *Sick from Freedom*, 55.
260. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xlv-xlvi.
261. William L. Lowrey in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 121-122.
262. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom,* 195.
263. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 193.
264. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 192.
265. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 192.
266. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xlvi.
267. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xlvi.
268. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky,* 170.
269. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 123.

was letter writing. For Black servicemen who were could not read or write, letter writers were instrumental in their ability to contact family members, relaying their whereabouts and well-being to loved ones. One former enslaved person at Camp Nelson, named Humphrey, relied on a friend to send his family messages and money, informing them that his life at the camp was better than being enslaved. Eventually, his father Alfred followed and enlisted at Camp Nelson, convinced by the letters his son's friend had written. Fee often wrote letters for Black servicemen in the evening, and Elijah P. Marrs helped write letters for others when he was off duty. Meanwhile, "One army chaplain wrote 150 letters to soldiers' families in a single month," and authorities at the Sanitary Commission "estimated that its associates at Camp Nelson wrote five thousand letters for black soldiers."[270]

Conditions at Camp Nelson appear to have been consistent with other large US Army refugee camps. Refugee camps appeared informally where the US Army was present throughout the war, with some camps becoming more permanent installations. Historian Chandra Manning described the pattern of refugee camp establishment during the war, noting that camps in the Eastern Theater were generally less transient than camps in the Western Theater, where the "Union Army remained on the move," especially in rural areas.[271] The Cultural Resource GIS Contraband Slave Camp Mapping Project (cooperative effort with the NPS, State University of New York, and Heritage Documentation Programs Cultural Resource GIS) identified the location of 562 contraband camps, most densely concentrated in the Mississippi Valley, in central Tennessee, and in coastal Virginia. The map identifies "camps, plantations and farms where fugitive slaves lived."[272] Manning described how the establishment of these camps followed US victories:

> Union forces had set out to capture the Mississippi River and its tributaries at the beginning of the war, and contraband camps tracked Union successes. One was present in the Union-held southern tip of Illinois, at Cairo, from almost the beginning of the war. In the winter of 1862, more camps emerged as the Union forces took Nashville, Clarksville, and Gallatin in Tennessee; Smithland, Paducah, and Louisville in Kentucky; and Huntsville, Alabama. In the spring of 1862, camps also began making their way up the Mississippi from the opposite direction, from New Orleans to Memphis, then at Natchez and Davis Bend in Mississippi, and Helena, Arkansas. Strategic railroad junctions, including Grand Junction, Bolivar, La Grange, and Jackson in Tennessee and Corinth in Mississippi, also became sites of the camps in 1862. As the Union took more of the Mississippi Valley, camps followed at Mound City, New Madrid, and Island Number Ten in Missouri and at Columbus, Kentucky. After the fall of Vicksburg gave the Union complete control of the Mississippi River in 1863, camps appeared in and around Vicksburg, Mississippi, and along the Louisiana side of the river at Lake Providence, Paw Paw Island, Young's Point, and Milliken's Bend.[273]

Some camps with relatively stable conditions, including those in Corinth, Mississippi, the South Carolina Sea Islands, Roanoke Island, North Carolina, and Fort Monroe, Virginia, constructed housing, schools, and cultivated gardens. Food was more readily available in most camps than clothing and housing. Overcrowding, rampant disease, and violence toward refugees were frequent issues. Manning notes that camps in Fort Monroe and Washington, D.C. struggled with clean water supply; camps in the humid and swampy Mississippi Valley were vulnerable to the spread of infections and disease; and smallpox was common across refugee camps throughout US territory.[274] As at Camp Nelson, the labor of enslaved persons and refugees was a major part of the US war effort, and recruitment from camps was common. Historians estimate that by 1865, between 524,000 and 660,470 formerly enslaved people lived in refugee camps, accounting for approximately 13 percent

270. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky,* 168.
271. Chandra Manning, "Contraband Camps and the African American Refugee Experience during the Civil War," in Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History (Oxford University Press, 2017).
272. Contraband Locations (1863-1865) Compared to Slave Population Density (1860) (National Park Service, n.d.), https://www.nps.gov/hdp/exhibits/african/images/ContrabandData_110128.jpg.
273. Manning, "Contraband Camps and the African American Refugee Experience during the Civil War."
274. Manning, "Contraband Camps and the African American Refugee Experience during the Civil War."

of the total enslaved population at the onset of the war.[275]

Women at Camp Nelson

"Formerly enslaved women entered a wartime space of displacement and violence with long experience in dealing with crippling impediments to the survival of their families and communities."[276] Though many refugees made it to Camp Nelson with their children, others relayed that their children had been left behind. Clarissa Burdett, sister-in-law of Gabriel Burdett, told of her escape from enslavement by her former owner noting that "she had to leave her four children behind."[277] She pleaded with officials at Camp Nelson to help her retrieve her children. Though it was not always the case, Clarissa Burdett was reunited with her children and husband Elijah at Camp Nelson in April 1865.[278]

Among the women who followed their husbands to Camp Nelson was Mary E. Burnsides. She and her children were enslaved by William Royster of Garrard County, Kentucky. Her husband John Burnsides was an impressed laborer at Camp Nelson and later enlisted in the USCT. John Burnsides received permission to bring his family to the encampment. Mary and her children "were in constant dread and desired to find protection and employment from the Government" as were many of the women whose husbands had enlisted in the USCT.[279] The Burnsides family was allowed to move to Camp Nelson, but "never received any money or provision from the Government."[280] The family was part of the 1864 expulsion of refugees from the camp—driven into the cold driving rain with few if no provisions.

One account of a family seeking safety after a family member enlisted in the USCT was the family of Patsey and Julius Leach, who were enslaved in Woodford and Scott counties. Patsey Leach endured multiple acts of violence from her enslaver "for no other cause than [her] husband having enlisted." Ms. Leach stated that her enslaver was enraged when he learned that her husband enlisted in the USCT and beat her severely on more than one occasion. Ms. Leach made the heartbreaking decision to seek freedom from her enslaver, who was a Confederate sympathizer, but she had to leave behind four of her five children.[281]

After the expulsion of women and children from the camp in 1864, Congressional acts declared "all wives and children of Union soldiers 'forever free,' removing all doubt about their status in Kentucky.[282] The women and children returned to Camp Nelson and were housed in quarters segregated from the men. At first the US Army women, children, and the elderly at barracks located on the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike. Northern missionaries and Rev. John G. Fee argued that the barracks setup undermined families "and, along with the communal mess house, encourage[d] dependency on the army."[283] Fee advocated for "family sized cottages."[284] It is not clear whether single women lived in the houses with families or if they remained in the barracks. Establishing the Home for Colored Refugees meant that there was a geographic separation of genders and races at Camp Nelson.

As the formerly enslaved made their way to refugee camps, they often "took in orphaned children and unrelated elderly men and women."[285] This was the case of Sophy Smothers, who occupied one of the dwellings at the Home for Colored Refugees. She lived there with "three little children of her own all less than six years old Besides her own . . . three more full Orphans and her Old Father & Mother."[286]

Records indicate that work for women at Camp Nelson was limited. "Women were not officially enlisted as soldiers, they did not shoulder guns, and they did not wear the distinguishing uniform of a combatant."[287] Employment at the camps for

275. Abigail Cooper, "'Away I Goin' to Find My Mamma': Self-Emancipation, Migration, and Kingship in Refugee Camps in the Civil War Era," Journal of African American History 102, no. 4 (Fall 2017): 448.; "1860 US Federal Census-Slave Schedules," Ancestry.com, accessed February 2, 2022, https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/7668/.
276. Thavolia Glymph, *The Women's Fight: The Civil War's Battles for Home, Freedom, and Nation* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2019), 229.
277. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 206–7.
278. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 207.
279. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 150.
280. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 150.
281. Affidavit of Patsey Leach, 25 March 1865 in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 187-188.
282. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 203.
283. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 144.
284. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 144.
285. Glymph, *The Women's Fight*, 229.
286. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 294.
287. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom,* 127.



Figure 2.15. Black women were often employed as laundresses at US Army encampments. This 1862 photograph is from a US Army encampment at Yorktown, Virginia. Records indicated that some Black female refugees were employed as "washerwomen" at Camp Nelson (Source: Library of Congress, record number LC-DIG-ds-05120).

women was not common, except for certain tasks like laundering, and camp employee lists "do not include any African American women."[288]

> By July 1864, orders originating with Brig. Gen. Lorenzo Thomas, who was in charge of African American recruitment in the Mississippi Valley, and carried out by district commander Brig. Gen. Speed Fry clarified that only women "in Government employ" were allowed to stay in camp. All others were ordered or escorted back "home" to slavery, where, according to Brig. Gen. Thomas, "Under the state law their respective masters are bound to take care of them." But the women and children kept coming into and returning to Camp Nelson, and ejection orders had to be reissued at least seven times between July and November 1864, when a more dramatic ejection occurred. Exactly how the women and children were able to remain or return to camp is unclear, but there is mention of the women bribing guards and it is probable that the women and sympathetic officers and employees used the "government employ" exception to stay in camp, although camp employee lists do not include any African American women at this time. Only two legitimate employment opportunities for women are mentioned in the documents; washerwomen and cooks.[289]

Archeological research supports that Black women were employed as laundresses at Camp Nelson (**Figure 2.15**).

> Archaeological excavations at a refugee encampment site within Camp Nelson strongly support laundry as a major activity performed by the women. The large quantity and variety of buttons, eyelets, and seed beads, as well as a sad iron, indicate that the women did laundry for men and women, civilians and soldiers, including officers and enlisted men. At Camp Nelson, the demand for washerwomen made these women indispensable and gave them a legitimate reason for staying in camp. It gave

288. McBride, "Camp Nelson Is Now Our Canada," 13.

289. McBride, "Camp Nelson Is Now Our Canada," 13.

> them the power to stay in camp and create and economically support their own homes and community.[290]

Historical records "mention washing and cooking as occupations for the refugees," but none of these documents "say where this was done or that the women operated at home, more or less independently as entrepreneurs."[291] There is an absence of archeological data related to sewing, indicating that seamstress was not necessarily an occupation at Camp Nelson.[292] Though female refugees may have engaged in housekeeping for the various barracks and officers' quarters at Camp Nelson, research did not reveal specifics about how frequently this occurred or what the experiences of these women may have been. Future research and archeological studies may reveal more about the working lives of the women who lived at the Home for Colored Refugees.

The occupation of the same camp by Black women and White soldiers was seen as problematic to the US Army. Their "spatial coexistence . . . triggered particular questions about gender, sex, and race in the new order of freedom."[293] The US Army used euphemisms to refer to the sexual assault of Black women in the camps. "Annoyances" and "disturbances" are noted in military records. In one account at Camp Nelson, the US Army referred to women who were "engaged in lewd business annoying everything and every body in the vicinity."[294] Some Army officials felt the solution to sexual violence toward women was separation. "In placing physical distance between the refugees' homes and the soldiers' encampments," there would be less sexual interaction between Black women and White soldiers.[295]

Sexual violence was not limited to acts toward Black women. Women who lived in proximity and sold goods to those living at military encampments were also "targets of sexual abuse by Union soldiers."[296] Soldiers might accuse women who worked for the Union Army of being prostitutes. One incident at Camp Nelson involved the daughters of W. H. Hall who sold goods from the store located at the encampment. Two captains, Samuel Fitch and Jacob Schuck, demanded sex from W. H. Hall's six daughters on the night of January 7, 1865. The family pressed charges and,

> At trial, Jacob Schuck's lawyer raised an all-too-common defense that relied on stereotypical gendered notions of male and female sexuality at times of war—that women in or near military camps were sexually available and that sexual transgressions against women during wartime were understandable if not excusable when committed by otherwise valiant and honorable men who were spilling their blood for their country.[297]

This argument was not successful for Schuck and Fitch, and they were dismissed dishonorably from service. However, the guilty verdicts were later "overturned on review by the commanding officer and the men were returned to duty."[298]

Many of the women entering Camp Nelson were the wives of enlisted USCT soldiers, but there were likely unmarried women and girls living there as well. Future studies may reveal if the marital status of the women at Camp Nelson affected their safety from sexual violence. Some Northern missionaries did not sanction refugee couples as married. For example, at Fort Monroe in Virginia, AMA missionary Lewis Lockwood "discovered that the refugee couples around him 'have been married only in slave fashion," which meant without legal or, in some cases, Christian sanction."[299] Amy Murrell Taylor states that most of the refugee couples believed that they were already married. She writes, "Plenty of couples and families streaming into Union lines believed that they were married already and did not need the sanction of

290. McBride, "Camp Nelson Is Now Our Canada," 13.
291. Stephen McBride and Kim McBride, "Seizing Freedom: Archaeology of Escaped Slaves at Camp Nelson, Kentucky" (Nicholasville, KY: Camp Nelson Civil War Park, 2010), 12.
292. McBride and McBride, "Seizing Freedom: Archaeology of Escaped Slaves at Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 12.
293. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 84.
294. Quoted in McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing: Insights from Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 159.
295. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 86–87.
296. Susan E. Barber and Charles F. Ritter, "Dangerous Liaisons: Working Women and Sexual Justice in the American Civil War," *European Journal of American Studies*, October 1, 2015, 7, https://doi.org/10.4000/ejas.10695.
297. Barber and Ritter, "Dangerous Liaisons: Working Women and Sexual Justice in the American Civil War," 8.
298. Barber and Ritter, "Dangerous Liaisons: Working Women and Sexual Justice in the American Civil War," 11–12.
299. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 34.

White civil or religious authorities in order to make their relationship any more true."[300] The US Army made attempts to formally marry couples that entered the refugee camps. Adj. General Lorenzo Thomas issued Special Order No. 15 in March 1864, which authorized the issuance of marriage certificates for those who were formerly enslaved, and "Over 1,400 couples had their marriages recognized by the government over the next seven months."[301]

School attendance records for the Home for Colored Refugees indicate that few students were female. According to Richard Sears, when the school was first established, "of the 700 students, 692 were males, 8 were females, all students over the age of 16."[302] At least "five teachers from the convalescent camp" assisted with instruction.[303] Later, the average attendance of women increased with "40 young women and girls" at one time.[304] Typically, boys received instruction in the morning and girls in the afternoon. By 1865, the AMA had sent additional teachers to instruct in the schools at Camp Nelson. Teachers included Ann E. W. Williams (superintendent), Ella Reed, Maria Belentine, Emma Jones, Anna Smith, Ella Wheeler, Miss Mann, Mrs. Knight, and Caroline Daimon—all White. Rev. John G. Fee argued for the addition of Black teachers, and Belle Mitchell, who was African American, taught at the school for a brief period. All of these teachers were compensated by the AMA.

The prison at Camp Nelson held women, at one point up to twenty-one total.[305] It is unknown if they were Black or White. Archeological data from the prison site reveals information about the housing and diets of the people who lived in the prison, but it did not reveal a wealth of information about the specific experiences of Black or White female prisoners.

300. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom,* 35.
301. Taylor, *Embattled Freedom*, 137.
302. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xlvi.
303. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xlvi.
304. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xlvi.
305. C. Brian Mabelitini and W. Stephen McBride, "The Archaeology of the Camp Nelson Military Prison (15Js78)" (Lexington, KY: Kentucky Archaeological Survey, 2020), 16.

Camp Nelson Landscape

The construction of Camp Nelson drastically changed the existing landscape. The buildings and structures at Camp Nelson were a product of US Army strategies for protecting, caring for, and supplying its troops. The US Army and Quartermaster Department developed unofficial regulations that standardized the design and construction of buildings on federal posts. These regulations existed for and influenced the designs of a wide range of buildings and structures, including fortifications, hospitals, administration buildings, etc.[306] The following describes the fortifications, buildings, structures, and other landscape features present at Camp Nelson.

Three historic maps depict the locations of features at Camp Nelson. An 1864 map (referred to in this document as the 1864 Simpson map) depicts the area from north of the Northern Line of Protection to south of the Kentucky River (**Figure 2.16**). A more detailed 1864 map shows the Northern Line of Protection including the infantry entrenchments, forts, and surrounding topography (**Figure 2.17**). An 1866 map (referred to in this document as the 1866 Miller map) depicts the full build out of Camp Nelson prior to the departure of US troops from the area (**Figure 2.13**). The present boundaries of Camp Nelson National Monument contain just 465 acres of the nearly 4,000 acres that comprised Camp Nelson during the Civil War.

Fortifications at Camp Nelson

Fortifications constructed by both armies in the Civil War reflected centuries-long military technological traditions that evolved over time in response to changing weaponry, construction techniques, and military strategy. Sebastien le Prestre de Vauban was among the most influential military engineers, whose defensive principals and design elements developed in the 1500s were replicated in many subsequent military fortifications, including those constructed during the Civil War. Vauban established architectural standards for buildings and promoted the practice of creating layers of defensive structures, referred to as defense in depth, as the standard for military fortifications. Many Civil War generals, particularly

306. R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, "National Historic Context for Department of Defense Installations, 1790-1940 Volume II of IV," (Baltimore: US Army Corps of Engineers, 1995), 29 and 103.

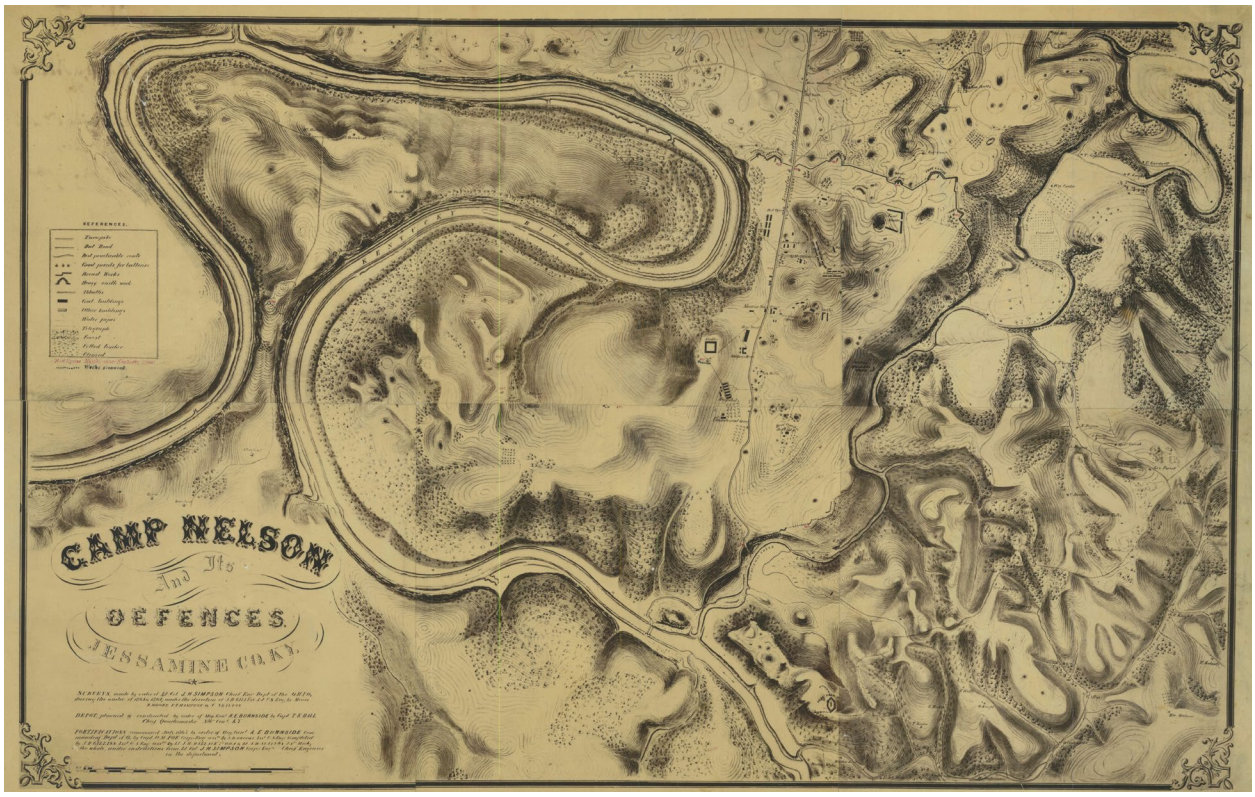


Figure 2.16. 1864 map entitled "Camp Nelson and its Defences" by Sullivan showing Camp Nelson and the surrounding natural features and military features constructed to protect the camp (Source: National Archives, RG 77: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers).

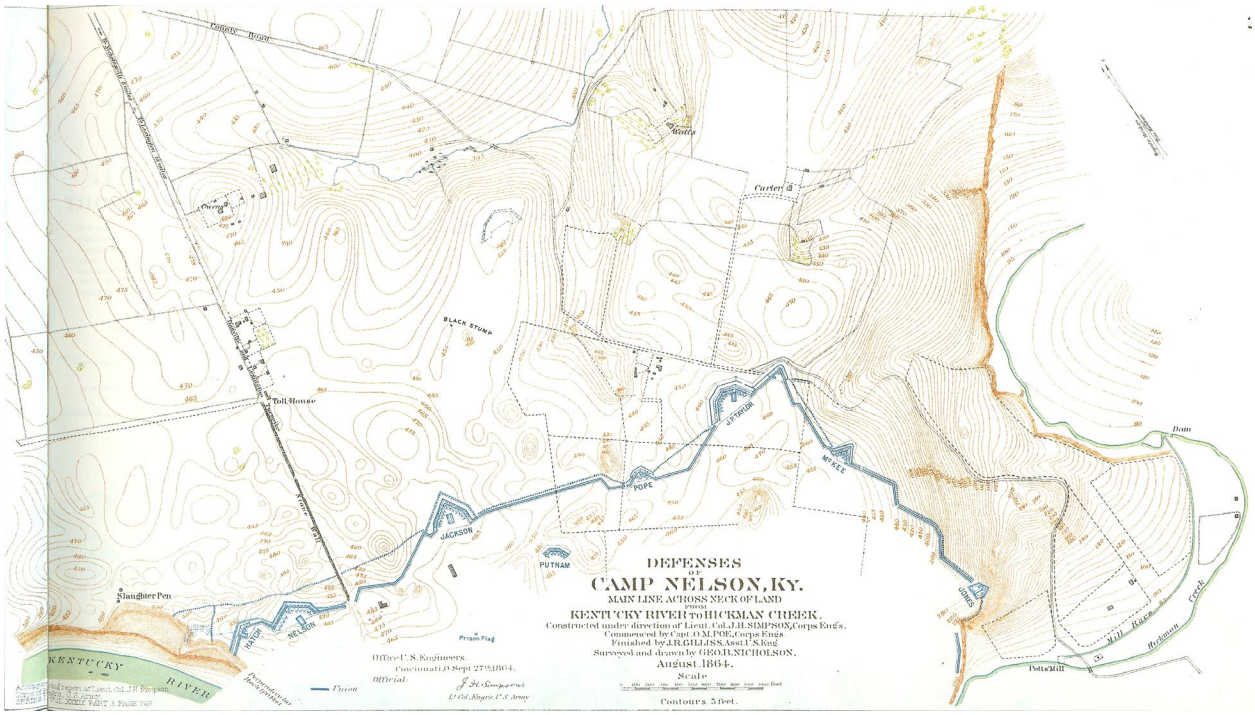


Figure 2.17. 1864 map of Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY (Source: ULPA 1999.71, University of Louisville Photographic Archives, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY).

the engineers who supervised the construction of fortifications, were also familiar with the work of D. H. Mahan, the esteemed professor of engineering at the United States Military Academy. He published *A Treatise on Field Fortification* in 1852, which influenced the generation of military officials who participated in the Civil War.[307]

These works and other books and manuals in circulation at the time of the Civil War emphasized the importance of selecting a type of fortification based on its purpose and the surrounding terrain. Fortifications in the Civil War trended toward being earthwork construction because earth proved to be more effective for absorbing the impact of projectiles developed in the decades prior to the war. Earthworks also had the benefit of being easy to construct and relatively inexpensive.

Most earthwork fortifications constructed during the Civil War came in three basic forms: closed, partially enclosed, and open. Closed fortifications had thick parapet walls on all sides. At Camp Nelson, Fort Jones is an example of this form of structure. Most of the other forts along the defensive line around Camp Nelson were partially enclosed. Partially enclosed fortifications were open to the rear, so they are only effective against a frontal attack. Open fortifications typically included lines of shallow ditches with mounds in front, known as gun pits, entrenchments, or artillery trenches, in which soldiers could find protection from an advancing army. At Camp Nelson, the line of entrenchments between the forts was this type of structure.

The fortifications at Camp Nelson were primary earthworks with structures added to the interior walls of the parapet to retain the soil. These retaining structures included wooden planks or stones. The openings in the parapet, embrasures, were often reinforced with bundle of stick (fascines) or, in the case of Fort Nelson, sod.

The other element of fortifications espoused by military engineers was the clearing of land in front of fortifications to open fields of fire and the use of obstacles in front of fortifications. Vauban popularized the use of earth mounds (glacis) and deep ditches (moats) to increase the effectiveness of the fortification. Later treatises promoted the use of other obstacles in front of the fortification, which in the Civil War often became a tangle of small saplings and tree trunks, often sharpened into points and mounted with the points sticking out, called an abatis. Most of the defensive structures at Camp Nelson had shallow ditches and thick abatis, partially because the rocky soil of the site prevented the soldiers from digging deep ditches as part of the fortification.

The design of Camp Nelson's fortifications reflects typical practices of military engineering during the Civil War, which located defensive works and defensive fortifications at places considered most vulnerable to attack. Steep cliffs surrounded Camp Nelson on the west, south, and east sides. A Confederate attack up these steep hills was unlikely. Because of the topography of the site, the most logical direction of attack was along the northern periphery of the camp. It was along this area, on the north and northeast sides of the camp, that the US Army constructed the line of defenses for Camp Nelson. This line is often referred to in the records and history of Camp Nelson as the Northern Line of Protection or Northern Line of Defense. Along the north side of Camp Nelson, a line of artillery trenches stretched 8,805 feet in length from the cliffs overlooking the Kentucky River, northwest of the camp, to the edge of the plateau overlooking Hickman Valley, east of the camp. The US Army placed eight outworks, or forts, along this line of artillery entrenchments. The outworks included three partially enclosed, three- and four-sided forts; four smaller partially enclosed two- to three-sided forts; and one smaller, fully enclosed fort. Archeologist W. Stephen McBride describes the forts as "roughly C-shaped earthen mounds behind a broad and deep ditch." The larger forts were approximately 280 to 340 feet across. The smaller forts were 100 to 200 feet across.[308] Major (later Lieutenant Colonel) J. H. Simpson noted that in July 1863,

A combination of Black impressed laborers, men who would later seek freedom from enslavement,

307. National Park Service, "The Fortification System," accessed September 23, 2021, https://www.nps.gov/cwdw/learn/historyculture/the-fortification-system.htm.

308. W. Stephen McBride, Kim McBride, and J. David McBride, "Archaeology and Reconstruction of Fort Putnam, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park, Jessamine County, Kentucky," in *From These Honored Dead: Historical Archaeology of the American Civil War* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2014).

and prisoners constructed the forts defending Camp Nelson. According to historian Richard Sears, "From the beginning the primary laborers on Camp Nelson's fortifications were black men."[309] The US Army reportedly informed General Burnside that the fortifications at Camp Nelson would be constructed "by troops and contraband," but since the "troops…were needed in actual military operations… that left the contrabands."[310] They worked under the supervision of Assistant Engineer John Robert Gilliss or Captain Orlando Poe. Brigadier General Speed S. Fry noted that the use of impressed labor was essential to the completion of fortifications at Camp Nelson noting, "I shall be compelled to keep a portion of the impressed negroes here for a time to complete that work. Had it not been for the impressed hands, the depots and fortifications would have been very far short from completion."[311] The amount of work produced by the Black impressed laborers was critical to the success of the construction of the camp, Major J. H. Simpson noted that "The intrenchments at Camp Nelson have been pushed forward as rapidly as the number of men at my disposal for work would admit. . . . During the month of July [1863] three thousand days' work were expended upon these intrenchments. Now that the harvest is over, I am in hopes that the negroes which have been returned to their owners will be returned to me for work."[312]

The workers dug a ditch around the perimeter of the north side of the camp, piling the soil to form an earthen wall. The gun pit was two feet deep and ten feet wide. The wall in front, or breastwork, was a little over four feet tall and four feet thick. The soldiers laid an abatis of tree branches along the outside of the line for added protection. This presented a potential Confederate attacker with a six-foot obstacle blocking their advance. Federal soldiers could fire over the wall and seek shelter behind the wall in the ditch during a battle.

309. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxiii.
310. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxiii. "Contraband" is a term used by the United States government to describe the transitional position of individuals who were formerly enslaved and were seeking freedom during the Civil War. Other terms included "refugee" or "freedman."
311. Quoted in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky: A Civil War History*, 26-27.
312. Quoted in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky: A Civil War History*, 10.

Captain Orlando Poe, who is credited with designing and overseeing the initial construction of the Northern Line, was the chief engineer of the Twenty-Third (XXIII) Corps. He supervised construction at Camp Nelson until August 1863, when he left to participate in the campaign to capture Knoxville. He was subsequently appointed chief engineer by General Sherman for the Atlanta campaign. John R. Gilliss replaced Poe. John R. Gilliss was a civilian assistant engineer in the Engineer Department of the US Army. He served under the supervision of Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Simpson, Chief Engineer of the Department of the Ohio. Gilliss, in addition to overseeing the construction of the fortifications at Camp Nelson, worked on other projects across Kentucky, including those in Frankfort and Louisville.[313]

In total, the US Army constructed thirteen defensive structures at Camp Nelson, including eight forts on the Northern Line of Protection, two stone walls and one battery (Battery Studdiford) along the eastern boundary overlooking Hickman Creek, and two standalone fortifications (Fort Bramlette and Battery Fitzgerald) to the south, overlooking the Kentucky River and the Hickman/Wernwag Bridge. Workers completed construction of the Northern Line in 1863, with Fort Nelson, Fort Jackson, and Fort Putnam midway through construction by summer of that year.[314] Geographer B. Nicholson surveyed the site and produced a set of detailed construction drawings of all the defensive structures at Camp Nelson in August of 1864, indicating construction of the structures had been completed by that time.

The Northern Line of Protection spanned between the Kentucky River palisades west of Camp Nelson and the cliffside overlooking Hickman Creek to the east, protecting the camp from threats approaching from the north. The southern approach across the Wernwag/Hickman Bridge was protected by Fort Bramlette and Battery Fitzgerald.

Fort Jackson was in the middle of the Northern Line of Protection. Fort Jackson was a four-sided, V-shaped, partially enclosed lunette (**Figure 2.18**). Its rear, or gorge, was open. Its earthen breastworks stood ten feet high, with wooden revetment on the

313. G. B. Nicholson, "Memoir of John Robert Gilliss." American Society of Civil Engineers, Proceedings, Volume 22, No. 1 (1896), 690.
314. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 10.

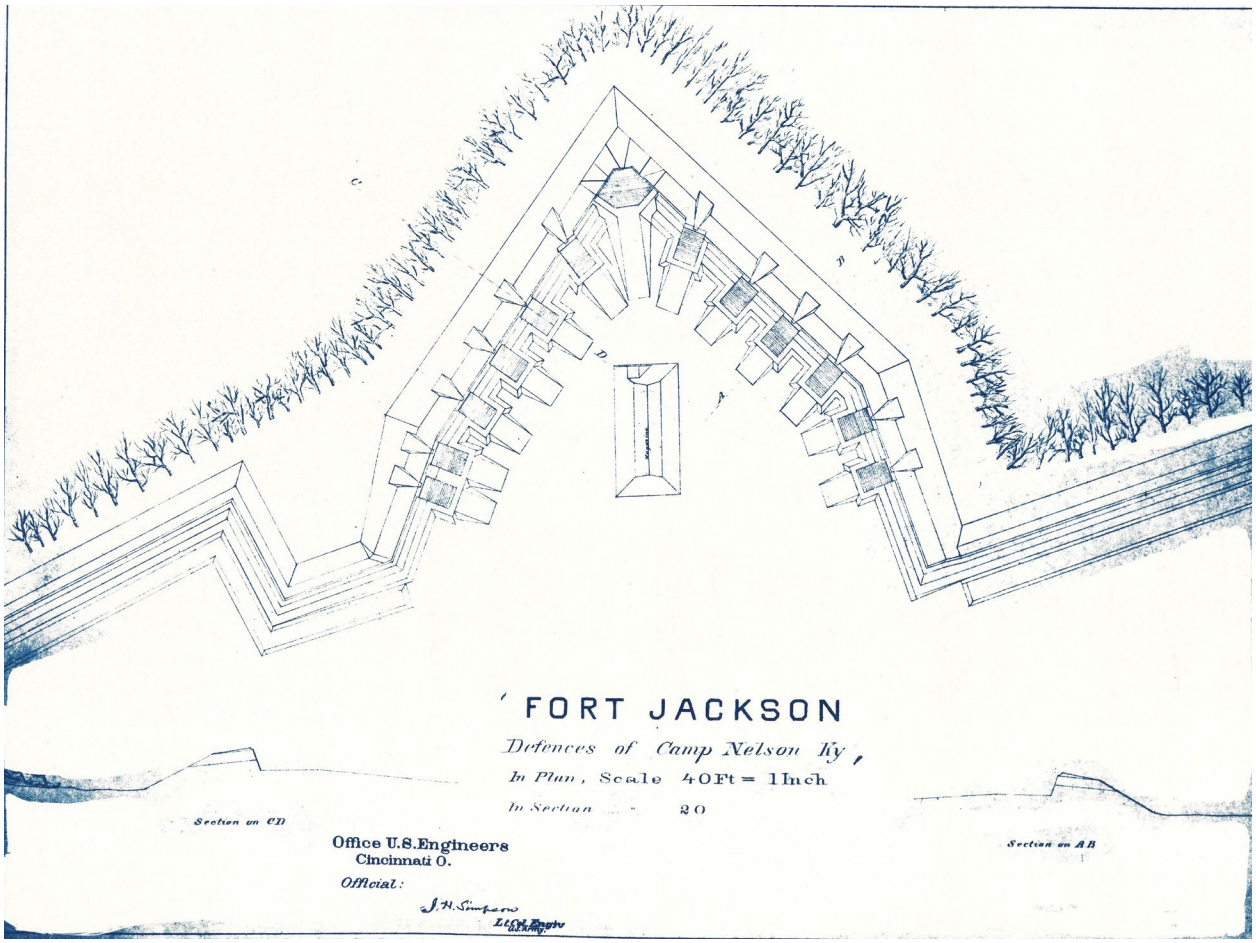


Figure 2.18. 1864 rendering of Fort Jackson at Camp Nelson (Source: National Archives, RG 77, 1.61).

interior to retain the earthwork. It had a shallow ditch along the base of the exterior. An abatis of cedar and locust trees lined the northern face of the fort. On its northern salient, the fort had places for thirteen guns, though only seven were ever mounted. These included one 30-pounder Parrott gun and six 12-pounder Napoleon cannons. Twelve of the gun placements had embrasures. At the salient, a mound of earth, or barbette, provided an elevated platform so the Parrott gun could fire over the parapet, which increased the gun's range of fire. Fort Jackson also had a powder magazine near the middle of the fort.

Fort Pope was a three-sided, L-shaped redan with four cannon platforms, two embrasures, and a powder magazine (**Figure 2.19**). It stood near the middle of the line north of Camp Nelson covering a large ravine north of the camp. Its interior walls had stone revetments and the embrasures had revetment of fascines. Two of the guns were to be mounted on barbettes, but the fort never had guns installed, rather it served as an infantry position. A powder magazine was in the middle of the fort. The mound of earth over the powder magazine was higher in elevation than the parapet walls.

Fort Putnam was set to the rear of the line of gun pits and the other forts (**Figure 2.20**). It was a three-sided, roughly C-shaped redan. According to Assistant Engineer John R. Gilliss, construction of Fort Putnam began before the rest of the line, explaining its location off the line.[315] It could also have been used to fire upon any enemy force that had successfully taken any of the other forts along the Northern Line.

Fort Taylor was the largest fort on the Northern Line defending Camp Nelson (**Figure 2.21**). It was a four-sided, U-shaped, partially enclosed lunette with room for fourteen gun emplacements, thirteen embrasures, and a powder magazine. The gun on the salient was raised on a barbette. The interior walls had a wooden revetment, and

315. McBride, McBride, and McBride, "Archaeology and Reconstruction of Fort Putnam."

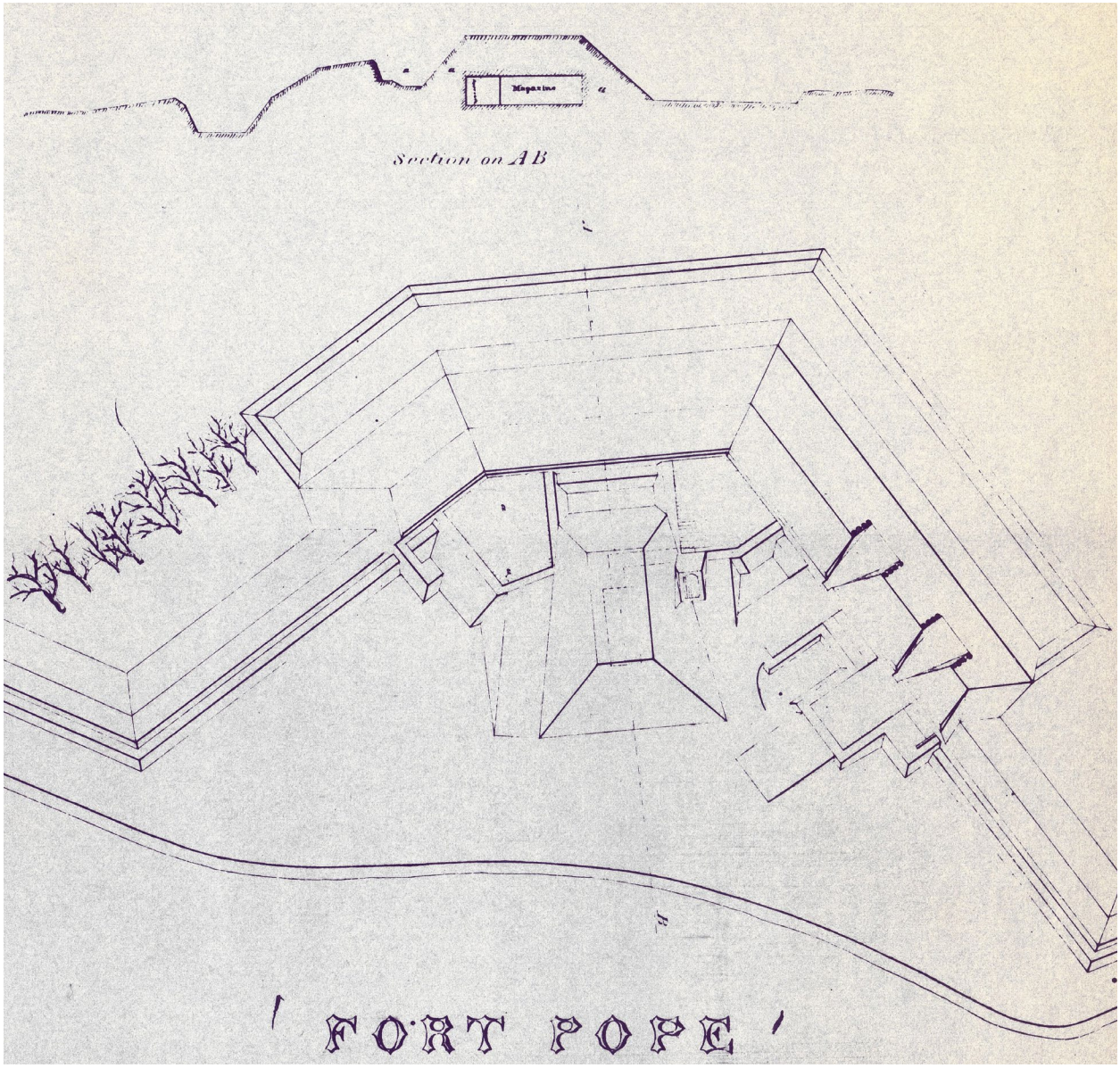


Figure 2.19. 1864 rendering of Fort Pope (Source: National Archives, RG 77, 1.61).

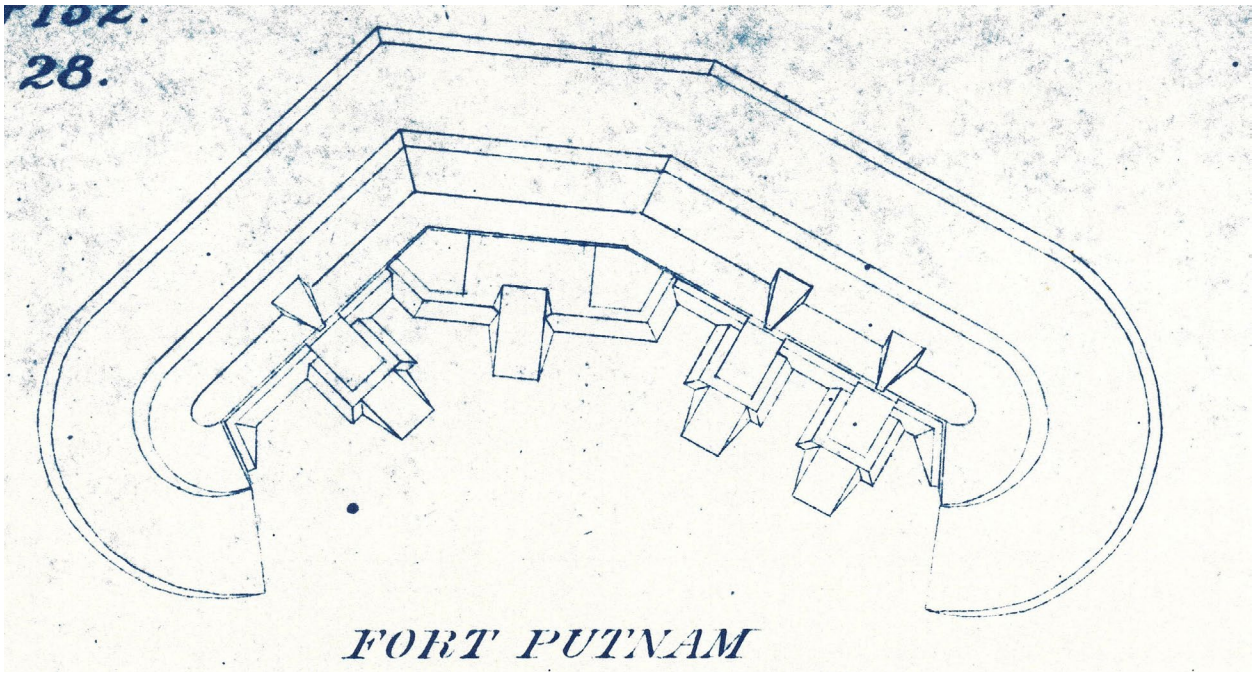


Figure 2.20. 1864 rendering of Fort Putnam (Source: National Archives, RG 77, 1.61).

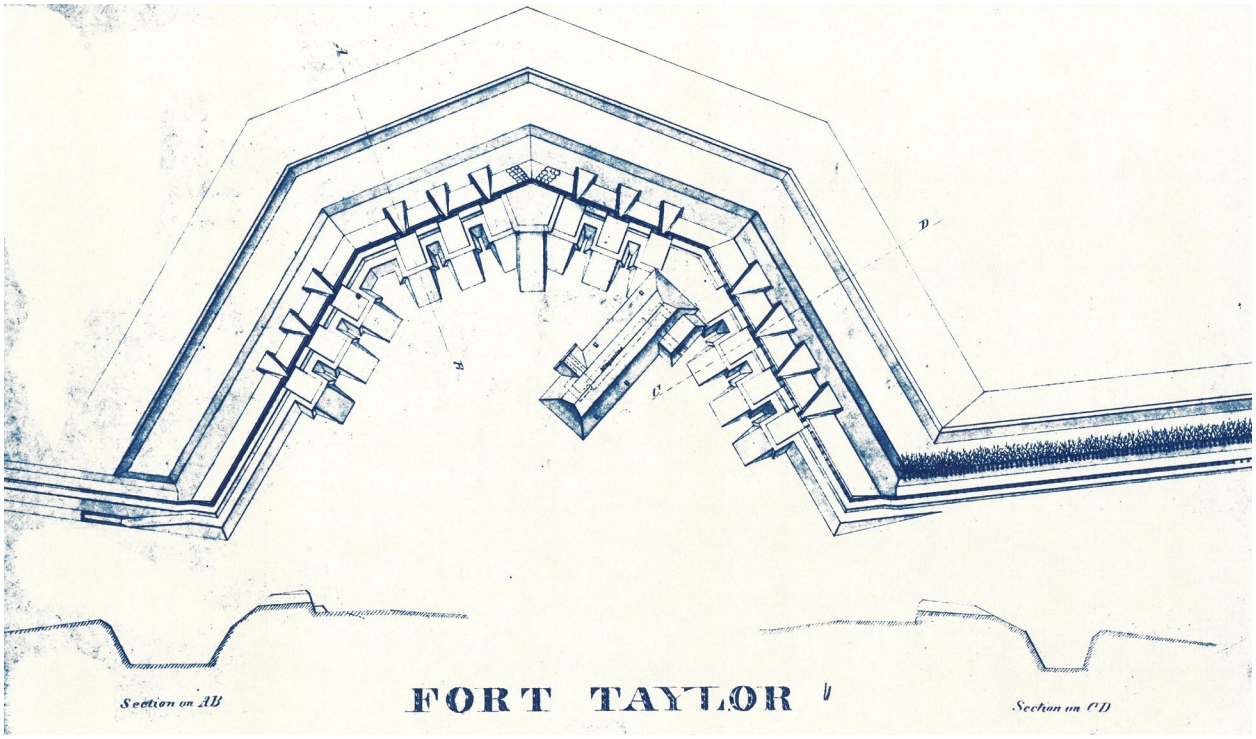


Figure 2.21. 1864 rendering of Fort Taylor (Source: National Archives, RG 77, 1.61).

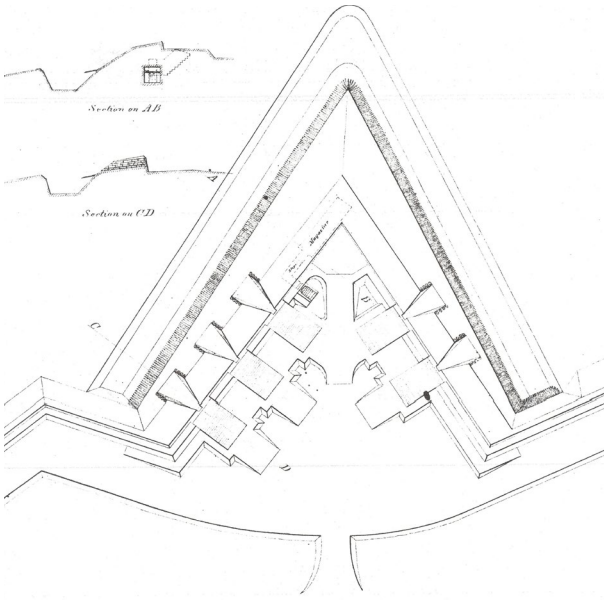


Figure 2.22. 1864 rendering of Fort McKee (Source: National Archives, RG 77, 1.61).

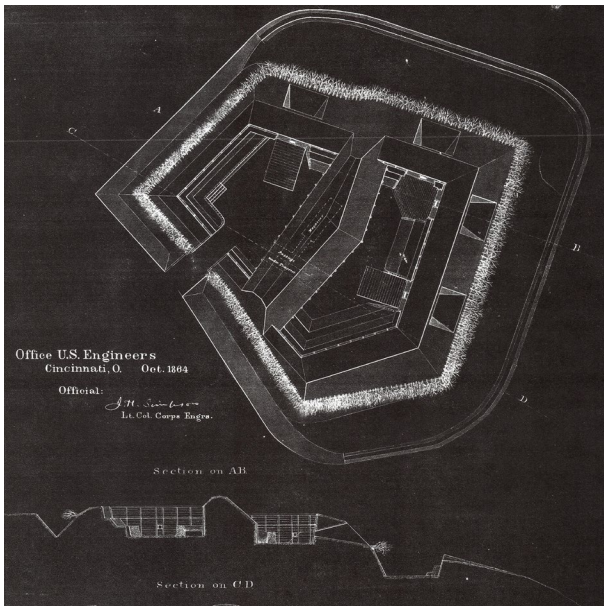


Figure 2.23. 1864 rendering of Fort Jones (Source: National Archives, RG 77, 1.61).

the embrasures were revetted with fascines. Its armament included six 12-pounder Napoleon cannon and one 30-pounder Parrott gun. It also had a rectangular powder magazine located in its interior. It had a deep ditch on the exterior of the scarp wall. The scarp wall sloped back towards the fort with a parapet wall extending above the surrounding grade.

Fort McKee was a two-sided, V-shaped redan on the eastern portion of the defensive line around Camp Nelson (**Figure 2.22**). It had six gun emplacements, five embrasures, and a small powder magazine buried under the parapet wall of the salient. Like most of the other forts, a wooden revetment retained the interior walls, and the embrasures had a revetment made from fascines. It had a relatively deep ditch in front of its scarp walls.

Fort Jones was at the end of the line defending the eastern end of the Northern Line surrounding Camp Nelson (**Figure 2.23**). It was a fully enclosed, five-sided redoubt fort. Like most of the other forts, the interior walls had a wooden revetment. It was designed with three gun platforms, four embrasures, and a traverse along the interior. It had a deep ditch along the base of the north and east walls. An abatis protruded from the slopes of the scarp wall.

Two stone V-shaped stone walls defended the southeastern defensive line overlooking Hickman Creek valley. These were positioned between Fort Jones to the north and Battery Studdiford to the south. They served as infantry entrenchment positions to complement the other defensive positions. The interior faces of the earthworks were retained with a stone revetment rather than wooden revetment used in the other defensive earthworks at Camp Nelson. It also had a magazine buried under the traverse.

The powder magazines in the forts were constructed of wood planks and tar paper (**Figure 2.24**). They sat partially underground and buried under a protective layer of earth.

Two additional forts existed on the Northern Line of Defense, outside of the current boundaries of the national monument. These included Forts Hatch and Nelson, which were on the west side of the public road close to the edge of the palisades overlooking the bend in the Kentucky River. Fort Hatch was a three-sided redan. Fort Nelson was a three-sided redan "armed with six 12 pounder Napoleans and one 30 pounder Parrot Rifle."[316]

The US Army also constructed detached fortifications at other strategic locations east and

316. W. Stephen McBride, "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Camp Nelson" (Washington, D.C.: National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, March 2001), 10.

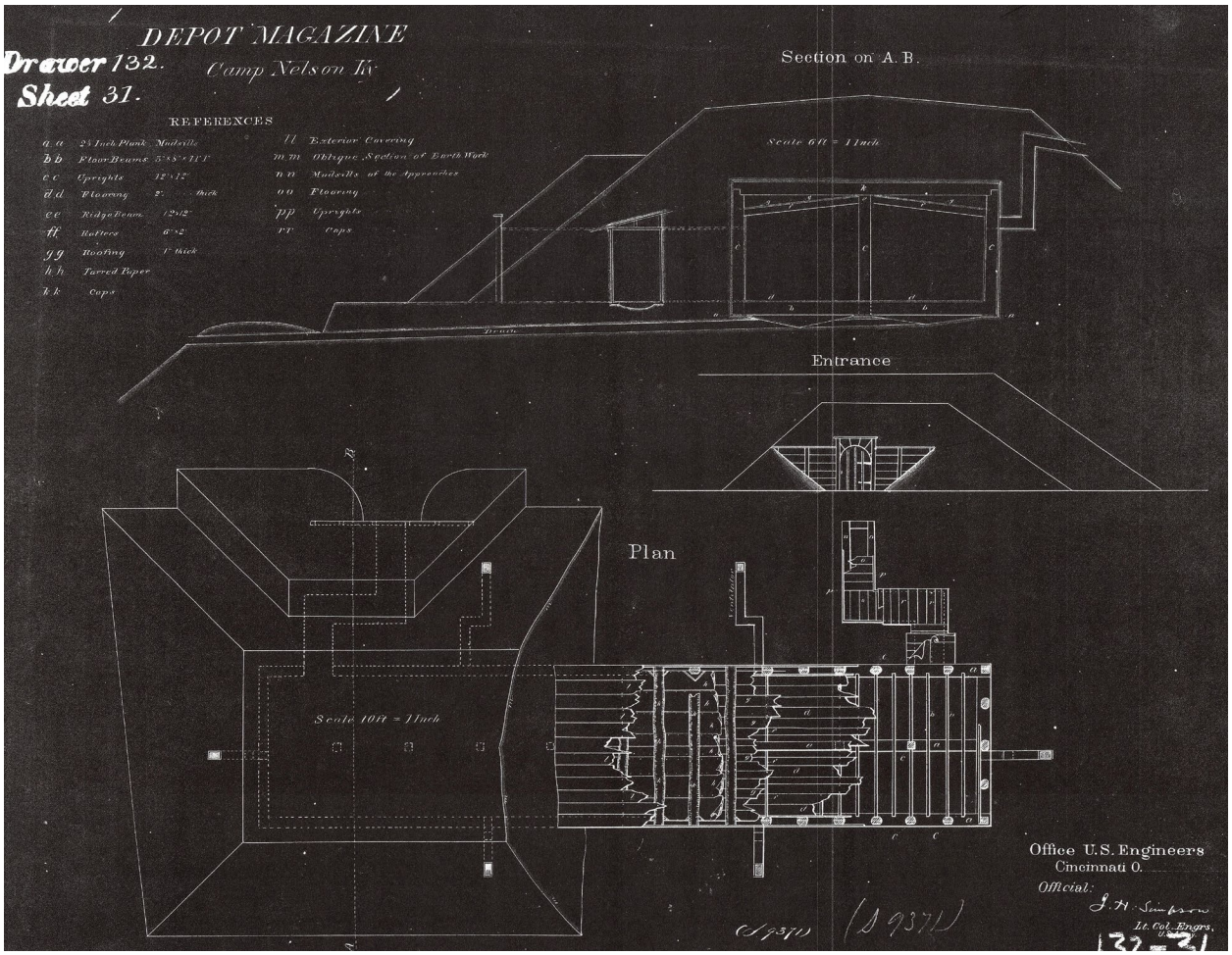


Figure 2.24. 1866 rendering of the depot magazine (Source: National Archives, RG 77, 1.61).

south of Camp Nelson to defend the Kentucky River (and outside the current national monument boundary). These included Fort Bramlette and Battery Fitzgerald overlooking the Kentucky River south of Camp Nelson and Battery Studdiford near Hickman Creek. The army also constructed abatis and breastworks overlooking Hickman Creek, south of Battery Studdiford. Fort Bramlette is described in the 2001 National Register nomination as a "six-sided redoubt 350 feet long by 200 feet wide and the magazine and bomb proof mound is 128 feet long," making it the largest fortification at Camp Nelson.[317]

According to W. Stephen McBride,

> All the northern line forts except one were named for high-ranking U.S. Army officers killed in (or who died during) the Civil War. The exception was Fort McKee, which was named after Col. William R. McKee of the 2nd Kentucky Infantry, who was killed at the Battle of Buena Vista, Mexico, in 1847. The other forts were named after Col. William B. Hatch of the 4th New Jersey Infantry; Maj. Gen. William Nelson, Brig. Gen. James S. Jackson, and Col. Haldiman S. Putnam of the 7th New Hampshire Infantry; Col. Curren Pope of the 15th Kentucky Infantry; Brig. Gen. Joseph P. Taylor, commissary general of subsistence; and Col. Fred C. Jones of the 24th Ohio Infantry.[318]

317. McBride, "National Register of Historic Places," 8. Fort Bramlette was individually added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. (Jessamine County, KY #75000781).

318. McBride, McBride, and McBride, "Archaeology and Reconstruction of Fort Putnam," 4.

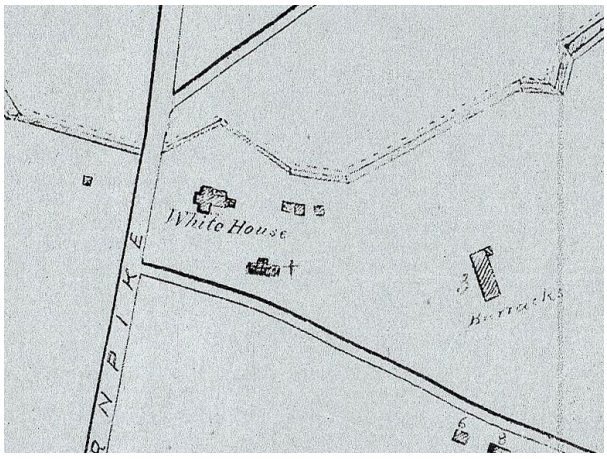


Figure 2.25. Area just south of the Northern Line of Protection and east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike from the Miller (1866) map. This area included the White House and a Barracks, plus four other unidentified buildings. The Existing Conditions section of this report refers to this area as the Visitor Center Character Area (Source: National Archives, Cartographic Section, National Archives, College Park Maryland).

Buildings, Structures, and Landscape

Northern Line of Protection Area[319]

The area just south of the Northern Line of Protection and east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike had six buildings: The White House or Oliver Perry house, a barracks, and four other buildings of unknown use. There was a road located south of the White House leading from Lexington-Danville Turnpike, past the prison site (located to the southeast), and then turning north toward Fort Pope (**Figure 2.25**). The 1864 Simpson map and a historic photograph show that there was a group of established trees between the White House and the barracks.

White House (Oliver Perry House) and Outbuildings

The only remaining building within the current national monument boundary dating to the Civil War is the "White House" (as it was called during the Civil War era) (**Figure 2.26**). Oliver and Fannie Scott Perry constructed this house on the land of Mary Scott (Fannie Scott's mother) around 1856. The house served as the Quartermaster and Commissary officers' quarters during the Civil War. The two-story frame construction house is Greek Revival with a two-story T-shaped addition on the rear. A continuous limestone foundation supports the house. The house has horizontal weather boarding and a hipped roof. Measuring fifty-two feet long by twenty feet wide, the interior is one room deep with a central hall. The façade is located on the western side of the house and includes a full-height entry porch with square column supports. The rear addition includes a two-story attached wing, constructed prior to the Civil War. The house has a two-story porch on the eastern portion of the south elevation. The side porch is supported by square column supports. There are three brick chimneys, one on each end of the main part of the house and one between the wing addition and the kitchen described below. The windows are 6/6 double-hung with operable shutters.

There was a one story detached kitchen east of the house until it burned in 1865. Archeological evidence shows that this building had a stone chimney.[320] After the detached kitchen burned, the US Army constructed a two-story kitchen wing addition on the west elevation of the house, creating an attached kitchen.[321] The kitchen addition included a one-story shed extension on the north side.

A historic photo of the White House shows the area around the building as largely undeveloped. There was a road on the south side of the house, which likely led to Lexington-Danville Turnpike. The front yard area was largely devoid of vegetation, with patches of grass or weeds. There was a row of large trees on the east side of the house.

There is a photo facing east, likely taken from the upper story porch of the White House, that shows additional buildings located in this area (**Figure 2.27**). The photo shows three additional buildings of unknown use. The northernmost building appears to predate the buildings constructed by the US Army at Camp Nelson. It is a one-story open

319. The area descriptions used in this report are a combination of modern-day function of the national monument, land ownership patterns prior to federal ownership, and Civil War era functions at the site. The report uses these geographic/use categories to organize descriptions throughout the document. One exception is the Northern Line of Protection Area, which also includes the Visitor Center Character Area in the existing conditions section of this report. In the site history section, this zone is included in the Northern Line of Protection Area.

320. W. Stephen McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination, Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District" (Washington, D.C.: National Historic Landmarks Program, August 2012), 12.

321. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 12.



Figure 2.26. View of the façade and south elevation of the White House or Oliver Perry House, 1864. Photographer is facing northeast (Source: 77pa102, Camp Nelson Photographic Collection, 1864, University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center).

barn building with a side gabled roof. Its walls are composed of vertically placed boards, and it has a roof composed of rough hewn shingles. Another barn or stable is located just to the south. Its frame construction with board and batten siding is more consistent with the US Army construction techniques found on other buildings at Camp Nelson. It is side gabled and with board and batten siding. It appears to be a stable with a hay loft above (perhaps used by the officers who resided in the White House). Another building east of this stable may also predate the US Army occupation of the site. The only portion of the building that is visible in the photo is the roof, which appears to be similar to the northernmost barn building. This was likely an agricultural building or barn associated with the White House and possibly constructed prior to the Civil War. The photo shows the construction of Fort Putnam in the background as well as the network of roads present at the site during this period.

Barracks at Fortifications

There are no known photographs of the barracks located just east of the White House. There is an undated drawing, which shows that these barracks as a one-story, rectangular building, with nine windows across the long elevation (**Figure 2.28**). Ventilators or chimneys were along the roofline, which had a wide overhang on the short ends of the building. The roof appears to be gabled. Other barracks at Camp Nelson were frame construction with board and batten siding.



Figure 2.27. View of the outbuildings east of the White House, 1864. Photographer is facing east and likely was standing on the upper porch of the White House. Fort Putnam is under construction and visible in the background of the photo (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

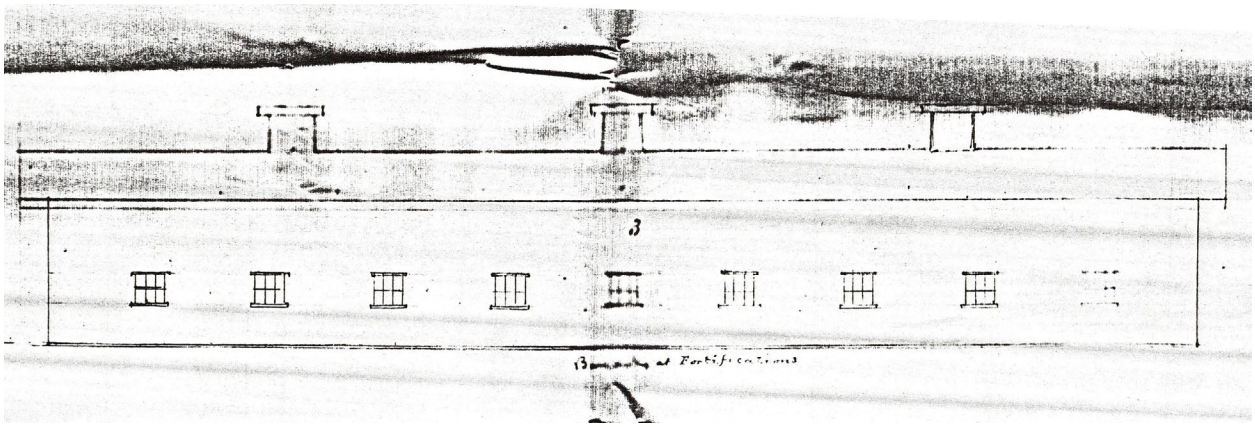


Figure 2.28. Undated drawing showing the "Barracks at Fortifications" labeled #3 on the 1866 A. B. Miller map (number corresponds to the drawing) (Source: Unarchived copy of a drawing from CANE Archives, believed to be scanned from National Archives).

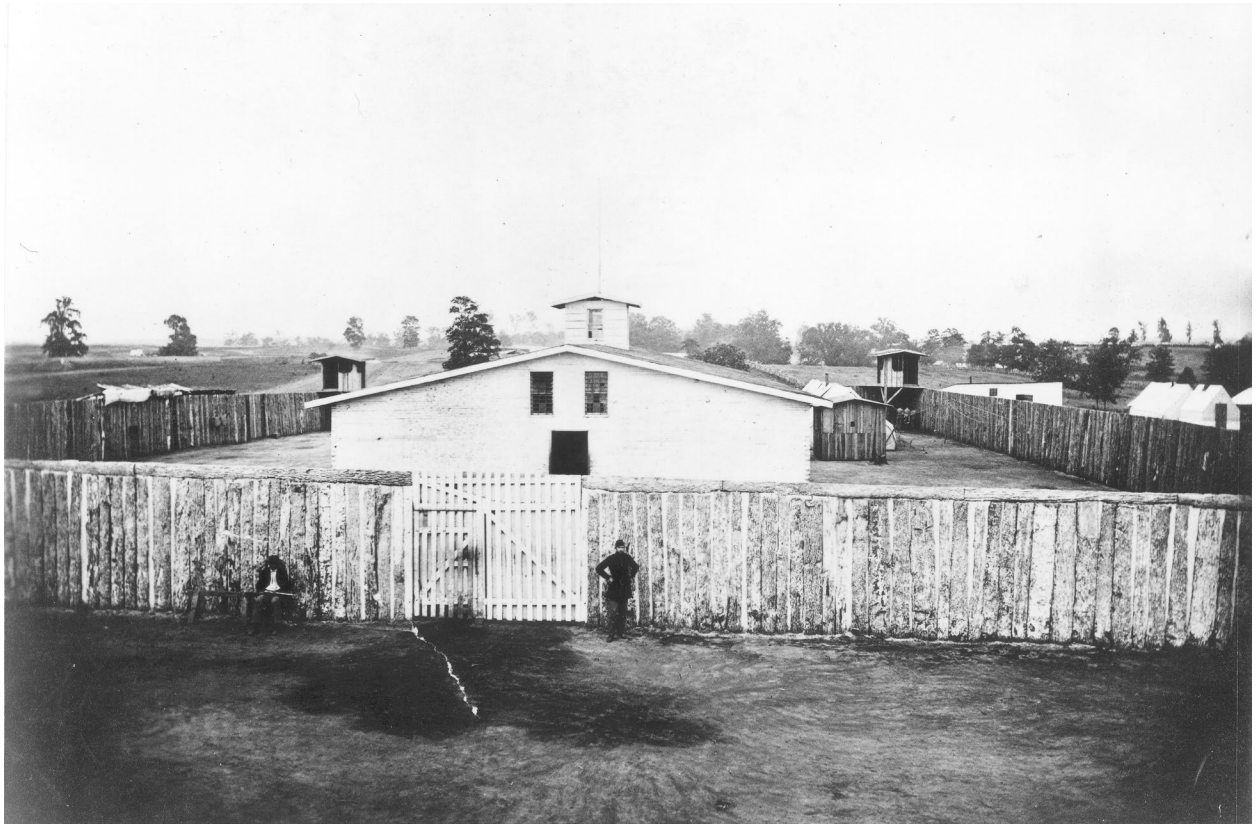


Figure 2.29. View of Camp Nelson prison (1863-66), likely taken from the provost marshal's office (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

Prison Area

Archeologist W. Stephen McBride summarized the development of the Camp Nelson military prison:

> As Camp Nelson evolved from a military fortification and supply depot into one of the largest cities in the state of Kentucky, containing a population comprised of both military personnel as well as civilians, it became necessary to expand beyond the usual buildings for a supply depot by erecting a prison. About a month after construction of Camp Nelson was initiated, instructions were given on July 14, 1863 to construct the prison. Unsure of the number of prisoners to expect (the camp already held 160), Captain Theron E. Hall, the Chief Quartermaster, telegraphed Major General Burnside for directions. The official order was given on August 5, 1863, to erect a "Military Prison and Barracks within the lines of the camp," with construction to begin "as speedily as possible." Captain S. K. Williams provided the plan for the construction of the prison and Captain T. E. Hall was ordered to supply the necessary labor and construction materials.
>
> Those confined at the Military Prison consisted of men and women, white and black, military and civilian alike. Although most of the prisoners seem to have been Union deserters, occasionally Confederate deserters and prisoners of war were held there as well. . . . Camp Nelson ration books suggest that the prison held between 47 and 265 prisoners between August 1864 and September 1865, with a calculated mean of 98. These books show that the prison rarely held any women, but in some months it held between one and 21 women. August and September 1865 listed the highest number of women prisoners, with 13 to 21. It is unknown if these women were white or black. The ration books also indicate that the prison hospital held 14 to 33 patients, including two to four women, each month between August 1864 and September 1865.[322]

The prison was in the northern part of Camp Nelson, east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike (**Figure 2.29**). The 1866 Miller map shows eleven

322. C. Brian Mabelitini and W. Stephen McBride, "The Archaeology of the Camp Nelson Military Prison (15Js78)" (Lexington, KY: Kentucky Archaeological Survey, 2020), 15-16.

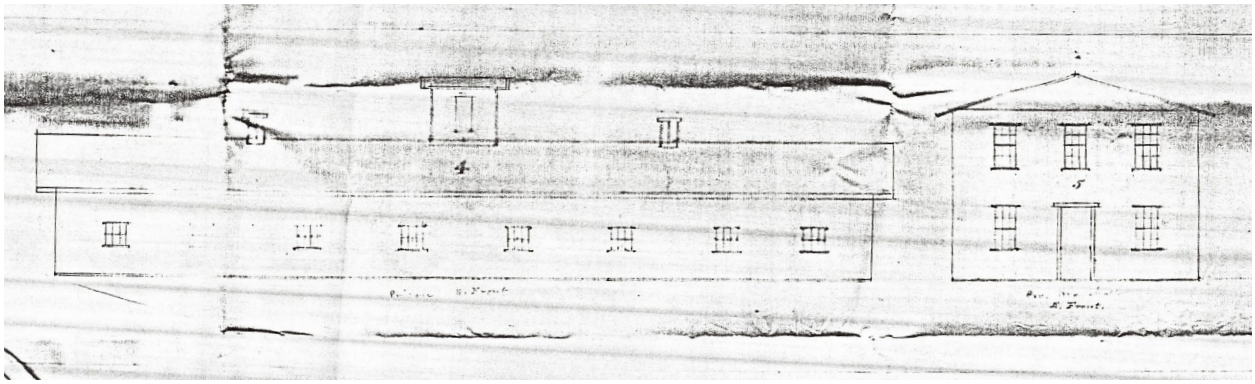


Figure 2.30. Undated drawing of the jail, labeled #4 on the 1866 A. B. Miller map (number corresponds to the drawing) (Source: Unarchived copy of a drawing from CANE Archives, believed to be scanned from National Archives).

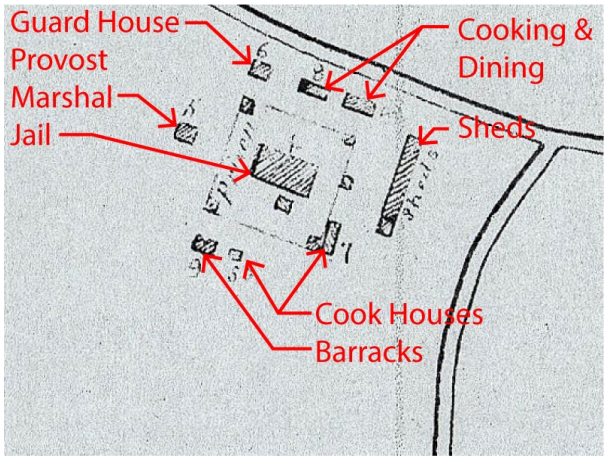


Figure 2.31. Portion of the 1866 A. B. Miller Plan of Camp Nelson showing the location of the various buildings located at the Camp Nelson prison (Source: National Archives, Cartographic Section, National Archives, College Park Maryland).

buildings at this location as well as a prison stockade surrounding the jail building. Buildings outside the stockade included a guard house, cooking and dining buildings, a shed, the provost marshal's office, two cookhouses, and a prison quarters or hospital. Archeological evidence from the site indicates that "the prison support structures were constructed of wood. Some of these buildings had glazed windows, and possibly brick chimneys."[323]

Records indicate that it included a jail, which measured on hundred feet long by fifty feet wide. Photographs show that the jail had a centrally located door on the west elevation with two double-hung windows located above (**Figure 2.29**, **Figure 2.33**). A front-gabled central tower with windows on all sides provided ventilation. The tower appears to have had a lightning rod extending from the roof. An undated drawing of the jail shows that its north and south elevations had eight windows (**Figure 2.30**). The drawing shows two chimneys on the jail, but these do not appear in photographs.

The cookhouse, located outside the southeast corner of the stockade, was a single-story shed roof building, clad in indiscernible material and painted white. There was one window and a door located on the west elevation. A stove pipe extended through the roof. Another cook house and barracks existed outside the southern wall of the stockade. There were tents were near the cook house location.

A ten-foot-tall stockade with four guard towers and a gate located on the west side enclosed the jail. There were two buildings for cooking and dining, sheds, cookhouses, and a barracks located outside the stockade. (**Figure 2.31**).[324] Historic photos show that workers constructed the stockade from rough cut trees with intact bark and the gate was built from planed wood (**Figure 2.32**). The stockade appears to have chinking applied between the logs. The guard houses extended above the stockade and had gabled roofs and were partially enclosed.

A historic photograph shows that there were tents located within the stockade as well as a side gabled wood building of unknown use. Small-scale features included wash lines, located inside the southern stockade wall. Outside the prison, there was a snake rail fence, which started just outside the stockade and headed east toward the

323. Mabelitini and McBride, "The Archaeology of the Camp Nelson Military Prison (15Js78)," 86.

324. Mabelitini and McBride, "The Archaeology of the Camp Nelson Military Prison (15Js78)," 16.

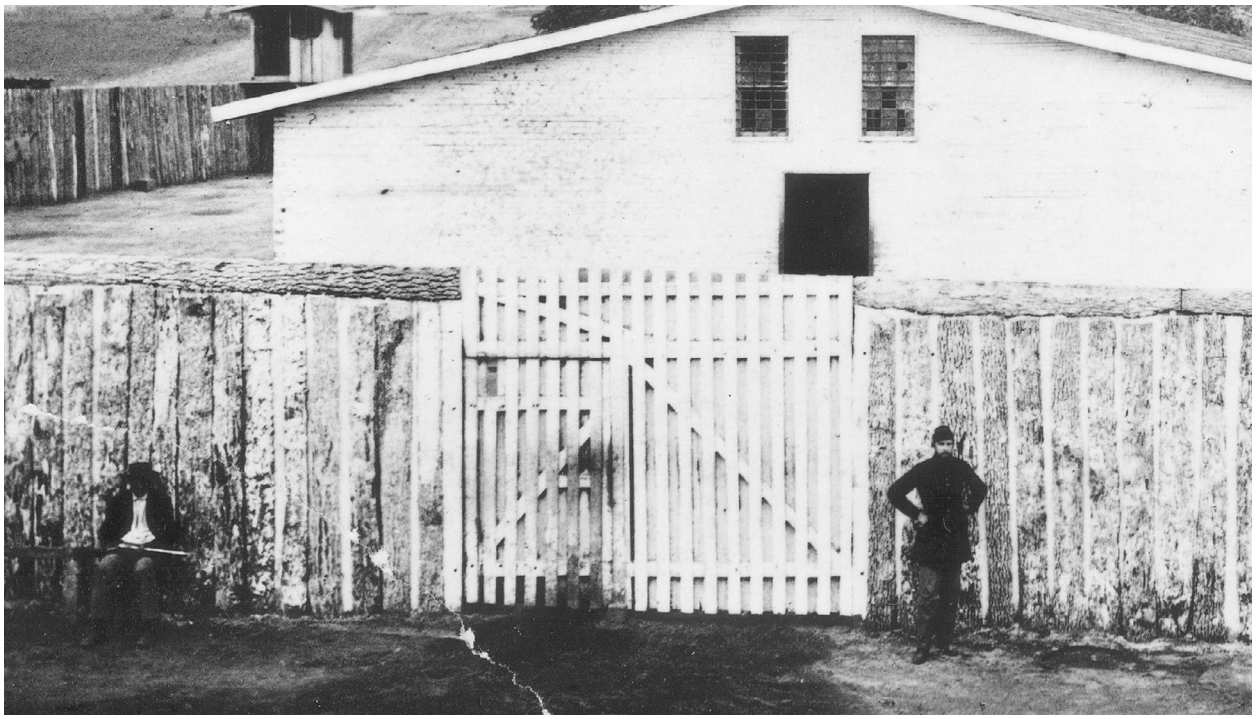


Figure 2.32. Enlargement of view of Camp Nelson prison (1863-66), showing rough-hewn wood members of the stockade and entry gate (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.33. View of the provost marshal building (1864), taken southwest from the prison, looking northeast (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

stable area. Vegetation in the photograph include deciduous trees of various sizes. Groundcover appears to have been grass or bare earth.

The provost marshal's house was located just west of the stockade (**Figure 2.33**). The building served as an office for the provost marshal and as a space for court martial proceedings.[325] The two-story frame building was clad with board and batten siding and rested on stone piers. The shallow pitched front gabled roof was covered with metal and had exposed rafter tails. A historic photograph shows that the building had 6/6 double-hung windows on at least the west and southern elevations. Two exterior wood steps led to the front door, which was located off-center. Stove pipes pierce the roof, indicating that stoves provided heat for the building. Southwest of the provost marshal's house was an ice house.[326] The ice house (structure remains at the site) is a subterranean circular structure eight feet in diameter constructed of dry stacked limestone.

The map of the prison facilities indicates that there were dining and cooking buildings and a guard house located on the north side of the stockade, but only a portion of these buildings' roofs are visible in historic photographs. Historical documentation notes that drainage at the site, especially near the kitchen building, was poor.[327]

Spring Reservoir

The Spring Reservoir (also known as the Officers' Spring) was a dry-laid limestone reservoir built at the head of a natural spring southwest of the prison complex. The US Army likely added a limestone retaining wall to provide a clean source of drinking water for Camp Nelson officers.

During the first several months of the Civil War, US Army commanders became increasingly concerned about outbreaks of disease among military camps. These outbreaks were incapacitating many soldiers, threatening the US Army's readiness and ability of individual soldiers to perform their duties. The overall impact of disease on the military was profound; one medical historian estimates that two-thirds of all casualties suffered during the Civil War was from disease.[328] In 1863, Dr. William Hammond, the Surgeon General of the US Army, published "Treatise on Hygiene with Special Reference to the Military Service." Hammond devoted an entire chapter on water and its role in protecting soldier health. Hammond observed that "the medical officer is often consulted with reference to the character of the water" when the army was selecting "sites for camps, hospitals, barracks, etc."[329] The waters "fit for drinking… are rain water, river water, and spring or well water."[330] He concludes his chapter by stating "When more care is taken to insure a supply of pure water to the troops, it will be found that a great reduction in the rates of sickness and mortality will result."[331]

Brigadier General S. S. Fry, apparently interested in keeping the spring free from contaminants, ordered the spring to be guarded by USCT soldiers to keep it clean from contaminants, especially soldiers watering their horses, writing on July 18, 1864:

> The officer in charge will instruct his guard to not allow horses, either public or private, to be watered at said spring. Until further orders all stock will be watered in the River or Ponds. He will see that no difficulty occurs at or around the spring and will arrest any one who creates any disturbance.[332]

Fry's orders mention other sources better suited to watering animals, including "Rivers and Ponds."[333] The stable area at Camp Nelson, for example, had two ponds close by. The warehouse area also had ponds available.

A published newspaper letter from Isaac E. Stevens, formerly of the Quartermaster department, responded to a letter from Oliver H. Perry regarding Mary Scott's claim case to damages

325. Mabelitini and McBride, "The Archaeology of the Camp Nelson Military Prison (15Js78)," 87.
326. This feature is misidentified as the "prison cistern" in both the National Register of Historic Places nomination form in 2001 and the National Historic Landmark Nomination in 2013.
327. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 204.
328. Chulhee Lee, "Selective Assignment of Military Positions in the Union Army: Implications for the Impact of the Civil War," *Social Science History* 23, no. 1 (1999): 67–97.
329. William Alexander Hammond, *A Treatise on Hygiene: With Special Reference to the Military Service*, xvi, 13-604 p. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1863), 218, //catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/002081505.
330. Hammond, *A Treatise on Hygiene*, 217.
331. Hammond, *A Treatise on Hygiene*, 250.
332. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 100.
333. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 100.

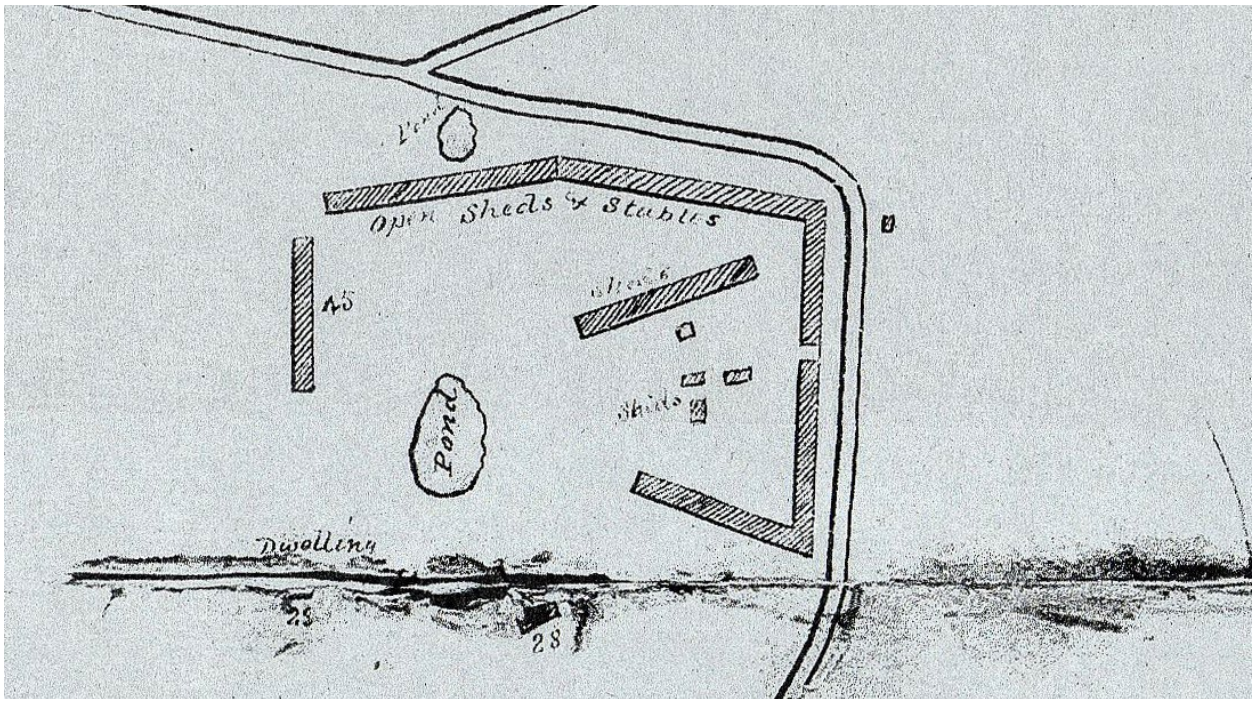


Figure 2.34. Portion of the 1866 A. B. Miller Plan of Camp Nelson showing sheds and stable area (Source: National Archives, Cartographic Section, National Archives, College Park Maryland).

to her property after the Civil War. The letter noted various improvements to the property made by the US Army including "a valuable piece of stone masonry placed about the spring, converting it to a reservoir."[334]

Government Sheds and Stables

The US Army had a high demand for animals to serve troops during the Civil War. Providing shelter and food for these animals proved difficult. According to Sears, "Although Camp Nelson itself was sometimes incredibly well equipped, hundreds of the animals that the camp was designed to provision starved to death. . . . Supplying soldiers with materiel was always the chief concern, but horses and mules constituted Camp Nelson's biggest responsibility (by far) during the first year of its operation."[335] There were stables located throughout the camp, housing two thousand horses, and the corrals at the camp contained a capacity to hold twelve thousand horses and mules.[336]

The main sheds and stables area was east of the prison and west of the easternmost line of forts, in the Northern Line of Protection Area and covered a roughly nine acre area (**Figure 2.34**). While map labels do not reveal the use of all the buildings, they likely included stables, cribs, barns, sheds, and corrals to house and care for the animals.[337] A historic photograph of the area shows that the buildings were wood or log construction with gabled roofs (**Figure 2.35**). The corals were east of the sheds and stables; they had stacked rail fencing. A historic image of the corrals show that the stacked rail fencing was approximately six feet in height and partitioned the space into multiple pens. Mapping shows that there were at least two ponds in the area, presumably providing water for the horses and mules kept in the area. A road, leading from the prison area, skirted the northern edge of the shed and stable area and turn south towards the eastern edge of the building group. Historical drawings of the sheds and stables show that they were one- or two-story buildings with window and door openings. A nearby dwelling and warehouse is also marked on the 1866 Miller map. It was located south of the stables complex. A historical

334. Clipping from the *Cincinnati Commercial,* October 1, 1876, in the Mary Scott Claim Files, NAARA RG 92, Entry 76/94, Washington, D.C.
335. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxv.
336. W. Stephen McBride, "Report of an Archaeological Survey for a Potential Land Donation to the Camp Nelson National Cemetery, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park, Jessamine County, Kentucky" (Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park, n.d.), 19.
337. Stephen McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center, the Archaeology of Camp Nelson," Archaeological Report (Lexington, KY: Wilbur Smith Associates, 2003), 2.5.

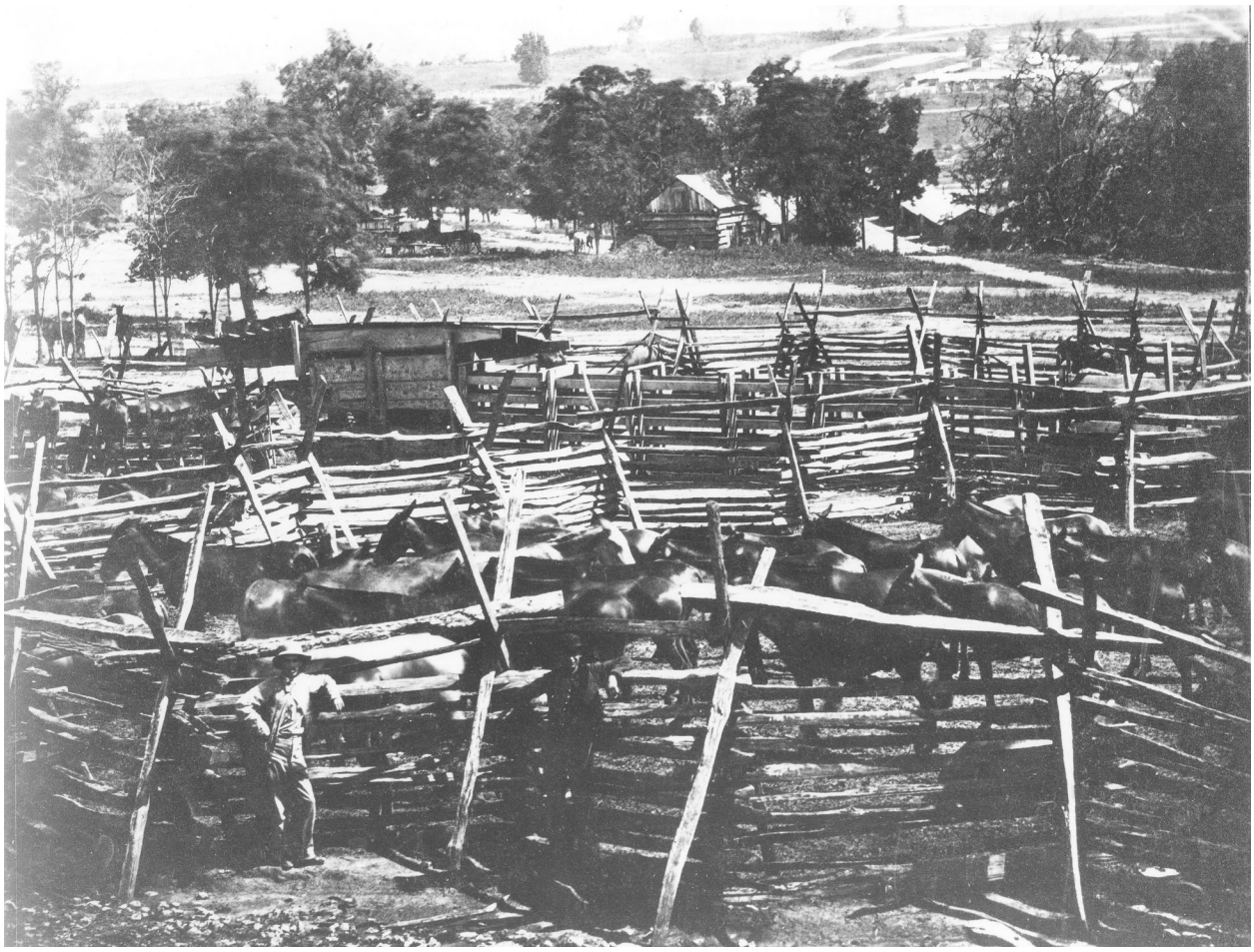


Figure 2.35. View of the corrals (1864), looking west (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.).



Figure 2.36. The engineers' camp north of the fortification line (1864), view to north (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.).

drawing depicts the warehouse as a two-story building with exterior stairs and glazed windows.

Engineers' Camp

The engineers' camp was a cluster of at least six buildings located north of the Northern Line of Protection and northwest of Fort Taylor. The camp is identified on the 1864 Simpson map. Six buildings are visible in a period image of the site (**Figure 2.36**). A single-story log building, partially open air, appears to have housed livestock. A larger L-shaped frame house with shake roof, wood siding, and four brick chimneys was at the end of the cluster of buildings. Three sheds made of a mix of split logs and milled lumber with open doorways were in a row. A hut constructed of mud and mixed lengths of wood is in the foreground at the right of the image. Small-scale features include wagons, wagon parts, tarps, piles of scrap, barrels, and wooden benches. A row of mature trees was beyond the largest building. According to W. Stephen and Kim McBride, "Officers and men of the 23rd Corps Engineers Battalion were housed here."[338]

Warehouse Industrial Area

Government Shops and Quartermaster and Commissary Office Area

The government shops were located east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike, approximately fifteen hundred feet south of the White House (**Figure 2.37**). The area supported the use of animals such as mules and horses and included shop buildings to produce "cut nails, horseshoe nails, horseshoes, wagon and harness hardware, slag, coal, and blacksmith tools associated with the blacksmith shop, shoeing shop, and wagon shop."[339] The area included "Six industrial sized work shops, including a sixteen forge blacksmith shop, a shoeing shop, a wagon shop, a harness shop, a woodworking shop, and a sawmill, were within the camp to build and repair wagons and ambulances, to make and repair harnesses, to shoe horses, and to provide lumber for building construction."[340] Archeological investigations of the government blacksmith and shoeing shop (15Js164A) reveal that this building was rectangular

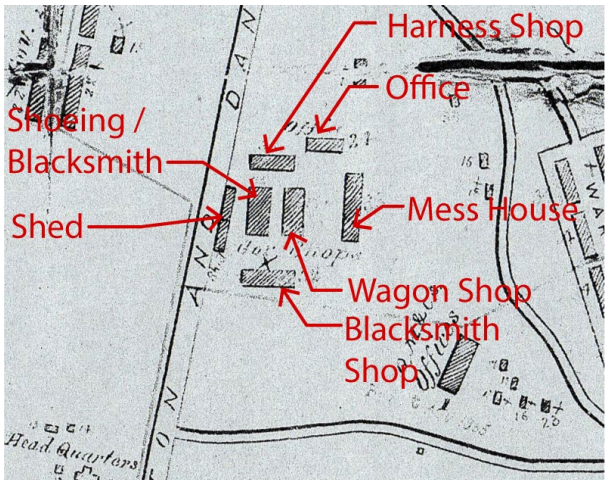


Figure 2.37. Portion of the 1866 A. B. Miller Plan of Camp Nelson showing the government shops area, annotated (Source: National Archives, Cartographic Section, National Archives, College Park Maryland).

in plan on stone piers and contained a "forge-related pit and an anvil stump hole."[341]

It is difficult to know with any specificity the average production of a blacksmith or blacksmith shop at Camp Nelson. As Atak and Margo explain in their paper on blacksmithing and American manufacturing, blacksmiths at this time did a variety of tasks and created several dozen items crucial to daily life in the mid-1800s. In addition to making horseshoes, which was likely the chief activity for blacksmiths at Camp Nelson, blacksmiths repaired or made new agricultural implements of various kinds and made all types of hardware, from hinges to nails.[342] During the Civil War, duties would have also included repair and construction of wagon wheels and bodies, animal harnesses, and construction of furniture, such as chairs for offices.[343] Research did not uncover productivity records for blacksmiths stationed at Camp Nelson. Records do indicate that blacksmiths at Camp Nelson included both White and Black workers. George Hutchinson, for example, was an African American who enlisted under the name George Hutchins on June 29,

338. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 143.
339. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 11.
340. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 2.5.
341. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 13.
342. Jeremy Atack and Robert A. Margo, "Gallman Revisited: Blacksmithing and American Manufacturing, 1850–1870," *Cliometrica* 13, no. 1 (January 1, 2019): 19, https://doi.org/10.1007/s11698-017-0165-x.
343. US War Department, *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, vol. 5, Serial 126 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880), 461.



Figure 2.38. Harness, wagon, and shoeing shops in the government shops area (1864), looking east (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

1864, at Camp Nelson. His occupation is listed as blacksmith.[344]

A linear shed building was oriented toward the road with its long axis running northeast to southwest. The other rectangular buildings, clustered around the shoeing and wagon shops in this area, were oriented north-south or east-west. The harness shop and office were located on the north side of the cluster, the mess house was on the eastern side of the building group, and the blacksmith shop was located on the southern edge. The harness shop was a two-story side gabled building with board and batten siding, decorative fascia boards on the gable ends and a wood shingle roof (**Figure 2.38**). The wagon shop was a tall single-story building with shingled roof and board and batten siding. Both buildings had glazed windows. The harness shop had a set of wood steps located on the northern façade providing access to the second story or hay loft. The shoeing/blacksmith shop was a barn-type building with a wide opening on the gable ends (**Figure 2.39** - **Figure 2.41**). There was a ventilator located along the ridgeline and the roofs were covered with roof shingles. Brick chimneys, likely associated with the blacksmith forges, were located along the northern edge of the building and the windows appear to be glazed. At least one side of the blacksmith shop had barn doors. The coal bin (not indicated on historical maps) was located on the north side of the shoeing/blacksmith shop. It was a building with rough cut horizontal board siding and a side gabled roof (**Figure 2.41**). The interior configuration of these buildings is unknown, but they may have included hay lofts or storage areas.

Historical photos show that the area around the government shops was devoid of vegetation apart from a large tree located next to a coal bin. The ground plane appears to be an unpaved bare soil surface. Small-scale features in the government shops area included a mule chute, which was a wooden apparatus for lifting mules or horses off the ground for shoeing (**Figure 2.42**). Various historic photographs show the yards between the buildings littered with wagon parts, stacks of lumber, and poles for tethering the mules and horses. Circulation around the government shops

344. Lydon Comstock, *Before Abolition: African Americans in Early Clark County, KY* (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017), 663.



Figure 2.39. Wagon and blacksmith shops (1864), facing north (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.40. Wagon, shoeing, and harness shops (1864), facing west (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.41. Blacksmith / shoeing shop and coal bin (1864), facing south (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

included roads both north and south of the shops complex, which connected the nearby warehouse area to Lexington-Danville Turnpike.

The Quartermaster and Commissary office area was located between the government shops and warehouses, east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike and in the "V" formed by two roads leading from the turnpike to the warehouses area (**Figure 2.43**). Deciduous trees provided shade in the area. Historic photos show that the ground plane was largely unvegetated. Research did not reveal if there were any small-scale features associated with this area.

The largest building in this area was the Quartermaster and Commissary office (**Figure 2.44**). During the Civil War, the Quartermaster Department purchased supplies to clothe and equip US troops including the purchase of animals such as horses and mules. In 1862, this department assumed the responsibility of the burial of those killed in the war and were responsible for establishing and caring for national cemeteries.[345] The Quartermaster and Commissary offices building was a two-and-one-half story building with board and batten siding. The front elevation included a one-story porch with wood supports set on stone piers. The windows were glazed, and the front entrance was centrally located on the south side of the building. The mess houses were arranged in two groups, one group located just east of the Quartermaster and Commissary offices building (**Figure 2.45**) and another group of two located northeast of these buildings and situated on a road leading from Lexington-Danville Turnpike to the warehouse area. The mess houses were one-story buildings with board and batten siding. Some had ventilators along the roof's ridgeline. The side-gabled roofs were covered with standing seam metal. Most of the mess houses had two doors and one window on the western elevation.

345. US Army, "History - Quartermaster Corps," November 18, 2020, https://quartermaster.army.mil/history/.

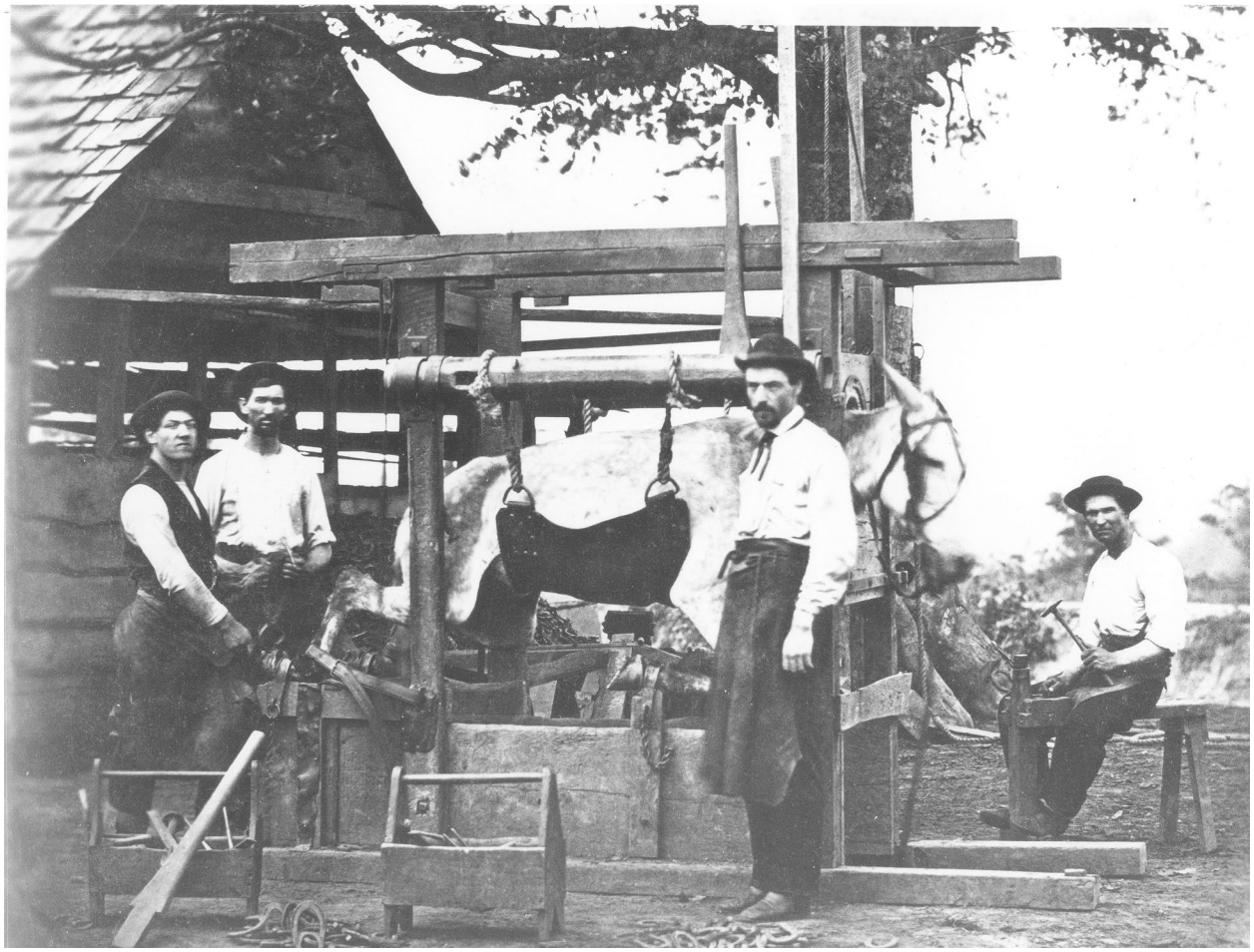


Figure 2.42. Mule chute, likely located on the south end of the shed in the government shop area, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

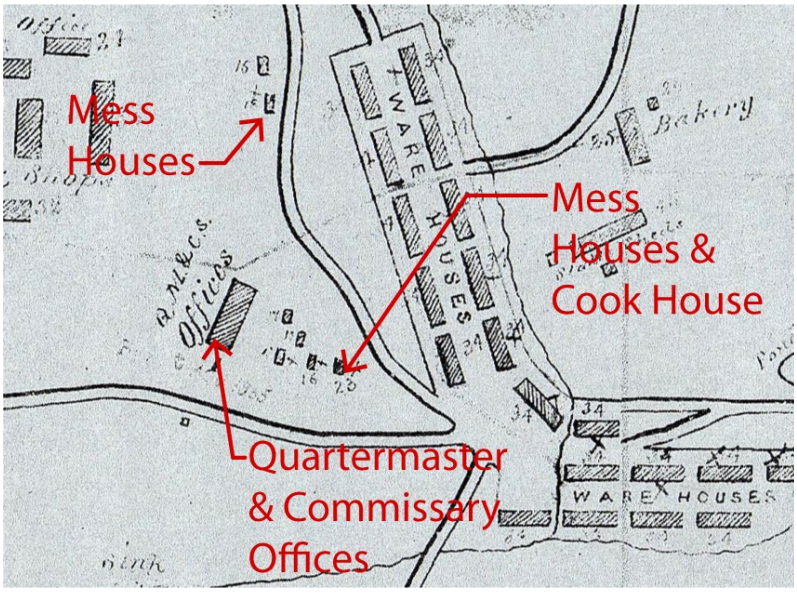


Figure 2.43. Quartermaster and commissary office area, detail from the Miller (1866) map (Source: National Archives, Cartographic Section, National Archives, College Park Maryland).



Figure 2.44. Office of the Quartermaster and Commissary, 1864 (Source: 77pa102 Camp Nelson Photographic Collection, 1864, University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center).

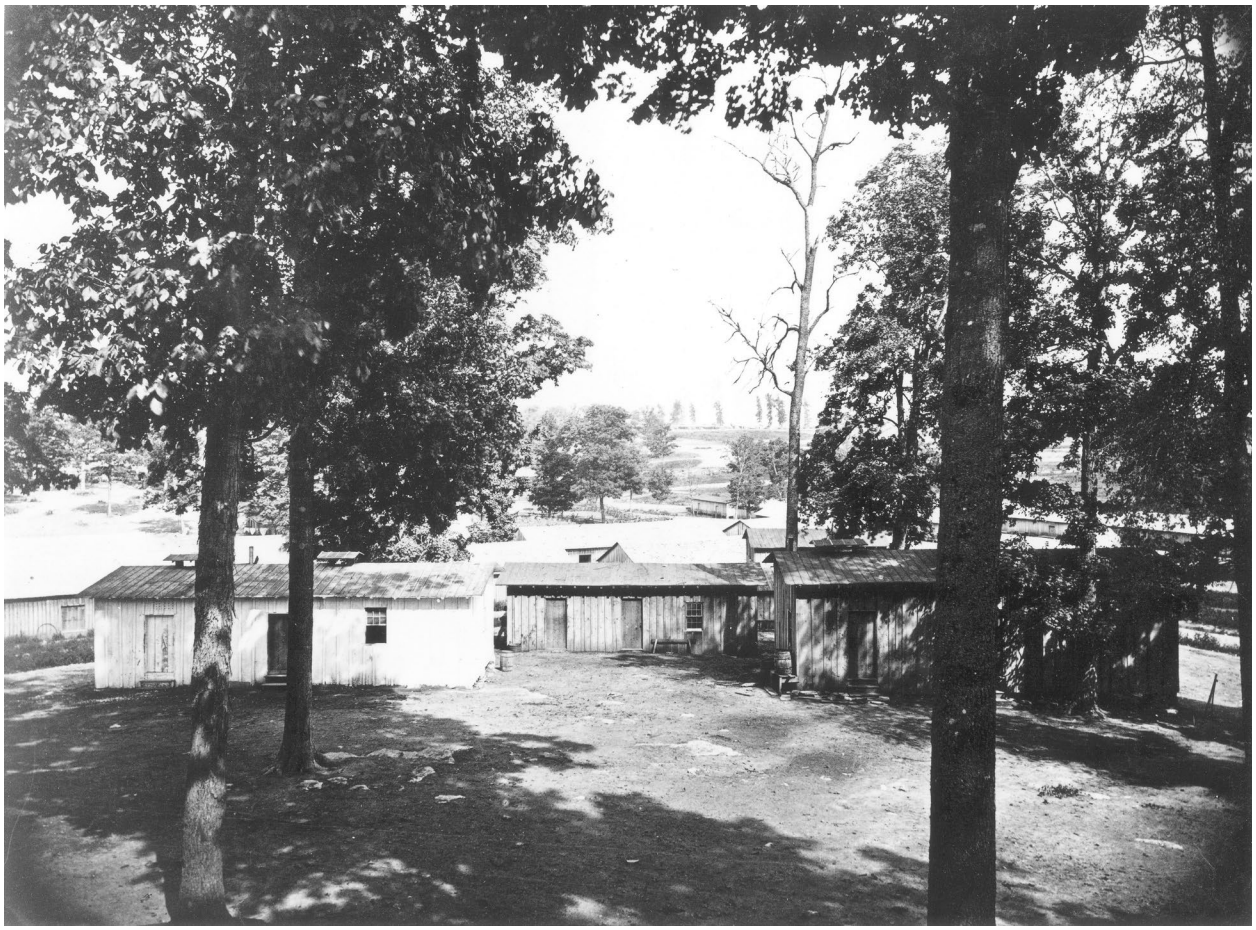


Figure 2.45. Mess houses in the quartermaster and commissary office area, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

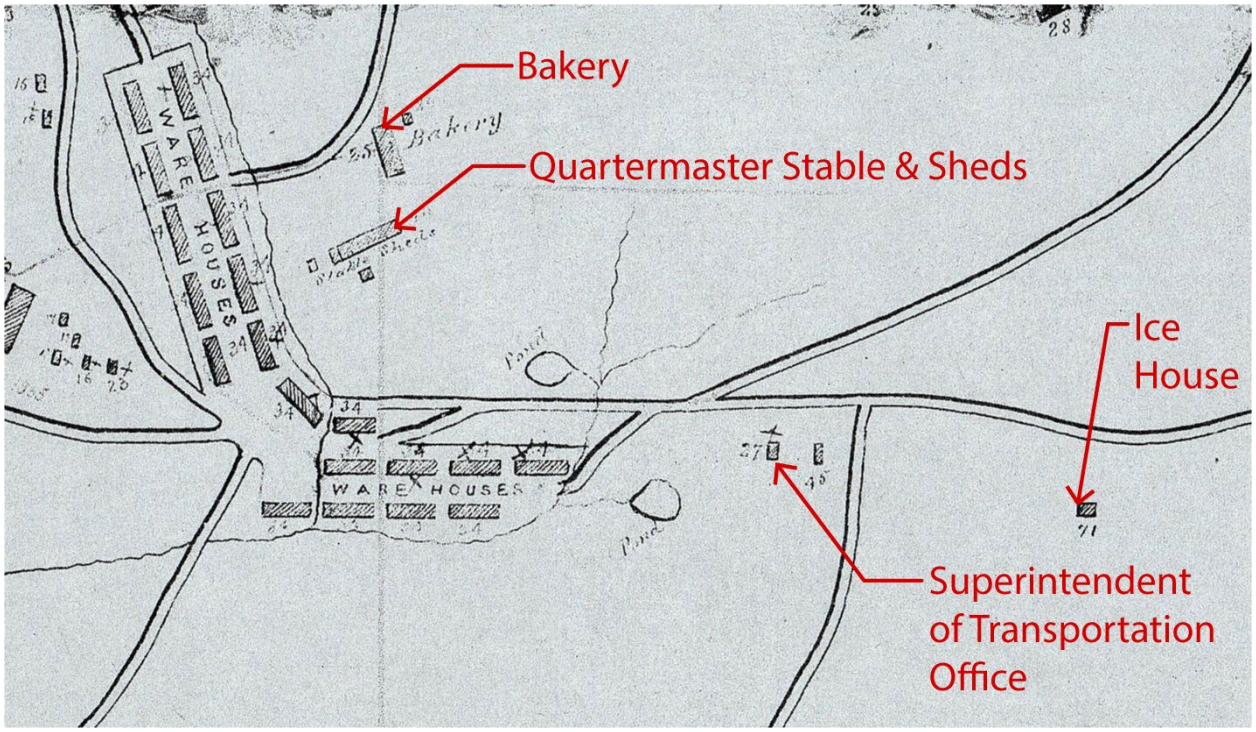


Figure 2.46. Warehouses and bakery area, detail from the Miller (1866) map (Source: National Archives, Cartographic Section, National Archives, College Park Maryland).

Warehouses and Bakery Area

The warehouses and bakery area was located at a low point on the property approximately one-half mile south of the Northern Line of Protection (**Figure 2.46** - **Figure 2.49**). The area included a stream that flowed from the spring located to the north and two ponds, one north of the warehouse buildings and one to the east. The warehouse buildings were clustered in an L shape following the topography of the site.

A 1864 *Report of Inspection of the Quartermasters Department at Camp Nelson* by Major C. E. Compton noted the purpose and placement of the warehouse buildings at the supply depot:

> The warehouses are placed in the hollows and depressions of the surface of the camp and in case of attack are out of range of the enemy's fire.
>
> They are well adapted for the use for which they were constructed and in them are found the different articles of property systematically stored. Care seems to be exercised to insure its preservation. I would respectfully recommend that these buildings – with a view to their better preservation – be white washed. Lime in abundant quantities can be manufactured at the depot and the work performed by the laborers necessarily employed about the camp.[346]

The twenty warehouses, constructed between August 1863 and June 1864, were rectangular-shaped, side-gabled buildings with board and batten siding. Historic photos show that they had sliding doors and glazed window openings. The roofs were wood shingle. Signs mounted on the sides of the buildings identified them by number, e.g. "Q.M. Stores Warehouse No. 1." Soldiers accessed the buildings via wood steps leading to their doorways. Historic photos show a stand of trees located east of the L-shaped group of buildings. There was a snake rail fence enclosure near the northeastern portion of the southern row of buildings.

To make the camp "self-sustaining," the US Army constructed a bakery building for the production of "Hard and Soft Bread."[347] The US Army bakery reportedly produced ten thousand rations of bread per day.[348] The three-oven bakery was a rectangular side-gabled building with board and batten siding. Historic photos show that the building was two stories with an exterior wood stair providing access to the second floor. The windows were glazed and there were at least two brick chimneys. The building had a shed-roofed addition on its east side. There was a small shed-roofed building east of the bakery. The use and interior configuration of that building is unknown. The historic photo shows that the area surrounding the bakery included deciduous trees with sparse vegetation at the ground plane. The foreground of the historic photo shows clover or some other type of flowering groundcover. There are two small canvas-sided temporary buildings in the background of the photograph. It is unknown if these are evidence of a cleared refugee encampment site described below.

Archeological evidence suggests that there was a camp site between the location of the warehouses and the bakery, which was not illustrated on the Civil War era maps. Archeologists have identified Civil War era correspondence that suggests who and what occupied this site. 1864 orders stated that women and children occupied the area near the warehouses and that they should be removed from Camp Nelson.[349] Return correspondence states, "The Col. Commanding authorizes you to raze the shanties near the commissary warehouses now occupied by negroes. Orders have been issued to the Provost Marshall to place the occupants beyond the lines."[350] Archeological evidence did not reveal any small-scale features at the supposed encampment site, but evidence "suggests the existence of at least three structures, or structure demolition area, and possibly more . . . archaeological evidence suggests that this

346. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 80.

347. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 15–16.

348. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 138. Research did not reveal if the workers in the bakery were White or Black or if they were men or women. One photo shows men of an unidentified race outside the bakery buildings (Figure 2.49). However, employment records for the camp indicate that most women at the camp were employed as laundresses. See "*Women at Camp Nelson*."

349. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 159.

350. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 159.



Figure 2.47. View of the warehouses area, facing north, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.48. View of the warehouses area, facing southeast, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.49. View of the bakery and an unknown ancillary building (left), facing south, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.50. View of the ambulance yard south of the warehouses, view to northeast, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

encampment was occupied by soldiers as well as women and children and that these people were most probably African Americans. They most likely lived in wooden huts or shanties although substantially altered tents could have been used as well."[351]

Adjacent to the bakery there were three buildings, identified as the Quartermaster stable sheds on the Miller 1866 map. Just east of the warehouses were three smaller buildings, the Superintendent of Transportation Office, a second Quartermaster shed stable, and an ice house, identified on the 1866 Miller map. A period drawing of the Superintendent of Transportation office depicts the building as a one and one-half story gabled building with glazed windows and door openings. The Quartermaster shed stable was a long single-story gabled building with four open bays on the long side. The ice house was a two and one-half story gabled building with three vertically stacked openings on the gable end.

A historic image depicts an ambulance storage yard just south of the warehouses (**Figure 2.50**). An L-shaped shed-roofed building with open bays was enclosed by a snake rail fence. At the interior of the pen was a livestock chute with a covered work area. Over fifty ambulance wagons are visible in the image, stored in orderly rows in the center of the pen and lined up along the open shed bays. Three canvas tents are within the pen at the left of the image. Small-scale features included feeding and watering troughs and barrels. The warehouses, White House, prison complex, Quartermaster and Commissary office, bakery, and three roadways are visible in the background of the image. The ambulance yard is absent from the 1866 Miller map.

Eastern Sheds and Shanties Area

A collection of small buildings and a larger L-shaped building were located at the end of a road leading east from the warehouses, just west of Fort Jones. The 1866 Miller map identifies the seven small buildings as "shanties." The L-shaped building is identified as "sheds." The buildings do not appear on the 1864 Simpson map. No historic images or descriptions of these buildings were identified.

351. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 161–62.

Ordnance Depot Area

A road led southwest from the warehouses to a group of eight buildings, identified as the ordnance depot. The ordnance depot included the ordnance office, two ordnance warehouses, a shop, powder magazine, and two to three sheds. Archeological reports state that:

> The depot was under the command of Capt. F. A. Perdue. The magazine was an earth and wooden structure about 100 ft long and 35 ft wide. Powder and ammunition were stored in this structure. The two warehouses (#34) were each 100 x 30 ft, the office (#21) was 20 x 20 ft, and the work shop (#20) was 35 x 20 ft. Small arms (riffles, smooth bore muskets, pistols, and swords), arms accoutrements, and cannon were stored in these warehouses. What type of work occurred in the shop is unclear, but it may have been gun maintenance and repair or cartridge preparation. No additional information was discovered on the two sheds beyond their placement on the Miller (1866) map. The small structure between the sheds may be another office, 20 x 15 ft, since a second office is listed at the ordnance depot in the May 30, 1865 building list (Hall 1865).[352]

A historic image shows the north side of the powder magazine. The magazine was set into a low point in the grade, with a grassy landscape with a few scattered trees surrounding the structure (**Figure 2.51**). The magazine had two entrances on the north side. A few tents, wagons, lumber, and small sheds are visible in the image. A historic image of the Ordnance Office, identified with a small sign, depicts a single-story board and batten gabled building with glazed windows and a front porch, where five men are seated. The front yard was enclosed by an informal log fence, with scattered trees surrounding the building. A historic image of the ordnance warehouse depicts a board and batten gabled building with shake roof and two sets of double doors on the long edge (**Figure 2.52**). Cannons were lined up in a row in front of the warehouse.

352. W. Stephen McBride and Kim A. McBride, "Archaeological Survey of The Ordnance Depot (15Js166), Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park," Archaeological Survey (Lexington, KY: University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology and the Kentucky Heritage Council, May 2009), 19; The building numbers stated here refer to the keyed 1866 Miller Map.

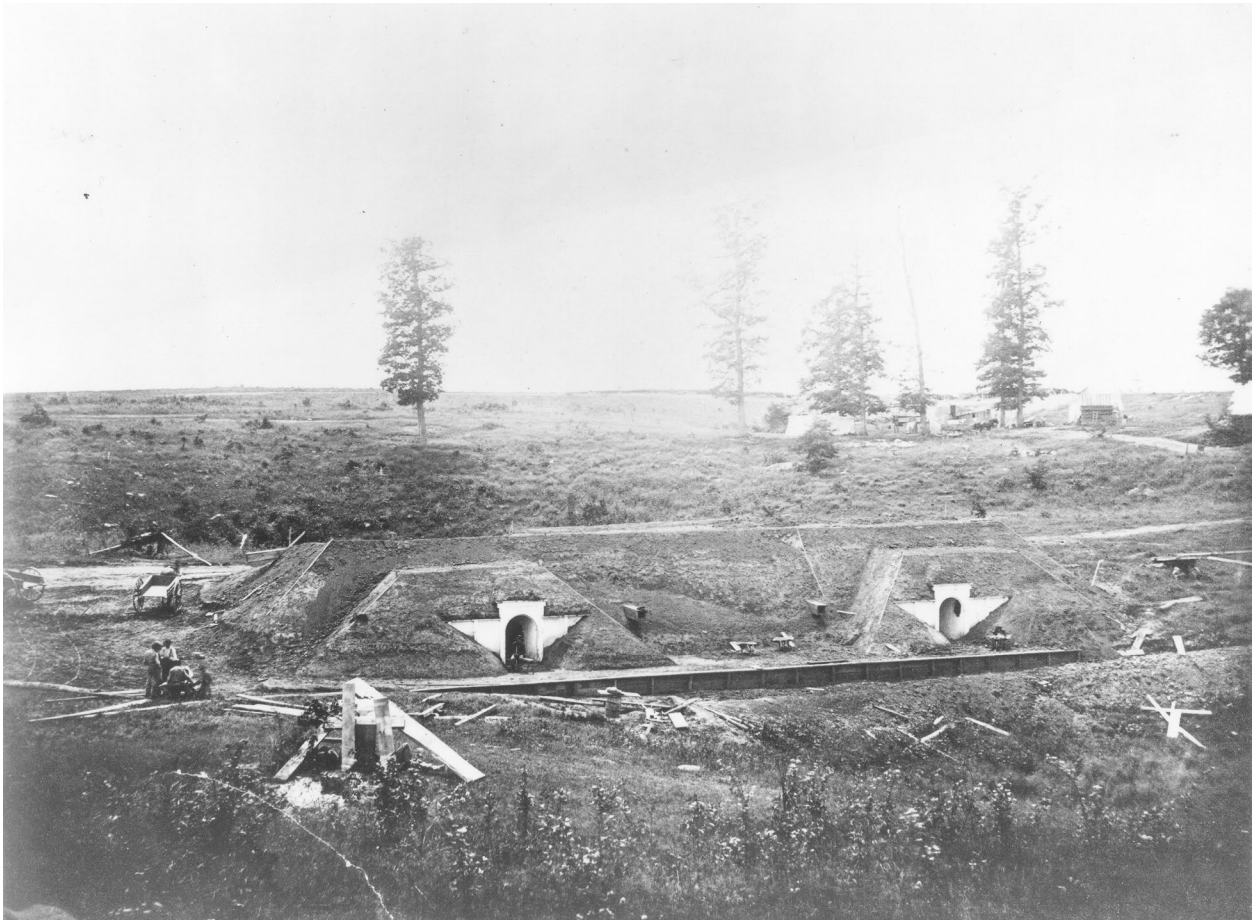


Figure 2.51. The powder magazine in the ordnance depot area, view to southwest, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

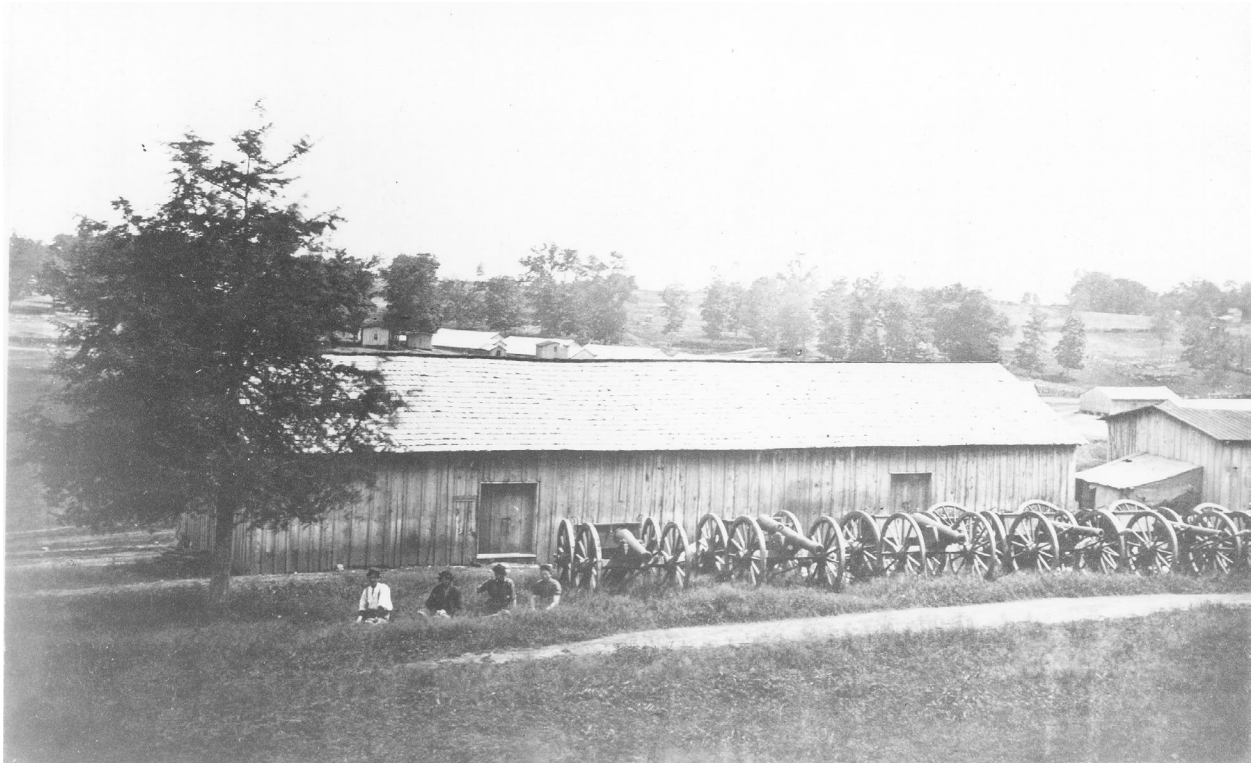


Figure 2.52. The ordnance warehouses with cannon in the foreground, view to north, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.53. The grain shed (center) and cribs (left and right), 1864. Lexington-Danville turnpike and unknown (possibly civilian) buildings visible in background, view to northwest (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

Just west of the ordnance depot cluster was another group of five buildings along the turnpike, including two cribs and a grain shed, and two small buildings identified as a forage office and mess house. A historic image shows the grain shed as a larger board and batten building with half-open bays filled with bags of grain (**Figure 2.53**). The two cribs had low-angled gable roofs supported by log posts, enclosed by vertical boards nailed from the inside of the structure. Every fourth bay was open. Historic drawings depict the forage office and adjacent mess house as small single-story gabled buildings with glazed windows.

Eastern Line of Protection Area
Refer to the description of this area in Fortifications at Camp Nelson.

Western Area[353]
Hall Barracks
South of the Northern Line of Protection on the west side of the turnpike were the "Hall Barracks," designed to house 170 soldiers of "the artillery and infantry companies that manned [the] forts."[354] The building, constructed in March 1864, was a single-story building with glazed windows and rooftop ventilators.

Owens House Area
This area includes a cluster of twelve smaller buildings located mostly along the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike, south of the Hall Barracks. The 1866 Miller map only identifies the Owens House and Post Office, while the remaining buildings are unlabeled. According to archeological reports, a period elevation drawing of the Post Office depicts the building as a "one story building with glazed windows." It is identified as "the Adams Express Office (Post Offices)."[355] The Owens House is depicted in an 1816 plat map as a "two story building with a one story addition" (**Figure 2.9**). Jessamine County records indicate the residence was built prior to 1805. Archeological reports state that David Owens leased the residence and operated a tavern there during the 1850s-1860s.[356] The building was abandoned following the Civil War and demolished sometime prior to 1904, when the Fannie Glass house was built on the same site. Archeological

353. This area includes buildings outside of the current boundaries of Camp Nelson National Monument. Generally following Lexington-Danville Turnpike, the buildings are addressed from North to South.
354. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 143.
355. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 3.1.
356. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 3.6.

research determined that the remaining buildings surrounding the Owens House and Post Office were operated as private businesses, known as "sutlers stores." According to W. Stephen McBride, "Sutlers were general goods merchants licensed to operate stores within Army camps or posts," which commonly sold "wide range of items, such as provisions, tobacco, merchandise, and often liquor and beer."[357] Archeological reports identify the "Berkely Sutler Store," operated by Mr. William Berkely, as being across the turnpike from the Owens House. The reports also indicate that other sutler stores in the cluster included a saloon, eating establishments, and a photography gallery.

Headquarters Area

The Camp Nelson Headquarters was initially located in an isolated area in a copse of trees in the southern portion of the site. In June 1864, the camp headquarters moved to a new building on the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike, and the old headquarters became a measles hospital. The first headquarters included two buildings, both board and batten front-gabled buildings with front porches and glazed windows (**Figure 2.54**). Between June 1863 and April 1864, the buildings served as both the post headquarters and headquarters for the District of North Central Kentucky. The command structure at Camp Nelson was in constant flux throughout its operation, leading to a lack of order within the camp. Between June 1863 and April 1866, Camp Nelson was controlled by eighteen different post commandants.[358] According to archeological reports, "The decision to move the Headquarters appears to be tied to changes in the camp complexity and the recognition of a need to establish a more visible and imposing structure on the camp command."[359]

357. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center, the Archaeology of Camp Nelson," 3.6, 9.4.

358. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 7.6.

359. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 7.7.



Figure 2.54. The original Camp Nelson headquarters (1864) later converted to a measles hospital (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.55. The second Camp Nelson headquarters building on Lexington-Danville Turnpike (1864). View to northwest (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

The second headquarters complex was more formal and elaborate in both building and landscape design than the former headquarters. As described by W. Stephen McBride,

> The new headquarters complex… was larger, and contained more buildings than the original. At the center of the complex within a fenced compound was a large two story frame building built on a cruciform plan with an elaborate roofed cupola. It was one of the few buildings in camp built with horizontal weather boarding and was the only one with a cupola. The main, north-south section of this building was 40 ft x 18 ft and 19 ft high. Its east (front) wing was 28 ft x 16 ft while the west (back) wing was 18 ft x 18 ft. The two wings were attached to the main structure directly across from each other, giving the building its characteristic and unique cruciform floor pattern.[360]

A historic image shows an approximately three-foot-tall picket fence surrounding the compound, with a swept yard and graveled walkways that curved around a central fountain and led to the entrances of the building (**Figure 2.55**). Formal planting strips of clipped turfgrass lined the walkways and fountain. The main building stood between a grouping of mature trees, lending an appearance of permanence to the building. W. Stephen McBride asserts that the headquarters building was the "most explicit symbol of authority, power, and high status" at Camp Nelson, noting that the cruciform shape of the building and decorative fountain are references to Christian symbolism. Its design was intended to position the headquarters as "a source of knowledge, salvation and righteousness."[361] Dr. McBride suggests that the religious symbolism in the Headquarters was used to "communicate the moral authority of the Union cause and the legitimacy of the United

360. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 7.7.

361. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 7.14.



Figure 2.56. The officers' stable, Lexington-Danville Turnpike in foreground (1864). View to northwest (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

States Army and its commanders to operate in Kentucky." He points to the construction of the building by Chief Quartermaster Captain Theron E. Hall, an ardent abolitionist, as evidence of this philosophical perspective.[362]

Two mess houses, an office, blacksmith shop, shed stable, and officers' stable stood outside of the fenced area near the headquarters building. A historic image of the officers' stable shows a front gabled board and batten building with rooftop ventilators, glazed windows, barn doors, and a row of square openings along the length of the building for ventilation (**Figure 2.56**). A fence with log pickets and snake rail fence stood between the building and the turnpike. The stable shed is visible in the background of the image. It had log posts and open bays.

A cook house, office, four mess houses for civilian employees, and a building of unknown use stood south of the officers' stable in a row along the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike. It was determined during archeological investigations that the mess houses were also used by soldiers, likely US Colored Troops.[363]

Machine Shop and Hay Barns Area

South of the headquarters area, also on the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike, the machine shop area included "the machine shop building itself and a barracks/mess house with two associated cook houses."[364] According to archeological reports, "when the machine shop and its ancillary buildings were constructed in the summer of 1863 the site was likely a pasture or lightly wooded area." A period image shows the machine shop as a long board and batten two-

362. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 7.15.

363. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 8.12.

364. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 5.1.

story gabled building with glazed windows and a limestone foundation with a daylight basement (**Figure 2.57**). The building had a shed-roofed engine room attached to the south face that contained a "50 horsepower (hp) steam engine and boiler which powered the shop's machinery." A metal smokestack projected from the roof.[365] Archeological reports note that the machinery housed in the building included "one planing machine, one tenon machine, one shingle machine, one mortising machine, one jockey stick machine, one saw table, one cut-off saw table, one rip saw table, one iron turning lathe, one machinists turning lathe, one large grind stone with side rest, one machinists vise, 225 feet of leather belting, two grist mills, one shelling machine, and two hay cutters."[366] Doors, windows, millwork, other building products, and animal feed were produced in this building. Finished milled lumber was stacked outside the building. Several modified tents were just north of the building.

A two-story barracks/mess house and two cook houses were west of the machine shop. Three cribs and a row of ten connected hay sheds were south of the machine shop. Historic photographs of the cribs show three gabled roofs supported by log posts. The sides were partially enclosed by vertical slats nailed from the interior. Grain bags were stacked in the open bays. A drawing of the hay sheds shows gabled roofs connected by shared support posts, with two open bays per shed.

Camp Nelson House

The "Camp Nelson House" as identified on the 1866 Miller map, may have been a private boarding house or hotel. It was across the turnpike from the hay sheds.[367] A historic image shows a two-story, white-painted gabled building in that location that appears to be a residence.

365. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 5.1.
366. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," 5.1.
367. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 148.

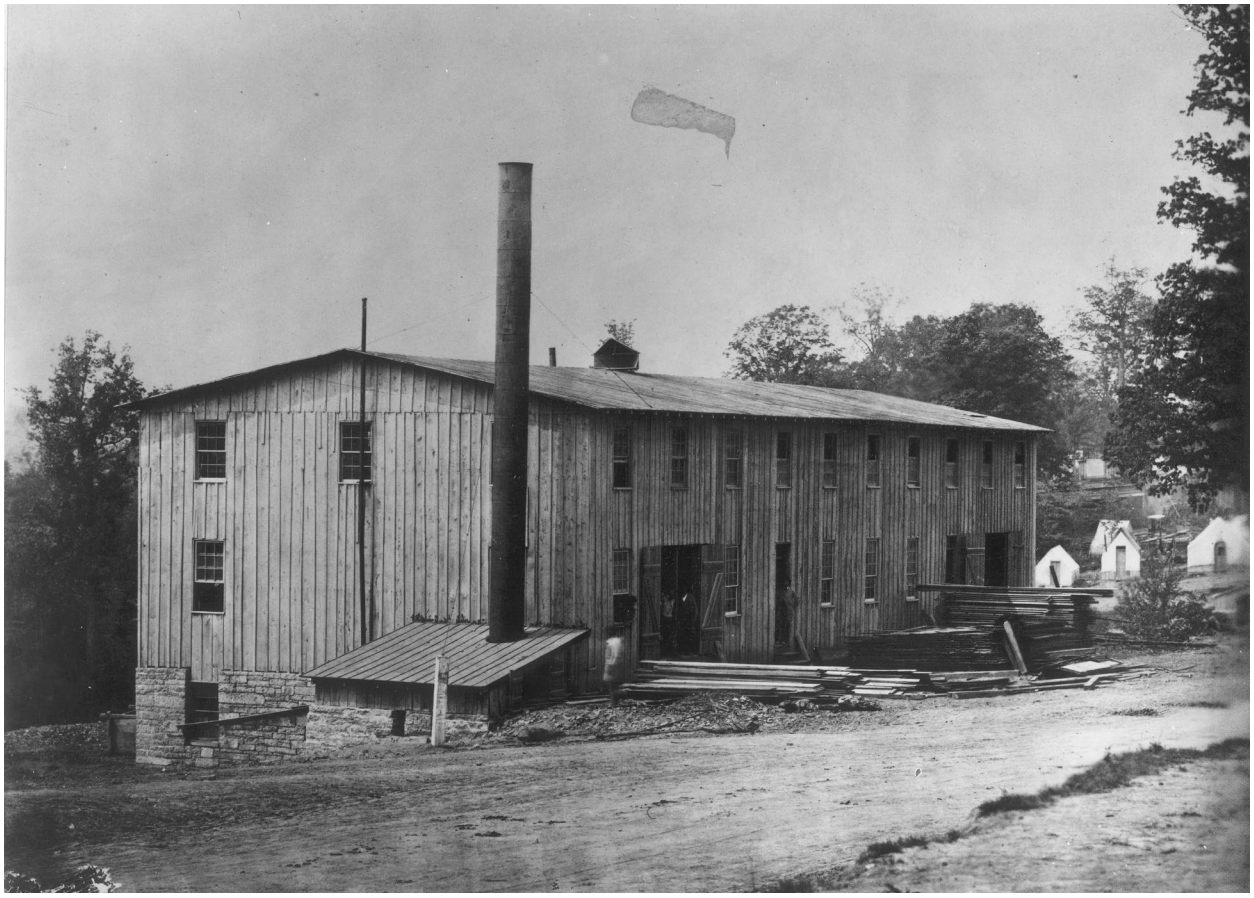


Figure 2.57. The machine shop with Lexington-Danville turnpike in foreground (1864). View to northwest (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.58. The US Sanitary Commission soldier's home (1864), view to southwest (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

US Sanitary Commission Soldier's Home

The soldier's home was just south of the hay sheds on the west side of the turnpike. This five hundred bed facility was more formalized than any other housing for soldiers within the camp. Historic photographs show a two-story, U-shaped building with two front porches, horizontal siding, and glazed windows (**Figure 2.58**). A whitewashed, seven- to eight-foot-tall picket fence in a half-moon shape enclosed the front yard and central courtyard. Within the yard, symmetrical serpentine graveled walks separated formal planting beds with turfgrass and flowers. Trees grew along the main walkway and shrubs grew along the building foundation. A central circular flower bed and circular fountain were on axis with the entry gate. The form of the garden resembled a French parterre garden.

The building, proposed and constructed by Captain Theron E. Hall for the US Sanitary Commission, was intended to be a respite for traveling soldiers. Thomas Butler of the US Sanitary Commission described his enthusiasm for the proposal:

> Knowing the great demand for such an asylum, to feed well and comfortably lodge the hundreds that daily passed through the camps- also the great desire and anxiety of the Commission to do all within its legitimate sphere for the comfort and welfare of the soldiers- I at once accepted the proposition on behalf of the Commission.[368]

The building was near completion at the time of Butler's writing in March of 1864. Butler described the building as having a bathroom with four private baths furnished with hot and cold plumbing, as

368. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 49.

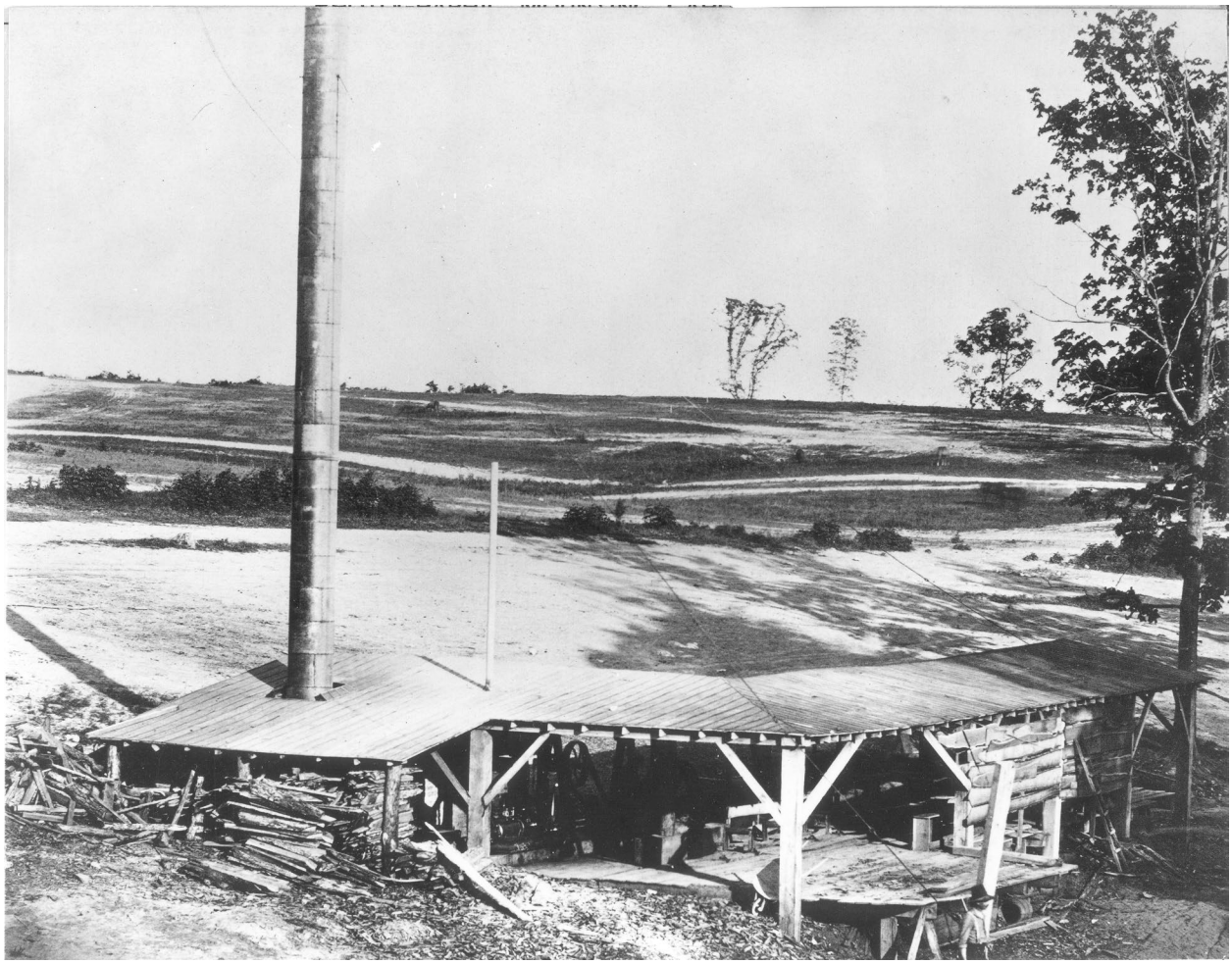


Figure 2.59. The sawmill, view to southeast, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

well as dining and laundry service. Historic images show decorative flourishes, including lattice at the base of the porch, hearts painted on the chimneys, and even an espaliered sapling. In addition to traveling soldiers, the facility housed "ministers and teachers assigned to the refugee home, east Tennessee White refugees, and USCT being enlisted or garrisoned at Camp Nelson."[369]

Sawmill

On the east side of the turnpike south of the Soldier's Home was an L-shaped sawmill set back from the road (**Figure 2.59**). A historic image of the sawmill shows an open sided pavilion with a standing seam metal roof supported by wood posts. Visible in the image are the engine machinery and projecting metal smokestack that powered the mill. Stacks of cutoff slab were piled near the engine room.

Recruiting Rendezvous/US Colored Troops Barracks

Located south of the sawmill on the east side of the turnpike, there was a U-shaped building with wood pier foundation. The building served as the recruiting rendezvous location. Two-story wings provided housing. Offices were in the single-story central portion of the building.[370] The building had a gabled roof with standing-seam metal, board and batten siding, glazed windows, and an elevated front deck with wooden stairs (**Figure 2.60**).

A period image of the building labeled "Barracks for Colored Troops" suggests that the rendezvous was converted to housing for US Colored Troops at an unknown date. Research was unable to verify whether this was the case. Uniformed USCT are

369. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 141.

370. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 142.



Figure 2.60. The recruiting rendezvous and possible USCT barracks, view to east, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

lined up in front of the building in the historic image, with several other ununiformed Black men gathered on the building's front deck. Letters between commanding lieutenants in the spring of 1865 indicate that suitable housing had not yet been secured for USCT soldiers by that point.[371] If the building did serve as USCT barracks, it was likely for a short period of time.

Hospital Area

The hospital area was a cluster of buildings southwest of the soldier's home and west of the turnpike. The hospital complex is depicted on the 1864 Simpson map having six wards and three auxiliary buildings. By 1865 the general hospital had grown to ten wards with seven hundred total beds. It employed seven assistant surgeons and fifty attendants.[372] A convalescent camp with seventy-six tents and eight auxiliary buildings was adjacent to the hospital.[373] The convalescent camp tents were arranged in rows, with drainage swales between each row (**Figure 2.61**). Small buildings and sheds or privies were scattered around near the tents.

A report submitted to the Inspector General's Office in May of 1865 expressed frustration at the apparent waste of resources at the hospital complex. It described the surgeon's quarters as a "rather elegant mansion, with highly ornamental landscape gardens in front of their quarters, and a fountain playing the centre."[374] A period sketch map identifies the surgeon's quarters as an L-shaped residence just outside of the perimeter fence east of the hospital wards (**Figure 2.62**). It is likely that this building was the home of Mary Scott, whose property was seized for the construction of Camp Nelson. The same L-shaped

371. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 184.
372. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 203.
373. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 203.
374. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 203.



Figure 2.61. Rows of tents in the convalescent camp on the west side of Lexington-Danville turnpike (1864), view to west (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

building is labeled "Dwelling" on the 1866 Miller map.[375]

The May 1865 Inspector General's report described the convalescent camp as "another one of the excrescences of this Post."[376] The report advised that the camp "be at once broken up, the sick sent to the General Hospital where there is abundant provision for them, the remainder to their regiments, and the Surgeons ordered to a more laborious field of duty or dispensed with entirely."[377] Assistant Surgeon A. C. Rankin was subsequently ordered to dismantle the convalescent camp.

The hospital continued to expand during the Civil War. The 1866 Miller map depicts ten hospital wards, an office, cook house, mess hall, laundry, office and dispensary, dead houses, and eight houses between the wards for nurses. The hospital wards were long single-story gabled buildings with rooftop ventilators, front porches, board and batten siding, and glazed windows (**Figure 2.63**). The complex was enclosed by a semicircular painted picket fence. A period sketch map identifies the "US Genl Hosp. Garden" and an orchard west of the hospital complex.

Issuing and Recruiting Stables

A complex of four large stables arranged in a square with a central yard was west of the soldier's home and hay barns. The stables were long single-story gabled buildings with standing seam metal roofs, rooftop ventilators, square window openings at each stall, and swinging double doors at the ends and center of each building (**Figure 2.64**, **Figure 2.65**). The buildings were directly adjacent to the reservoir.

375. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 6.
376. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 203.
377. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 203.

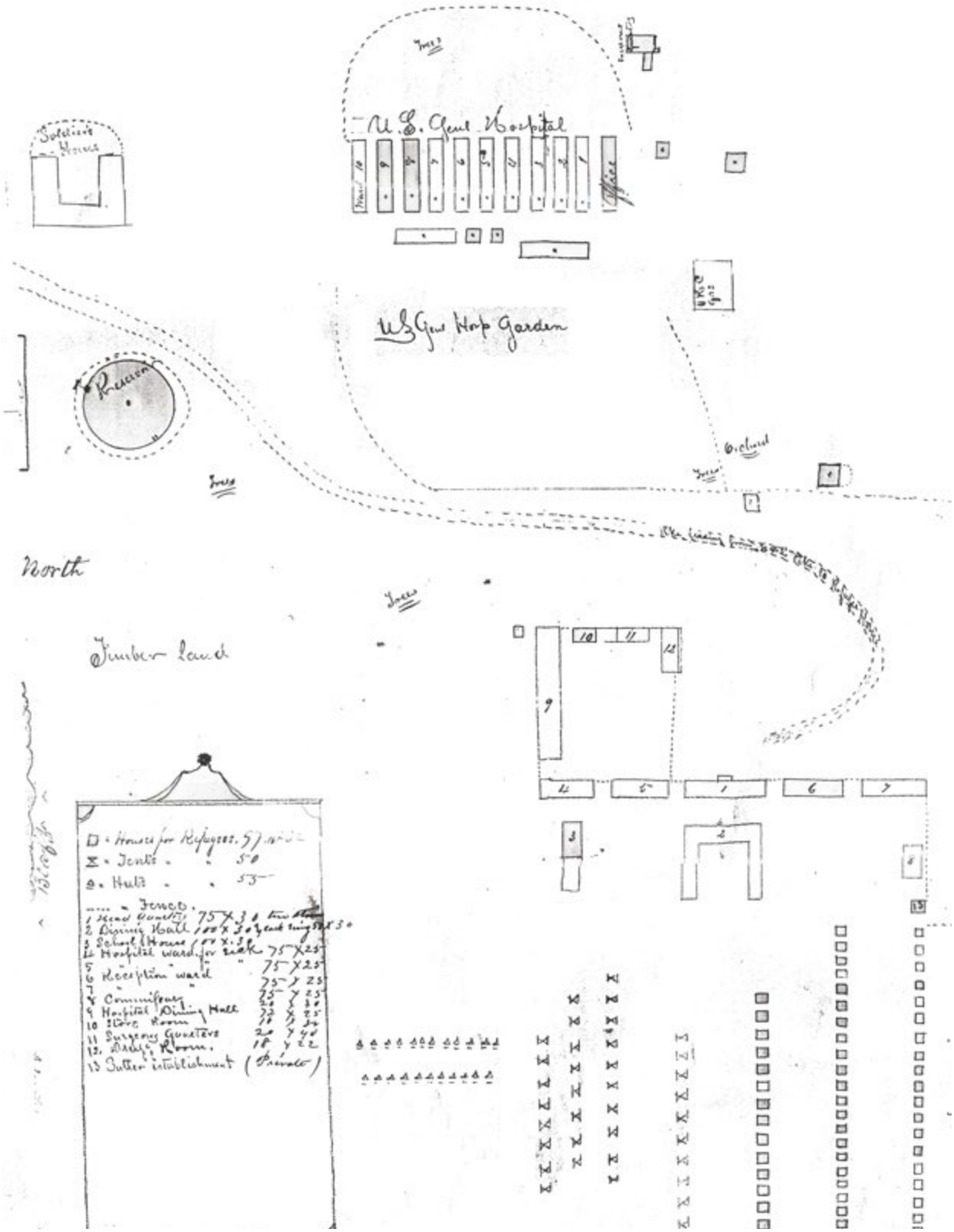


Figure 2.62. A period sketch map of the Home for Colored Refugees and US General Hospital, dated 1865 (Source: National Archives, Military Records, Record Group 105, Entry 3379, Box 1, Washington D.C.).

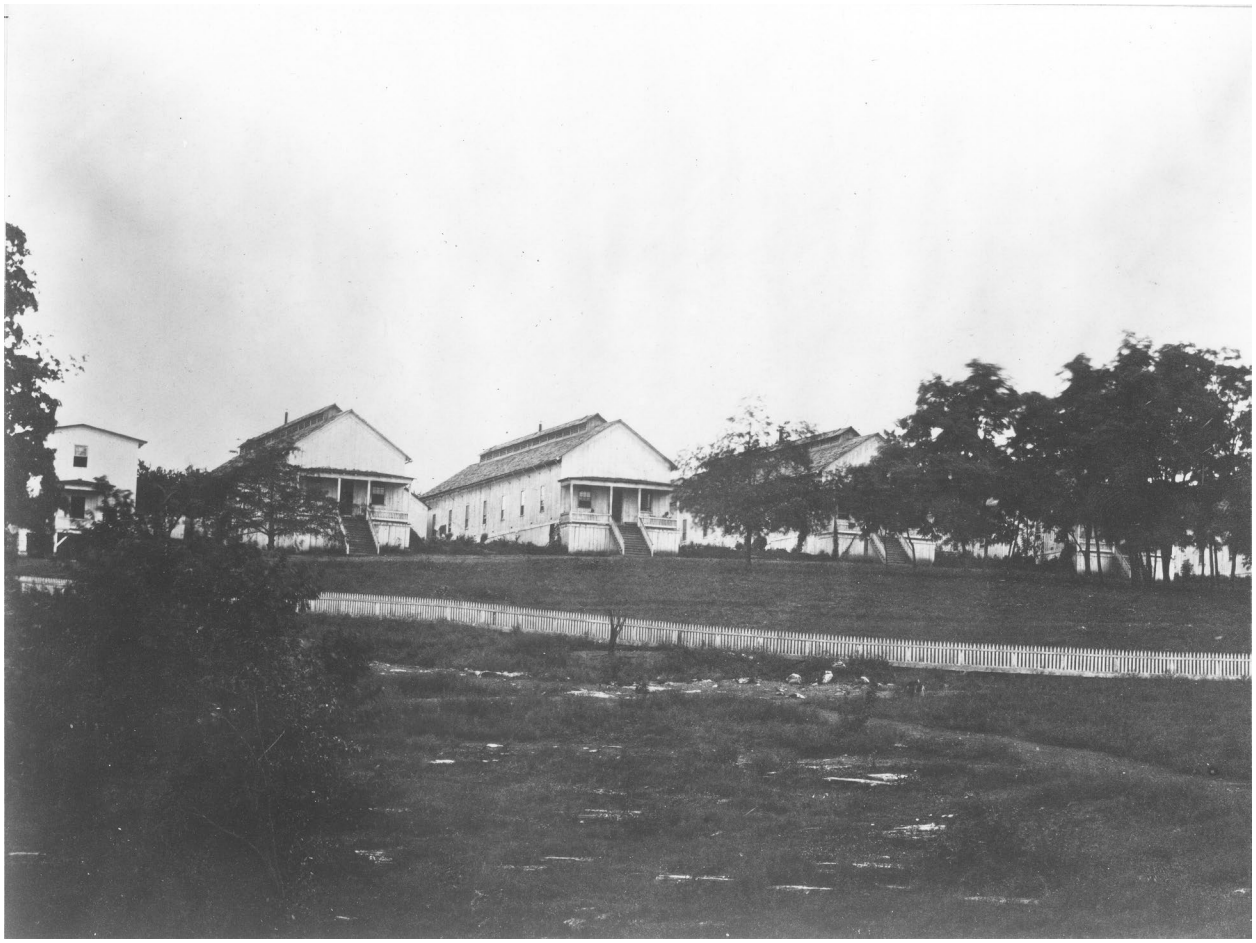


Figure 2.63. Row of hospital wards, view to northwest, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

Waterworks and Reservoirs

One of the first action items at Camp Nelson was the construction of a waterworks to supply the troops with fresh water. The officers overseeing the construction of Camp Nelson saw its supply of water as a significant problem. Captain Hall wrote about the plans to build a large waterworks because "the General Commanding can see no other way by which troops at this post can receive a sufficient supply of water."[378] The waterworks constructed by the US Army in 1864 pumped water from the Kentucky River to a 500,000 gallon reservoir. In addition to supplying water to the troops and residents, the waterworks was also an important safety feature and provided water to the camp's fire suppression system.

Construction of the waterworks was expensive, which drew Captain Hall and Camp Nelson some criticism.[379] Work began on the waterworks in October 1863. The waterworks and reservoir were completed and operable by 1864 (**Figure 2.64**-**Figure 2.67**). The system provided not only fresh water to the inhabitants of the camp but also provided fire protection for areas far from the Kentucky River or Hickman Creek. Major C. E. Compton described the system in his June 1864 report to the Inspector General of the US Army:

> These works have been completed and are now in successful operation: Whether they will prove a benefit to the Government, commensurate with their cost is a matter which can only be determined by actual experiment, and sufficient time for trial. The work was commenced in the early part of October 1863 and has been much delayed by the rocky character of the ground, a good portion of the trenches for the distributing pipes having to be blasted out. The height from the bottom of the pump well, at the foot of the cliff, Kentucky River to the top of the supply pipe in the reservoir is four hundred and seventy (470') feet perpendicular heighth [*sic*], and the supply pipe, through which the water passes

378. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxii.
379. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, xxxi–xxxii.

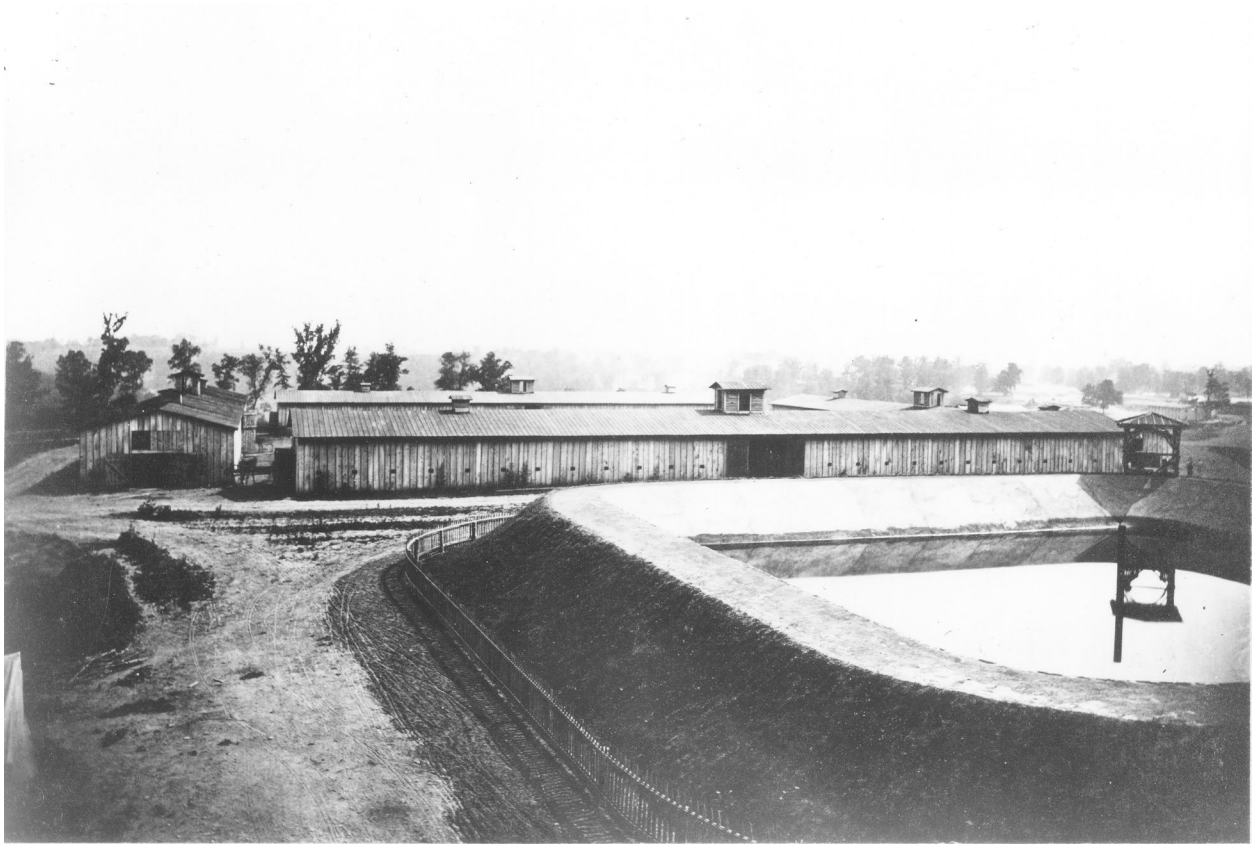


Figure 2.64. Reservoir in foreground, stables in square arrangement in background, view to north, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

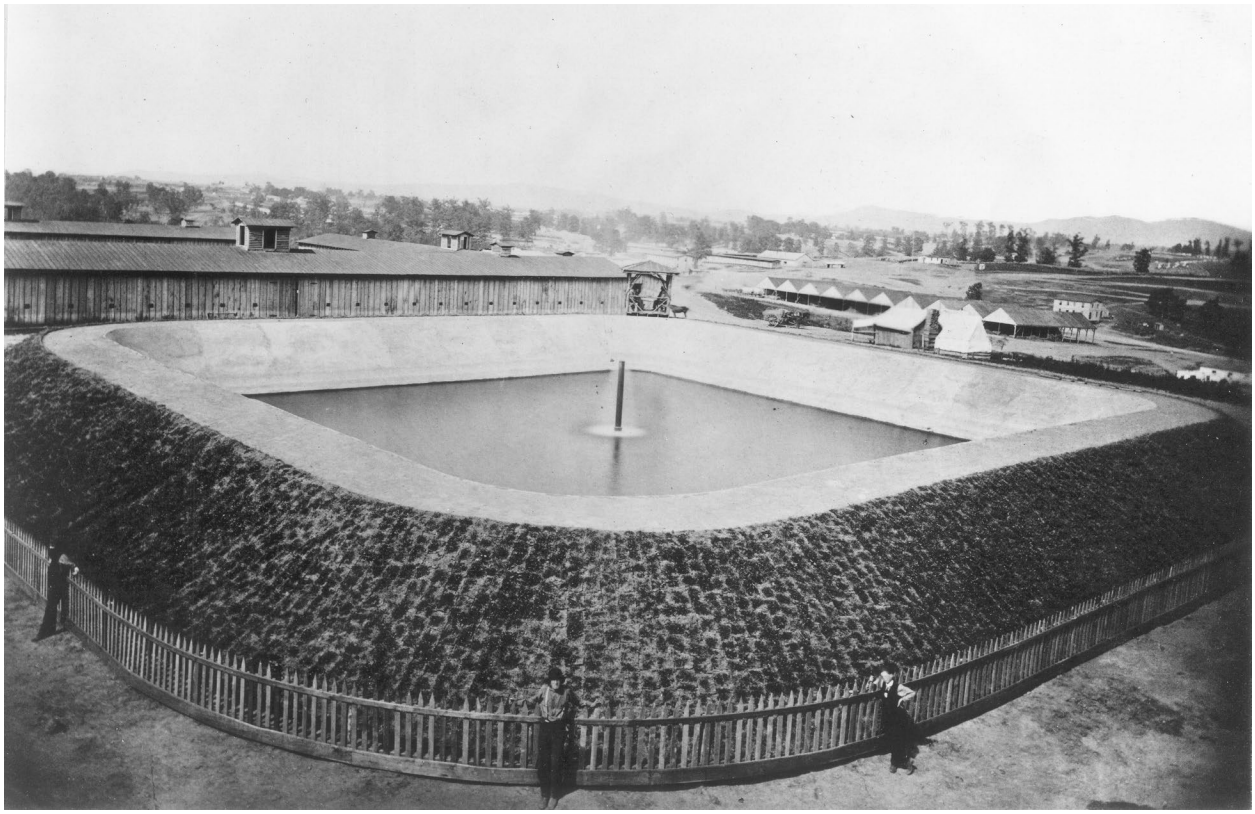


Figure 2.65. The reservoir and stables with hay barns, turnpike, and Camp Nelson House in background at right of image (1864), view to northeast (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.66. The waterworks along the Kentucky River (1864). Pipes (center) transported water up the cliffs to the reservoir, view to southeast (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 2.67. The waterworks building at the river's edge (1864). View to south (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

from the pump to the reservoir is twenty three hundred and forty (2340') feet in length. When pump is working at its ordinary rate, this pipe – 8" in diameter will discharge from one hundred and twenty five (125) to one hundred and fifty (150) gallons of water per minute into the reservoir.

The reservoir is an earthwork structure, and will hold about five hundred thousand gallons of water.

The quality of water now being distributed is good. There are now laid about seventeen thousand (17000') feet of distributing pipes conveying the water to almost every Government building within the limits of the camp. Where either of the use to which it is put, or the value of the goods contained therein render the water a necessity as a protection and a security against fire.

At or near each building in which stores and government property is kept there is a fire plug, and each warehouse is supplied with one section of fire hose – fifty (50") feet in length, with attachment screws at each end. – This hose is kept for the extinguishment of fire, should it occur, and for no other purpose. These buildings are under the care of watchmen specially employed for the purpose.

[noted in margin:]

Cost of Water Works

Engine, Boiler and Pumping Machinery $4100.

Supply and distributing Pipes [$] 15 754.71

Plumbing work. [$] 8551.32

$28406.03[380]

Historic photos show that the pump building was located on the southern edge of the curve of the Kentucky River. It was raised on cross braced wood members. The building was wood sided

380. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 79–80.



Figure 2.68. The office/headquarters building at the Home for Colored Refugees (1864), view to northwest (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

with both glazed and unglazed window openings. The supply pipes led uphill from the pump well. The reservoir, located west of Lexington-Danville Turnpike and near the hospital area, was a mounded earth structure with sloped sodded sides, a concrete interior, and a fountain for aeration in the center of the pool. There was a picket fence located at the base of the reservoir, and there was a tower structure located on the northeast corner.

Refugee Ward Area

The Home for Colored Refugees was established in 1864 to accommodate the growing population of refugee women and children arriving at Camp Nelson. The Home for Colored Refugees complex "eventually contained 97 duplex cottages in three rows, a school, a mess hall, a hospital, a reception ward, a commissary, storerooms, a barracks, a laundry, a lime kiln, offices, and surgeons' and teachers' lodgings, and a private sutler's establishment."[381] The refugee camp population fluctuated but is known to have housed over three thousand people at some points. A reported sixty tents and sixty huts accommodated refugees in addition to the formal housing.[382]

The office and headquarters at the refugee camp were at the center of a row of five buildings. The building was a two-story gabled building with horizontal siding, glazed windows, and a small, covered porch with stairs leading to the building entrance (**Figure 2.68**). The building was set on a wood pier foundation, with vertical slats partially enclosing the underside of the foundation. Two wards flanked the building on either side, with picket fencing between.

381. McBride, "National Register of Historic Places," 6.
382. McBride, "National Register of Historic Places," 6.



Figure 2.69. Buildings and tents at the Home for Colored Refugees (1864). In the midground are refugee tents and 'huts.' In the background, at center is the dining hall, at left is the school, at right is the rows of cottages (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

Four single-story gabled wards flanked the office/headquarters. They were each twenty-five feet wide by seventy-five feet long, with decorative fascia trim adorning the roofline. The wards had rooftop ventilators running the length of the gable, similar in design to the US General Hospital wards. A period sketch map identifies two of the buildings as "reception wards" and two of the buildings as "hospital wards for sick." A single-story building perpendicular to the hospital wards functioned as the hospital dining hall. Three smaller single-story buildings, which included a store house, surgeon's quarters, and drugs room, were arranged in a square with the other hospital buildings to form central courtyard. A fence enclosed the spaces between the buildings.

The main dining hall was behind the office/headquarters. It was a U-shaped gabled building with glazed windows and exterior stair entrances. The building appears in historic images to have had the same decorative fascia trim as found on other camp buildings (**Figure 2.69**). The schoolhouse was north of the dining hall. It was a large two-story gabled building with horizontal siding, glazed windows, and decorative fascia trim. An exterior stair provided entry to the second story (**Figure 2.70**). A small single-story commissary/warehouse was south of the dining hall.

The US Army constructed ninety-seven cottages for refugee housing. The cottages were in rows extending west from the public buildings. The cottages were constructed to alleviate overcrowding in barracks and provide necessary shelter for incoming refugees. Some refugees continued to reside in tents and huts. A sketch map from about 1865 depicts eighty-nine cottages, forty tents, and twenty-three "huts" arranged perpendicular to the rows of tents and cottages



Figure 2.70. The schoolhouse at the Home for Colored Refugees, 1864, view to north (Source: 77pa102 Camp Nelson Photographic Collection, 1864, University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center).

(**Figure 2.62**). The huts appear to have been small log buildings (**Figure 2.69**) The tents were decommissioned hospital tents.

In a letter to the AMA dated April 28, 1865, E. Davis wrote that the cottages were being built at the rate of three per day and were providing shelter for "sixty newcomers daily."[383] Davis recorded that the cottages were 32 feet by 16 feet with two rooms each. They were "designed for ten, possibly 12 or 20 to 24 persons" each.[384] Historic images show that the cottages were single-story gabled buildings with board and batten siding and two front doors, one for each room. Some cottages had a small, fenced pen in the front of the house. According to historic accounts, camp residents cultivated two hundred acres south of the cottages to provide for refugee population (**Figure 2.62**).[385] Two smallpox hospitals were west of the refugee cottages. The 1866 Miller map shows them isolated from the rest of Camp Nelson.

Hickman Bridge Area

Historic imagery of the Hickman or Wernwag Bridge shows that the wooden covered bridge was supported by a limestone foundation above the river (**Figure 2.7**). One house with outbuildings was built into the stone cliffs on the north side of the bridge. The bridge had a gabled roof with covered sides and window openings. The area was otherwise undeveloped, surrounded by forest and stone cliffs distance. Vegetation grew along the river's edge.

383. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 197.
384. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 197.
385. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 202.

The End of the War

While Kentucky was strategically important to both the United States and the Confederacy during the early years of the Civil War, the battles that would eventually decide the war progressively moved farther away from the state into the Deep South and around Richmond, Virginia. After the Battle of Chickamauga in late October 1863, the defeated US Army retreated to nearby Chattanooga, Tennessee, where they remained, encircled by Confederate troops posted on surrounding hills, for about a month. In late November, the US Army, under the command of General Ulysses S. Grant, successfully broke out of Chattanooga and forced the Confederates to retreat southward into Georgia. After President Lincoln appointed Ulysses S. Grant as General-in-Chief of the Army in March 1864, General Grant traveled to Washington, D.C. and spent the next year enmeshed in a series of battles against Confederate troops under the command of General Robert E. Lee.

General William T. Sherman assumed command of the United States troops in the Western Theater after Grant's departure. In May 1864, General Sherman moved the US Army south, pushing the Confederate Army towards Atlanta, Georgia. After a series of battles in the farmland and among the hills and rivers north of Atlanta, the Confederate Army surrendered the city to federal forces on September 2, 1864. General Sherman stayed on the offensive, driving south towards Savannah. With approximately sixty thousand troops under his command, General Sherman cut across southern Georgia, reaching Savannah in December. The city surrendered a few days before Christmas 1864. General Sherman then turned north and began marching towards the Carolinas.

In Virginia through the summer of 1864 and into the spring of 1865, the United States Army and the Confederate Army were entrenched opposite each other around the town of Petersburg some twenty-four miles south of Richmond, Virginia, the Confederate capital. After a series of attacks to weaken the Confederate's defenses, General Grant launched a major assault on the Confederate Army on April 2. The Confederates abandoned Petersburg and attempted to flee into the Virginia countryside. Constantly harassed by the pursuing federal army, Lee, badly outnumbered and commanding a poorly supplied and dispirited force, finally surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. While the armies continued to fight for several months in remote areas further south, the surrender effectively ended the Civil War.

Seeking Safety

After the Civil War ended in 1865, the military continued operating Camp Nelson for a short period. A rumor that remaining enslaved persons would be freed on Independence Day that year led to thousands gathering for celebrations in United States Army-held camps and towns, including Camp Nelson:

> Thousands from surrounding counties also participated in a July 4 celebration at Camp Nelson, planned by a committee of black men and women. With "hundreds of dollars" in contributions from visitors and soldiers, the committee purchased foodstuffs later prepared by the camp's women. After a "grand review" of soldiers which lasted until noon, the crowd gathered at a grove of trees near the refugee home to listen to martial music and patriotic speeches. The celebration opened with prayer, followed by songs from a children's choir and music from a military band. After a soldier read the Declaration of Independence, Sergeant Knox, in the first of several addresses by blacks, reviewed the role blacks had played in American and Biblical history. Then the integrated crowd sat down to a magnificent dinner of breads, meats, vegetables, and a variety of desserts. Later in the afternoon, there were more speeches and martial music, and songs by a quartet of black soldiers from Chicago, Illinois.[386]

Despite these celebrations, enslavement was not legally ended nationwide until the ratification of the 13th Amendment in December 1865. Federal abolition of enslavement in the state brought outrage to many White Kentuckians, and the state refused to ratify the amendment. (Kentucky would not ratify the amendment until 1976.)

Kentucky was not subject to the Reconstruction Acts, which were reserved for the states that seceded from the United States. The Reconstruction Acts imposed military districts in former Confederate states and gave the US Army

386. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, 185.

instructions to "register African American men as voters and to create new biracial governments in the South."[387]

Kentucky also had a light presence of the Freedmen's Bureau in the state, though the Freedmen's Bureau did assist the Camp Nelson refugee community. As described in *The Era of Reconstruction* National Historic Landmarks Theme Study,

> Created by Congress in March 1865, the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (commonly known as the Freedmen's Bureau) was supposed to oversee the South's transition from slave labor to free labor. Headquartered in Washington, DC, the bureau established outposts—typically staffed by active US Army officers or recently discharged veterans—in cities and towns throughout the former Confederacy. [388]

Congress granted the Freedmen's Bureau agents the authority to "regulate labor contracts, distribute rations, and encourage the development of schools and hospitals." [389] A second Freedman's Bureau bill in 1866 added the power to "intervene to protect freedpeople and renegotiate labor contracts" and entitled the formerly enslaved to the civil rights of White citizens, including property ownership and the right to bear arms.[390]

The Freedmen's Bureau had assigned Special Agent R. E. Farwell as Superintendent of the refugee camp at Camp Nelson in October 1865. The Bureau distributed rations to the camp and began a monthslong process of resettling refugees, mostly women and children, to towns in Ohio. Only a small percentage of the refugees had been resettled before the Bureau pressured Farwell to empty the camp. The Bureau's Assistant Commissioner for Tennessee and Kentucky, Clinton B. Fisk, instructed Farwell to begin reducing rations to encourage people to leave.[391] Without money, education, or a place to go, many refugees refused to leave.

387. Downs and Masur, "Era of Reconstruction," 5. Note: The Reconstruction period is discussed in more detail in a later section.
388. Downs and Masur, "Era of Reconstruction," 13.
389. Downs and Masur, "Era of Reconstruction," 145.
390. Downs and Masur, "Era of Reconstruction," 147.
391. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, lviii.

The end of the war brought chaos and confusion for the refugees at Camp Nelson, as many had no home to return to. According to Marion Lucas:

> Federal officials struggled to force refugees to leave Camp Nelson. Despite their efforts 2,477 women and children were within the perimeter in September 1865, and about 1,000 six months later. Those without adequate housing or money occupied huts and cabins recently abandoned by discharged soldiers or squatted in government buildings earmarked for sale. A few of the more fortunate managed to rent parts of occupied buildings or three acres of land for a few dollars a month. Some suffered daily for want of food or clothing, and many of the "utterly destitute" turned to begging, stealing, or prostitution to stay alive. With disease rampant, an appalling death rate gripped the camp. By March 1866 the 1,300 refugee graves at Camp Nelson reflected a death rate of almost 50 percent for the previous fifteen months.[392]

Lacking federal support and military presence, Kentucky's societal structure was chaotically dismantled in the years following the war, leaving African American citizens unprotected from gangs and mobs who violently rebelled against these changes by terrorizing, beating, raping, murdering, and lynching Black Kentuckians with impunity.[393] Marion Lucas describes the postwar violence at Camp Nelson in *A History of Blacks in Kentucky:*

> Communities of blacks which arose after the Civil War, such as Camp Nelson in Jessamine County, were special targets of random violence. Those who flocked into Camp Nelson during the war, seeking protection and assistance from federal authorities, did not anticipate the haste with which the government withdrew its support in 1865 and 1866. With no place to go, many blacks remained in Camp Nelson, looking to a small band of white northern missionaries for leadership. What had been a "City of Refuge" to desperate refugees in 1864 became to white "regulators" living in the area a "Niggers [*sic*] nest" in 1866, and they vowed to break up the mostly black community. Early in 1866 before the government closed the camp, gangs of whites began beating black soldiers caught alone

392. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, 196.
393. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky,* 189.

> outside the perimeter, and as soon as federal authorities abandoned Camp Nelson in June 1866, regulators began threatening those who remained. Bands of armed ruffians frequently moved through camp at night, entering cabins and robbing blacks of their money, watches, and weapons.[394]

As Lucas explains, the "regulators" began targeting the White missionaries, whose presence offered a sense of protection to the Black community, threatening to kill the missionaries unless they left Camp Nelson. Awaiting the arrival of soldiers from the Freedmen's Bureau for support, the Black community guarded and defended the missionaries, but were overtaken:

> On November 19, 1866, at about 1:00 A.M., thirty regulators returned, easily capturing the missionaries. Many blacks fled into the night at the appearance of the regulators, but one man, John Burnside, refused to leave his house. Burnside fought off the attackers, wounding one severely and another mortally, but the mob eventually stormed his house and beat him mercilessly, leaving him for dead. After threatening the missionaries with death if they stayed, the attackers left. The next morning the small black community at Camp Nelson again became an armed camp. For eight days and nights the freedmen and their missionary friends stood guard, awaiting the arrival of bureau troops. The soldiers finally appeared on Saturday night but left in search of regulators a day later. Upon capturing two suspects, the troops returned to Lexington, leaving Camp Nelson blacks to fend for themselves. The regulators promptly returned and rode up and down the streets swearing revenge if harm came to their friends. The missionaries, with the aid of Gabriel Burdett, a black preacher, fled for their lives. Regulators continued to harass and attack Camp Nelson blacks and their white friends for years.[395]

Between 1866 and 1868, the US Army dismantled most of Camp Nelson, save for the fort earthworks, Fort Jones and the two stone walls, and several of the buildings associated with the Home for Colored Refugees which remained standing. An 1895 article reported that most of the buildings "were knocked to pieces and the material sold to negroes and farmers for building cabins, barns and fences, and speculators and junk dealers purchased the other trappings."[396] Civilian houses used by the US Army were re-occupied by former owners Mary Scott, Oliver H. and Frances Perry, John and Joseph Moss, and N. T. Merritt, and the land was reverted to pasture, crops, or woods.

Landscape Summary (1860-1866)

Illustration 2.2 depicts Camp Nelson in 1864. Illustrations 2.3 – 2.9 depict Camp Nelson in 1866.

The Civil War brought significant changes to the Kentucky landscape even though it did not have many large battles. One reason for this was the establishment of several large US Army bases, such as Camp Nelson, that resulted in large scale land and resource alteration. The enlistment of African American men into the US Army and the later emancipation of the wives and children of these recruits also affected the landscape. These actions resulted in new settlement patterns as people left farms for US Army bases and urban centers.[397]

At Camp Nelson, major landscape changes during the Civil War period included the construction of earthen and stone forts and entrenchments, the construction of new roads, the construction of hundreds of new buildings, and the cutting of thousands of trees for buildings, forts, firewood, and to expand defensive fields of observation. The thousands of soldiers and civilians at the camp occupied a landscape that was, prior to their arrival, rural farmland.

The US Army occupied Mary Scott's property during the Civil War. Her claims for restitution after the war shed light on the changes to the property during the period. One officer noted the camp's impact, writing:

394. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 193. This Cultural Landscape Report references and quotes historical documents that contain offensive and/or racist terminology. These historic passages are included verbatim.
395. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 193.
396. "Camp Nelson on Kentucky Cliffs," *Courier-Journal* (Louisville, KY), 11 September 1895, 15.
397. Howard, *Black Liberation in Kentucky: Emancipation and Freedom, 1862-1884*, 63–71; Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, 154–79; 193–96.

General, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of March 10th calling for a report in relation to the rent and damages to the property upon which Camp Nelson is located in and in reply to submit the following report.

The owners of the land are Mrs. Mary Scott, Mr. Joseph M. Morse, Mr. John Morse, and Mr. N. T. Merritt.

Mrs. Scott owns from eight to nine hundred acres of land upon which is located the Camp, Corrals, and all of the Government buildings remaining unsold. This lady is some eighty years of age and has three children, two sons and one daughter, who are said to be the real owners of the property. . ..

Her place consists of from eight to nine hundred acres of land which was assessed by the Tax Assessors at $9,500^{00}$ for several years before the War and it was probably worth from $20,000 to 25,000; all the manure made upon the place during its occupancy by the Government still remains there and has greatly increased the richness of the soil, so that the only loss sustained by the Scotts consists in the rent of the place, and some three hundred acres of wood that was cut by the troops stationed there. . .

Some three hundred acres of wood has been cut from the Scott place for the use of the Army. . ..

Mr. Joseph M. Morse [Moss] owns two hundred acres of land within the fortifications all of which has been occupied by the Government, the Freeman's Village having been located thereon. Forty Acres of wood was cut and used by the troops. . ..

John Morse [Moss], brother of Joseph, owns one hundred acres of land which has been occupied by the Government. The wood cut from this place was paid for by Capt. Hall at the time it was taken. . .

Mr. N. T. Merritt owns three hundred acres of land on which a Brigade was Camped for a short time, his only being one hundred cords of wood and about six hundred panels of fence.[398]

After the US Army abandoned Camp Nelson, the landscape began to partially return to its pre-war condition as former land uses returned. Farms were reestablished, crops replanted, and livestock reintroduced. Remnants of earthworks and Civil War roads remained after the war. Camp Nelson National Cemetery was established, and civilian graves were present in Graveyard No. 1 and the Griffing Cemetery. Several of the buildings constructed by the landowners before the war remained. Among the US Army-constructed buildings to survive after the war were the boarding house that served as the Home for Colored Refugees and a few of the refugee cottages. The Ariel/Hall Community would develop out of the refugee camp in the following decades.

398. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 330–32.

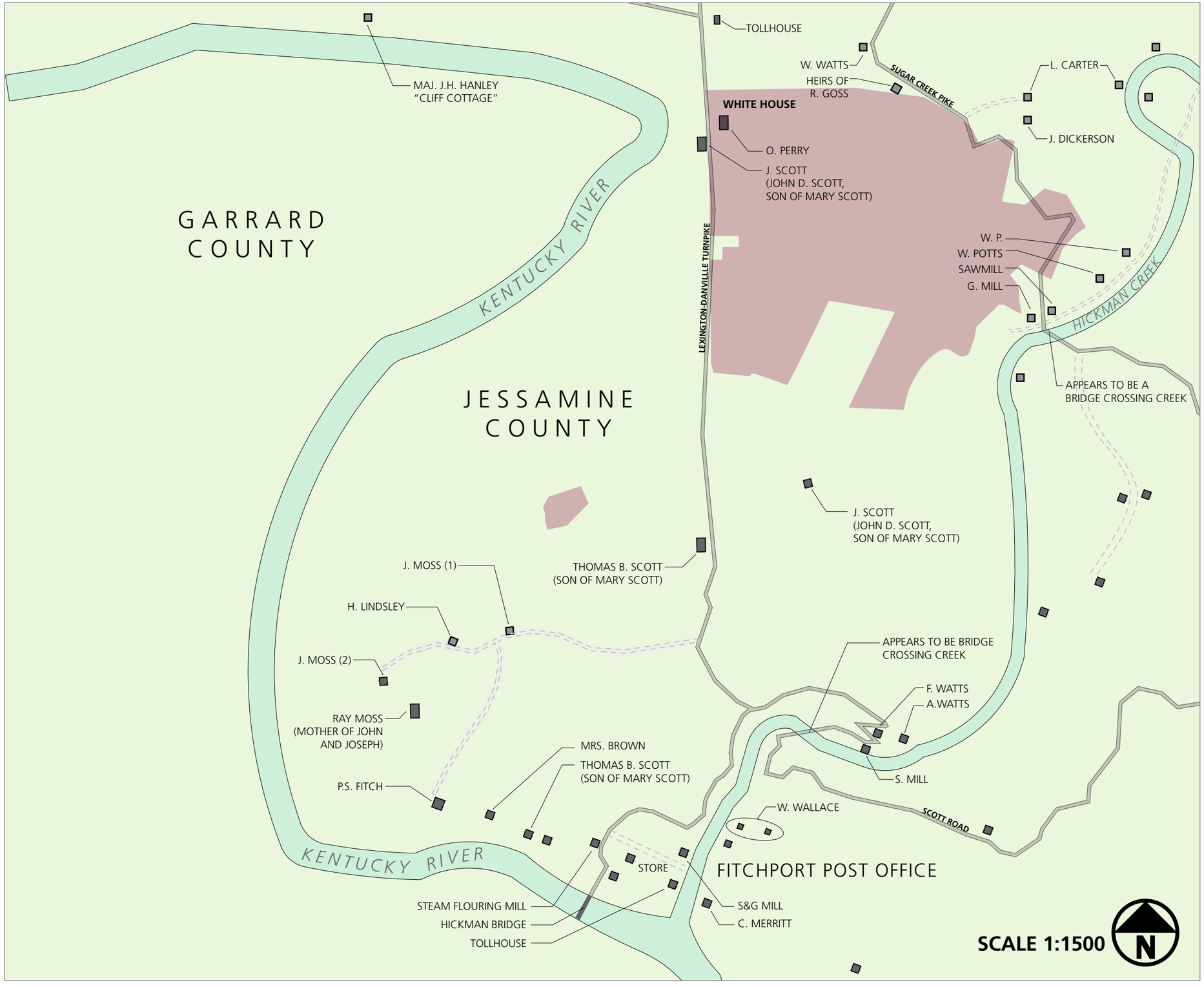


Illustration Key

APPROXIMATE NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY

BUILDING

ROAD

Notes:

1. Probably Joseph Moss, the "Freedman's Village" (Refugee Camp) was reportedly located on his land. Sears, Camp Nelson, Kentucky: A Civil War History, 330–32.
2. Probably John Moss, whose 100 acres was partially logged by the U.S. Army during the war. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky: A Civil War History*, 330–32.
3. Geographic features traced from 1861 map, illustration do not align with actual geography of site.
4. Road type/surfaces unknown.

Credits:

1. E. A. and G. W. Hewitt, *Topographic Map of the Counties of Bourbon, Fayette, Clark, Jessamine, and Woodford, Kentucky* (New York: Smith Gallup and Co., 1861), Library of Congress, http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3953b.la000225.

Illustration 2.1

1861

FUTURE CAMP NELSON AREA

Camp Nelson National Monument

SEPTEMBER 2022

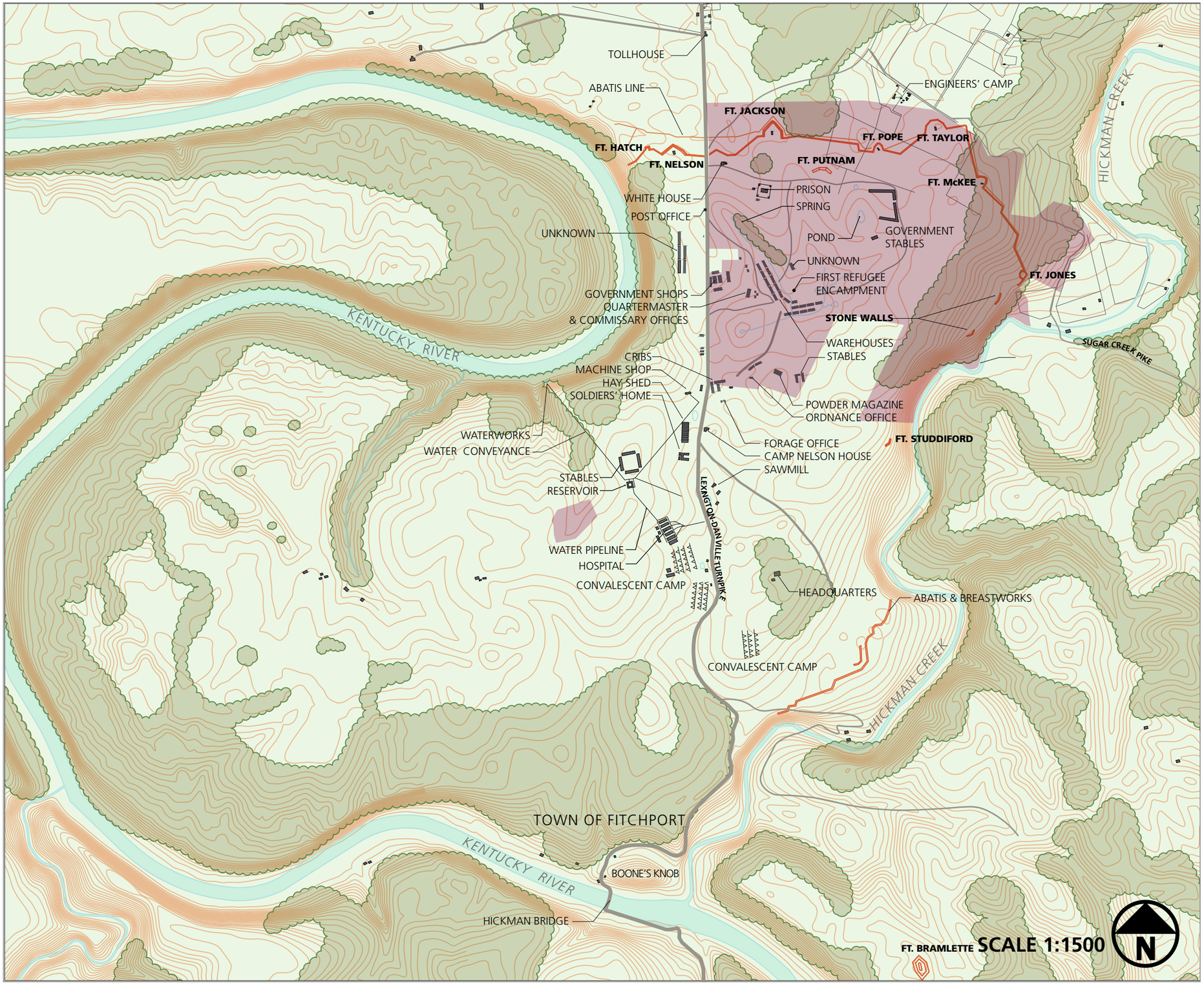


Illustration Key

- LINE OF FORTIFICATIONS
- APPROXIMATE NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- APPROXIMATE TREE LINE
- BUILDINGS
- TENTS
- ROAD

Notes:
1. Unlabeled buildings are of unknown utility, as could be determined from available sources.

Credits:

1. ESRI
2. Simpson, James H."Camp Nelson and Its Defenses, Jessamine Co, KY." Map. Office of US Engineers, Cincinnati Ohio. 1864
4. Nicholson, George B."Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY. Main Line Across Neck of Land from Kentucky River to Hickman Creek." Office U.S. Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio September 27, 1864.

Illustration 2.2

1864 CAMP NELSON

Camp Nelson National Monument

SEPTEMBER 2022

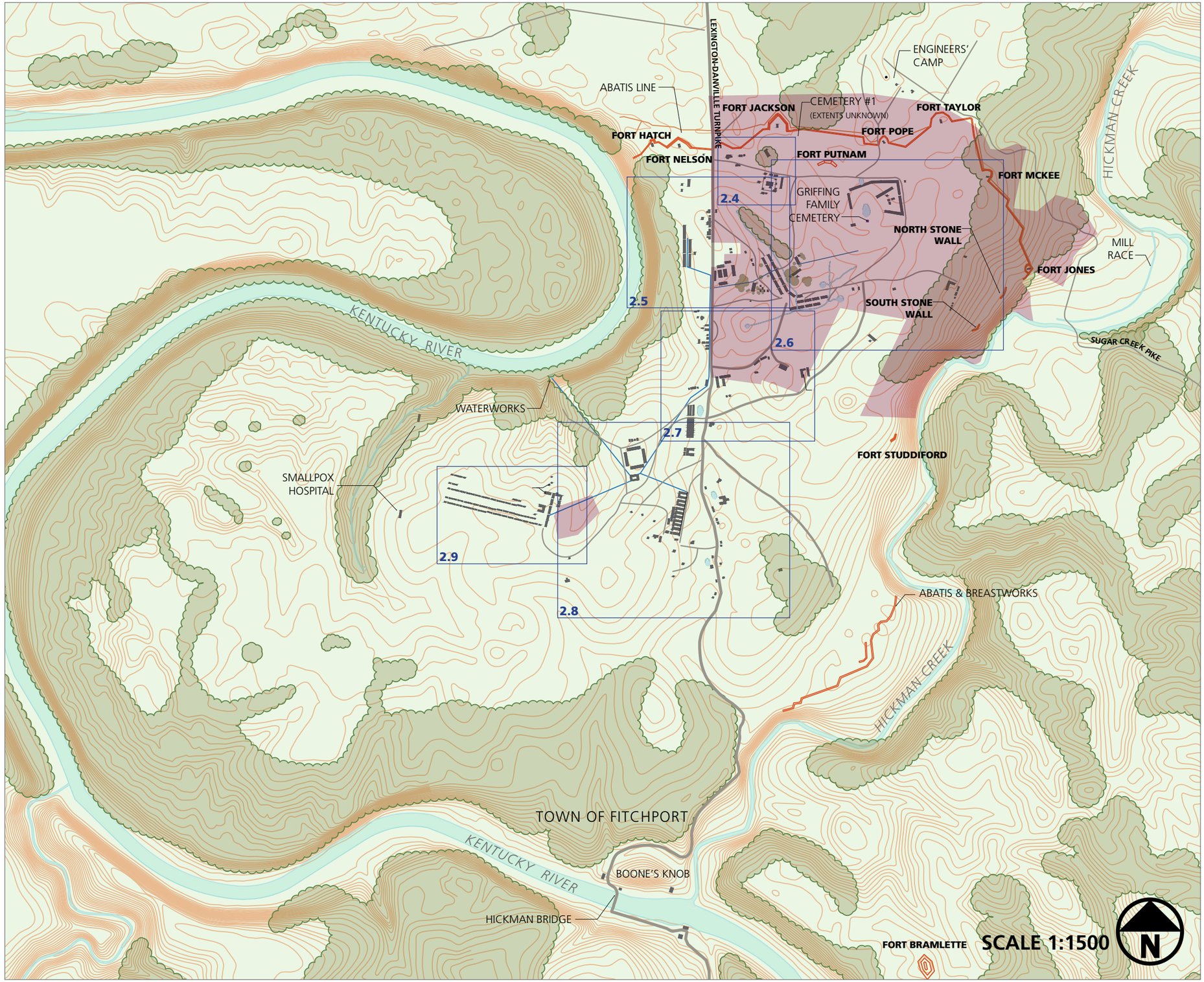


Illustration Key

- LINE OF FORTIFICATIONS
- APPROXIMATE NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- APPROXIMATE TREE LINE
- BUILDINGS
- ROAD
- MAP ENLARGEMENTS

Notes:
1. Map enlargements detailed in the illustrations that follow.

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. Simpson, James H."Camp Nelson and Its Defenses, Jessamine Co, KY." Map. Office of US Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. 1864
3. Nicholson, George B."Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY. Main Line Across Neck of Land from Kentucky River to Hickman Creek."Office U.S. Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. September 27, 1864.
4. Miller, A.B. "Map of Camp Nelson, KY". 1866. (Annotated by Author Unknown, Camp Nelson Files)

Illustration 2.3
1866 CAMP NELSON
Camp Nelson National Monument
SEPTEMBER 2022

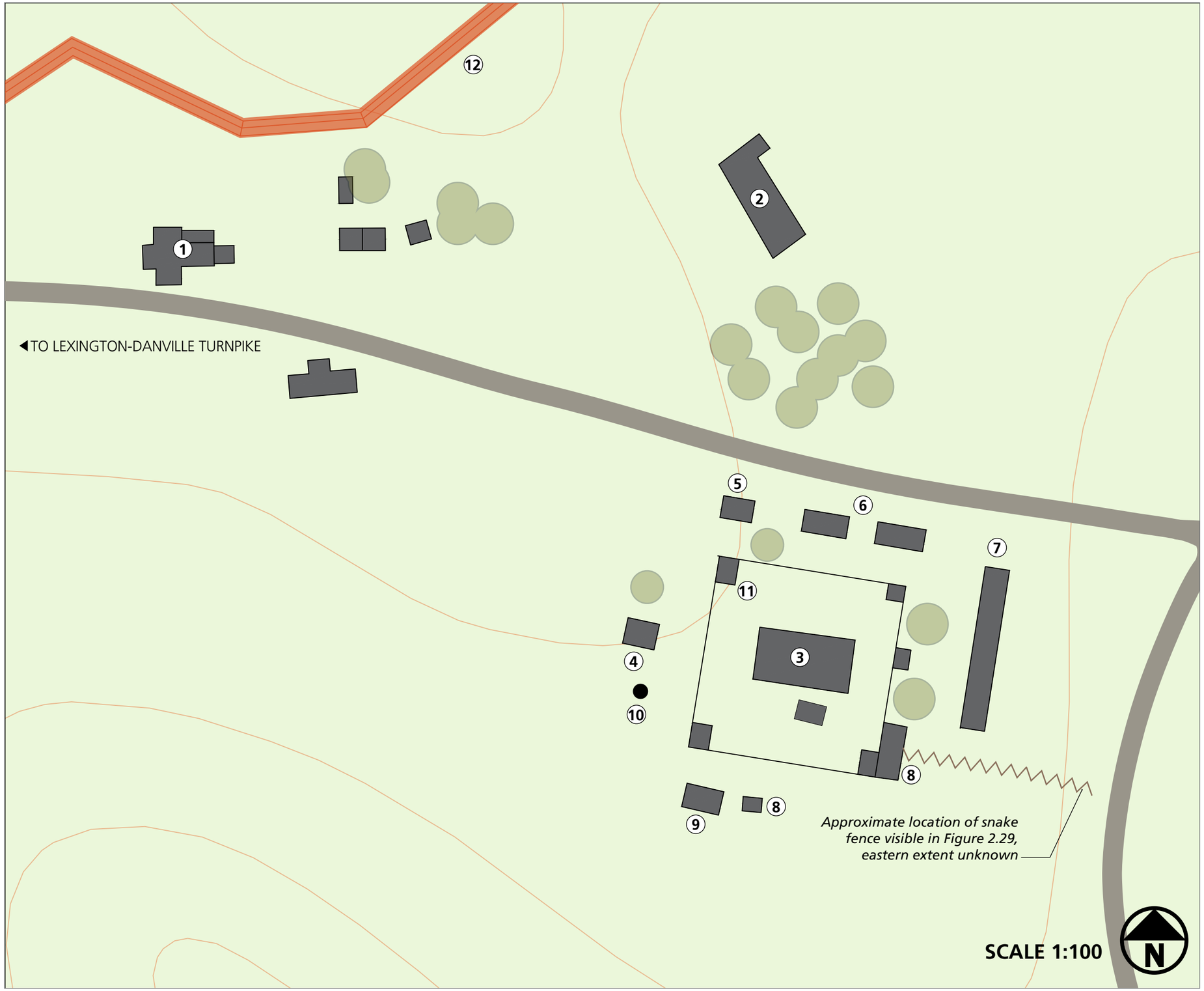


Illustration Key

1. White House (Oliver Perry House)*
2. Barracks at Fortifications
3. Jail*
4. Provost Marshal*
5. Guard House
6. Cooking & Dining
7. Sheds
8. Cook Houses
9. Barracks
10. Prison Ice House
11. Watch Towers (at four corners)*
12. Infantry Entrenchments, Northern Line of Fortifications

* Feature shown in historic photo

Notes:
1. Research did not reveal the use of unlabeled buildings.

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. Simpson, James H."Camp Nelson and Its Defenses, Jessamine Co, KY." Map. Office of US Engineers, Cincinnati Ohio. 1864
3. Nicholson, George B."Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY. Main Line Across Neck of Land from Kentucky River to Hickman Creek."Office U.S. Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. September 27, 1864.
4. Miller, A.B. "Map of Camp Nelson, KY". 1866.

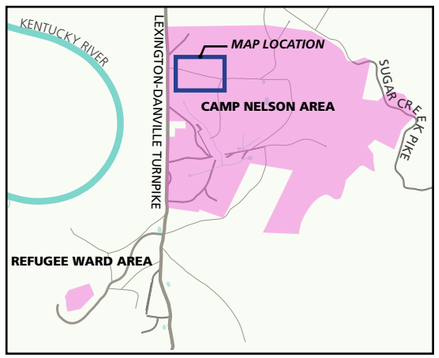


Illustration 2.4
1866 WHITE HOUSE, BARRACKS, & PRISON CAMP NELSON

Camp Nelson National Monument

SEPTEMBER 2022



Illustration Key

1. Prison Complex* (see Illustration 2.4)
2. Hall Barracks
3. Cook House at Barracks*
4. Owens House
5. Post Office (Adams Express Offices)
6. Private Commercial Businesses (Sutler's Stores)
7. Berkely Sutler Store
8. Five Issuing and Recruiting Stables*
9. Spring Reservoir
10. Office*
11. Harness Shop*
12. Shed*
13. Shoeing/Blacksmith Shop*
14. Wagon Shop*
15. Mess House
16. Blacksmith Shop
17. Mess House Near Quartermaster
18. Mess House
19. Quartermaster & Commissary Offices*
20. Three Mess Houses at Quartermaster
21. Mess House Near Quartermaster*
22. Quartermaster Ice House
23. Quartermaster & Commissary Warehouses, Ordnance, & Forage (see Illustration 2.6)
24. Water Conveyance Pipe

* Feature shown in historic photo

Notes:
1. Research did not reveal the use of unlabeled buildings.

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. Simpson, James H."Camp Nelson and Its Defenses, Jessamine Co, KY." Map. Office of US Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. 1864
3. Nicholson, George B."Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY. Main Line Across Neck of Land from Kentucky River to Hickman Creek."Office U.S. Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. September 27, 1864.
4. Miller, A.B. "Map of Camp Nelson, KY". 1866.
5. McBride, Stephen."Archaeology of Camp Nelson". 2003, 3.6

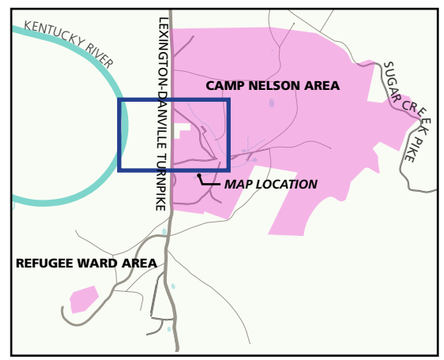


Illustration 2.5

1866

OWENS HOUSE, GOV'T SHOPS AREA

CAMP NELSON

Camp Nelson National Monument

SEPTEMBER 2022

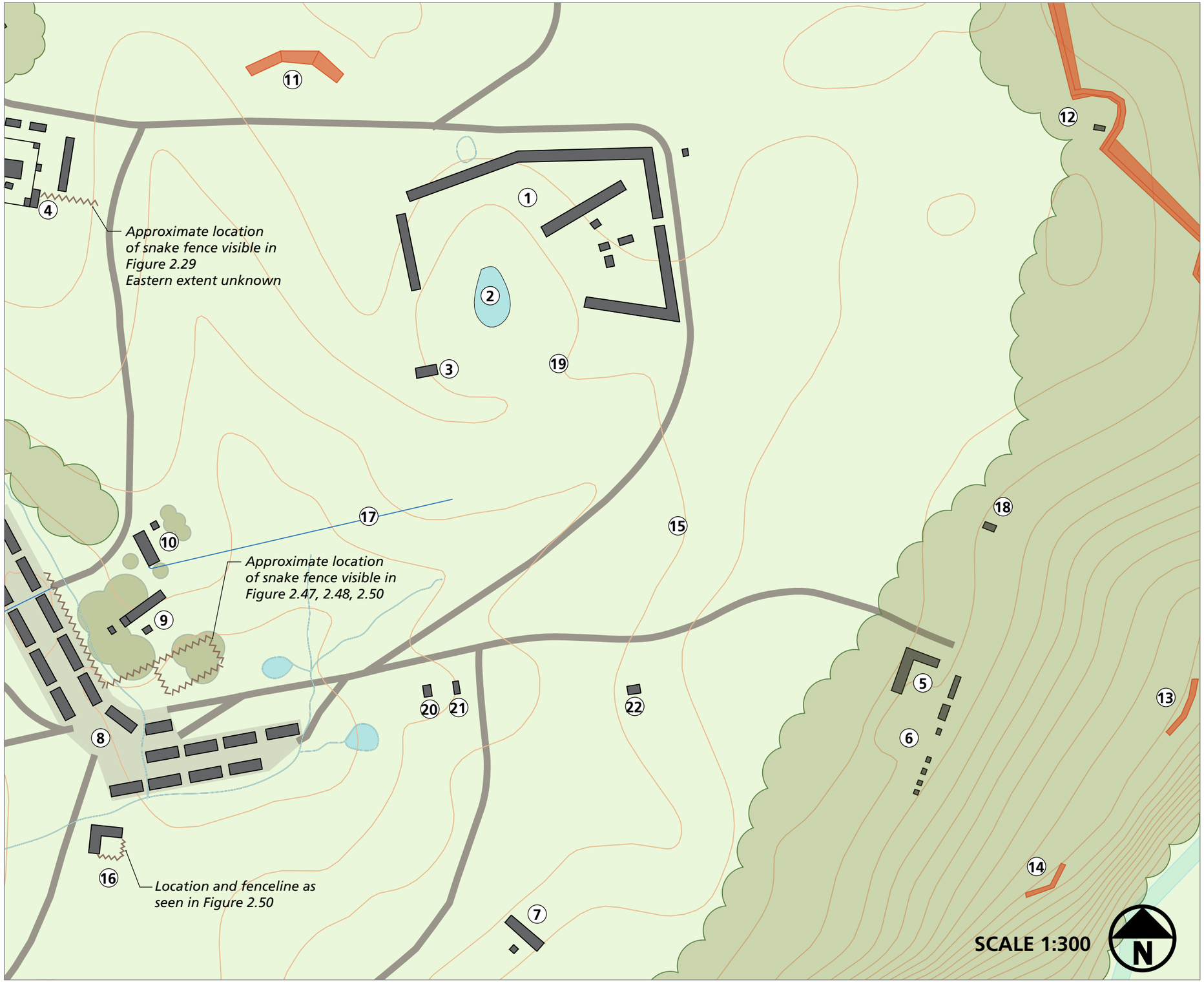


Illustration Key

1. Open Sheds and Stables
2. Sinkhole Pond
3. Dwelling
4. Prison Complex (see Illustration 2.4)
5. Sheds
6. "Shanties"
7. Sheds
8. Warehouses*
9. Stable & Sheds
10. Bakery*
11. Fort Putnam
12. Fort McKee
13. North Stone Wall
14. South Stone Wall
15. Corrals Area*
16. Ambulance Yard Structures*
17. Water Conveyance Pipe
18. East of Corral (Hill)
19. Warehouse at Corral
20. Superintendent of Transportation Office
21. Quartermaster Shed Stable
22. Ice House North Front

* Feature shown in historic photo

Notes:
1. Research did not reveal the use of unlabeled buildings.

Credits:
1. ESRI.
2. Simpson, James H."Camp Nelson and Its Defenses, Jessamine Co, KY." Map. Office of US Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. 1864.
3. Nicholson, George B."Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY. Main Line Across Neck of Land from Kentucky River to Hickman Creek." Office U.S. Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. September 27, 1864.
4. Miller, A.B. "Map of Camp Nelson, KY". 1866.
5. McBride, Stephen."Archaeology of Camp Nelson". 2003, 7.7.

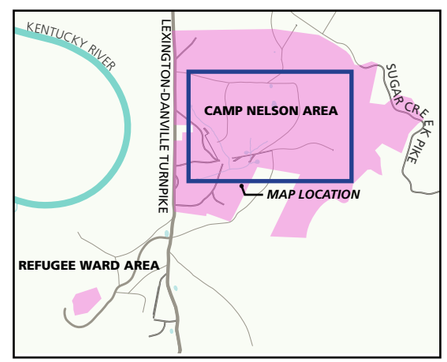


Illustration 2.6
1866 SHEDS, STABLES, BAKERY
CAMP NELSON
Camp Nelson National Monument
SEPTEMBER 2022

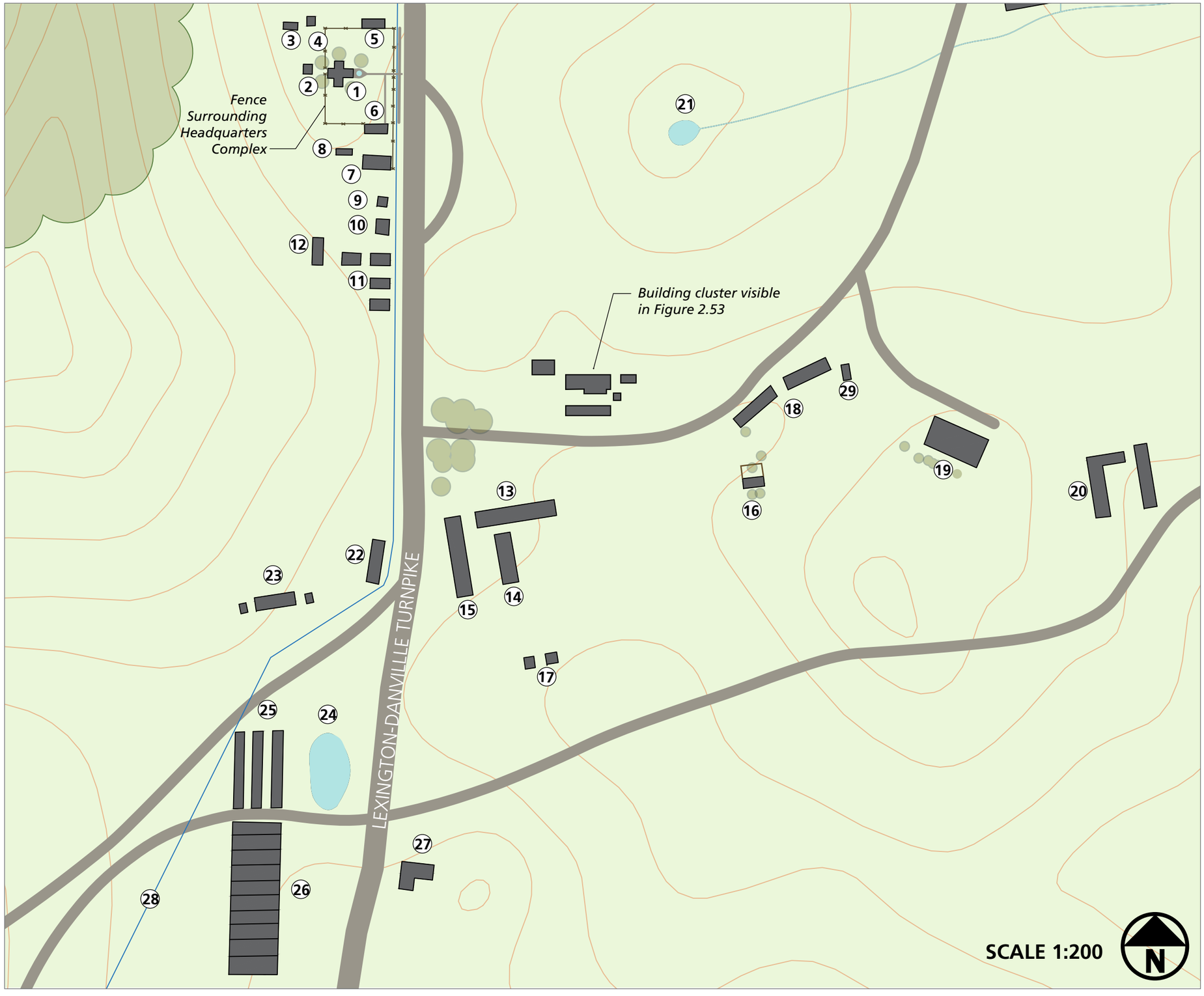


Illustration Key

1. Headquarters with Fountain & Paved Walkway (Const. June 1864 at location of Charles Glass House)*
2. Mess House
3. Mess House
4. Office
5. Blacksmith Shop
6. Shed Stables
7. Officer's Stable
8. Shed
9. Office
10. Cook House
11. Four Mess Houses (for civilian employees)
12. Unidentified Building
13. Cribs
14. Grain Shed
15. Cribs
16. Ordnance Office
17. Forage Office & Mess House
18. Ordnance Warehouses
19. Powder Magazine
20. Sheds
21. Sinkhole Pond
22. Machine Shop*
23. Barracks/Mess House with two Cook Houses at Machine Shop
24. Pond
25. Cribs
26. Hay Barns
27. Camp Nelson House
28. Water Conveyance Pipe
29. Shop at Ordnance Office

* Feature shown in historic photo

Notes:
1. Research did not reveal the use of unlabeled buildings.

Credits:
1. ESRI.
2. Simpson, James H."Camp Nelson and Its Defenses, Jessamine Co, KY." Map. Office of US Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. 1864.
3. Nicholson, George B."Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY. Main Line Across Neck of Land from Kentucky River to Hickman Creek."Office U.S. Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. September 27, 1864.
4. Miller, A.B. "Map of Camp Nelson, KY". 1866.
5. McBride, Stephen."Archaeology of Camp Nelson". 2003, 7.7.
6. Historic photos, National Archives.

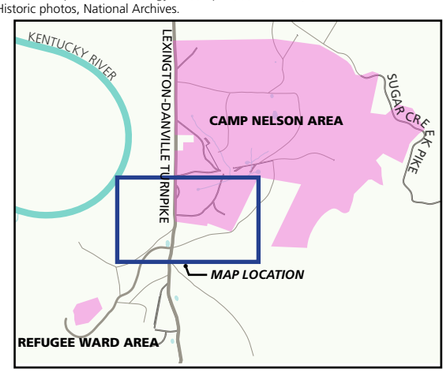


Illustration 2.7

1866 HEADQUARTERS, MACHINE SHOP, POWDER MAGAZINE AREA CAMP NELSON

Camp Nelson National Monument

SEPTEMBER 2022

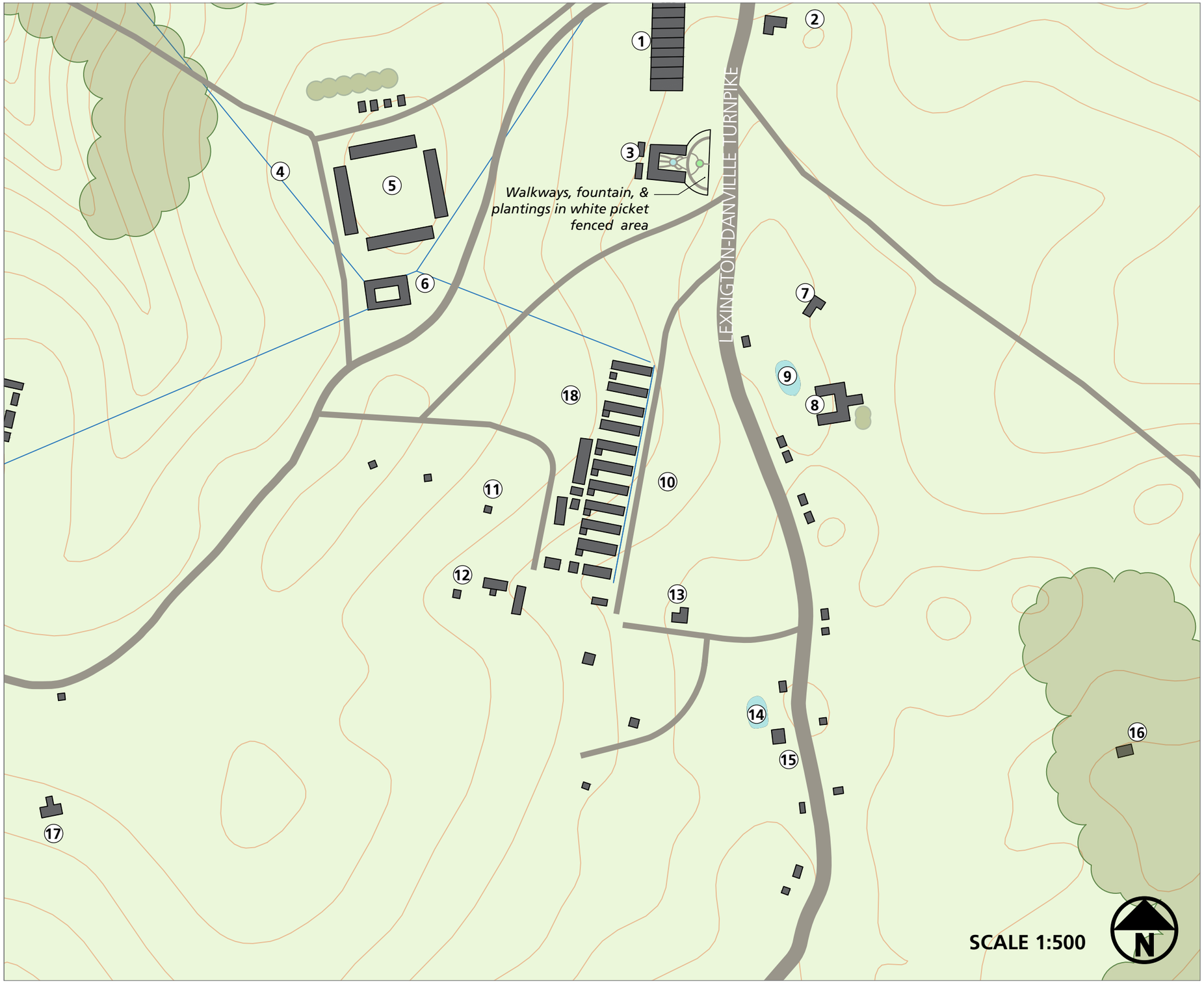


Illustration Key

1. Hay Sheds*
2. Camp Nelson House
3. U.S. Sanitary Commission Soldiers' Home
4. Water Conveyance Pipe
5. Stables
6. Reservoir
7. Sawmill
8. U.S. Colored Troops Barracks*
9. Pond
10. Hospital Wards
11. Dead House
12. Stable
13. Dwelling
14. Pond
15. Stable
16. Old Headquarters/Measles Hospital (Eruptive)
17. Dwelling
18. Hospital Garden Area

* Feature shown in historic photo

Notes:
1. Research did not reveal the use of unlabeled buildings.

Credits:
1. ESRI.
2. Simpson, James H."Camp Nelson and Its Defenses, Jessamine Co, KY." Map. Office of US Engineers, Cincinnati, Ohio. 1864.
3. Nicholson, George B."Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY. Main Line Across Neck of Land from Kentucky River to Hickman Creek."Office U.S. Engineers, Cincinnati Ohio. September 27, 1864.
4. Miller, A.B. "Map of Camp Nelson, KY". 1866.
5. McBride, Stephen."Archaeology of Camp Nelson". 2003, 7.7.
6. Period sketch Map of refugee camp layout. National Archives Military Records, Record Group 105, Entry 3379, Box 1, Washington, D.C., 1865.

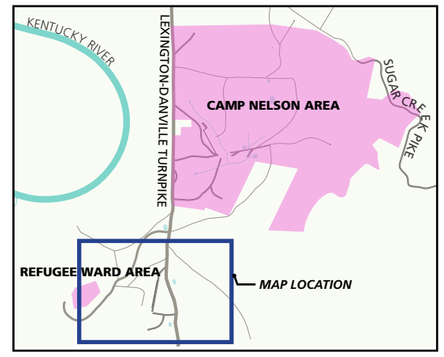


Illustration 2.8

1866 HOSPITAL, STABLES, RESERVOIR

CAMP NELSON

Camp Nelson National Monument

SEPTEMBER 2022

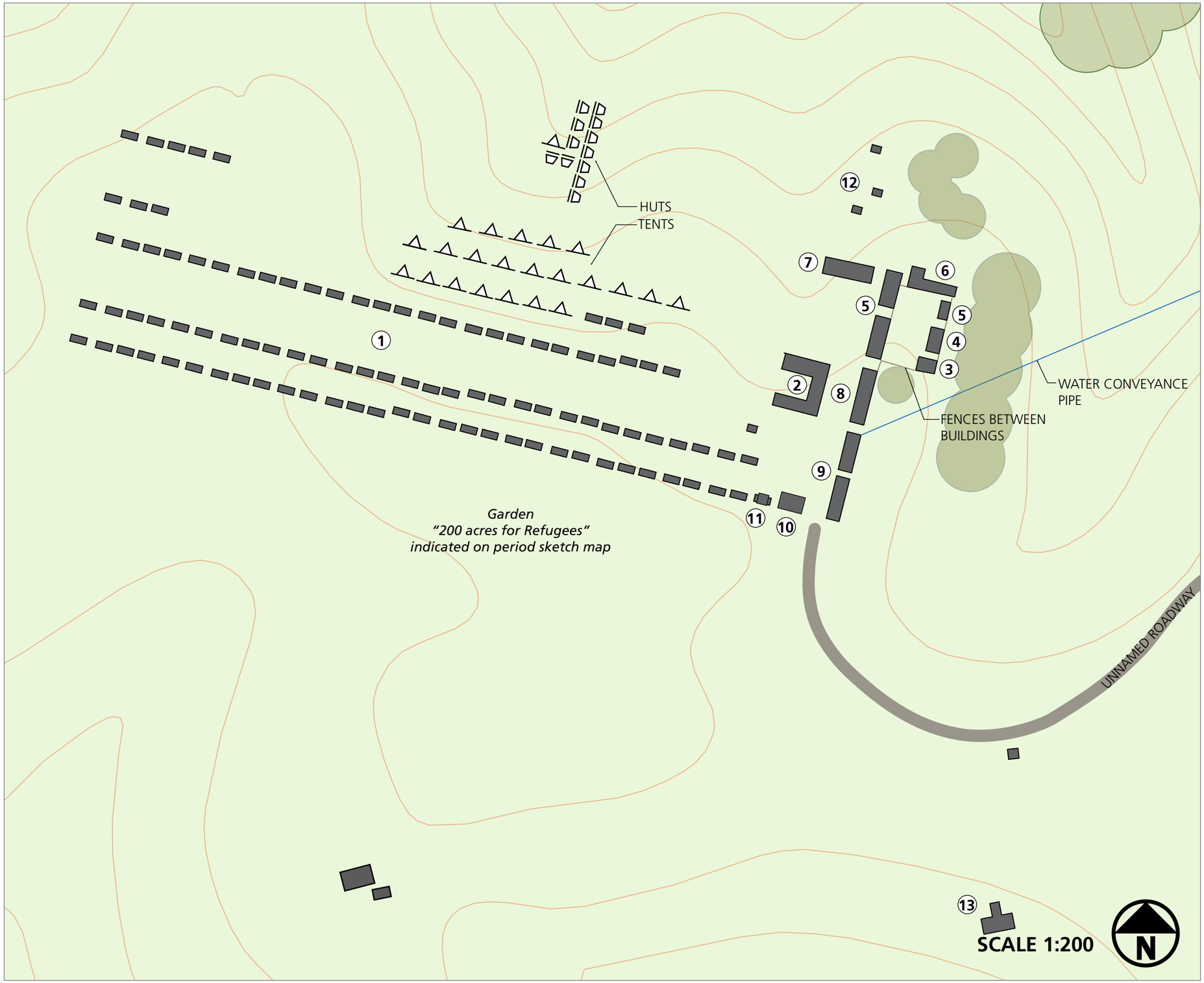


Illustration Key

1. 97 Cottages*
2. Dining Hall
3. Drug Store
4. Surgeon's Quarters
5. Store Room
6. Hospital Dining Hall
7. School House*
8. Office and Headquarters
9. Two Reception Wards
10. Commissary
11. Sutler Store
12. Dead House
13. Dwelling

* Feature shown in historic photo

Notes:
1. Research did not reveal the use of unlabeled buildings.
2. The number of huts and tents fluctuated with the refugee population throughout the historic period. Illustration depicts approximate number and location of structures visible in period image, see Figure 2.66.

Credits:
1. ESRI.
2. Simpson, James H."Camp Nelson and Its Defenses, Jessamine Co, KY." Map. Office of US Engineers, Cincinnati Ohio. 1864.
3. Nicholson, George B."Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY. Main Line Across Neck of Land from Kentucky River to Hickman Creek."Office U.S. Engineers, Cincinnati Ohio. September 27, 1864.
4. Miller, A.B. "Map of Camp Nelson, KY". 1866.
5. Period sketch Map of refugee camp layout. National Archives Military Records, Record Group 105, Entry 3379, Box 1, Washington, D.C., 1865.
6. McBride, Stephen and Kim McBride. "Seizing Freedom: Archaeology of Escaped Slaves at Camp Nelson, Kentucky." Nicholasville, KY: Camp Nelson Civil War Park, 2010.

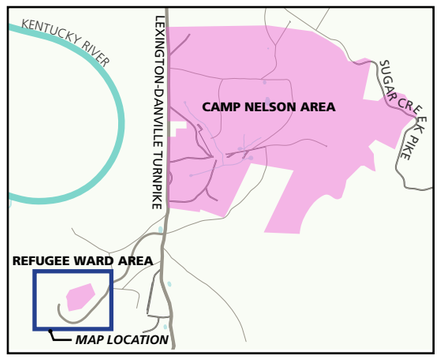


Illustration 2.9

1866

HOME FOR COLORED REFUGEES CAMP NELSON

Camp Nelson National Monument

SEPTEMBER 2022

Post-Bellum Camp Nelson and Community Development of Ariel/Hall

Reconstruction

After the Civil War, the nation struggled with how to rebuild—and heal—after such a divisive and destructive war. The era of Reconstruction is broadly defined as the period between 1861-1900, to include the liminal period during the war when formerly enslaved people began seeking refuge in US Army-held areas and the federal government was forced to grapple with its' own positions and responsibilities towards the African American refugees.[399] Reconstruction raised critical questions as to how society should function going forward and began to envision how American ideals of freedom and equality might be extended to all citizens. Collectively, the Military Reconstruction Acts, the Civil Rights Act of 1866, and the Reconstruction Amendments (13th, 14th, and 15th US Constitutional Amendments) were an attempt to define and codify this new American society.

The federal government intended for Reconstruction to serve as a way through the turmoil and toward a new just future, but despite some momentary gains, this path was blocked for many Americans. The South's African American population was no longer enslaved, but this did not change attitudes held by many White people about the place of African Americans in the social hierarchy, nor did it end the enforcement of White supremacy through law, custom, and violence. Further, the economic system in the United States remained intact, limiting the widespread economic uplift of its citizens.

Despite these circumstances, for a short time during Reconstruction, African American men in the South held elected political positions in state and federal legislatures. African American women often served as vital "behind the scenes" political actors in their communities because they were prohibited from public civic participation like voting and serving in office. Though access to resources was limited after the war, African American communities came together and pieced together what they needed to build schools, shops, homes, and farms. Additionally, the seeds of a multi-racial political and economic solidarity took root, whereby poor Whites and African Americans helped to elect Republicans on the hopes they could deliver on the promise of Reconstruction. The Radical Republican proposal of political equality seemed within reach.

It soon became clear, however, that there were many enemies of Reconstruction. Southern Democrats, manipulating the press, stoked fear in the populace over granting African Americans access to political power. They played to economic insecurities—that African Americans would take White-held jobs—as well as racist notions concerning the "inferiority" of African Americans. It did not help when Republican President Andrew Johnson actively undermined progress by promoting a lenient and discriminatory Reconstruction proposal. Though Johnson was a Republican himself, he did not approve of the Radical Republican's more progressive Reconstruction Act that supported wide-spread enfranchisement of African Americans. Johnson pushed for legislation that pardoned Confederates and perpetuated discrimination against African Americans. Johnson vetoed the Reconstruction Act after it passed Congress. Congress eventually overrode the vetoes. For this veto and his firing of War Secretary Stanton, the House of Representatives impeached Johnson, but the Senate failed to convict him.

This political turmoil coupled with unrelenting White terrorism against African American citizens dashed the hope for true Reconstruction in America. The Democratic Party soon took back control of many southern legislatures and "achieved overwhelming dominance by making White supremacy the cornerstone of their party."[400] By 1877, as US Army troops withdrew from the South, former Confederates increasingly reclaimed political offices. This event is considered by many scholars as the end to federal government Reconstruction. In turn, the civil rights of African American throughout the South were

399. Downs and Masur, "Era of Reconstruction." Note: Reconstruction is frequently more narrowly defined as the period between the end of the war in 1865 and the Compromise of 1877 in which Democrats regained control of southern states. This report uses the time period defined by the NHL theme study.

400. William J. Cooper Jr., Thomas E. Terrill, and Christopher Childers, *The American South: A History*, Fifth Edition, vol. I (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2017), 446.

systematically denied, and the prospect for a multi-racial working-class political movement was put to rest. As W. E. B. Du Bois famously wrote of Reconstruction, "The slave went free; stood a brief moment in the sun; then moved back again toward slavery."[401]

For Du Bois, Reconstruction was "an idealistic effort to construct a democratic, interracial political order from the ashes of slavery, as well as a phase in a prolonged struggle between capital and labor for control of the South's economic resources."[402] When Reconstruction began, it was clear that "African Americans had been preparing for the franchise, not just hoping for it."[403] Because African Americans had been planning for their freedom throughout enslavement, after the Civil War, they "mobilized with remarkable efficiency" to claim what had long been denied to them. They employed a variety of tactics and strategies, initiating "a broadly configured struggle to exercise the privileges of American citizenship and enjoy the full benefits of their human rights."[404]

Jim Crow Kentucky

Like other southern states, the Kentucky state legislature had no interest in protecting the legal rights or improving the social standing of Black Kentuckians. The legislative body quickly revised legal codes related to African American freedom in the state. As Marion Lucas describes:

> … conservative politicians, rather than eliminating all traces of slavery from state law, simply revised the old slave code, leaving much of it intact. Thus, those sections of Kentucky law defining slaves and mulattoes, articles describing emancipation procedures, regulations limiting the activities of free blacks, and measures dealing with runaways, though irrelevant, remained on the books. By adopting this approach the legislature legitimized second-class citizenship in the minds of whites and ensured the lingering shadow of slavery for blacks…. Kentucky's 1866 legal code contributed significantly to continuation of an atmosphere of intimidation and violence prevalent at the end of the civil war.[405]

In addition to legislative acts, White Kentuckians reinforced White supremacy through their memorialization of the Civil War—a remembrance that was in opposition to historical facts. In short, White Kentuckians connected themselves to the Lost Cause of the Confederacy and the racist ideology it was rooted in. By the 1870s, Kentucky, which sent far more men to fight for the United States than the Confederacy, soon underwent an "identity shift" as detailed by Anne E. Marshall:

> In the decades following the conflict, with amazing accord, white Kentuckians elected five governors who had sympathized with or fought for the Confederacy. They cheered in the streets in 1877 when the last Federal troops left the South, removing the final vestiges of Reconstruction. They built confederate monuments, published sectional periodicals, participated in veterans' organizations and historical societies, and produced literature that portrayed Kentucky as Confederate, while seemingly leaving the Union cause and the feats of its soldiers largely uncelebrated.[406]

Many White Kentuckians embedded a Confederate association into their self-identity.[407] These White Kentuckians struggled to identify with a cause that resulted in emancipation. Ultimately, many White Kentuckians revised their belief in the state's role in the Civil War, believing that they had not fought on behalf of ending slavery.

With the identity vacuum being filled by Lost Cause mythology, African Americans in Kentucky crafted their own remembrance of the war and why it was fought. They too organized celebrations, but Black Kentuckians honored the US victory and their emancipation. They also formed political groups aimed at securing the rights afforded to them as United States citizens. While such a prospect was daunting in the Jim Crow South, Black Kentuckians established towns and successful businesses throughout the state as it modernized in the twentieth century.

401. W. E. B. Du Bois, *Black Reconstruction in America 1860-1880* (New York: The Free Press, 1998), 30.
402. Eric Foner, *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution 1863-1877*, 2nd ed. (New York: Harper Collins, 2014), xix.
403. Hasan Kwame Jeffries, *Bloody Lowndes: Civil Rights and Black Power in Alabama's Black Belt* (New York: New York University Press, 2009), 14.
404. Jeffries, *Bloody Lowndes*, 13; 1–2.
405. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 2003, 292.
406. Marshall, *Creating a Confederate Kentucky*, 2.
407. Marshall, *Creating a Confederate Kentucky*, 5.

Postwar Camp Nelson

The present-day boundary of Camp Nelson National Monument consists of land owned during the historic period by Mary Scott, Oliver H. Perry and Frances Perry, and Joseph Moss.[408] Additionally, a seven-acre parcel within the Ariel/Hall community containing the Fee Memorial Church is also included in the national monument. The standalone parcel is located west of US 27 from the main site area. The remaining land that made up the camp's four thousand-acre historic boundary is outside of the national monument.

Scott-Perry-Glass Farm

Mary Scott reclaimed ownership of her farm after the war. Mary Scott's farm included property outside of the current boundaries of the Camp Nelson National Monument, including land on both sides of present-day US 27. For example, a house present during the Civil War on the west side of the public road was on the Scott farm. David Owens rented the house, and maps of Camp Nelson identify it as the Owens House. Owens operated a tavern, but an archeological investigation of the site suggests that the building did not stand for very long after the US Army left the area in 1866.

Mary Scott's home passed to her son Thomas B. Scott (1815-1871) at her death in 1869, then to his widow Hannah Logan Scott (1833-1911) in 1871. Mary Scott's other son, John D. Scott (1812-1885) appealed the settlement of his mother's will in 1876.[409] John's son, Edward, continued the suit until it was settled in 1887.[410] That year, the heirs of Mary Scott sold 229 acres of the property to Oliver H. Perry (1815-1897, married to Mary's daughter Fannie Scott) and his sons Robert and John Perry.[411] Mary Scott's daughter-in-law, Hannah, retained ownership of an 875-acre tract that included the original Scott Home (the "White House"). A house built at the site of the former Camp Nelson Headquarters (on the west side of US 27) was part of this same parcel and was owned by Hannah Logan Scott in 1877. It later passed to the Glass family before it burned in the 1940s or 1950s (**Figure 2.71**).[412] The original Scott home and the surrounding property near the Kentucky River, which is outside the boundaries of the national monument, remained in the Scott family into the 2000s. Workers razed the original Scott house during construction of the US 27 Bridge across the Kentucky River in the 1970s. The 229 acres sold to the Perrys in 1887 remained in that family until 1948.

1864-1884 Founding of Ariel, Early Development, & Struggles

Following the US Army's exit from Camp Nelson in 1866, the Home for Colored Refugees continued to operate under the management of both the Freedmen's Bureau and the AMA. Formerly enslaved women and children, some of whose husbands and fathers were in the US Army until 1867, continued to live at the property, and some former soldiers moved there after the war. The home was subjected to a number of raids by White mobs in October and November 1866. This threat of racist violence eventually resulted in the departure of White minister Rev. Abisha Scofield.[413]

Rev. John G. Fee and his associates made plans to turn the site into an African American community centered on a church and school, continuing the close association of these entities that had existed since Rev. Fee arrived to work with the refugees at Camp Nelson. Rev. Fee believed that landownership was a critical component to helping the newly freed African Americans. He stated that the federal government "must adopt a policy of bold action. As a minimum, blacks should be allowed to acquire land and achieve economic success, thereby assuring independence."[414] Rev. Fee envisioned a program to promote Black land

408. The portions of Camp Nelson owned by Joseph Moss and N. T. Merritt during the historic period are outside of the current national monument boundaries. Deed research for the purposes of this report was limited to parcels containing portions of the national monument.
409. "Circuit Court File 93" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1876).
410. "Circuit Court File 166" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1887).
411. "Circuit Court File 166" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1887), "Commissioner's Deed Book 6:22" (Nicholasville, KY: Jessamine County Circuit Court, 1887), Box 16, File 93.
412. D. G. and Company Beers, *Atlas of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine, and Woodford Counties, Kentucky* (Philadelphia, PA: D. G. Beers and Company, 1877). Donald Carter, Personal Communication, interview by Stephen McBride, n.d.
413. Abisha Scofield, "Letter to Revs. Strieby and Whipple, December 14, 1866" (Berea, Kentucky: Berea College, 1866), American Missionary Association Archives.
414. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, 185.

ownership by selling lots "to black families who possessed strong moral character." [415] The Ariel/Hall community at the former Home for Colored Refugees developed out of these efforts.

The US Army had returned the Home for Colored Refugees property and the surrounding land back to John and Joseph Moss after the war. By June of 1867, Rev. Fee reported that "Moss is ready to sell" and warned that the land "may pass into other hands. He has a contract with me to let me have it for ten thousand dollars, if I can raise the money."[416] Fee eventually persuaded Joseph M. Moss to sell him 130 acres around the refugee camp site for less than the $10,000 previously agreed upon. On February 29, 1868, Joseph M. Moss and Matilda H. Moss sold the 130 acres to Rev. Fee for $7,525.56.[417]

Rev. Fee laid out the town of Ariel and sold the lots to Black veterans and former refugees who developed a permanent community.[418] According to Richard Sears, Rev. Fee secured a charter for the village from the state legislature.[419] Most of the early residents of the town of Ariel were formerly enslaved persons who remained at the Home for Colored Refugees, USCT veterans, and their families.

Rev. Fee and other trustees also established a school, Ariel Academy, which later became known as Camp Nelson Academy. Matilda and John G. Fee deeded two adjacent parcels to Ariel Academy, one containing 7 acres for use by the school and one containing 2.5 acres for use by the church. A deed of release granted by Joseph M. Moss and Matilda H. Moss, dated March 23, 1868, reports that its purpose was "to free the nine-and-one-half acres of land sold by John G. Fee & Matilda H. Fee his wife through their attorney James O'Heavy to John G. Fee, Gabriel Burdett, James O'Heavy, George Blakeman, Rev. T. A. Noble & David F. Newton, trustees of Ariel Academy."[420]

In March 1868, the Freedmen's Bureau purchased some of the refugee camp buildings for use by Ariel Academy.[421] The Freedmen's Bureau paid $1,520 for the buildings. A letter from Fee dated April 9, 1868, indicates that purchase consisted of the former refugee camp headquarters ("one large building 75 feet long & 30 broad, 2 stories high – 18 rooms") and "the two wards, 75 by 25 feet each," although he did not specify which two out of the four surviving ward buildings. The former headquarters would become a boarding house, and two of flanking ward buildings surrounding it would become the school and the chapel. The Bureau did not purchase the 1865-era schoolhouse. The school relocated to the ward building in early 1868. The 1875 annual report to the AMA quotes from a letter by Rev. Fee recounting the acquisition of former Camp Nelson buildings for use by the school and church that he had established:

> The Government erected quite a number of cottages, and some larger buildings as hospital wards and school rooms. In these, schools were for a time sustained, and chiefly by the American Missionary Association. At the close of the war some of these buildings were bought by friends, and three of the larger reserved for school and church purposes. The church and school yet live.[422]

Richard Sears states that "Both the village and the academy had secured charters from the state legislature. According to Fee, the charter of the Camp Nelson school was exactly like Berea's."[423] In its first year, the school operated under the patronage of the AMA and the Western Freedmen's Union Commission.[424] The AMA would continue to supply teachers for the school for many years.[425] A report dated January 1, 1869, describes the school as follows:

415. Brian R. Eades, *Slaves to Soldiers: A History of the Black Community at Camp Nelson, Jessamine County, Kentucky*, A Report Prepared for the Camp Nelson Preservation & Restoration Foundation (1995), 15.
416. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 369.
417. A copy of the deed is reproduced in Eades, *Slaves to Soldier*, 25-26.
418. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," in *Kentucky African Americans in the Civil War: A Defining Moment in the Quest for Freedom*, ed. Joseph E. Brent (Frankfort: Kentucky Heritage Council, 1997), 26-27.
419. Richard Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky: Integration and Social Equality at Berea, 1866-1904* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1996), 151-152.
420. A copy of the deed is reproduced in Eades, *Slaves to Soldiers*, 25-26.
421. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky,* 151.
422. *Twenty-Ninth Annual Report of the American Missionary Association* (New York: American Missionary Association, 1875), 24.
423. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky*, 151-152.
424. J. W. Alvord, *Seventh Semi-Annual Report on Schools for Freedmen, January 1, 1869* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1869), 54.
425. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky*, 151.

> *Ariel Academy.*—This school is an incorporated institution, located in Camp Nelson, and modeled after Berea College. Its buildings consist of a school-house, chapel, and a large two-story building, which will be used as a boarding-house. At present the institution is in its infancy. Mr. Newton and wife are in charge, and report for the month of December [1868] 37 pupils.[426]

Many of the residents of the Ariel/Hall community became early students at Ariel Academy, and some matriculated to Berea College, which Rev. Fee had founded in 1855. At the time of the 1870 census, the community of Ariel/Hall contained about twenty-five households. An 1875 history of Berea College reported, "at Camp Nelson there is still a large colored settlement, the most moral, harmonious and hopeful in the State."[427]

Despite the efforts of Rev. Fee and other philanthropists, the residents of Ariel/Hall faced significant economic challenges. Formerly enslaved residents of Kentucky found themselves with limited opportunities for housing and employment. Many recently emancipated people initially returned to the farms where they lived prior to emancipation. Others moved to new locations where they created new communities.[428] According to historians Peter Smith and Karl Raitz,

> In 1869 an employment agency was established in Lexington to help Negroes find jobs on the estates, since most Negroes had experience only in agricultural work and were qualified for few city jobs. The one alternative for most rural Negroes was to remain in the country and seek employment in the only occupations they knew - farm work on the estates of their former masters. Slaves had been housed on the estates in small groups of rude cabins that served as the center of all slave life and social activity. Providing quarters and garden plots for freed workers would have meant that estate owners were still responsible for maintenance and taxes. From the viewpoint of the estate owners, it was both easier and more desirable to have laborers housed in their own cabins on their own land, yet close to the estate so they owners, it was both easier and more desirable to have laborers housed in their own cabins on their own land, yet close to the estate so they would be readily available. Negros were restricted with regard to where they might live. Impoverished, they could not purchase Bluegrass property easily, nor were they welcome in white communities. Many estate owners responded to the opportunity to secure a reliable labor pool by setting aside a small tract of land at the back of their property for resettlement of freed Negroes. Tracts of ten to twenty acres were divided into lots of a quarter acre to five acres, and the land was given or sold at a modest price to the Negros. [429]

When compared to these exploitative practices, however, the relative autonomy of the Ariel/Hall community stands out as an anomaly among other rural Black communities developing in the region at that time. Although Ariel/Hall provided more equitable opportunities for the Black residents, Kim A. McBride described the challenges faced during the community's early years:

> The transition from slavery to wage labor was not an easy one in central Kentucky. Initial reports from the Freedman's Bureau office in Lexington suggest that negotiated contracts for payment of wages to ex-slaves were widely ignored, but initially better honored in Jessamine County because of the presence of Camp Nelson. However, Bureau officials also testified of widespread resentment against the camp, leading to several attacks in the fall of 1868 by local gangs, often called Raiders or Regulators. One of the leading missionaries, Abisha Scofield, was forced to leave Ariel and several African Americans were badly injured. Despite this violence, many USCT families and other refugees did permanently relocate around the old refugee camp, perhaps encouraged by the chance to buy land cheaply and the educational opportunity offered by Ariel Academy. [430]

In 1875, Gabriel Burdett recognized the progress that the community was making with the combined leadership of Howard Fee (Rev. John G. Fee's son), W. S. Overstreet, and himself. He saw it as a

426. J. W. Alvord, *Seventh Semi-Annual Report*, 47.
427. *Berea College, Ky.: An Interesting History* (Cincinnati: Elm Street Printing Company, 1875), 39.
428. Lucas, *History of Blacks in Kentucky*, 1992, 268–77; Smith and Raitz, "Negro Hamlets and Agricultural Estates in Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass," 226–29.
429. Smith and Raitz, "Negro Hamlets and Agricultural Estates in Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass," 227.
430. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 27.

place where "all Christians could be educated as well as white children under the same advantages. And that the colorade [*sic*] people can perform the duties of citizens as well as any of the white people of the same state under the same circumstances."[431] The community had instituted fines for making oaths, public intoxication, and other offenses to law and order.

Despite the hopes and aspirations of the town's Black residents, racial inequality persisted in Kentucky. The years 1876 and 1877 brought challenges and disruptions to the school's leadership. Faced with violent attacks from organized White supremacist groups and a new type of second-class citizenship, approximately twenty-six thousand African Americans left the South to establish homesteads in Kansas during the 1870s, a general migration known as the Exoduster movement. In 1877, Rev. Gabriel Burdett led a group of African Americans from Kentucky to Kansas as a part of this movement.[432] "Emigrant groups from Fayette, Garrard, Scott, Boyle, Ohio, Jessamine, and Jefferson Counties in central and northern Kentucky participated in large numbers."[433] In January 1878, shortly after the departure of Burdett and the Exodusters, the Louisville *Courier-Journal* described the transition from the Home for Colored Refugees to the present village of Ariel/Hall: "At the close of the war all the buildings were sold and nearly all removed. Those remaining are in close proximity, and are owned and occupied by 'The Nation's Wards'—quite a village, and known as Ariel."[434] An 1877 map of Jessamine County includes a rough map of the town of "Arial," with dots representing buildings including "Colored Ch[urch]" and "Arial [*sic*] Academy" (**Figure 2.71**).[435]

Brian Eades writes that "This proved to be a perilous time for the citizens of Ariel. Shortly after Rev. Burdett's departure, Howard Fee announced his intention of leaving the school."[436] The departure of two of the community's most respected leaders during the late-1870s presented many challenges. While William S. Overstreet would remain in the village, the community appears to have struggled to match the progress made under the combined leadership of Rev. Burdett, Rev. John G. Fee, and Howard Fee during the mid-1870s.

Ariel Academy and the church Rev. Fee founded would become important cultural resources for the residents. In 1881, the Trustees of Ariel Academy purchased an adjoining farm of 115 acres, increasing the school's holdings to 123.5 acres.[437] Ariel Academy was renamed Camp Nelson Academy in 1884. In 1891, Camp Nelson Academy had "107 acres of land"—perhaps a reference to the area of the 115-acre farm under cultivation—"and two good buildings," one of which may have been the large dormitory.[438]

According to historian Richard Sears, "By 1891, forty-two families had established a farm village on this tract. The church Fee had founded was still there, and Ariel Academy was also operational at that date."[439] The settlement now known as Ariel, Camp Nelson, or the Hall was unincorporated, and its population was rarely recorded in census data or other sources. Census records do indicate that most residents of Ariel/Hall worked as farm laborers or servants in 1870 and 1880. By 1900 and 1910, most men were still farm laborers, but some were masons or carpenters, or worked at the E. J. Curley & Company distillery in the village of Camp Nelson on the river. Most women in the community worked at home, but some worked as laundresses, domestic servants, or teachers at Ariel Academy or the local public school (established in 1874).[440]

431. Quoted in Eades, *Slaves to Soldiers*, 18.
432. Richard D. Sears, "Burdett, Gabriel," *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2015), 75.
433. Selena Sanderfer, "Exodusters," *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2015), 171.
434. Simeon, "Camp Nelson," *Courier-Journal* (Louisville, KY), 23 January 1878, 3.
435. Beers & Co., *Atlas of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine, and Woodford Counties, Ky.*, 64-65.
436. Brian R. Eades, *Slaves to Soldiers: A History of the Black Community at Camp Nelson, Jessamine County, Kentucky, A Report Prepared for the Camp Nelson Preservation & Restoration Foundation* (1995), 19.
437. Edward P. Cowan, "Board for Freedmen," *The Assembly Herald,* Vol. XII, No. 11 (November 1903) 561.
438. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky*, 151.
439. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky*, 185 n21.
440. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 28.



Figure 2.71. The Camp Nelson area in 1877 (Source: Beers, D.G. and Company 1877 Atlas of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine, and Woodford Counties, Kentucky. D. G. Beers and Company, Philadelphia, PA).

1884-1915 Peak of Development of Ariel/Hall

Transportation

The US Army presence in Kentucky did little to improve the state's financial position during the Civil War. Although the US Army was reliant on Kentucky's infrastructure, they declared themselves exempt from toll payments, which contributed to an overall loss of revenue for the state. Also, a shortage of available steamboats upended commerce along the Kentucky River during the war. Confederate guerrillas sought to hinder US Army advancement by sabotaging the state's infrastructure, targeting steamboats and lock systems along the Kentucky River.

Assessing the cost of damages and repairs after the Civil War, the Kentucky state legislature attempted to privatize the lock and dam system on the Kentucky River before ultimately ceding control of repairs to the federal government.[441]

In the 1870s, Cincinnati Southern Railroad resumed construction on the uncompleted Lexington-Danville Railroad crossing at the Kentucky River, which had been first proposed in the 1850s. In 1877, the company completed a new steel cantilever bridge known as High Bridge (approximately 6 miles west of Camp Nelson). The former Lexington-Danville railroad, then owned by Cincinnati Southern, connected Cincinnati, Lexington, and Chattanooga by 1880.

The federal government repaired the lock and dam system by 1882, however, the lock and dam systems along the Kentucky River continued to face

441. Coleman, "Kentucky River Steamboats," 17; Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 131, 156, 158; Marshall, *Creating a Confederate Kentucky*, 12.

routine setbacks and failures. At the same time, railroad networks expanded steadily throughout the state. The government would not complete the lock and dam network until 1917. By that time, river commerce had almost entirely shifted to the railroad."[442] Toward the end of the 1800s, the railroads dominated commerce and passenger transportation, diminishing the importance of Lexington-Danville Turnpike.[443]

Industry, Agriculture, and Economy

The Emergence of the "Burley Belt"

For much of the 1800s, hemp was the primary cash crop in the Central Bluegrass region and Jessamine County.[444] Tobacco did not gain traction in central Kentucky until after the Civil War. According to historians Peter Smith and Karl Raitz, "The absence of a viable local tobacco market and the high cost of transportation to the Cincinnati and New Orleans markets precluded large-scale production of the dark tobacco traditional in Maryland and Virginia. . . ."[445]

Kentucky suffered less damage to farmland and infrastructure during the Civil War than most of the other states in the South. This allowed the state to pick up some of the tobacco market left open from the war-ravaged Carolinas and Virginia.[446] Following the Civil War, the state's intact economic infrastructure coupled with the introduction of the newly discovered Burley tobacco variety expanded tobacco production in the Central Bluegrass region.[447]

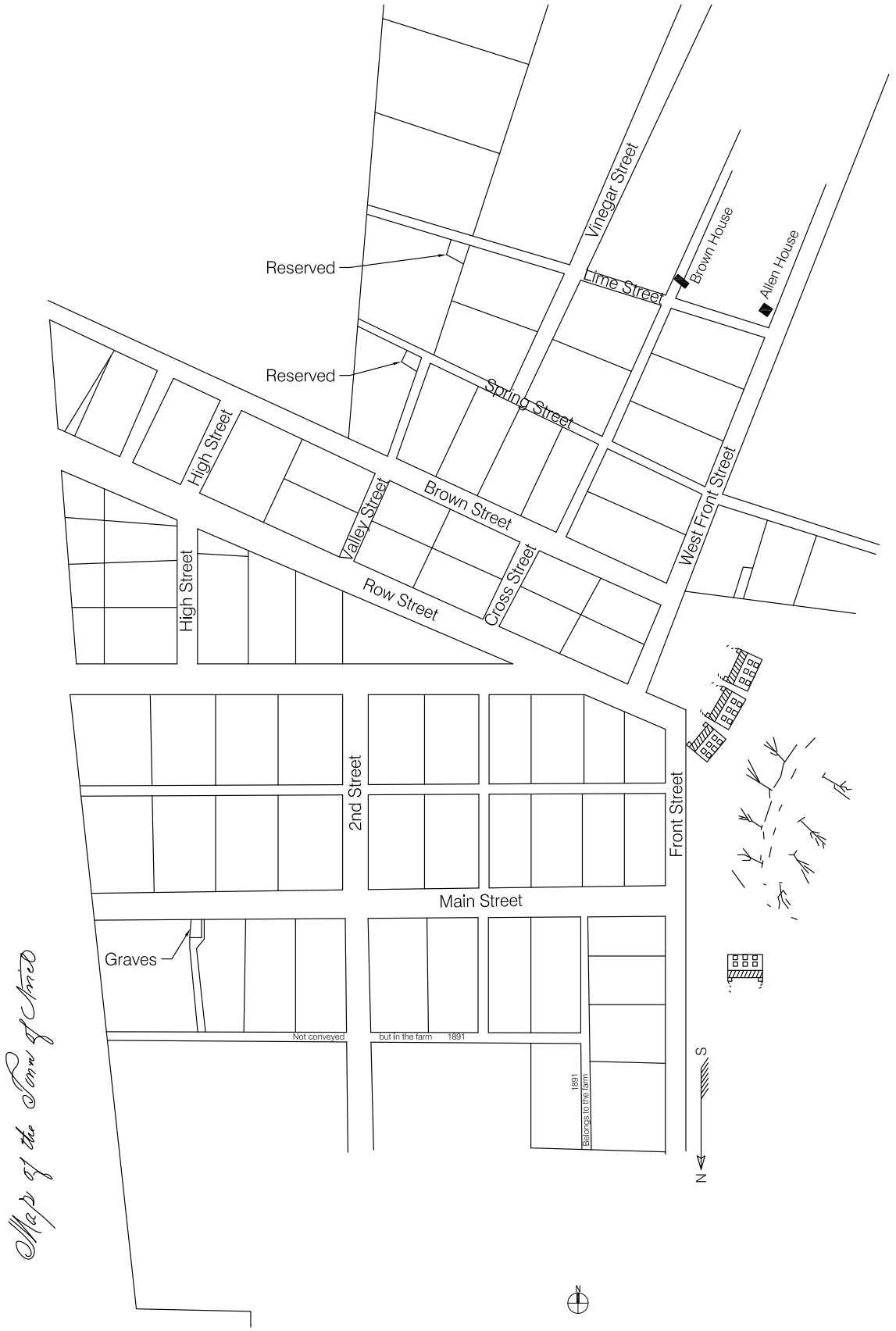
As demand grew for Burley tobacco, which was well suited to the Kentucky climate and the preferred variety for the emerging market of rolled cigarettes, central Kentucky emerged as the "Burley Belt" by the 1880's.[448] During the same period, hemp production fell drastically in the United States, though it remained the top cash crop in Kentucky until the beginning of the 1900s.[449] Kentucky produced 94 percent of all the hemp in the United States in 1890, although only one thousand farmers in the state were still growing the crop at this time.[450]

Tobacco demand grew exponentially in the early-1900s, as cigarettes gained popularity with servicemen during the first and second World Wars. The postwar surplus of industrial fertilizer further facilitated industrial-scale production of the nutrient-demanding crop, which farmers had previously produced only as a supplement to other crops due to its heavy demand on the soil. The cotton and timber lobby influenced the passing of the Marihuana Tax Act of 1937, which mostly eliminated the cultivation of hemp in the United States for the remainder of the 1900s, making way for tobacco to dominate the Kentucky agricultural landscape.[451] Burley tobacco would rein as the primary cash crop in Kentucky.

Ariel/Hall

The earliest plat map of the town of Ariel/Hall bears references to conveyances in 1891, suggesting that it was prepared around that time (**Figure 2.72**). Although the north arrow is upside-down, the plat is clearly related to the present street and parcel boundaries of Ariel/Hall. Angled streets (Row Street and Brown Street) in the northern part of the plat appear to correspond to the parallel streets of double cottages that formed most of the refugee camp. The map shows symbols for generic houses along Front Street (now Church Street). These symbols, commonly seen on maps of the

442. Johnson and Parrish, "Kentucky River Development," 131.
443. W. Stephen McBride, J. David McBride, and Kim A. McBride, "Report of the Archaeological Investigations at Fort Jones, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park," Kentucky Archaeological Survey Report (Nicholasville, KY: University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology Kentucky Heritage Council, January 2006), 13.
444. Smith and Raitz, "Negro Hamlets and Agricultural Estates in Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass," 221.
445. Janie-Rice Brother, "Liggett and Myers Harpring Tobacco Storage Warehouse," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (Lexington, KY: Kentucky Archaeological Survey, May 2012), 8, http://www.gardenstogables.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Harpring-Whse-NRHP-Final-Draft.pdf.
446. John van Willigen and Susan C. Eastwood, *Tobacco Culture: Farming Kentucky's Burley Belt*, Kentucky Remembered (Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 2008), 40.
447. Janie-Rice Brother, "Liggett and Myers Harpring Tobacco Storage Warehouse," 8.
448. Young, *History of Jessamine County*, 160; John van Willigen and Susan C. Eastwood, *Tobacco Culture : Farming Kentucky's Burley Belt*, 146.
449. Young, *History of Jessamine County*, 160.;John van Willigen and Anne van Willigen, *Food and Everyday Life on Kentucky Family Farms, 1920-1950*, Kentucky Remembered (Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 2006), 146.
450. Klotter and Friend, *A New History of Kentucky*, Second edition: 279.
451. John van Willigen and Anne van Willigen, *Food and Everyday Life on Kentucky Family Farms, 1920-1950*, 148.



Map of the Town of Ariel, ca.1891

Figure 2.72. Map of the Town of Ariel," redrawn from the photocopy of a ca. 1891 plat map (Source: RATIO Architects, 2021).



Figure 2.73. Illustrations of surviving standard double cottage (1865) from the National Home for Colored Refugees. (Source: "Camp Nelson on Kentucky Cliffs," Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY), 11 September 1895, 15).

1820 to 1890 period, suggest the front elevation of a two-story side-gabled house with a façade divided into three bays and chimneys on both gable ends. One house was off the southeast corner of what is now Hall Road (Main Street) and Church Street (Front Street). Three houses were in a row perpendicular to the end of Row Street, with the southernmost roughly centered on the line of the street. These buildings may represent the former refugee camp headquarters and the two ward buildings purchased in 1868, or they may represent later buildings built on roughly the same site. The south and center houses appear to roughly correspond with the locations of the present church and the parsonage foundation, respectively.

Any Civil War era buildings on the Camp Nelson Academy campus appear to have been replaced before September 1895. An article published that month included an engraving of the "Only Government Building Left," depicting one of the double cottages matching those seen in 1860s photographs of the Home for Colored Refugees (**Figure 2.73**).[452]

Rev. Fee slowly sold off lots in Ariel/Hall through the 1880s and 1890s, selling one in 1900, only a few months before his death.[453] His will stipulated that the proceeds from the sale of his remaining lots be given to the school; his heirs continued to sell lots until the last was sold in 1904.[454]

On January 20, 1904, Edwin S. Fee, executor of the estate of Rev. John G. Fee, deeded two tracts to the Presbyterian Board of Missions for Freedmen, the Trustees of Camp Nelson Academy, and the AMA for $1.00, the required minimum for a property transfer. The first tract included 9.5 acres, 7 acres for the school and 2.5 acres for the church. These were the same parcels deeded in 1868. The second tract was the 115-acre farm that the trustees of Ariel Academy had purchased in 1881.[455]

At some point, perhaps around 1900, the community platted and expanded the town toward the north and south of its original configuration. At about the same time, the academy trustees attempted to sell the school, which they finally did in 1903-1904 to the Presbyterian Church USA Board of Missions for Freedmen, who renamed the school, the Fee Memorial Institute.[456] With this sale, the school shifted from being non-denominational and non-sectarian under Rev. Fee to one managed under the Presbyterian Church. At the time that the Board of Missions for Freedmen of the Presbyterian Church acquired the school, the property included a farm of 120 acres "said to be fairly good land. About twenty-five more acres

452. "Camp Nelson on Kentucky Cliffs," *Courier-Journal* (Louisville, KY), 11 September 1895, 15.
453. While the total number of original lots in the town is unknown, Fee sold nine lots in 1868, one lot in 1869, 2 lots in 1870, one lot in 1871, and one lot in 1872 for a total of fourteen lots. Sears, *Camp Nelson Kentucky*, lx.
454. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* lx, lxiii.
455. Jessamine County Deed Book 21, 190 (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1868).
456. Edward P. Cowan, "A New Enterprise," *The Assembly Herald*, 1903, 8 edition, sec. 2, General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America.

contiguous to the farm is divided into village lots," referring to the village of Ariel/Hall.[457]

On April 24, 1907, the AMA deeded their interest in 9.5 acres to the Presbyterian Church for $1.00.[458] This transfer marked the end of the AMA's forty-three-year relationship with the school.

The Board of Missions built the Fee Memorial Church between 1903 and 1914.[459] An article published December 1912 recounted a "Farmer's Institute" conference held in the new Fee Memorial Church, suggesting the building had been recently completed. [460]

The Fee Memorial Institute initially operated as an elementary or primary school offering grades one through eight. During the 1903-1904 school year, approximately forty students from the village attended the day school. A July 1904 article by Rev. John A. Boyden (1862-1926) laid out the school's advantages and plans for the fall 1904 term. "The school is situated in the midst of a colored population, in a healthy locality, free from the temptations of a city, or of a small town. There are no saloons, nor dives to allure the young to destruction." The Presbyterians had begun to repair the facilities, which had likely suffered deferred maintenance during the preceding decade. "Our property consists of a dormitory and a recitation building, also used for religious services. Repairs have been made on the property at a cost of nearly three hundred dollars within the past few weeks." The board planned to "open the boarding department" for the fall 1904 term and "to develop a school for boys, permitting girls to attend as day pupils." The 115-acre farm "will be cultivated wholly, or in part, by student labor… We propose to develop industrial training as speedily as the means will permit. Sewing will be taught the girls, and gardening and farming, the boys." [461]

Administrators expanded the agricultural education program at the Fee Memorial Institute in the early-1910s with courses in agricultural science. A 1914 report by the Kentucky Department of Education gives a sense of the course offerings at that time:

> The instruction given covers the common school course of the State, with a short high school course. In addition to this, industrial education is also encouraged. Domestic economy receives attention. Sewing and cooking and general care of the home are important elements of each girl's training.
>
> For boys, farming, printing, carpentry, and broom making are provided. Special attention is given to agriculture. The farm attached to the institution affords ample opportunity for practical work on the farm. Boys' corn club work has created considerable interest among the people. Farmer's club for discussion of problems, and conferences held under the auspices of the State University, Lexington, Ky., have done much to help the community interest in farming.[462]

Community Name

The community formed on the site of the Home for Colored Refugees has been known by several names since the 1860s. The name Camp Nelson remained in use for much of its history. Ariel Academy was named before March 1868, when its name appeared on a deed. In his study of Camp Nelson, Brian Eades notes that the community had adopted the name Ariel by September 1871.[463] Residents used the name Ariel, occasionally spelled "Arial," interchangeably with Camp Nelson for much of the period between 1871 and 1900. In a 1994 interview, Kay Anderson reported that a friend in Hall had found two plat maps showing her house and that these plats called the town Matilda Park, named after Rev. Fee's wife.[464] To date, no other reference to this name has been found.

Richard Sears states that the community's name originated from the sprite in William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* (ca. 1610-1611), a literary paradigm

457. Cowan, "The Board for Freedmen," 606.
458. Jessamine County Deed Book 21, 194.
459. Barksdale Haslett, "Bulletin of the Kentucky Department of Education" 7, no. 4 (1914): 327.
460. "Fee Memorial Institute," *The Assembly Herald,* December 1912, 670.
461. J. A. Boyden, "A New Enterprise," *The Herald and Presbyter,* Vol. LXXV, No. 30 (27 July 1904), 15-16.
462. *Bulletin of Kentucky Department of Education: History of Education in Kentucky,* Vol. 7, No. 4 (July 1914), 327.
463. Eades, *Slaves to Soldiers,* 16.
464. Kay Anderson, interview by Kim McBride, 23 November 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt78cz324x2g.

of the formerly enslaved.[465] Shakespeare's works saw revived interest in the nineteenth century. There are other possible sources for the name "Ariel." The biblical Hebrew אֲרִיאֵל (ari'él), literally translated as "lion of God," was a poetic name for Jerusalem, used several times in Isaiah 29. A reference of this type could be expected from ministers like Rev. John G. Fee or Gabriel Burdett.

The name "Ariel" as applied to the community seems to have fallen out of use in the 1890s in favor of the broader name Camp Nelson.[466] While Ariel Academy or Ariel College had been renamed Camp Nelson Academy in 1884, the old name appears in references as late as 1898. An 1898 county history describes the village of Camp Nelson as including the former Fitchport or Boone's Knob settlement at the north end of the covered bridge, Camp Nelson National Cemetery, and Ariel College.[467] The name Ariel was still in occasional use as of 1910, when a newspaper described "the negro settlement, Ariel" being "about a mile north-west of Camp Nelson" on the river.[468] Residents interviewed in a 1994 oral history project, most born between the 1890s and the 1930s, were generally unfamiliar with the name "Ariel," suggesting that it had fallen out of use by their childhoods. The name Camp Nelson appears to have remained in use as an umbrella term encompassing the village on the river, Ariel, and an area known as Poortown for the next century.

Ariel was widely known as "the Hall" by the 1930s. Several residents interviewed in 1994 noted that it was always "the Hall" and never simply "Hall."[469] A 1940 Louisville *Courier-Journal* article about Marion Carpenter refers to "his home at Halls, near Camp Nelson, on the Kentucky River…"[470] Some speculate that the name was derived from the Benevolent Hall on Main Street, home of the general store and the second-floor public hall used for dances and other events.[471] Richard Sears, who conducted extensive research on Camp Nelson and Rev. Fee, suggests that the name may have honored Captain Theron E. Hall (1821-1880), assistant Quartermaster of Camp Nelson from 1863 to 1864 and superintendent of the refugee camp from 1864 to 1865.[472] A native of Massachusetts, "Hall solicited Fee's help in providing religious, educational, and practical services for the black population of Camp Nelson. Hall especially wanted all the noncommissioned officers taught to read and write as soon as possible."[473] Captain Hall was known for his humane and sympathetic support for both Black enlisted men and the formerly enslaved people in the refugee camp.[474]

Buildings Associated with the Ariel Academy/Camp Nelson Academy/Fee Memorial Institute

Refugee Camp Office/Headquarters/ Ariel Academy Head Dormitory (ca. 1865)

Missionaries used this building as the office/headquarters for the Home for Colored Refugees, constructed in 1864 (**Figure 2.68**). The Freedmen's Bureau purchased this building for use as a boarding house at Ariel Academy in 1868, one of three original buildings associated with the school. The building was apparently demolished by 1895 but was likely replaced much earlier with the construction of a large new dormitory around the 1870s.

Two Refugee Camp Wards/Schoolhouse and Chapel (ca. 1865)

These buildings were two of the four buildings flanking the office/headquarters at the Home for Colored Refugees. The Freedmen's Bureau purchased these two buildings alongside the office/headquarters in 1868. The two buildings served as the original schoolhouse and chapel for the

465. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky*, 95.
466. The name "Ariel" reportedly appeared on an 1893 deed for the Williams property at 1395 Hall Road. Nancy McKinney, interview by Kim McBride, 21 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt7jsx647c7b.
467. Young, *A History of Jessamine County*, 185.
468. "Camp Nelson," *Kentucky Advocate* (Danville, KY), 6 May 1910, 6.
469. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt75mk656v03; Patricia R. Walker, interview by Kim McBride, 19 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt7d513tx55j.
470. Howard Hardaway, "At 100 He's Ready for a Pension," *Courier-Journal,* 25 August 1940, Sunday Magazine, 2.
471. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994.
472. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky*, 151.
473. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky*, 5.
474. Richard D. Sears, *"A Practical Recognition of the Brotherhood of Man": John G. Fee and the Camp Nelson Experience* (Berea, KY: Berea College Press, 1986), 8-10, 12.

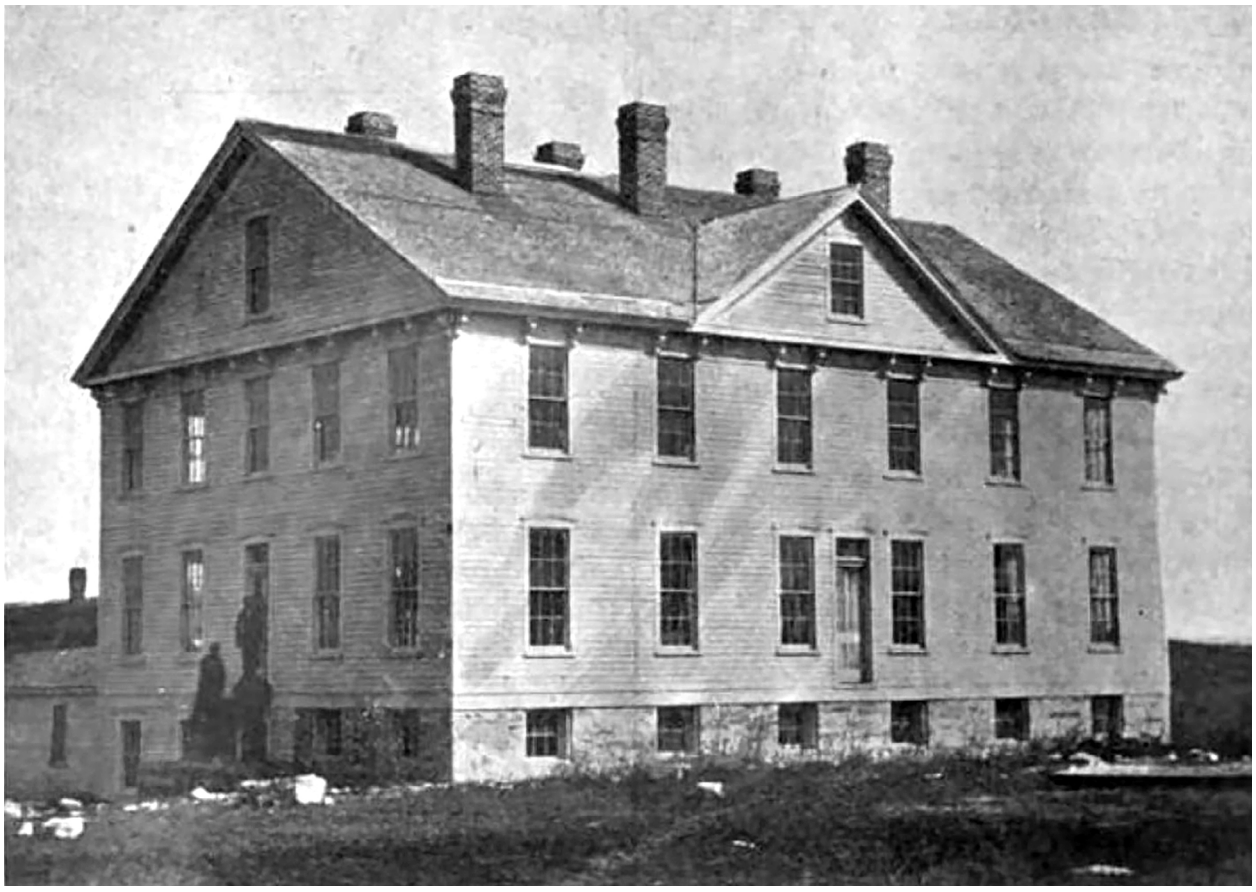


Figure 2.74. View of dormitory of the Fee Memorial Institute, published December 1903. Note the lack of a front porch. The building in the distance at left may be the schoolhouse (Source: Edward P. Cowan, "The Board for Freedmen," The Assembly Herald, Vol. 9, No. 6 (December 1903), 606).

Ariel Academy. The buildings were apparently demolished by 1895.

Girls' Dormitory / Main Building (ca. 1871-1880)
This large wood-frame building appears to have been built sometime between 1868 and 1895, probably between 1871 and 1880. While similar in size to the Head Dormitory of the refugee camp, the building's different proportions suggest that it was not remodeled from one of the camp buildings. Its vernacular Italianate character and proportions suggest that it was likely built in the in the 1870s or 1880s. Its construction may have been funded in part by the donation and property income provided by philanthropist Elisha Hathaway between 1871 and 1880. A 1924 article reported that Rev. Fee had "secured large donations from capitalists of the East which made it possible to erect a large dormitory for girls, a school room, a church and parsonage" on the old Ariel Academy campus.[475] It was likely one of the "two good buildings" on the campus in 1891.[476] To date, three photographs of the dormitory have been located, both published in magazines of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (PCUSA) to accompany articles on the Fee Memorial Institute. One was published in December 1903, one in October 1908, and one in 1910 (**Figure 2.74** - **Figure 2.76**).[477] Rev. Fee's close involvement with both Ariel Academy and Berea College during this period makes it likely that Howard Hall at Berea College was a point of reference for the design and construction of the Ariel Academy dormitory.[478]

The dormitory appears to have been the largest building on campus. The building sat on a sloped

475. "Fee Memorial School Moves [*sic*] to Jessamine," *Lexington Herald,* 2 October 1924, 2.

476. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky*, 151.

477. Cowan, "The Board for Freedmen," 606; "Fee Memorial Institute," *The Assembly Herald,* Vol. XIV, No. 10 (October 1908), 481.

478. For example, the Ladies' Hall/Fairchild Hall (1870-1871) at Berea College was adapted from the plan of the Second Ladies Hall (1861-1865, Simeon C. Porter, burned 1886) at Oberlin College in Ohio. Sears, *A Utopian Experiment in Kentucky*, 63.



Figure 2.75. View of dormitory of the Fee Memorial Institute, published October 1908. Note the front porch (Source: "Fee Memorial Institute," The Assembly Herald, Vol. XIV, No. 10 (October 1908), 481).



Figure 2.76. View of the dormitory of the Fee Memorial Institute, published in 1910. Note the school/recitation hall and an outbuilding in the background. There appears to be a fence with a garden or fruit trees between the dormitory and the school/recitation hall (Source: Era of progress and promise, 1863-1910: the religious, moral, and educational development of the American Negro since his emancipation Creator Hartshorn, W. N. (William Newton), 1843-1920, https://digital.ncdcr.gov/digital/ collection/p249901coll37/id/4367).

site and was of frame construction with a stone daylight-basement foundation. The building was clad in wood weatherboard siding. The basement windows were casement sash in the front bays and appear to have been double-hung windows toward the rear. The upper floors contained double-hung wood sash windows. The first-floor windows and doors featured casings with pedimented caps. The heads of the second-floor windows terminated into the base of the cornice, with one scroll bracket aligned with the casing at either side. The photograph published in 1903 shows the front door with no means of exterior access, its threshold being approximately five feet above grade. The photograph published in 1908 shows a one-story porch covering the center two bays, with steps providing access to this door. The 1910 photograph shows that there were doors on all three floors of the east side of the dormitory and the windows on the front side of the basement had been removed. The porch appears to have had a wood deck supported by piers, concealed by diagonal wood lattice skirting.

Interviews conducted during a 1994 oral history project give some indication of the location of the dormitory. Helen Booker Stewart (1914-2003), recalled that, when facing the church, the dormitory building sat to the left (north), beyond the house, and that it faced toward the church. Walking past the former campus during a second interview, Stewart recalled that the dormitory "was a big building" that "sat there in the middle."[479] Kay Anderson reported that Miss Sallie Overstreet (1923-2008), who took care of the Fee Memorial Church during the early-1980s, remembered the "school building" and had shown Anderson that the school was "off to the left of the church."[480] It is unclear whether this referred to the school building itself or to the dormitory.

The dormitory's precise location is unclear based on current evidence. Its location is not clearly visible on the 1905, 1918, or 1931 United States Geological Survey (USGS) maps of the area. A 1937 aerial photograph, the earliest aerial available for the area, appears to show a roughly rectangular parcel on the site of the former Fee Memorial Institute campus. This parcel extended northeast of Church and Isom Streets, with a south extension including the church. The dormitory may have been present near the center of the site, facing south toward Row Street (now the east-west portion of Church Street that forms the south side of the block containing the Baptist Church and bounded on the other three sides by Ison Street). This portion of the site became overgrown from the 1950s to the early-2000s.

The National Register nomination for the Camp Nelson Civil War District, completed in March 2000, mentions that "a large stone foundation, likely from the nineteenth century school" was present near the Fee Memorial Church and parsonage.[481] This foundation may have marked the site of the dormitory. It appears to have been destroyed or covered when the site was cleared between 2000 and 2004. Several large, rectangular stones similar to those used in the foundation of the house are scattered on the turfgrass due north of the church, near the center of what appears to have been the parcel in 1937. These may have come from this dormitory's foundation.

Available evidence suggests that the abandoned dormitory survived into the late-1930s or 1940s and that it was the last of the school's buildings to survive aside from the Fee Memorial Church and the parsonage. The portion of the property containing the likely site of the dormitory is now (2021) owned by the Payne Estate of Lebanon, Tennessee.

School/Recitation Hall (ca. 1870-1895)

This building, known as the school, schoolhouse, recitation hall, or recitation building existed during the Fee Memorial Institute period. It was presumably built sometime between 1870 and 1895 to replace the refugee camp buildings purchased by the Freedmen's Bureau in 1868.

When the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America acquired the Camp Nelson Academy in 1903, there was "upon the premises one small

479. Helen B. Stewart, interview by Kim McBride, 6 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt7sbc3sxq44; Helen B. Stewart, interview by Kim McBride, 19 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt7nk9315g1z.

480. Kay Anderson, interview by Kim McBride, 23 November 1994.

481. McBride, National Register of Historic Places, 8:19.



Figure 2.77. View of parsonage, facing northeast, ca. 1994-2000 (Source: Courtesy of W. Stephen McBride).

building—forty by sixty—used as a church and school."[482] The photograph of the dormitory published in 1903 appears to show a building downhill from the dormitory. A photograph from a 1910 shows the southeast side of the building in more detail, though much of the building is obscured, and it appears to be side gabled and wood-frame construction (**Figure 2.76**). The windows appear to have shutters. The building appears to face east and has two small gabled projections that may have been vestibules with cloak rooms and an entry porch. Although this building is not visible in detail, the portions that are visible do not appear to correspond with any of the Civil War era buildings from the refugee camp, suggesting a construction date after 1868. In 1904, Rev. John A. Boyden seems to have been describing the same building when he mentioned that the school's property contained "a recitation building, used also for religious services." The church had recently repaired this building and the dormitory at a cost of nearly $300.[483] There is a building in the far background of the 1910 photo that cannot be clearly identified with existing research but appears to be either a barn or an unpainted building.

There is an interior photograph of one classroom in a December 1912 article. The article describes a "Farmer's Institute" conference recently held at the Fee Memorial Institute. This view shows a classroom setup with desks and a conference exhibit that "consisted of chickens, corn, pumpkins, potatoes of all kinds, canned fruits, etc."[484]

A 1914 description of the campus mentioned a "recitation hall," which appears to have been a separate building from the "chapel for worship by students and people of the village," the latter likely referencing the present Fee Memorial Church.[485] In 1915, it was described as "a one-story frame building with two rooms used as classrooms."[486] The school building appears to have been demolished sometime between 1924 and 1937.

482. Cowan, "The Board for Freedmen," 606.
483. Boyden, "A New Enterprise," 15-16.
484. "Fee Memorial Institute," *The Assembly Herald,* December 1912, 670-671.
485. *Bulletin of Kentucky Department of Education: History of Education in Kentucky,* Vol. 7, No. 4 (July 1914), 327.
486. *Bulletin 1916, No. 38, Negro Education, Vol. II* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1917), 271.

Parsonage/Manse (ca. 1890-1910)

A wood-frame house was associated with the Fee Memorial Institute and the Fee Memorial Church stood approximately fifty-five feet northeast of the church. Jessamine County site mangers demolished the house around 2007 but its stone foundation remains within the boundaries of the national monument. The house is known from several photographs taken in the 1990s and 2000s as well as from a sketch plan with select measurements prepared by W. Stephen McBride in the 1990s (**Figure 2.77**).

The house was a gabled L-shaped building with a one-story section with attached covered porch and a perpendicular two-story section. The building rested on a limestone foundation with wood clapboard siding, four-panel doors with vertical panels, and two-over-two double-hung windows. Three brick chimneys served at least three stovepipe openings in the first-floor rooms. The house follows the orientation of the row of Civil War era buildings including the Boarding House and ward buildings. This may indicate that a drive was still present to the east at the time of the house's construction.

The two-story front wing had a side-gabled roof with its ridge parallel to the east façade, with its eaves at the level of the heads of the second-floor windows. The façade was along the downhill section of the sloped site, placing the first floor several feet above grade. A shed-roofed porch was centered on this façade. The first floor was divided into two bays, with a window and door into a room in the south bay and a window into a room in the north bay. To date, only one photograph showing the east façade has been found and this image shows only the south part of the façade. A small lean-to, apparently a later addition, projected northwest from the west end of the north elevation of the rear wing.

The use of wire nails suggests that the house was built after 1880.[487] The porch components were consistent with construction sometime between 1890 and 1910. The house could have been built around the same time as the church (1912) or a few years earlier; both may have been funded in part by a fundraising project in 1910 "for the improvement and enlargement of… the John G. Fee Memorial Institute."[488]

The house may or may not have been built as a manse or parsonage. The house is not mentioned in descriptions of the Fee Memorial Institute's facilities from 1903, July 1904, July 1914, or March 1915. This could make sense if it were originally built as a parsonage and counted as the property of the Fee Memorial Church.

A 1980 bird's eye photograph suggests that the house was deteriorated; it is unclear whether it was occupied at that time. A small area in front of the house, measuring perhaps forty feet by sixty feet, appears to have been under cultivation in 1980 and 1983 but was overgrown by 1998. In a 1994 interview, Helen Booker Stewart (1914-2003), recalled "That house down there was the house where… the church pastors would stay there, and I don't know whether any of the school officials would stay there—I don't remember that because I was a kid then."[489] In a second interview conducted while walking around Hall, interviewer Kim A. McBride remarks, "Wow, look how … I didn't realize how run down that parsonage house is," to which Steward replies, "Yes, it's just falling in."[490] In another interview, Virginia Ison Scott (1915-2010) described the parsonage as "broken down."[491] In 1997, Kim A. McBride wrote that, "The Fee Memorial Chapel and a frame house which served as the residence for teachers or ministers, are still standing today and will help preserve the history of Ariel. These structures have been purchased by a local preservation association, which has plans for their restoration and interpretation."[492]

487. Jonathan Taylor, "Nails and Wood Screws," *The Building Conservation Directory* (1999), accessed 15 May 2019, http://www.buildingconservation.com/articles/nails/nails.htm; Thomas Durant Visser, *Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings* (Hanover, New Hampshire: University Press of New England, 1997), 24-25.
488. *One Hundred Ninth Annual Report of the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America* (New York: Presbyterian Building, 1911), 11.
489. Helen B. Stewart, interview by Kim McBride, 6 September 1994.
490. Helen B. Stewart, interview by Kim McBride, 19 September 1994.
491. Virginia Ison Scott, interview by Kim McBride, 2 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt7x3f4kpz8t.
492. Kim A. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 28-29.

Undated photographs of the house and the church displayed on the Jessamine County GIS website, apparently taken between 2000 and 2008, show the house in an advanced state of deterioration. The northeast face of the roof appears to have collapsed, most first-floor openings are boarded up, and the porches and northwest lean-to have been removed. Aerial photographs indicate that the house was demolished sometime between 2006 and 2008, leaving the stone foundation. The foundation was clear on aerial photographs through 2018 but was largely covered with overgrowth by 2020.

Fee Memorial Church (ca. 1912)

The Fee Memorial Church is the only remaining building associated with Camp Nelson Academy/ Fee Memorial Institute.[493] The church had other historical names including "John Fee Memorial Presbyterian Church" and "Westminster Presbyterian Church of Camp Nelson." This document uses "Fee Memorial Church" when referring to the building.

The church appears to have been built in 1912, during the ministry of Black Presbyterian minister Rev. John A. Boyden. An October 1908 article on the Fee Memorial Institute reported, "There is also a Presbyterian church organized in connection with the school, and Dr. Boyden is struggling hard to secure a much needed church building."[494] A 1910 fundraising project "for the improvement and enlargement of… the John G. Fee Memorial Institute" may have funded construction of the church and the manse or parsonage.[495] The church was completed before December 1912, when a correspondent for *The Assembly Herald* mentioned the following in the account of a recent visit to the Fee Memorial Institute: "In the new church building I found about one hundred people assembled [for] a farmers' conference…."[496] A description of the Fee Memorial Institute published in July 1914 mentioned the church as a "chapel for worship by students and people of the village."[497] In a 1994 interview, Helen Booker Stewart (born April 25, 1914), reported that she was christened as a baby in the Presbyterian Church and believed that it must have been there since she was born.[498] The building's materials, components, and details are consistent with a date in the late-1900s or early-1910s.

The Fee Memorial Church is a one-story, gable-front, wood-frame building on a cast-in-place concrete foundation. The exterior is clad in wood weatherboard siding and openings feature triangular heads-- a Carpenter Gothic shape referred to as a "peak head" in some period sources. The building features seven double-hung wood sash windows with a three-over-two-lite configuration. The roof's narrow overhangs include fascias with crown molding and boxed eaves.

The west façade is divided into two unequal bays; the narrower north bay contains a pair of doors topped by a triangular transom while the south bay contains a single window. Two concrete steps lead up to this door. A cupola rises from the north face of the roof just behind the west façade and is centered on the entrance below. This cupola is clad in weatherboard siding and is topped by a hipped roof capped by a tapered finial. Its west and north sides originally featured louvered openings with triangular tops; the west opening was covered with replacement siding during the 2000s and is no longer visible on the exterior. Apart from alterations to the front door and the west face of the cupola, the church's exterior appears to retain its general appearance from the time of its construction in 1912.

Membership data available indicates that the congregation apparently peaked at fifty-two members in 1919. Little is known of the church

493. A brief synopsis of the findings from the HSR for the Fee Memorial Church are presented in this report. For detailed information regarding the building and its chronology of development and use, *see Fee Memorial Church Historic Structure Report*, 2022.
494. "Fee Memorial Institute," *The Assembly Herald,* Vol. XIV, No. 10 (October 1908), 481.
495. *One Hundred Ninth Annual Report of the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America* (New York: Presbyterian Building, 1911), 11.
496. The date of the Farmer's Institute conference at the Fee Memorial Institute is unclear; known locations of other conferences suggest that it may have occurred sometime in October or November. "Fee Memorial Institute," *The Assembly Herald,* December 1912, 670.
497. *Bulletin of Kentucky Department of Education: History of Education in Kentucky,* Vol. 7, No. 4 (July 1914), 327.
498. Helen B. Stewart, interview by Kim McBride, 6 September 1994.



Figure 2.78. West façade and south elevation of Fee Memorial Church, ca. 1994-2000. Note: parsonage in distance at left (Source: Courtesy of W. Stephen McBride).

between the 1920s and the early-1990s aside from newspaper notices of funerals and a few events held there. The church hosted annual homecoming events, typically basket dinners with services and musical programs.[499] The building was also remodeled on the interior between the late-1950s and mid-1970s.[500]

The church's Presbyterian congregation seemed to be active through the mid- to late-twentieth century. Oral interviews conducted by Kim A. McBride document the gradual decline of the church into the mid-1990s. Kay Anderson, who moved to the area in 1979, recalled that Miss Sallie Overstreet was taking care of the Fee Presbyterian Church and the Camp Nelson cemetery in the early-1980s. The church was then in good condition and being used once per month. Overstreet was working with someone in Wilmore or through Asbury University to put on services. Anderson believed that it must have been a hardship for Overstreet to care for the church during this period and suggested some factors leading to the building's deterioration between the early-1980s and 1994; "I imagine that what happened was that people just started vandalizing it and she just couldn't afford to do that she just couldn't afford to… take care of it."[501]

Anderson was not aware of the homecomings held in the church each August and interviewer Kim McBride noted that not many people came to the 1994 homecoming, which appears to have been held at the community center. Stewart reported that the church was once full of members from the community, but the congregation gradually dwindled to about three members before it stopped meeting in 1991 or 1992.[502] The church appears to have ceased meeting by June 1992, when a map of Jessamine County was approved. The only church

499. See *Fee Memorial Church Historic Structure Report*, 2022, for detailed descriptions of the homecoming events and other church activities.
500. See *Fee Memorial Church Historic Structure Report*, 2022.
501. Kay Anderson, interview by Kim McBride, 23 November 1994.
502. Helen B. Stewart, interview by Kim McBride, 6 September 1994.



Figure 2.79. North elevation and west façade of Fee Memorial Church, ca. 1994-2000 (Source: Camp Nelson Civil War District National Register nomination).

shown in Hall was the Baptist Church.[503] Rev. John W. Robertson, Jr. (1935-2016), pastor of Camp Nelson Baptist Church, reported that the Baptist and Presbyterian congregations had attempted to sustain each other by uniting for worship at each church on alternate Sundays.[504]

Jessamine County Fiscal Court purchased the church in the 1990s as a part of the development of the Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park. Photographs of the church taken between 1994 to 2000 show the building with peeling paint, missing clapboards, broken windows, and vines and weeds growing up along the exterior walls (**Figure 2.78**, **Figure 2.79**). A plaque in the building states that the county renovated the building in April 2000. In 2020, court staff reported that they have no records from this project. The national monument's archives also do not contain any records related to this work.

Photographs taken between 1994 and 2006 give some indication of the scope of work. This work appears to have occurred in two distinct phases. The first included selective replacement of exterior wood siding and trim, repairs to wood sash windows, replacement of the historic horizontal-panel entry doors with the present "Colonial"-type six-panel doors, repainting the exterior, demolition of the north brick chimney, and the addition of a metal roof on the main building. The second phase, apparently completed sometime between 2000 and 2005, appears to have included removal of the louvers from the west face of the cupola and the installation of new wood siding covering the opening. Additional work including the addition of heating and cooling systems occurred around 2005.

By 2010, the rehabilitated church was "used for meetings, lectures, and special church services."[505] A music video filmed in the church sometime before November 29, 2011, was released in June

503. *County Road Series Map, Jessamine County, Kentucky*, approved by fiscal court 30 June 1992.

504. John W. Robertson, Jr., interview by Kim McBride, 22 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt71vh5cfk54.

505. W. Stephen McBride & Kim A. McBride, "Archaeology and the Creation of a Civil War Park: Experiences from Camp Nelson, Kentucky," in *Archaeologists as Activists: Can Archaeologists Change the World?* ed. M. Jay Stottman, (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2010), 119.

2012.[506] In 2018, the county transferred the church to the American Battlefield Trust and thence to the National Park Service for inclusion in Camp Nelson National Monument. The county and NPS occasionally used the church for programing during the 2010s, but it has sat mostly unused and deteriorated. Site managers repainted the exterior sometime between 2012 and 2020.

Boys' Dormitory (unknown, remodeled ca. 1915)
In the fall semester of 1915, the Presbyterian Board of Missions spent $600 to remodel "an old building at Camp Nelson, Ky." "for the better accommodation of the boys" at the school.[507] Little else is known of the boys' dormitory. It appears to have been separate from the large dormitory that housed female boarders and the McNair family during this period. The report that it was remodeled from "an old building" suggests that it was not the parsonage north of the Fee Memorial Church, which appears to have been built around this time. Available evidence suggests that the building had been demolished by the 1930s.

Buildings and Landmarks in the Ariel/Hall Community[508]
Public School (ca. 1874)
A county public school for African Americans was established in Ariel/Hall in 1874.[509] The public school stood across Row Street from the Baptist Church, on the parcel that is now 175 Church Street.[510] It was next to the George Lewis House, which later burned.[511] A 1937 aerial photograph indicates that the school was a gable-front building that measured about thirty feet wide by forty-five feet long. Sallie Steele Overstreet (born 1929 in Camp Nelson), daughter of Eva Bright Steele and Robert Steele, attended the public school, which she later described as a little one-room frame building with a stove serving grades one through eight.[512] Around 1936 or 1937, the public school moved to Vineyard, less than a mile walk from the Hall.[513] The school building was demolished sometime between 1956 and 1979.

Benevolent Hall
The Benevolent Hall was a two-story wood-frame building fronting Main Street (now Hall Road). A 1937 aerial photograph indicates that it stood on the southwest corner of the lot west of the Payne House (1360 Hall Road), facing Hall Road with its west side along the alley (Spring Street). The first floor contained a general store, and the second floor contained a public hall. To date, no photographs of the building have been located.

The 1930 census lists Charles Clay, born in about 1856 in Kentucky, as a merchant with a retail store. Patricia R. True Walker (1928-1998), who spent most of the summer of 1938 with her grandmother in nearby Poortown, remembered the Benevolent Hall as "a big two-story building" with clapboard siding that had weathered gray as if it had never been painted. She remembered going to the store to buy candy from Mr. Charlie Clay with pennies and noted that the nearest store was Kaufman's large general store in Camp Nelson on the river.[514] The Benevolent Hall appears to have been demolished in the 1940s.[515]

Camp Nelson Baptist Church
The Camp Nelson Baptist Church was organized about 1900 and appears to have been on the north side of Row Street since at least 1905.[516] The congregation dedicated a building on Sunday,

506. "Shooter Jennings – The Real Me (Music Video)," YouTube, posted 5 June 2012, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVBmqAofmHI; Peter Brackney, "Olde Hall Church a quaint fixture in Jessamine County," *Ky Forward,* 29 November 2011, https://www.kyforward.com/peter-brackney-olde-hall-church-a-quaint-fixture-in-jessamine-county/.
507. *Minutes of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America* (Philadelphia: General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, 1916), 420, 127-128.
508. Photographs of some of the extant resources are included in *Fee Memorial Church Historic Structure Report*, 2022.
509. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 28.
510. Donald S. Carter, interview by Kim McBride, 6 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt76m902209d.
511. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994.
512. Sallie Overstreet, interview by Kim McBride, 12 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt7f4q7qrb6w.
513. Sallie Overstreet, interview by Kim McBride, 12 September 1994.
514. Patricia R. Walker, interview by Kim McBride, 19 September 1994.
515. The Benevolent Hall appears to be gone on a 1950 aerial photograph. In a 1994 interview, John W. Robertson Jr. reported that the store next to the Payne House was gone by the time that he came to Hall (ca. 1949-1955). John W. Robertson, Jr., interview by Kim McBride, 22 September 1994.
516. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 28.



Figure 2.80. Matilda & Alex Williams House (ca. 1893), 1395 Hall Road, ca. 1905-1910. This may show Alex and Matilda Williams (presumably the seated man and woman) and their five children. Mary Williams, who may be one of the young women in the photograph, died sometime between June 1900 and May 1910. To date, this is the only known photograph showing a house or other building in Ariel/Hall during this period (Source: W. Stephen McBride).

November 28, 1954.[517] The church burned in July 1968. The origin of the fire was never determined, but this fire occurred during a period when many Black churches were burned by those who sought to stop the progress of the Civil Rights Movement. The congregation served the lunch at the Homecoming of the Fee Memorial Church (Westminster Presbyterian Church) that year, "with funds for the church building that burned."[518]
A new building was complete by June 1969. In 1974, a small community center building was built northwest of the Baptist Church. The Baptist Church had about six members in 1994.[519] The church underwent an expansion and remodeling during 2017-2018 under the leadership of Rev. R. P. Gates Sr.

Maggie & Marion Carpenter House, 1331 Hall Road

The surviving house at 1331 Hall Road provides a connection to one of the community's earliest and longest-lived residents. The life of Marion Carpenter (1840-1942) provides context for the experience of the generation of families who settled the town of Ariel/Hall.[520] Carpenter was born enslaved, enlisted at Camp Nelson, fell ill with Typhoid fever, then lived in Ariel/Hall from its inception through the town's decline where he worked as a mason on buildings including the E. J. Curley & Company Distillery. Carpenter's house, which he hand-built by candlelight, features an L-shaped plan and likely dates from sometime between 1880 and 1910. The Carpenter House survives as of 2020 and is among the most historically significant buildings remaining in Hall.

517. "Camp Nelson Baptist Church To Be Dedicated Sunday," *Lexington Leader,* 26 November 1954, 3.
518. "Notes and Obituaries," *Lexington Leader,* 21 July 1968, 12.
519. Kay Anderson, interview by Kim McBride, 23 November 1994.
520. See *Fee Memorial Church Historic Structure Report*, 2022 for the detailed history of Marion's life. The oral interviews that informed this description were conducted by Kim McBride for the "History of Hall," Kentucky Oral History Project.

Matilda & Alex Williams House (ca. 1893/1984), 1395 Hall Road

The Williams House stands at the southwest corner of Main Street (Hall Road) and Second Street (Overstreet Lane/Bowles Street). The property was purchased by Alex Williams in 1893 and the house is believed to have been built around that time. This is among the best-documented properties in the community and its story appears to be representative of many of the village's other residential properties.

A photograph of the house, found in the house by former residents, may show Alex and Matilda Williams and their five children on the front porch of the house (**Figure 2.80**). The photograph appears to date from between 1905 and 1910. To date, this is the only known photograph showing a house or other building in the village during this period. In the photograph, the house was one-and-one-half stories in height, with a side-gabled roof and a façade divided into three bays. The center bay contained the front door, while each of the outer bays contained a two-over-two double-hung window at the first and second floors. The second-floor windows cut through the eave line and rose into simple gabled dormers. The space between the windows contained a hipped-roof porch featuring turned posts and turned and scroll-sawn fretwork. The house's foundation was of "Kentucky marble" dry-laid on grade. A brick chimney was centered on the ridgeline of the wood-shingle roof. The photograph suggests that the house may have had a paint scheme of at least three colors, with the siding registering as a medium color, the trim as a light color, and the window sash and door registering as a dark color. The windows were fitted with lace curtains and roller shades. A wood picket fence composed of pickets of varying width and height lined the front of the lot, with a gate on axis with the front door. The Thompson-Bowles House, one block to the north at the southwest corner of River (Church) and Second (Bowles) Streets, appears to have originally reflected the same overall façade configuration.[521]

Caldwell House, 1396 Hall Road

This house, at the northwest corner of Main Street (Hall Road) and Second (Bowles) Street was owned by Maggie Caldwell, sometimes pronounced as "Colwell" or "Cowell." The house had a dry-laid foundation of large pieces of shaped white limestone. The one-and-one-half-story house was clad in one-by-six boards. Descriptions recorded in the 1990s indicate that it may have been a hall-and-parlor or double-pen house. The façade included one door and one window about the same size as the door. By 1994, the house was dilapidated and concealed by overgrowth. The house was demolished, and a new house built on the site in 2000.[522]

Old Cemetery, 1459 Hall Road[523]

The plat of the town of Ariel/Hall completed about 1891 labels a small area at the northwest corner of this lot as "Graves." According to a 1994 oral history interview with Nancy and Danny McKinney, who lived in the Williams House at 1395 Hall Road from 1984 to 1991, Miss Payne, a deceased neighbor, remembered that a small cemetery on this lot contained headstones with angels and other symbols. The cemetery was no longer visible by 1994.[524]

The deed for Rev. John G. Fee's purchase of the 130 acres from Joseph M. Moss and Matilda H. Moss on February 29, 1868, includes a reference to "measuring out nine rods for [the] grave yard where it now stands."[525] Because features of the refugee camp were not mentioned in the deed, this may have been a Moss family cemetery that predated the construction of the refugee camp. The description of carved headstones featuring angels and other symbols could refer to a family cemetery. This may also explain the "Graves" noted on the 1891 plat.

521. For a detailed description of this building and its history, see *Fee Memorial Church Historic Structure Report*, 2022.

522. Helen B. Stewart, interview by Kim McBride, 19 September 1994; Nancy McKinney, interview by Kim McBride, 21 September 1994.

523. In 1915, *Who's Who of the Colored Race* listed Rev. John A. Boyden as the secretary and trustee of the Lincoln Cemetery, Camp Nelson (page 33). Research did not reveal if either the Old Cemetery or the Camp Nelson Cemetery (described below) are the Lincoln Cemetery. A future study of the Hall community may reveal this information. See Treatment Recommendations, Recommendations for Further Research.

524. Nancy McKinney, interview by Kim McBride, 21 September 1994.

525. A copy of the deed is reproduced in Eades, *Slaves to Soldiers*, 25-26.

Camp Nelson Community Cemetery, Payne Lane
This cemetery, sometimes known as the Camp Nelson Family Cemetery, is at the northwest edge of the village. Marked burials date from 1893 to 2021, but the cemetery is believed to contain many more unmarked graves. The cemetery is in the approximate former location of the northwesternmost row of cottages of the Home for Colored Refugees. It is unknown whether any remains in this cemetery date to the historic period, but there are several USCT soldiers buried here.

Institute Field
Donald S. Carter (born 1936) reported that Fannie Blakeman, his father's sister, owned the farm known as "the institute field". It contained a large spring and Carter remembered it being used for hunting after it grew up after its agricultural uses were abandoned.[526] This was probably part of the property now comprising the Jim Beam Nature Preserve on the north side of the Hall. Much of this land returned to forest between the 1950s and the 1980s.

"Camp Nelson" Village by the River
Following the war, the distillery adjacent to the Hickman Bridge resumed operations and was acquired by Campbell, Curley & Co., founded by investors including Irish immigrant Edward J. Curley (1836-1921), and was expanded and renamed the Blue Grass Distillery.[527] By 1872, the firm was known as E. J. Curley & Company. An advertisement that year read in part, "This is a small distillery situated on the banks of the Kentucky river, near Camp Nelson, in the Blue Grass region of Kentucky. Its capacity is limited, more attention being paid to the quality than the quantity of liquor produced."[528]

The villages on either side of the bridge seem to have developed separate identities by the 1870s. In 1877, the village of Camp Nelson north of the bridge included a combined store and toll house, the E. J. Curley & Company distillery, and other buildings.[529] In 1879, the village south of the bridge, known as Fitchport or Hickman's Bridge, included a combination store and post office, several houses, and the Hickman Hotel.[530] By 1901, the hotel had closed, and the village contained a distillery and a gristmill.[531]

The E. J. Curley & Company distillery ceased production in 1919 with the advent of Prohibition, and the Camp Nelson post office closed the following year. A new steel truss bridge replaced the wooden Hickman Bridge in 1927-1928 and, despite a years-long preservation battle, the wooden bridge was demolished in 1933. Whiskey production resumed following the end of Prohibition in 1933. From the 1910s to the early-1940s, the Kaufman family operated a large general store in the village.[532]

1915-1995 Outmigration & Decline in Ariel/Hall

Between 1912 and 1915, the Board of Missions for Freedmen of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America sold off portions of the former Camp Nelson Academy property. Charles Clay purchased the first parcel for twenty-five dollars in 1912. Jack Isom purchased the final parcel for thirty dollars in 1915.[533] Both were residents of Ariel/Hall and were farmers during the 1910s.

A March 1915 visit conducted as part of a federal report on the status of "Negro education" in the United States identified the Fee Memorial Institute as a "small elementary school."[534] The report described the 150 acres of property as "practically all cleared" with an estimated value of $3,000. The report described two buildings valued at $2,250, "a two-story frame structure used for [a] dormitory and for the principal's home,"

526. Donald S. Carter, interview by Kim McBride, 6 September 1994.
527. *Evansville Journal* (Evansville, IN), 19 October 1867, 4, c2.
528. "Blue Grass Distillery," *Weekly Arizona Miner* (Prescott, AZ), 3 August 1872, 3.
529. Beers & Co., *Atlas of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine and Woodford Counties, Ky.*, 64-65.
530. Map of Garrard and Lincoln Counties, Kentucky (Philadelphia: Beers & Lanagan, 1879), accessed 18 January 2021, https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/4cb53640-3cc5-0135-cd08-7ddaff92996f.
531. Joseph Thomas, ed., Lippincott's Gazetteer of the World (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1902), 780.
532. "Brave Deed," Kentucky Advocate (Danville, KY), 17 April 1916, 1; Patricia R. Walker, interview by Kim McBride, 19 September 1994, History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt7d513tx55j.
533. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, lxiii.
534. *Bulletin 1916, No. 38, Negro Education, Vol. II* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1917), 271.

and "a one-story frame building with two rooms used as classrooms." The inspector reported, "The buildings are in poor repair and they were in disorder at the time of [the] visit. The fences and outhouses are also in bad repair."[535] The lack of mention of the Fee Memorial Church or the adjacent house may indicate that they were church property and not owned by the school.

In addition to its role as a center for Black education, the Ariel/Hall community was known for its music from at least the 1890s into the 1920s. The community boasted a twenty-five-member choir known as the Jubilee Singers, and later, in the 1920s, a string band called the Booker Orchestra, which played frequently at the Benevolence Hall and regionally.[536]

An 1898 history of Jessamine County reported on Camp Nelson, which appears to have included Ariel/Hall and the village at the north end of the covered bridge over the Kentucky River. "The population of the village is, at this time, about 200, mostly colored people, who have settled on the cliffs and hills near the Kentucky [R]iver."[537] Estimates of the community's population in period documents vary widely; some of this variation may be attributed to varying definitions of the boundaries of the village. Kim A. McBride and W. Stephen McBride, who conducted documentary research, archeological investigation, and an oral history project in the community, report that the community's population remained roughly stable into the 1920s at about forty households.[538]

Despite a lack of clear documentation, patterns in available census documentation offer hints at the town's population. Individuals known to have resided in the community typically appear together in consecutive blocks of households composed entirely of people whose race was recorded as "Black" (1900 through 1920) or "Negro" (1930 and 1940).[539] The 1900 census includes a consecutive block of 148 persons whose race was listed as "Black," in twenty-one families residing in twenty-one dwellings, giving an idea of the possible size of the community at the turn of the twentieth century.

The 1910 census includes a block of 178 persons whose race was listed as "Black" or "Mulatto," with forty-three families residing in forty-three dwellings.[540] A December 1912 article reported, "The town has a population of about 400, and is entirely a negro settlement, the white people having a town of their own some miles distant. The town has not any mayor, policeman or jail. The only protection is the school and the churches."[541] Forms for the 1920 census record a consecutive block of "Black" households on Camp Nelson Main Street and Camp Nelson Pike. This included 126 persons in thirty-five dwellings and thirty-five families. The census noted six of the dwellings as farms. Forms for the 1930 census record a consecutive block of "Negro" households on Camp Nelson Road and Hall Pike with a total of 91 persons in twenty-six families and twenty-six dwellings. Notes on the 1940 census forms indicate the beginning and end of the enumeration of the unincorporated town of Camp Nelson, part of which lay along US 27. The town included 146 residents, with a consecutive block of 67 White persons followed by a consecutive block of 79 "Negro" persons.

During the early-1910s, the community began to see the effects of the Great Migration, as African Americans left the rural South for the promise of job opportunities and reduced racial hostility in northern cities. A 1915 article about the Fee Memorial Institute highlighted the work in "checking the rush to the cities."[542] The article asserted that the Fee Memorial Institute was doing critical work to support Black families who desired

535. *Bulletin 1916, No. 38, Negro Education, Vol. II* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1917), 271.
536. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 28.
537. Young, *A History of Jessamine County, Kentucky,* 185.
538. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 28; McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 162.
539. From 1850 to 1920, the United States census recorded races including "White," "Black," and "Mulatto" (mixed Black and White ancestry). Beginning with the 1930 census, enumerators were instructed to list all people with any Black ancestry as "Negro," following the "one drop rule" pervasive in Jim Crow era racial ideology.
540. Two White households, each in its own dwelling, are within this block but have not been counted in these totals.
541. "Fee Memorial Institute," *The Assembly Herald*, December 1912, 671.
542. "Checking the Rush to the Cities," *Home Mission Monthly*, Vol. 29, No. 6 (April 1915), 154.

to remain in the community as farmers but would otherwise have left for work in a city. The article asked,

> Is the Fee Memorial Institute making good? When I tell you that the school has been the means of checking the mad rush to the cities you will agree with me that even if it has done no more, it has done a great work for the colored people. We can name more than twenty families who will declare that had the school not been here they would have gone to the city, but with the school and church here they are satisfied to remain on the farm, most of them trying to purchase humble homes… "…we are trying to instill in the minds of the colored people… that their future welfare centers in the farm… but [we] must help them to make conditions on the farm such that they will have no desire to rush to the city… If we have checked the rush to the cities with our limited facilities what would the outcome be with facilities increased?[543]

While the Fee Memorial Institute may have helped curb outmigration for some time, the community began to experience a sustained decline beginning in 1920. The closure of the Curley distillery with the implementation of Prohibition in 1919 eliminated many jobs in the area. William Jacob "Jake" Payne (1912-1998) recalled that "it was a nice place to live once upon a time" and that it started to decline when the distillery closed.[544]

The Fee Memorial Institute relocated to Nicholasville in 1924, removing the population of students, faculty, and staff. In September 1924, James Samuel Price of the retail clothing firm of Duncan & Price purchased the grounds and buildings of the Fee Memorial Institute at Camp Nelson. J. S. Price (1874-1946) was a White banker, clothing merchant, and accountant in Nicholasville.[545] The purchase included five buildings and more than 100 acres but excluded the church and parsonage.[546] This tract may have been the 115-acre farm purchased in 1881 and may or may not have included the 7-acre parcel containing the campus and its buildings; the five buildings may have included the school or recitation building, the large dormitory, the boys' dormitory, the farmer's house, and barns or outbuildings associated with the school's farm.

A 1994 oral history project recorded several accounts of the campus and buildings. Resident William Jacob "Jake" Payne (1912-1998) described the Fee Memorial Institute campus as containing "about four acres," with the church, a boys' dormitory, "a girls' building that would house about ninety or one hundred young ladies" (the large dormitory), a minister's house, and a school building. The community had no parks and Payne recalled that people would picnic on the grounds of the Fee Memorial Institute: "they had a place for a ball diamond, and they had a place for picnics. And it was all down in beautiful bluegrass." Payne recalled, "we enjoyed going down there, as a kid you know, after Sunday School we went down on this ground, they'd have egg hunts and general just a general outing for children." Payne thought that the "Institution grounds" contained about four hundred acres stretching down to Poortown. He remembered both adult and children's baseball teams using the school's baseball diamond. "We would play ball with [White people from Poortown] on the institution—that was Fee Memorial's grounds. John G. Fee gave so much ground and it ran down in Poortown and we had a diamond down there … and on the Jack Isom place we had a ball diamond."[547] Payne also remembered portions of the school that were likely part of the farm: "They had a stable down there [for horses and mules]. And they had hogs, and they had horses, and, of course, they kept the grass eat down."[548] Other residents reported that the dormitory and other buildings associated with the Fee Memorial Institute were demolished sometime in the 1930s or early-1940s.[549]

A composite map derived from documentary sources identifies the town layout of Ariel/Hall in

543. "Checking the Rush to the Cities," *Home Mission Monthly*, Vol. 29, No. 6 (April 1915), 154.
544. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994.
545. "James S. Price Dies After Illness of Week," *Lexington Herald,* 20 June 1946, 10.
546. "Fee Memorial Grounds at Camp Nelson Sold," *Advocate-Messenger* (Danville, KY), 23 September 1924, 2; "College Property at Camp Nelson is Sold," *Lexington Herald-Leader,* 24 September 1924, 2.
547. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994.
548. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994.
549. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994; Kim A. McBride, Tape Summaries, Hall, Camp Nelson Oral History Project, University of Kentucky, 1997, 2.

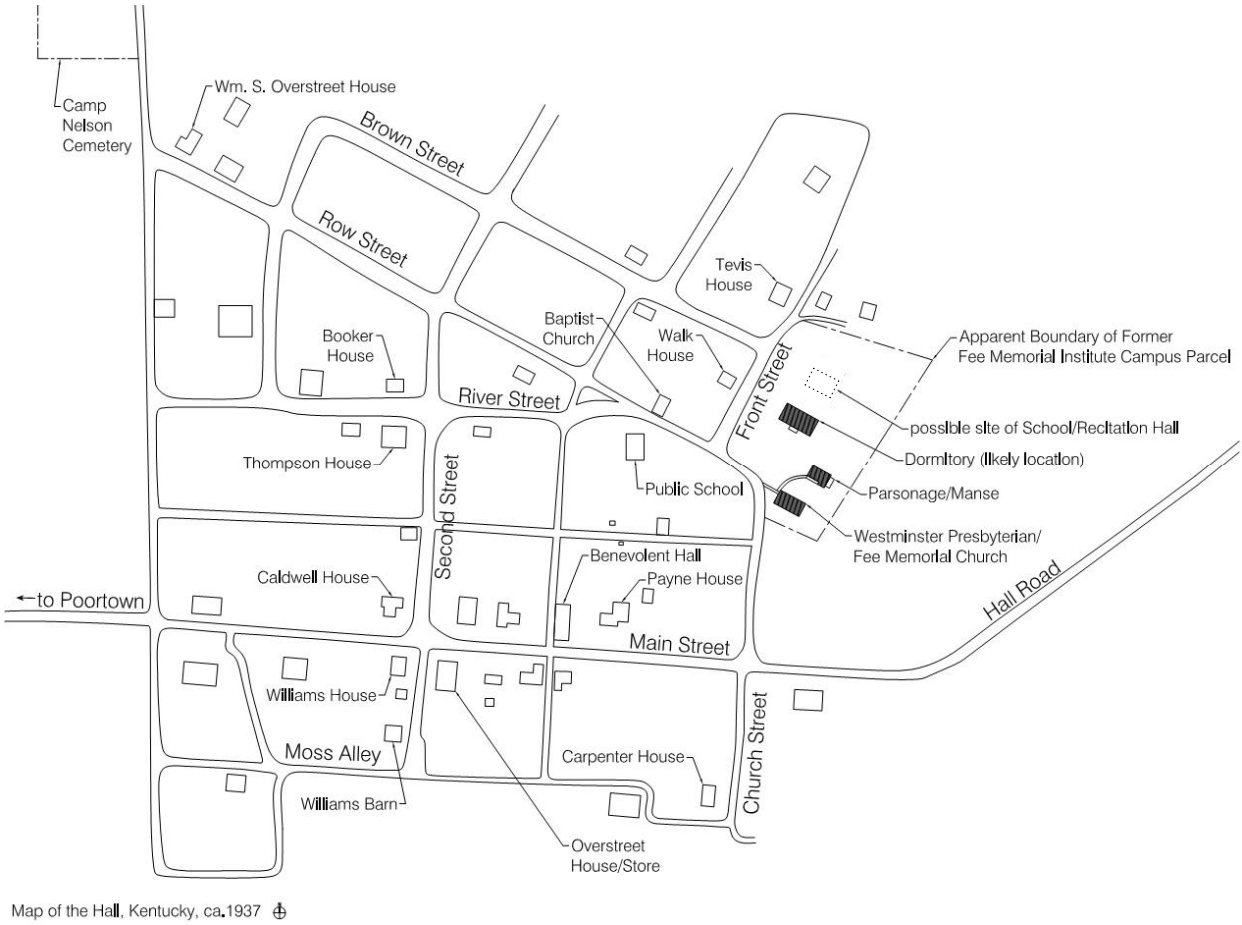


Figure 2.81. Map of the Hall (formerly Ariel), Kentucky, ca. 1937. Adapted from a 1937 aerial photograph with building and street labels derived from other documentary sources. The former Fee Memorial Institute campus is at right (Source: RATIO Architects, 2020).

1937 with street names, the approximate boundary of Fee Memorial Institute Campus, public school, Baptist church, one of the smallpox cemeteries, Benevolent Hall, and residential homes (**Figure 2.81**).

The community of Ariel or Hall or "the Hall," as it was known by the 1930s, experienced accelerated population decline during and after World War II. The town's two stores appear to have closed by the late-1940s. Brian Eades writes, "By the 1950s, many descendants of the original settlers had left Hall in search of better job opportunities and an improved quality of life. Their homes were either sold or rented to outsiders who often had no connection to the original community."[550]

Hall residents interviewed in the 1994 oral history project, most born between the 1890s and the 1930s, recalled this as a period of long decline as young people moved away and older residents died. Many families retained absentee ownership of their properties; some rented out their properties, other properties stood abandoned and gradually succumbed to demolition by neglect. Rev. John W. Robertson Jr. (1935-2016), who moved to the area in 1949 and then to Lexington in 1955, recalled that the town of Hall had been "really clean" and that "people had pride in their property;" in the years since, people had died and moved away, and he felt that the neglected state of the town reflected current residents' lack of pride in their property.[551] Sallie Steele Overstreet (born 1929) recalled a time when "just about every lot had a house."[552] Kay Anderson, who moved to Hall in 1979, had seen the local Black population

550. Eades, *Slaves to Soldiers,* 20.

551. John W. Robertson, Jr., interview by Kim McBride, 22 September 1994.

552. Sallie Overstreet, interview by Kim McBride, 12 September 1994.

dwindle and observed a gradual influx of White residents.[553]

In 1996 Jessamine County Fiscal Court purchased a seven-acre parcel in Hall that included the Fee Memorial Church and the adjacent house associated with the church and school.[554] The development of Camp Nelson as a county historical park in the 1990s drew some attention to the Hall Community. This period saw a continuing influx of White residents, demolition of historic buildings, and the construction of new houses on the edges of the village. The Jim Beam Nature Preserve, spanning between the north side of Hall and the Kentucky River, opened March 1995.[555] Writing in 1997, Kim A. McBride noted the following:

> Today the Hall community is much smaller and most of the original buildings are gone, as are the descendants of the original settlers. But the stories and memories of local character live on, like those about resident John Booker, remembered for his musical abilities as leader of the string band, and for his nighttime fox hunting. Prior to the hunts, Mr. Booker would round up his hounds by blowing a large horn inherited from his slave grandfather. This artifact, like the many memories of the remaining residents, provides a connection to the rich history of this community. A connection is also provided by the still flowing "Refugee Spring," the original water source.
>
> The Fee Memorial Chapel and a frame house which served as the residence for teachers or ministers, are still standing today and will help preserve the history of Ariel. These structures have been purchased by a local preservation association, which has plans for their restoration and interpretation.[556]

Most physical remnants of the Hall houses from the 1800s are gone today, but the community still exists, although it is now multi-racial. Gradually many of the Hall families moved away, beginning with an initial wave of out-migration when Prohibition closed the distillery, and then a second wave as many families pursued factory jobs in the Midwest.[557] Kentucky's African American populations declined since the 1870s. In Jessamine County, the percentage of African American has declined from 40 percent in 1860 to 24 percent in 1910 to 3 percent in 2020.

As of 2021, most of the former campus site is within an adjacent two-acre parcel owned by the Payne Estate of Lebanon, Tennessee. The Fee Memorial Church, renovated by the Jessamine County Fiscal Court in the 1990s, still exists as part of the Camp Nelson National Monument.[558]

Communities in the Camp Nelson Area

While much of the Camp Nelson site reverted back to dispersed residences and agricultural uses, other parts of the camp and the surrounding area developed into small communities in the decades following the civil war. In addition to the Ariel/Hall Community, two small communities known as Poortown and Frogtown developed, and the small villages on both sides of Hickman Bridge predating the war continued to serve as the economic hub of the area. Documentation from at least the 1890s through the 1950s suggests that the boundaries of these communities were somewhat fluid. These communities were sometimes seen as separate but were often classed together under the broader name of Camp Nelson.

"Camp Nelson" Village by the River

In 1928, a group of investors including W. S. Square of Lexington and E. W. Cook of Fort Thomas formed the Daniel Boone Lodge Company and purchased the former E. J. Curley & Company distillery complex, noting that "the spacious old stone structure overlooks the Kentucky river at a point rich in scenic beauty and historical appeal. . ."[559] The group announced plans to convert the complex "into a modern hotel of old English style architecture."[560] The company promoted the plan for the Daniel Boone Lodge as

553. Kay Anderson, interview by Kim McBride, 23 November 1994.
554. McBride and McBride, "Archaeology and the Creation of a Civil War Park," 118.
555. Andy Mead, "Conservancy working to buy up land to protect Kentucky River Palisades," *Lexington Herald-Leader,* 30 March 1995, B1.
556. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 28-29.
557. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 28.
558. McBride, "Hall, Kentucky," 28–29; Andrews, "The Antebellum Component of 15Js97," 2.15.
559. "Plan Camp Nelson Hotel," Lexington Herald, 10 November 1928, 1.
560. "Plan Camp Nelson Hotel," Lexington Herald, 10 November 1928, 1.

part of a larger resort known as Palisades Park.[561] The company purchased large tracts of land with plans for a private hunting preserve, a golf course, and sites for "scores of artistic bungalows."[562] By 1929, several new log guest cabins had been erected, with plans for others to be built of local stone.

Like other tourism developments of the period, the Daniel Boone Lodge would offer a combination of local history and scenic beauty. An antique shop was to be located off the hotel lobby, businesses planning to open in the village included a factory specializing in the reproduction of antique furniture and an art pottery factory, and the celebrated Churchill weavers of Berea announced plans to relocate to Camp Nelson.[563]

Despite these grand plans, the Daniel Boone Lodge would not be completed. The stock market crash of 1929 and the ensuing Great Depression seem to have sealed the project's fate, and in December 1931, the incomplete hotel was sold to Edwin K. Creasey of Covington, Kentucky, for $33,334.[564] The property seems to have remained vacant until it was sold at auction in October 1935. The lone bidder, the Belle of Anderson County Distilling Company, paid $96,200 to purchase the complex for conversion back into a distillery.[565]

Although the Daniel Boone Inn project was not realized, automobile-oriented tourist development continued in the area. The Daniel Boone's Cave tourist court just north of the village at the intersection of the highway and Boone Cave Road reflects typical roadside tourist developments of the 1920 to 1960 period. The property included a restaurant and gift shop, service station, and guest cabins. A 1940 postcard view of the "rustic" round-log main building of the complex that survives at 7492 Old Danville Road shows a series of signs on the porch reflecting the nature of automobile tourism market of the period: "Hand-Made Mountain Pottery / Souvenirs—Gifts / Coffee Shop / Food / Sandwiches / Cold Drinks."[566] A 1951 sale notice for the property notes the "attractive log cabin restaurant with rustic counter and stools… [and a] very cozy dining room with open fireplace," a four-room owner's apartment upstairs, and five log tourist cabins.[567]

The Belle of Anderson County Distillery became the Kentucky River Distillery in 1942 and was renamed the Old Fitzgerald Distillery in 1946. In 1949, a large whiskey storage warehouse west of the distillery, built in 1947 and containing eighteen thousand barrels of whiskey, was destroyed by fire.[568]

United States Geological Survey (USGS) maps appear to chart the evolving definition of Camp Nelson's geographic area. From 1905 to 1931, the village at the north end of the bridge over the Kentucky River was labeled as Camp Nelson. From 1953 on, the label was placed farther north, on a ravine just south of Poortown Road in the Poortown area. By 1950 the village of Camp Nelson consisted primarily of the distillery on the west side of the road and the store on the east. Whiskey production ceased in 1971, but the distillery buildings were used as a bottling house until 1973.

In 1963, Fort Brannaum Inc. of Nicholasville hired the Colorado Fuel & Iron Corporation of Denver to build an aerial tramway to carry tourists four thousand feet from Daniel Boone's Cave tourist court over Hickman Creek to the site of "Fort Brannaum."[569] News of its opening noted that the attraction was centered "in a veritable beehive of tourist attractions" in the Camp Nelson area. The tramway operated in 1964, but it was closed due to safety concerns by 1966, when the owner sued the contractor alleging that the tramway was defective

561. "Daniel Boone Lodge," Kentucky Advocate (Danville, KY), 13 May 1929, 1.
562. "Daniel Boone Lodge to be a Great Resort," Advocate-Messenger (Danville, KY), 18 October 1929, 1.
563. "Daniel Boone Lodge to be a Great Resort," Advocate-Messenger (Danville, KY), 18 October 1929, 1.
564. "Daniel Boone Lodge Sold," Kentucky Advocate (Danville, KY), 23 December 1931, 4.
565. "Daniel Boone Lodge Properties at Camp Nelson," Lexington Herald, 13 October 1935, 1.
566. "Daniel Boone's Cave ~Main Building ~U.S. 27~Kentucky," 1940, Graphic5_Box19_314, Kentucky Historical Society, https://www.kyhistory.com/digital/collection/Morgan/id/9433.
567. "At Auction," *Lexington Herald,* 4 March 1951, 22.
568. "Million-Dollar Fire Hits Distillery at Camp Nelson," *Lexington Herald,* 21 October 1949, 1.
569. George Tilford, "Kentucky Cruise," Indianapolis News, October 30, 1964, 19. The company appears to have been named mistakenly. the "Fort Brannaum" referred to in multiple articles from the 1960s appears to have been a misnomer, intended to refer to Fort Bramlette.

and had never worked properly. It appears to have never reopened.[570]

A new Camp Nelson Bridge (Lloyd Murphy Memorial Bridge) was built between 1970 and 1974 as a part of the new US 27 divided highway. The historic crossing at Hickman Creek requires motorists to travel a circuitous route down to the river's edge along US 27, sending motorists through the village of Camp Nelson. The new highway was blasted through the top of Boone's Knob and the new bridge passed high above the village. The highway project bypassed the existing roadside businesses in the villages on both sides of the river, leading most to close.

In 1972, the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP), a non-sectarian group based in Lancaster, Kentucky, purchased land at the village of Camp Nelson along the river. The following year, the Norton-Simon Foundation, affiliate of the distillery's last owner, donated its property to CAP. The organization ultimately acquired 713 acres in and around the villages on both sides of the river, including the Daniel Boone's Cave tourist court. Lexington architect Paul Kissel was hired to prepare a master plan for the area while volunteers worked to clean and paint the community's remaining buildings. By 1975, CAP's investment had brought new life to the village, including a music hall, a mini-golf course, a restaurant, a marina, a post office, gas station, general store, campground, and a public swimming pool, all on the Garrard County side. CAP operated a museum in the distillery and made plans to rehabilitate the complex as a hotel. It also built the Louis Wernwag Historical Shrine, a gateway designed by Kissel to replicate the 1838 bridge's portal, located across the road from the distillery. A fire in May 1978 destroyed the Admiral's Table Restaurant, and a major flood that December destroyed the remaining commercial properties. The community never recovered from these events and CAP sold most of its holdings at Camp Nelson in 1985 and 1986.[571]

570. "Aerial Tramway is Open at Fort Near Camp Nelson," *Lexington Leader,* 13 June 1963, 3; "Daniel Boone's Cave," *Lexington Herald,* 10 May 1964, 66; George Tilford, "Tilford's Tiller: Kentucky Kruise," *Indianapolis News,* 30 October 1964, 19; "Tramway Defective, Suit Says," *Lexington Leader,* 19 June 1966, 2.

571. Sue Alexander, "I Wouldn't Let it Die," *Lexington Leader,* 9 November 1975, B16; Lisa Power, "My Old Kentucky Home on the Block," *Cincinnati Enquirer*, 21 April 1985, magazine section, 9-10, 12-13.

In June 1986, Lexington resident Michael Foster purchased the distillery and surrounding property from the CAP and made plans to rehabilitate the buildings as a residence. A large fire in August 1986 left only the stone walls of the distillery buildings.[572] The ruins were demolished soon after. A few of the whiskey warehouses (rick houses) originally associated with this distillery are still in use in the Hall but are now owned by Austin Nichols Distillery of Lawrenceburg. While these buildings are outside the boundaries of the national monument, the buildings are within the viewshed of Camp Nelson. The other historic industrial facility in the Camp Nelson area is the A. B. C. Building Materials building on US 27 near Hall Road. This building is of corrugated metal and was built in the mid-1900s. The building is now vacant; it is also outside of the boundaries of the national monument.

Poortown

Poortown was an unincorporated rural community that developed approximately one-half mile south-southwest of Ariel/Hall. Poortown is not labeled on maps, but a loose collection of buildings was present near the intersection of what is now Poortown Road and Cleveland Ford Road by 1905. By 1877, the lines of Poortown Road, Cleveland Ford Road, and the west part of Hall Road (Ariel/Hall's Main Street) were present, forming a C-shaped path extending clockwise from the turnpike. By 1905, Hall Road had been extended to the turnpike. Twentieth century residents of the Hall often described these three roads as an extension of the Hall's Main Street that looped through Poortown and back to US 27.[573] A 1937 aerial photograph indicates that the extension of Poortown Road and the cliff-top dead-end roads now known as Palisades Heights and the Palisades Extension were present by that time. Poortown then appears to have consisted mainly of a loose grouping of farms along Poortown Road and Cleveland Ford Road, with smaller parcels and houses along the cliff-top roads. More houses and outbuildings were built along the two main roads after 1950, but the community retained the

572. Todd Kleffman, "Fire destroys old distillery at Camp Nelson," *Advocate-Messenger* (Danville, KY), 11 August 1986, 1; Andy Mead, "Fire destroys former distillery in Jessamine," *Lexington Herald-Leader,* 12 August 1986, B1; "Fire probed at historic distillery," *Paducah Sun* (Paducah, KY), 12 August 1986, A8.

573. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994.

appearance of a loose collection of rural properties rather than a concentrated settlement.

In a 1994 interview, William Jacob "Jake" Payne (1912-1998), son of Joseph and Cordelia Payne, provided the following recollections of Poortown:

> Up in the Hall was a colored section; down in Poortown was a white section, and we would play them sometimes at [base]ball, we all got along fine together, but they had two different schools [a Black school in the Hall and a white school on U.S. 27] … We would play ball with them on the institution—that was Fee Memorial's grounds. John G. Fee gave so much ground and it ran down in Poortown and we had a diamond down there… and on the Jack Isom place we had a ball diamond.[574]

When she was ten years old, Patricia R. True Walker spent most of summer of 1938 living with her grandmother in Poortown. She often walked to the Hall to buy candy at the store on Main Street, noting that the only other store in the area was Kaufman's large general store in Camp Nelson on the river. Her family attended at least once event in the Benevolent Hall, and she remembered her grandmother's friendships with residents of the Hall, noting connections between her family and Black families from the Hall over several decades.[575]

Architecturally, Poortown seems to have broad similarities to the Hall community. Surviving houses that appear to date from the period 1870 to 1930 are one-story wood-frame vernacular houses. Some modest ranch houses of the 1955 to 1995 period are present, followed by mobile homes of the 1965 to 2000 period, and then a range of larger suburban houses built after 1980, primarily after 2000.

Frogtown
William Payne recalled that Smith Kemper (1876-1953) "lived in a little place we called Frogtown, down below the school—considered part of Hall. Down below the school, kind of down along the river."[576] This may have been the area at the northeast part of the platted portion of Ariel/Hall, where Front and Vinegar Streets extended down into the ravine leading down to the Kentucky River.

Black Bridge
Another community founded by descendants of USCT soldiers stationed at Camp Nelson included Black Bridge, located northeast of Camp Nelson on Hickman Creek. Private Sidney Smith served in the USCT and lived in the Black Bridge community with his wife Ann Chrisman Smith and son Fletcher.[577] Black Bridge includes dwellings, Macedonia Black Bridge Church, established in 1894, Black Bridge School, constructed between 1900 and 1924, and Black Bridge Cemetery, established around 1913.[578]

Camp Nelson National Cemetery

Camp Nelson National Cemetery is located just south of and outside the boundaries of the Camp Nelson National Monument.

During the Civil War, the United States government became increasingly involved as efforts accelerated to provide a respectful burial for fallen United States soldiers. The development of a national cemetery system originated in the War Department's General Order No. 75, issued on September 11, 1861, that made commanding officers responsible for burying the remains of fallen soldiers. The order also required that the Quartermaster provide commanding officers with headboards to mark graves and books in which to record the information about each burial. It was the first organized method of marking and documenting the location of fallen American soldiers. General Order No 75 did not, however, authorize acquisition of land but gave commanding officers the authority to use land near battlefields in which to inter casualties.

The federal government officially organized a national cemetery system under the War Department on July 17, 1862. The Omnibus Bill empowered the War Department "to purchase cemetery grounds… to be used as National

574. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994.
575. Patricia R. Walker, interview by Kim McBride, 19 September 1994.
576. William Payne, interview by Kim McBride, 10 September 1994.
577. Rebecca Turner, "Historic Context of the Black Bridge Community in Jessamine County, Kentucky" (Frankfort, KY: Kentucky Department of Transportation, April 2020), 10.
578. Turner, "Historic Context of the Black Bridge Community," Appendix C KHC Survey Forms.

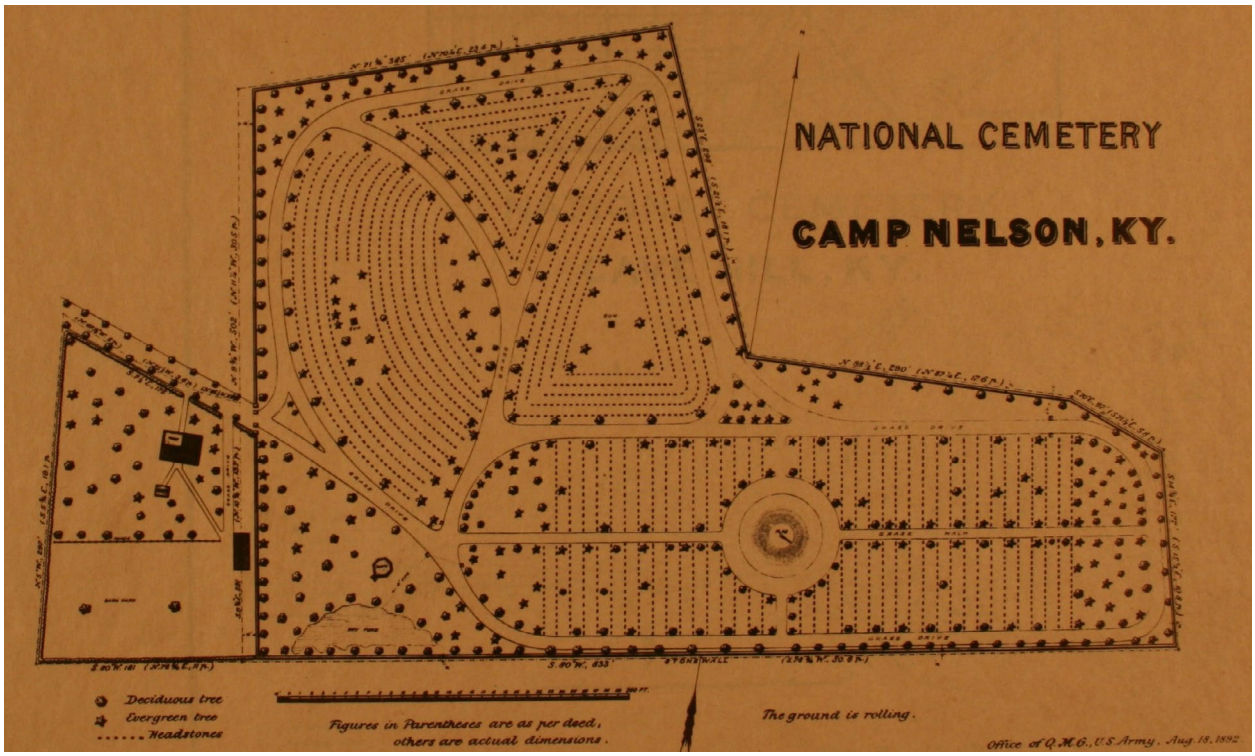


Figure 2.82. Plan of Camp Nelson National Cemetery, 1892 (Source: National Archives and Records Administration).

Cemetery for soldiers who shall have died in the service of the country."[579] At the conclusion of the Civil War, a majority of the bodies of fallen United States soldiers were located in approximately 250,000 temporary graves scattered across and near battlefields.[580] On April 13, 1866, Congress authorized the Secretary of War to "take immediate measures to preserve from desecration the graves of soldiers." Congress followed, on February 22, 1867, with "An Act to Establish and Protect National Cemeteries," which directed the Secretary to develop a system of standards for the national cemeteries. These procedures governed all aspects of the cemeteries' design, construction, and management, including guidelines on enclosures, grave markers, staffing, lodging, annual inspections, and procedure for purchasing land for additional cemeteries. The Joint resolution read, in part:

> "Resolved… That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby authorized and required to take immediate measures to preserve from desecration the graves of the soldiers of the United States who fell in battle or died of disease in the field and in hospital during the war of the rebellion; to secure suitable burial places in which they may be property interred; and to have the ground enclosed, so that the resting-places of the honored dead may be kept sacred forever."[581]

The US Army established about a dozen national cemeteries in 1862. By 1870, there were 73 national cemeteries.[582]

Over the course of its existence as a military installation, Camp Nelson had a total of four cemeteries—Graveyard No. 1 and Graveyard No. 2 and two smallpox cemeteries. A cemetery inspector with the Quartermaster Department provided an inspection report in a letter dated September 27, 1866, to General J. L. Donaldson with the

579. Edward Steere, "Early Growth of the National Cemetery System," *Quartermaster Review*, no. March-April 1953 (n.d.), https://www.quartermasterfoundation.org/article/early-growth-of-the-national-cemetery-system/.

580. John Auwaerter and George Curry, "Poplar Grove National Cemetery, Petersburg National Battlefield, Dinwiddie County, VA," Cultural Landscape Report (Boston, MA: National Park Service, 2009), 34. Auwaerter and Curry state that 101,736 of total 359,520 United States dead were buried in permanent graves as of 1865.

581. Auwaerter and Curry, "Poplar Grove National Cemetery," 34.

582. Kelly Merrifield, "From Necessity to Honor: The Evolution of National Cemeteries in the United States," https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/national_cemeteries/development.html.

Quartermaster Department of Tennessee. The inspector describes four graveyards. One graveyard was about an acre in size and contained the graves of "soldiers, both white and black, negro women and children and refugees."[583] This graveyard was designated Graveyard #1, located southeast of Fort Jackson. Between June 1863 and July 1865, 379 Black and White soldiers, as well as an unknown number of women and children were buried in this location.[584] The second cemetery is described as being a half mile east of the public road, designated Graveyard No. 2. Approximately 1,183 soldiers were buried in Graveyard No. 2 between July 28, 1863, and February 4, 1866. Graveyard No. 2, on the south side of Camp Nelson, was in the present location of the Camp Nelson National Cemetery.[585]

Two smallpox cemeteries in unknown locations are described by the inspector as being one mile west of Graveyard #2, which would place the cemeteries near the smallpox hospitals identified on the 1866 Miller map. The smallpox cemeteries each contained less than thirty burials. The inspector recommended consolidating all the burials in one location and advocated for enlarging Graveyard No. 2 for that purpose.

The United States government officially designated the site as a national cemetery in 1866. That year, the US Army reinterred the remains of over two hundred United States soldiers from Graveyard No. 1 and two smallpox cemeteries to the larger Graveyard No. 2. In 1867, a stone wall was constructed to enclose 8 acres of the cemetery.[586] The United States unsuccessfully negotiated to purchase the 8.5-acre cemetery in 1867; they, however, retained possession of the site under provisions of Section 4, Act of February 22, 1867. They acquired the title of the property in 1872. Two years later they acquired an additional 1-acre tract from the heirs of Mary Scott.

583. Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 345.
584. Therese T. Sammartino, "Camp Nelson National Cemetery," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (National Park Service, August 6, 1998), 6. Note: The origin of this number is not cited specifically in the nomination form, and there is some discrepancy in the historical record of the numbers buried between the four cemeteries at Camp Nelson. See Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 346.
585. Sammartino, "Camp Nelson National Cemetery," 6.
586. Sammartino, "Camp Nelson National Cemetery," 1.

The cemetery was originally rectangular in form, with axially aligned avenues meeting at a circle with a flagpole at the center.[587] The cemetery soon expanded to add three additional plots when the US Army reinterred remains of 2,023 United States Soldiers from locations in Perryville, Richmond, Frankfort, London and Covington, Kentucky in 1868.[588] An 1892 plan of Camp Nelson National Cemetery produced by the Quartermaster General shows the layout and planting design of the cemetery (**Figure 2.82**). The perimeter was an irregular shape, enclosed by the stone wall with a gate (constructed around 1875) at the western end. The rectangular plot had curving grass drives at the perimeter, forming a pill shape. North of that plot were two triangular plots and one curving plot, each with artillery mounts located at the center of the plot. Curving grass drives lined with deciduous and evergreen trees led to the plots from the gate. The unused areas of the cemetery were densely planted with trees. The superintendent's lodge designed by Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs (constructed around 1875) was located just outside the wall, with accompanying utility buildings. The lodge was a brick two-story building with a single-story porch, brick quoining, limestone foundation, and slate mansard roof. The lodge was occupied until the 1980s and restored in 1995.

Camp Nelson National Cemetery ceased being open to new burials in 1967. In 1975, a group organized to raise funds to purchase additional acreage to add to the cemetery in a bid to reopen it. The Committee to Reopen and Expand Camp Nelson National Cemetery raised $30,000 to purchase 10 acres next to the site. They donated the land to the Veterans Administration, who subsequently reopened the cemetery. The Jessamine County Industrial Development Corporation donated an additional 10.4 acres in 1985. The cemetery was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1998, with a period of significance from 1866-1948.

In 2007 and 2008, archeologists surveyed property around the national cemetery as plans developed to expand the national cemetery to the north onto land then owned by the Jessamine County

587. Sammartino, "Camp Nelson National Cemetery," 6.
588. National Cemetery Administration, "Camp Nelson National Cemetery Historical Information" accessed online: https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/campnelson.asp.

Fiscal Court and part of the Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park. Because earlier archeological investigations had located a historic ordnance site dating from the Civil War just north of the national cemetery, the archeological survey in 2007 and 2008 focused on the area east of the ordinance site and north of the boundaries of the national cemetery. The survey concluded that approximately 20 acres north of the national cemetery were a good location to add to the national cemetery, and the Jessamine County Fiscal Court transferred the approximately 20 acres to the federal government in 2011. Another 20-acre tract, formerly of the Bettie Glass property, underwent an archeological survey in 2018 for a potential land transfer from Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park to the National Cemetery. No archeological resources were discovered in the investigations. Of the 20 acres surveyed, 16.7 acres were to be transferred to the National Cemetery in 2021 (sale still pending as of November 2021), in addition to the 20.21 acres transferred in 2011, with the current cemetery boundaries totaling approximately 67 acres.[589]

Camp Nelson Landscape Changes, 1930s-1990s

The Camp Nelson landscape remained rural/agricultural from the postbellum period to the present, with scattered homes and the largest population density being in the Ariel/Hall community.

The first aerial photograph of the area dates to 1937. Most of the Scott-Perry-Glass Farm and the entire Ariel/Hall community is visible in the image, except for the northern portion of the camp site, including the location of the White House. The image does show several properties along the west side of US 27, which are outside of the current boundaries of the national monument. These include a large house in the approximate location of the Owens House Tavern. It had what appears to be a large garden or orchard extending west from the house towards the edge of the cliff overlooking the bend in the Kentucky River. South of this house and on the west side of the road, a cluster of buildings is visible in the photograph. These likely included the home the Glass family lived in before it burned in the 1940s or 1950s.

On the east side of US 27 and within the current boundaries of the national monument, the landscape was mostly open fields with barns, fence roads, ponds, and cluster of trees. Four large fields and several smaller enclosed areas that may be small fields or feedlots appear in the image. The four large fields appear to be under cultivation. Most of the remaining areas appear to be pasture. Three of the large fields were located on the eastern side of the farm, where the ground is most level, before the topography slopes down towards Hickman Creek. The fourth field was closer to US 27 in the upper left corner of the image. It is partially cut off in the image, but it would have extended north toward the White House.

Roads led towards the fields from US 27. They are light colored in the image, suggesting they were dirt farm roads. Paved since the 1800s, US 27 appears dark in the image. Most of the buildings visible in the photograph were close to the roads. Four of the buildings were barns that survive on the national monument's property today, and a fifth surviving building appears to have been a house or small store. The property owners may have rotated the northernmost barn sometime between 1937 and 1950, or they may have removed this building and constructed another close by, rotated ninety degrees. Otherwise, no residential houses were on the east side of US 27 within the current boundaries of the national monument.

Clusters of trees grew in areas around ponds, sinkholes, and in drainage swales, as shown in the 1937 aerial photograph. The slopes leading down to the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek were mostly wooded. At least four trails led out from a building located downhill and east of Fort McKee (outside of the national monument boundary). The trails branched off in a distinct pattern following the ridgeline; these were possibly livestock trails. One of these trails shared the alignment of the gravel logging road that currently intersects Fort Jones. Lines of trees grew along the edges of the farm roads and along what are likely fences. Many of these fence lines are still present on the site. One of these fence lines intersected with a sinkhole pond. This fence line was along the property boundary created in 1917 between the 84.5-acre Glass Farm and the Perry farm to the

589. At the time of this report, the land transfer had not yet been finalized.

north. It is still present on the site. There were trees surrounding most of the pond.

Present-day Barn #1 may or may not be visible northeast of the large sinkhole pond. Barn #1 is similar in size to the barn seen in the 1937 image, although the building in the image is rotated ninety degrees. Barn #1 has been in its current configuration since at least 1950. A small building stood just to the west of the pond that was demolished by 1983. It was surrounded by bare ground, suggesting that it may have been a location to feed livestock. Two smaller fields were west of this location, made discernible by the distinctly straight lines that were probably fences. Just west of these fields appears to be present-day Barn #2. A farm road passed just south of this barn. It extended from US 27 to the north side of one of the large rectangular fields on the eastern edge of the farm. The northern portion of the road dates to the Civil War era. This road followed the southern property line of the Glass Farm. The 120-acre farm to the south, owned at this time by Mary Scott Glass and which the Brumfield family purchased in 1955, was mostly pasture, but it did contain two large fields along its eastern edge.

Another Civil War era road extended from US 27 to the one of these fields in the 1937 image, crossing the middle of the 120-acre Glass/ Brumfield farm and passing through the location of the former government warehouses. Present-day Barn #6 was north of the intersection of this road and US 27. The smaller Barn #7 was east of Barn #6. Barn #7 covers the limestone Quartermaster Ice House. The road was relatively straight except for a short bend approximately halfway to the back field where the road passed through a low area on the property. Just south of this dip in the road, there was a rectangular pond. Paths led to this feature suggesting that it was used to water horses or livestock. Its straight edges also suggest that it is human-made and may have had a retaining structure. A large cluster of trees extended northeast from this water feature. Lines of trees suggest fences subdivided the 120-acre Glass/ Brumfield farm into multiple separate pastures. Within the middle of one of these pastures, toward the south side of the farm, a large cluster of trees grew around a sinkhole. A second sinkhole, also covered with trees, was just south of one of the large back fields. The national cemetery is visible in the image south of these sinkholes. Trees lined the cemetery road. The cemetery, which was smaller in 1937 than today, was covered with large specimen trees. A barn was south of the cemetery road on US 27; it was demolished by 1983.

The outline of Fort McKee and the infantry entrenchments south of it are densely covered with trees in the top of the image. A section of a Civil War era road that follows the property line north of Fort McKee is lined with trees, following a serpentine path (partially covered by the letter “X” in the image). The road disappears into the woods, then reappears in the top part of the image, leading south to Hickman Creek.

The 1937 aerial photograph also shows the village of Ariel/Hall on the west side of US 27, the Hickman Bridge, and the distillery complex on the north side of the river. In Ariel/Hall, the Fee Memorial Church and parsonage are visible. The photograph appears to show a roughly rectangular parcel on the site of the former Fee Memorial Institute campus. This parcel extended northeast of Front and Row Streets (now Church Street) and West Front (now Isom) Street, with a south extension including the church. It contained approximately two acres.

An aerial photograph from 1950 shows that the overall landscape is essentially unchanged from its condition seen in the 1937 image. The fields are mostly in the same configuration. Most trees seen in the 1937 aerial are still on the site in the 1950s, as are the roads and buildings. One significant change is to the rectangular water feature that appears on the Glass/Brumfield farm. In 1950, the pond has grown and lost its rectilinear shape, appearing in the aerial with an irregular edge. Two whiskey rickhouses also appear in the location of the Civil War era road that led to the refugee camp. The buildings break the historic road configuration.

Aerial photographs indicate that portions of the former Fee Memorial Institute campus parcel visible on the 1937 aerial became overgrown between 1950 and the early-1980s. The area northeast of the hill was forested during this period and the forest spread into this corner of the campus. The center of the site, including the likely site of the dormitory, was covered by several trees by the mid-1950s. Some of the trees and undergrowth were removed after 2000 and

the former campus parcel is comprised mainly of mowed turfgrass area as of 2021.

The White House and 187-acre parcel that make up the northern portion of the national monument is visible in the 1950 aerial. Reuben Naylor purchased the parcel in 1948. The property extended east from US 27 to the top of the ridge overlooking Hickman Creek valley. The White House was one of several buildings clustered together in an area set back a short distance from US 27. A barn is visible in the open field west of the White House building cluster (Barn #1). This barn may have appeared on the 1937 aerial photograph, if so, the Naylors moved the barn slightly to the south and rotated it ninety degrees.

An unpaved road traveled east from US 27 and passed to the south of the White House. A driveway branched off from this road, curved next to the house, and then rejoined the road. This road continued east, passed a large barn, curved north and then back to the east towards the rear of the property. In addition to the large barn, which was on the north side of the road (it was demolished by 1956), the road passed the storage shed (which is still standing), another smaller building, and one large barn with an attached shed on its northeast corner (which was demolished by 2004). The cluster of buildings was in the same general location as the current national monument headquarters. The road alignment corresponds with the present-day sidewalk north of the Visitor Center and the Long Fort Trail in the eastern part of the site. Where the road met the fence line is in the location of the former maintenance parking area at the rear of the Visitor Center.

The 1956 aerial image shows a clearer view of the White House area. The existing mortared stone wall and entry gate are visible along US 27. A fence enclosed the area around the White House. Four small outbuildings were northeast of the White House within the enclosure. Trees were clustered mostly to the northwest side of the house, with a large tree planted in the "L" on the north side of the house and trees planted along the driveway.

At least two of the buildings in the White House yard were still standing in 1983. In the aerial image from 1983, a barn on the north side of the road is approximately the same size and in the same location of a barn that was demolished in the mid-1950s. The barn and a building on the south side of the road were demolished by 2004, at which point the Visitor Center had been constructed between the two former buildings.

Three residential parcels were on the east side of US 27 south of the present-day Glass farm road by 1983, including the existing brick building that is within the national monument. Barn #3 on the Glass property was joined by four more buildings in the 1983 image-- Barn #2, Barn #4, and Barn #5, and the Agricultural Shed. Otherwise, the landscape was mostly pasture, with trees growing along fence lines and around sinkholes, much like they appeared in the 1937 aerial photograph. The trees covering Fort McKee were mostly cleared by this time. Four more rickhouses were constructed by 1983 west of US 27.

The landscape appears relatively unchanged in an aerial photograph from 1998. The major difference was that the widening of US 27 had occurred by this point, which removed several historic buildings that stood along the west side of this road. The national cemetery had also expanded by this time and several new roads appear to be under construction at the time of the 1998 aerial photograph.

Site changes after 1998 include the restoration of the White House (dedicated 2001); the reconstruction of Fort Putnam around 2001; the construction of the parking lot, entry drive, and stone entry gate in the early 2000s, the Interpretive Center in 2003 or 2004, the Reconstructed Barracks in 2008, snake fencing running north/south to the east of the barracks in the early 2000s; and the demolition of the parsonage next to the Fee Memorial Church around 2007.

Landscape Summary (1866 – 1992)

Illustrations 2.10 and 2.11 depict the landscape features near the existing national monument boundary in 1937.

Limited new development occurred at Camp Nelson after the Civil War. The area retained an agricultural character from the postbellum period to the present. The steep palisade cliffs along the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek remained forested throughout this period. Camp Nelson National Cemetery more than tripled in size during

this period, during which the administrators removed most of the trees and mown roads from the original site to maximize burial space.

The contemporary landscape at Camp Nelson National Monument reflects the patterns of Burley tobacco and livestock production in the Kentucky Bluegrass. Of the eight barns on the site, five are tobacco barns and two are hay barns. Five barns within the national monument were constructed prior to 1935. The iconic black barns, designed to warm the air as the tobacco dries, can be seen dotting the landscape throughout the region. Pastures and cultivated fields are divided by fences. Many of the fields have remained in the same configuration since at least the 1930s.

As decades passed following the war, some of the remaining site features at Camp Nelson, particularly the ruins of the fortifications and entrenchments were regarded as nuisances to farming operations. Agricultural equipment damaged several forts, including Fort Putnam and Fort Pope. Construction of a logging road damaged portions of Fort Jones at an unknown date. Portions of the former Blakeman tract were logged shortly before the site was sold to Jessamine County Fiscal Court in 2000.

The Ariel/Hall community is the largest settlement that developed within the original four thousand-acre Camp Nelson boundary. Rev. John G. Fee laid out the town and sold parcels between 1868-1900. The streets in town partially align with the former Home for Colored Refugees and partially align with cardinal directions. The Ariel Academy/Camp Nelson Academy/Fee Memorial Institute campus developed between 1868 and 1924 to include two dormitories, the Fee Memorial Church, the parsonage, and school building. All but one Civil War era building had been demolished by 1895. The subsequent owner of the Fee Memorial Institute Campus demolished the two dormitories and school building sometime in the 1930s. The parsonage was demolished in 2007 under the ownership of Jessamine County Fiscal Court and the Fee Memorial Church is the only remaining building associated with the school. The Hall community is divided into about fifty individual parcels, several of which are vacant as of 2021.

The Lexington-Danville Turnpike became US 27/ Danville Road sometime before 1941. A metal bridge replaced the covered wood Hickman Bridge in 1927. This bridge remains standing but vehicular traffic now follows the Lloyd Murphy Memorial Bridge, located to the east and constructed when the highway was widened and realigned in the 1970s. As early as 1991, archeological investigations at Camp Nelson began as mitigation work related to the highway development.

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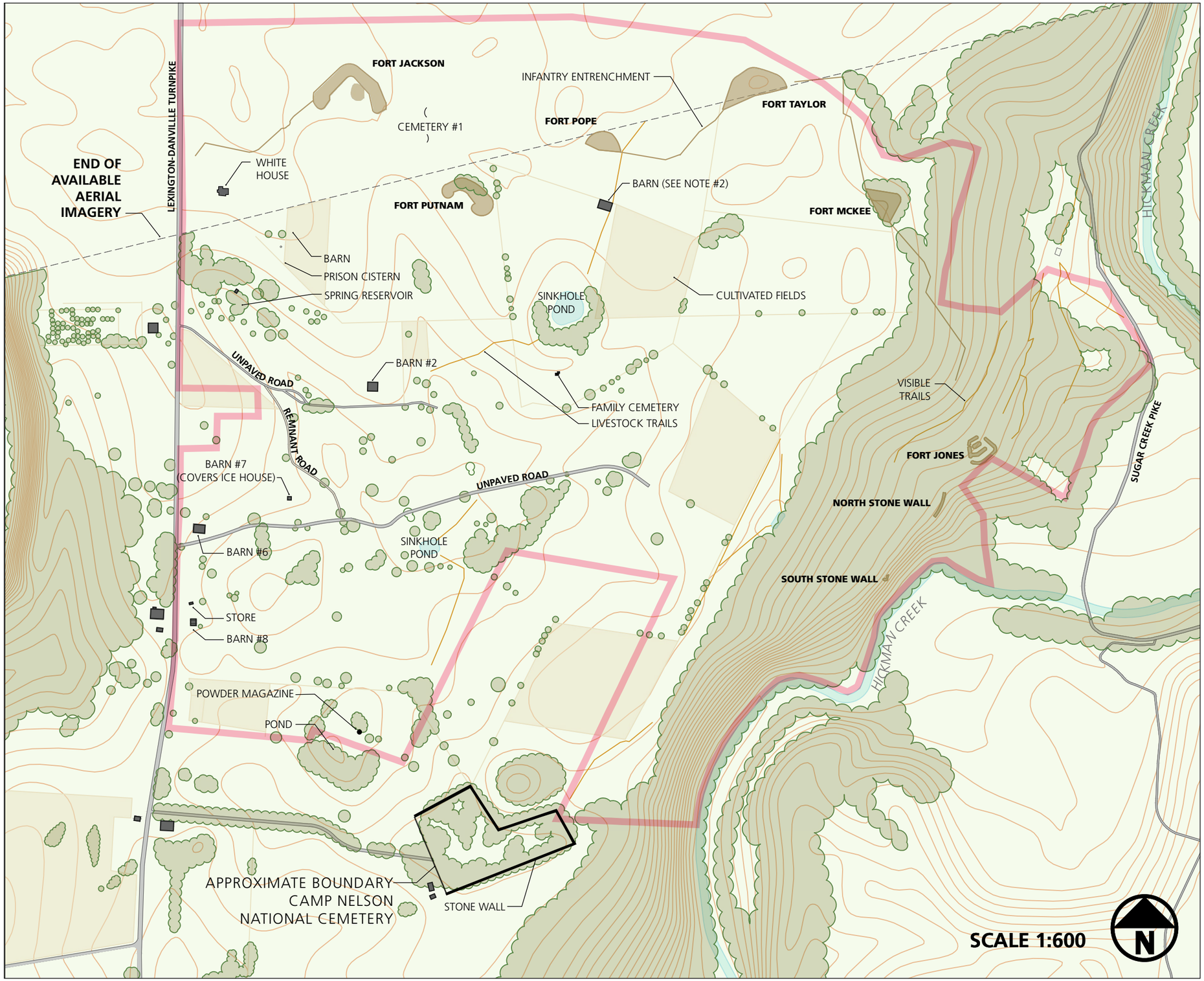


Illustration Key

- APPROXIMATE NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- APPROXIMATE TREE LINE
- WATER
- CULTIVATED FIELDS
- PASTURE/GRASS
- FORT EARTHWORKS

Notes:
1. Cultivated field areas approximated from aerial imagery.
2. This building may be Barn #1, which appears in this location by 1950, but is rotated 90 degrees.

Credits:
1. ESRI.
2. Historic Aerials, NETR Online.
3. Google Earth.

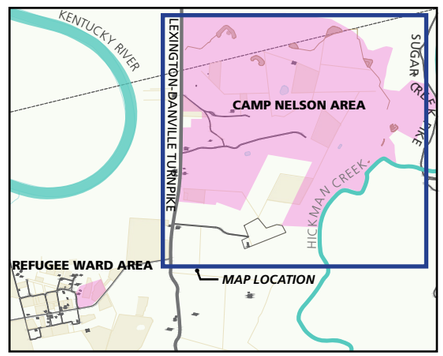


Illustration 2.10

1937 CAMP NELSON AREA

Camp Nelson National Monument

SEPTEMBER 2022

CULTIVATED FIELDS

APPARENT FENCE LINE
MOWN OR DIRT ROADS

COMMUNITY CEMETERY

BROWN ST

ROW ST

RIVER ST

SECOND ST

FRONT ST

HALL ROAD

LEXINGTON-DANVILLLE TURNPIKE

APPARENT BOUNDARY OF FORMER FEE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE CAMPUS PARCEL

BAPTIST CHURCH

PUBLIC SCHOOL

PARSONAGE/MANSE

FEE MEMORIAL CHURCH

BENEVOLENT HALL

CALDWELL HOUSE

MAIN ST

CHURCH STREET

NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY

TO POORTOWN

WILLIAMS HOUSE

WILLIAMS BARN

MOSS ALLEY

CARPENTER HOUSE

CULTIVATED FIELDS

SCALE 1:400

N

Illustration Key

- APPROXIMATE NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- APPROXIMATE TREE LINE
- WATER
- CULTIVATED FIELDS
- PASTURE/GRASS

Notes:
1. Cultivated field areas approximated from aerial imagery.

Credits:
1. ESRI.
2. Historic Aerials, NETR Online.
3. Google Earth.

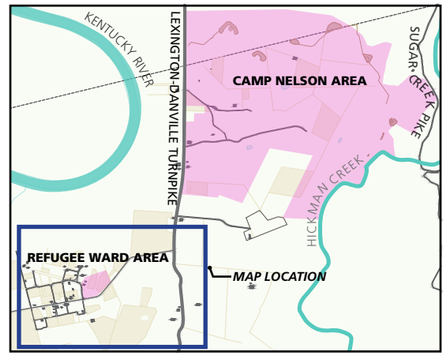


Illustration 2.11
1937 VILLAGE OF HALL
Camp Nelson National Monument
SEPTEMBER 2022

Preservation of Camp Nelson (1993 - Present)

A New National Monument (1995-2021)

The Scott/Perry Farm

The 229 acres sold to the Perrys in 1887 remained in that family until 1948. The White House (Oliver Scott Perry House), which was located on this parcel, passed from Oliver Scott Perry to his son John Perry after the former's death in 1897. It then passed from John and Tabitha Perry to their daughter Pearl Perry Combs.[590] Combs sold or gifted portions of the property to different family members during the first few decades of the 1900s. In 1948, Pearl Combs sold 187 acres at auction to Reuben Naylor.[591] These 187 acres makes up the northern portion of the Camp Nelson National Monument. The Naylor family kept ownership of the property and farmed the land until 1997, when they sold it to the Jessamine County Fiscal Court to become part of the Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park.[592]

The 84.5-acre parcel immediately south of the one described above was part of the Scott/Perry Farm until 1917, when the Commissioners of Jessamine County forced Tabitha Perry to subdivide her property and assigned this parcel to Fannie Perry Glass, another of John and Tabitha Perry's daughters.[593] Fannie Perry Glass and husband Holman Glass built a house on the property around 1907. The house still exists but the family moved it west out of the US 27 right-of-way. This rectangular parcel, roughly extending west to east from US 27, occupies the middle of the present-day national monument. Jessamine County Fiscal Court acquired the parcel in 2015.

The southern portion of the national monument is comprised of a 120-acre parcel that was also part of the Scott/Perry/Glass Farm. Hannah Scott conveyed approximately 200 acres, which contained this property, to Thomas B. Scott in 1904.[594] The property then passed to Mary Scott Glass in 1911.[595] The Brumfield family acquired the parcel in 1955.[596] They conveyed the property to the Jessamine County Fiscal Court in 2000, at which time the property was listed as containing 142.25 acres.[597] Two smaller parcels along US 27 and a few parcels on Christopher Lane (to the south) that had been owned by the Scott/Perry/Glass family were subdivided for residential use. These two parcels are outside of the national monument.

The eastern portion of the national monument is comprised of a sixty-acre parcel that stretches down the side of the slope leading into Hickman Creek valley. James Blakeman owned the property in the 1960s. A descendant of Blakeman sold the property to the Jessamine County Fiscal Court in 2000. It is unclear from the deed records if this property was ever part of the Scott/Perry/Glass farm or part of a farm located down in Hickman Creek valley.

Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park

Interest in the documentation and preservation of Camp Nelson's remaining cultural resources began with archeological investigations in the 1970s that continue to the present day. The Kentucky Office of State Archaeology has issued multiple archeological site numbers within the Camp Nelson National Historic Landmark Archeological District. According to a 2009 archeological report,

> Cultural resource investigations of the Civil War occupations of Camp Nelson began in the 1970s as part of early planning for the planned re-alignment of U.S. 27. Site number 15Js78 was given to Camp Nelson's Northern Line of Fortifications as part of this study (Bartnik 1976). As part of the U.S. 27 realignment project funded by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, archaeological survey, testing, and excavation have occurred on four sites to the west of old U.S. 27 between 1986 and 1995 (Janzen 1987; Schock 1987; McBride et al. 2003). These sites included

590. "Deed Book 6: 312" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1914).
591. "Deed Book 58: 70-71" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1948).
592. "Deed Book 366: 125-127" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1998).
593. "Deed Book 31: 254-255" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1914).
594. "Deed Book 19: 104-105" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1904).
595. "Deed Book 25: 535-536" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1911).
596. "Deed Book 64: 323" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 1955).
597. "Deed Book 423: 318" (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Jessamine County Courthouse, 2000).

the Headquarters-Mess Houses (15Js96), the Owen's House-Post Office (15Js97), the Machine Shop (15Js113), and the Hall Barracks (15Js130). An archaeological survey and testing project for an AT&T fiber optics line was also conducted in 1989-1990 parallel to the U.S. 27 right-of-way and resulted in additional excavation on sites 15Js96 (Headquarters-Mess Houses), 15Js97 (Owen's House-Post Office), 15Js113 (Machine Shop), and 15Js112 (the Nelson General Hospital) (McBride and Sharp 1991). Cultural resources planning for Camp Nelson began in the early 1990s (Stewart and McBride 1994), and extensive archaeological investigations have occurred in other parts of Camp Nelson.[598]

Around the same period, Fort Bramlette (private property, address restricted) was individually listed in the National Register on June 13, 1975, the first site associated with Camp Nelson to be listed (Reference #75000781, archeological site, information restricted).

Recognizing the need to take action to preserve Kentucky's significant Civil War historic sites, the Kentucky Heritage Council formed the Kentucky Civil War Sites Preservation Program in 1991. As part of the program, the council "led efforts to develop partnerships between state and local government entities that are working closely with area residents and national Civil War preservation organizations to preserve, protect and interpret Kentucky's other Civil War sites," including Camp Nelson.[599] In 1993, Jessamine County received a grant for $750,000 from the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) "for upkeep of the Camp Nelson National Cemetery and surrounding land."[600] The ISTEA grant application established a strategic plan for a multiphase development of a "heritage park, interpretive center and tours, and surrounding protected area for Camp Nelson."[601] Using the ISTEA grant, contributions from the Kentucky Heritage Council, the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund, and funds raised by the Camp Nelson Preservation and Restoration Foundation, a local preservation advocacy group, the Jessamine County Fiscal Court began acquiring parcels associated with Camp Nelson, attempting to acquire "300 acres of private land."[602] The county subsequently acquired the Fee Church parcel in 1996 (Jessamine County Deed Book 353:23), the former Naylor Property in 1997 (Jessamine County Deed Book 366:125), the former Brumfield and Blakeman properties in 2000 (Jessamine County Deed Book 423:318, Jessamine County Deed Book 421:224), and the former Glass property in 2015 (Jessamine County Deed Book 727:106), totaling approximately 465 acres.

The period between the mid-1990s and the mid-2000s was a time of gaining momentum for the development of Camp Nelson as an interpreted historic site. In 1995, Camp Nelson Preservation and Restoration Foundation chairperson Margaret Morgan discussed plans to develop the site into a tourist attraction including a museum and a driving tour to include related historic sites.[603] The group hosted fundraisers for ongoing developments at the park by selling prints, tickets to reenactment events, rummage sales, and advertisements in the local newspapers.

That same year, bourbon producer Jim Beam donated $100,000 to the Nature Conservancy for the purchase of 114 acres along the Kentucky River, some of which borders the national monument. The Nature Conservancy retains the site as the Jim Beam Nature Preserve. This site is possibly part of the original Moss property that was purchased by Rev. John G. Fee and is near the location of the Civil War era waterworks.[604] Stacked stone walls within the site are of unknown age.

Concurrent with development efforts for the park, archeologists with Wilber Smith Associates conducted "Phase III archeological data recovery

598. W. Stephen McBride and Kim A. McBride, "Archaeological Survey of The Ordnance Depot (15Js166), Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park," 13.
599. "Civil War Sites Preservation," Government, Kentucky Heritage Council, accessed March 10, 2021, https://heritage.ky.gov/historic-places/military-heritage/Pages/civil-war-sites.aspx#:~:text=The%20Kentucky%20Civil%20War%20Sites,%2C%20Middle%20Creek%2C%20Mill%20Springs%2C.
600. "Area Receives $1.76 Million for 4 Projects," *The Advocate-Messenger*, October 10, 1993.
601. W. Stephen McBride, "Camp Nelson Restoration and Heritage Park," Draft ISTEA Application, March 30, 1993.
602. "Group Wants to Restore Civil War Fort," *The Advocate-Messenger*, April 3, 1995.
603. "Group Wants to Restore Civil War Fort."
604. "Jim Beam Donates Nature Preserve," The Advocate-Messenger, March 29, 1995, sec. A3.

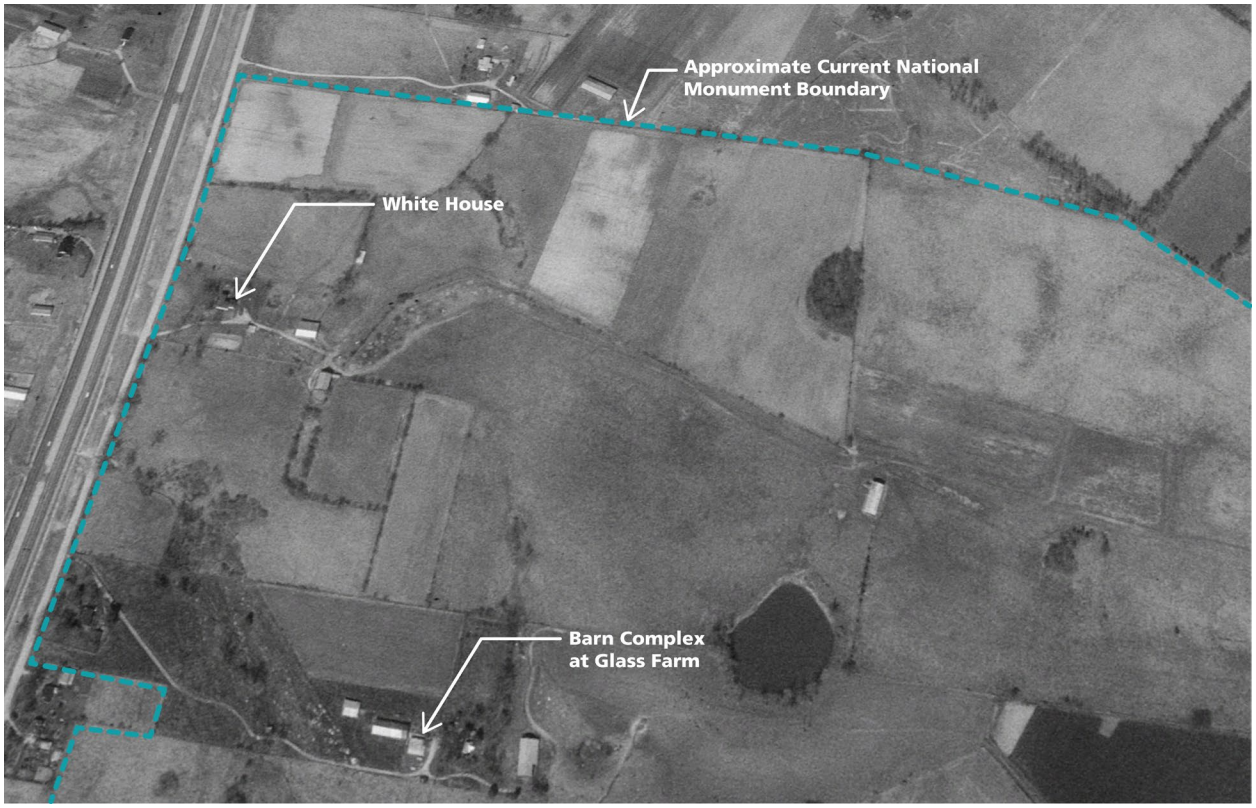


Figure 2.83. Annotated 1998 aerial photograph showing the northern portion of the site prior to park development (Source: USGS).

(mitigation) on three sites" in 1994-1995 when the federal government expanded US 27/Danville Road to four-lanes through the former camp area.[605] The route was known as Lexington-Danville Turnpike during the Civil War, then Danville/Nicholasville/Lexington Pike. The Kentucky Department of Transportation added new lanes to the west side and parallel to the older highway alignment. This alignment minimized the impact that road construction had on archeological sites of historic Camp Nelson. Sites 15Js96, 15Js97, 15Js113, and 15Js130 required archeological mitigation before the highway was completed.[606] In 1997, archeological investigations began at the Camp Nelson Military Prison site (15Js78), which continued until 2008.

In 1998, restoration efforts began on the White House, funded by a $450,000 federal grant (**Figure 2.83**).[607] The renovations uncovered a two-story side porch which had been enclosed in the early-1900s. The restoration replaced the building's full-height entry porch and repaired the northeast foundation wall. The architecture of the replacement porch differed slightly from its historic condition. The false shutters, too-tall balcony balustrades, too-steep portico pediment, and simplified moldings show clear differences from the house's documented appearance in the 1865 photograph. The interior of the house largely retains its original plan and retains Greek Revival mantels, architraves, doors, and other woodwork that are consistent with its date of construction. Camp Nelson Preservation and Restoration Foundation hosted their first annual "Living History Event" as well as the "Camp Nelson Civil War Days" reenactment event that same year. Local boy scout Christopher Tucker also developed the "Freedom Trail" that year, in the woods behind the Fee Memorial Church as an Eagle Scout project, which has since been abandoned. A wooden amphitheater associated with the project currently lies in disrepair.[608] Also in 1998, Camp Nelson National Cemetery (outside the Camp Nelson National Monument boundary) was listed in the National Register.

605. McBride et al., "From Supply Depot to Emancipation Center," i.
606. Andrews, "The Antebellum Component of 15Js97," 1.4-1.5.
607. "Union Encampment Undergoes Renovation," *Advocate-Messenger*, November 10, 1998, sec. A.
608. Eric Mosolgo, "Scouting out a Good Trail," *Lexington Herald-Leader*, June 24, 1998.

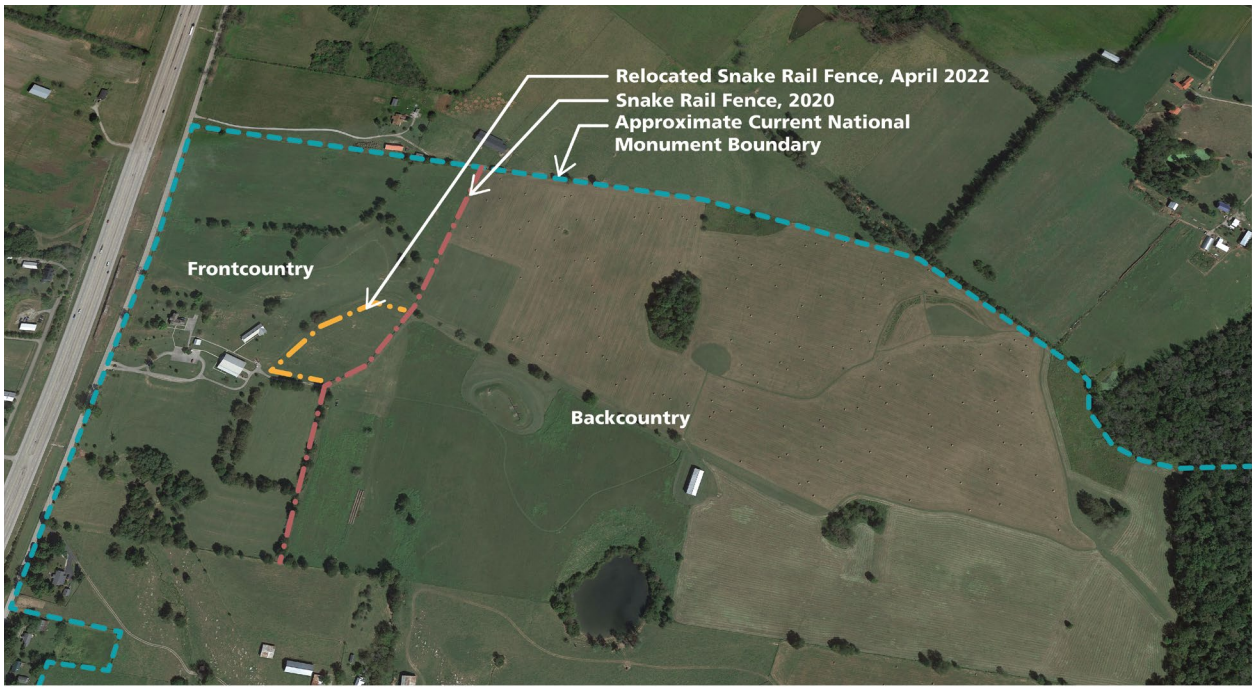


Figure 2.84. Annotated 2017 aerial photograph showing maintenance practices at the site, including the separation between the frontcountry, which received weekly mowing and the backcountry, which hayed sometime just before this aerial photograph was taken (Source: Google Earth).

The Jessamine County Fiscal Court contracted with consultant Mudpuppy & Waterdog in 2000 for the design of the Camp Nelson Heritage Trail. Deliverables listed in the project proposal include a mapped route of the overall trail, design for ten interpretive signs, and an illustrated brochure.[609] The signage and trails were completed in 2000.

After years of development efforts, Camp Nelson Civil War District was listed in the National Register on March 15, 2001. W. Stephen McBride prepared the nomination form. The district contains approximately nine hundred acres and consists of "five sites (main encampment area site. Home for Colored Refugees site. Fort Bramlette site. Camp Nelson National Cemetery site. Hall cemetery site), 1 building (Oliver Perry House/ White House at the main encampment site), and 18 structures (the infantry entrenchment, 10 forts, an earthen magazine complex, and three roads at the main encampment site, one stone fence at the cemetery site, and two streets at the refugee camp site)."[610]

Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park was officially dedicated on April 21, 2001, along with the Saltville Monument for fallen US Colored Troops. Camp Nelson Preservation and Restoration Association president Kathy Clark remarked, "we just want to keep adding to it and make it a national attraction."[611] Also in 2001, Kentucky Governor Paul Patton announced a $50,000 grant for the design of a museum and visitor center and marketing plan. Local officials planned to raise four million dollars for the museum's construction.[612] In 2001 and 2002, archeological investigations were conducted in the Fort Jones and North and South Stone Walls area (part of site 15Js78) and the Ordnance Depot area (15Js166).[613] Around the same time, Fort Putnam was reconstructed near the location of the original fort.

Prior to 2003, the county realigned the entrance drive into the property by removing the historic driveway to the White House and constructing a new entrance road and stone entry gate approximately seventy feet to the south. This entrance road led to a new parking lot located

609. "Proposal to Develop a Camp Nelson Heritage Trail" Camp Nelson Archives, undated typed report.
610. McBride, "National Register of Historic Places," 1.
611. Greg Kocher, "Camp Nelson Aims to Expand Exhibits to Attract, Teach Public," *Lexington Herald-Leader*, April 20, 2001, sec. B.
612. Associated Press, "Jessamine Monument to Honor Black Troops," *The Courier-Journal*, April 24, 2001, sec. B4.
613. McBride, et al., "Report of the Archaeological Investigations at Fort Jones, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park."

south of the White House and to the new Visitor Center. It appears, based on a 2003 aerial image of the property, that the county demolished a barn behind (east of) the White House at this time. Construction began in 2008 for a reconstruction of the camp barracks nearby the original building's location, funded by state legislative appropriation.

During Jessamine County's ownership of the property, maintenance crews installed a snake rail fence just east of the Visitor Center, likely in the late-1990s.[614] This fencing was not in a known historic location, but park managers used it to separate areas with different mowing regimes. Maintenance crews designated the "frontcountry" as the area closest to Danville Loop 2 Road and US 27. This area would receive weekly mowing. "Backcountry" areas would be maintained as managed tall vegetative cover and bid out once or twice per year for haying. A 2017 aerial image shows the distinction in these areas and the maintenance regime (**Figure 2.84**). Site managers also installed flags to mark different forts and building areas at the site during the early-2000s.

In 2008, the NPS, National Underground Railroad (UGRR) Network to Freedom accepted Camp Nelson as a contributing site. "The National Park Service operates the National Underground Network to Freedom program to coordinate preservation and education efforts nationwide and integrate local historical places, museums, and interpretive programs associated with the Underground Railroad into a mosaic of community, regional, and national stories."[615]

Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District

The Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) on February 27, 2013. The NHL district encompasses approximately six hundred acres of "well-preserved archeological remains and landscape of a large Civil War era Union Army supply depot, recruitment camp, hospital facility, and African American refugee camp."[616] The district includes some areas outside of the current Camp Nelson National Monument boundary. The district has twenty-two contributing resources and twenty non-contributing resources. The contributing resources include one building, seventeen structures, and two sites. The district includes both documented and undocumented archeological remains. These archeological remains and Camp Nelson National Cemetery are classified as contributing sites. The contributing building is the White House (Oliver Perry House). The seventeen structures include remains of the infantry entrenchments, eight forts, an earthen ordnance magazine, bakery oven foundations, the "prison cistern" (Prison Ice House), ice house (Quartermaster Ice House), a stone reservoir (Spring Reservoir), and four roads.[617] The forts include Jackson, Pope, Taylor, McKee, Jones, the North Stone Wall, the South Stone Wall, and Battery Studdiford. According to the nomination, the site retains integrity of setting, feeling, association, and location. It states that "The present landscape of the main depot-encampment area is very similar to its appearance just before and after the Civil War, and presents a high degree of visual integrity."[618]

National Park Service Period

In 2018, Senator Mitch McConnell and Representative Andy Barr introduced bills to establish Camp Nelson National Monument to "preserve, protect, and interpret the nationally significant historic resources of Camp Nelson and its role in the Civil War, Reconstruction, and African-American history and civil rights."[619] In October 2018, a Presidential Proclamation established the site as a new unit of the National Park Service system. The bulk of the land transfer from Jessamine County to the United States

614. The dates of the Jessamine County's installation of some small-scale features are unknown. Previous site managers refer to the late 1990s and early 2000s but could not provide the consultants with exact installation dates.
615. National Park Service, "About the Network to Freedom - Underground Railroad (U.S. National Park Service)," June 16, 2022, https://www.nps.gov/subjects/undergroundrailroad/about-the-network-to-freedom.htm.
616. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 7.
617. The "prison cistern" was misidentified in both the National Register of Historic Places nomination form in 2001 and the National Historic Landmark Nomination in 2013. The structure is in actuality an ice house foundation.
618. McBride, "National Register of Historic Places," 6.
619. Mitch McConnell, "Camp Nelson Heritage National Monument Act," Pub. L. No. S.3287 (2018); Andy Barr, "Camp Nelson National Monument Act," Pub. L. No. H. R. 5655 (2018).

government occurred in October 2018, with the Glass Farm tract finally transferring from the county in 2021. The NPS unveiled a new sign identifying the park as Camp Nelson National Monument on October 15, 2020.

Landscape Summary (1993 - Present)

Illustrations 2.12 and 2.13 depict the landscape features near the existing national monument boundary in 1998.

Jessamine County Fiscal Court implemented several site changes for the development of Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park beginning in the late-1990s through the mid-2000s. Site changes include a stone entrance pillar and gate, removal of the historic driveway and realigned new paved driveway, paved parking area, Visitor Center, and Barracks, all surrounding the restored White House. Additional site changes include the reconstruction of Fort Putnam, removal of interior fencing, landscape plantings, interpretive trails and signage, and new mowing regimes. The county or a tenant constructed a small rectangular garden northeast of the White House at an unknown date. Research did not reveal the installation date of the garden, but it appears to be visible in aerial photographs by 2012. It is unknown if this was intended as an interpretive garden or as a vegetable garden for a tenant who was living in an apartment in the White House. By December 2020, the NPS had stopped maintaining the garden, though its rectangular shape was still distinguishable in the landscape at the time of fieldwork. Later, the NPS began to mow this area consistent with the surrounding turfgrass areas. The county placed portable toilets at the parking area prior to NPS acquisition.

Under National Park Service management, the site received a new identity sign, mounted to the Visitor Center. During the course of the project, the NPS adapted site management practices of the sodded forts and infantry entrenchments. In 2021, maintenance crews experimented with leaving the grass on these features long instead of weekly mowing. In May, Historian David Lowe of the NPS visited the site and initiated changes to the mowing regime at the forts and infantry entrenchments. Previous site managers had used "zero turn" mowers to maintain the turfgrass on the forts at a short height. Lowe suggested installing flags on the forts and entrenchments "and encouraging the grass to grow higher inside the flags."[620] The result was better visibility of the forts from an interpretive perspective and protection of the earthworks themselves. When the fields are hayed, this practice aided in the visibility of these features. Additionally, during 2021, the maintenance and facilities crews moved their operations from the Visitor Center to the brick house located on the former Glass property. A volunteer group completed several projects at the park in April 2022 including dismantling and rebuilding a portion of the split-rail fence through the park. The fence now runs along part of the historic military road through Camp Nelson and alongside the trail outside the barracks building. This volunteer group also replaced in-kind the treads and handrails on one of the footbridges located in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area and on the overlook at the North Stone Wall.

620. David Lowe to Ernest Price, "CANE Earthworks," May 18, 2021.

UNIDENTIFIED BUILDING
FORT JACKSON
(CEMETERY #1)
WHITE HOUSE
UNPAVED ROAD
SHED
BARN
BARN
PRISON CISTERN
SPRING RESERVOIR
GRAVEL PARKING
LEXINGTON-DANVILLE TURNPIKE
APPARENT FENCELINE
FORT POPE
FORT TAYLOR
INFANTRY ENTRENCHMENT
CULTIVATED FIELDS
BARN #1
FORT MCKEE
SINKHOLE POND
UNKNOWN BUILDING
BARN #5
BARN #2
CEMETERY #2
UNPAVED ROAD
REMNANT ROAD
BARN #4
BARN #3
BARN #7 (COVERS ICE HOUSE)
UNPAVED ROAD
FORT JONES
SUGAR CREEK PIKE
NORTH STONE WALL
BARN #6
SINKHOLE POND
SOUTH STONE WALL
HICKMAN CREEK
ABANDONED STORE
BARN #8
POWDER MAGAZINE
POND
APPROXIMATE BOUNDARY
CAMP NELSON NATIONAL CEMETERY
SCALE 1:600
N

Illustration Key

- APPROXIMATE NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- APPROXIMATE TREE LINE
- WATER
- CULTIVATED FIELDS
- PASTURE/GRASS
- FORT EARTHWORKS

Notes:
1. Fence lines approximated from aerial imagery and known existing fences.

Credits:
1. ESRI.
2. Historic Aerials, NETR Online.
3. Google Earth.

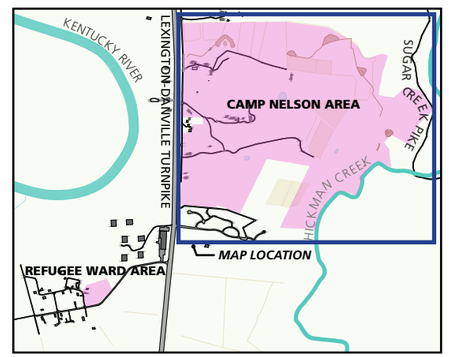


Illustration 2.12
1998 CAMP NELSON AREA
Camp Nelson National Monument
SEPTEMBER 2022

RICKHOUSES

COMMUNITY CEMETERY

BAPTIST CHURCH

COMMUNITY CENTER

ISOM ST

PAYNE LN

CHURCH ST

BOWLES ST

CHURCH ST

PARSONAGE/MANSE

FEE MEMORIAL CHURCH

APPARENT FENCE LINE

HALL ROAD

US-27 DANVILLE ROAD

FIELD OR PASTURE EDGE

TO POORTOWN

HALL ROAD

OVERSTREET LN

SPRING ST

CARPENTER HOUSE

WILLIAMS HOUSE

SCALE 1:400

N

Illustration Key

- APPROXIMATE NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- APPROXIMATE TREE LINE
- WATER
- CULTIVATED FIELDS
- PASTURE/GRASS

Notes:
1. Fence lines approximated from aerial imagery and known existing fences.

Credits:
1. ESRI.
2. Historic Aerials, NETR Online.
3. Google Earth.

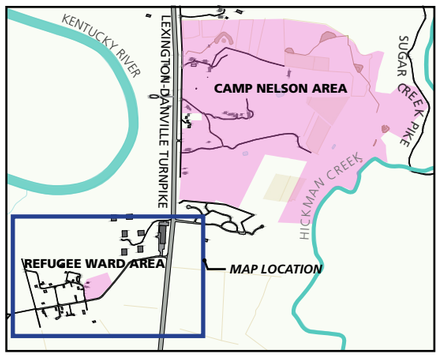


Illustration 2.13

1998 VILLAGE OF HALL

Camp Nelson National Monument

SEPTEMBER 2022

Existing Conditions

Introduction

The focus of this study is the Camp Nelson National Monument (CANE). The site was the location of a United States Army (US Army) supply depot, hospital, US Colored Troops recruitment center, and refugee encampment and housing site during the Civil War. After the war, the properties occupied by the US Army returned to their previous residential and agricultural use. The community of Ariel/Hall developed in the area previously occupied by the Home for Colored Refugees. Preservation efforts for the park began as a Jessamine County-led effort, and portions of the former camp and recruitment site became Camp Nelson National Monument in 2018.

CANE is located twenty miles southwest of Lexington, the state's second largest city. The closest towns are Bryantsville to the south (population around six thousand) and Nicholasville to the north (population around thirty thousand).[620] These towns are each approximately six miles from the national monument. The site includes two properties east and west of US 27 (also known as Danville Road). The eastern property includes remnants of the supply depot, fortifications, and recruitment and training center, while the western property includes the Fee Memorial Church and the ruins of another building, which are located in the Hall community, a historically African American enclave. Much of the area occupied by the camp within the right-of-way and west of US 27 is currently private property. The majority of the national monument, located on the east side of US 27, is bounded by US 27 to the west, residential properties to the north, Hickman Creek to the east, and Camp Nelson National Cemetery to the south (**Figure 3.1**). The site is comprised of seven parcels identified as Parcel ID numbers 050-00-00-005.00, 050-00-00-010.00, 050-00-00-010.01, 050-00-00-0016.00, 050-00-00-016.01, 050-00-00-0016.02, and 038-40-01-015.00 by the Jessamine County Tax Assessor.

The property is approximately 465 acres, most of which is currently open fields and forested area. The primary land cover is pasture (approximately 220 acres), with about 60 acres of the site maintained as mown turfgrass, about 91 acres of forested area, and about 9 acres occupied by water and sinkhole features. (Note: In 2022, maintenance staff updated mowing regimes to reduce the mown turfgrass areas, reducing the mown areas by about 8 acres. See Appendix F for a map of these areas.) Elevations range from 844 to 965 feet above sea level across the site.

This section of the cultural landscape report (CLR) inventories the existing conditions of the site using a combination of contemporary photographs, plan view graphics, and narrative description. This inventory organizes site features by landscape characteristic, which are the "tangible and intangible aspects of an inventory unit which have either influenced the history of the development of the landscape, or are products of its development, respectively."[621] Further, "these aspects individually and collectively give a landscape its historic character and aid in the understanding of its cultural importance."[622] The NPS identifies thirteen landscape characteristics. These landscape characteristics are defined as follows:

- Natural Systems and Features: Natural aspects that often influence the development and resultant form of a landscape.
- Spatial Organization: Arrangement of elements creating the ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces.
- Land Use: Organization, form, and shape of the landscape in response to land use.

620. United States Census Bureau, "Census Data," Explore Census Data, 2010, data.census.gov/cedsci.

621. Robert R. Page, "National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide" (U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, January 2009), 74.

622. Page, "National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide," 53.

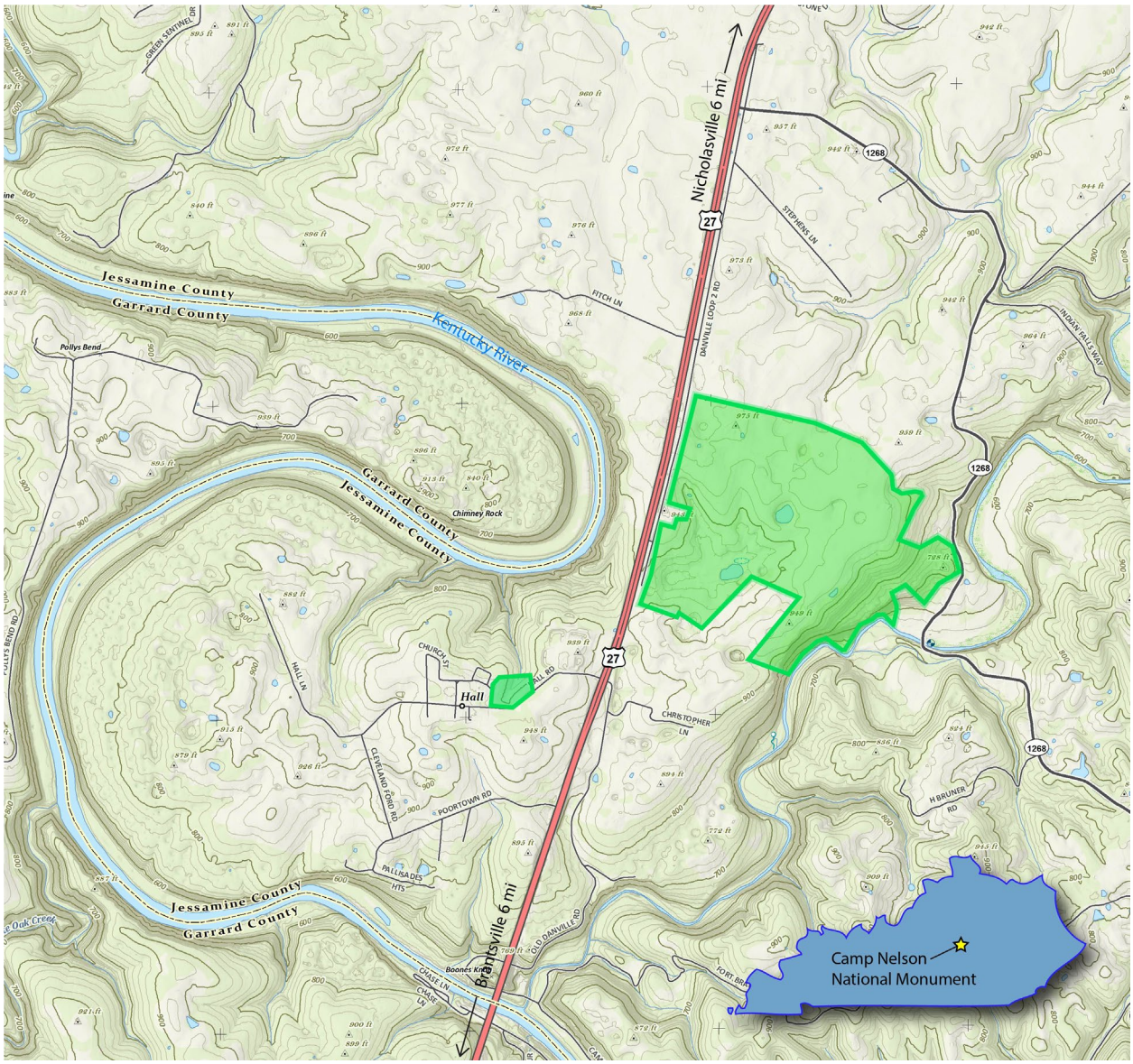


Figure 3.1. Location of Camp Nelson (green areas), located 20 miles southwest of Lexington, KY, 6 miles from Nicholasville (Source: USGS and WLA Studio, 2021).

- Cultural Traditions: Practices that influence land use, patterns of division, building forms, and the use of materials.
- Cluster Arrangement: The location of buildings and structures in the landscape.
- Circulation: Spaces, features, and materials that constitute systems of movement.
- Topography: Three-dimensional configuration of the landscape surface characterized by features and orientation.
- Vegetation: Indigenous or introduced trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers, and herbaceous materials.
- Buildings and Structures: Three-dimensional constructs such as houses, barns, garages, stables, bridges, and memorials.
- Views and Vistas: Features that create or allow a range of vision, which can be natural or designed and controlled.
- Constructed Water Features: The built features and elements that utilize water for aesthetic or utilitarian functions.
- Small-Scale Features: Elements that provide detail and diversity combined with function and aesthetics.
- Archeological Sites: Sites containing surface and subsurface remnants related to historic or prehistoric land use.

While most sites contain at least several of the thirteen characteristics, "not all characteristics are always present in any one landscape."[623] The CANE landscape contains all thirteen landscape characteristics.

Methodology

Given the scale of the study area, this report divides the existing site into character areas where necessary. Illustration 3.1 shows the locations of the character areas. These geographic delineations within the CANE landscape are characterized by common land use or similar feature types, with boundaries formed by features such as fence lines, streams, old property boundaries, land cover, use, or visual boundaries. Regional geography and climate are described national monument wide. The character areas and their geographic extent are as follows for the main national monument site:

VISITOR CENTER Character Area (Illustration 3.2) – This character area includes the entry drive, the main parking lot, the Visitor Center, Barracks, Storage Building, and White House. The northern boundary of this zone is just south of the infantry entrenchment and the Fort Trail. The western boundary is a stone wall along Danville Loop 2 Road (old US 27), the southern boundary is the edge of the entry drive, and the eastern boundary is the eastern edge of the former maintenance parking area east of the Visitor Center.

NORTHERN LINE OF PROTECTION Character Area (Illustration 3.3) – This character area includes the main interpretive area of the national monument. Features include the infantry entrenchment, forts, the prison site, Spring Reservoir, Cemetery #1, Barn #1, and several sinkholes. The NPS uses a portion of a field north of the Spring Reservoir for overflow parking. The western boundary is the post and rail fence along Danville Loop 2 Road, the southern boundary is a fence line between the main interpretive areas and property currently maintained for agricultural use, the eastern boundary is the tree line delineating the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area, and the northern boundary is the property line.

EASTERN LINE OF PROTECTION Character Area (Illustration 3.4) – This includes the forested portions of the national monument east of the Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas. Features include Fort Jones, the North and South Stone Walls, infantry entrenchments, and walking trails between features. The southern, eastern, and northern boundaries are formed by the property line, while the western boundary is the tree line. There is a gated vehicular access to this character area from Sugar Creek Pike.

WAREHOUSE INDUSTRIAL Character Area (Illustration 3.5): This character area includes property recently acquired by the national monument that is still actively used for agricultural purposes. The area includes agricultural buildings, equipment for livestock, the Griffing family cemetery, two ponds, several sinkholes, and pastures. The northern boundary is the fence line shared with the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, the western boundary follows a fence line along Danville Loop 2 Road, the southern boundary is Camp Nelson National Cemetery, and the eastern boundary is the tree line at the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area.

MAINTENANCE Character Area (Illustration 3.6): This character area includes a small parcel with a brick house (now the Facilities and Maintenance Office), detached garage, and the surrounding landscaped yard. In 2021, this area became facilities and maintenance headquarters for the national monument. The Facilities and Maintenance Office is housed in the upper floor of the house and there is a workshop and storage in the basement. Maintenance staff store equipment in the detached garage.

REFUGEE WARD Character Area (Illustration 3.7): This character area includes the parts of the national monument on the west side of US 27. Features include the Fee Memorial Church, a foundation of a former parsonage/manse, and a remnant of a nonhistoric amphitheater. The site is partially mown and partially forested. The boundaries are the property line, running south and east along Hall Road, and west along Church Street.

623. Page, "National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide," 53.

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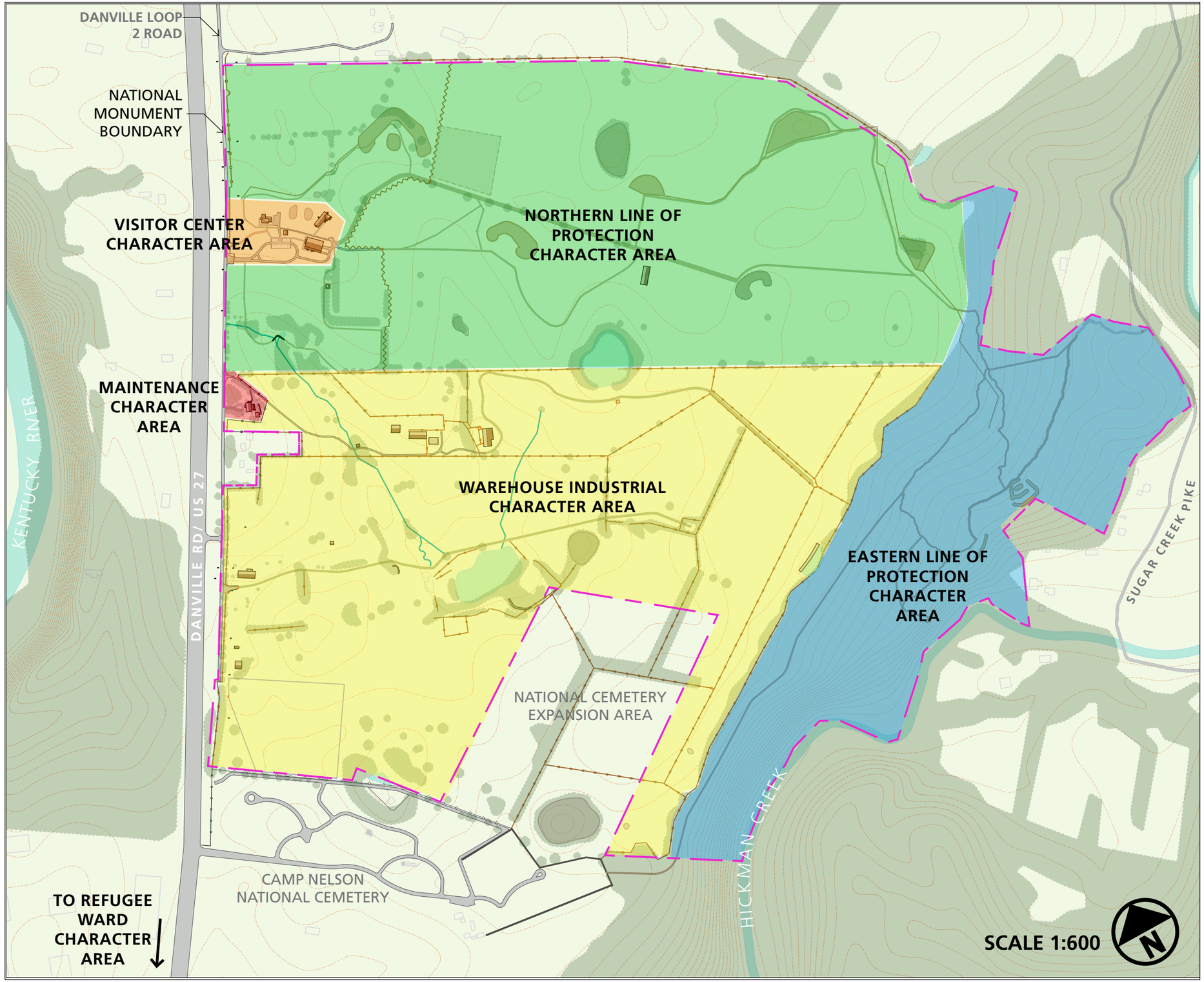


Illustration Key

- Northern Line of Protection Area: (See Illus. 3.3)
- Warehouse Industrial Area: (See Illus. 3.4)
- Eastern Line of Protection Area: (See Illus. 3.5)
- Visitor Center Area: (See Illus. 3.6)
- Maintenance Area: (See Illus. 3.7)

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

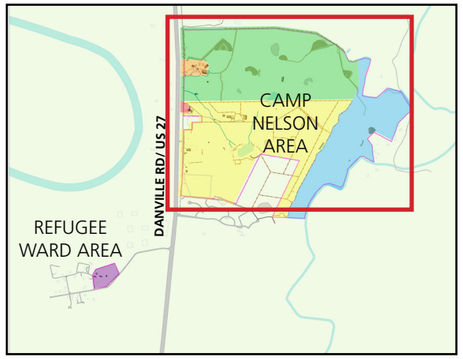


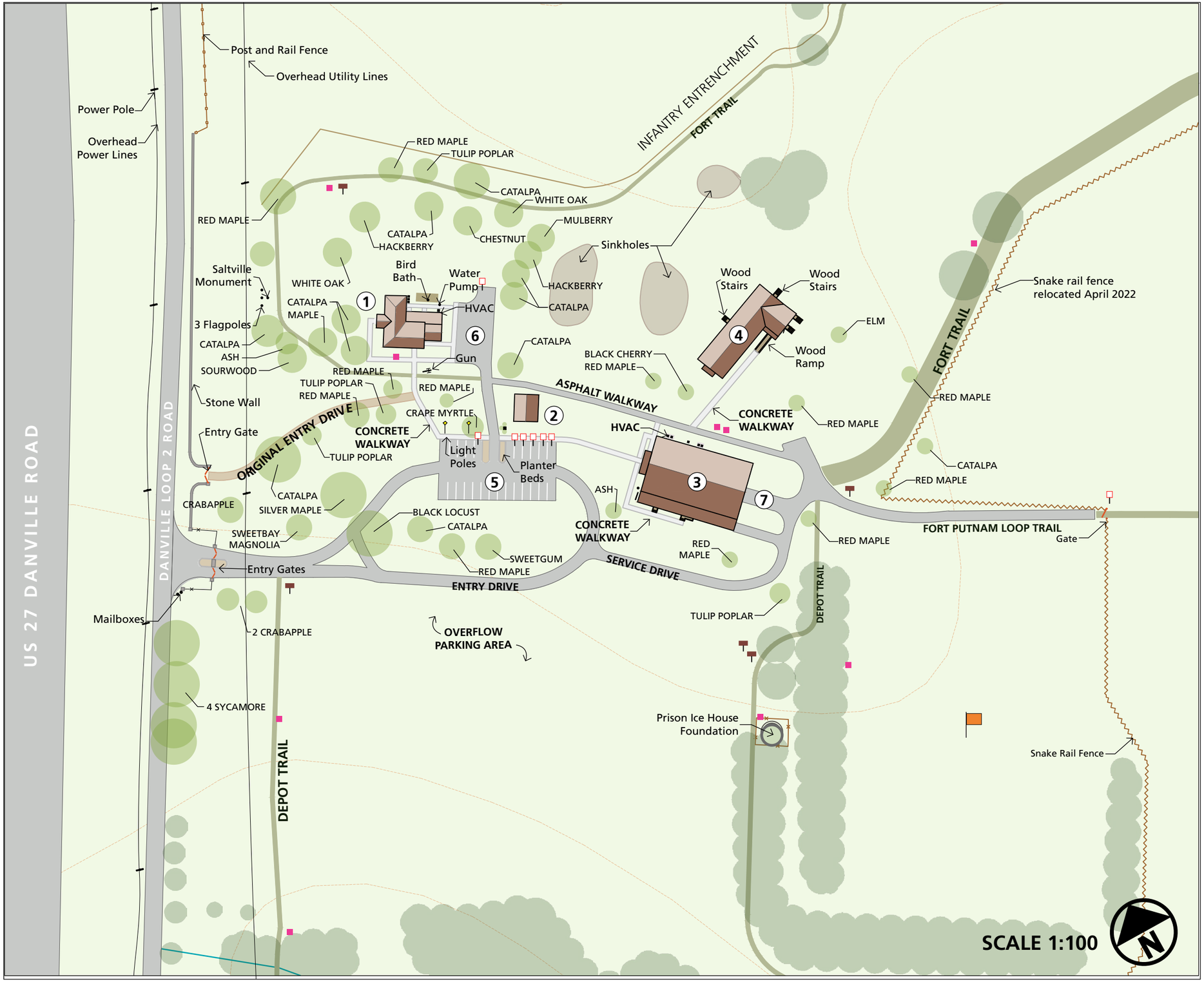
Illustration 3.1

Character Areas

Camp Nelson Site

Camp Nelson National Monument

August 2022



Feature Key

1 White House (Oliver Perry House)
2 Storage Building (Buggy Shed)
3 Visitor Center
4 Barracks
5 Main Visitor Parking Lot
6 White House Parking Lot
7 Service Area

Regulatory Sign
Wayside
Routed Wood Sign
Feature Identifier Flags
Gate
Light Pole

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

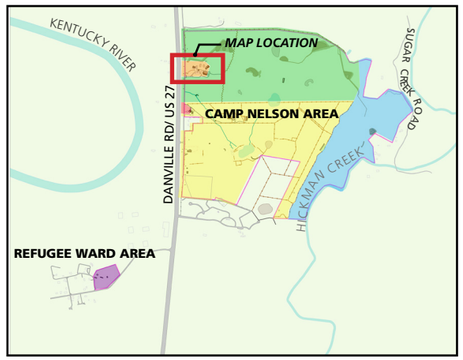
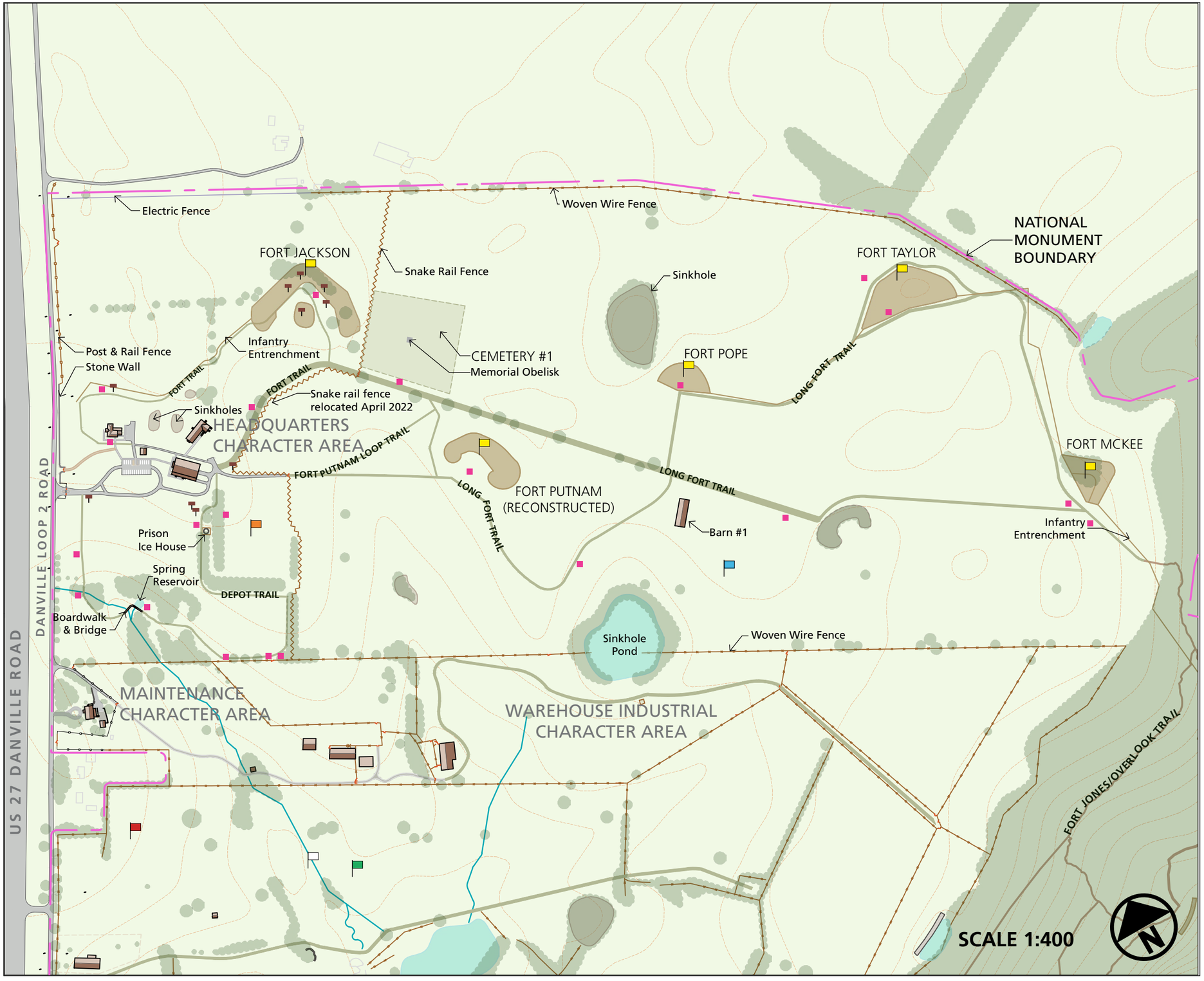


Illustration 3.2
Existing Conditions: Visitor Center Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument
August 2022



Feature Key

- Gate
- Feature Identifier Flag
- Routed Wood Sign
- Wayside
- Woven Wire Fence
- Chainlink Fence
- Post & Rail Fence
- Electric Fence
- Snake Fence

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

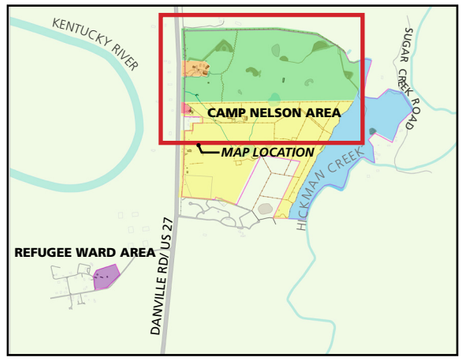


Illustration 3.3

Existing Conditions: Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument

August 2022

WAREHOUSE INDUSTRIAL CHARACTER AREA

NORTHERN LINE OF PROTECTION CHARACTER AREA

MOWN ROAD

LONG FORT TRAIL

FORT MCKEE

Stone-lined Pond

INFANTRY ENTRENCHMENTS

Wood Bridge

FORT JONES/OVERLOOK TRAIL

Trail closed April 2022

Trail closed April 2022

Overlook

Maintenance Trail

Wood Bridge

FORMER LOGGING ROAD

Parking Area

ASPHALT DRIVE

SOUTH STONE WALL

NORTH STONE WALL

FORT JONES

Gate

NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY

HICKMAN CREEK

HICKMAN CREEK

SUGAR CREEK PIKE

SCALE 1:300

Feature Key

- Gate
- Wayside
- Woven Wire Fence
- Feature Identifier Flags

Credits:

1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

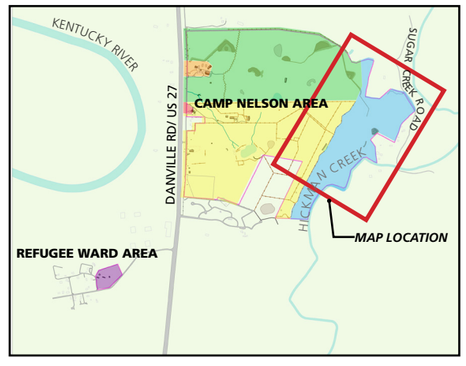
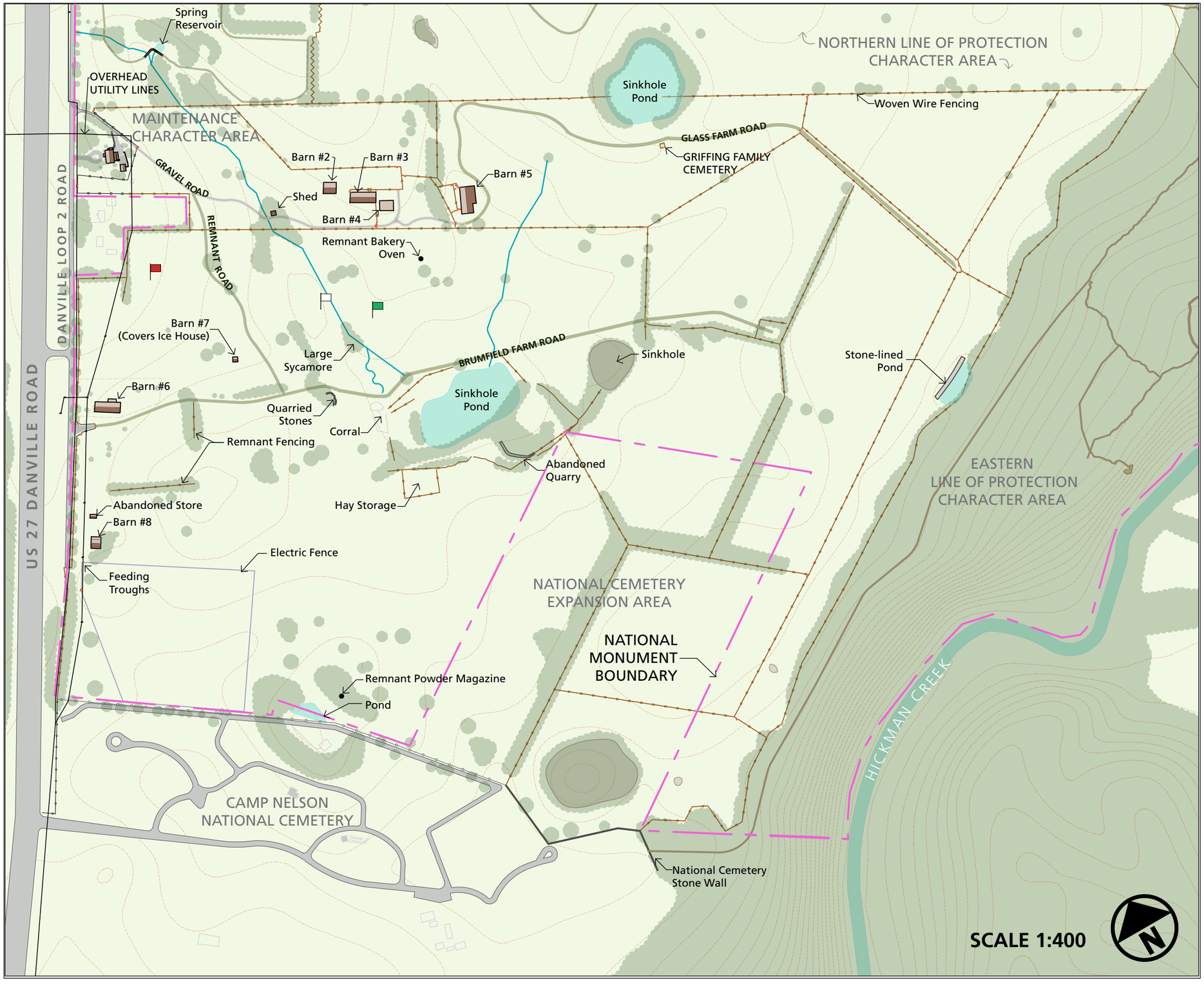


Illustration 3.4

Existing Conditions: Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument

August 2022



Feature Key

- Feature Identifier Flag
- Gate
- Electric Fence
- Woven Wire Fence
- Chainlink Fence
- Horse Fence
- Overhead Utility Lines

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

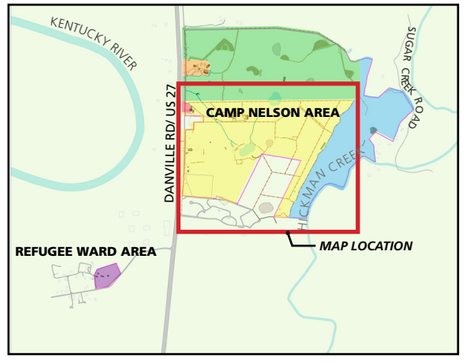


Illustration 3.5

Existing Conditions: Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument

August 2022

NORTHERN LINE OF PROTECTION CHARACTER AREA

WAREHOUSE INDUSTRIAL CHARACTER AREA

US COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY MARKER

Woven Wire Fencing

Gate

Post & Rail Fence

Dogwood (x4)

Red Bud

Blue Spruce

Juniper

Red Maple

Red Maple

Red Oak

Tulip Poplar

Overhead Utility Lines

ASPHALT DRIVE

ASPHALT REAR DRIVEWAY

Dogwood

Magnolia (declining)

Pine

Red Maple

Red Oak

Tulip Poplar

Tulip Poplar

Stone Wall & Stairs

Deck & Stairs

HVAC Unit

Magnolia

Ornamental cherry

Holly

Yew (x2)

Boxwood (x2)

Yew (x3)

Holly

Gate

GRAVEL DRIVE

DANVILLE LOOP 2 ROAD

FRONT DRIVEWAY

FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE OFFICE

GRAVEL PARKING AREA

GARAGE

Wood Edging

Porch & Stairs

Post and Rail Fence

Privet hedge

Tulip Poplar

Tulip Poplar

Tulip Poplar

Red Oak

Azalea (x2)

Red Maple

Dogwood

Dogwood

Bradford Pear

NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY

Post and Rail Fence

Woven Wire Fence

SCALE 1:50

N

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

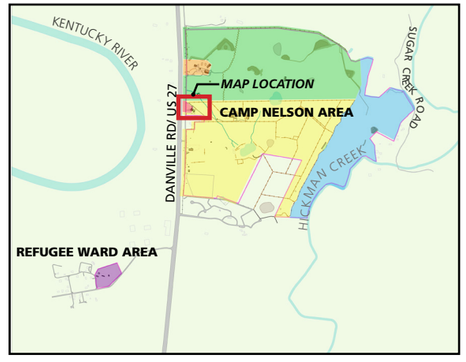


Illustration 3.6
Existing Conditions: Maintenance Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument
August 2022

APPARENT FEE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE CAMPUS BOUNDARY

NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY

American Elm

Scattered Rectangular Stones

Mulberry

Hackberry

Mulberry

Concrete Steps

Crabapple

Concrete Sidewalk

Wayside

Parsonage Foundation

FEE MEMORIAL CHURCH

Gravel Trail with Railroad Tie Edging & Steps

Amphitheater & Benches

Scattered Rectangular Stones

Hackberry

Elm

Hackberry

Black Cherry

White Ash

Mulberry

CHURCH ST

Power Poles

HALL ROAD

SCALE 1:80

N

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

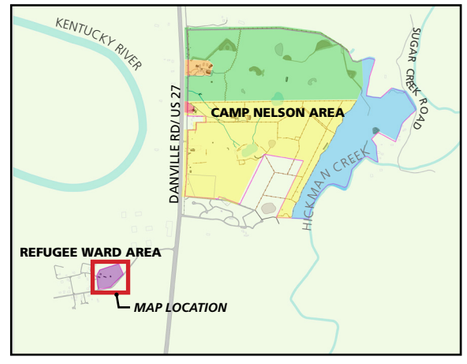


Illustration 3.7

Existing Conditions: Refugee Ward Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument

August 2022

Natural Systems and Features

CANE is located in the Inner portion of the Bluegrass Physiographic Province of north-central Kentucky (**Figure 3.2**). The region's natural systems and features define its character, with karst landscape features forming a picturesque landscape of rolling hills, sinkhole depressions, and palisade cliffs following the meandering course of the Kentucky River. Within the Bluegrass Physiographic Province, the site area spans two Level IV ecoregions.

Climate

The regional climate is humid subtropical with consistent rainfall. Average annual precipitation is forty-five to fifty-two inches.[624] The area experiences hot summers and cold but not frigid winters. Average temperatures rarely exceed the low nineties in the summer months and rarely dip below the mid-twenties in winter.

A 2014 study of recent climate change exposure at the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Park, located ninety miles west of CANE in Hodgenville, KY, found that climatic conditions at that park are shifting beyond the historic range of variability. The report noted that "Ongoing and future climate change will likely affect all aspects of park management, including natural and cultural resource protection as well as park operations and visitor experience."[625] It is likely that similar outcomes can be expected for CANE.

624. United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, "Land Resource Regions and Major Land Resource Areas of the United States, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Basin," *US Dept of Agriculture Handbook 296*, 2006, 401.

625. Bill Monahan and Fisichelli, Nicholas, "Recent Climate Change Exposure of Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site," Resource Brief (Fort Collins, Colorado: National Park Service, Climate Change Response Division, 2014).

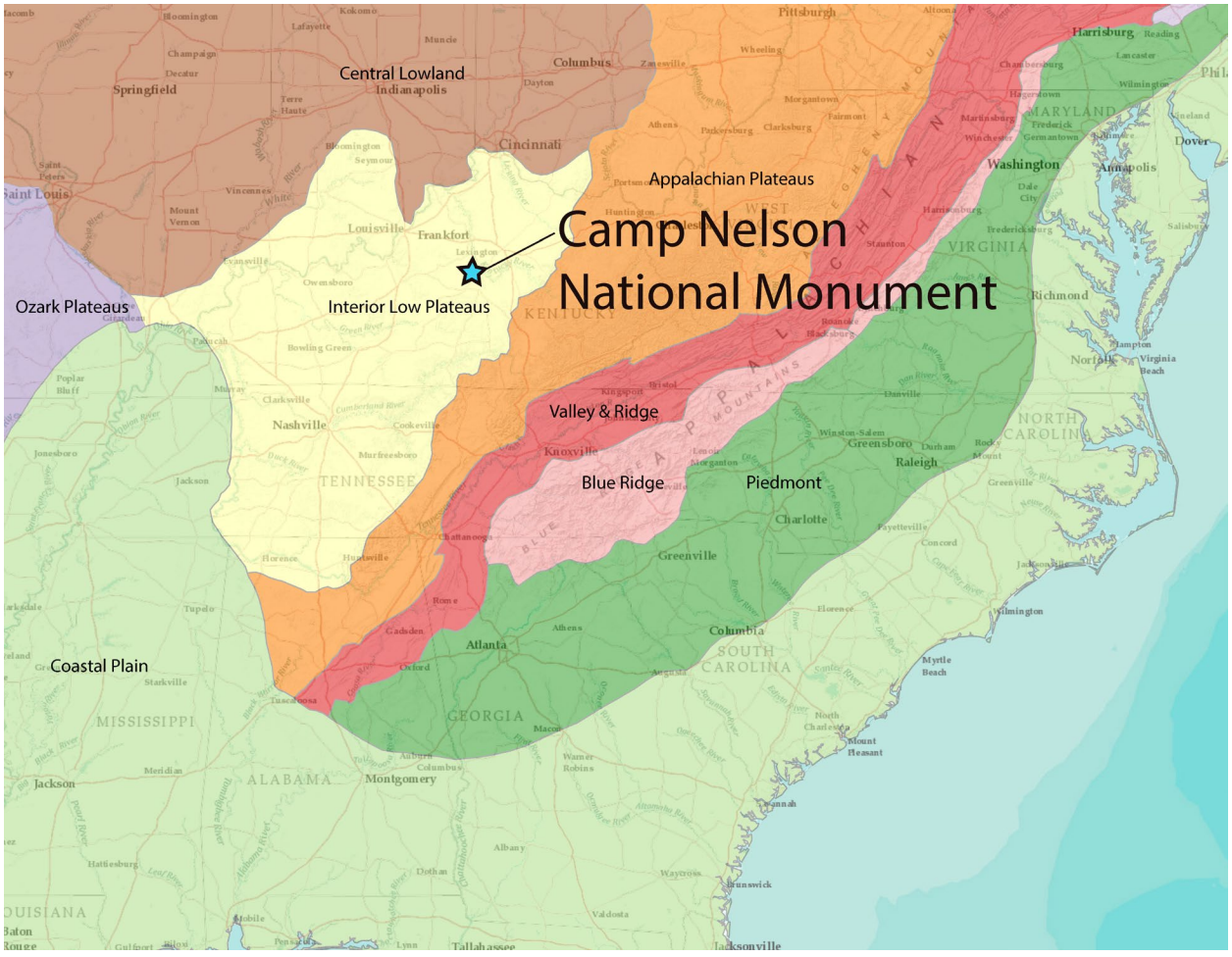


Figure 3.2. Location of Camp Nelson within the Interior Low Plateau physiographic region (Source: WLA Studio, USGS, ESRI, 2021).

Geology and Soils

Camp Nelson National Monument is located in the rolling hills of the Inner Bluegrass region, which was formed by the weathering of Ordovician phosphatic limestone.[626] The resulting soils are moderately deep and well drained silt loam with a balanced pH suitable for agriculture and livestock grazing crops.[627] Due to limestone's ease of weathering, the development of karst features including sinkholes, springs, and caves is prevalent in the area, created by the movement of underground water through the bedrock.[628] There are multiple karst features present on the site, including at least ten visible sinkholes and two sinkhole ponds, two springs, and multiple areas of exposed rock outcrop. Karst features pose risks for development due to the unstable nature of the eroding bedrock.

The soils series present within the CANE site is primarily McAfee, however there is significant variation across the site. Fairmount, Elk, Bluegrass, Faywood, Maury, and Boonesboro series are represented in considerable percentages. The McAfee, Faywood, Maury, and Bluegrass series are found in upland areas, while the Elk and Boonesboro series are found in lowlands and stream banks, and the Fairmount series is found in places with exposed and near-surface rock outcrop. Soil texture is generally silt loam, well drained but classified as slow draining hydrologic soil group C.[629] Slopes range considerably across the site (**Figure 3.3**). The Visitor Center Character

626. Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, *Web Soil Survey*, https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx. Accessed 02/01/2021.
627. Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, *Web Soil Survey*, https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx. Accessed 02/01/2021.
628. Currens, James C., *Kentucky is Karst Country! What you should know about sinkholes and springs.* (Lexington, KY: Kentucky Geological Survey, University of Kentucky, 2002).
629. Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, *Web Soil Survey*, https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx. Accessed 02/01/2021.

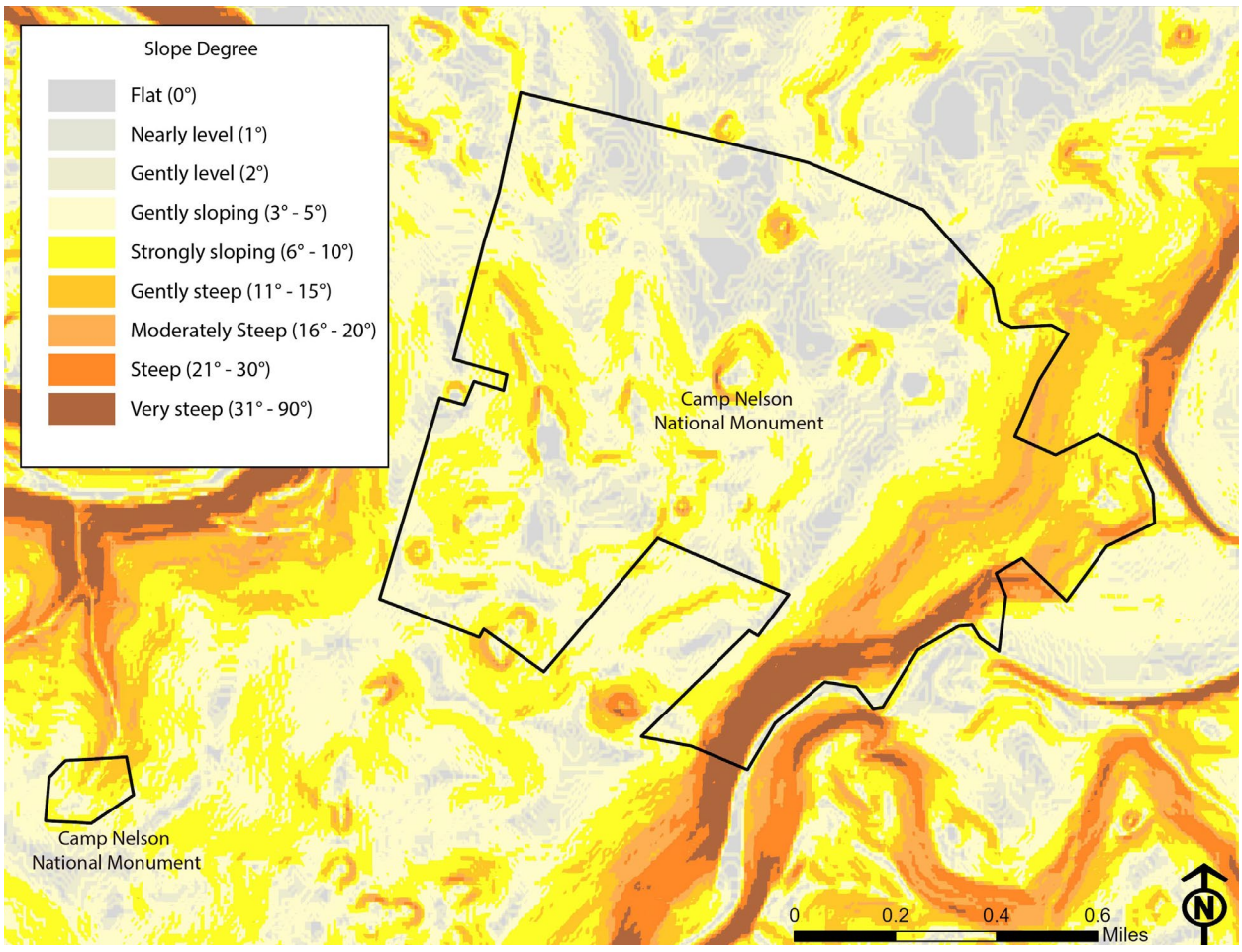


Figure 3.3. There is significant topographical variation across the Camp Nelson Site (Source: WLA Studio and ESRI, 2021).

Area is primarily gently sloping (three to five degrees). Much of the Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas are gently level to gently sloping (one to five degrees). Within both character areas, sinkhole depressions and ridgelines range from strongly sloping (six to ten degrees) to gently steep (eleven to fifteen degrees). In the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area, gently steep to steep slopes (eleven to thirty degrees) make up most of the area, with very steep (thirty-one to ninety degrees) cliffs at the southern end of the character area. The Maintenance Character Area is mostly strongly sloping (six to ten degrees). The Refugee Ward Character Area is gently to strongly sloping (three to ten degrees) with some gently steep (eleven to fifteen degrees) areas in the northeast corner.

Physiographic Province and Ecoregion

The Bluegrass physiological province gets its name from the characteristic non-native Kentucky Bluegrass (*Poa pretensis*) pastures dominant across the region. Kentucky bluegrass was introduced to the area following European settlement. The province, concentrated in north-central Kentucky and southern Indiana and Ohio, is primarily gently rolling terrain with some areas of hills and ridges. The site is in what is known as the Inner Bluegrass region (**Figure 3.2**).

The site is within the Interior Plateau Level III ecoregion which extends from Cincinnati to northern Alabama.[630] At the Level IV ecoregion level, the site spans two distinct ecoregion classifications, the Inner Bluegrass and Hills of the Bluegrass ecoregions (**Figure 3.4**). The western half of the site, including the Visitor

630. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Level III ecoregions of the continental United States*. Corvallis, Oregon: US EPA National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, 2013.

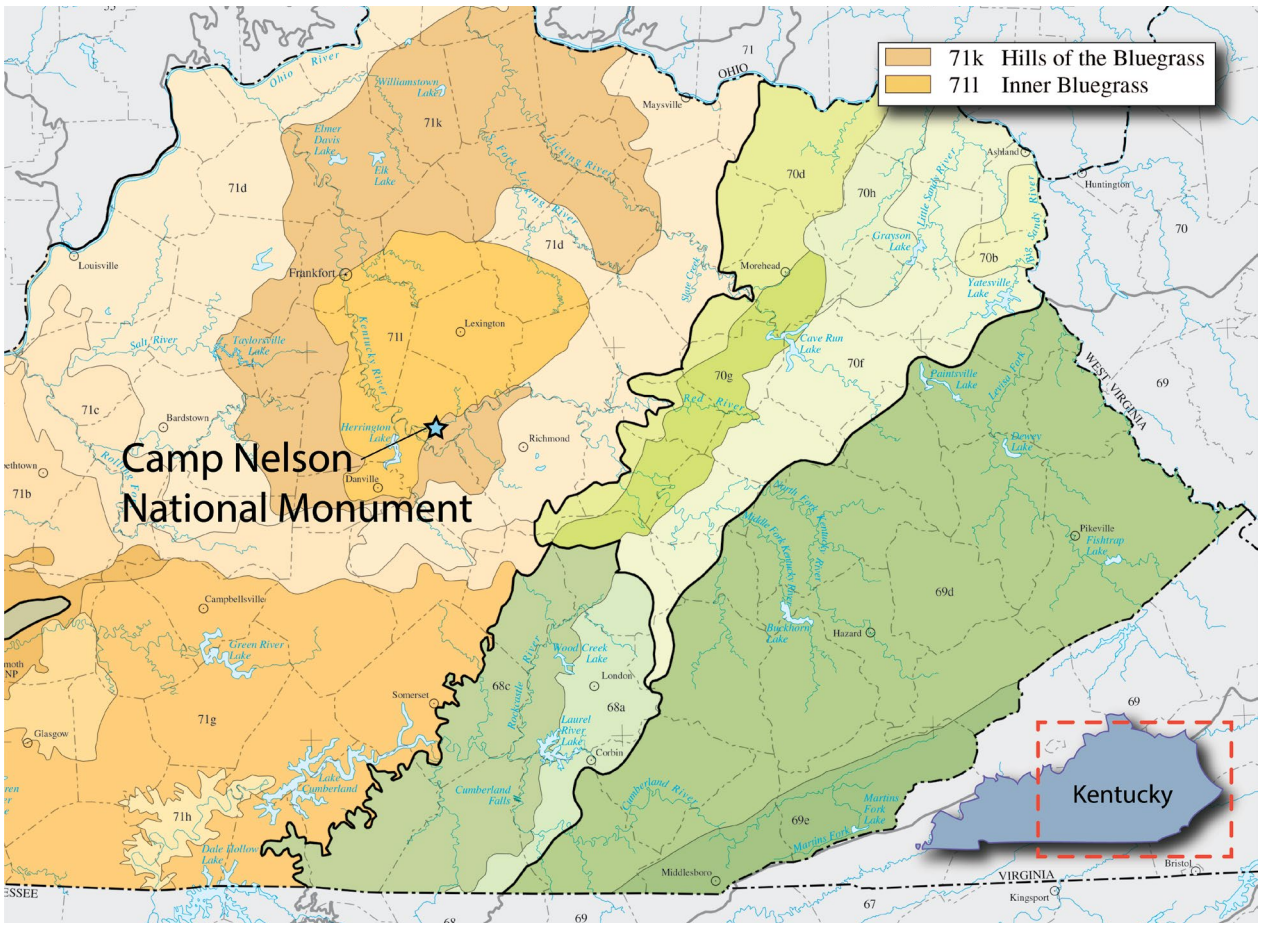


Figure 3.4. Ecoregions of central and eastern Kentucky, showing the location of Camp Nelson, which includes portions of the Hills of the Bluegrass and Inner Bluegrass ecoregions (Source: WLA Studio and Kentucky Geological Survey, 2021).

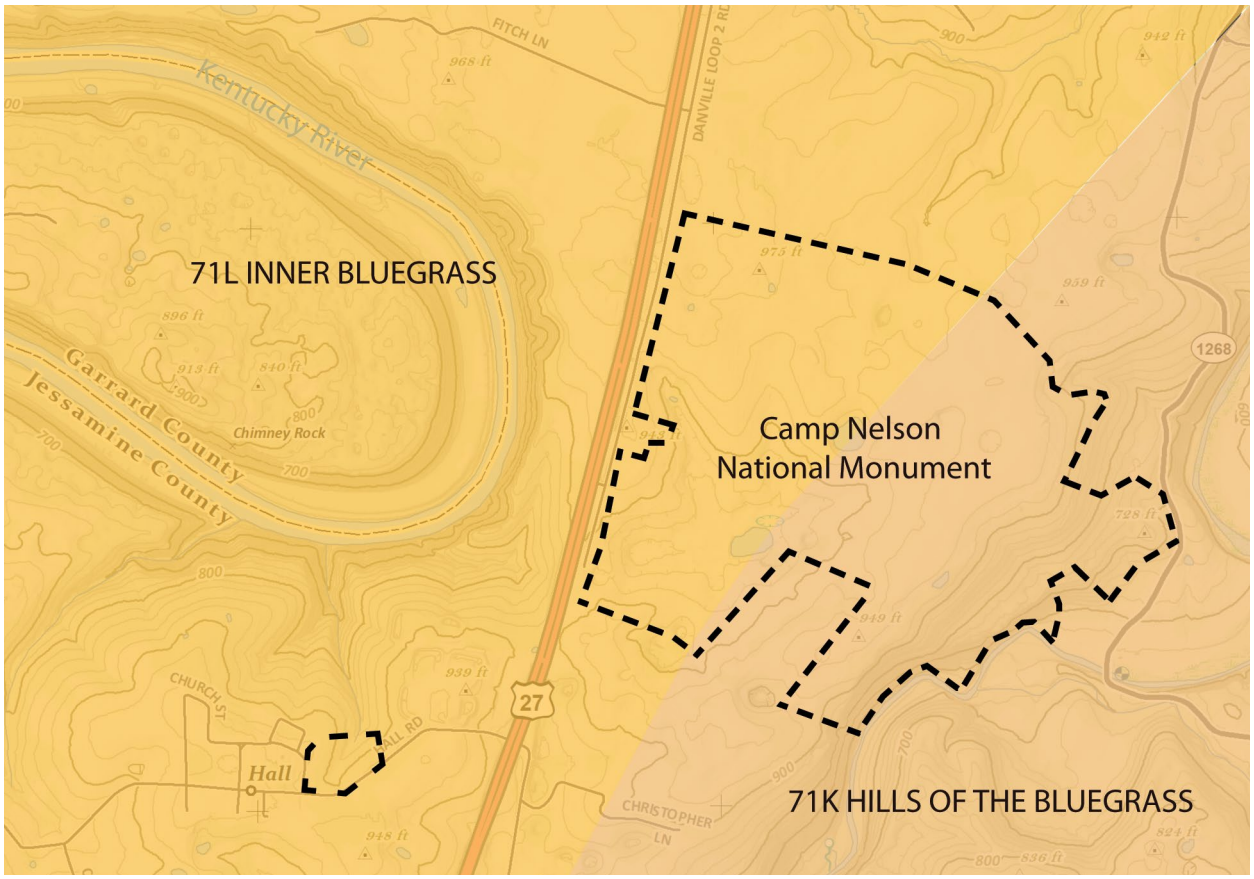


Figure 3.5. Camp Nelson National Monument spans the border of the 71L Inner Bluegrass and 71K Hills of the Bluegrass Level IV ecoregions (Source: WLA Studio, US EPA, SEGS, and ESRI, 2021).

Center, Maintenance, Refugee Ward, and part of the Northern Line of Protection Character Areas are within the Inner Bluegrass Ecoregion. Characterized by greater soil fertility and lower relief, the Inner Bluegrass Ecoregion is prime agricultural land. The eastern half of the site, including the eastern line of protection, portions of the northern line of protection, and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas, are within the Hills of the Bluegrass Ecoregion (**Figure 3.5**). The steeper slopes, lower soil fertility, and greater erosion susceptibility of this ecoregion renders it less suitable for agriculture; as a result, much of this ecoregion is either in pasture or forested.

Hydrology

CANE spans two watersheds, the Lower Hickman Creek and Little Hickman Creek-Kentucky River Watersheds, which are within the Lower Kentucky HUC-8 subbasin of the Kentucky River basin.[631]

631. USGS, "Water Resources of the United States: Hydrologic Unit Maps," accessed July 16, 2021, https://water.usgs.gov/GIS/huc.html.

The hydrology and geology of the site are connected. The karst geographic features at CANE were formed by the erosive forces of water moving through the limestone parent material. Within CANE boundaries, two drainages form at "blue hole springs," karst features that form where the water table meets the ground surface (**Figure 3.6**). The US Army constructed a stone wall to create a reservoir during the historic period, known historically as the "Officer's Spring" [*sic*], at the southwest corner of the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. The spring that feeds the Spring Reservoir flows approximately seventeen hundred feet southeast, draining to a shallow sinkhole pond in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area (Figure 3.7). A second unnamed spring that drains into this pond originates nine hundred feet northeast of the pond (Figure 3.8). North of the unnamed spring is a second, deeper sinkhole pond, which appears to feed the spring via groundwater flow. The southern portion of Hickman Creek forms the eastern property boundary for one-half mile. It joins the Kentucky River two miles south of CANE.

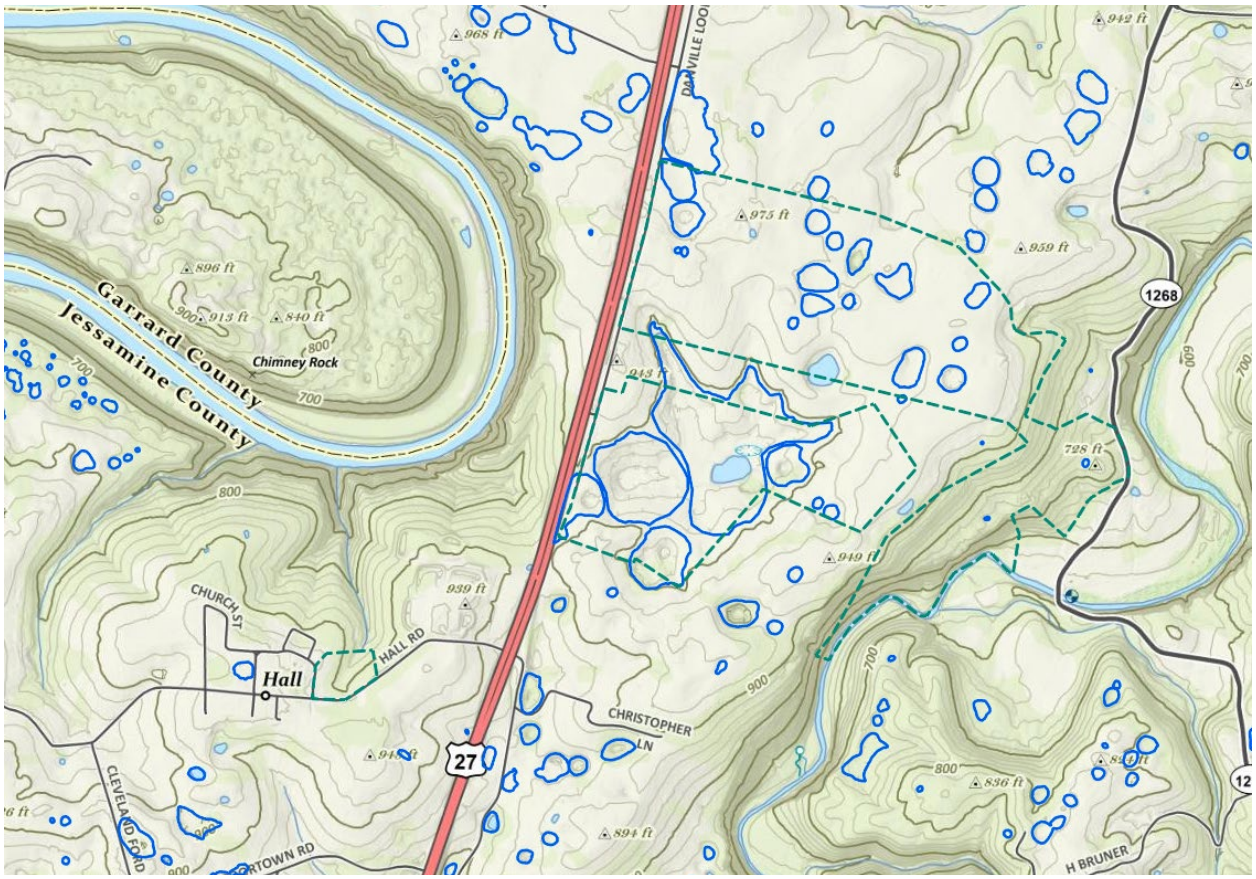


Figure 3.6. Sinkhole locations (outlined in blue) at Camp Nelson National Monument. (Note: national monument boundary outlined with green dashed line does not include a portion of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, which became part of the national monument in 2021 (Source: William Andrews, Douglas Curl, and Meg Smath, Kentucky Geological Survey, 2020).

The Eastern Line of Protection Character Area is defined by the forest land cover and relatively less disturbed condition of natural systems and processes as compared to the more intensely managed areas of the site.



Figure 3.7. A naturally occurring sinkhole pond in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Features

- Humid subtropical climate
- Bluegrass Physiographic Region
- Inner Bluegrass Ecoregion
- Hills of the Bluegrass Ecoregion
- Lower Hickman Creek Watershed
- Little Hickman Creek-Kentucky River Watershed
- Hickman Creek
- Palisade cliff
- Karst features
- Surface limestone bedrock
- Natural springs
- Sinkholes
- Sinkhole ponds



Figure 3.8. The drainage path of a natural spring in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Topography

Overall Description

Topography was one of the factors influencing the site development at CANE during the historic period. The site was chosen for its strategic position in a narrow passage between the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek. Cliffs along the river and creek banks provided a strategic advantage to the US Army by restricting the ability of Confederate troops to move through the area. US Army engineers used the topography to strategically locate forts and entrenchments on the north and east sides of the site. There is a change of approximately 250 feet in elevation from the lowest to highest areas of the site. Slopes in some areas exceed eleven to fifteen degrees.[632] The underlying karst geology is responsible for many of the natural topographical changes, with sinkholes and springs distributed throughout the site.

The US Army altered the topography at the site, constructing earthwork and stone forts as well as infantry entrenchments. Many of these features remain at the site today.

More recently created topographic features are related to road grading and drainage swales along US 27 (Danville Road) and Danville Loop 2 Road, as well as grading for buildings, roadways, parking areas, and trails within the site. LIDAR remote sensing data shows the variation in topography at CANE (**Figure 3.3**, **Figure 3.6**, and **Figure 3.9**).

Visitor Center Character Area

The Visitor Center Character Area is relatively flat, with slopes towards the southwest. This character area has altered topography in areas graded for buildings, drainage, and circulation features including drives, sidewalks, and parking areas. Site features generally respond to the natural topography and some features have been graded to meet accessibility standards. The parking lot is graded to pitch toward the south side of the lot. There are no curbs and gutters to control the flow of water across the lot. Stormwater runs off into the grassy area between the parking lot and the entry road. The grading for a former driveway to the White House is legible today. There is a drainage swale and culvert along the entry gate that continues north and south along Danville Loop 2 Road. There are two sinkholes between the White House and the Barracks. These features are depicted on historic maps. Karst features change and evolve. A new sinkhole developed during the course of this CLR project approximately fifty feet north of the White House. NPS staff first observed the sinkhole in May 2022. In June 2022, it measured two feet deep and impacts an area measuring approximately six feet by ten feet. The NPS requested examination of the sinkhole by a geologist from Eastern Kentucky University, who determined that the sinkhole is "active." The NPS will continue to monitor its growth.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

The Northern Line of Protection Character Area has relatively flat topography in the northern portion of the area (with two- to three-degree slopes) and moderate slopes (six to ten degrees) toward the southern edge of the area. Sinkholes create steep localized depressions. Slopes within sinkholes can exceed 21 percent in some places. Topographic features created during the historic period includes the remnants of forts and infantry entrenchments. Forts Jackson, Pope, Taylor, and McKee are all visible above ground as remnants of Civil War era construction at the property. Fort Putnam (reconstructed) is set on a strategic high point above the westernmost forts. Fort Jackson's

632. Slope information for the site is gathered from ESRI / USGS, "Terrain, Slope Map," https://elevation.arcgis.com/arcgis/rest/services/WorldElevation/Terrain/ImageServer.

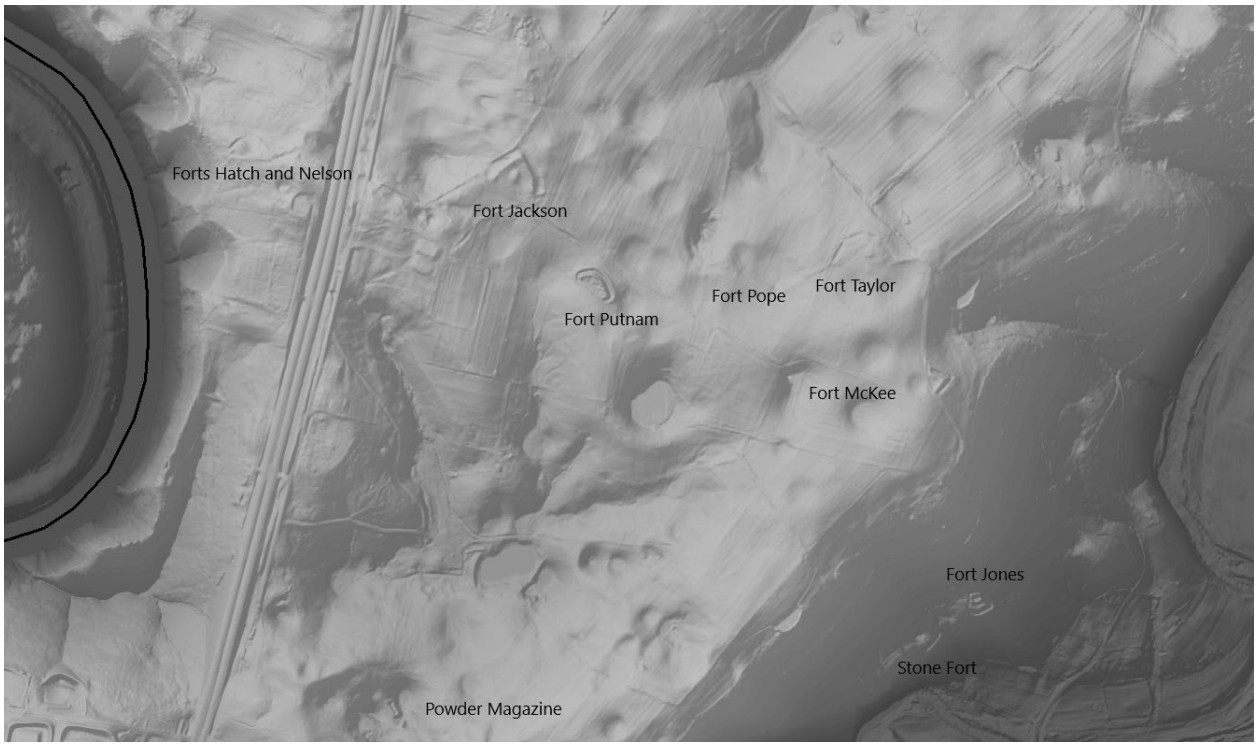


Figure 3.9. 2009 LIDAR data for the Camp Nelson National Monument area revealing topographic variation created by the forts, infantry entrenchments and natural features such as sinkholes and ponds (Source: LIDAR image annotated by W. Stephen McBride).

earthworks range from five to eight feet tall. Fort Pope has earthworks ranging from one to three feet tall. Fort Taylor's earthworks range in height from one to three feet. The interior walls of the reconstructed Fort Putnam are approximately six feet high. The rifle pits and entrenchments are between six to thirty-six inches deep between Fort McKee and Fort Jones. They are between two to three feet deep further west near the White House.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

The Eastern Line of Protection Character Area is downhill from the main national monument site atop a palisade cliff overlooking Hickman Creek. At the northern end of the area, the site slopes steeply to the southeast, but remains traversable. The sloped hillside becomes a cliff towards the southern end of the character area. The cliff descends approximately 350 feet to the creek, with a portion of the eastern property boundary formed by the creek edge. The infantry entrenchments are visible in the northeastern area of the area, just as the line of defense enters the wooded area and throughout the wooded area all the way downslope to Fort Jones. The infantry entrenchments range in depth from six to thirty-six inches. In many locations of the entrenchments, the stoneworks themselves are visible.

Topographic features created during historic period includes Fort Jones, North Stone Wall, South Stone Wall, and infantry entrenchments. The earth and stoneworks at Fort Jones are approximately eight feet tall with the surrounding embankment ranging in depth from two to three feet. The embankments of the North Stone Wall and the adjacent limestone wall range in height from one to three feet. The trails and a logging road have some grading associated with them to accommodate foot and small vehicle traffic. The South Stone Wall is a low wall. There is a known cave entrance (a typical karst topographic feature) near the trail that leads to the South Stone Wall.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

The Warehouse Industrial Character Area has moderate slopes, ranging from six to ten degrees in most areas, with some areas exceeding eleven to fifteen degrees. The pronounced relief creates limited visibility across the character area. Sinkholes create steep localized depressions in

multiple areas. Two swales formed by natural springs drain towards shallow bottomland at the center of the character area. Barns and outbuildings are located in areas of low relief. Most of the barns are built directly on the existing grade and are not on raised foundations. Two farm roads crossing the character area have minimal grading and follow the natural topography. An abandoned quarry forms a steep ridge just south of a sinkhole. The character area is bowl shaped, with high areas following Danville Loop 2 road and at the eastern edge of the area. The low point is around the large pond at the center of the character area. Topography reveals the location of a road that is identifiable on Civil War era maps running diagonally from Lexington-Danville Turnpike into the warehouse area. This is the northern warehouse access road (described further in Circulation).

Maintenance Character Area

The Maintenance Character Area has topographic features created after the historic period, including site grading for the Facilities and Maintenance Office foundation, driveway, and garage. The high point of this area is at Danville Loop 2 Road. The low point is where the driveway ends at a gate leading to the adjacent Warehouse Industrial Character Area.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Topography in the forested areas of the Refugee Ward Character Area generally reflects natural conditions as a narrow valley opening to the northeast side of this zone. The high point is near the intersection of Hall Road and Church Street. The low point of the area is in the wooded zone east of the church building, where Boy Scouts constructed an amphitheater in a natural depression at the site. Slopes in the character area range from three to ten degrees in the western half, steepening to eleven to fifteen degree slopes in the eastern wooded portion.

Features

- Grading for road south of the White House
- Two sinkholes between White House and Barracks
- Grading associated with nonhistoric building sites
- Grading associated with parking lot
- Swale east of Danville Loop 2 Road
- Forts and infantry entrenchments
- Sinkholes
- Palisade cliff
- Natural swales
- Grading associated with roads
- Remnant Bakery Oven
- Remnant Powder Magazine
- Grading associated with Facilities and Maintenance Office

Spatial Organization

Overall Description

Camp Nelson National Monument includes six spatial character areas defined by the arrangement of and visual relationships between landscape characteristics including land use, buildings, circulation, and vegetation. The spatial organization of the landscape features within each area differs. Current vegetation management practices and the physical barrier of a snake rail fence running north-south between the Visitor Center and Northern Line of Protection Character Areas create a spatial distinction between the "frontcountry" (nearest the national monument entrance) and "backcountry" (the area east of the snake rail fence). (Note: in April 2022, a group of volunteers relocated a portion of the snake rail fence to the west and increased the backcountry area between the Fort Trail and the Fort Putnam Loop Trail.)

Visitor Center Character Area

The Visitor Center Character Area includes the main visitor entrance, the White House, the Barracks, the Visitor Center and administrative building, parking areas, paved sidewalks, and a Storage Building. The buildings, circulation, and parking areas define the spatial character of the area. A stone wall separates this section of the site from Danville Loop 2 Road, providing a visual boundary between this character area and the road and providing a formalized entry point into the national monument. Maintenance staff mow the turfgrass in this area short, giving the entire zone a managed appearance. Occasional tree plantings and some shrubs and ornamental plantings mark key intersections of circulation features. The area is

considered part of the frontcountry management zone.

The zone around the White House has a residential spatial organization with a turfgrass area and canopy trees between the house and Danville Loop 2 Road and parking located behind the house. A cluster of residential small-scale features exist in what would be considered the "rear yard" area east of the house.

Spatially, there is no formal relationship between the White House, the Storage Building, the Visitor Center, and the Barracks. These four buildings are oriented in different directions, with pedestrian circulation connecting them. The former maintenance area behind the Visitor Center is less formal, with maintenance equipment and vehicles stored on the east side of the building in 2020. The NPS moved maintenance use out of this area in 2021.

The entire spatial character of the area is fairly open with few canopy trees to define the overhead plane with the exception of the area between Danville Loop 2 Road and the White House. The ground plane of the character area is defined by mown turfgrass, pedestrian circulation, and parking areas.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

The Northern Line of Protection Character Area includes the main interpreted area of the national monument. Five forts are located east to west across the north boundary of the site; they are connected by the remnants of infantry entrenchments, which are visible in some areas. Mown walking trails connect the forts. Fence lines define the northern boundary of the area, separating the national monument from adjacent residential properties and farm fields. The eastern boundary of this area is defined by a tree line that is part of the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. A fence line borders the southern portion of this character area, which separates this area from the agricultural use located in the adjacent Warehouse Industrial Character Area. A pond visually separates these areas as well. The topography of this character area varies, limiting views within the character area.

Current vegetation management practices and the physical barrier of a snake rail fence running north-south across Northern Line of Protection Character Area create a spatial distinction between the frontcountry (nearest the national monument entrance and Visitor Center Character Area) and backcountry (eastern two-thirds of the character area). The land to the west of the snake rail fence is more frequently mown and receives most visitors. (Note: In 2022, maintenance staff updated mowing regimes to reduce the mown turfgrass areas, removing the zones near the Spring Reservoir, the area just south of the Camp Nelson prison, and a zone south of Fort Jackson. See Appendix F for a map of these locations.) The majority of the land to the east of the snake rail fence is mown semi-annually, creating a pasture-like appearance. The Camp Nelson prison and the features along the Depot Trail are included in the frontcountry, which means the ground plane is a maintained turfgrass surface with occasional canopy trees. There are few formally enclosed areas within the character area except for the snake rail fence around the Prison Ice House. (Note: in April 2022, a group of volunteers relocated a portion of the snake rail fence to the west and increased the backcountry area between the Fort Trail and the Fort Putnam Loop Trail.) The area around the Camp Nelson prison site is enclosed by rows of trees planted in a roughly square shape, indicating former fence locations. A topographically depressed wooded area exists around the location of the Spring Reservoir, visually shielding it from the rest of the character area.

The forts and entrenchments along the Fort Trail are included in the backcountry area, which has mown walking paths flanked by managed tall vegetative cover. Specimen trees line and define the former farm road running through the center of the site. Dense tree canopy marks sinkholes and ponds in the north-central and south-central portions of the character area. The eastern side of the character area is lined by a backdrop of dense foliage. The northern and southern boundaries are fence lines with occasional trees and other vegetation, which makes the area feel separate from the adjacent character areas.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

The Eastern Line of Protection Character Area is a forested slope, located along the eastern boundary of the national monument. The ground plane of the area is defined by leaf litter with sparse understory and natural surface trails. The overstory is defined by a dense canopy of hardwoods and evergreens. The eastern edge of the property includes some views out toward adjacent farmland, with the edge of the property marked by a steep drop in topography toward Hickman Creek. There is a vehicular entrance to the area on Sugar Creek Pike. The road and the parking area create a clearing in the northeast portion of the character area. Spatially and visually, Fort Jones and the North and South Stone Walls do not connect to each other or to the forts located in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. The infantry entrenchment is visible near the western end of the character area, at the points where footbridges cross it, and west of the former logging road at Fort Jones.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

The Warehouse Industrial Character Area includes property that the NPS recently acquired from Jessamine County Fiscal Court. The NPS has portions of this property under special use permit for agricultural use that includes haying and grazing. Beginning in 2023, the grazing use will be eliminated. The spatial organization of the space reflects this use. This property has a visual character distinct from the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, with active grazing by cattle and the presence of cattle equipment, barns, and agricultural outbuildings. The area's grade variation and dense foliage along fence lines and around water features block views within the character area. There are farm roads throughout the character area as well as fence lines and zones of taller field vegetation maintained at irregular and various heights. The central feature of the site is a depressed pond area surrounded by large trees. Visually, this pond buffers the southern portion of the character area from the northern portion. Fence lines and former fence line vegetation divides the site into many smaller zones, visually disconnecting large portions of the character area.

Maintenance Character Area

The Maintenance Character Area includes a one-story brick building and a detached concrete block garage. The space is defined by landscape beds, mature trees, and turfgrass surrounding the house. Fence lines define the northern, southern, and eastern boundaries of the character area, with Danville Loop 2 Road serving as the western boundary. The Facilities and Maintenance Office is the central feature of the character area with a turfgrass zone to the west of the building, a driveway to the north, a parking pad and garage building to the east, and a landscaped and open area to the south. The ground plane of the western or front yard area includes a circular driveway, planting island, and turfgrass. Canopy trees define the overhead plane. The rear yard area ground plane is defined by vehicular circulation connecting to a detached garage building and agricultural areas in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. The overhead plane is open to the east of the Facilities and Maintenance Office.

Refugee Ward Character Area

The Refugee Ward Character Area includes the property surrounding the Fee Memorial Church. The church is in the northwestern portion of the character area at a high point. The boundary of the site is Hall Road on the south and Church Street on the west. The property boundary is indiscernible along the north boundary. On the east, there is a line of trees separating the site from an adjacent house. These trees join a forested area to enclose a roughly rectangular open turfgrass area. In 2022, maintenance staff reduced the mowing regime for this area, and it will not be maintained as turfgrass. The forested area occupies the central and northern portion of the character area. The Fee Memorial Church and the manse foundation ruins are in the open area in the northwestern portion of the character area. A forested edge frames the turfgrass area surrounding these buildings. The turfgrass area is dotted with canopy trees, but the overhead plane is mostly open in the area surrounding the building. The topography of the site falls away from the building towards the north and east. The forested area has a ground plane of leaf litter, and the overhead plane is defined by evergreen and hardwood trees. The midstory is dominated by dense undergrowth. A path leads from the grassy area around the church to the site

of an abandoned amphitheater. This feature has wood timbers set into the grade. The overhead plane of the former amphitheater area is more open than the rest of the forested area.

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- Sinkholes east of the White House
- Relationship of the White House to Danville Loop 2 Road
- Orientation of buildings in Visitor Center Character Area toward parking lot
- Cluster of buildings associated with park use, including the storage building, Visitor Center, and barracks
- Canopy trees defining the overhead plane in the area between the White House and Danville Loop 2 Road
- Stone wall along Danville Loop 2 Road

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Forts and infantry entrenchments
- Wood line at eastern side of the Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas
- Vegetation around sinkhole in former sheds and stables area
- Snake rail fence separating frontcountry and backcountry areas
- Trees along former fence line near the prison area

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- East-facing steep slope in Eastern Line of Protection Character Area
- Hickman Creek palisades (or "cliffs")

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- Farm road alignments – portions of the Glass farm road and Brumfield farm road
- Varied topography with a low spot in Warehouse Industrial Character Area
- Cluster of farm buildings on former Glass farm
- Large pond in center of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area
- Quarry
- Fencing and associated vegetation along boundary of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area
- Fencing and associated vegetation on the interior of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Maintenance Character Area

- North driveway alignment in Maintenance Character Area
- Three-part site organization in Maintenance Character Area
- Front yard tree canopy in Maintenance Character Area

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Fee Memorial Church
- Parsonage/manse foundation
- Wooded area
- Amphitheater
- Hall Road and Church Street

Land Use

Overall Description

Current land use at CANE relates to its function as a unit of the National Park Service with recreational, commemorative, administrative, and agricultural uses. A 2020 foundation document states that the purpose of the Camp Nelson National Monument is to "preserve and interpret the historic and archeological resources of a Union Army supply depot that became one of the largest Civil War era recruitment and training centers for United States Colored Troops and an African American refugee camp. The monument is a testament to the courage, resiliency, and perseverance of those seeking freedom from slavery and pursuing self-determination during and after the Civil War."[633] To fulfill that purpose, the National Park Service is currently in the process of developing management plans and interpretation strategies appropriate for the site. The previous site manager, Jessamine County Fiscal Court, developed trails, rehabilitated the White House and the Fee Memorial Church, constructed the Barracks and Visitor Center, and reconstructed Fort Putnam as an interpretive element. Jessamine County-constructed facilities supporting recreation, historic interpretation, and park administration include two parking lots, hiking trails, picnic tables and benches, wayfinding signs, site feature signs, flagpoles, and educational waysides. At the beginning of this study, portions of the national monument had for other uses, including a private residential house and special use permits for agricultural use that include haying

633. National Park Service, "Foundation Document Camp Nelson National Monument," April 2020.

and grazing. The residential lease ended in 2020. In July 2021, the owner of the horses removed them from the property. Two farmers have two heard of cattle located in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. Beginning in 2023, grazing will be eliminated. Site managers maintain natural resources including sinkhole features and a stand of successional woodland on the western portion of the property to protect and conserve these resources. There are two known burial areas on the site, including Cemetery #1 and the Griffing family cemetery, located in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area.

Visitor Center Character Area

The Visitor Center Character Area has administration and tourism land uses. This character area includes the main points of access for visitors and staff. The offices for NPS staff are in the Visitor Center and administrative office building. This building is the main visitor contact station for the national monument. Restrooms and water fountains are inside the building. The building also houses a large interpretive exhibit area. Maintenance crews formerly used the rear (east) side of the building for equipment and vehicular storage. The Storage Building houses the powder magazine for the park and a utility vehicle. The Barracks contains interpretive elements as well as a meeting room. The White House is not currently open to visitation, but under Jessamine County ownership, community members used the house for special events and as a tourism destination. The only visitor parking area at the national monument is in this character area.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

The predominant land uses in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area are tourism and recreation. Visitors to the site use the mown trail network to access and for dog walking. The trails also provide access to a network of landscape features, many of which are interpreted with waysides and/or signs. NPS staff use the barn in this zone for storage. Tractor equipment was previously stored on the east side of the building. There is one known location of burials in this area, known as Cemetery #1 or Graveyard #1. The limits of the cemetery are unknown. According to the National Historic Landmark nomination for Camp Nelson, "The soldiers' remains from Graveyard #1 were moved [to Camp Nelson National Cemetery]. The civilians buried in Graveyard #1 . . . are presumably still in their original locations."[634]

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

The predominant land uses in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area are tourism and recreation. Visitors to the site use the natural surface trail network to access the easternmost portions of the national monument. The trails provide access to Fort Jones and the North and South Stone Walls. There is a secondary entrance to the national monument at the easternmost portion of this character area. The entrance is gated.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

The predominant land use in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area is agricultural. Fences divide the area into fields of various sizes. This character area is composed of the former properties of the Glass family and Brumfield family. Site managers often refer to the tracts as the Glass farm (located in the northern and eastern third of the character area) and the Brumfield farm, which occupies the center and southern portions of the character area. The zones closest to Danville Loop 2 Road have barns and accessory buildings. NPS staff began using one barn in this area for storage in 2021, but most are vacant. There is some interpretation in this area, which includes flags that indicate the Civil War era warehouse and bakery locations, but the area is not currently accessible to visitors. Cattle, owned by farmers who have special use permits for agricultural grazing on the property, occupy the fence enclosure in the center of the character area. One heard had sixty-five head on the former Brumfield property and another had twenty-seven head on the former Glass property. Horses associated with the Veterans Administration and the Camp Nelson National Cemetery occupied the southwestern corner of the character area at the beginning of the CLR project. The owner of the horses removed

634. W. Stephen McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination, Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District" (Washington, D.C.: National Historic Landmarks Program, August 2012), 6.

them in July 2021. The Griffing family cemetery, which predates the Civil War, is in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area on the former Glass farm property associated with the Griffing family, who were former landowners. The number of burials located in the cemetery is unknown but there are three visible headstones. Two of the stones are marked and legible.

Maintenance Character Area

At the beginning of this study, the Maintenance Character Area was under lease through an agreement with Jessamine County Fiscal Court. Accessories associated with a residential land use included features such as personal vehicles, movable lawn equipment, and ornamental plantings. During the course of the CLR project, the lease agreement expired, and the house became unoccupied, and then on July 13, 2021, the former Glass Property formally transferred to the NPS. The general character of the area continues to reflect a residential land use, but facilities and maintenance operations for the park have now moved into the house and garage. Most maintenance activities for the national monument originate from this area.

Refugee Ward Character Area

The Refugee Ward Character Area includes tourism/interpretation, recreation, and religious land uses. The Fee Memorial Church is the primary site feature, and while there is not an active congregation at the church, the building still reflects the religious use of the site. The amphitheater, which was once a community asset, is dilapidated and unusable, but it is still publicly accessible by a trail located in the wooded area of the site. There are two interpretive waysides near the Fee Memorial Church.

Features

- Recreation
- Historic interpretation
- Environmental conservation
- Institutional
- Commemorative
- Agriculture / grazing

Cultural Traditions

Overall Description

Cultural traditions at Camp Nelson National Monument include heritage preservation, agriculture, burial, outdoor recreation, and commemoration. The NPS's maintenance of the Greek Revival White House, military forts, and infantry entrenchments at the site preserves the military features of the site, continuing a tradition of heritage preservation started by Jessamine County in the 1990s. Agricultural uses at the site in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area continue the tradition of farming and animal husbandry at the site that dates to the pre- and post-Civil War eras. Portions of the national monument are covered by special use permits for agricultural use, which includes haying in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. There are two known burial sites within the national monument boundary. These burials are associated with the Civil War era and the period predating the US Army's occupation of the site. The continued use of adjacent Camp Nelson National Cemetery, located along the southern national monument boundary, continues this tradition. Under management by Jessamine County and continued under the NPS, the national monument will continue the tradition of living history programs and demonstrations by the "12th United States Heavy Artillery Reactivated." Special events such as living history events and tactile demonstrations reinforce the military traditions associated with the site. In the past, the Fee Memorial Church hosted congregation homecoming events, but these have not occurred since the 1990s. However, visitors to the Hall community may continue to associate the Refugee Ward Character Area with these traditions.

Features

- Heritage preservation
- Greek Revival architecture
- Agriculture
- Commemoration
- Burials
- Religious practices



Figure 3.10. There are currently two clusters of buildings within the national monument boundary. These include the group of buildings in the visitor center and the barn cluster on the former Glass property (Source: Google Earth, WLA Studio, 2021).

Cluster Arrangement

Overall Description

The site has two distinct cluster arrangements that correspond to land use (**Figure 3.10**). The Visitor Center Character Area has a cluster that includes the White House, Visitor Center, Barracks, and the Storage Building. The White House is the only building remaining from the historic period. It faces west toward Danville Loop 2 Road and US 27. The Barracks are a reconstruction in a location near the building's original location. It is oriented towards the parking area. The Visitor Center faces northwest, also oriented toward the parking area. The entry drive and parking area are aligned east-west to take advantage of the flatter topography in this area. The Warehouse Industrial Character Area has a cluster of agricultural buildings on the former Glass property that includes four barns and one shed axially oriented north-south and east-west along a gravel road. The four buildings face south toward the road. One barn has doors on the east and west ends, opening outwards to two barns flanking it.

Features

- Visitor Center cluster
- Glass farm barn cluster

Circulation

Overall Description

Circulation at the national monument is comprised of paved vehicular circulation features, unpaved mixed-use farm roads, and both paved and unpaved pedestrian walkways and trails. The majority of the circulation dates to the post-historic period. Vehicular circulation enters the site in four areas, marked by metal gates along Danville Loop 2 Road. The entry drive in the Visitor Center Character Area is the only vehicular circulation feature that is open to visitors. National monument staff keep the two farm roads into the former Glass farm and Brumfield farm properties locked. There is also a locked gate at the eastern entry point to the site on Sugar Creek Pike. Pedestrian circulation features include paved sidewalks in the Visitor Center Character Area, four mown pedestrian trails in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, and one natural surface path in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. Pedestrian circulation serves to connect the interpretive features of the site and provide access to facilities.



Figure 3.11. The entrance to the national monument entry drive, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.12. The entrance to the former entry drive, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.13. View of the main visitor parking lot and concrete sidewalks, view to south (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

Visitor Center Character Area

Entry Drive

The main vehicular entry and exit point consists of a pair of one-way twelve-foot-wide asphalt driveways marked by a stone wall with stone pillars and a metal gate (**Figure 3.11**). The drive originates at Danville Loop 2 Road, which parallels US 27. The gate separates traffic into two lanes for vehicles entering and exiting the site. Past the gate, vehicles travel east approximately 450 feet to the front of the Visitor Center before doubling back, passing through a rectangular parking area just south of the White House, then continuing west to exit at the gate. A second parking lot on the east side of the White House connects to the main parking lot. National monument visitors park informally in the grassed shoulder when the parking areas are full.

Former Drive South of the White House

The apron to the former asphalt driveway south of the White House is at the gate north of the national monument's main vehicular entry gate (**Figure 3.12**). National monument visitors and staff do not actively use this driveway. On the east side of the stone wall along Danville Loop 2 Road, this driveway is natural and turfgrass surface.

Main Visitor Parking Lot

The main parking lot is 66 feet wide by 117 feet long and asphalt paved. The lot has twenty-three parking spaces; four spaces are marked as universally accessible (**Figure 3.13**). There is a concrete curb along the northern edge of the parking area. The lot is in good condition.



Figure 3.14. View of the White House Parking Lot and the asphalt walkway (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

White House Drive and Parking Lot

The White House parking lot is forty feet by sixty feet and asphalt paved. It is east of the White House and is connected to the main visitor parking lot by an asphalt drive (**Figure 3.14**). The lot does not have delineated spaces. The lot is in fair condition, with faded paint and some cracks in the asphalt.

Service Drive (former maintenance drive) and Parking

An eleven-foot-wide asphalt-paved drive forks off the entry drive to provide access to the former maintenance vehicle parking area at the rear of the Visitor Center (**Figure 3.15**, **Figure 3.16**). The drive travels three hundred feet to the rear garage doors and parking area. It continues east before terminating at a metal gate.

Concrete Sidewalk and Walkways

There are four-foot-wide concrete-paved sidewalks in the Visitor Center Character Area leading from the visitor parking lot to the White House, Barracks, and the Visitor Center (**Figure 3.17**). There are also walkways connecting building entrances around the White House and Visitor Center. The walkways and sidewalks are scored



Figure 3.15. View of the service drive on the south side of the Visitor Center, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.16. Service parking area behind the Visitor Center, view to west (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.17. A concrete sidewalk leads visitors around the White House from the parking areas, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

every four feet and are in good condition. There is a sloped walkway adjacent to the northwest side of the Visitor Center façade, leading from the concrete walkway on the north side of the building to the Visitor Center porch and providing accessibility from the site into the building. In areas where the sidewalk is adjacent to the curb at the parking lot, the curb is integrated into the sidewalk.

Asphalt Walkway

A five-foot-wide asphalt walkway begins at the drive to the White House parking lot and travels southeast 315 feet to the former maintenance parking area behind the Visitor Center (**Figure 3.18**). The asphalt walkway connects to the Fort Trail. The walkway is in fair condition, with some cracking.



Figure 3.18. An asphalt walkway connects the visitor parking areas with the Visitor Center, Barracks, and interpretive trails, view to west (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.19. View to southeast of a former farm road, which is part of the Long Fort Trail (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.20. Mown paths connect site features, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Mown Road

A mown road originating at the rear of the Visitor Center serves as a multi-use trail for both maintenance vehicles and pedestrians (**Figure 3.19**). The road curves northeast along an embankment approximately 750 feet to a gate, then continues southeast for one-third mile to terminate at a sinkhole in the eastern end of the character area. Mature trees line portions of the former farm road. The Fort Trail, Fort Putnam Loop Trail, and Long Fort Trail use portions of the road to connect to other pedestrian circulation features.

Fort Trail

The Fort Trail is a one-half-mile long walking trail connecting to the northwesternmost portion of the site (**Figure 3.20**). The Fort Trail is a mown path; a portion of the trail uses the asphalt walkway north of the Visitor Center in the Visitor Center Character Area. The trail begins near the main parking lot, leading visitors to the White House and past the Saltville Monument. From there, the trail follows the northern line of infantry entrenchments to Fort Jackson before turning south and then returning to the main visitor parking lot. There are four interpretive waysides describing historic site features along the trail.

Long Fort Trail

The Long Fort Trail is a 1.3-mile-long mown path connecting to site features in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. The trail begins at Fort Putnam. It leads visitors east to the former shed and stables area, then north to Fort Pope. The trail follows the infantry entrenchments east to Fort Taylor and to a view of the former engineers' camp area before turning south to Fort McKee. From Fort McKee, the trail turns west to the former corral area where it follows portions of a former farm road, ending back at Fort Putnam. There are eight interpretive waysides describing historic site features along the trail.

Fort Putnam Loop Trail

The Fort Putnam Loop Trail is a one-third-mile-long mown path connecting the Fort Trail and Long Fort Trail. The mown trail crosses through breaks in the snake rail fence at two points to link the interpretive trails. A portion of the trail follows the alignment of a former farm road. There is one wayside along the trail for Cemetery #1. (Note: in April 2022, a group of volunteers relocated a portion of the snake rail fence to the west. It now follows a portion of the historic military road east of the Visitor Center and a portion of the Fort Trail.)

Depot Trail

The Depot Trail is a one-half-mile-long mown path connecting to the southwestern portion of the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. The Depot Trail is primarily a mown path, with a portion of the trail utilizing the asphalt walkway north of the Visitor Center. Traveling east from the main visitor parking lot, the trail turns south towards the former prison area and Prison Ice House. From this location, the trail follows the fence line between the Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas. Along the fence line, three interpretive waysides describe missing site features marked by colored flags. The

Depot Trail continues through a wooded area to the Spring Reservoir before turning north toward Danville Loop 2 Road; then the trail returns to the main visitor parking lot. There are seven interpretive waysides along the trail. Note: In 2022, NPS staff updated the route of the Depot Trail to begin near the front of the Visitor Center instead of near the national monument entrance.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Former Logging Road

An abandoned logging road passes through Fort Jones in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area (**Figure 3.21**). Part of the road is used for the Fort Jones/Overlook Trail. The road enters the site from Kentucky State Highway 1268 (Sugar Creek Pike), just south of Ebenezer Church. A portion of the road aligns with a Civil War era road. There is a metal gate at the entrance to the road. The road is asphalt paved and approximately 8 feet wide for approximately 360 feet, then it widens to thirteen feet wide to form a small parking area. The pavement returns to 8 feet in width for approximately 100 feet southwest from the parking area. The road then becomes gravel, continuing southwesterly to pass Fort Jones, and ends at the North Stone Wall, approximately one-quarter mile from the parking area. Archeologists believe that construction of the road damaged Fort Jones.



Figure 3.21. A former logging road is visible as a clearing between the trees in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.22. Entrance to the Fort Jones/Overlook Trail (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Maintenance Access Trail

There is a natural surface trail that branches off the Fort Jones/Overlook Trail at the westernmost footbridge. The trail follows the slope downhill toward the former logging road. Due to its steep slope, hikers typically do not use this trail. NPS staff use it, and typically drive on it using an all terrain utility vehicle. In 2022, NPS staff stopped maintaining this trail and consider it "closed" to public access.

Fort Jones/Overlook Trail

The Fort Jones/Overlook Trail is a 1.2-mile-long natural surface trail with limited signage connecting the eastern site features in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area (**Figure 3.22**). The trail begins at Fort McKee, follows the infantry entrenchment along the eastern ridge line to Fort Jones, then continues southeast to the North and South Stone Walls. The trail has multiple offshoots and some apparent dead ends, where the trail is unmanaged. The abandoned logging road also crosses the trail. There are two interpretive waysides describing historic site features along the trail.



Figure 3.23. The Glass farm road is partially paved, view to west (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.24. View to southeast of Brumfield farm road from the shared drive with the Maintenance Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.25. Northern warehouse access road in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Glass Farm Road

The Glass farm road originates at the northwest corner of the Maintenance Character Area as an asphalt drive that provides access to the interior of the property (**Figure 3.23**). The road is asphalt paved and can accommodate two-way traffic west of the gate. After the gate, the road enters the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. A cattle guard crosses the road at the cluster of farm buildings, after which the road becomes gravel and continues east to Barn #5, where it turns north and then follows the northern fence line as a mown road to the eastern end of the character area.

Brumfield Farm Road

The Brumfield farm road originates at a gate just south of Barn #6 at Danville Loop 2 Road (**Figure 3.24**). The road continues east into a low depression, passing a sinkhole pond before ending in a small fenced pen at the eastern end of the character area. Portions of the road follow a Civil War era road alignment. The road is mown, with some areas of remnant gravel surface.

Warehouse Access Roads

During the Civil War era, two roads accessed the warehouses and bakery area Lexington-Danville Turnpike. The remnant of two of these roads exists in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. One is the alignment of the northern warehouse access road. The alignment of the road is visible in the western portion of the character area, roughly paralleling a spring to its east (**Figure 3.25**). The road is unimproved and has a grass surface. The northern warehouse access road joins the Brumfield farm road approximately one thousand feet east of Danville Loop 2 Road. Two portions of the Brumfield farm road appear to follow the historic alignment of the southern warehouse access road and the road that ran from the warehouses toward the shanties and shed area. Approximately nine hundred feet of the Brumfield farm road west of the intersection of the two warehouse access roads aligns with Civil War era maps. East of the warehouses area, the road appears to follow the Civil War era alignment for approximately twelve hundred feet. Future archeological studies may confirm whether this road matches the historic alignment of the southern warehouse access road.



Figure 3.26. View to east of the circular front driveway to the maintenance character area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.27. View to north of the side driveway and rear parking area behind the facilities and maintenance office (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.28. A stepped path lined with railroad ties connects the Fee Memorial Church to an amphitheater in the woods, view to west (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.29. Concrete walkway located in front of the Fee Memorial Church, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

Maintenance Character Area

Driveways

There are front and side driveways to the Facilities and Maintenance Office in the Maintenance Character Area (**Figure 3.26**, **Figure 3.27**). The front driveway is a ten-foot-wide asphalt-paved circular drive forming a roundabout in the center of the yard in front of the Facilities and Maintenance Office. The sixteen-foot-wide asphalt-paved side driveway connects to a rear parking area east of the house. The driveway is north of the house.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Trail to Amphitheater

A twenty-foot-wide gravel surface trail begins at an opening in the tree line at the rear of the Fee Memorial Church and continues downhill approximately 150 feet to the remains of a wood amphitheater structure constructed by a Boy Scout Troop in the 1990s (**Figure 3.28**). The trail narrows to approximately thirty inches as it moves northeast into the wooded area. Railroad ties line the edge of the footpath, forming low stepped terraces down the hillside. The railroad ties are deteriorated and overgrown with vegetation.

Concrete Walkway

There is a concrete walkway in front of the Fee Memorial Church, which is overgrown with vegetation and deteriorated (**Figure 3.29**). The concrete is approximately four feet wide.

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- US 27
- Danville Loop 2 Road

- Entry drive
- Former drive south of the White House
- Main visitor parking lot
- White House drive and parking lot
- Service drive and parking
- Concrete sidewalk at visitor parking lot
- Concrete walkways near Visitor Center
- Concrete walkways near White House
- Asphalt walkway
- Concrete walkway to Barracks

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Mown road
- Fort Trail
- Long Fort Trail
- Fort Putnam Loop Trail
- Depot Trail

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- Former logging road
- Maintenance access trail (closed in 2022)
- Access road and parking area at Sugar Creek Pike
- Sugar Creek Pike
- Fort Jones/Overlook Trail

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- US 27
- Danville Loop 2 Road
- Glass farm road
- Brumfield farm road
- Northern warehouse access road

Maintenance Character Area

- Driveways
- Parking areas

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Trail to amphitheater
- Fee Memorial Church concrete walkway

Vegetation

Overall Description

Vegetation at Camp Nelson National Monument reflects the historic and current land use patterns of the Inner Bluegrass region, as well as the site's conversion to a public park and national monument. The landscape of the region is characterized by open pastures and fields lined with mature trees following former and current fence lines. Secondary growth forest remains in areas unsuitable for agriculture or livestock due to topography or soil conditions. Variations in vegetation communities across the site reflect current management practices, including the frequency of mowing, grazing by livestock, and stormwater management. There is a visual distinction between areas of the site that the NPS manages for visitor access and areas that are under special use permit for agricultural use that includes haying and grazing. Plantings of trees and shrubs along with mown turfgrass in the Visitor Center and Maintenance Character Areas reflect a maintained landscape aesthetic. Agricultural areas continue to reflect this land use, with pasture areas outlined by fences and fence row vegetation. Forested areas of the site reflect a history of logging at the site, with secondary growth species dominating those zones.



Figure 3.30. Plantings at the entry gate to Camp Nelson, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.31. Trees close to the White House are mostly mature specimens, view to northeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.32. Recently planted and mature trees in the turfgrass by the national monument entrance, view to west (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Visitor Center Character Area

Plantings around Entrance

Between the entrance gate to the national monument is an oval-shaped planting island bisected by the stone monument sign (**Figure 3.30**). In the planter are liriope (*Liriope muscari*), two Japanese plum yew (*Cephalotaxus harringtonia*, potentially var. *Drupacea*). There is a persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) planted on the east side of the monument sign.

Plantings around the White House / Visitor Center area

The oldest vegetation in the Visitor Center Character Area are the trees nearest the White House (**Figure 3.31**). Mature catalpa (*Catalpa bignonioides*), mulberry (*Morus* sp.), hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), and black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) are clustered around the house. Jessamine County staff planted native trees at the site within the last ten years including red maple (*Acer rubrum*), tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), sweetbay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*), crabapple (*Malus* sp.), white oak (*Quercus alba*), and persimmon (**Figure 3.32**). The greatest concentration of recently planted vegetation are the turfgrass areas surrounding the buildings in this character area.

At the beginning of the CLR project, there was an area where someone had maintained a small rectangular garden plot northeast of the White House (**Figure 3.33**). Research did not reveal the origin date of the garden, but it appears to be visible in aerial photographs by 2012. National monument staff were not maintaining this garden plot during site observation and then began mowing the area in 2021 consistent with maintenance practices of the surrounding turfgrass area.

Parking Lot Plantings

There are two small planting islands in the main visitor parking lot planted with tightly trimmed evergreen Japanese plum yew (**Figure 3.34**). Just north of the planting islands are a crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*) and a clump of ornamental grasses that screen a pad-mounted transformer.



Figure 3.33. There was a rectangular garden plot on the northeast side of the White House in 2020, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.34. Manicured plantings in the main visitor parking lot, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.35. The primary vegetation is Kentucky bluegrass west of the snake rail fence, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.36. Vegetation is kept low and uniform east of the snake rail fence by annual or semi-annual haying (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.37. Fort McKee with large trees growing on the earthwork, facing north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Functional Short and Managed Tall Vegetative Cover

The snake rail fence running from the northern to the southern end of the character area splits the site into two management zones. The area west of the fence (the frontcountry area nearest the visitor facilities) is maintained with a frequent mowing regime (**Figure 3.35**). The area east of the fence (the backcountry area) is mowed less frequently, except along the pedestrian trails (**Figure 3.36**). (Note: in April 2022, a group of volunteers relocated a portion of the snake rail fence to the west, increasing the backcountry area between the Fort Putnam Loop Trail and the Fort Trail. In 2022, maintenance staff updated mowing regimes to reduce the mown turfgrass areas, reducing the mown areas by about 8 acres. See Appendix F for a map of these areas.) The dominant vegetation in the frontcountry is a mix of Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), fescue (*Festuca* sp.), and rye (*Lolium* sp.) grasses with other weedy herbaceous species. The backcountry area has a greater variety of grass species and forbs. Maintenance staff mow the fort locations, trails, and frontcountry area once per week. As of October 2021, the national monument issued a special use permit to a local farmer to continue haying this area. As of May 2021, the NPS began a less intense mowing regime for the forts and infantry entrenchments. According to NPS historian David Lowe, "the blend of pasture grass and clover growing on the



Figure 3.38. Sinkholes appear as islands of woodland vegetation in the CANE landscape, view to west (Source WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.39. Rows of trees indicate former fence lines, remnants of the site's former agricultural land use (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

norther tier of earthworks today is a wonderful ground cover, very thick, deep sock, protective."[635]

Trees on Forts

There are trees growing on several forts in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. Forts McKee and Jackson both have large (eighteen-inch caliper or greater) deciduous trees growing on or very near the earthworks (**Figure 3.37**). At the beginning of this study, the grass was mown short between the trees, and there was no undergrowth. The trees on Fort McKee are predominantly tulip poplars and sycamores, and they are growing both adjacent to and on top of the earthwork. The trees at Fort Jackson are concentrated along the northern side, just off the earthwork.

Sinkhole Vegetation

Site managers have allowed the steep slopes around the sinkholes to mature into small patches of woodland with a mix of native and non-native trees and shrubs (**Figure 3.38**). The sinkhole areas include a typical oak-hickory forest mix but also have hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), black walnut, Kentucky coffee tree (*Gymnocladus dioica*), and wild cherry (*Prunus serotina*). These sinkholes are distributed across the national monument landscape. From a distance, the sinkholes appear to be islands of trees within a pasture, but they are deep holes with midstory and overstory vegetation.

Rows of Trees

Rows of mature trees are found throughout the character area (**Figure 3.39**). Some trees line existing fences while others mark the location of former fence lines, roads, or site features. The trees range in species and age.

Trees along Danville Loop 2 Road

A row of red maple and sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) line Danville Loop 2 Road at the western edge of the character area (**Figure 3.40**). The sycamores appear to be aging and suffering decay. The maples appear to be about ten years old and range in condition from poor to good.

635. David Lowe to Ernest Price, "CANE Earthworks," May 18, 2021.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Successional Forest

The Eastern Line of Protection Character Area is dominated by successional forest with a mix of evergreens and deciduous trees with areas of shrub understory. The oak-hickory forest includes other species such as tulip poplar and red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) (**Figure 3.41**, **Figure 3.42**). Toward the cliffside zone where the character area approaches the bluff overlooking Hickman Creek, the successional forest becomes increasingly mesic and includes red oak (*Quercus rubra*), chinquapin oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), and black walnut. Understory plants include dogwood (*Cornus florida*), black haw (*Viburnum prunifolium*), and spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*). There are portions of the understory dominated by bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), a plant classified by the Kentucky Exotic Pest Plant Council as a "Severe Threat" exotic invasive species (**Figure 3.43**).[636]

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Pastures in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area are managed through individual special use permits for grazing and haying. Beginning in 2023, grazing will be eliminated. Cattle currently graze in the southern portion of the character area on the parcel that was once the Brumfield farm. Pastures in this area are less uniform in appearance than the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, with a mix of grasses and forbs especially in areas grazed by livestock. The grazed pastures include various grasses and forbs including Kentucky bluegrass, broomsedge (*Andropogon virginicus*), mustard (*Alliaria petiloata*), purple dead nettle (*Lamium purpureum*), and aster (*Aster* sp.) (**Figure 3.44**).

Some pasture areas and fence lines in the former Glass farm are old fields transitioning to woodland. There are many woody shrubs in these areas, which include blackberries (*Rubus* sp.), buckberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*), sumac (*Rhus glabra*), and trumpet vine (*Campsis radicans*). Small trees include red cedar and red mulberry (*Morus rubra*) (**Figure 3.45**).

636. Kentucky Exotic Pest Plant Council, "Exotic Invasive Plants of Kentucky," 2013, https://www.se-eppc.org/ky/KYEPPC_2013list.pdf.



Figure 3.40. A row of red maples planted along Danville Loop 2 Road (indicated with a red arrow) and sycamores (indicated with a yellow arrow), view to south (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.41. Oak-hickory forest near Fort Jones. Trees are growing on the fort (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.42. Forested area in Eastern Line of Protection Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.43. The forest at the eastern edge of the property is being inundated by exotic invasive honeysuckle in some areas (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Several specimen sycamore trees serve as landmarks in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area (**Figure 3.46**). The trees are notable for their scale and form.

Maintenance Character Area

Plantings around Facilities and Maintenance Office

Plantings around the Facilities and Maintenance Office have a semi-formal aesthetic (**Figure 3.47**-**Figure 3.49**). Mature tulip poplar, blue spruce (*Picea pungens*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*), red maple, and other ornamental trees form a dense canopy over the front and side turfgrass areas. The circular entry drive is lined with a trimmed Chinese privet hedge (*Ligustrum sinense*), and a row of dogwoods lines the entrance to the driveway. Foundation plantings in front of the house include two cultivars of Japanese plum yew (*Cephalotaxus harringtonia*). Plantings also include a cluster of Southern Indica azalea (*Rhododendron indicum*) on the south side of the house and Pfitzer juniper (*Juniperus* × *pfitzeriana*) on the north side of the house. A group of three pines (*Pinus* sp.) are south of the gate near the northeastern portion of the character area.

Refugee Ward Character Area

The frontage along Hall Road and Church Street leading to the Fee Memorial Church is currently maintained as a large expanse of turfgrass with scattered trees (**Figure 3.50**). In 2022, maintenance staff reduced the mowing regime of a small turfgrass area west of Hall Road. Most of the Refugee Ward Character Area is forested land



Figure 3.44. Pastures in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area have a mix of grasses and forbs (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

cover. The forest vegetation is a dense thicket of forty- to fifty-year-old successional oak-hickory forest and exotic invasive species including tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), Chinese privet, and winter creeper (*Euonymous fortunii*) (**Figure 3.51**).

There is a very large mature multi-trunk mulberry (*Morus* sp.) tree just north of the Fee Memorial Church. The tree is in fair health (**Figure 3.52**).

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- Trees east of the White House
- Line of trees along Danville Loop 2 Road
- Vegetation in the ravine near the Spring Reservoir
- Sinkhole vegetation
- Shade trees around the White House
- Entry plantings
- Visitor Center parking lot plantings



Figure 3.45. Fence lines and former fence lines feature woody species and successional growth (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.46. A specimen sycamore on the former Brumfield farm site, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.47. The landscaping in front of the facilities and maintenance office is a semi-formal design with evergreen shrubs, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.48. The back driveway to the facilities and maintenance office is planted with mature evergreen shrubs and ornamental trees, view to west (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.49. Mature trees between the facilities and maintenance office and Danville Loop 2 Road, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.50. The frontage along the road leading to the Fee Memorial Church is maintained as a mown turfgrass area, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.51. The forested area behind the Fee Memorial Church is inundated with exotic invasive species, such as Tree of Heaven (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Tree line at Eastern Line of Protection Character Area boundary
- Grass covering forts and infantry entrenchments
- General vegetation pattern of open fields with few specimen trees
- Trees growing on Forts Jackson and McKee
- Sinkhole vegetation
- Fence line vegetation
- Trees along grass trails and former farm road in Northern Line of Protection Character Area
- Trees around former pasture in prison area
- Vegetation in the ravine south of the Spring Reservoir

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- Trees growing on Fort Jones
- Forested slope toward Hickman Creek

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- Fence line vegetation
- Large sycamores
- Sinkhole vegetation
- Stand of trees south of the sinkhole pond and quarry area

Maintenance Character Area

- Shade trees around the Facilities and Maintenance Office
- Plantings along driveway loop
- Plantings along north driveway
- Pines

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Mulberry near Fee Memorial Church
- Shade trees in turfgrass area east of Fee Memorial Church
- Wooded area east of Fee Memorial Church



Figure 3.52. There is a large mature Mulberry tree just north of the Fee Memorial Church, view to west (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Views and Vistas

Overall Description

The karst topography of the Camp Nelson National Monument limits clear sight lines to high points in the landscape. The sinkholes and spring-formed valleys throughout the site influenced development patterns during the Civil War period. Today, the rolling hills produce various scenic vantage points throughout the cultural landscape.

Visitor Center Character Area

The view into the Visitor Center Character Area from Danville Loop 2 Road is limited by the stone wall that runs parallel to the road. The clearest view across the landscape toward the forts and infantry entrenchments is behind the Visitor Center (**Figure 3.53**). The upper porch of the White House provides a view south towards the Warehouse Industrial Character Area and southwest toward the Refugee Ward Character Area (**Figure 3.54**, **Figure 3.55**). Facing east on the porch, the three interpretive trails are visible.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Views within the Northern Line of Protection Character Area are expansive and extend across most of the character area. Sinkhole vegetation blocks some views. For example, the view from Fort Putnam toward Forts Pope and Jackson is open, but vegetation around a large sinkhole blocks views out of the national monument's boundary.

The Warehouse Industrial Character Area is slightly lower in elevation than the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. Views exist toward the interpretive waysides along the Depot Trail. NPS staff also maintain clear sight lines between the waysides and the missing site features identified by colored flags (**Figure 3.56**). During the course of this project, the Veterans Administration began construction to expand the cemetery northward into the viewshed of the national monument. Where previously trees and a historic wall obscured much of the cemetery, the expansion area is on a north-facing slope, which is visible from many areas of the national monument including from the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (**Figure 3.57**).

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Views within the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area are limited due to the wooded character of the area. The views open at the edges of the character area. There is an overlook platform at the North Stone Wall. However, the best view of the valley adjacent to Hickman Creek is visible from the rock ledge at the South Stone Wall, which demonstrates the view's significance for the US Army's design of Camp Nelson's defenses (**Figure 3.58**).



Figure 3.53. This high point behind the Visitor Center overlooks the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. Fort Putnam is visible in the distance, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.54. View southeast toward the former prison site from the White House porch (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.55. The view to the south from the upper porch of the White House. There are two noncontributing buildings in this view towards the Refugee Ward Character Area, indicated with arrows. These buildings are visible from many areas within the national monument (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.56. View from the Depot Trail toward the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, facing south. The arrow indicates a flag in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, which marks the location of the remnant Bakery Oven (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Topography and vegetation at fence lines mean that there are limited views toward the north within the Warehouse Industrial Character Area (**Figure 3.59**). There is an expansive view toward the Northern Line of Protection Character Area from the edge of the stone lined pond at the eastern edge of this zone. Looking south, Camp Nelson National Cemetery is visible from this character area. During project site work, the Veterans Administration began a project to expand the cemetery, resulting in a major change in the character of the view toward the south. (**Figure 3.60**).

Maintenance Character Area

Views within the Maintenance Character Area are limited by the Facilities and Maintenance Office and vegetation. Views toward the house exist from Danville Loop Road 2 because the circular driveway provides an opening. Otherwise, trees block most views to the house from the road. If a person stands on the back porch of the Facilities and Maintenance Office, there is an excellent view of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, though it is somewhat obscured by trees planted along the eastern edge of the character area.

Refugee Ward Character Area

The primary feature of the Refugee Ward Character Area is the Fee Memorial Church. Because an open turfgrass area surrounds the church, views exist towards the church from Hall Road and Church Street (**Figure 3.61**).



Figure 3.57. Construction at Camp Nelson National Cemetery (indicated) is visible from the former prison location in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.58. The view of the valley from the South Stone Wall overlook, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.59. View from a high ridge in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area towards the southwest. Views are limited by forested zones and by the undulating topography (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.60. View from fence line between Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas, showing construction at Camp Nelson National Cemetery (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

Features

- View of forts and infantry entrenchments from behind Visitor Center
- View from White House porch
- Views within Northern Line of Protection Character Area
- View toward Warehouse Industrial Character Area from Northern Line of Protection Character Area
- View of Hickman Creek valley from the North Stone Wall
- View of Camp Nelson National Cemetery
- View from stone lined pond toward Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas
- View to Fee Memorial Church from Hall Road and Church Street

Buildings and Structures

Overall Description

There are seventeen buildings and over twenty structures within the national monument boundary. One building dates to the period of significance, eleven buildings date to the early-1900s, two residential buildings date to the late-1900s, and three buildings relate to NPS and Jessamine County ownership of the site. Structures include earthen and stone forts and magazines, infantry entrenchments, remnants of ice houses, the Spring Reservoir, building foundations, entry gates and walls, and culverts.

Visitor Center Character Area

Buildings

There are four buildings in the Visitor Center area: the White House, the Visitor Center, the Barracks, and a Storage Building.



Figure 3.61. View of the Fee Memorial Church from Hall Road (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.62. Façade and south elevation of the White House, facing northeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

White House

The Perry family constructed the White House around 1856 (**Figure 3.62- Figure 3.65**). The White House is a two-story Greek Revival frame building with painted wood siding and trim on a limestone foundation. The house has two additions off the rear, forming an 'L'-shaped footprint. The original portion of the building has a hipped roof, with gabled extensions on the rear. Four square Doric columns and two full-height matching pilasters support a two-story pedimented front entry with a second-story porch. A simple balustrade on the second story encloses the porch. The porch on the first story is open with two detached stone entry steps. A dentiled cornice tops the two-panel entry doors with flanking sidelights and four Doric pilasters. The doors on both stories of the front façade are identical. Four symmetrical windows flank the main entrance. These contemporary replacements mimic the original, now missing, double-hung six light windows. The south elevation has a two-story, three-bay side porch addition, supported by two Doric square columns, with central entry doors. The entry doors are two-panel, each flanked by two double-hung windows. The second, two-story addition has four double-hung windows to the right of the porch. A modern ramp extends from the porch to the visitor parking lot. The east elevation includes the rear additions and the northeast corner of the original house. There are two exterior doors to the side porch and four double-hung windows on the east elevation. The north elevation has a single-story three-bay side porch on the first addition with two, two-panel entry doors and two double-hung windows. There is a modern six-panel door



Figure 3.63. South elevation of the White House (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.64. East elevation of the White House (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.65. Cellar entrance, located on west elevation of the White House (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

and small window to the left of the porch, with two double-hung windows on the second story. The first story is covered by a metal shed roof projection on both additions. The main block of the building has an asphalt shingle roof. Modern aluminum storm windows and vinyl shutters are installed at each window. The house has three brick chimneys. There is an entrance to the cellar on the west elevation (**Figure 3.65**).

Visitor Center

The Visitor Center is the primary visitor contact facility at the national monument. It houses a museum, archives, administrative offices, and restrooms. Jessamine County Fiscal Court constructed the building in 2003 (**Figure 3.66** - **Figure 3.69**). The building is a one-and-one-half story, gabled frame construction with grey painted board and batten siding, metal roof, and concrete block foundation. There is a one-story shed roof extension running the length of the south elevation. The façade has a three-bay single-story porch extension over the main visitor entrance. There is a solid wood entry door and five six-over-six windows on the first level. Paint on the building is inconsistent in color due to the former



Figure 3.66. The façade of the Visitor Center, facing east (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.67. The north elevation of the Visitor Center (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.68. The south elevation of the Visitor Center (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

locations of signs dating to county ownership of the property. The south elevation has three exterior entrances, two with wood entry steps, and four windows. Exterior doors are metal with double-pane glass, windows are six-over-six with plain wood trim. The west elevation has two metal garage doors, a metal and glass entry door, and two upper-story six-over-six windows. The north elevation has three six-over-six windows at the first floor and four upper-level twelve-light fixed windows.

Barracks (reconstructed)

Constructed in 2008 and 2009, the Barracks includes an interpretive area, meeting room, and library. It reflects the style of Civil War era buildings formerly located at the site (**Figure 3.70 - Figure 3.73**). The building is a one-story gabled L-shaped frame construction. It has grey board and batten siding, metal roof, and faux limestone piers on a concrete block foundation. There are two entrances, one on the south elevation and another on the east. Both entrance doors are covered by shed roof porch extensions with wood decking and posts. There is an accessible wood ramp leading to the south entrance porch. The east elevation has four six-over-six windows and one wood entry door leading to the rear porch. There are two metal doors on the east elevation with wood entry steps. The north elevation has a single wood door centered under the gable that is accessed via a set of wood steps leading to a deck under the porch. The west elevation has six, six-over-six windows and a central door accessed by wood steps. There are three replicas of ventilators typical of Civil War era buildings at the site located along the ridgeline of the long ell of the roof.



Figure 3.69. The west elevation of the Visitor Center (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.70. Façade of the Barracks, facing north (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.71. East elevation of the Barracks (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.72. North elevation of the Barracks (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.73. West elevation of the Barracks (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

Storage Building (Buggy Shed)
The Storage Building (pre-1950) is a frame building that was formerly a carriage house and storage building associated with the White House. It has a gabled roof and a shed roof side addition. The building has a dry-stack limestone foundation (**Figure 3.74** -**Figure 3.77**). The building has a metal roof and unpainted board and batten siding. There is an entry door and a six-light wood window on the east elevation. The west elevation has two six-light wood windows. The north elevation has a set of sliding panel garage doors centered under the gable. The south elevation has a single six-light wood window. National monument maintenance staff use the building to store an all terrain cart, the powder magazine, and various park equipment.

Structures
Stone Walls
There is an approximately 410-foot-long by four-foot-tall freestanding mortared stone wall (pre-1950) running north-south along Danville Loop 2 Rd at the western property boundary (**Figure 3.78**, **Figure 3.79**). The stone wall has two openings, which both contain gates (described in small-scale features). One opening accesses the historic drive south of the White House. The second opening is the existing vehicular entrance to the national monument.

Drainage Structures
There is a twenty-foot-long culvert paralleling Danville Loop 2 Road at the historic driveway cut. The culvert is an eighteen-inch corrugated metal pipe. Just to the south, at the main entry to the national monument, there is a set of two eighty-foot-long corrugated metal pipes running under the entry road. These pipes feed into swales constructed to direct water away from Danville Loop Road 2.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

There is one building and nine structures in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area: Barn #1, Fort Jackson, Fort Putnam, Fort Pope, Fort Taylor, Fort McKee, the infantry entrenchments, the Prison Ice House, a wall which creates the Spring Reservoir, and a wood footbridge.



Figure 3.74. North elevation of the Storage Building (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.75. West elevation of the Storage Building (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.76. South elevation of the Storage Building (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.77. East elevation of the Storage Building (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.78. The stone wall at the western property boundary, view to northeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.79. The entrance to the national monument is two-way with stone columns supporting metal fence and entry gates (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Buildings

Barn #1

Barn #1 dates to before 1950 (potentially by 1937), but it was built after the historic period of significance. Previous site owners used the building to dry tobacco until the site was purchased by Jessamine County. The NPS currently uses the barn for equipment storage (**Figure 3.80** - **Figure 3.83**). The building is a gable-roofed frame barn with grey painted vertical siding, metal roof, and ventilation caps along the roofline. There are hinged planks along the siding designed to be opened during tobacco drying. There are wood barn doors on the gable ends.

Structures

Fort Jackson

Fort Jackson (1865) is the westernmost earthen fort in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (**Figure 3.84**). The fort is V-shaped, pointed



Figure 3.80. South elevation of Barn #1 (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.81. West elevation of Barn #1 (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.82. East elevation of Barn #1. Note: the NPS has relocated the haying equipment and trailers stored in this area (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.83. North elevation of Barn #1 (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

toward the northeast. Rows of trees grow on top of the structure (see vegetation). The structure spans approximately five hundred feet at the widest point. The National Historic Landmark Nomination for the archeological district lists the condition of the fort as good.

Fort Putnam (reconstructed)
Fort Putnam is a reconstructed fort near its original location. The original structure was demolished in the 1960s (**Figure 3.85** - **Figure 3.87**). The reconstruction is a timber retaining wall and earthen structure built in 2001 to demonstrate the appearance of the Camp Nelson fortifications during the historic period. The walls are constructed of wood posts driven into the ground with vertical wood planks that retain earth backfill. The structure is a three-sided angular form with curved ends. It is approximately 250 feet at the widest point. The fort points toward the northeast. The 2001 National Register Nomination for Camp Nelson lists the condition of the original location of Fort Putnam as poor due to its destruction during the 1960s. According to the National Historic Landmark nomination, excavations of the original fort "resulted in the discovery and partial archeological excavation of the fort's ditch, revetment line, and three gun platforms."[637] The reconstructed fort is in fair condition, but there is vegetation growing on some of the timber retaining walls and some of the wood members are failing or degraded.

637. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination, Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District," 13.



Figure 3.84. Fort Jackson, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.85. Fort Putnam (reconstructed), facing south (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.86. Fort Putnam (reconstructed), facing north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.87. Detail view of Fort Putnam (reconstructed) with timber walls constructed of wood posts and vertical wood members retaining soil backfill. The reconstruction also includes wood deck areas (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Fort Pope

Fort Pope (1865) was an open-ended three-sided fort (**Figure 3.88**). Owners bulldozed portions of the fort in the 1950s or 1960s to allow for cultivation of the field. Grass covers the remnants of the structure, which span approximately 170 feet at the widest point. The fort is largely eroded. Its embankments range in height from 1 to 3 feet. There are shallow ditches around the fort. The National Historic Landmark Nomination lists its condition as good.

Fort Taylor

Fort Taylor (1865) is a four-sided angular structure facing toward the northwest. There is a ditch along the north side of the fort, which has managed tall vegetative cover (**Figure 3.89**). Owners bulldozed portions of the fort in the 1950s or 1960s. Grass covers the remnants of the structure, which span approximately 450 feet at the widest point. Embankments range from 1 to 3 feet high. The National Historic Landmark Nomination lists the condition of the fort as good. Archeological investigations at Fort Taylor revealed a magazine and reported that "the magazine feature remains in excellent condition."[638]



Figure 3.88. Fort Pope with a yellow flag marking the location of the fort in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. The embankments of this fort range in height from 1 to 3 feet. View to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

638. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination, Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District," 13.



Figure 3.89. Vegetated ditch located on the north side of Fort Taylor. The flag beyond (indicated with red arrow) marks the remnants of the fort structure, view facing southeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.90. Fort McKee has trees growing on the structure and the ditch located to the north, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Fort McKee
Fort McKee (1865) is a V-shaped structure at the eastern end of the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (**Figure 3.90**). The structure spans approximately 260 feet at the widest point and faces east toward Hickman Creek. The earthworks are most pronounced and visible along the western edge. The National Historic Landmark Nomination for Camp Nelson lists the condition of the fort as good. Grass covers the fort, and it has trees growing on top of the structure.

Infantry Entrenchments
The infantry entrenchments (1863/1864) are earthworks constructed during the Civil War that originally spanned across the northern part of the site to connect the line of forts and extended along the eastern boundary to Fort Jones. The entrenchments formed a continuous line of protection for Camp Nelson. Sections of the entrenchments remain intact as visible ditches in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. Some portions of the entrenchment were lost due to damage from agricultural activities after the Civil War. The entrenchments and pits are well preserved in the area north of the White House, where they range between two to three feet deep (**Figure 3.91**). There are also well-preserved portions in the area southeast of Fort McKee.

Prison Ice House
The Prison Ice House (1863/1864) is a dry-laid stone circular foundation approximately eight feet in diameter and twenty-five inches deep (**Figure 3.92**). The structure has been partially infilled and is surrounded by a wood post and rail fence made of rough hewn lumber with a locked gate. The Prison Ice House is near the area occupied by the prison and provost marshal's office during the Civil War.

Spring Reservoir Wall and Footbridge
The Spring Reservoir (sometimes referred to as the Officer's [*sic*] Spring, 1863/1864) located



Figure 3.91. View of the infantry entrenchments north of the White House, view to west (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.92. View facing southwest of the Prison Ice House foundation and post and rail fence made of rough-hewn lumber (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

at the southwest corner of the Northern Line of Protection Character Area is a stacked-stone semi-rectangular structure (**Figure 3.93**). The US Army constructed the limestone retaining wall at the spring to create an approximate thirty-foot by thirty-foot reservoir. The wall ranges in height from twenty to fifty-five inches. The wall appears to be missing some of the top stones. The wall has vegetation and biogrowth on it.

There is a wood footbridge and boardwalk at the Spring Reservoir that is part of the Depot Trail (**Figure 3.94**). The boardwalk and bridge are an L-shaped structure approximately five feet wide and one hundred feet long, spanning a marshy area. The bridge portion of the boardwalk is bowed to cross over a stream and includes a five-foot-tall handrail.



Figure 3.93. Limestone wall, which creates the Spring Reservoir (Officer's [*sic*] Spring), view to northeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.94. View of the footbridge and boardwalk at the Spring Reservoir, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

There are four structures in the eastern line protection character area: a portion of the infantry entrenchments, Fort Jones, the North Stone Wall, and the South Stone Wall. The entire area is forested, with trees and shrubs growing on the historic structures.

Structures

Infantry Entrenchments

The infantry entrenchments (1863/1864) are stone and earthwork that were constructed during the Civil War. They originally spanned east from Fort McKee to Fort Jones. The entrenchments formed a continuous line of protection for Camp Nelson. Sections of the entrenchments remain intact as visible ditches in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. Some areas of the entrenchment were lost due to erosion or logging after the Civil War. There are easily accessible and well-preserved portions just east of the wood line near Fort McKee (**Figure 3.95** - **Figure 3.96**) and adjacent to Fort Jones. The infantry entrenchments range in depth from six to thirty-six inches. In many locations of the entrenchments, the stoneworks themselves are visible.

Fort Jones

Fort Jones (1865) is a five-sided redoubt. It has well-preserved stone embankments that are at least 10 feet tall in some places (**Figure 3.97** - **Figure 3.98**). The structure is in excellent condition due to its location in a wooded area that owners did not cultivate after the Civil War. There is a portion of the western side of the fort that was damaged during construction of a logging road in the 1990s. Fort Jones has well-preserved interior features such as its powder magazine, gun platforms, and stone revetment. The structure faces east towards Hickman Creek. It spans approximately 140 feet



Figure 3.95. Infantry entrenchments in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area, view to west (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.96. Infantry entrenchments in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area (indicated with white dashed line). Wood footbridge is visible in the background, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.97. Fort Jones, view facing northeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.98. Construction of a logging road in the 1990s destroyed the western portion of Fort Jones, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

at the widest point. The national monument's property boundary is within a few feet of the fort's terreplein, therefore the outworks on the east side of the fort, including the ditch and berm, may be on private property.

North Stone Wall

The North Stone Wall (1865) has a well-preserved arced limestone wall that is approximately 160 feet long (**Figure 3.99**). The stone wall ranges in height from 1 to 3 feet. There is a wood frame deck overlook structure on top of the fort that provides a view towards Hickman Creek (**Figure 3.100**). A volunteer crew replaced the treads on the overlook in April 2022.



Figure 3.99. Detail view of stone wall at the North Stone Wall (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

South Stone Wall

The South Stone Wall (1865) has a low two- to three-foot-tall V-shaped limestone wall that is approximately 50 feet long (**Figure 3.101**). The wall is approximately 450 feet southwest of the North Stone Wall. The wall has embankments ranging from 1 to 3 feet high with shallow ditches.



Figure 3.100. Overlook at the North Stone Wall, view **facing southeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).**



Figure 3.101. Stone wall at the South Stone Wall, with vegetation growing near and on the walls, view to southeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

Wood Footbridges

There are two wood footbridges crossing the infantry entrenchments in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area (**Figure 3.96**). The bridges are four feet, six inches wide with thirty-six-inch-tall handrails. The bridges are part of the Fort Jones/Overlook Trail. A volunteer group replaced the treads and handrails on the westernmost footbridge in April 2022.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

There are nine buildings and four structures in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area: nine remnant agricultural buildings and structures, the remnant Bakery Oven, an abandoned quarry, the remnant Powder Magazine, and above ground utilities.

Buildings

Agricultural Shed

The agricultural shed (constructed around 1951-1960) is a small frame building, painted black with a metal shed roof. The building is in a low elevation area along the Glass farm road and east of a natural spring (**Figure 3.102** - **Figure 3.105**). The siding is spaced to provide interior ventilation. There is a door on the south side and a window on the north side of the building.



Figure 3.102. South elevation of agricultural shed (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.103. North elevation of agricultural shed (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.104. East elevation of agricultural shed (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.105. West elevation of agricultural shed (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.106. South elevation of Barn #2 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.107. West elevation of Barn #2 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.108. East elevation of Barn #2 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.109. North elevation of Barn #2 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.110. West elevation of Barn #3 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.111. South elevation of Barn #3 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.112. North elevation of Barn #3 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.113. East elevation of Barn #3 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Barn #2

Barn #2 (constructed around 1961-1970) is an open-sided four-bay gabled frame building, painted black with a metal roof. The building is on the former Glass farm property (**Figure 3.106** - **Figure 3.109**). The barn is open on the south elevation and has a sliding door on the east side. Each open bay is enclosed by a metal gate.

Barn #3

Barn #3 (pre-1937) is a gabled frame tobacco barn on the former Glass farm property, east of Barn #2. The building has black-painted vertical siding and a metal roof (**Figure 3.110** - **Figure 3.113**). The barn has double doors on the east and west ends. It has hinged panels on all sides that allow the barn to be opened for ventilation.

Barn #4

Barn #4 (constructed around 1961-1970) is an open-sided four-bay single-story frame building with a metal shed roof (**Figure 3.114** - **Figure 3.117**). The siding is stained black with creosote. The southern end of the building is open on two sides. The northern side of the building is enclosed and is accessed by two doorways covered by metal awnings. The building is east of Barn #3 on the former Glass farm property.

Barn #5

Barn #5 (constructed around 1976-1983) is a gabled frame tobacco barn, modified for livestock (**Figure 3.118** - **Figure 3.121**). The barn is downhill from Barns #2 and 4. The building has black vertical siding and a metal roof, which extends an additional sixteen feet on the northeast end. The building has ventilation panels indicating its former use as a tobacco barn, and it also has



Figure 3.114. South elevation of Barn #4 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.115. North elevation of Barn #4 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.116. West elevation of Barn #4 (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.117. East elevation of Barn #4 (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.118. East elevation of Barn #5 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.119. West elevation of Barn #5 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.120. North elevation of Barn #5 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.121. South elevation of Barn #5 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.122. West elevation of Barn #6 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.123. North elevation of Barn #6 (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.124. East elevation of Barn #6 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.125. South elevation of Barn #6 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

pens on the interior indicating more recent use for livestock. There are open windows on the north and east end and double doors on the north and south ends of the barn.

Barn #6

Barn #6 (pre-1937) is a gabled frame tobacco barn (**Figure 3.122** - **Figure 3.125**). The barn is on the former Brumfield farm property. It faces Danville Loop 2 Road. The building has black vertical siding, stained with creosote, and a metal roof. The building has ventilation panels on all sides and double doors on the east and west ends. There is a small shed-roofed addition on the north side. The foundation is enclosed by concrete block. There was a hand-painted sign on the west elevation with "Kentucky" in white letters in December 2020.[639] By October 2021, the "Kentucky" sign was missing.

Barn #7

Barn #7 (pre-1937) is a small building on the former Brumfield farm property. It stands alone at the center of a field east of Barn #6 (**Figure 3.126** - **Figure 3.130**). The gabled frame building has creosote-stained board and batten siding and a metal roof, which is in poor condition. The floor is missing boards and has holes in several locations. The building has one hinged door on the west side, and a single boarded-up window on the south end. The foundation of Barn #7 is a Civil War era dry-laid stone Quartermaster Ice House. The Quartermaster Ice House is about fifteen feet across and fourteen feet deep.



Figure 3.126. East elevation of Barn #7 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.127. North elevation of Barn #7 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.128. South elevation of Barn #7 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

639. Google Street View© images show that this sign formerly read "Christian Archers of Kentucky." At some point between 2018 and 2020, someone removed the "Christian Archers of" portion of the sign. Then, as noted in the text between December 2020 and September 2021, someone, for an unknown reason, removed the remaining "Kentucky" portion of the sign.



Figure 3.129. West elevation of Barn #7 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.130. Detail view of Quartermaster Ice House, which now serves as a foundation for Barn #7 (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.131. Façade of the abandoned store (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.132. East elevation of the abandoned store (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.133. South elevation of the abandoned store (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.134. North elevation of the abandoned store (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.135. South elevation of Barn #8 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.136. West elevation of Barn #8 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.137. East elevation of Barn #8 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.138. North elevation of Barn #8 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Abandoned Store

The abandoned store (pre-1937) is a small frame building with a front-gable roof facing Danville Loop 2 Road on the former Brumfield farm property (**Figure 3.131** - **Figure 3.134**). The building has a metal roof, creosote-stained board and batten siding, and a deteriorated metal awning on the façade. There is a six-light paneled door below the awning. There are four boarded-up windows on the north and south ends and a stove pipe exiting the east end.

Barn #8

Barn #8 (pre-1937) is a frame barn with a front-gable roof with two shed extensions in the former Brumfield farm property. It faces Danville Loop 2 Road (**Figure 3.135** - **Figure 3.138**). The roof is asphalt-shingle on the main gable and metal on the shed extensions. The shingled roof has failed on the southern end of the gable, with significant loss of structural integrity to the roofing members. In 2021, the NPS covered the south roof with a tarp to provide some protection of the interior support system of the building. NPS staff have observed that there are wood shingles under the asphalt roofing, indicating that Barn #8 may be one of the older agricultural structures at the site.[640] There are double doors on the east and west elevations, as well as sliding and hay loft doors on the west elevation. The shed extension is enclosed on the south side with two small doors and open on the north side with livestock pens. The siding is mostly bare wood, formerly stained with creosote.

Structures

Quarry

The abandoned quarry (date unknown) is an exposed stone face south of the large sinkhole pond in the former Brumfield farm property (**Figure 3.139**).[641] The wall of the quarry is curved and ranges in height from six to over ten feet.

640. There is no documentation for this building until 1937, so the date of construction is unknown. An architectural historian may be able to assess the building and determine a date of construction.

641. The date of active use of the quarry is unknown. Dr. Stephen McBride states that the former property owner said that quarry is a post-Civil War era feature, and that the owner backfilled near the area during the Brumfield tenure at the farm (prior to 2001). W. Stephen McBride to Madie Fischetti, "Date of Quarry," August 19, 2021.



Figure 3.139. View of the quarry wall, view to southwest (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.140. Limestone located on former Brumfield farm property. The holes and tool markings indicate that the stone was hand quarried (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.141. Remnant Powder Magazine located on the south side of the property, view to northeast. The Camp Nelson National Cemetery expansion project is visible in the background (green plastic fence) (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.142. Remnant Bakery Oven (indicated) is covered by grass and is difficult to discern in the landscape. View facing north (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

There is vegetation growing on the walls of the quarry. There is a group of quarried limestones on the former Brumfield farm property that show evidence of hand quarrying, perhaps from this location (**Figure 3.140**).

Remnant Powder Magazine

The remnant Powder Magazine (1865) is an elongated mound with a sunken center. The structure measures approximately fifty feet long and ranges in height from three to four feet. The earthwork is in good condition, but there are trees growing on the entire earthwork (**Figure 3.141**).

Remnant Bakery Oven Foundation

The remnant Bakery Oven foundation (1865) is on the northern edge of the former Brumfield farm property south of Barns #2 – 5 (**Figure 3.142**). According to the National Historic Landmark Nomination for Camp Nelson, "the bakery oven foundation consists of dry laid cut limestone blocks that are now mostly covered with earth, so as to create a mound of about four and one-half feet tall and eight feet across."[642] The location of the remnant Bakery Oven is marked by a flag, which is just south of the foundation. The mounds are difficult to discern visually due to the undulating character of the surrounding landscape.

642. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination, Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District," 9.

Cattle Feeder Structure

There is a timber cattle feeder structure in the former Brumfield farm property near the cemetery site (**Figure 3.143**). It is approximately six feet square with a metal shed roof.



Figure 3.143. Livestock feeder structure, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Maintenance Character Area

There are two buildings and one structure in the Maintenance Character Area: the Facilities and Maintenance Office, garage, and stone wall.

Buildings

Facilities and Maintenance Office[643]

The Facilities and Maintenance Office (constructed around 1970) is a side-gabled single-story building at 6700 Danville Loop 2 Road (**Figure 3.144** - **Figure 3.147**). The building (former residence) is brick veneer with a shingled roof and concrete-block foundation with a covered front porch and daylighted basement. The building faces west toward the road. It has four windows flanked by shutters and a paneled entry door fit with a glass storm door on the façade. The north elevation has a single window, a brick chimney, and a glass paneled door exiting to a small deck with five stairs leading down to the yard. There is a wood-

643. At the beginning of this CLR project, this building was a residence. It became the facilities and maintenance office in 2021.



Figure 3.144. Façade of the facilities and maintenance office, facing west (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

sided addition with five windows off the rear (east elevation) of the building supported by columns, which forms a covered rear patio. A rear door exits to a deck projecting east from the main level, with a wood staircase leading down to the driveway. On the basement level is a garage door, a glass paneled door, and two windows. The south elevation has two windows at the main level and one window at the basement level and a centrally located brick chimney. The building has 1,696 square feet of finished space on the main level and 1,184 square feet of finished space on the basement level.



Figure 3.145. North elevation of the facilities and maintenance office (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

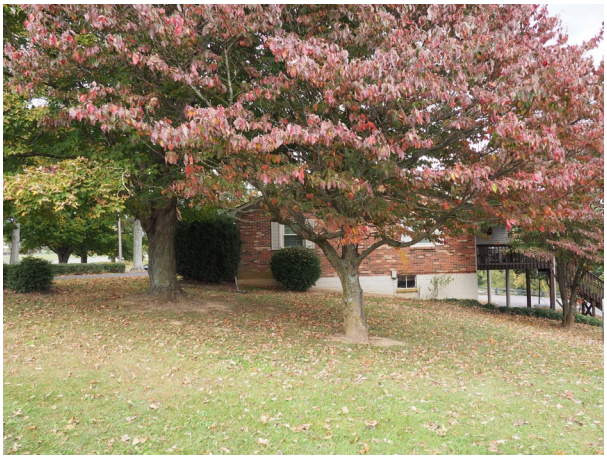


Figure 3.146. South elevation of the facilities and maintenance office (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.147. West elevation of the facilities and maintenance office (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Garage

The garage (constructed around 1970) is behind the Facilities and Maintenance Office at the end of the driveway (**Figure 3.148**-**Figure 3.151**). The garage is a concrete-block and front-gabled with a shingled roof, painted red with tan trim, measuring twenty-five feet by forty-five feet. The garage has two roll-up doors on the east elevation, a window on the west elevation, and a window and entry door on the east side. The NPS stores mowing equipment in this building.



Figure 3.148. North and west elevations of the garage (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Structures

Stone Retaining Wall

There is an approximately seventy-foot-long stacked-stone retaining wall lining the west side of the driveway behind the Facilities and Maintenance Office, ranging in height from two to four feet (**Figure 3.152**). A double set of seven stone steps integrated with the wall has a metal handrail affixed to the outer side. The steps provide access to the north side yard from the driveway.



Figure 3.149. West elevation of the garage (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.150. East elevation of the garage (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.151. South elevation of the garage (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.152. Stone retaining wall and steps behind the facilities and maintenance office, view to southwest (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Refugee Ward Character Area

There is one building and one structure in the Refugee Ward Character Area.

Buildings

Fee Memorial Church

The Fee Memorial Church (constructed around 1912) is a one-story, gable-front wood-frame building on a cast-in-place concrete foundation (**Figure 3.153** - **Figure 3.155**). The exterior is clad in wood weatherboard siding and openings feature triangular heads – a Carpenter Gothic shaped referred to as a "peak head" in some period sources. The building features seven double-hung sash windows with a three-over-two lite configuration.

The west façade is divided into two unequal bays; the narrower north bay contains a pair of doors topped by a triangular transom while the south bay contains a single window. Two concrete steps lead up to this door. A cupola rises from the north face of the roof just behind the west façade and is centered on the entrance below. This cupola is clad in weatherboard siding and is topped by a hipped roof capped by a tapered finial. Its west and north sides originally featured louvered openings with triangular tops; the west opening was covered with replacement siding during the 2000s and is no longer visible on the exterior.

The north and south elevations each contain three evenly spaced windows. Two evenly spaced foundation vents are present at each of these elevations, with one larger opening below the easternmost window of the south elevation. The east elevation has a grade-level crawlspace access door but no openings in the wood superstructure. The main roof and the cupola are covered with two different types of metal roofing.

Parsonage/Manse Foundation

The stone foundation of the parsonage or manse building that was demolished around 2007 is northeast of the church (**Figure 3.156**). The foundation is in fair condition overall but is now overgrown with brush and small trees. The mortared stone foundation measures thirty feet by forty feet. The height in the wall varies from one to twenty-six inches.



Figure 3.153. North elevation and west façade of the Fee Memorial Church, facing southeast. Note modern siding covering west face of cupola where a louvered opening was formerly present (Source: RATIO Architects, 2020).

Structures

In 1998, an Eagle Scout completed a project in this area that included an amphitheater with a wood stage and wood benches set in a semi-circle. The stage is twenty-five feet wide at its widest point (**Figure 3.157**). There are two benches left standing (**Figure 3.158**). The others are missing or completely covered by vegetation.



Figure 3.154. West façade and south elevation of Fee Memorial Church, facing northeast (Source: RATIO Architects, 2020).



Figure 3.155. East and north elevations of the Fee Memorial Church, facing southwest (Source: RATIO Architects, 2020).



Figure 3.156. Parsonage/manse foundation is overgrown with vegetation, threatening the resource (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.157. Stage in the former amphitheater area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.158. Two remnant benches in the former amphitheater area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- Visitor Center
- White House
- Barracks
- Storage Building
- Stone wall along Danville Loop 2 Road
- Drainage structures at Danville Loop 2 Road

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Barn #1
- Fort Jackson
- Fort Putnam (reconstructed)
- Fort Pope
- Fort Taylor
- Fort McKee
- Infantry entrenchments
- Prison Ice House
- Wall at Spring Reservoir
- Footbridge and boardwalk at Spring Reservoir

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- Infantry entrenchments
- Fort Jones
- North Stone Wall
- Overlook at the North Stone Wall
- South Stone Wall
- Footbridges on Fort Jones/Overlook Trail

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- Agricultural shed
- Quartermaster Ice House
- Barn #2
- Barn #3
- Barn #4
- Barn #5
- Barn #6
- Barn #7
- Barn #8
- Abandoned store
- Quarry
- Remnant Powder Magazine
- Remnant Bakery Oven
- Cow feeder structure

Maintenance Character Area

- Facilities and Maintenance Office
- Garage
- Stone retaining wall

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Fee Memorial Church
- Parsonage/manse foundation
- Amphitheater stage and benches

Small-Scale Features

Overall Description

The CANE landscape contains various small-scale features, which relate to visitor services and staff use such as site regulation, orientation, and utilities. The locations of these features are included in the GIS-based mapping associated with the cultural landscape inventory for this site. Utilities are located both above and below ground. There are many fences throughout the site. The following is a summary of fence types. Locations are noted by character area below.

Fencing

There are multiple fence types across the Camp Nelson National Monument site (**Figure 3.159 - Figure 3.165**). The site perimeter is enclosed in some areas. There is an electric fence on the northern boundary maintained by the adjacent property owner. There is a stone wall and unpainted horse fence along the western site boundary. A stone wall and chain link fence on the southern perimeter is maintained by Camp Nelson National Cemetery. Within the site, there is a variety of fence types, mostly relating to former agricultural and livestock areas. Fence types within the site include snake rail fence, woven wire fence with wood posts, woven wire fence with metal posts, barbed wire fence, electrical fence, and black painted post and rail fence. There are many areas where fencing is in disrepair, places where former owners made repairs with differing materials, and places where only portions of fence lines remain.



Figure 3.159. Unpainted post and rail fence along the western property boundary in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.160. A snake rail fence bisects the main interpreted areas of the site in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.161. Woven wire and wood post fence located on the western border of the site in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.162. Woven wire and post fence line in the interior of the site (Warehouse Industrial Character Area) separating former livestock areas (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.163. Woven wire fence with metal posts between the Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.164. Electrical fence separates a portion of the site currently leased for horse pasture (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.165. Black painted post and rail fence in the Maintenance Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Signs

There are multiple sign types across the Camp Nelson National Monument site. There are site identity signs within the primary visitation areas. Interpretive waysides and trail markers exist throughout area open to visitors. There are regulatory signs located in many spots along the perimeter, indicating ownership and/or discouraging metal detecting.

There are wood signs throughout the site identifying historic site features and pedestrian trails. The signs date to Jessamine County's management of the site; many are fading or in disrepair. The signs are wood with routed lettering. Some have the lettering painted black (**Figure 3.166** - **Figure 3.167**). The signs are low to the ground, making them minimally intrusive on the landscape. Aluminum regulatory and informational signs exist throughout the site. Examples include restricted parking signs and signs discouraging behavior such as metal detecting and pet leashing (**Figure 3.168** - **Figure 3.169**).



Figure 3.166. Wood sign that directs pedestrians to historic site features (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.167. Wood sign identifying historic site features. These wood signs are in poor condition (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Visitor Center Character Area

Fencing and Gates

There is a metal anodized aluminum pike fence at the entry to the Visitor Center character area. There are two gates of similar material near the vehicular entrance to the national monument. One gate accesses the historic drive south of the



Figure 3.168. Regulatory signs direct visitor behavior at the site, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.169. Restricted parking signs in the main parking lot, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.170. Park identity sign at entrance (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.171. Visitor Center sign (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

White House. The second entrance is the modern entry gate likely dating to the 1990s. The northern entrance, which leads to the historic drive to the White House contains a dual swing metal gate with vertical black square pickets (**Figure 3.12**). The modern entry gate is two parts with a central column and planting island between the entry and exit lanes (**Figure 3.78** - **Figure 3.79**). Both the entry and exits have mechanized single-swing black metal gates with the letters 'C' and 'N' installed on the gates. A panel inset on the stone column reads 'Camp Nelson Heritage Park'.

Signs

Signs in the Visitor Center character area provide information and wayfinding services to visitors and national monument staff, including the following:

There are two park identification signs in the Visitor Center Character Area. A stone plaque on the entrance gate to the national monument reads "Camp Nelson Heritage Park" (**Figure 3.170**). There is one National Park Service style identity sign attached to the façade of the Visitor Center (**Figure 3.171**). The design features an NPS arrowhead logo at left, with "Camp Nelson Visitor Center, Camp Nelson National Monument" in a large font at center, and "National Park Service, US Department of the Interior" in a small font below the site name.

Regulatory and informational signs in the Visitor Center Character Area include signs associated with the main parking area—six metal post and rectangular aluminum signs related to accessible and restricted parking. In 2021, the NPS replaced the posts on the parking lot regulatory signs with 4 × 4 wood posts and removed the signs associated with the parking area east of the White House. There are two stop signs at the service drive south of the Visitor Center.

Signs related to interpretation include a routed wood sign noting the beginning of the Depot Trail south of the entry drive. There is also a manual powered audio interpretive station at this location. There are three waysides in the Visitor Center Character Area that provide information about the White House, the Thirteenth Amendment, and African American enlistment with the US Army. One is on the south side of the White House; the other two are between the Visitor Center and the Barracks.

Utilities

There is an above ground power line running parallel to Danville Loop 2 Road. These lines are on the west side of Danville Loop 2 Road in the Visitor Center Character Area.

Pad-mounted transformers, utility meters, and HVAC units are to the rear or sides of buildings in the Visitor Center area. Utilities for the White House are along the west side of the building and include four HVAC units mounted near the walkways behind the building. The Barracks is serviced by three HVAC units on the north side of the building. There is a cluster of utilities on the north side of the Visitor Center. Features include a water spigot, electrical service routed from underground, and six HVAC units (**Figure 3.172**).

Lighting features are clustered around the parking areas, the White House, and sidewalks. There are

two six-foot-tall black light posts along the main parking area (**Figure 3.173**). Ground-level fixtures partially light the concrete sidewalks surrounding the White House, several are missing or broken (**Figure 3.174**). The White House is lit by spotlights on the corners of the building (**Figure 3.175**). There are several modern water spigots throughout the site, including one near the north elevation of the Visitor Center.

Other Small-Scale Features

In the Visitor Center Character Area, other small-scale features include a set of three flagpoles and a stone marker known as the Saltville Monument that commemorates the 5th and 6th US Colored Troops (**Figure 3.176**). There is an interpretive gun set in the grassed area between the White House and the main parking lot. There is a hand



Figure 3.172. Utilities located along the north elevation of the Visitor Center (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.174. Walkway lighting at the White House (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.173. Light fixture located near parking area in Visitor Center Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.175. Flood lights located at corners of the White House (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

cranked well pump in the zone east of the White House (**Figure 3.177**). There is a mailbox on the south side of the entry road at Danville Loop 2 Road. There is a US Geodetic Survey marker in the turfgrass area southwest of the southwest corner of the White House. The marker is stamped "Camp Nelson No. 1, 1951." There is an audio tour interpretive station on the south side of the entry drive and a mailbox where the entry drive meets Danville Loop 2 Road. Portable toilets are in the parking area east of the White House and are available to visitors when the Visitor Center is closed on Monday and Tuesday. There is a United States flag near the southwest corner of the Visitor Center.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Fencing and Gates

In the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, there is a snake rail fence running north to south across the character area (**Figure 3.160**). National monument staff use this fence to separate the frontcountry and backcountry maintenance areas. (Note: in April 2022, a group of volunteers relocated a portion of the snake rail fence to the west. It now follows a portion of the historic military road east of the Visitor Center and a portion of the Fort Trail.) Two gates at the western



Figure 3.177. Hand-crank well pump set on a concrete pad, located west of the White House. Utilities servicing the White House are visible in the background of the photo (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.176. Three flags and a stone plaque commemorate the 5th and 6th US Colored Troops (Saltville Monument), view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.178. Gates located at western end of Fort Putnam Loop Trail, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

end of Fort Putnam Loop Trail control access to this character area (**Figure 3.178**). Woven wire fence with wood posts runs east to west (from the western national monument boundary to the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area) and creates a boundary between the main interpreted areas of the site and the former Glass property (now part of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area). The fence is deteriorated and submerged in the spring fed pond on southern edge of the character area boundary. Fencing along the

northern boundary of the character area is electrical fence with metal posts, which transitions to woven wire fence toward the eastern side of the character area. The fence between the character area and Danville Loop 2 Road is post and rail construction. There is a gate at the western end of the Fort Putnam Loop Trail.

Signs

Signs within the Northern Line of Protection Character Area include informational/regulatory signs, routed wood trail and feature signs, and waysides. There are twenty-three waysides along the various trails in the character area (**Figure 3.179**). Wood signs with routed letters identifies features along the trails and at some of the forts. Most forts have at least one wood sign located on or near them. Wood signs mark trail locations throughout the area. Fort Jackson has seven wood signs located on it with routed letters labeling the different features of the fort.

Utilities

Within the northern line of protection area, utilities are limited to the westernmost edge of the property (**Figure 3.180**). Aboveground power lines and power poles are parallel to Danville Loop 2 Road.

Other Small-Scale Features

There is one wood bench and one metal picnic table in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (**Figure 3.181**, **Figure 3.182**). Another small-scale feature is an obelisk marker associated with Cemetery #1. Historically known as "Graveyard Number 1," this cemetery is east of Fort Jackson. The limits of the cemetery are unknown, but the approximate location is marked by the obelisk (**Figure 3.183**, **Figure 3.184**). According to the National Historic Landmark nomination for Camp Nelson, "The soldiers' remains from Graveyard #1 were moved [to Camp Nelson National Cemetery]. The civilians buried in Graveyard #1 . . . are presumably still in their original locations."[644] The obelisk contains inscriptions on all four sides.



Figure 3.179. Waysides at the site are in good to poor condition. This wayside, located in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, provides information about the government sheds and stables (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.180. Utilities located in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

The south side reads:

CAMP NELSON GRAVEYARD NO. 1

TO THOSE BURIED HERE

HERE LIE THE BODIES OF NUMEROUS UNKNOWN TENNESSEE WHITE REFUGEES AND KENTUCKY AFRICAN-AMERICAN REFUGEES WHO PERISHED

644. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination, Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District," 6.

FROM DISEASE WHILE AT CAMP NELSON. THESE CIVILIANS SOUGHT FREEDOM AND PROTECTION WITHIN THE U.S. ARMY POST.

The west side reads:

AFRICAN AMERICAN REFUGEES

THOUSANDS OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN, MOST OF WHOM WERE FAMILIES OF U.S. COLORED TROOPS, ENTERED CAMP NELSON IN 1864-65 SEEKING FREEDOM FROM SLAVERY.

The north side reads:

"THE SOLDIERS ARE BURIED AT EITHER END…"

THE BODIES OF 217 UNION SOLDIERS BOTH BLACK AND WHITE, WERE ORIGINALLY BURIED IN THE CEMETERY SURROUNDING THE CIVILIAN GRAVES. THEY WERE MOVED TO THE CAMP NELSON NATIONAL CEMETERY FOLLOWING ITS CREATION IN 1866.

The east side reads:

TENNESSEE REFUGEES

MANY WIVES AND CHILDREN OF EAST TENNESSEE UNION ENLISTEES ACCOMPANIED THEM INTO CAMP NELSON IN 1863 TO ESCAPE CONFEDERATE OCCUPATION.



Figure 3.181. There was a bench located on top of Fort McKee in 2020, view to east. The NPS removed this bench in 2021 to discourage visitors from walking on the earthworks (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.182. There was a metal picnic table near the Spring Reservoir in 2020. The NPS moved this table near the White House in 2021 (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.183. South side of the Graveyard #1 monument, view facing north (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.184. East side of the Graveyard #1 monument, view facing west (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Fencing and Gates

The barbed wire fence at the edge of the tree line separates the Eastern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas. Most of this fence consists of three strands of barbed wire between trees and metal posts. There is one galvanized metal livestock gate at the entry road on the east side of the site at Sugar Creek Pike.

Signs

There are several metal signs in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area directing visitors along the Fort Jones/Overlook Trail (**Figure 3.185**). The signs depict a soldier with a directional arrow and do not provide additional information for visitors attempting to navigate the trail. There is one wayside on the west side of Fort Jones and one wayside at the North Stone Wall. These waysides were in poor condition in 2021.



Figure 3.185. Aluminum Signs directing visitors to the features in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Fencing and Gates

The Warehouse Industrial Character Area includes many fence types such as woven wire, barbed wire, and electric fence, which separate the site into multiple pastures. There are multiple styles of woven wire fence, with both wood and metal posts. As livestock currently occupies many, pastures in the character area, many of the fences in the interior of the character area are in good or fair condition.[645] In a few places, a gate has been affixed to the fence to repair a failing section. There are some areas where fencing is in disrepair or only remnants remain. Horses occupied the southwest pasture in 2020 (this use was discontinued in September 2021), and an electrified fence surrounded the area adjacent to Camp Nelson National Cemetery. The boundary of most the character area is marked by woven wire fence with cedar or metal posts. The southern boundary of the character area is enclosed with chain link fence along the boundary with the national cemetery.

There are gates throughout the character area including three galvanized metal livestock gates at Danville Loop 2 Road leading to the former Brumfield farm road and one galvanized metal livestock gate providing access to a former horse pasture (**Figure 3.186**). Another livestock gate exists near the abandoned store and Barn #8. Multiple gates exist along the fence that separates the former Brumfield and Glass properties.

Toward the southern end of the character area, near the border with Camp Nelson National

645. The NPS will end cattle grazing in the park by Spring 2023.



Figure 3.186. One of the galvanized metal livestock gates located near Danville Loop 2 Road (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.187. One of the propane tanks formerly located in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.188. Flag in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area marking the historic location of the government shops (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.189. Cattle guard located across the former Glass farm road (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Cemetery, the material changes to woven wire fence between trees and metal posts.

Signs

There are no signs in the interior of the character area. There is metal detection warning sign on the fence paralleling Danville Loop 2 Road near the abandoned store and Barn #8.

Utilities

Utilities in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area include above ground power and telecommunications lines on the east side of Danville Loop 2 Road. There is a line of above ground utilities that connect to the residential parcel that notches into the character area. There is a pole near the northwest corner of the site that connects to a second line of above ground utilities. This line runs through the residential property and then to a pole in the Maintenance Character Area.

Water runs underground along or under Danville Loop 2 Road (exact alignment unknown). There is a hydrant near the entrance to the former Brumfield farm road and several spigots and meters along the western boundary of the character area. On the interior of the site, there is a spigot in the barn complex on the former Glass property between Barns #4 and #5. There was a portable toilet south of Barn #6 in 2020, the NPS removed it in 2021. During the first two site visits, there was a propane tank on the north side of Barn #3, which is surrounded by a wood post and rail fence. There was another propane tank west of Barn #5 (**Figure 3.187**). The NPS had removed these tanks by December 2021.

Other Small-Scale Features

Other small-scale features in the Warehouse Industrial Character Areas include four flags marking the historic locations of the bakery,



Figure 3.190. Griffing family cemetery located on the former Glass property. The cemetery is surrounded by a wood post and barbed wire fence and contains three stone markers and a sign post (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

warehouses, government shops, and quartermaster and commissary office (**Figure 3.188**). There is equipment relating to the agricultural use of the site located near the barn complex on the former Glass farm site including watering troughs and feed equipment. There is an in-ground cattle guard on the former Glass farm road south of Barns #3 and 4 (**Figure 3.189**).

The Griffing family cemetery is on the former Glass farm property. It measures twenty feet by twenty feet and is enclosed by a section of wood post and barbed wire fence and a section of post and rail fence. The cemetery includes three marked graves with visible headstones and a sign post (**Figure 3.190** - **Figure 3.192**).



Figure 3.191. Headstone of Elizabeth Griffing, located in the Griffing family cemetery (Source: NPS, Ernest Price, 2021).

There are multiple locations in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area where pieces of limestone have been piled up or arranged (**Figure 3.193**, **Figure 3.194**). Near the abandoned quarry, a row of quarried stones encircles a sycamore tree. At the edge of the trees by the stone lined pond, several large stones are piled together, possibly placed there as part of site clearing activities when the site was used for agriculture. There is a pile of smaller stones adjacent to Barn #8, possibly salvaged from a former building foundation.



Figure 3.192. Bottom half of the headstone for Jasper Griffing Sr., located in the Griffing family cemetery (Source: Ernest Price, 2021).



Figure 3.193. This row of quarried stones surround a sycamore in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, view to northwest (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.194. These stones are piled next to Barn #8 in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.195. Painted post and rail fence surrounds three sides of the Maintenance Character Area, view to southwest (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Maintenance Character Area

Fencing and Gates

Black painted post and rail fence surrounds the Maintenance Character Area on the north, south, and east sides (**Figure 3.195**). There are two galvanized metal livestock (or "bull") gates in this area. One is at the northeast corner of the character area, where the driveway enters the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. The other is near the northern driveway entrance just east of Danville Loop 2 Road.

Signs

There are no signs in the Maintenance Character Area.

Utilities

Utilities in the Maintenance Character Area include above ground power and telecommunications lines on the east side of Danville Loop 2 Road. These lines feed into the Facilities and Maintenance Office along the driveway on northern side of the character area. There is a utility pole on the north side of the Facilities and Maintenance Office with lines that run south toward the adjacent residential property. There was a propane tank between the driveway and the north side of the house and an HVAC unit on the west side of the house. The NPS removed this tank after the property transferred from the county. Water is serviced from Danville Loop 2 Road.

Other Small-Scale Features

There is a mailbox on the south side of the loop driveway at Danville Loop 2 road. The mailbox is on the south side of the driveway. There is a flagpole in the middle of the loop drive on the west side of the ring of shrubs in the center of the loop. There is a US Coast and Geodetic Survey Marker on the north side of the north driveway. It is noted



Figure 3.196. US Coast & Geodetic Survey Marker, located in the Maintenance Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

"Camp Nelson, 1951" (**Figure 3.196**). There is a mill stone near the front entry door to the Facilities and Maintenance Office on the north side of the entry walkway.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Fencing

There is no fencing in the Refugee Ward Character Area.

Signs

There are two waysides in the Refugee Ward Character Area. One features information about the refugee camp during the Civil War, biographical information about John Fee, and the community of Ariel (**Figure 3.197**). The sign appears to be located just outside the national monument boundary. The other wayside is at the entrance to the Fee Memorial Church. It is in poor condition due to weathering and includes information about Ariel Academy. There is a routed wood trail sign indicating the location of the entrance to the trail leading to the amphitheater. The top sign panel is illegible. The bottom sign panel reads "Entrance" (**Figure 3.198**).

Utilities

There is an above ground power line with power poles parallel to the property border on Hall Road and Church Street (**Figure 3.199**). The line is on the south side of Hall Road on the eastern portion of the site, then crosses to the other side where Hall Road turns to the west. The line runs along the east side of Church Street. There are three power poles adjacent to the national monument boundary.



Figure 3.197. Wayside (photo, right) and steps (photo, left) located just outside the national monument boundary, view to southeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.198. Dilapidated sign indicating location of trail to amphitheater. The sign is located on the western edge of the wooded area (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 3.199. Overhead utility lines located along Hall Road, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Other Small-Scale Features

There is a set of concrete steps just outside the apparent national monument boundary near the existing wayside (**Figure 3.197**). The date and use of these steps are unknown. There are several large rectangular stones throughout the site. Their function and date are unknown; they do not correspond to any known building locations. There is a group of stones that are flush with grade and roughly rectangular in shape, located downhill and southeast from the Fee Memorial Church. These may be foundation stones for a former building, but mapping and aerial imagery do not show any buildings in this location.

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- Gates at national monument entrance
- Camp Nelson Heritage Park plaque
- Park identity sign
- Parking signs
- Routed wood trail signs
- Regulator signs
- Audio interpretive station
- Mailbox for national monument
- Mailbox for Facilities and Maintenance Office
- Pad-mounted transformers
- Utility meters
- HVAC units
- Water service and spigots
- Aboveground power lines and poles
- Light posts at visitor parking area
- In-ground light fixtures near White House
- Spotlights at White House
- Saltville Monument and three flagpoles
- Interpretive gun
- Hand crank well pump
- US Coast and Geodetic Survey marker
- Portable toilets
- United States flag at Visitor Center

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Snake rail fence
- Post and rail fence along Danville Loop 2 Road
- Electric fence on northern property boundary
- Barbed wire fence at Eastern Line of Protection Character Area
- Woven wire fence at southern edge
- Gates at Fort Putnam Loop Trail
- Routed wood signs at fort features
- Waysides
- Interpretive flags
- Graveyard #1 monument
- Bench at Fort McKee
- Picnic table at Spring Reservoir

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- Metal trail signs on Fort Jones/Overlook Trail
- Access gate at Sugar Pike Road

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- Propane tank (removed 2021)
- Interior fencing and gates
- Fencing along Danville Loop 2 Road
- Gates on interior and at farm road entrances
- Electric fence around former horse area in southwest corner
- Livestock feeding and watering features
- Griffing family cemetery headstones
- Interpretive flags
- Stones on former Brumfield farm
- Stones near stone lined pond
- Above ground power and telecommunications lines
- Barbed wire fence at Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Maintenance Character Area

- Black painted post and rail fence
- Above ground power and telecommunications lines
- Propane tank (removed 2021)
- Mailbox
- Flagpole in loop drive
- US Coast and Geodetic Survey marker
- Mill stone

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Steps near Fee Memorial Church
- Rectangular stones near Fee Memorial Church

Constructed Water Features

Overall Description

There are two constructed water features in the CANE landscape. There are no constructed water features in the Maintenance, Eastern Line of Protection, or Refugee Ward Character Areas.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Spring Reservoir

The Spring Reservoir is an approximately thirty-foot by thirty-foot reservoir, created by a limestone retaining wall, in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. The reservoir was constructed during the historic period as a water source for US Army soldiers (**Figure 3.200** - **Figure 3.202**). The Spring Reservoir is in the southwest corner of the Northern Line of Protection Area. The limestone wall of the Spring Reservoir is described in Buildings and Structures. In warm water, there is algae growing in the water, which appears to be discoloring the wall.



Figure 3.200. Spring Reservoir, view to northwest (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 3.201. Detail view of the Spring Reservoir wall, view to east (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Stone Lined Pond

There is a stone lined pond along the wood line at the eastern edge of the character area. The date of the pond's construction is unknown, but it appears on a 1937 aerial photograph. It is not indicated on Civil War era maps. There is a large stack of stones on the northeast side of the pond. The pond measures approximately 60 by 120 feet.

Features

- Spring Reservoir
- Stone lined pond



Figure 3.202. The northeast corner of the Spring Reservoir, view to northeast (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

Archeological Sites

The following description of the existing condition of archeological resources at Camp Nelson National Monument was prepared and provided by Dr. W. Stephen McBride.

Overall Description

Camp Nelson National Monument is a National Historic Landmark (NHL) Archeological District that could, or perhaps should, be considered as one large archeological site for preservation and management purposes. It has, however, been divided into a number of different but broad sites, each with a different site number, by the Kentucky Office of State Archeology. These sites include northern Camp Nelson—site 15Js78 (former Naylor and Blakeman property), central Camp Nelson—site 15Js164 (former Brumfield and Glass property), the southern Camp Nelson ordnance depot-site 15Js166 (also on the former Brumfield property), a Native American prehistoric site—site 15Js203 (on the former Glass property), and the Home for Colored Refugees/Hall Community—site 15Js163. Archeological survey and test excavations on all of these sites or site areas, with the exception of site 15Js203, indicate that they have excellent archeological integrity and are contributing resources to the NHL Archeological District. In the discussion below, previous archeological research will be summarized to provide an understanding of the range of archeological resources present over the national monument property.

Northern Camp Nelson (Site 15Js78)

Archeological site 15Js78 is located on the northern third of the Camp Nelson National Monument and includes the former Naylor and Blakeman properties (**Figure 3.203**). During the Civil War, this site included the eastern Northern Line of Fortifications (east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike), the White House, Graveyard No. 1, Barracks No. 1, the Prison-Provost Marshal's Office, the Rehabilitation Stables, the William Berkele Sutler Store, the C. J. Young Photograph Gallery, and numerous tent encampments (**Figure 3.203**, **Figure 3.204**). Above ground nineteenth century buildings and structures on this site include the White House, the Spring Reservoir, the forts (except for the reconstructed Fort Putnam) and connecting infantry entrenchments, and an ice house foundation at the Provost Marshal's Office (Prison Ice House).

Archeological survey has been completed on most of this property. The archeological survey consisted of the excavation of thirty-centimeter-wide shovel probes every twenty to forty meters across the upper more level area of this site (the former Naylor Property), metal detecting on and to the west of Fort Jones (former Blakeman property), and metal detecting in known or suspected occupation areas, such as the prison area, Forts Putnam and Taylor, the Berkele Store, the Higginbotham Still House, and the sheds and stables area on the former Naylor Property (**Figure 3.203**).[646] This survey indicated that site 15Js78 consists of a light to medium density of Civil War era artifacts and prehistoric lithic debitage over much of its area and a high density of Civil War era and later material in certain locations. These higher density areas include the White House (where post-bellum material was also recovered), Barracks No. 1, the prison area, a probable encampment east and north of the prison, Fort Putnam, a probable encampment south and southeast of Fort Pope, the Berkele Store-Young Gallery, an encampment east of the Store-Gallery, and a probable encampment west of Fort Jones (**Figure 3.203**). The archeological survey suggests that much of site 15Js78 has a high level of integrity even though much of the upper and more level area of this site has been plowed. This high integrity is due to short occupation (1863-1866) of most of this site. The exception to this is the White House, which has a long occupation (1850s-1990s) and

646. 15Js78, Field and Artifact Records, Survey 1997-99, Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville, Kentucky; W. Stephen McBride, Kim A. McBride, and J. David McBride, *Report of the Archaeological Investigations at Fort Jones*, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park, Jessamine County, Kentucky (Lexington, Kentucky: Kentucky Archaeological Survey Report No. 113), 2006; W. Stephen McBride, Kim A. McBride, and J. David McBride, "Archaeology and Reconstruction of Fort Putnam, Camp Nelson, Kentucky, In *From These Honored Dead: Historical Archaeology of the American Civil War*, edited by Clarence R. Geier, Douglas D. Scott, and Lawrence E. Babits (Gainesville, Florida: University of Florida Press), 193-207, 2014; Brian C. Mabelitini and W. Stephen McBride, *Report on the Archaeological Investigations at Camp Nelson Military Prison (15Js78), Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park, Jessamine County, Kentucky* (Lexington, Kentucky: Kentucky Archaeological Survey Report No.159), 2020.

mixed archeological deposits.[647] The site does however have subsurface features. The slopes, particularly along the southern and eastern edges of the site have not been plowed. The integrity and significance of the prehistoric Native American occupation areas is unknown as no features or definite intact stratigraphy has been identified, and artifact density is usually low.

At Cemetery #1 (Graveyard No. 1), trained cadaver dogs searched the area for graves. They made over eighty possible grave hits which were marked with iron rebar.[648] The dog handlers cautioned that the grave pinpoints may not be extremely accurate because of the nature of the local soils and the wind conditions at the time of the investigations.

Archeological test excavations were conducted at a number of areas within site 15Js78. At the White House three trenches (5.3 square meters) were excavated under the kitchen floor during renovations, and a midden and chimney foundation from the original detached kitchen were exposed and excavated.[649] This chimney and portions of this midden still remain below the present kitchen floor. At Fort Taylor, a section of the powder magazine entrance was exposed in test units (17 square meters) and then sampled and mapped. Minor testing (16 square meters) was also conducted at a prehistoric lithic scatter near the sheds and stables area where a few Early to Late Archaic projectile points and lithic debitage were recovered but no features.[650]

The most extensive excavations at 15Js78 were completed at Fort Putnam, the prison, and the Berkele Store-Young Gallery. The Fort Putnam investigation consisted of topographic mapping, shovel probe excavation, metal detecting, test unit excavation (9.25 sq meters), and backhoe excavation (138 square meters) (**Figure 3.203**). These excavations exposed fort construction layers, including yellow clay gun platforms, a buried A Horizon, the front fort ditch, and the revetment line of postmolds. Numerous Civil War artifacts, including cut nails and spikes, and bullets, were recovered. As this fort was later reconstructed on site, most of its archeological remains are likely destroyed, although some of the revetment postmolds likely remain.[651]

In the prison area, a total of 170 square meters of test excavations have been completed (**Figure 3.203**). These excavations have uncovered sections of the prison stockade, stone piers from the jail building, drip-lines from the guard house, two cellars along the northern stockade, and a cellar at the prison hospital cookhouse. Thousands of artifacts associated with this prison have also been discovered including ceramics, bottle and window glass, cut nails, clothing items, gaming pieces, ammunition, military accoutrements, and animal bone. Although substantial excavation has occurred at the prison area, the vast majority of this site remains preserved with potentially significant features and artifact deposits.[652]

The William Berkele Sutler Store- C. J. Young Photography Gallery has also been the location of extensive excavations (Figure 1). Here 265 square meters of excavation has been completed including 151 at the store, 64 at the gallery, and 50 to the east of these site areas where two winter huts and one unknown structure were located. At the store itself, numerous post molds and two cellars from this structure were exposed as well as a midden deposit, which produced large assemblage of Civil War era artifacts, and a small number of antebellum artifacts. At the gallery, archeologists found a stone lined oven with flue and numerous postmolds as well as photography and stencil related artifacts including brass stencils, cased photograph brass mats, preservers, and a glass cover plate. Archeologists also recovered numerous chemical and hair dye bottles at the gallery.[653]

647. 15Js78, Field and Artifact Records, White House, 1999. Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville, Kentucky.
648. 15Js78 Field Records, Graveyard No. 1, n.d., Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville, Kentucky.
649. 15Js78, Field and Artifact Records, White House, 1999. Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville, Kentucky.
650. 15Js78, Field and Artifact Records, Survey 1997-99, Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville, Kentucky.
651. W. Stephen McBride, Kim A. McBride, and J. David McBride, "Archaeology and Reconstruction of Fort Putnam, Camp Nelson, Kentucky (see Note 1).
652. Brian Mabelitini and W. Stephen McBride, Report on the Archaeological Investigations at Camp Nelson Military Prison (15Js78), Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park, Jessamine County, Kentucky (see Note 1).
653. 15Js78, Field and Artifact Records, Berkele Store, Young Gallery, 2011—2020, Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville, Kentucky.

Figure 3.203. Cultural features overlaid on the USGS Little Hickman quadrangle (Source: W. Stephen McBride, 2021).

Archeologists found and excavated two probable soldier hut hearths, one abutting a rectangular semi-subterranean hut floor, and another possible stone lined oven east of the store and gallery. These areas produced both military occupation artifacts as well as artifacts likely dumped from the store. Archeological survey located the probable remains of the circa 1800-1816 Higginbotham Still House below the store-gallery and southeast of the Spring Reservoir. Researchers discovered a midden with barrel hoops and wrought and cut nails here.[654] Excavations at the store-gallery area demonstrate a high level of stratigraphic and feature integrity (this area is unplowed), and although much excavation has occurred here, much of the site area remains undisturbed, particularly at the gallery, the western edge of the store, and the slope to the east of the store and gallery. These areas likely contain additional winter hut sites and the still.

Central Camp Nelson (Site 15Js164)

This site is located on the former Brumfield (north half) and Glass properties in the center of Camp Nelson National Monument. According to the 1866 Miller map of Camp Nelson, this site contained the Government Shops, the Quartermaster Office Complex, the Quartermaster and Commissary Warehouses, the Bakery, a dwelling (the Jasper Griffing house), some shanties, and an office, mess house, and shed (**Figure 3.203**). There are above ground remains of the Bakery bake ovens stone foundations.

654. 15Js78, Field and Artifact Records, Berkele Store.

Archeological survey consisting of shovel probe excavation at a twenty-meter interval was conducted between US 27 and the east side of the former bakery location. Researchers also conducted some metal detecting in this area. Archeologists recovered a high to moderate density of Civil War era artifacts at the government shops, Quartermaster office, and bakery, including an encampment site between the bakery and warehouses. Researchers recovered a low to moderate number of artifacts, primarily cut nails, from the warehouses. Stratigraphy observed in these shovel probes suggests that most of this site, with the possible exception of the warehouses, has never been plowed, likely due to the surface bedrock and slope.[655]

Archeologists completed test unit excavations at the government shops blacksmith shops, the Quartermaster office, and the encampment adjacent to the bakery (**Figure 3.203**). The test excavations confirmed that none of these areas had been plowed and that they each had Civil War era middens, subsurface features, and virtually no post-bellum material. The archeological testing on the government shops and Quartermaster office was fairly minor, 41.6 square meters and 26 square meters, respectively. The vast majority of these two site areas remain intact.[656]

The excavation at the bakery area encampment was especially informative because this area produced evidence of women and children (glass beads, women's clothing buttons and hooks, and toys), domestic work (laundry and cooking), hut sites (hearths and stone piers), and destruction by fire. This archeological evidence combined with historical documentation indicates that this site was an original pre-expulsion refugee encampment. Although the excavation at the refugee encampment is more extensive (84.5 square meters), much of this site also remains intact.[657]

No archeological work has been conducted on the northern part of the former Glass property, but this property does have a number of sites illustrated on the 1866 Miller map. These include a dwelling (the Jasper Griffing House) just south of the Rehabilitation Stables, the northern edge of the Warehouses, and a shed and shanties to the east (**Figure** 3.**204**). Some surface evidence of the Griffing (also Griffin) House is visible on the surface in the form of lumpy ground. There is also a small Griffing family cemetery with at least two graves to the east of this house site. Given the archeological condition of the surrounding properties it is likely that good Civil War era remains are present on this property as well.

Southern Camp Nelson (sites 15Js166 and 15Js203)

Sites 15Js166 and 15Js203 are located in the southern edge of Camp Nelson National Monument near its border with Camp Nelson National Cemetery. This area includes the southern end of the former Brumfield property and the southeastern edge of the former Glass property (**Figure 3.203**). The 1866 Miller map shows the ordnance depot, some cribs, and some sheds in this area (**Figure 3.204**). The remnant Powder Magazine portion of the ordnance depot is preserved in the form of an elongated earthen mound with a sunken center.

Archeological investigations in this area are limited to the survey level including both shovel probe excavation and metal detecting. All of this work

655. 15Js78, Field and Artifact Records, Government Shops, Quartermaster Office, Bakery, 2001-2006, Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville, Kentucky.
656. 15Js78, Field and Artifact Records, Government Shops.
657. W. Stephen McBride, "African-American Women, Power, and Freedom in the Contested Landscape of Camp Nelson, Kentucky", in *Archaeology and Preservation of Gendered Landscapes,* edited by Sherene Baugher and Suzanne M. Spencer-Wood, pp. 95-112 (New York, New York: Springer Science and Business Media), 2010; W. Stephen McBride, "Camp Nelson and Kentucky's Civil War Memory", *Historical Archaeology* 47:69-80, 2013; W. Stephen McBride and Kim A. McBride, *Seizing Freedom: Archaeology of Escaped Slaves at Camp Nelson, Kentucky* (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park), 2010; W. Stephen McBride and Kim A. McBride, "Civil War Housing: Insights from Camp Nelson, Kentucky", in *Huts and History: The Archaeology of Civil War Housing*, edited by Clarence Geier and Matthew Reeves, p.136-171, (Gainesville: University Press of Florida), 2006.

Figure 3.204. Archeological sites on the 1866 Miller map of Camp Nelson (Source: WLA Studio and W. Stephen McBride, 2021).

was associated with a planned land donation to the National Cemetery and a later possible land swap with the cemetery. These surveys resulted in the discovery and documentation of the ordnance depot site (15Js166) and the discovery of a prehistoric Native American lithic scatter (15Js203). The ordnance depot survey discovered a moderate density of Civil War era artifacts (primarily architectural) at the powder magazine, warehouses, sheds, and office. Because of these discoveries, the land donation boundaries were moved to the east.[658] Site 15Js203 was a light lithic scatter of undetermined age and produced chert flakes and one chert core. It was determined not to be significant under National Register of Historic Places criteria.[659] Archeologists have not examined land to the northwest of the ordnance depot and may have the remains of undocumented Civil War and/or Native American sites.

The Home for Colored Refugees/Hall (Site 15Js163)

Only a small parcel (roughly seven acres) of the Hall Community and former Home for Colored Refugees lies within Camp Nelson National Monument (**Figure 3.205**). This parcel includes the standing early twentieth century Fee Memorial Church and probably archeological remains of two refugee barracks and possibly part of the Home for Colored Refugees office, as well as the Fee Memorial Institute dormitory. (The extant concrete steps may be associated with this structure or they may be a carriage mount.) Archeological survey (shovel probe excavation) was conducted on this property and recovered artifacts dated from the

658. W. Stephen McBride and Kim A. McBride, Archaeological Survey of the Camp Nelson Ordnance Depot (15Js166), Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park, Jessamine County, Kentucky (Lexington, Kentucky: Kentucky Archaeological Survey Report 170), 2009; McBride, W. Stephen, Report of an Archaeological Survey for a Potential Land Donation to the Camp Nelson National Cemetery, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park (Nicholasville, Ky: Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park), 2009.

659. W. Stephen McBride, Report of an Archaeological Survey of a Section of the Former Bettie Glass Property, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park), 2018.

Figure 3.205. Map of Hall excavation areas and approximate national monument boundary on the 1952 USGS Little Hickman quadrangle (Source: WLA Studio and W. Stephen McBride, 2021).

Civil War era up to the middle twentieth century.[660] The survey suggests that most probes in the seven acres contained mixed nineteenth and twentieth century deposits, which are not ideal for research. Architectural features are probably present on this property and refuse features may be present although these were not found in the survey.

The archeological survey of the Hall Community was also conducted on private property. While many of the shovel probes on these privately owned parcels also discovered deposits of mixed nineteenth to twentieth century artifacts, a few areas, including the James Frye and Nature Conservancy tracts where later test excavations were conducted, produced primarily Civil War era material.[661] These tracts included sites of the former Refugee Cottages and Huts and had less modern disturbance.

Test units were excavated on the James Frye property (thirty-one square meters) at the site of refugee huts and on Nature Conservancy property (four square meters) at the site of the refugee cottages (**Figure** 3.**205**). Intact Civil War era midden and features, probably associated with two huts, were discovered and excavated on the Frye property. Only a low density of artifacts was

660. 15Js163, Field and Artifact Records, Hall Survey, 2002. Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville, Kentucky.

661. 15Js163, Field and Artifact Records, Hall Survey.

recovered from the Nature Preserve tract, but these were primarily from the Civil War era.[662]

Overall, the archeological investigations at the Hall community suggest that most areas have somewhat mixed soil/artifact deposits due to long and continual occupation of much of this community. Some areas, however, that were abandoned soon after the Civil War, have excellent archeological deposits. The areas with mixed deposits may also have intact features with high research potential.

Features

- Site 15Js78
- Site 15Js64
- Site 15Js66
- Site 15Js163
- Site 15Js203

662. W. Stephen McBride, "African-American Women, Power, and Freedom in the Contested Landscape of Camp Nelson, Kentucky", in *Archaeology and Preservation of Gendered Landscapes,* edited by Sherene Baugher and Suzanne M. Spencer-Wood, pp. 95-112 (New York, New York: Springer Science and Business Media), 2010; W. Stephen McBride, "Camp Nelson and Kentucky's Civil War Memory", *Historical Archaeology* 47:69-80, 2013; W. Stephen McBride and Kim A. McBride, *Seizing Freedom: Archaeology of Escaped Slaves at Camp Nelson, Kentucky* (Nicholasville, Kentucky: Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park), 2010; W. Stephen McBride and Kim A. McBride, "Civil War Housing: Insights from Camp Nelson, Kentucky", in *Huts and History: The Archaeology of Civil War Housing*, edited by Clarence Geier and Matthew Reeves, pp.136-171 (Gainesville, Florida: University Press of Florida), 2006.

Analysis and Evaluation

Introduction

For cultural landscapes such as Camp Nelson National Monument, documenting existing conditions and analyzing and evaluating natural and human-made historic resources is critical in the development of a strategy for their management and treatment. Cultural landscape analysis involves two primary activities: evaluating historic significance and assessing historic integrity. Both use criteria determined by the National Register of Historic Places, which has developed nationally-recognized methods for evaluating the significance and integrity of historic buildings and landscapes. The evaluation of historic significance identifies the important historical associations of the property, as well as its architectural, archeological, and social value. The property's significance is tied to a discrete period of time (period of significance) in which its important contributions were made and the broader historic contexts (historic context themes) within which the activities that occurred on the property may be placed. The analysis and evaluation section considers the site's history within recognized historic contexts to determine its contribution to the broad patterns of American history. It is important to note that historic resources, particularly cultural landscapes, change over time. As a result, a cultural landscape may have several areas of historic significance and multiple periods of significance. In order to determine whether a landscape feature contributes to the historic significance of the landscape at Camp Nelson National Monument, this chapter compares the existing conditions of landscape features to its understood historic condition during the historic period. The objective of this analysis is to identify the specific features associated with the historic period and assess to what degree they continue to convey their historic significance.

To aid in this assessment, landscape features are categorized based on their contribution to the understanding of the historic character of the landscape during the period or periods of significance (in this case, the historic period). These categories are:

Contributing
Noncontributing
Missing
Undetermined

Contributing landscape features survive from the period of significance and continue to reflect their historic appearance and function. Noncontributing landscape features include those added to the site since the period of significance or that no longer retain enough physical integrity to convey their historic appearance or function. Missing features existed during the period of significance but have been removed, destroyed, or cannot be recognized in their current condition. Undetermined include features whose age cannot be determined or whose contribution to the historic landscape is unknown. Please refer to the table at the end of this chapter for a summary of this information.

The process to identify landscape elements follows a National Park Service methodology that categorizes all landscape elements as one of thirteen landscape characteristics:

Archeological Sites
Buildings and Structures
Circulation
Arrangement of Buildings
Constructed Water Features
Cultural Traditions
Land Use
Natural Systems and Features
Other
Small-Scale Features
Spatial Organization
Cluster Arrangement
Topography
Vegetation
Views and Vistas

Landscape characteristics are the "tangible and intangible aspects of an inventory unit which have either influenced the history of the development of the landscape, or are products of its development, respectively." Further, "these aspects individually and collectively give a landscape its historic character and aid in the understanding

of its cultural importance."[663] Based on this understanding of the landscape, National Register of Historic Places methodology aids in establishing a site's significance.

National Register/National Historic Landmark Status

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 authorized the creation of the National Register of Historic Places as the official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation. The National Park Service is responsible for maintaining the list and coordinating with public and private entities to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources. The National Park Service has developed criteria for evaluating historic resources to determine their eligibility for listing in the National Register. The National Register Criteria for Evaluation examine a property's age, integrity, and significance.

To be considered historic, a property typically needs to be at least fifty years old, though exceptions can be made for certain properties. In terms of integrity, as *A Guide for Cultural Landscape Reports* explains, "historic integrity of a cultural landscape relates to the ability of the landscape to convey its significance. The National Register defines seven aspects of integrity that address the cohesiveness, setting, and character of a landscape, as well as the material, composition, and workmanship of associated features. Historic integrity is assessed to determine if the landscape characteristics and associated features, and the spatial qualities that shaped the landscape during the historic period, are present in much the same way as they were historically."[664] Accounting for change in a landscape—a natural occurrence—is integral to the evaluation process. As the *Guide* notes, "it is important not only to consider changes to the individual [landscape] feature, but how such changes affect the landscape as a whole."[665]

The property must also be associated with historic events, activities, or developments that were important in the past. The National Register identifies the type of significance of a property based on the following criteria:

> Criterion A: Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
> Criterion B: Association with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
> Criterion C: Embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
> Criterion D: Yielding or potential to yield information in history or prehistory.

A site may be significant in any or all of these four criteria. Based on these criteria, a statement of significance can be drafted for a site.

Camp Nelson Civil War District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2001 (NRIS ID 00000861). The district was listed as locally significant under Criteria A and D, and Criteria Consideration D, in the significance of Military, Archeology, and Ethnic Heritage. Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District National Historic Landmark was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 2013 (NHL ID 13000286). The district is nationally significant under Criteria A and D. Eligible under NHL Criteria 1 and 6, the above and below ground remains of the property can provide nationally significant information about the lives of military and civilian occupants, including African American soldiers and their families as well as compelling information on the struggle for freedom sought by African American men, women, and children through the enlistment and emancipation of thousands of escaped enslaved people, due in part to their high integrity.

663. Robert R. Page, *National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide*, (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, January 2009), 7-4; 53.

664. Robert R. Page, Cathy A. Gilbert, and Susan A. Dolan, "A Guide To Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques" (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, 1998), 71.

665. Page, Gilbert, and Dolan, "A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports," 72.

Features within Camp Nelson National Monument are listed in both the National Register of Historic Places and the National Historic Landmarks Program. The National Park Service oversees both of these programs. According to the NPS, "the National Register is the official list of the nation's historic properties considered worthy of preservation. . . . These properties tell stories that are important to a local community, the residents of a specific state, or to all Americans. Properties must possess historic integrity."[666] The NPS explains, "properties designated as National Historic Landmarks tell stories that are important to the history of the entire nation, not just local communities or states. These properties possess a high degree of historic integrity, instead of enough."[667] The following table lists the contributing features listed in both nominations. The boundaries for these nominations differ from each other and from the boundary of Camp Nelson National Monument.

666. National Park Service, "The National Register of Historic Places and the National Historic Landmarks Program - National Historic Landmarks (U.S. National Park Service)," August 31, 2018, https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalhistoriclandmarks/nr-and-nhl.htm.
667. National Park Service, "The National Register of Historic Places and the National Historic Landmarks Program."

Feature Name	National Register Status	National Historic Landmark Status
Features Inside Camp Nelson National Monument Property Boundary		
Main Camp Nelson encampment site	Contributing	
Camp Nelson Archeological Site (partially inside the national monument property boundary)		Contributing
White House (Oliver Perry House)	Contributing	Contributing
Infantry entrenchment	Contributing	Contributing
Fort Jackson	Contributing	Contributing
Fort Putnam	Contributing	Noncontributing (Reconstructed Fort Putnam)
Fort Pope	Contributing	Contributing
Fort Taylor	Contributing	Contributing
Fort McKee	Contributing	Contributing
Fort Jones	Contributing	Contributing
Stone Fort* (NHL uses "Northern and Southern Stone Fort")	Contributing	Contributing
Magazine Complex (NHL uses "Ordnance Powder Magazine")	Contributing	Contributing
Bakery Oven		Contributing
Prison Cistern (CLR uses "Prison Ice House")		Contributing
Spring Reservoir		Contributing
Ice House (CLR uses "Quartermasters Ice House")		Contributing
Road south of fortification line, main camp	Contributing	Contributing
Road in middle of main camp	Contributing	Contributing
Features Outside Camp Nelson National Monument Property Boundary		
Camp Nelson National Cemetery	Contributing	Contributing
Refugee Camp	Contributing	
Hall/Refugee Camp cemetery	Contributing	
Fort Bramlette	Contributing	
Fort Hatch	Contributing	
Fort Nelson	Contributing	
Fort Studdiford	Contributing	Contributing
Road north of fortification line, main camp (NHL "Road northeast of the fortification)	Contributing	Contributing
Ison Street, refugee camp	Contributing	Contributing
Church Street, refugee camp	Contributing	
Stone Wall at Camp Nelson Cemetery		Contributing

**It is not clear from the National Register nomination if Stone Fort refers to the North Stone Wall or the South Stone Wall. The nomination lists the condition as "well preserved," so likely, it is referring to the north stone wall.*

Contributing Resources

The boundary for the Camp Nelson Civil War National Register District (**Figure 4.1**) includes all of Camp Nelson National Monument and also includes areas outside the national monument boundary including the area containing Fort Hatch and Fort Nelson, located west of US 27 (Danville Road), the location of the engineers' camp, which is north of the monument boundary, Fort Studdiford, located south of the national monument boundary, all of Camp Nelson National Cemetery and the ridge south of the cemetery, Fort Bramlett, which is just north of the Kentucky River, and zones in the Hall community including the area of the Civil War era pump system at the Kentucky River.

The National Register nomination identifies the following contributing resources:

Sites:

- Main Camp Nelson encampment site
- Camp Nelson National Cemetery*
- Refugee Camp*
- Hall/Refugee Camp cemetery*
- Fort Bramlett*
- Oliver Perry House/White House
- Infantry entrenchment
- Fort Hatch*
- Fort Nelson*
- Fort Jackson
- Fort Putnum
- Fort Pope
- Fort Taylor
- Fort McKee
- Fort Jones
- Stone Forts (North and South Stone Walls)
- Fort Studdiford*
- Magazine complex
- Road north of fortification line, main camp
- Road south of fortification line, main camp
- Road in middle of main camp
- Ison (or Isom) Street, refugee camp*
- Church Street, refugee camp*

**Resources outside Camp Nelson National Monument Boundary*

The 2013 NHL nomination also includes a boundary that extends beyond the existing national monument boundary and identifies the following contributing resources:

- The Oliver Perry or White House
- Eight forts and the infantry entrenchment along the northern line of protection and Hickman Creek (Forts Hatch, Nelson, Studdiford, and Bramlette are located outside the national monument boundary)*
- Ordnance power magazine
- Bakery Oven
- Prison Cistern (Prison Ice House)
- Spring Reservoir
- Ice House (Quartermaster Ice House)
- Road northeast of the fortification (historic route of Sugar Creek Pike)
- Road south of the fortification (former farm road on former Naylor property)
- Road near the middle of the main camp (northern warehouse access road)
- Stone wall at Camp Nelson National Cemetery*
- Ison (or Isom) Street at the former Home for Colored Refugees*
- Camp Nelson Archeological Site (including all archeological resources)
- National Cemetery*

**Resources outside Camp Nelson National Monument boundary*

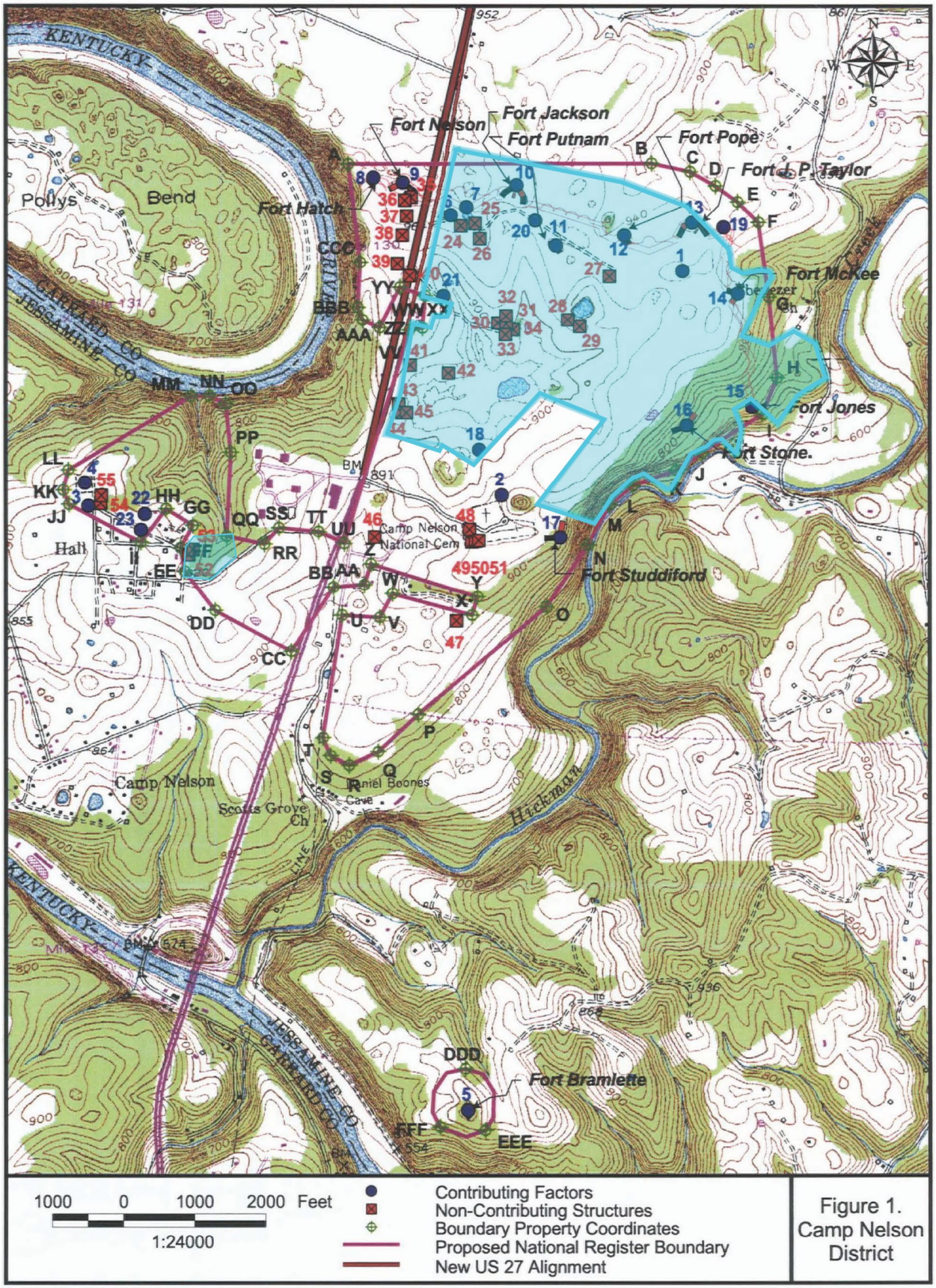


Figure 4.1. Map from the National Register nomination for Camp Nelson Civil War District annotated to show an approximate location of the national monument boundary in blue (Source: W. Stephen McBride, "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Camp Nelson" (Washington, D.C.: National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 2001).

National Register and National Historic Landmark Significance of Camp Nelson National Monument

Camp Nelson Civil War District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2001 includes approximately nine hundred acres and includes "well-preserved areas of what was a large Civil War era [US] Army supply depot, recruitment camp, hospital facility, and African-American refugee camp."[668] The nomination states:

> Camp Nelson is extremely significant at a national level as a Civil War site for the many critical functions it provided for the Union war effort and for the role it played in the freedom of Kentucky's enslaved population. These functions or activities included: 1) African-American recruitment and training center; 2) African-American refugee camp; 3) fortified military supply depot and garrison; 4) supply center for three important military campaigns; 5) recruitment center for Central and Eastern Kentucky and East Tennessee troops; and 6) hospital…. As a Union depot within slave-holding, but Union-leaning, state, and as a recruitment and refugee camp for formerly enslaved African Americans, Camp Nelson represents a microcosm of the burning social and political issues that divided the nation and brought on the Civil War.[669]

The National Register nomination states that the district is eligible for listing under Criteria A and D and Criteria Consideration D. Criteria Consideration D is applicable because of the inclusion of Camp Nelson National Cemetery and Hall Cemetery in the district. The areas of significance are Military – Civil War, Archeology: Historic-Non-aboriginal, and Ethnic Heritage – Black.

668. W. Stephen McBride, "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Camp Nelson" (Washington, D.C.: National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, March 2001), sec. 7.1.
669. McBride, "National Register of Historic Places," sec. 8.11.

The NHL identifies the Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District as significant in the following areas:

- **NHL Criterion 1:** The district is significant in the areas of Civil War and African American history for its association with nationally significant events identified with and representative of broad patterns of American history and from which an understanding and appreciation of these patterns may be gained. NHL themes include: Shaping the Political Landscape – Military Institutions / Political Ideas and Activities and Creating Social Institutions and Movements – Reform Movements.
- **NHL Criterion 6:** The district is significant in the area of historical archeology, since the site has yielded and is likely to yield further information of major scientific importance affecting theories, concepts, and ideas about emancipation and the lives of escaped enslaved people, particularly the incredible persistence and survival of the African American women and children refuges who lived in these centers under extreme circumstances. The archeological resources at Camp Nelson have the potential to answer nationally significant questions about African American and White soldiers living conditions as well as the living conditions of civilian refugees.

Period of Significance

The National Register nomination lists the period of significance as June 1863 to June 1866. This period commences with the occupation of the site as a fortified US Army supply depot and encampment and ends with the date the US Army closed the depot and recruitment center at the site. The period includes the spring and summer of 1864, when the site became a recruitment and training center for African American troops. The NHL nomination identifies the same period of significance but does not list months (1863 to 1866). This cultural landscape report uses the NHL period of significance for the evaluation of contributing and noncontributing features.

Note: While not considered a contributing feature to the Camp Nelson cultural landscape, Fee Memorial Church is individually eligible for

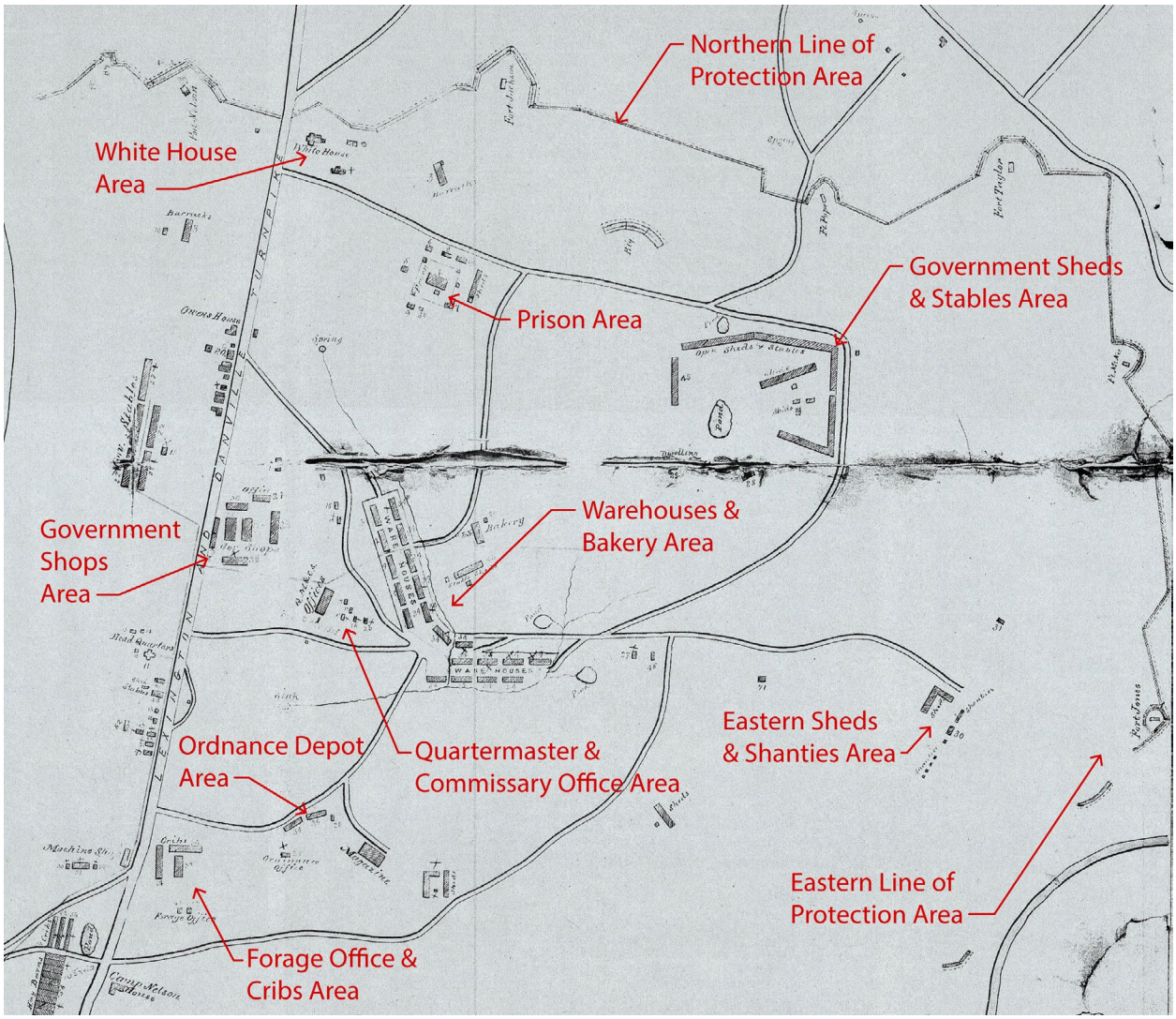


Figure 4.2. The analysis section uses these cluster area names to describe historic conditions within the national monument boundary (overlaid on 1866 Miller map). Not shown on this map is the Home for Colored Refugees area, which was located southwest of these areas (Source: Cartographic Section, National Archives, RG 92, 1.158-f).

listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion A for its association with the cultural and educational life of the African American community of Arial/Hall from 1912-1924. The resource meets Criteria Consideration A and is individually Eligible under Criterion C and an important intact example of vernacular African American worship places from that same period. The resource is significant at both the state and local levels from 1912-1924. The cultural landscape features associated with this period are included in the proposed NRHP boundary. See Appendix E for Kentucky Heritage Council correspondence regarding Determination of Eligibility.

Analysis of Landscape Characteristics

Introduction

To organize the analysis in this report, historic areas within the national monument boundary are described by the clusters of buildings or uses dating to the Civil War era (**Figure 4.2**).

Natural Systems and Features

Summary Analysis

Most of central Kentucky is located within the Bluegrass Section of the Interior Low Plateaus Province. Camp Nelson National Monument is in the rolling hills of the Inner Bluegrass region, which was formed by the weathering of Ordovician phosphatic limestone.[670] The resulting soils are moderately deep and well drained silt loam with a balanced pH suitable for agriculture and livestock grazing crops.[671]

The entire Camp Nelson site lies completely within the Kentucky River Basin. The Kentucky River flows 255 miles from the confluence of its three forks near Beattyville, Kentucky, to the Ohio River near Carrollton, Kentucky. Camp Nelson National Monument is located east and south of a sharp curve in the river.

These natural systems and features typical of Kentucky's Bluegrass Physiographic Province greatly informed the development of the Camp Nelson site. These natural systems and features remain clear and observable today. The location of the camp was selected based on its position on a high plateau between the Kentucky River on two sides and Hickman Creek. Both watercourses feature steep limestone cliffs known as the Kentucky River Palisades (**Figure 4.3**). The Kentucky River and Hickman Creek formed these steep cliffs by cutting through limestone layers after a Pleistocene ice age approximately 1.5 million years ago. These palisades provided natural defenses that protected the west, south, and east sides of the camp from attack. As a result, the US Army emphasized fort and entrenchment construction along the northern border of the camp. Work conducted by the US Army to establish this northern line of protection included the construction of high points at strategic locations to provide protection even where there was topographic variance. The construction of Fort Putnam is an example of this strategy.

The karst topography of the area meant that topographical variation existed throughout the areas of the camp that developed on the east side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike. Karst landscape features within Camp Nelson included springs, sinkholes, and caves, which produced low points in the landscape. The US Army strategically used these low areas for the storage of goods.

The hydrology of the site informed the location of certain features at Camp Nelson including areas for watering livestock, such as the Spring Reservoir. This spring drained south to a shallow sinkhole pond in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. Military maps recorded the locations of springs and ponds, emphasizing their importance to those occupying Camp Nelson (**Figure 4.4**). Waterworks pumped fresh water from the Kentucky River to the various residential areas and workshops at Camp Nelson. Historical documentation indicates that the main function of the water system was to provide fire suppression at the warehouses and water to the hospital.[672]

670. Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, *Web Soil Survey*, https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx. Accessed 02/01/2021.
671. Soil Survey Staff, *Web Soil Survey*.
672. Quoted in Sears, *Camp Nelson Kentucky*, 79-80.

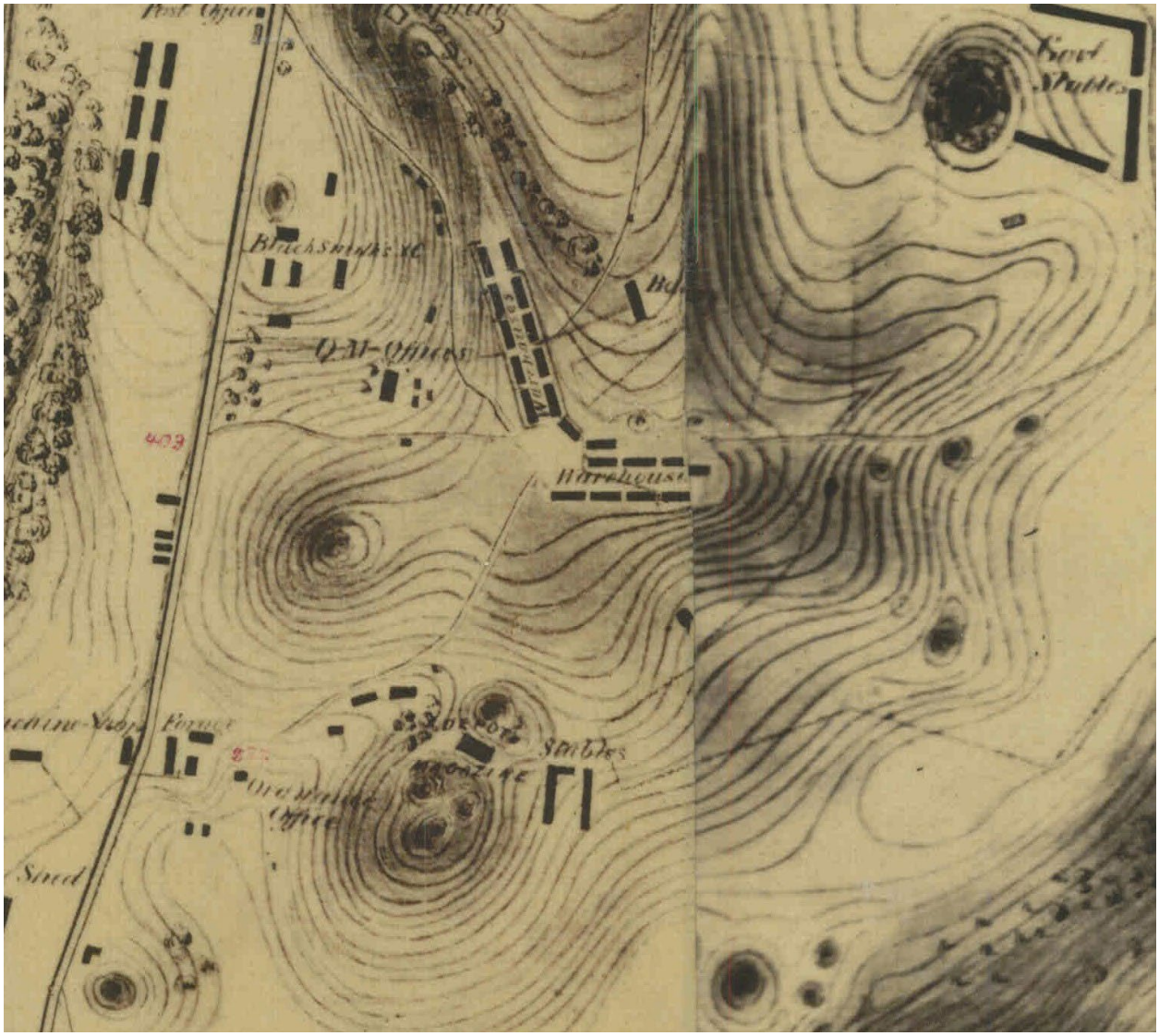


Figure 4.3. Portion of an 1864 map entitled "Camp Nelson and its Defences" by Sullivan showing Camp Nelson and the surrounding natural features and military features constructed to protect the camp (Source: National Archives, RG 77: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers).

The Inner Bluegrass Region is prime agricultural land, which allowed for farming on site, especially in the western portion of the camp where the Home for Colored Refugees was located.

Historic Conditions

The area in which Camp Nelson sat was surrounded on three sides by the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek. Both watercourses featured steep limestone palisades along their shores, providing a defensive advantage. The US Army constructed its defenses to complement these natural features, protecting the interior of the camp, supply depot, refugee and recruiting site. Work to develop these defenses began in 1863.

The karst geology of the site provided topographic relief, which served as a strategic advantage to the US Army. They selected a low point in the center of a large sinkhole to locate the warehouses in the camp, offering these buildings protection from enemy attack.

Features such as the Spring Reservoir were typical of the karst geologic conditions in the area. According to the Kentucky Geological Survey, "This spring flows almost year-round. The spring occurs at this level because of a thin clay layer that blocks water from trickling through fractures in the limestone bedrock. The water from the spring is supplied by rainwater that flows into some of the many sinkholes" located throughout the area. "This is one of several similar springs located at

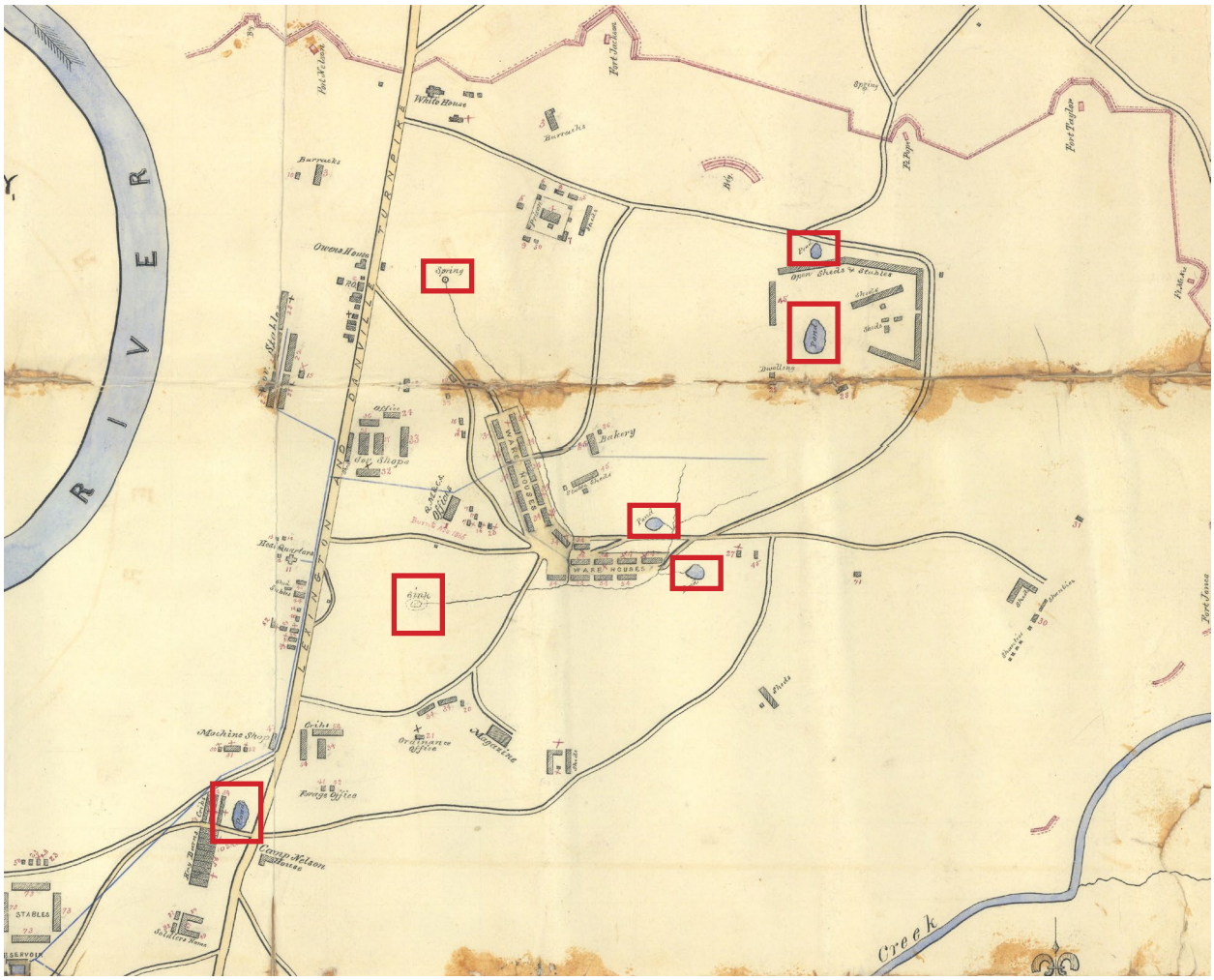


Figure 4.4. A portion of the 1866 Miller map with pond locations indicated. The recordation of these features on military maps highlights their importance to the US Army (Source: Cartographic Section, National Archives, RG 92, 1.158-f).

about this position on the hillside all around the warehouse valley to the south. The flow from these springs coalesces into a stream at the bottom of the valley, then returns underground into another series of sinkholes in the floor of the valley and emerges at a cave in Hickman Creek Valley to the southeast. The entire warehouse valley is essentially one big composite sinkhole."[673] The spring did not provide an adequate amount of freshwater for the people and animals who occupied the site, so the Army constructed a waterworks to supply the camp. The Kentucky River provided an important route for transportation of goods throughout the Civil War.

673. William Andrews, Douglas Curl, and Meg Smith, "Camp Nelson National Monument: A Geologic Story," Kentucky Geological Survey, 2020, https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/a998ea07070543e6a7acda28a219bd4e.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the US Army dismantled the camp and supply depot, much of the landscape occupied by Camp Nelson became agricultural land again, supported by the deep and well drained silt loam soils located in the area. Areas not suitable for farming, such as the steeper Eastern Line of Protection Character Area, were returned to woodland. The location of sinkholes, springs, and other karst-related features remained intact after the period of significance.

According to a 2013 climate study, the annual mean temperature at nearby Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Park mean annual temperature has increased a rate of 0.5 degrees Fahrenheit per decade. Recent decades "suggest increasing temperatures in winter and summer."[674] Annual

674. Nicholas Fisichelli, "Climate Change Trends for Planning at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park, Kentucky" (National Park Service Climate Change Response Program, June 3, 2013), 5.

precipitation shows "a statistically significantly increasing linear" upward trend of plus 0.4 inches per decade.[675]

Evaluation

Several natural features and systems as well as the US Army's responses to the natural resources at the site survive within the Camp Nelson landscape today. Overall, the climate has been relatively steady since the historic period, but future climate change and trends will likely affect cultural resources at the park.

The karst geology of the Inner Bluegrass region and the resulting topographic features were present during the period of significance and continue to be contributing features. These features include the limestone bedrock, springs, caves, and sinkholes located throughout the site.

The hydrology-related features present during the period of significance continue to be important natural features. The Spring Reservoir still exists at the site, reflecting the military use of the natural hydrology at the site to provide freshwater for the people and animals housed at Camp Nelson.

The palisade cliffs of the Kentucky River exist nearby and the cliff above Hickman Creek serves as the eastern border of the national monument. These natural landforms survive with a high degree of integrity and help to connect the military defensive system established by the US Army to the naturally defensible position at the confluence of Hickman Creek and the Kentucky River.

The US Army manipulated the site's topography to construct the northern line of protection. Many of the resulting features still exist at the site. (See Topography section for more detail).

Features

- Humid subtropical climate
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Bluegrass Physiographic Region and Inner Bluegrass Ecoregion
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Kentucky River and Hickman Creek Watersheds and Hydrology
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Palisade cliffs
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Karst geography including springs, sinkholes, and sinkhole ponds
    - Contribution status: Contributing

675. Fisichelli, "Climate Change Trends for Planning at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park, Kentucky," 5.

Topography

Summary Analysis

Topography was one of the factors influencing the site development at Camp Nelson during the historic period. The site was chosen for its strategic position in a narrow passage between the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek. Cliffs along the river and creek banks restricted the ability of troops to move through the area and provided a strategic advantage to the US Army. US Army engineers used the topography to strategically locate forts and entrenchments on the north and east sides of the site. The underlying karst geology is responsible for many of the natural topographical changes at the site, with sinkholes and springs distributed throughout. The US Army altered the topography at the site where it was necessary for military protection. Many of these features, including earthwork and stone forts and infantry entrenchments, remain at the site.

Visitor Center Character Area

Historic Condition

Documentation of topographic conditions in the Visitor Center Character Area during the Civil War era include maps and one historic photograph. The historic photograph shows the grading associated with the historic road located just south of the White House (**Figure 4.5**). This roadbed appears to be evident at the site today (**Figure 4.6**). The 1864 Simpson map shows that there was a double sink hole located east of the White House (**Figure 4.7**).

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

The Visitor Center Character Area is relatively flat, with slopes to the southwest. There is grading associated with buildings in this zone including drainage away from the Visitor Center and the Barracks. Workers constructing the Visitor Center parking lot in the 1990s also provided positive drainage away from this feature. The parking lot is graded to pitch toward the south side of the lot.



Figure 4.5. Historic photograph of the White House, showing grading associated with the road located just south of the building (Source: 77pa102, Camp Nelson Photographic Collection, 1864, University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center).



Figure 4.6. 2021 photograph of the White House, showing grading associated with the road located just south of the building (white line added for emphasis) (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

There are no curbs and gutters to direct the water in the lot. It runs off into the grassy area located between the parking lot and the entry road. The grading for a former driveway south of the White House is legible (**Figure 4.6**). There are two sink holes located between the White House and the barracks. A new sinkhole developed during the course of this CLR project approximately fifty feet north of the White House. NPS staff first observed the sinkhole in May 2022. In June 2022, it measured two feet deep and impacts an area measuring approximately six feet by ten feet. The NPS requested examination of the sinkhole by a geologist from Eastern Kentucky University, who determined that the sinkhole is "active." The NPS will continue to monitor its growth.

At some point, road crews graded the area east of Danville Loop 2 Road (old US 27/Lexington-Danville Turnpike), creating a drainage ditch parallel to the road, right at the national monument boundary. There is an eight- to twelve-inch-deep swale located between the road and the existing stone wall.

Evaluation

As noted, there are topographic features that date to the Civil War era located in the Visitor Center Character Area. These include the grading associated with a historic road running south of the White House and two sink holes located east of the White House.

Other topographic features that postdate the period of significance include the grading associated with the barracks, Visitor Center, and parking lot areas and the swale located east of Danville Loop 2 Road.

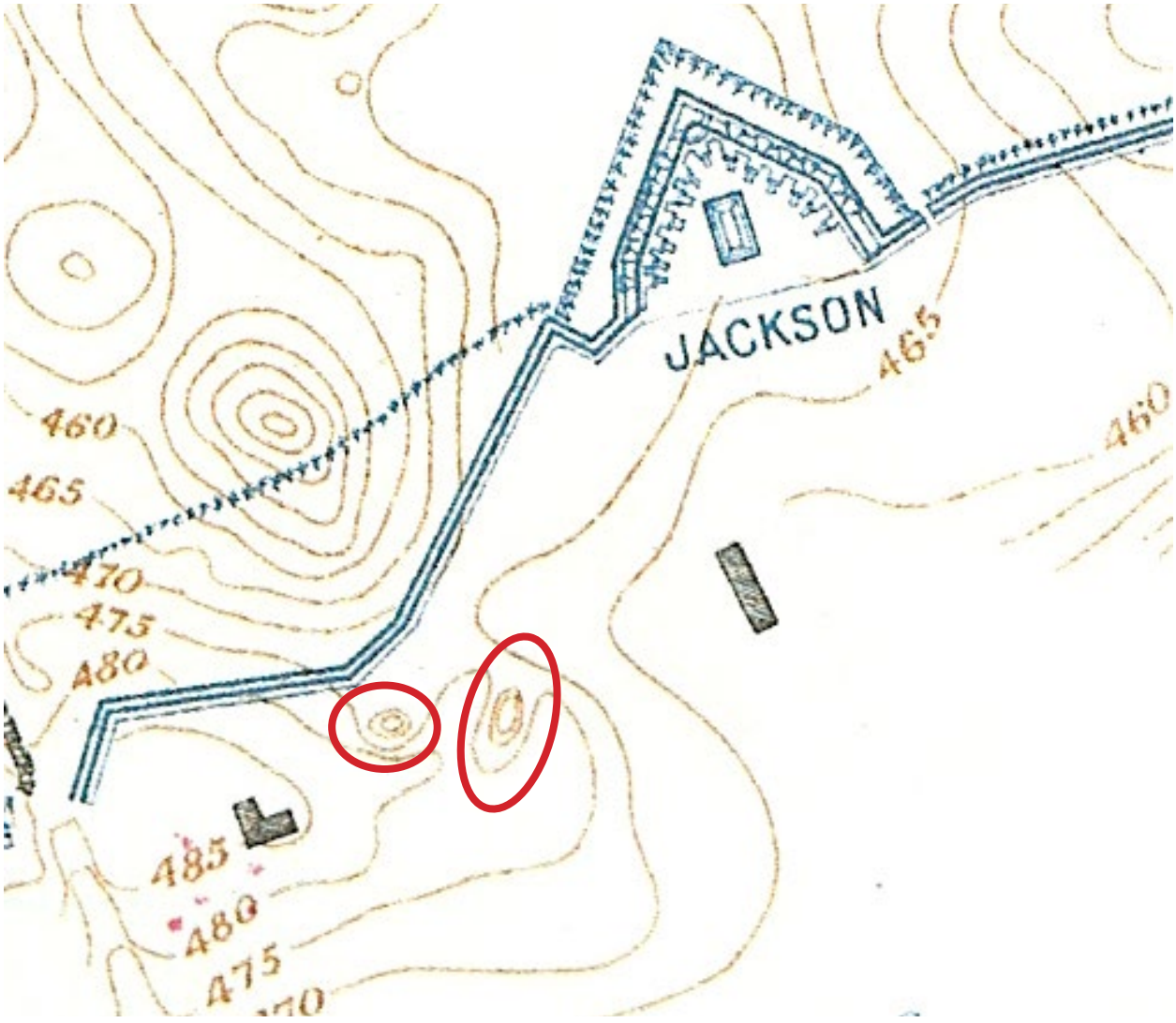


Figure 4.7. Enlargement of a portion of an 1864 map showing two sinkholes (indicated) east of the White House and south of the infantry entrenchment lines (Source: ULPA 1999.71, University of Louisville Photographic Archives, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY).

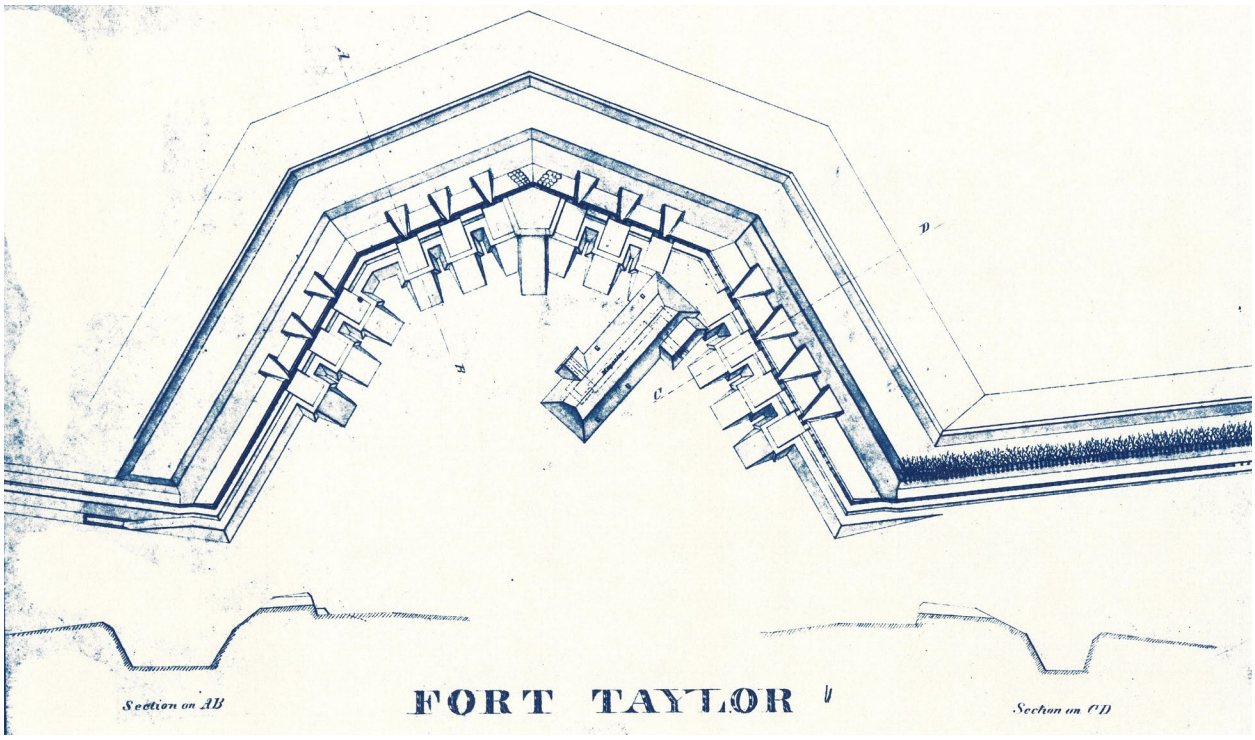


Figure 4.8. 1864 engineering drawing of Fort Taylor showing sections (below fort plan), demonstrating grading required to construction the fortification (Source: National Archives, RG 77, 1.61).

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

The US Army constructed a line of forts and infantry entrenchments at the north side of Camp Nelson to complete the defensible area for the supply depot, camp, and recruitment center. Because of the topography of the site, the most logical direction of attack was along the northern periphery of the camp. It was along this area, on the north and northeast sides of the camp, that the Army constructed the line of defenses to defend Camp Nelson. This line is often referred to in the records and history of Camp Nelson as the "Northern Line of Fortifications" or "Northern Line of Protection." This line of artillery trenches stretched 8,805 feet in length from the cliffs overlooking the Kentucky River, northwest of the camp, to the edge of the plateau overlooking Hickman Creek valley, east of the camp. In 1864, assistant US engineer John R. Gilliss noted that the northern line of protection consisted of "an irregular flat ridge, in front of the large sink containing the depot buildings. . . the ground for 1,000 yards to the front is undulating. . .excepting scattered sink holes."[676]

Forts in this character area included Forts Jackson, Putnam, Pope, Taylor, and McKee. The infantry entrenchments connected all but Fort Putnam, which was constructed at a high point to provide additional coverage for Forts Jackson and Pope. Fort Putnam was set to the rear (south) of the line of gun pits and the other forts. The US Army constructed all of these earthworks by backfilling soil against interior retaining structures composed of wooden planks or stones (Figure 4.8). The fortifications at Camp Nelson included a line of entrenchment between the forts known as gun pits or artillery trenches, in which soldiers could find protection. The larger forts were constructed to be approximately 280 to 340 feet across. Typically, infantry entrenchments were two feet deep and ten feet wide. The wall in front, or breastwork, was a little over four feet tall and four feet thick. Grading also included the mounding of soil over a powder magazine. A combination of impressed enslaved

676. Gilliss (1864) quoted in W. Stephen McBride, Kim McBride, and J. David McBride, "Archaeology and Reconstruction of Fort Putnam, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park, Jessamine County, Kentucky," in *From These Honored Dead: Historical Archaeology of the American Civil War* (Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2014), 194.

men and prisoners performed the grading work to construct the forts defending Camp Nelson. (Individual forts are described in the Buildings and Structures section.)

Natural topographic features in the area near the northern line of protection included two large sinkholes. One was located northwest of Fort Pope. Another was a sinkhole pond located near the sheds and stables area located in the southwestern portion of the character area.

There are roads shown on historic maps of Camp Nelson, and there was likely grading associated with the construction of these features. However, this historic topographic condition is undocumented.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the US Army departed from Camp Nelson, the properties reverted to agricultural use, meaning that many of the constructed topographic features were subjected to plowing or clearing for cultivation. In the 1950s or 1960s the owners of the property bulldozed portions of Forts Pope and Taylor and completely destroyed the above ground portions of Fort Putnam. In 2001, county staff and volunteers reconstructed Fort Putnam based on findings from an archeological study by Dr. W. Stephen McBride of the fort ruins.

The Northern Line of Protection Character Area has relatively flat topography in the northern portion of the area and moderate slopes toward the southern edge of the area. Fort Jackson's embankments range from five to eight feet high; Fort Pope has embankments ranging from one to three feet tall; Fort Taylor's embankments range in height from one to three feet. The interior walls of the reconstructed Fort Putnam are approximately six feet high. The infantry entrenchments are between six and twenty-four inches deep between Fort Jones and Fort McKee. The entrenchments are between two to three feet deep west of Fort Jackson.

Evaluation

As noted, several topographic features survive within the Northern Line of Protection Character Area today. These include Forts Jackson, Pope, Taylor, and McKee and the infantry entrenchments. The sinkhole located northwest of Fort Pope still exists and the sinkhole pond in the former sheds and stables area is still located at the site. These two natural landforms survive with a high degree of integrity and help connect the military defensive system established by the US Army to the naturally defensible position between the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

The Eastern Line of Protection Character Area was a sloped area located above the palisade rising above Hickman Creek. Engineer John R. Gilliss described Fort Jones in 1864, its topographic features, and the features surrounding it (**Figure 4.9**),

> Fort Jones forms the right flank of the line, and command bridge over Hickman Creek, as well as roads and fords in the vicinity. It being of great importance to hold this position, and the hills across Hickman Creek looking down into it, the parapet was made 10 feet high inside, and the embrasures covered over as shown in plan. The site sloped toward the enemy. To diminish earthwork in defiling an offset of 4 feet was made in the level of the crestline and a traverse built across the fort; in this the magazine was put, and a postern built, connecting upper and lower parts of the fort. This serves also as a bomb proof. The work is surrounded by a brush frise in scarp, a good ditch and glacis; a banquette in the ditch increases the amount of infantry fire it can employ.[677]

The US Army cut the infantry entrenchment running between Fort McKee and Fort Jones "into bedrock and the excavated rock [was] used to construct the breastwork."[678] Gilliss stated, "the infantry entrenchment consists of a breastwork four feet thick, four feet three inches high, with

677. John R. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 1864, reproduced in *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies,* Series I, Vol. 39, Part 3 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1892), 773.

678. W. Stephen McBride, J. David McBride, and Kim A. McBride, "Report of the Archaeological Investigations at Fort Jones, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park," Kentucky Archaeological Survey Report (Nicholasville, KY: University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology Kentucky Heritage Council, January 2006), 21.

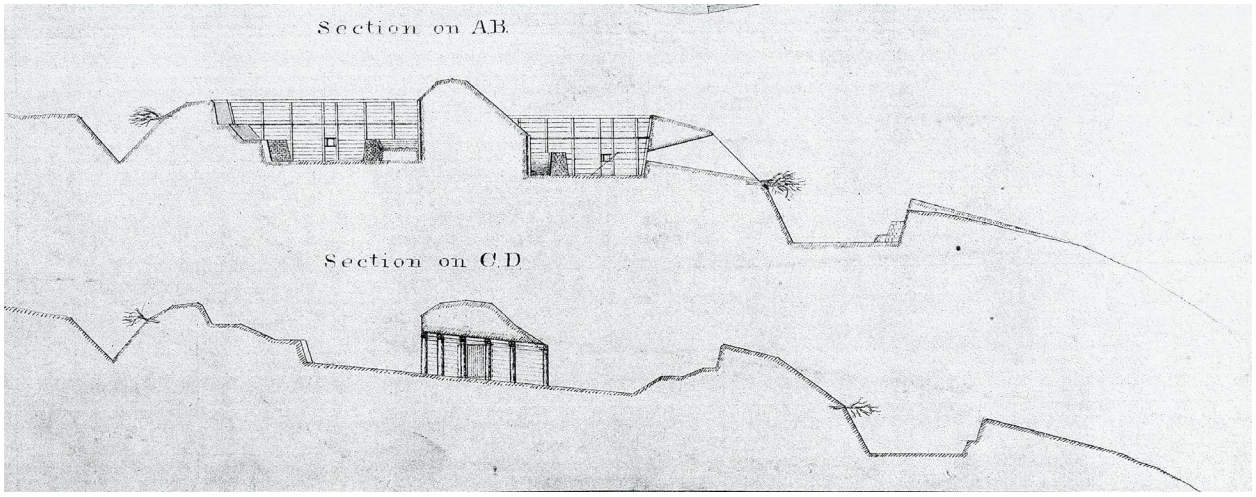


Figure 4.9. Engineering drawings showing topography of Fort Jones, 1864 (Source: National Archives, RG 77, 1.61).

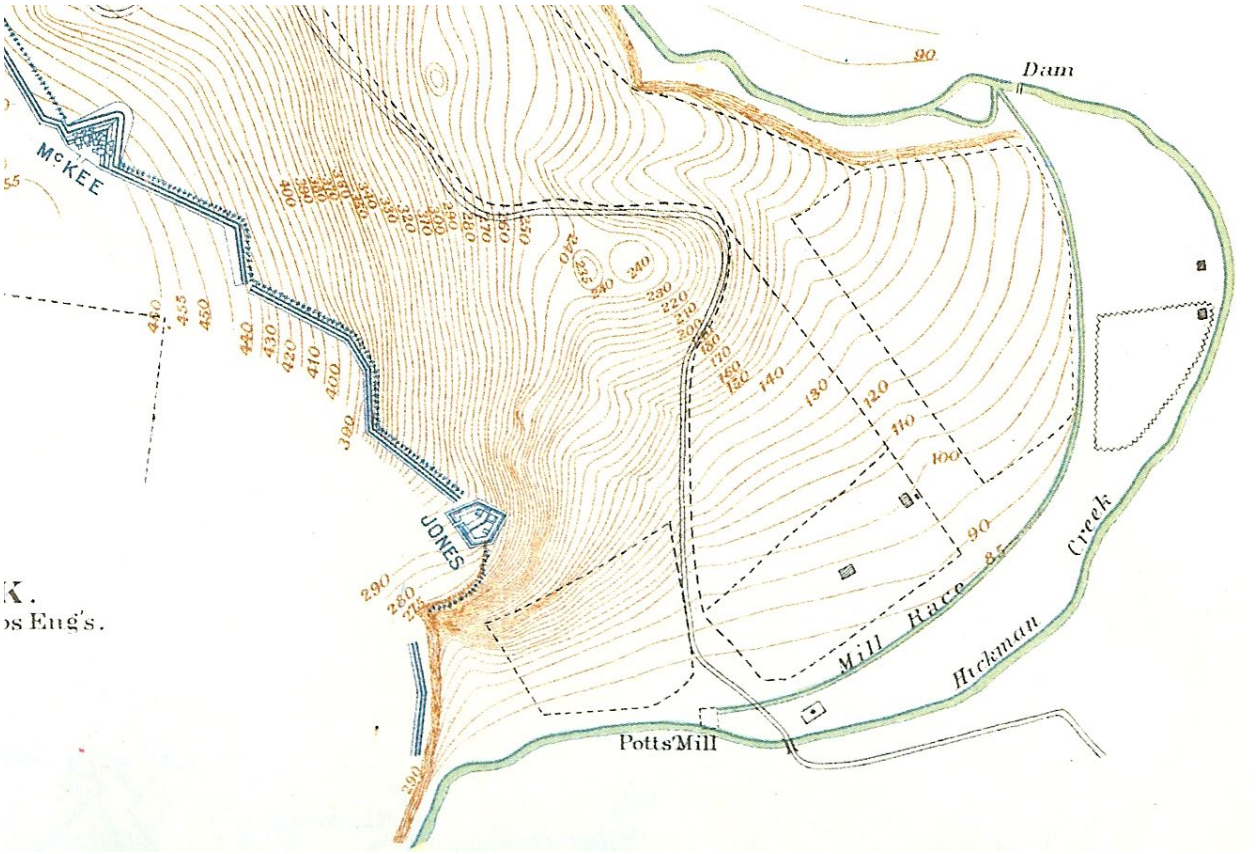


Figure 4.10. A portion of an 1864 map showing the topographic conditions in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area near the infantry entrenchments, Fort Jones, and the North Stone Wall (Source: ULPA 1999.71, University of Louisville Photographic Archives, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY).

a trench in its rear, two feet deep and ten feet broad."[679]

An 1864 map of the defenses at Camp Nelson shows that the slope from Fort McKee to Fort Jones was steeper than other areas at the military site, with a sheer cliff depicted below the North Stone Wall (the South Stone Wall is not depicted on this map) (**Figure 4.10**).

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

Today, the walls of Fort Jones are well preserved on the east, south, and west sides. The earthwork is approximately eight feet tall with a thirty-six-inch-deep embankment. The infantry entrenchment north and west of Fort Jones ranges in depth, but it is over three feet deep in some locations and breastwork is still visible. In the 1990s, logging crews demolished a portion of Fort Jones, but most of this topographic feature remains intact. The grading for the logging road remains apparent, with portions of the route possibly following a historic route (see Circulation). The majority of the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area slopes down toward the east, with slopes consistently falling toward Hickman Creek. At the palisade on Hickman Creek's west bank, there is a sharp drop in elevation.

Evaluation

As noted, several topographic features survive within the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area today. These include Fort Jones and the infantry entrenchment running between Fort McKee and Fort Jones. Most agricultural grading occurred outside of this character area. The slope downhill along the infantry entrenchment toward Hickman Creek survives with a high degree of integrity.

679. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 773.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Historic Condition

Topography in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area influenced the location of building and structures features in the area during the Civil War era. The US Army chose a low spot "in the hollows and depressions of the surface of the camp" for their location.[680] Topographic maps and historic photographs reflect this condition (**Figure 4.11**, **Figure 4.12**). Topography also played a part in the selection of a site for the ordnance depot area Powder Magazine, which was constructed into a hill in the southern portion of the character area (**Figure 4.11**). The area included several sink holes including a large, wooded sinkhole just outside the southern boundary of the character area and the national monument. Grading associated with several roads in the character area likely existed during the historic period, but the topographic condition is not recorded for all of the roads shown on Civil War era mapping. One historic photograph shows the grading for the road that traveled east-west from Lexington-Danville Turnpike to the warehouses (**Figure 4.13**).

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, the land returned to agricultural use. Many of the topographic features dating to the Civil War period were lost to cultivation practices such as plowing and natural processes such as erosion. At some point during the twentieth century, a property owner began to quarry limestone out of an area in the center of the character area, creating a depression, which eventually became filled with water. Former owner Richard Brumfield was uncertain of the date of operation for the quarry, but he stated that he filled in a portion of the excavated area sometime prior to 2001.[681] The quarry is not apparent on a 1937 aerial image. It appears that the depression created by the quarry had merged with an adjacent pond located in the former warehouses area by 1950. By 1956, it appears that Mr. Brumfield had filled in the quarry, creating a smaller pond. Archeological investigations confirmed that an anomaly in topography in the northern part of the character area is the Bakery Oven remnant, dating to the

680. Theron E. Hall, "Report of Inspection of Q. M. Dept. at Camp Nelson, Ky. Under Control of Capt T. E. Hall, A.Q.M.," June 23, 1864 reprinted in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 80.

681. W. Stephen McBride to Madie Fischetti, "Date of Quarry," August 19, 2021.



Figure 4.11. Annotated portion of an 1864 map showing the topographic conditions in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. The warehouses are outlined in blue. The Powder Magazine remnant is indicated with a red arrow (Source: National Archives, RG 77: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers).

period of significance. Likewise, archeological investigations have confirmed the location of the remnant Powder Magazine, located in the southern part of the character area, which is marked by a topographic irregularity. The large sinkhole on an adjacent parcel just outside the national monument boundary still exists, and it is heavily wooded. Roads aligning with those on Civil War era maps still exist at the site, and grading associated with their construction is apparent (**Figure 4.14**).

Evaluation

The overall topography of the warehouse industrial area is reflective of the period of significance. Surviving features include grading associated with two roads shown on Civil War era maps and in historic photographs, a mound indicating the location of the Bakery Oven, a mound indicating the location of the Powder Magazine, a large sinkhole located just outside the southern boundary of the character area and the national monument, and the large sinkhole that creates a low spot in which the warehouses were located.

The topography has changed in some areas including the addition of a quarry in the center of the character area, which landowners later partially filled.

Maintenance Character Area

Historic Condition

Historic maps show that there was a road that ran through the northern part of the Maintenance Character Area during the historic period.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

During the development of the site in the 1970s, the Glass family constructed a paved driveway on the north side of the property. This driveway may follow the Civil War era road alignment, but this is unconfirmed. In order to construct the house, the Glass family graded the site to include a basement level, which likely required some excavation and removal of fill from the site. The family constructed a stone retaining wall to create a flat parking lot east



Figure 4.12. View facing north toward the warehouses, which were located at a low point at the site (blue arrow). The White House is indicated at one of the high points at the site (red arrow), 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

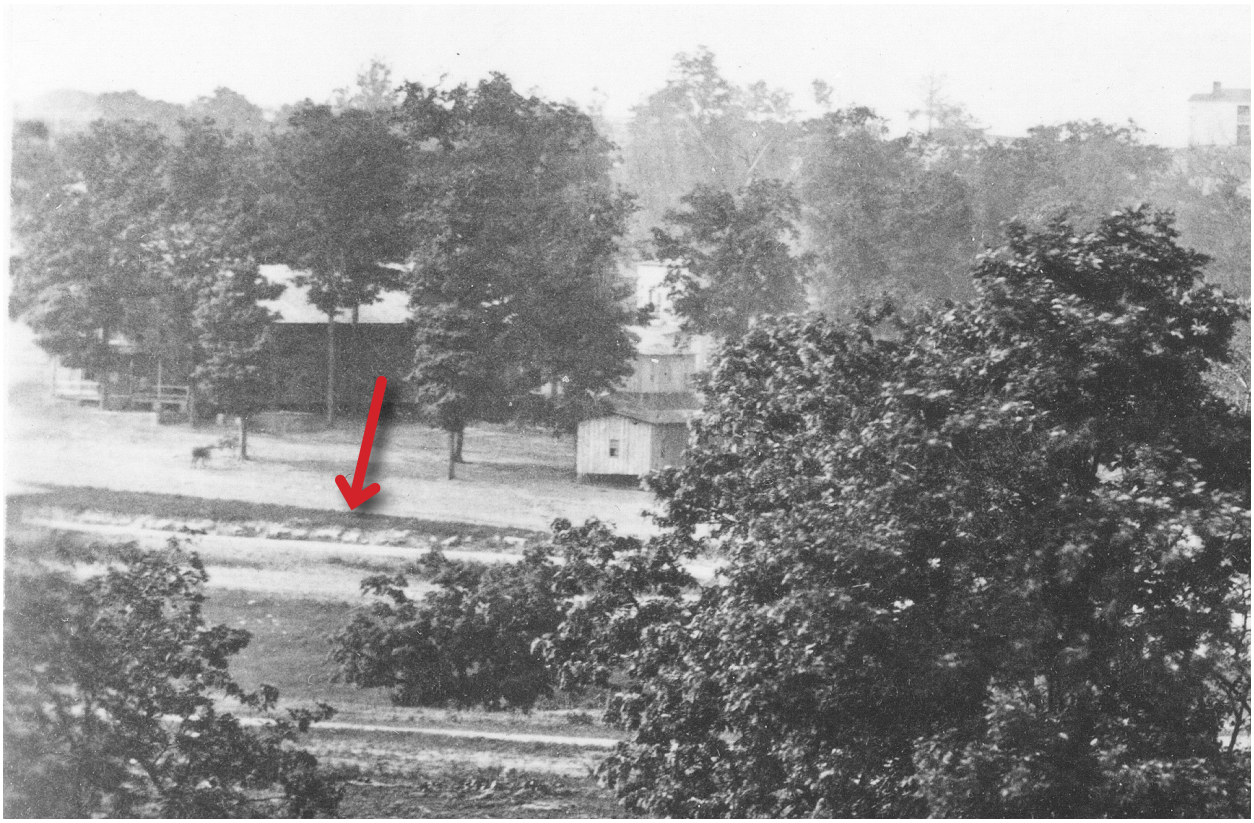


Figure 4.13. Enlarged area of a view in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area showing grading associated with a road, indicated with red arrow, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 4.14. Grading from a Civil War era road is apparent in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

of the house and to create an entry to the basement level. These conditions remain at the site.

Evaluation

As stated, there are no known topographic features in the Maintenance Character Area dating to the period of significance. There may be remnant grading associated with the driveway located in the northern part of the character area, but topographic conditions for this road are undocumented for the historic period.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Historic Condition

During the historic period, the Refugee Ward Character Area was located on a hill above the Kentucky River. Historic mapping shows that there was a natural swale located in the northeastern portion of the character area, which drained toward the Kentucky River, drawn as a stream outside the character area. Since there were no recorded buildings or structures located in this area during the Civil War era, it is likely that the US Army and the occupants of the site did not manipulate the natural topography.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

The exact date of construction of a parsonage or manse associated with the Fee Memorial Institute is unknown, but it likely dated to around the turn of the twentieth century. Builders constructed the parsonage/manse on a stacked stone foundation, likely resulting in minimal site grading associated with construction. The Fee Memorial Institute funded the construction of Fee Memorial Church in 1912. Builders constructed the church on a poured concrete foundation, which meant that the site largely retained the natural grade falling from Church Street toward the north.

In 1998, a local Eagle Scout constructed an amphitheater at the low point of the character area. Existing conditions appear to reveal there was not a great deal of grading required for construction and the structure took advantage of existing conditions, sloping toward the north and the stage area.

Evaluation

As stated, there were no known topographic features located in this character area during the period of significance. The construction of Fee Memorial Church and the parsonage/manse building did not require much site grading, meaning there were few changes to the natural topography at the site, which slopes from Hall Road and Church Street north into a natural swale and toward the Kentucky River. The Eagle Scout amphitheater did not require extensive grading as evidenced by existing site topography.

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- Grading for road south of White House
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Two sinkholes located east of White House
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Grading associated with non-historic building sites
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Grading associated with parking lot
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Swale located east of Danville Loop 2 Road
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Fort Jackson
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Fort Pope
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Fort Putnam (reconstructed)
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Fort Taylor
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Fort McKee
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Remnants of infantry entrenchments
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Sinkhole northwest of Fort Pope
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Sinkhole pond at former government sheds and stables area
  - Contribution status: Contributing

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- Fort Jones
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- North Stone Wall
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- South Stone Wall
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Infantry entrenchments between Fort McKee and Fort Jones
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Slope from west to east toward Hickman Creek
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Palisade at Hickman Creek
  - Contribution status: Contributing

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- Large sinkhole / low point where warehouses were located
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Bakery Oven mound
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Powder Magazine mound
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Civil War era road grading for two roads
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Quarry
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Maintenance Character Area

- Grading associated with the Facilities and Maintenance Office
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Stone retaining wall on west side of the Facilities and Maintenance Office
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Grading associated with construction of Fee Memorial Church
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Natural grade falling from Church Street toward the north
  - Contribution status: Contributing

Spatial Organization

Summary Analysis

The spatial organization associated with Camp Nelson National Monument today largely reflects the post-historic period because the US Army removed most of the built features from the site after the Civil War. Despite the lack of buildings dating to the period of significance, however, the landforms, fences, and vegetation in all of the character areas do provide organization to the site. For the most part, either tree or fence lines divide the character areas from each other, creating a sense of distinct spaces. The Refugee Ward Character Area does not relate spatially to the other five character areas.

Visitor Center Character Area

Historic Condition

During the Civil War period, this character area included several buildings and some vegetation. When the US Army occupied the site, they used the Perry's house and its outbuildings as quarters for officers. There was a cluster of buildings shown on historic maps in this area, but their use is unknown. The northern line of protection infantry entrenchments and forts provided defense for the area. To the south, the area was defined by a road, which ran from Lexington-Danville Turnpike to the eastern/interior of the site. The Lexington-Danville Turnpike was the western border. Historic photographs do not reveal the condition of the area between the White House and Lexington-Danville Turnpike, but it appears that there were large overstory trees west of the house, which likely defined the overhead plane in this area.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

When the US Army left Camp Nelson, they removed all military buildings from the site. The Perry family moved back to the White House, meaning that there were likely additional structures and/or buildings constructed near the house to facilitate residential use. Research did not reveal aerial photography for this area before 1950. By 1950, the family had constructed seven additional outbuildings to the west of the White House of varying size and a stone wall at old US 27 (now Danville Loop 2 Road), separating the western edge of the character area from the road. There were large canopy trees between the house and Lexington-Danville Turnpike, some located just west of the White House, potentially creating an enclosed overhead plane in this area. There were other large trees in the area west of the house, but the area east of the house had only a few scattered trees. It appears that there was a fence line located near the southern and eastern borders of the character area. The storage building existed by 1983. By the early-1990s, there were fewer buildings and trees in the character area. Jessamine County Fiscal Court constructed the Visitor Center in 2003 and the Barracks building in 2008 creating the existing grouping of four buildings that define the spatial organization of the Visitor Center Character Area today.

The spatial organization of the Visitor Center area is defined by vehicular and pedestrian circulation, buildings, and vegetation. Danville Loop 2 Road and the stone wall define the western edge and the visitor entry point to this area. The White House, storage building, and Visitor Center surround three sides of the visitor parking lot. The Barracks building has a relationship to the Visitor Center that is defined by pedestrian circulation, but the two buildings are not on the same axis. The two sinkholes located east of the White House continue to define the northern edge of the character area. Large canopy trees define the overhead plane of the area between the White House and Danville Loop 2 Road, but the overhead plane is open in other parts of the character area.

Evaluation

Within the Visitor Center Character Area, spatial organization differs somewhat from the historic period. The area is currently characterized by a group of buildings, most of which post-date the historic period, oriented in different directions surrounding the visitor parking lot, which is also a non-historic feature. The stone wall, which post-dates the historic period, continues to separate the western edge of the character area from Danville Loop 2 Road. The White House and the sink holes are the only features dating to the period of significance in this character area, meaning that the spatial patterns present during the Civil War era are not apparent.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

During the Civil War, the US Army constructed a line of infantry entrenchments and forts, which stretched from a bend in the Kentucky River to the palisades of Hickman Creek, located to the east. These earthwork entrenchments and forts defined the northern edge of the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. According to historical reports, the US Army cleared all trees for fifteen hundred yards north of these defenses.[682] Records show that the US Army did not clear the wooded area east of Fort McKee, "to mask the line from the hills across Hickman [Creek]" meaning that the east edge of the character area was likely tree lined as it is today.[683] Topographic features separated the Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial character areas. The underlying karst geology created a low point, visually separating these two areas. The Lexington-Danville Turnpike defined the western edge of the character area. Nodes of use within the character area created spatially distinct zones, including the sheds and stables and corral area, defined by its multiple buildings and many fence lines; the prison area defined by buildings and a walled enclosure; and the Spring Reservoir, defined by topography and vegetation.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

The US Army removed the buildings and fences associated with military occupation of Camp Nelson after the Civil War. They left the forts and infantry entrenchments intact. Agricultural use returned to this area, which necessitated the construction of new building clusters and fence lines. New vegetation, mostly associated with sinkholes and fence lines, became established at the site.

By 1937, aerial photography shows that the southern border of the character area was defined by a fence line, which ran east to west. The image reveals that vegetation was beginning to establish along this fence line. The owners subdivided the area into several different fields, most surrounded by fences. (Aerial photography does not include the northern portion of the character area). By 1950, there was a fence line along the northern

682. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 773.
683. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 773.

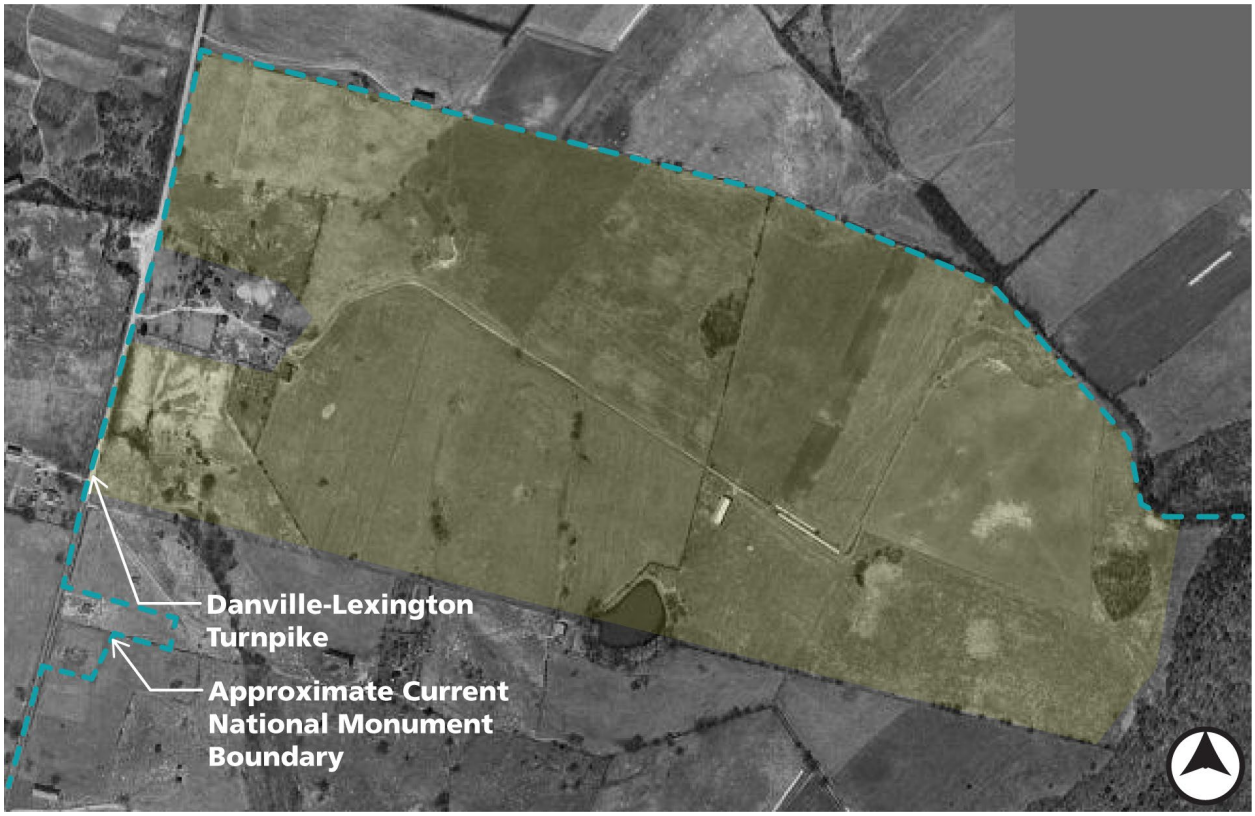


Figure 4.15. Annotated 1950 aerial photograph with the Northern Line of Protection Character Area highlighted (yellow) and approximate national monument boundary noted. The boundaries of and within the character area are defined by fence lines, most with trees growing along them. Interior fence lines subdivide interior field areas (Source: Historicaerials.com).

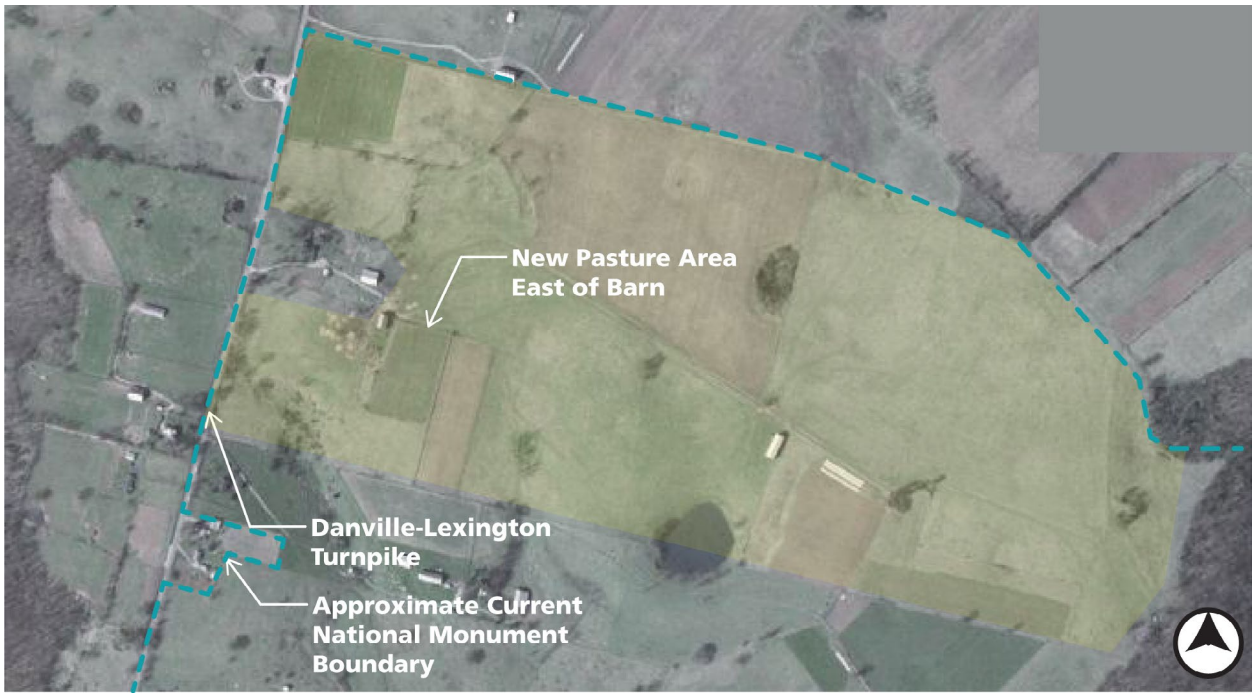


Figure 4.16. Annotated 1983 aerial photograph with the Northern Line of Protection Character Area highlighted (yellow) and approximate national monument boundary noted. The boundaries within and along the southern and northern borders of the character area are defined by fence lines, most with trees growing along them. Interior fence lines subdivide interior field areas. By 1983, there is a new pasture located east of an agricultural building located in the western portion of the site (Source: Historicaerials.com).

border of the character area as well, located north of the line of forts and infantry entrenchments (**Figure 4.15**). By the 1980s, fence lines continued to define the spatial organization of this character area. A new pasture area, just east of a large barn, was located in the western portion of the site and defined by a fence line with some vegetation growing along it (**Figure 4.16**). By 1998, aerial imagery shows that the trees along this fence line had grown significantly.

When Jessamine County Fiscal Court acquired the property, they removed many of the interior fences, but they kept the fence lines along the northern and southern property borders. Remnant vegetation revealed the previous fence locations including the "new pasture" area shown in the 1983 aerial image. These trees remain at the site near the prison area. Jessamine County installed a snake rail fence between 2006 and 2008 that runs from the southern border fence, north to the east edge of the prison area along the "new pasture" tree line, across the Fort Trail along the west side of Cemetery #1 and east of Fort Jackson to the norther property boundary. This snake rail fence is a spatial boundary between the front- and backcountry areas of the park. The spatial configuration of the Northern Line of Protection Character Area has landforms and topography that allow for expansive views in all directions, with the wood line enclosing the area to the east. Clusters of agricultural and residential buildings are visible to the north, but besides the fence line, these areas are fairly open. Similarly, toward the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, views extend toward Camp Nelson National Cemetery, which is sited slightly above this character area in elevation. Danville Loop 2 Road and US 27 provide a visual boundary on the western portion of the character area, though some of the agricultural areas on the west side of the road provide more expansive views and a sense of continuity in use across the highway.

Evaluation

Within the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, spatial organization is characterized by a large expanse of broad open space defined by the remaining fort and entrenchment features, fence lines, and vegetation. The forts and entrenchments date to the period of significance, but the small-scale and features post-date the Civil War period. The vegetation post-dates the period of significance, but during the Civil War, there was a wooded area east of Fort McKee, a condition consistent with existing conditions. Later additions that have impacted patterns of spatial organization

include fence line vegetation. With the exception of vegetation around the large sinkhole pond located on the southern edge of the character area, these features do not contribute to the historic setting of Camp Nelson.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

During the US Army's occupation of the site, the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area was strategically set up on "the edge of a cliff . . . to sweep the approach to the forts and the roads and ford near [the] bridge over the creek."[684] Instead of fully timbering the area as the US Army had in other parts of the site, they left this area wooded "to mask the line from the hills across Hickman [Creek]."[685] The area had a steep east-facing slope descending from the wooded edge toward Hickman Creek.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, agricultural use of the property began again, but due to the steep topography in this area, property owners left this area uncultivated. In the 1990s, the property owners cut much of the larger timber in the area. Successional forest has since grown up in the character area. Views within the character area are not expansive. At the North Stone Wall, there is an overlook, which offers an expansive view across agricultural properties located across Hickman Creek.

Evaluation

During the period of significance the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area was a wooded east-facing slope located on a cliff above Hickman Creek. Despite being logged in the 1990s, the area continues to be a wooded slope located high above the palisades on the west side Hickman Creek.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Historic Condition

During the period of significance, the warehouse industrial area was characterized by clusters of buildings situated in a varied topographical area. The western boundary of the character area was defined by Lexington-Danville Turnpike, the northern boundary of the character area was defined by a south-facing slope moving up toward the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, and the eastern boundary was defined by a wood line. Historic photographs and maps do not reveal features defining the spatial organization of the southern boundary of this character area. Interior circulation provided separation from the groups of buildings within the character area. A road led from the northern corner of the character area diagonally across and downhill to the warehouses, which were located in a low point at the site. These buildings were arranged in an L shape, following the valley formed by a stream, which originated at the Spring Reservoir located to the north. The road leading to the warehouses joined another road which traveled east-west from Lexington-Danville Turnpike to the warehouses area. The government shops, Quartermaster and Commissary office, and mess houses were located in the triangular-shaped area created by these two roads. In the southern portion of the character area, there was a group of buildings and an earthwork associated with the ordnance depot area, including the Powder Magazine, which the US Army constructed into a north-facing slope of a knoll located in this area. There was one cluster of buildings and "shanties" located on the eastern portion of the site. These may have been arranged along the wood line defining the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area.

Historic photographs show that there were scattered large trees throughout the character area. The US Army left a group of trees on the north side of the warehouse area, perhaps to shield these buildings from enemy view (**Figure 4.12**).

A feature pre-dating the Civil War era at the site was the Griffing Cemetery, located in the central-north portion of the character area. The feature was not noted on military maps, and it is not known how the cemetery was spatially defined during the period of significance.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

The US Army removed the buildings and structures located at Camp Nelson at the end of the Civil War. The War Department designated Graveyard #2, located south of the existing national monument boundary, a National Cemetery in 1866. They constructed a four-foot-tall limestone wall around the cemetery in 1867 to enclose the eight-acre site.

684. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 773.
685. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 773.

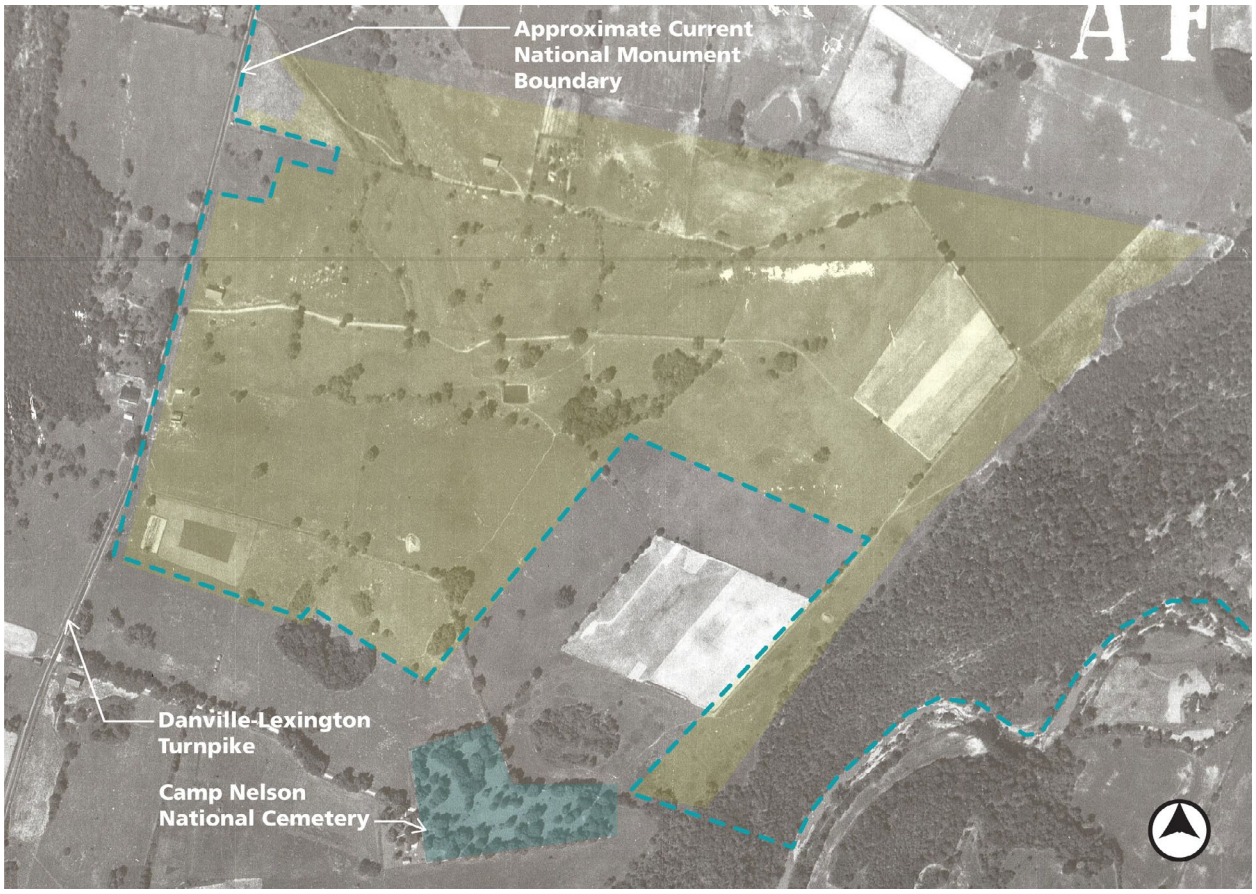


Figure 4.17. Annotated 1937 aerial showing the Warehouse Industrial Character Area highlighted (yellow) and approximate national monument boundary noted (Source: Aerial photograph duplicated from National Archives Files, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, Courtesy of Stephen McBride).

Owners resumed agricultural use of the property after the period of significance. The majority of this character area became fields for either livestock or crops. The result was a subdivision of the area with fence lines. Owners also constructed new agricultural buildings, including a cluster of barns in the center of the property and several residential and agricultural buildings on Lexington-Danville Turnpike.

A 1937 aerial photograph reveals that there was a fence line along the northern border of the character area, and that the Glass family had constructed a barn near what was the warehouse area. In the southern zone of the character area, there was a fence line running roughly east-west, which turned toward the south/south-east toward Camp Nelson National Cemetery (**Figure 4.17**). The aerial photograph shows that the site was divided into three main areas, defined by interior circulation. Fields of varying uses are discernible on the aerial photograph, but it is hard to determine if there were fences surrounding all of the fields. It appears that the Glass family cleared much of the vegetation located north of the warehouse area by this period. The Glass family was using a farm road by 1937, located in the norther portion of the character area. The west end of the farm road followed the alignment of a Civil War era road, originating at Lexington-Danville Turnpike near the northeast corner of the character area. Toward the east end of the character area, the road made several sharp turns, all indicated by tree lines, suggesting that there may have been fence lines defining fields in this area. A road bisected the site, originating at Lexington-Danville Turnpike and traveling roughly east toward the character area boundary. In the center of the character area, south of what would become the Brumfield farm road, there was pond at the low point occupied by the warehouses during the Civil War. The aerial also shows a fence line was located in the southwestern portion of the character area, separating a field of unknown use from the rest of the area. This fence turned southeast toward

the center of the character area to adjoin the wall surrounding Camp Nelson National Cemetery.

Camp Nelson National Cemetery expanded in the mid-1970s toward Lexington-Danville Turnpike, and the Department of Veterans Affairs installed a chain link fence marking the north side of the expanded area. Chain link fencing still exists along this property boundary.

By the 1980s, the Glass family had constructed a group of agricultural buildings along their farm road north of the former warehouses and bakery area. Fencing continued to subdivide the site, and the road patterns apparent in the 1930s were still present at the site. The pond in the low point (former warehouses area) had increased in size by this time. Vegetation followed fence lines in many locations. The knoll in which the Powder Magazine was located had become vegetated with trees on all sides except for the north-facing slope, defining the location of this topographic feature.

Fencing delineating different fields currently subdivides the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. Fencing reveals property subdivisions within the former Glass family property and separates these parcels from the former Brumfield property. Fencing also separates livestock areas from formerly cultivated field areas. The Glass farm and Brumfield farm roads are still apparent and continue to provide access to interior areas of the site. The pond south of Brumfield farm road changed in size and shape between 1937 and 1956. In 1937, the pond appears to have been rectangular. By 1950, it appears that the pond had merged with a depression possibly caused by quarrying in this area. By 1956, the quarry area appears to be filled in, which is consistent with anecdotal evidence provided by a former landowner (see Topography). Around 2013, volunteers associated with Camp Nelson National Cemetery began to use the southwestern portion of the character area for horses. This use necessitated the installation of an electric fence around 8.5 acres of the site. Though volunteers have discontinued this use, the electric fencing still separates the southwest corner from the rest of the site.

The Griffing Cemetery is located in the central-north portion of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. It is separated from the adjacent agricultural area by a post and rail fence.

Evaluation

During the period of significance, the Warehouse Industrial Character area was defined by clusters of buildings and circulation connecting these sites. Topography was varied, with a low spot defining the location of the warehouse complex. Additional building clusters included the government shops area and the ordnance depot area. The Lexington-Danville Turnpike defined the western edge of the character area and the wooded slope leading down to Hickman Creek defined the eastern edge.

Within the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, spatial organization is currently characterized fields and roads lined with fence lines and associated fence line vegetation. There is a cluster of agricultural buildings located on the former Glass Farm located in the northern portion of the site. The topographic conditions dating to the Civil War era still exist in the character area.

Fencing and Danville Loop 2 Road currently serves the western boundary of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area and fencing along a wood line creates the eastern boundary of the character area. The character area is currently subdivided with fencing. The fencing and the associated fence line vegetation does not contribute to the historic setting of Camp Nelson.

Maintenance Character Area

Historic Condition

During the Civil War period, the Maintenance Character Area was largely undeveloped. The only recorded feature in this area was a road, which ran from Lexington-Danville Turnpike to the warehouses area that ran along the northern edge of the character area toward the warehouses. This road was located at the top of the slope that made up the western side of the ravine containing the Spring Reservoir.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

In 1917, the Glass family purchased the property and later constructed a house in this character area. By 1970, the Glass family constructed a brick veneer single-story house in the northwest corner of their property, oriented toward Danville Loop 2 Road. Its long axis paralleled the road. They constructed a loop driveway on the west side of the house, which included a circular planting area in the middle. The area was roughly divided into

thirds with the front driveway defining the western third, the house occupying the middle third, and the rear parking area and garage occupying the eastern third. The overhead canopy in the western third of the character area is defined by canopy trees, with a more open overhead plane existing in the other portions of the character area. The north, east, and south boundaries of the area are defined by a wood post and rail fence. In developing the residential property, the Glass family constructed a driveway to access the rear of the house and a garage located west of the house. The driveway also led to a gate, which accessed the agricultural area located behind the residential parcel. This asphalt driveway followed the road alignment shown on the Civil War era maps. The driveway exists in the same location today, north of the Facilities and Maintenance Office and at the top of the slope that makes up the western side of the ravine containing the Spring Reservoir.

Evaluation

Within the Maintenance Character Area, spatial organization differs from the historic period, when the area appears to have contained no buildings and structures. The area is characterized by the three-part residential development, which includes a front yard with the front driveway, a brick house (current Facilities and Maintenance Office), and a rear parking area with a detached garage building. These features post-date the period of significance. The only feature dating to the period of significance is the alignment of the driveway that accesses the rear parking area and leads to a farm road east of the character area.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Historic Condition

During the Civil War period, the Refugee Ward Character Area stretched west, beyond the current national monument boundary. Civil War era maps and photographs do not show that there were any buildings inside the existing national monument boundary.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, the Army had returned the Home for Colored Refugees property and the surrounding land back to John and Joseph Moss. John G. Fee persuaded Joseph Moss to sell him 130 acres within the refugee ward area. Here, Fee laid out the town of Ariel and sold the lots to Black veterans and former refugees who developed a permanent community. Fee also established Ariel Academy, which used former refugee camp buildings for its campus. Fee established a grid of parcels with angled streets responding to the parallel streets of double cottages that formed most of the refugee camp. Houses depicted on an 1891 map appear to roughly correspond with the locations of the present church and the parsonage/manse foundation.

In 1907, the Presbyterian Church purchased 9.5 acres of land and constructed the Fee Memorial Presbyterian Church on the property around 1912. The Presbyterian Church also constructed a parsonage or manse at the site around the same time. These buildings were situated approximately sixty feet apart, with their long axes oriented northwest-southeast, set back from a sharp bend in the road along Church Street. A 1937 aerial photograph shows that these two buildings were set within an open area (**Figure 4.18**). There are large trees in the area to the northwest of the buildings and one large tree southeast of them. The rest of the area appears to be fairly open including the slope down toward the ravine located in the northern portion of the character area. The character area was bounded on the south and west sides by Hall Road and Church Street. The east boundary was a dense row of vegetation.

By 1950, vegetation had increased along what was likely a fence line located east of the two buildings. The dense vegetation along the east boundary of the character area was still a dense row of vegetation. It appears that some vegetation had begun to grow in the area of the ravine in the central-north portion of the site.

By the 1980s, the wooded area had expanded to include all of the ravine area and the eastern portion of the character area except for an open field located along Hall Road. This condition persists today. Eagle Scouts constructed an amphitheater in a cleared area in the northern part of the wooded area in 1998. Vegetation has

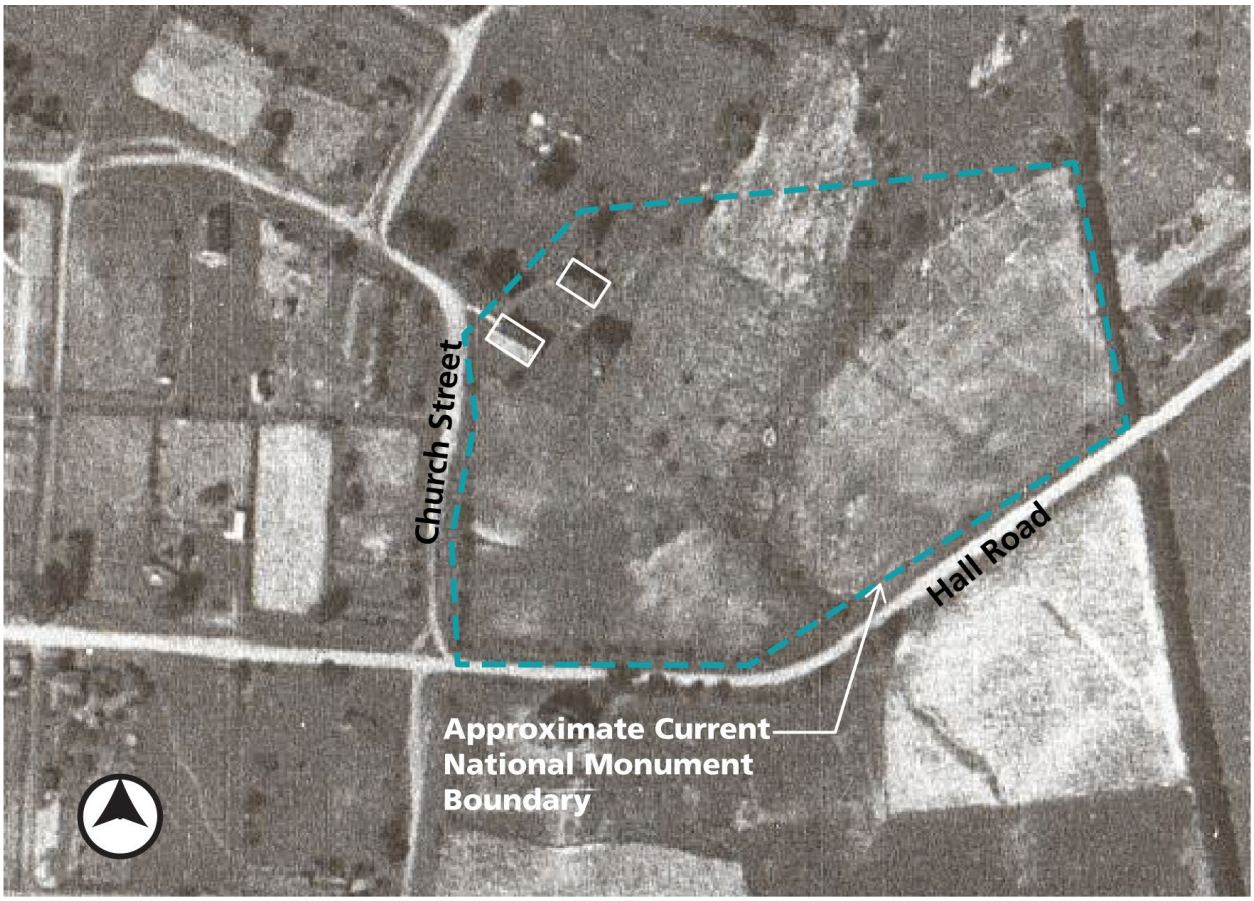


Figure 4.18. Annotated 1937 aerial image showing the Refugee Ward Character Area. Fee Memorial Church and the parsonage are outlined in white (Source: Aerial photograph duplicated from National Archives Files, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, Courtesy of Stephen McBride).

encroached on this feature since its construction. Where Hall Road turns west, the tree line stops, and opens up to a turfgrass area sloping up toward Fee Memorial Church. Jessamine County removed the parsonage/manse building from the site around 2007, leaving only the limestone foundation. This foundation is currently covered with vegetation.

Evaluation

The spatial organization of the Refugee Ward Character Area during the period of significance is unknown. Civil War era maps show this area as undeveloped with the Home for Colored Refugees located to the west. Therefore, it is unknown if the spatial organization reflects the Civil War era setting. All of the features that create the spatial organization in the character area, including the Fee Memorial Church, parsonage/manse foundation, wood line, amphitheater area, and road system, post-date the historic period.

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- Sinkholes located east of the White House
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Relationship of the White House to Danville Loop 2 Road
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Additional buildings located in the Visitor Center Character Area during the period of significance
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Orientation of buildings in Visitor Center Character Area toward visitor parking lot
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Canopy trees defining the overhead plane in the area between the White House and Danville Loop 2 Road
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Stone wall along Danville Loop 2 Road
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Forts and infantry entrenchments
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Cluster of buildings near the prison area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of buildings near the government sheds and stables area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Fences in the corrals area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Wood line at eastern side of the character areas
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Vegetation around sinkhole in former government sheds and stables area
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Snake rail fence separating frontcountry and backcountry areas
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Trees along former fence line and pasture near the prison area
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Fence lines and associated vegetation
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- East-facing steep slope in Eastern Line of Protection Character Area
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Hickman Creek palisades (or "cliffs")
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Woodland vegetation in Eastern Line of Protection Character Area
  - Contribution status: Missing

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- Fence lines and associated vegetation
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Wood line at eastern side of the character area
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Cluster of buildings at government shops area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of buildings at Quartermaster and Commissary office area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of buildings at the warehouses and bakery area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of buildings at the ordnance depot area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of buildings in the eastern shed and shanties area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Farm road alignments – portions of the Glass farm road and Brumfield farm road
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Varied topography with a low spot in Warehouse Industrial Character Area
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Cluster of agricultural buildings on former Glass farm
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Large pond in center of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Quarry
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Maintenance Character Area

- North driveway alignment in Maintenance Character Area
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Three-part residential site organization in Maintenance Character Area
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Front yard tree canopy in Maintenance Character Area
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Fee Memorial Church and parsonage/ manse foundation
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Wooded area east of Fee Memorial Church
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Amphitheater
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Hall Road and Church Street
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Land Use

Summary Analysis

Land uses currently associated with Camp Nelson National Monument include museum/interpretive/educational, commemorative, recreational and birdwatching, religious, agricultural, and burial. Of these, only the burial land use survives from the period of significance.

Several historical land uses that characterized the landscape during the period of significance are no longer in evidence today. The most important of these is military. The entire Camp Nelson site had a military use during the period of significance. Military use of the landscape was supported by housing, hospital, supply and storage, services, agriculture, and livestock care.

Visitor Center Character Area

Historic Condition

In this character area, military land use was reflected by the US Army using the White House as an officers' quarters. The White House was a residential building, so it had been used for this purpose prior to the Civil War. The use of the other buildings in this character area on Civil War era maps is unknown, but they may have supported housing for military officers.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions

After the Civil War, the White House returned to single-family occupancy. In 1998, Jessamine County purchased the property from the Naylor family. The county continued to use a portion of the character area for housing, renting out a portion of the White House for residential use. The county's purchase and development of visitor amenities in the character area introduced recreational use. After purchasing the property, the county added the Saltville Monument and a set of three flags to the lawn between the White House and the stone wall along Danville Loop 2 Road, adding a commemorative use to the character area. The NPS discontinued residential use of the White House in 2020, eliminating housing as a use in the character area.

Present-day land uses associated with the Visitor Center Character Area are primarily associated with the NPS administration of Camp Nelson National Monument. Land uses introduced by Jessamine County and continued by the NPS include museum/interpretive/educational related to wayside exhibits and interpretive exhibits inside the Visitor Center and ranger-led tours; and administrative related to the offices located inside the Visitor Center. Jessamine County and then the NPS used a portion of the Visitor Center Character Area for maintenance activities, but as of 2021, these activities are housed elsewhere. The White House is not currently open to the public. Recreational land use in this area exists in the form of visitors enjoying the area for exercise, dog walking, and picnicking within the site. This character area serves as the hub for these activities.

Evaluation

The housing and military use dating to the period of significance within the Visitor Center Character Area no longer exists. All other current land uses postdate the period of significance and do not contribute to the historic setting of Camp Nelson National Monument.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Conditions

The entire Camp Nelson site had a military use during the period of significance. The Northern Line of Protection Character Area reflected this use by containing a line of forts and infantry entrenchments. Other uses that supported military operations included housing, agriculture associated with livestock housing and watering, burial, and incarceration. There were barracks located just south of Fort Jackson, which provided housing for some of the military personnel at the site. The US Army used the stables and sheds area and the corral for housing and feeding horses and mules. The Spring Reservoir (Officer's [*sic*] Spring) was a reservoir that the US Army used as a clean source of drinking water. Burial uses were associated with Cemetery #1, where 379 soldiers and an unknown number of civilians were interred between July 1863 and February 1866.[686] The soldiers were reinterred into what would become Camp Nelson National Cemetery. The prison area

686. Therese T. Sammartino, "Camp Nelson National Cemetery," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (National Park Service, August 6, 1998), 8–6.

served as location for incarceration, including the housing, guarding, and feeding of prisoners.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions

After the Civil War, the property returned to its previous agricultural use, discontinuing the military use of the site. The owners of the property constructed several buildings on the property and erected fences to support this use. When Jessamine County purchased the property in 1998 to develop a park, this use changed. It is assumed that the civilians buried in Cemetery #1 are still interred at the site, continuing burial use in the character area. The Graveyard #1 obelisk, erected after Jessamine County acquired the property, introduced a commemorative use in this character area. The establishment of the park introduced recreational uses to the character area, as visitors use the trails for exercise, bird watching, and dog walking. The county installed educational waysides, establishing interpretive/educational use in the character area. Park staff began to use Barn #1 for housing equipment, introducing a maintenance use. Present-day land uses associated with NPS ownership of the site continue those established under county ownership.

Evaluation

The burial land use survives from the period of significance in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. Though remnants of the forts and infantry entrenchments remain at the site, military use is no longer present at the site. All other current land uses postdate the period of significance and do not contribute to the historic setting of the Northern Line of Protection Character Area.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Conditions

The entire Camp Nelson site had a military use during the period of significance. This character area was defined by infantry entrenchments located on the slope between Fort McKee and Fort Jones, Fort Jones, and the North and South Stone Walls.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions

After the Civil War, much of Camp Nelson returned to agricultural use. However, due to the topography of this area, owners did not cultivate this area. The county developed trails in this area in 2002, introducing interpretive/educational and recreational uses to the area.

Evaluation

Military use of this character area ceased after the Civil War. All other uses postdate the period of significance. Once this character area became part of Camp Nelson Heritage Park, Jessamine County developed trails and installed interpretive waysides and interpretive signage introducing interpretive/educational and recreation uses to the character area.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Historic Conditions

Prior to the Civil War, the Griffing family established a cemetery in the central-north of the character area. These burials remained intact through the Civil War.

The entire Camp Nelson site had a military use during the period of significance. Other uses that supported military operations included housing, agriculture associated with livestock housing and watering, burial, and storage. Archeological evidence shows that there was a refugee housing site in this character area, likely occupied prior to the construction of the Home for Colored Refugees. Later, the US Army constructed buildings of various uses in this character area to support the site's function as a supply depot. The area housed not only people and supplies but also munitions in the ordnance depot area. Animals were serviced at the blacksmith shop, which included a mule chute for animal care. There were stables located throughout the character area to house horses and mules. Other uses in the area included office and administrative uses associated with the Quartermaster and Commissary offices and food preparation and dining associated with the cook houses and mess halls.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions

After the Civil War, the area returned to agricultural use. The Glass and Brumfield families farmed what would become the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, adding an agricultural use to the character area. Barns, ponds, and fence lines and their associated vegetation reinforce this use. At some point, owners of the site quarried limestone from the center of the character area. The date of active use of the quarry is unknown,

but the Brumfield family infilled a portion of it during their ownership of the property and discontinued the quarry use.

Currently, visitors are not provided with access to the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. Two local farmers currently hold special use permits for agricultural grazing on the former Brumfield and Glass properties, continuing the agricultural use present after the Civil War. The former Brumfield property currently houses sixty-five head of cattle, and the former Glass farm currently holds twenty-seven head of cattle. Haying of these pastures is also permitted through agricultural agreements. Though Jessamine County nor the NPS have not developed visitor access in this character area, there are interpretive flags installed at the locations of the government shops, bakery, and warehouses that are visible from the trails in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, adding an interpretive use.

Evaluation

The burial land use survives from the period of significance in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. Though remnants of the Powder Magazine, Quartermaster Ice House, and the Bakery Oven remain at the site, military use is no longer present at the site. All other current land uses postdate the period of significance and do not contribute to the historic setting of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area.

Maintenance Character Area

Historic Conditions

Research did not reveal land use in this character area during the period of significance. Future archeological studies may reveal more about the historic use of this area.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions

This area remained undeveloped for nearly one hundred years after the Civil War. Around 1970, the Glass family constructed a brick house in this character area, adding a residential use. This use continued until 2021, when tenants leasing the property from Jessamine County Clerk of Courts left the property. The NPS currently uses this area to house maintenance and facilities operations for the national monument.

Evaluation

The residential and maintenance uses of this character area postdates the period of significance and does not contribute to the historic setting of the Maintenance Character Area.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Historic Conditions

Research did not reveal land use in this character area during the period of significance, but it was located just east of the Home for Colored Refugees, meaning that it may have served as a support area for that residential use. Future archeological studies may reveal more about the historic use of this area.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions

After the Civil War, this character area became part of the Ariel community and may have contained houses. By 1912, the site housed a church and a parsonage. This religious and residential use continued until Jessamine County acquired the property in the 1990s, after regular use of the church discontinued. Research did not reveal when residential use stopped at the parsonage, but it appears to have been uninhabitable by about 1980. Around 2002, the county installed two waysides at the site, adding an interpretive/educational use to the site. Eagle Scouts constructed an amphitheater at the site in 1998, introducing a community use. The amphitheater is currently overgrown and unusable. The church is not currently open to the public.

Evaluation

All of the known uses of the Refugee Ward Character Area postdate the period of significance. These uses include religious, residential, and community. All of these uses are missing from the site. Noncontributing uses include interpretive/education elements, including the two waysides near Fee Memorial Church.

Features

- Military
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Residential
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Housing
    - Contribution status: Missing

- Prison
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Storage
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Food Preparation and Dining
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Religious
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Community
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Commemorative
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Recreational
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Museum/Interpretive/Educational
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Administrative
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Maintenance
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Grazing / Agricultural Use
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Quarrying
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Cultural Traditions

Summary Analysis

During the Civil War, cultural traditions influenced the development of the Camp Nelson landscape resulting in patterns of land development. The building techniques employed by the US Army at the site reflected generations of experience in fort and infantry construction. Military traditions around housing, such as the segregation of races for housing, the segregation of civilian females away from male soldiers at the site, and the separation of officers and enlisted soldiers influenced the patterns of development at the site.

According to the National Historic Landmark nomination, the site offers archeological potential in providing insight into cultural traditions associated with "landscapes of power," in particular "how people of different ranks, genders, and races, as well as the cultural features they created, were distributed over space" and how these features "both reflected and influenced power relations across Camp Nelson.[687] Future archeology will likely reveal additional information about the cultural traditions of the Black freedom seekers during the Civil War.

Historic Condition

During the period of significance, cultural traditions that influenced the appearance and function of the site primarily relate to military building traditions. The cultural tradition of warfare itself, and the lengths militaries go to arm themselves and protect their supplies, is deeply woven into the history of Camp Nelson. The design of the defenses at Camp Nelson including the forts and infantry entrenchments were based on the fort-building traditions established and constantly revised by military professionals. The separation of enlisted soldiers from officers into different housing is also part of military culture.

Throughout the period of significance, African Americans were part of daily life at the site, but they were segregated from White male soldiers and assigned different roles and responsibilities. This approach was common at other refugee camps found throughout the Southeast. Archeologists presume that initially African American refugees at the site were housed near the warehouses area. This encampment area was targeted by Army leaders who wanted the women and children expelled from the camp site. One officer reported

> Information has reached these Headquarters that a bevy of women and children are quartered near the Commissary Warehouses, the women (colored) are engaged in lewd business annoying everything and every body in the vicinity. You are directed to place the whole kit beyond the lines five (5) miles, with a parting injunction to not return on pain of being imprisoned.[688]

687. W. Stephen McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination, Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District" (Washington, D.C.: National Historic Landmarks Program, August 2012), 33.
688. Lt. Col. George A. Hanaford, "Letter to Lt. McQueen," June 12, 1864, quoted in W. Stephen McBride and Kim McBride, "Civil War Housing: Insights from Camp Nelson, Kentucky," in *Huts and History: The Historical Archaeology of Military Encampment during the American Civil War*, ed. Clarence Geier and Matthew Reeves (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2006), 159.

The US Army later razed the encampment and moved the occupants outside the camp.[689] Military maps show that by 1866, the Home for Colored Refugees had been constructed at Camp Nelson, segregating the African American civilians at the site from the rest of the military operations. The US Army housed USCT soldiers in ten former hospital wards, segregating from the rest of the enlisted men at the site.[690]

The US Army segregated not only races at Camp Nelson, but also, they separated women and children from men. Establishing the Home for Colored Refugees meant that there was a geographic separation of genders and races at Camp Nelson, with men housed in USCT barracks and encampments and women in the dwellings in the Home for Colored Refugees.

The burial of soldiers and civilians in the cemeteries located throughout the site established memorialization and commemoration traditions on the site and at Camp Nelson National Cemetery. The US Army interred soldiers and civilians at Cemetery #1 and other cemeteries located outside the current national monument boundary. The Army later reinterred the remains of the soldiers at Cemetery #1 in Camp Nelson National Cemetery (formerly known as Cemetery #2). The Griffing family cemetery, which predated the Civil War, remained a burial site through the Civil War and exists within the national monument boundary today.

The architecture of the White House reflects the Greek Revival style, which was popular throughout the Southeast during the Civil War. Greek Revival domestic architecture was a classically derived national aesthetic based on Ithiel Town's widely disseminated design for an "urban villa." Nationally, the heyday of Greek Revival architecture is recognized as the period 1820-1855. With a circa 1856 construction date, the White House falls just outside this period. Traditionally, residential buildings in the Greek Revival style were two story buildings with columns spanning the façade. The White House reflects this cultural tradition.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, the properties within the main encampment site (Visitor Center, Northern and Eastern Line of Protection, Warehouse Industrial, and Maintenance Character Areas) returned to agricultural and residential use. Cultural traditions associated with these uses included the construction of agricultural outbuildings to support animal husbandry, equipment storage, and tobacco production. In Kentucky, tobacco barns reflect building traditions based on a variant of the transverse frame barn with a simple plan. The barns are typically "longer than they are wide, with openings on the gable ends, [with] either hinged double doors or sliding doors. The side walls have vents [with a] long, narrow hinged opening . . . they have a gable roof, typically corrugated metal."[691] Additionally, cultural practices around agriculture meant that food for crop production were separated from fields with livestock, resulting in a patchwork of fields within larger tracts of land, a pattern that is still apparent in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area.

The Refugee Ward Character Area also has the potential to reveal information about the cultural traditions associated with formerly enslaved people as they established governments, built houses and places of worship, and founded educational institutions during and after the Reconstruction era. The Fee Memorial Church continues to reflect religious traditions associated with the Presbyterian church, which constructed the building to house a budding congregation.

The traditions of commemoration continued at the site as Jessamine County erected an obelisk to commemorate those interred at Cemetery #1, and the Glass family maintained the historic Griffing family cemetery. Though it is outside the national monument boundary, adjacent Camp Nelson National Cemetery continues to commemorate the service of military veterans who are interred there.

Local citizens interested in heritage preservation advocated for the establishment of Camp Nelson

689. Archeological evidence may have located this encampment site, but no structure features have been located to date and suggests that both African American women and children and US Army soldiers occupied this area during the Civil War period.

690. McBride and McBride, "Civil War Housing," 142.

691. University of Kentucky, Department of Anthropology, "Agricultural Outbuildings: Tobacco Barns," accessed September 17, 2021, https://anthropology.as.uky.edu/pkasp/agricultural-outbuildings-tobacco-barns.

Civil War Heritage Park by the Jessamine County Fiscal Court, which introduced a heritage preservation cultural tradition to the site. The NPS continues this tradition.

Evaluation

The cultural traditions that shaped the development of the Camp Nelson landscape left an indelible impression. The landscape is a composite of these traditions, which are reflected by both historic and modern features. While traditions related to the defense of Camp Nelson are no longer active, the continued presence of the forts, infantry entrenchments, ice houses, remnant Powder Magazine, Spring Reservoir, and remnant Bakery Oven all date to the period of significance and reflect the military building practices common during the Civil War. The site has archeological potential for revealing additional information about cultural traditions related to emancipation and African American freedom seekers during the Civil War. The White House continues to reflect the cultural traditions associated with Greek Revival architecture.

Post-historic features such as the agricultural buildings at the site and the patterns of fencing reflect the agricultural cultural traditions found in the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky. In the Refugee Ward Area, Fee Memorial Church reflects religious cultural traditions, and this site has the potential to reveal information about the cultural traditions associated with formerly enslaved people as they established the Ariel/Hall community. The establishment of Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park by the Jessamine County Fiscal Court, which introduced a heritage preservation cultural tradition to the site. The NPS continues this tradition.

Features

- Military building techniques
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Greek Revival architecture
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Separation of enlisted soldiers from officers
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Segregation of races at military sites
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Segregation/separation of sexes at military sites
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Burial and commemoration
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Agricultural traditions
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Religious practices
    - Contribution status: Missing

Cluster Arrangement

Summary Analysis

During the period of significance, there were clusters of buildings located throughout the Camp Nelson site. Within the current national monument boundary, these included the following: the White House area, the stables and sheds area, the prison site, the government shops, the Quartermaster and Commissary office area, the warehouses area, the eastern sheds and shanties area, the ordnance depot area, and portions of the cribs and forage office area. When the US Army left Camp Nelson, they disassembled the military buildings at the site.

At the Home for Colored Refugees site, the US Army erected cottages, huts, and tents in rows along a northwest-southeast orientation with space running in between. An administrative area, which included dining, cooking, school, and reception wards was located to the east of the cluster of residential buildings and structures. Military maps and photographs do not show any clusters of site features within the existing national monument boundary.

Historic Condition

The US Army erected hundreds of buildings at the Camp Nelson site to support military operations. Most buildings were clustered by use, with locations dictated by topography, convenience to Lexington-Danville Turnpike, and access to site features such as sources of water. Some buildings were set by themselves in the landscape, but for the most part, the US Army constructed the buildings in groups.

Within the current national monument boundary, there were several clusters of buildings. By 1866, there were four buildings in addition to the White

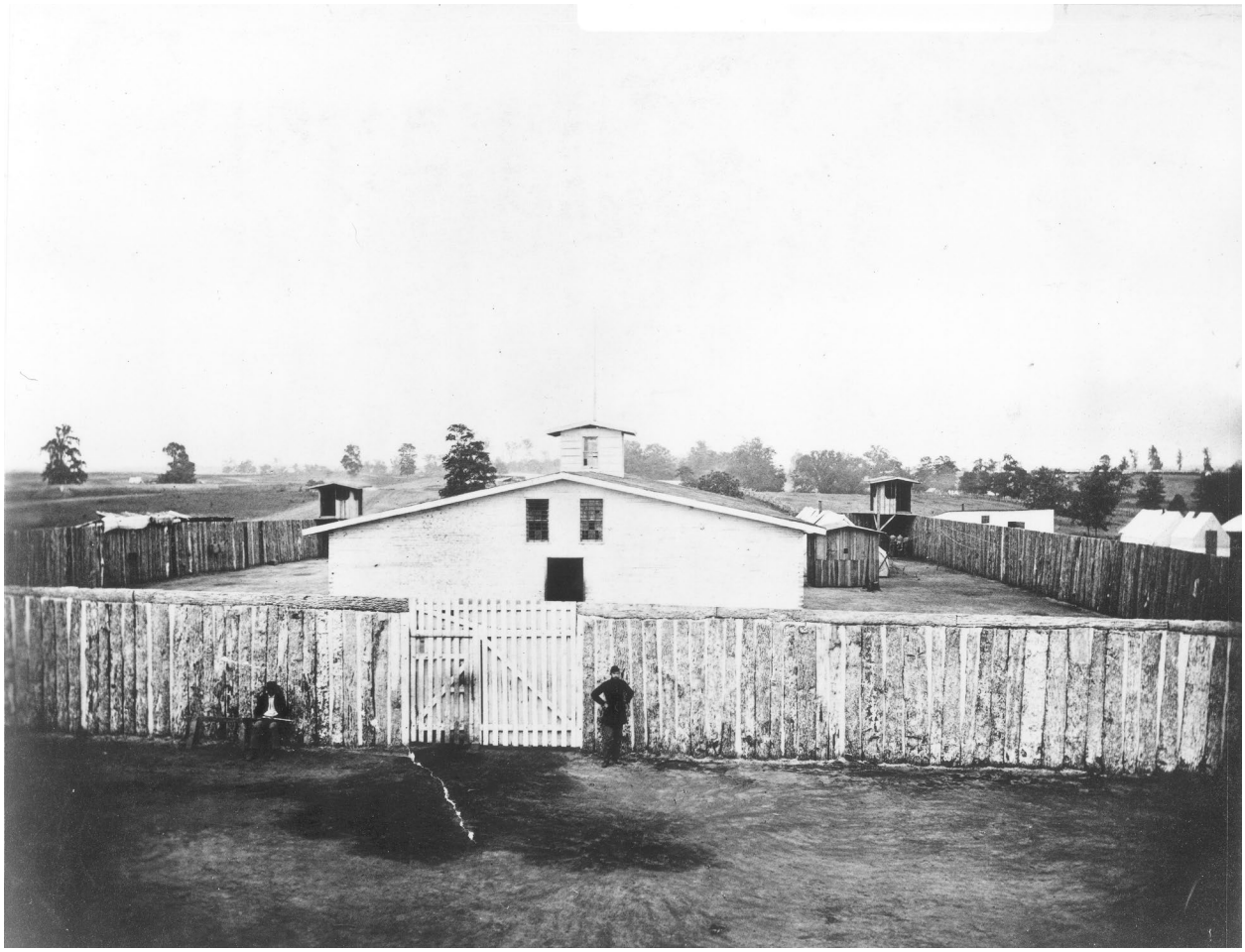


Figure 4.19. Historic photograph (1864) showing the cluster arrangement of the prison area including the jail (center) and stockade, view facing east (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

House in the area used as an officer's quarters. These buildings were on either side of a drive that ran south of the White House.

The prison area consisted of a cluster of eleven buildings oriented around a stockade with the jail located in the middle (**Figure 4.19**). The government sheds and stables area included a row of open sheds and stables in a C shape, clustered around smaller buildings and oriented toward a sinkhole pond.

The government shops area included seven buildings clustered at the top of a hill, adjacent to Lexington-Danville Turnpike (**Figure 4.20**). The shed, shoeing shop, wagon shop, and mess house in this area were oriented roughly parallel with their long axes running north-south. This group of buildings was bounded by the office and harness shop to the north and the blacksmith shop to the south, which were oriented with their long axes running east-west.

The group of buildings around the Quartermaster and Commissary office buildings were clustered in a Y created by the junction of two roads at the site. The office was located at the high point of this cluster, with an ice house, cook houses, and mess houses located downhill to the east (**Figure 4.21**).

The warehouses were organized in two rows in an L-shaped depression located in the center of the site (**Figure 4.22**). This orientation offered the warehouses and the supplies they held protection against enemy detection or fire. Grouped with the warehouses were the bakery and stables and sheds, located inside the L of warehouse buildings.

There was a group of sheds and "shanties" located east of the warehouses, clustered near the edge of a wood line.



Figure 4.20. View of the cluster arrangement in the government shops area taken from the Lexington-Danville Turnpike, view facing east, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).

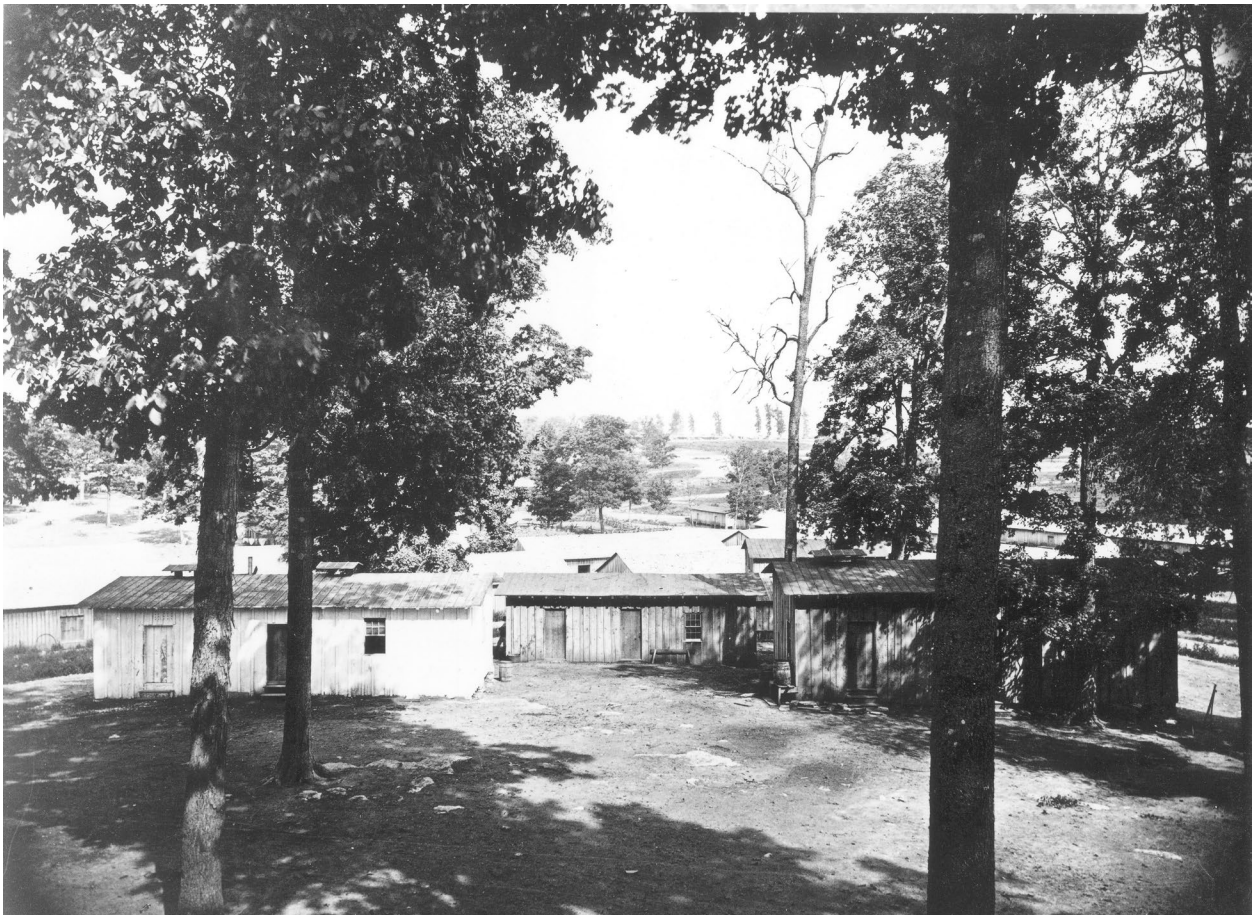


Figure 4.21. View of the cluster arrangement of the cook and mess houses located near the Quartermaster and Commissary office, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 4.22. View of the cluster arrangement in the warehouse area, view facing north-northwest, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 4.23. View of the cluster arrangement of the buildings in the Home for Colored Refugees, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photographers).



Figure 4.24. Historic photograph showing the cluster arrangement in the Home for Colored Refugees at Camp Nelson, view facing southwest. The sites of these buildings lie outside the existing national monument boundary (Source: 77pa102:022, Camp Nelson Photographic Collection, 1864, University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center).

The ordnance depot area included seven buildings clustered around the north side of a knoll located to the east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike. This building cluster included an office, two warehouses, the Powder Magazine, and two sheds.

The last cluster of buildings located on the east side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike and partially within the existing national monument boundary was a cluster of buildings associated with a forage office. These six buildings were located close to the turnpike. The forage office was set off from the cribs and grain shed buildings, grouped closely with a mess house.

The US Army established the Home for Colored Refugees area on the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike to house, feed, and educate the families of the USCT soldiers at the camp. The cluster of buildings included ninety-seven duplex cottages arranged in three rows, a school house, a U-shaped dining hall, a hospital with dining hall, a reception ward, a commissary, store rooms, a barracks, a laundry, quarters for surgeons, a drug store, a school house, and office and headquarters, two reception wards, and a commissary. There is a group of buildings noted on the map just north of the school house as three "dead houses." The duplex cottages were spaced closely together with their long axes oriented roughly east-west, spaced unevenly in three rows. A historic photograph reveals that there was a wide road between the northern two rows (**Figure 4.23**). Because of the numbers of refugees requiring housing (over 3,000 people), the US Army supplied sixty tents and supplies to construct sixty huts, which were erected north of the cottages (**Figure 4.24**).

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

According to archeologist Stephen McBride, "the army-constructed buildings were always viewed as ephemeral, meant only to last the duration of the war."[692] As such, afterward, the Army disassembled the buildings at the camp site removing all of the cluster arrangement associated with the Civil War. The main camp site returned to residential and agricultural use.

692. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 7.

One exception was the former Home for Colored Refugees area where "approximately 20 to 30 duplex cottages, a ward, the mess hall, and the school remained."[693] The Refugee Ward Character Area became part of the Ariel/Hall community. "Over time all of the original duplex cottages and communal buildings were dismantled. The school was replaced by a block building in the early twentieth century."[694] Within the current national monument boundary, this site eventually contained at least two buildings, located on the edge of the Ariel Academy property, oriented the same direction as a dormitory and the school/recitation hall, which faced Front Street. The two buildings located within the existing national monument boundary included Fee Memorial Church and a parsonage.

Over time, the Glass family developed a cluster of agricultural buildings north of the former warehouses and bakery area. These barns continue to exist in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area today. When Jessamine County Fiscal Court began developing Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park in the late-1990s, they kept the White House and the Storage Building at the site. They constructed the Visitor Center and Barracks nearby, clustered around a newly installed visitor parking lot. The county installed small-scale features such as signage and utilities in this area as well. These features remain at the national monument.

Evaluation

None of the clusters of features associated with the period of significance remain at the site. There are two building clusters located on the east side of Danville Loop 2 Road and US 27. These include the buildings located in the Visitor Center Character Area and the cluster of agricultural buildings located in the Warehouse Industrial Area. None of these cluster arrangement features contribute to the historic setting of the national monument.

Features

- Cluster of features near the White House
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features in the prison area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features near the government sheds and stables
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features at the government shops
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features at the Quartermaster and Commissary office area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features at the warehouses and bakery area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features at the eastern sheds and shanties area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features at the ordnance depot area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features at the forage office and cribs area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features at the Home for Colored Refugees area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Cluster of features in the Visitor Center Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Cluster of agricultural buildings on former Glass farm
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Circulation

Summary Analysis

The Lexington-Danville Turnpike developed as a critical north-south route in Kentucky, valuable for its connection between towns and as a crossing point over the Kentucky River. The US Army saw strategic value in maintaining control of the Hickman Bridge to protect points north. The Hickman Bridge and Lexington-Danville Turnpike influenced the US Army's selection of the site for Camp Nelson. In addition to Lexington-Danville

693. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 7.
694. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 7.

Turnpike, Sugar Creek Pike ran east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike, connecting the turnpike to another north-south corridor located to the east. Maps from before the Civil War appears to show another road connecting Lexington-Danville Turnpike to properties located west of the turnpike near the bend in the Kentucky River.

The US Army likely made use of existing farm roads for circulation within Camp Nelson but also likely constructed new roads to connect newly constructed clusters of buildings located throughout the camp. Historic photographs show that many of these roads were natural surface and unpaved. After the Civil War, some of these circulation features fell out of use and may have been plowed over for agricultural fields. Some of the circulation features survived and are still in use today.

In the mid-1990s Kentucky DOT constructed a four-lane extension of US 27. Kentucky DOT had constructed a new bridge crossing the Kentucky River south of the site by 1976 and by 1979, a four-lane road from the bridge to the entrance of Camp Nelson National Cemetery. In 1995, archeologist completed work associated with extending this four-lane road north, and Kentucky DOT had completed the extension of the four-lane road by 1998. This involved adding four lanes west of the prior alignment of US 27/ Lexington-Danville Turnpike. Old US 27 then became known as Danville Loop 2 Road, running parallel to the new route from Roberts Chapel United Methodist Church, located north of the national monument, to the north boundary of Camp Nelson National Cemetery.

Visitor Center Character Area

Historic Condition

During the Civil War period, there is documentation in historic photographs and maps of a road originating at Lexington-Danville Turnpike just west of the White House that traveled south of the White House toward the prison area. The road ran roughly east-west. The road continued toward the interior of the site. While there might have been interior circulation associated with pedestrian movement within this area, research did not reveal their locations.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, the site returned to residential and agricultural use. Within the Visitor Center Character Area, aerial photographs show that by 1950, a drive traveled from Lexington-Danville Turnpike northeast toward the White House. The drive then turned slightly southeast, traveling toward a complex of agricultural buildings located east of the White House. The alignment of the drive is slightly different from a similar road seen on Civil War era military maps, which had a more east-west alignment. The driveway south of the White House was in active use as the main access to this portion of the site through the 1990s.

When Jessamine County Fiscal Court began developing the site for visitor access in the late-1990s, they constructed a new access road south of the historic entrance drive. This new drive traveled roughly east-west along a former fence line. It turned north toward a main parking lot and then split off south of the Visitor Center to create a maintenance drive on the east side of the Visitor Center. The county also constructed a concrete sidewalk along the north side of the main parking lot, which connected to sidewalks leading to the White House. This sidewalk system led to the west and south entrances of the house and also provided access to a newly constructed asphalt parking lot located east of the house. After the county constructed the Visitor Center and Barracks, they added additional circulation features to connect these areas. These included an asphalt walkway between the White House and Visitor Center areas, a concrete walkway to the Visitor Center, and a concrete walkway between the Visitor Center and the Barracks. These features exist at the site today.

A portion of a road is visible south of the White House. The historic route begins at the national monument boundary at an opening in the stone wall located on Danville Loop 2 Road. The road turns slightly north toward the White House. Any visible portions of the road terminate at the concrete sidewalk that currently leads from the visitor parking lot to the White House.

Evaluation

A portion of a circulation feature likely survives from the Civil War era. The remnant driveway south of the White House is on historic maps and in a photograph, though it is depicted as more



Figure 4.25. Historic photograph of the White House, showing grading associated with the road located just south of the building, 1864 (Source: 77pa102, Camp Nelson Photographic Collection, 1864, University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center). Figure 4.5 is a larger version of this image.



Figure 4.26. 2021 photograph of the White House, showing grading associated with the road located just south of the building (white line added for emphasis) (Source: WLA Studio, 2021). Figure 4.6 is a larger version of this image.

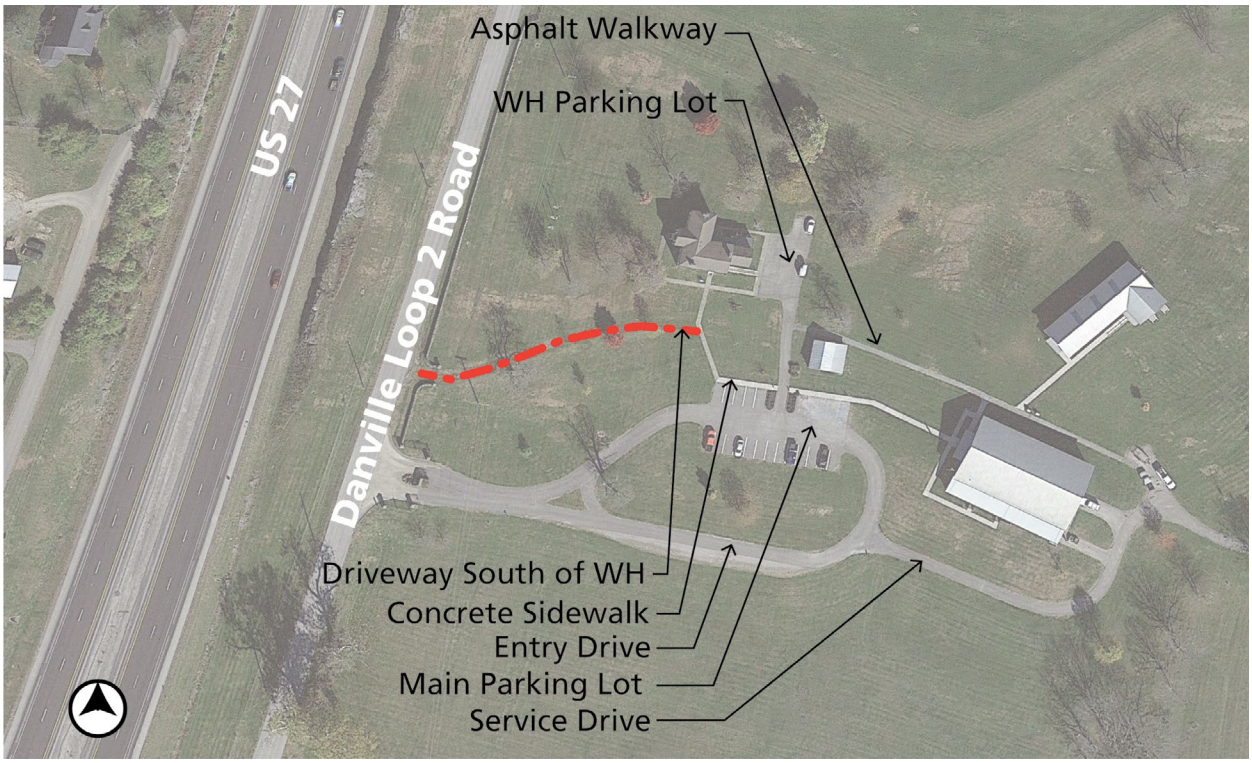


Figure 4.27. Annotated aerial image showing existing circulation in the Visitor Center Character Area. The driveway south of the White House aligns with a road shown on Civil War era military maps. The driveway is no longer visible in areas east of the concrete sidewalk, where the grade was altered to accommodate pedestrian access to the White House (Source: Google Earth, WLA Studio, 2021).

east-west than the current alignment, which angles slightly northeast from the intersection with Danville Loop 2 Road. However, a comparison of historic photographs with contemporary conditions shows that this is likely the same road (**Figure 4.25**, **Figure 4.26**). Danville Loop 2 Road is outside the national monument boundary; however, the alignment of this road follows the historic alignment of Lexington-Danville Turnpike, which was an important circulation feature during the period of significance. The new alignment of US 27 (Danville Road) does not contribute to the historic setting of Camp Nelson. All other pedestrian and vehicular circulation in the Visitor Center Character Area post-dates the period of significance (**Figure 4.27**). These features include then entry drive, the main parking lot, the White House parking lot, the maintenance drive and parking area, the concrete sidewalk, the asphalt

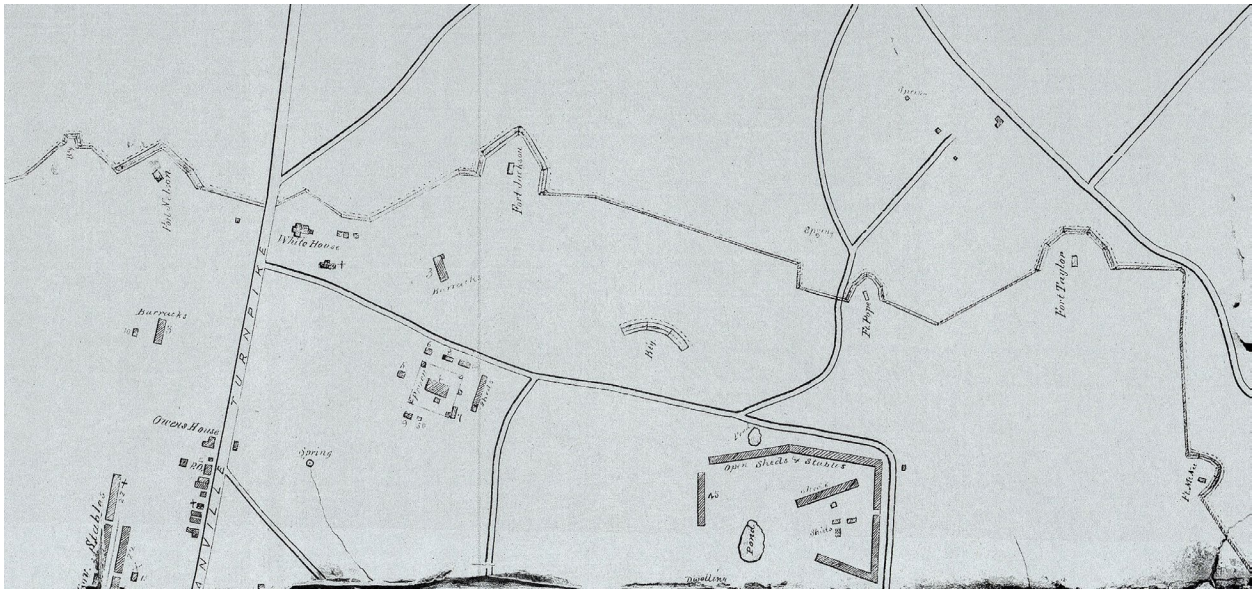


Figure 4.28. 1866 Miller map showing the circulation features in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (Source: Cartographic Section, National Archives, RG 92, 1.158-f).

walkway, and the concrete walkways connecting to the Visitor Center and Barracks.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

During the Civil War period, the area south of the northern line of protection included interior circulation to facilitate the movement of people and equipment in Camp Nelson (**Figure 4.28**). The Lexington-Danville Turnpike bordered the west side of the character area, cutting through the northern line of protection west of Fort Jackson. During the historic period, Sugar Creek Pike had a different route than its current configuration. Maps dating to the period of significance show it turning west near the northeastern edge of the Eastern Line of Protection Area then traveling northwest up the steep slope leading up from the Hickman Creek area. The northern line of protection appears to intersect or come very close to Sugar Creek Pike east of Fort McKee. A map dating to 1864 appears to show that the US Army modified a portion of Sugar Creek Park to accommodate the construction of Fort Taylor and the infantry entrenchment located just east of the fort. The map apparently shows fence or property lines, and the route differs from these lines slightly in that location.

Historic maps show the locations of the major roads inside the camp, which were mostly located south of the northern line of protection. These roads included one that led east from the entry driveway south of the White House toward the government sheds and stables area. The road went east around the stables, turned south toward the corrals and then traveled southwest toward the warehouses located in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. A road led from the main east-west route in this area south toward the east side of the prison area and south to the warehouses area. Another road led to the engineers' camp located north of the line of forts and infantry entrenchments. This roughly north-south route led from the government sheds and stables area to the west side of Fort Pope and branched off to the engineers' camp. A portion of the road continued to possibly intersect Sugar Creek Pike (**Figure 4.29**).

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, this property returned to agricultural use. Portions of the roads used by the US Army during the period of significance may have been lost to plowing and grading required for cultivation. Portions of the east west road through the character area were possibly maintained, but the route was modified to accommodate new uses. By 1937, an aerial image shows that there was a farm road running diagonally through the site toward what may have been Barn #1 (turned ninety degrees and slightly north of its current location). Aerial imagery does not include the entire character area. By the 1940s, Lexington-

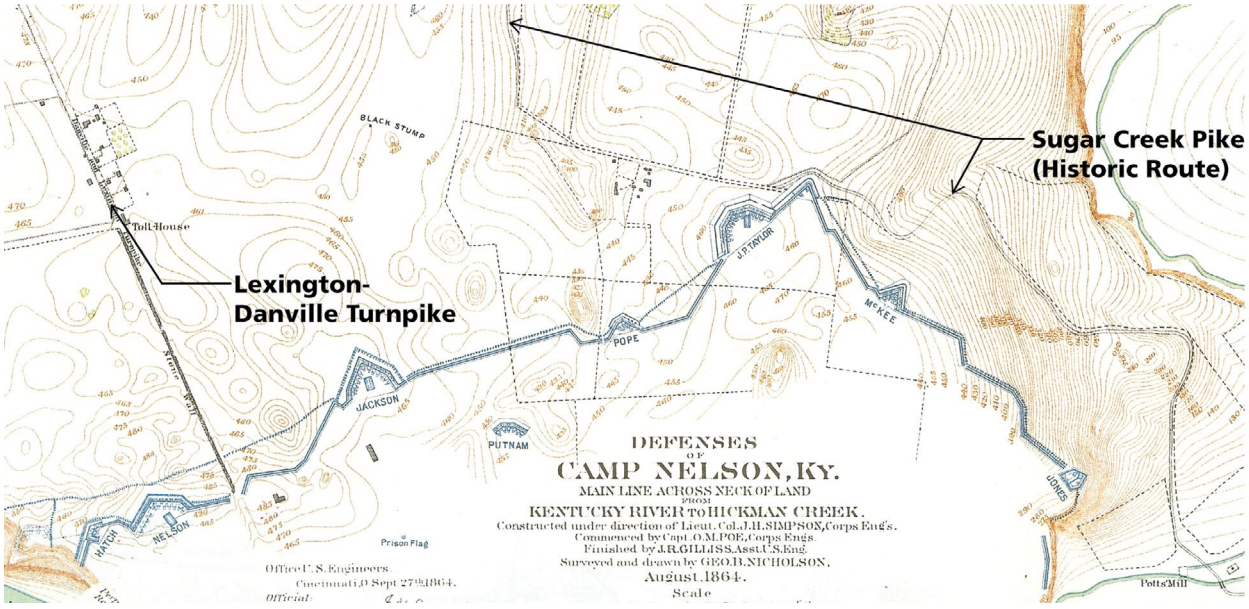


Figure 4.29. 1864 map of Camp Nelson showing the historic alignment of Sugar Creek Pike. It appears that the US Army modified the route to run north of the Fort Taylor and the infantry entrenchment (Source: ULPA 1999.71, University of Louisville Photograph Archives, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY).

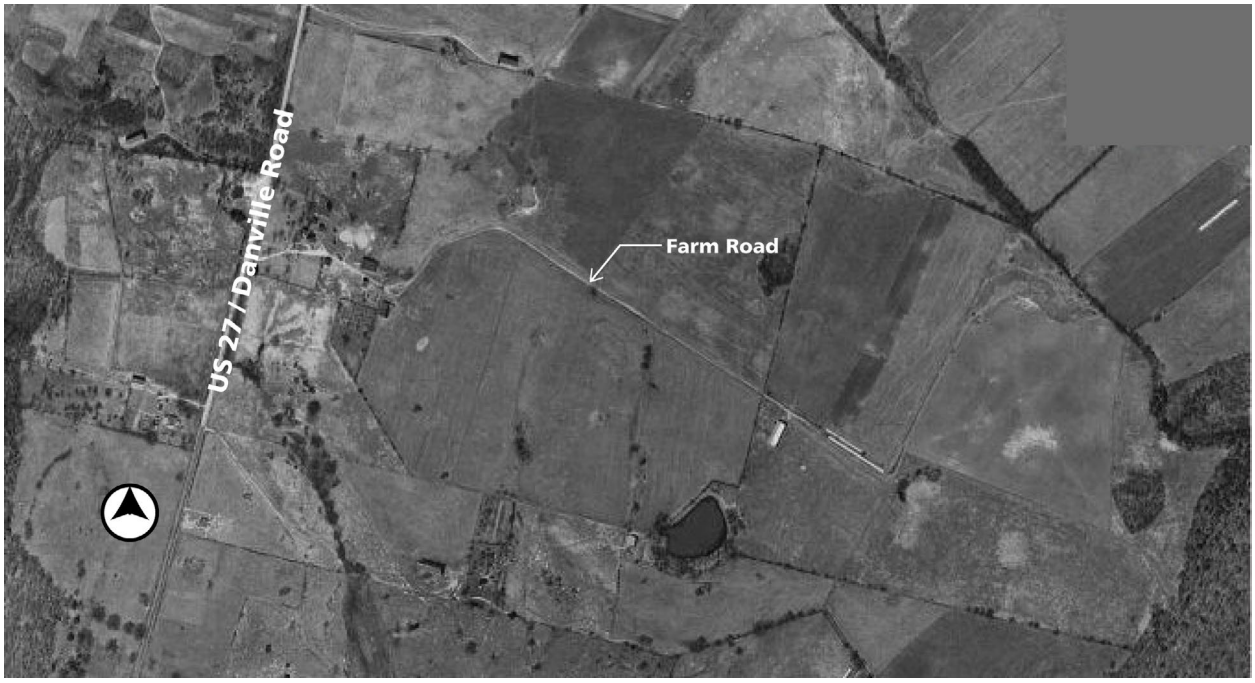


Figure 4.30. 1950 aerial showing the farm road running through the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (Source: Historicaerials.com).

Danville Turnpike had been designated US 27. Sugar Creek Pike's route has also changed. Instead of turning toward the northern line of protection, it continued north along Hickman Creek before turning west and intersecting US 27 south of Roberts Chapel United Methodist Church. Later aerial photographs show that the farm road in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area originated near a group of agricultural buildings located east of the White House (**Figure 4.30**). The road turned northeast then southeast at an almost ninety degree angle, traveling diagonally across the property past Barn #1. It appears that the road terminated at a fence line located in the eastern portion of the character area. Aerial images show that this route received continued use through the following decades. Kentucky DOT constructed a new four-lane alignment of US 27 west of the old

Lexington-Danville Turnpike by 1998. The former alignment was then designated Danville Loop 2 Road.

Jessamine County developed a trail system at the park in the early 2000s. The trails in this character area include four different routes. The Fort Trail is a mostly grass-surface half-mile route leading from the visitor center parking lot, north to the infantry entrenchment, northeast to Fort Jackson, then south to the Barracks, and west along the asphalt walkway located north of the Visitor Center. The Depot Trail is a one-half mile mostly-grass trail that starts at the visitor parking lot, travels west past the Visitor Center, south past the prison area and Prison Ice House, east toward the snake rail fence, south toward the fence line at the edge of the character area, west along the fence line, north toward the Spring Reservoir boardwalk and footbridge, and then north along Lexington Loop 2 Road toward the visitor parking lot. The Fort Putnam Loop trail is a one-third mile grass-surface trail that begins at the Fort Trail, heads east toward Cemetery #1, then loops back toward the Visitor Center Character Area following the former farm road through the snake rail fence, and ends north of the prison area. The Long Fort Trail is a one and one-third mile grass-surface trail that begins at Fort Putnam (reconstructed) and loops both south and north around the reconstructed fort. The north part of this loop follows a former farm road and heads southeast toward Barn #1. The trail splits past the barn, heading north toward Fort Taylor. At Fort Taylor, the trail crosses the line of infantry entrenchments to the north side of Fort Taylor before turning south heading toward Fort McKee. At Fort McKee, the trail loops back toward Barn #1.

Evaluation

It is possible that a portion of the main east-west road running through this character area survives as part of the trail system at the park today. It appears that the extension of the driveway located behind (east of) the Visitor Center that continues past the north side of the prison area and becomes part of the Fort Putnam Loop Trail may align with that historic road. The National Historic Landmark Nomination for Camp Nelson identifies a "road south of the fortification" as a contributing feature to the Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District.[695] However, it does not appear that the existing road and Long Fort Trail segment aligns with the road shown on Civil War era maps but rather aligns with a later farm road. The Civil War period road was south of Fort Putnam, whereas the current road/trail segment is north of Fort Putnam (reconstructed). Future archeology may confirm locations of additional features to definitively identify the location and age of this road. A portion of the historic route of Sugar Creek Pike is potentially located in the Eastern Line of Protection Area and mostly outside the national monument boundary. However, future archeological studies may identify a portion of this route inside the national monument boundary just north and east of Fort Taylor.

The old alignment of Lexington-Danville Turnpike, now known as Danville Loop 2 Road, contributes to the historic setting of this character area, but the new four-lane alignment of US 27 does not. All other circulation features, including the grass-surface trails postdate the period of significance.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

During the historic period, Sugar Creek Pike ran along the north and eastern boundaries of the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. The historic route differed from the existing alignment and crossed Hickman Creek east of the existing national monument boundary, where it traversed a steep wooded slope northeast of Fort Jones and turned to the northwest near Fort Taylor. Most of the historic road was outside the current national monument boundary, but a portion of it likely crossed the eastern portions of the property (**Figure 4.31**). Research did not reveal additional circulation features in this area dating to the period of significance.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

Research did not reveal when the route of Sugar Creek Pike changed from running through and just north of the current national monument boundary to a different alignment roughly paralleling Hickman Creek to the north. On a map dating to 1877, the route appears to be the same as it was

695. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 10.



Figure 4.31. Annotated 1864 map of Camp Nelson showing the portion of Sugar Creek Pike that runs through the approximate area now within the national monument boundary. The road appeared to continue west on other historic maps (Source: National Archives, RG 77: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers).

during the Civil War period.[696] By the early-1940s, transportation maps show that Sugar Creek Pike follows its current route, and it appears that the old route was abandoned.

A 1937 aerial shows that there are some (possibly livestock) trails located in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. At least four trails are visible leading out from a structure located downhill and east of Fort McKee (outside of the monument boundary). The trails branch off in a distinct pattern following the ridgeline. In the early-1990s, the Blakeman family logged the wooded slope in the Eastern Line of Protection character area. They then cut and graded a route running south toward Fort Jones, where they destroyed the western portion of the fort. The road traveled south toward the North and South Stone Walls. In the 1990s, after Jessamine County purchased the property, they constructed an asphalt road from Sugar Creek Pike (new alignment) west into the site and constructed a small informal asphalt surface parking area. These features dead-ended into the former logging road. Jessamine County constructed a new trail system for the park, which opened in 2000 (**Figure 4.32**). The Fort Jones/Overlook trail enters the wood line southeast of Fort McKee and roughly parallels the infantry entrenchment downhill toward Fort Jones. At Fort Jones, the trail turns south toward the Stone Walls, following an extension of the former logging road. At the South Stone Wall, the trail travels back uphill and makes a loop to connect with the primary east-west portion of the trail. There are two footbridges where the trail crosses the infantry entrenchments.

Evaluation

During the period of significance, Sugar Creek Pike traversed the steep slope leading down from the northern line of protection toward Hickman Creek. The route of Sugar Creek Pike changed over time, likely during the late-1800s or early-1900s. By 1940, Sugar Creek Pike followed a different route running parallel to Hickman Creek north of Camp Nelson. The old route fell out of use. In the 1990s, the Blakeman family constructed a logging road south toward Fort Jones to access the interior of the wooded slope. Later, Jessamine County constructed an access road and a trail system in the Eastern Line of Protection area to provide visitor access to Fort Jones and the North and South Stone Walls. Maintenance crews currently use a route that runs roughly east-west from the Fort Jones/Overlook Trail to the logging road for off-road vehicle access to the eastern property boundary. These features exist at the site today.

696. D.G. Beers & Co. *Atlas of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine and Woodford Counties, Ky*. Philadelphia, 1877. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/2005627107/.

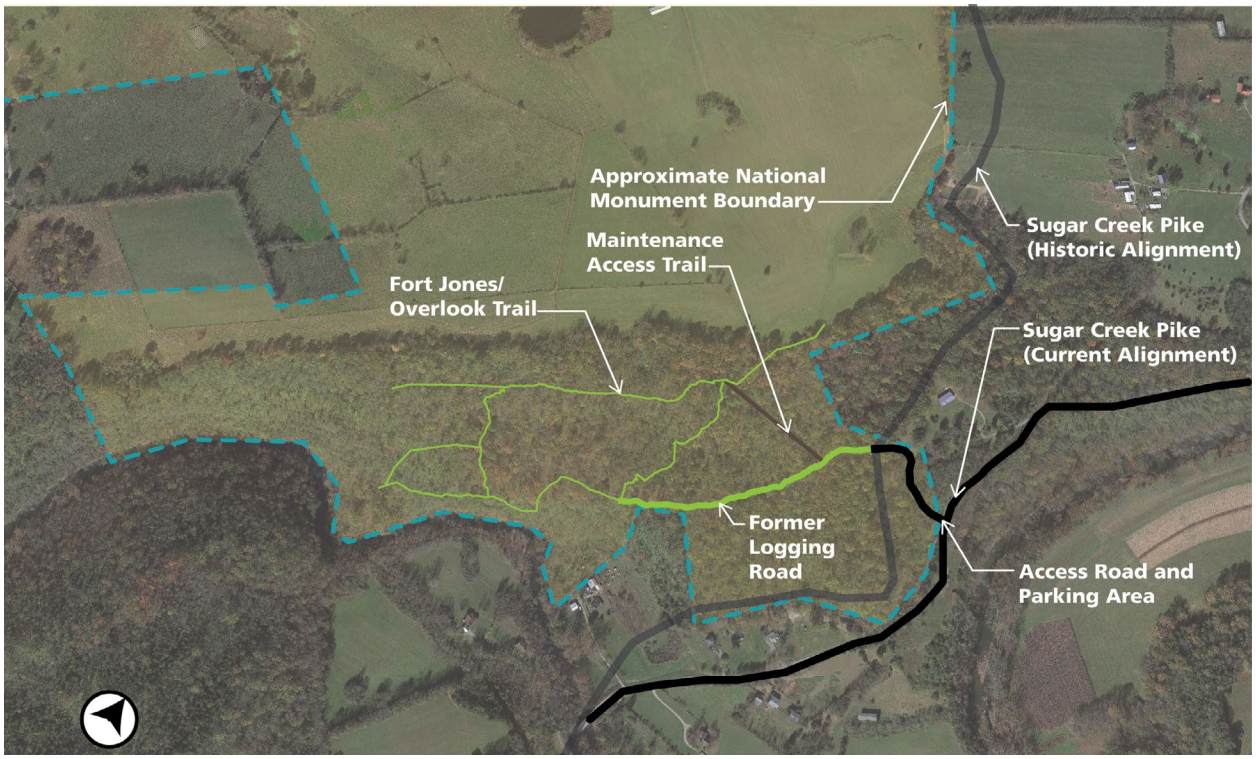


Figure 4.32. Annotated aerial showing historic Sugar Creek Pike alignment compared with current alignment in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area (Source: WLA Studio, Google Earth, 2021).

Warehouse Industrial and Maintenance Character Areas

Historic Condition

During the period of significance, roads crossed through this area providing connections between the different building clusters at the site (**Figure 4.33**, **Figure 4.34**). Historic maps show that there were roads running roughly north-south from the area with sheds and stables to the area with the prison and warehouses. A road ran southeast from Lexington-Danville Turnpike along the top of the slope above Spring Reservoir which terminated at the warehouses area (northern warehouse access road). Another road ran east-west from Lexington-Danville Turnpike to the warehouses area (southern warehouse access road). On the east side of the warehouses, a road ran east toward the sheds and shanties area. One road ran south from the warehouse area toward the ordnance depot area then turned west to connect back to Lexington-Danville Turnpike north of the forage office and cribs area. A spur of this road turned east toward the ordnance depot area. East of the warehouses there was a road that ran south; it turned southwest toward Lexington-Danville Turnpike south of the ordnance depot area.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, this area returned to residential and agricultural use. Those farming the property made use of the military road alignments to access the site. The Glass family developed a group of buildings in the middle of their property and extended the Civil War era road to access these buildings. By 1937, the Glass farm road ran from Lexington-Danville Turnpike east toward a fence line. It turned northeast and then southeast at a ninety-degree angle before terminating at a fence in the eastern portion of the property (**Figure 4.35**). The farm road followed this fence, which ran southwest toward Camp Nelson National Cemetery. Livestock trails extended from this road toward the stone lined pond on the eastern property border. On what would become the Brumfield property, a road ran from Lexington-Danville Turnpike through the central portion of the property. The road turned southeast to terminate at the fence line road. Portions of this road appeared to follow the alignment the Civil War era southern warehouse access road.

When the Glass family developed their property in the Maintenance Character Area in the 1970s, they constructed a looped driveway on the west side

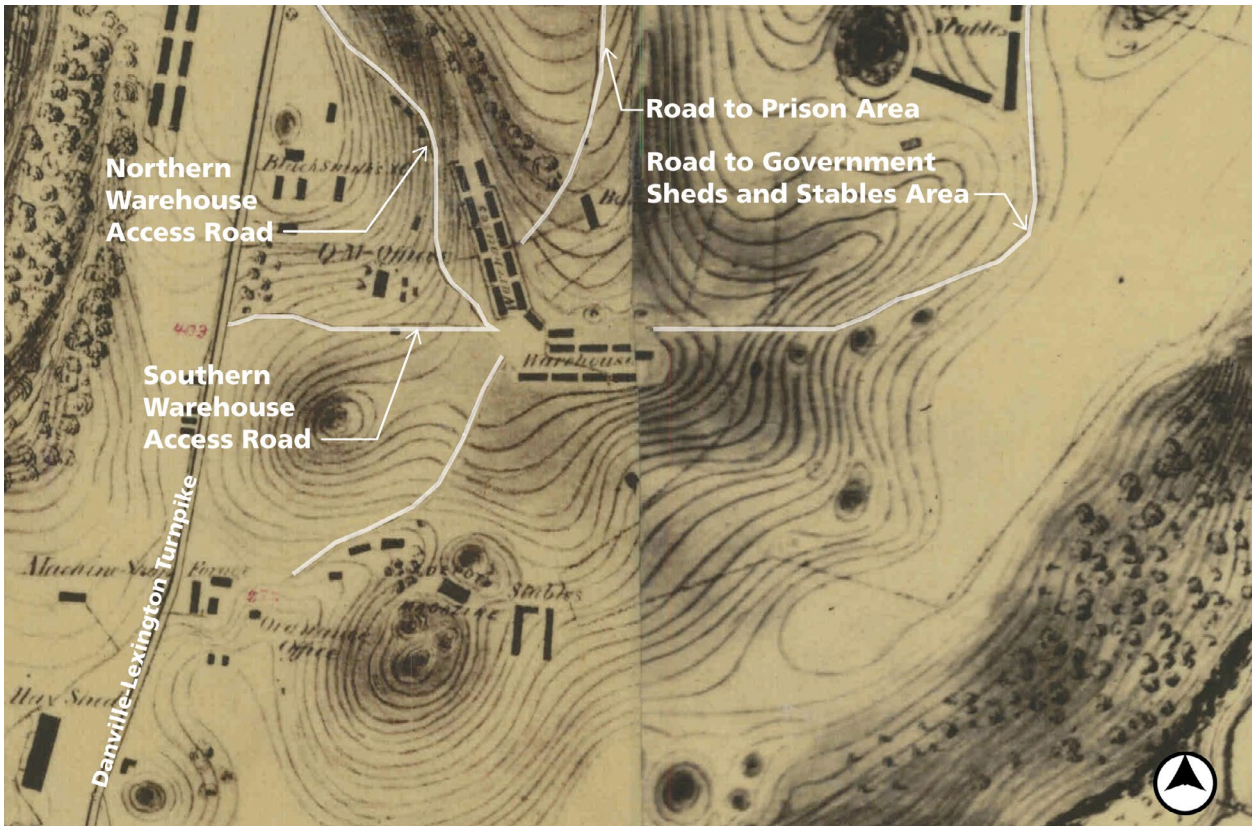


Figure 4.33. Annotated 1864 map highlighting the location of circulation within the Warehouse Industrial and Residential Character Areas (Source: National Archives, RG 77: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers).

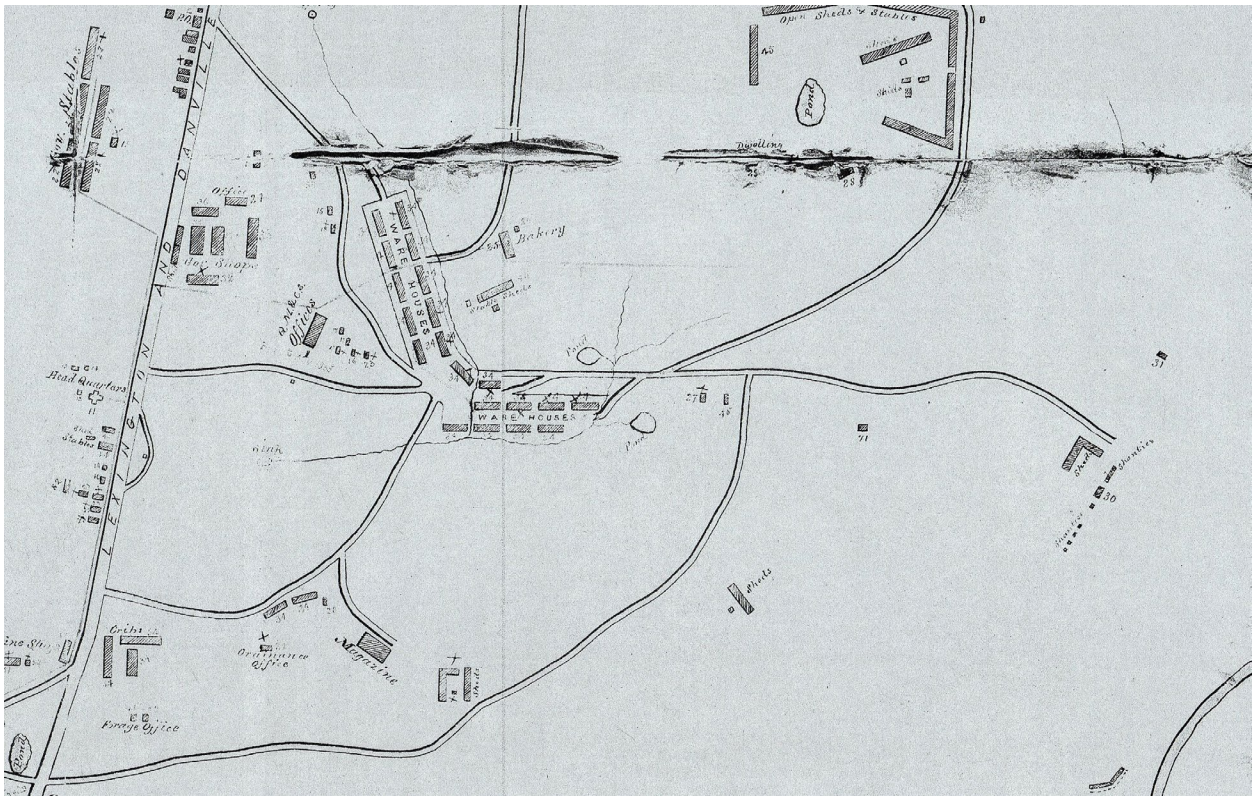


Figure 4.34. 1866 Miller map showing the circulation features in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area (Source: Cartographic Section, National Archives, RG 92, 1.158-f).

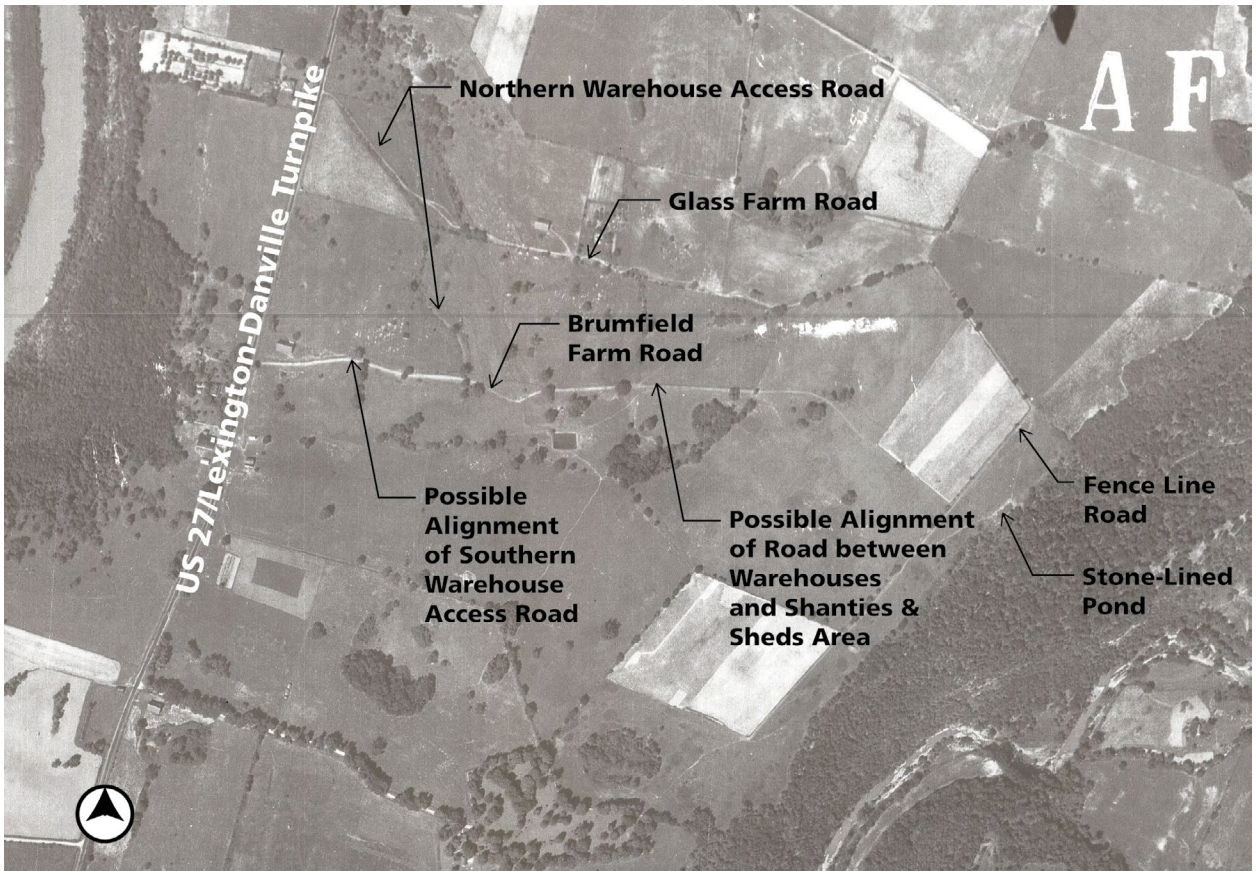


Figure 4.35. Annotated 1937 aerial showing circulation in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area (Source: Aerial photograph duplicated from National Archives Files, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, Courtesy of Stephen McBride).

of the house connecting to Danville Loop 2 Road (old US 27). They also constructed a driveway north of the house to access the garage behind the house and a farm road to the east (**Figure 4.36**). This drive exists at the site today and is asphalt-paved and terminates at a gate. The segment of this road in the Maintenance Character Area appears to follow the Civil War era northern warehouses access road. A short portion of this road follows the military road alignment into the Warehouse Industrial Character Area.

The Glass farm road turned east at a gate and went toward a complex of agricultural buildings in the northern part of the present-day Warehouse Industrial Character Area. It continued east straight toward pastures located on the east side of the character area. In the 1950s, the Glass farm road route changed to its current configuration. Past the group of agricultural buildings, the road turns north and follows the northern fence line. The road follows an area between two fences toward the eastern pasture area. The fence line road is accessible but does not receive regular use and is therefore illegible in the landscape.

Access to the Brumfield farm road is at Danville Loop 2 Road, south of Barn # 6. The road runs east toward the large pond (possibly following the Civil-War era southern warehouse access road) toward a sinkhole pond located in the former warehouse area. East of the pond, the road travels east toward a fence line, following the alignment of a Civil War era road that ran from the warehouses east to the shed and shanties area.

Evaluation

The north driveway (beginning of Glass farm road) in the northern part of the Maintenance Character Area appears to follow the route of one of the Civil War era roads—the northern warehouse access road. The Glass family improved and formalized this route when they constructed the brick house. Another portion of the historic northern warehouse access road is visible in the pasture located on the former Brumfield parcel. This portion of the road is unimproved (**Figure 4.37**).

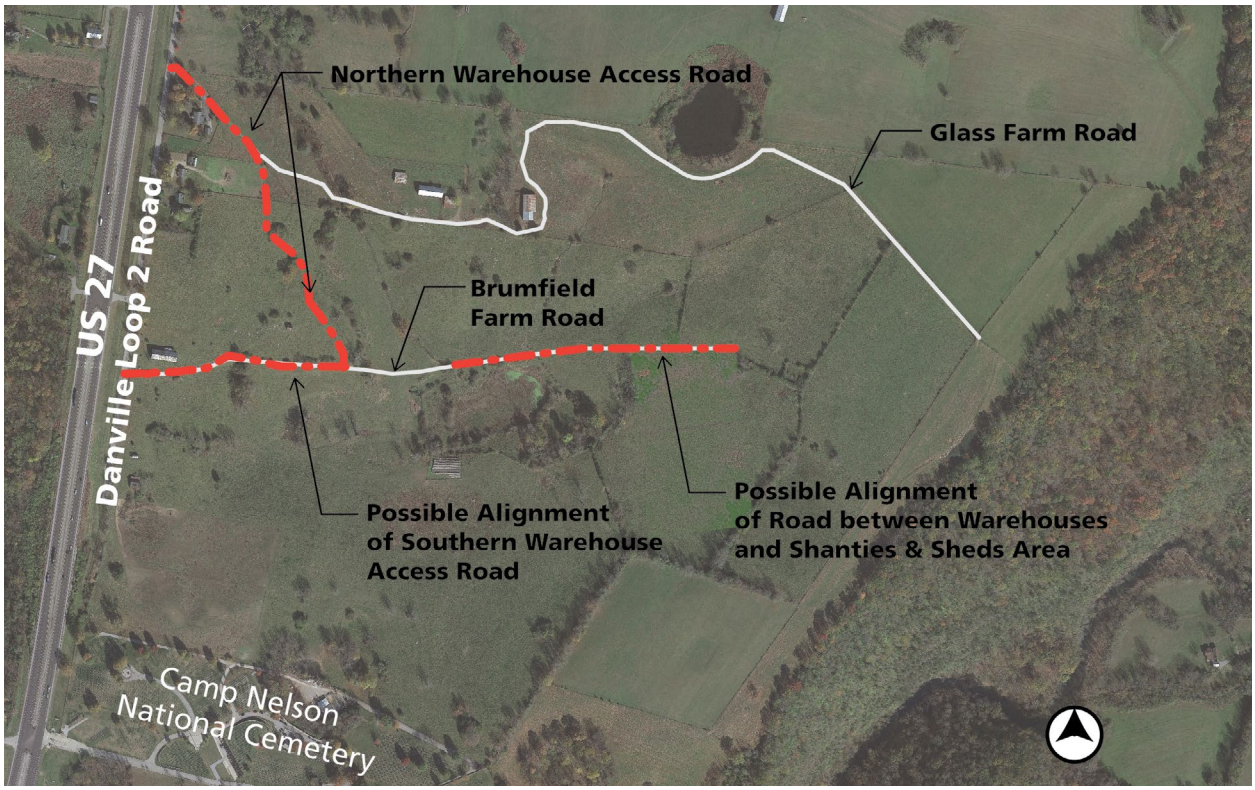


Figure 4.36. Circulation features in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. The red lines depict the alignment of Civil War era roads that are still visible in the landscape. The white lines are unpaved noncontributing farm roads (Source: Google Earth, WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 4.37. Remnant northern warehouse access road on former Brumfield property, view to north (Source: WLA Studio, 2021). Figure 4.14 is a larger version of this image.

This circulation feature contributes to the historic significance of Camp Nelson National Monument. The other farm roads in the Warehouse Industrial Character area postdate the period of significance and are therefore noncontributing. The possible exception are two portions of the Brumfield farm road, which appears to follow the east-west aligned Civil War era southern warehouse access road and the road located just east of the warehouses. Other roads in the area do not contribute to the historic significance of the site.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Historic Condition

Research did not reveal any circulation features within the existing national monument boundary during the period of significance. This was an area just east of the Home for Colored Refugees and just west of the group of buildings associated with Camp Nelson's hospital.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, John G. Fee purchased acreage formerly associated with the Home for Colored Refugees, and soon thereafter, the community of Ariel/Hall developed in this area. Set on a grid that partially aligned with the duplex cottages established for refugees during the war, circulation in the town included Front Street (later Church Street) and West Front Street (no longer extant). By 1937, Church Street (then called Hall Road) connected the community to Lexington-Danville Turnpike (**Figure 4.38**). There was a walkway leading from Church Street to Fee Memorial Church, and historic aerials appear to show interior pedestrian circulation features or desire lines between Fee Memorial Church and the parsonage. By 1953, topographic maps show that

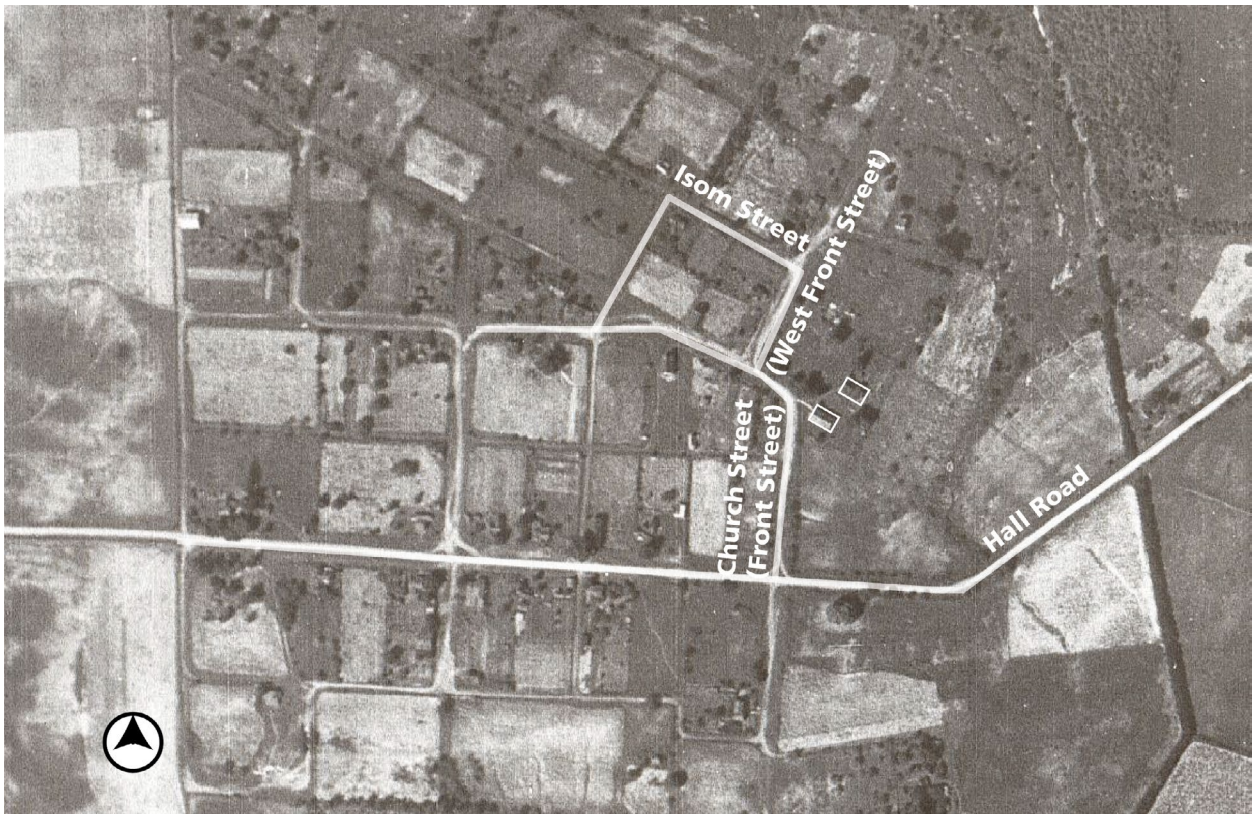


Figure 4.38. Annotated 1937 aerial image showing circulation near the Refugee Ward Character Area. Fee Memorial Church, parsonage, and streets are outlined for emphasis (Source: Aerial photograph duplicated from National Archives Files, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, Courtesy of Stephen McBride).

Church Street and Hall Road were paved. In 1998, an Eagle Scout constructed an amphitheater in the ravine at the site, which included a natural surface trail leading to the site located in the wooded area northeast of Fee Memorial Church.

Church Street and Hall Street continue to serve as the main vehicular access to the Refugee Ward Character Area. Existing pedestrian circulation features at the site include a concrete walkway that appears to be in the same location as the feature shown on the 1937 aerial photograph. Though it is overgrown and in poor condition, the trail through the woods to the amphitheater remains in the character area.

Evaluation

There were no known circulation features in this area dating to the period of significance. Church Street (formerly Front Street) and Hall Road provide vehicular access to Fee Memorial Church and serve as the southern and western boundaries the Refugee Ward Character Area. The walkway leading from Church Street to Fee Memorial Church, shown in a 1937 aerial photograph, exists at the site today. Interior circulation between the church and parsonage is not present at the site. A trail in the wooded area west of Fee Memorial Church provides access to the amphitheater site constructed in 1998.

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- Western portion of the driveway south of the White House
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Alignment of Danville Loop 2 Road (old US 27/Lexington-Danville Turnpike)
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- US 27 (four-lane)
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Entry drive at Visitor Center Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Visitor parking lot
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

- White House parking lot
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Service drive and parking
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Concrete sidewalk at visitor parking lot
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Concrete walkways near Visitor Center
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Asphalt walkway
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Concrete walkway to Barracks
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- US Army road traveling east-west through Northern Line of Protection Character Area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- US Army road traveling south from prison area to warehouses and bakery area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- US Army road traveling from government sheds and stables area to warehouses and bakery area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- US Army road traveling from government sheds and stables area to engineers' camp and Sugar Creek Pike
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Former farm road in Northern Line of Protection Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Fort Trail
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Depot Trail
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Fort Putnam Loop Trail
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Long Fort Trail
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- Sugar Creek Pike (historic alignment)
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Sugar Creek Pike (existing alignment)
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Fort Jones / Overlook Trail
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Former logging road
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Maintenance access trail in Eastern Line of Protection Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Access road and parking area in Eastern Line of Protection Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- US Army road from warehouses to eastern sheds and shanties area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- US Army road from warehouses to ordnance depot area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Small loop road at Lexington-Danville Turnpike
    - Contribution status: Missing
- US Army road from Lexington-Danville Turnpike to warehouses (northern warehouse access road)
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Westernmost portion of Glass farm road
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Eastern part of Glass farm road
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Middle section of Brumfield farm road
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- East and west sections of Brumfield farm road
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Portion of the southern warehouse access road
    - Contribution status: Undetermined

Maintenance Character Area

- Circular drive west of Facilities and Maintenance Office
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Driveway north of the Facilities and Maintenance Office (beginning of Glass farm road)
    - Contribution status: Contributing

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Circulation between Fee Memorial Church and former parsonage/manse building
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Concrete walkway from Church Street to Fee Memorial Church
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Trail to amphitheater
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Vegetation

Summary Analysis

During the Civil War period, US Army activities caused damage to the existing landscape at Camp Nelson. Historic records indicate that some land area was timbered for use in construction, and in other areas cropland and fields were damaged by occupation of the site. The US Army eventually compensated the previous landowners for damage to their property. One US Army official described the changes made to the landscape:

> They have sustained incalculable damage in the destruction of crops growing upon their Land at the time the camp was establishing, by the erection of Fortifications, by running turn pike roads through them, by Quarrying by ditching, by the wasting of the Land by the destruction of the grass, and by cutting down valuable fruit trees. . . [697]

In order to improve visibility, the US Army cleared the area north of the northern line of protection for 1,500 yards. In south Camp Nelson, the US Army estimated that "some three hundred acres of wood [had] been cut from the Scott place for the use of the Army."[698] Historical photographs show that there were clear sight lines across the camp, with large trees, potentially left for shade, remaining near many buildings. The US Army retained the woodlands on the steep slope leading down to Fort Jones and the Stone Walls, where trees remained to provide a visual buffer for the forts. Additionally, historic photographs indicate that there was a patch of woods along the ravine south of the Spring Reservoir.

The Visitor Center Character Area is characterized by lawn areas of mixed species, maintained as lawn. There are large shade trees in the area between the White House and Danville Loop 2 Road and in the sinkhole located east of the White House. Other vegetation in this area includes ornamental plantings reflecting Jessamine County's addition of visitor amenities.

The Northern Line of Protection Character Area is characterized by two distinct areas of vegetation including the frontcountry, which is maintained as lawn with weekly mowing, and the backcountry, which is maintained as managed tall vegetation. The trails and forts are maintained with weekly mowing. All of the forts and infantry entrenchments are covered with grass.

Visitor Center Character Area

Historic Condition

Photographs of the Visitor Center Character Area shows that the area in front of the White House was devoid of vegetation except for some patches of weedy groundcover and two large trees (**Figure 4.5**). A view apparently taken from the White House porch facing east shows at least two stands of large trees east of the White House located between buildings (**Figure 4.47**). A map from 1864 depicts this stand as a small group of trees located approximately one hundred feet east of the White House. These trees may have been associated with vegetation growing in one of the two sinkholes in this character area. Views of the White House from the warehouse area do not reveal any vegetation on the south side of the house.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, this character area returned to residential use, meaning that vegetation

697. Speed S. Frye, March 10, 1866, reproduced in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* 325-326.

698. Richard N. Batchelder to Meigs, April 4, 1866, reproduced in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 331.

likely reflected a domestic landscape. Historical aerials show that by 1950, there were large trees growing in the area between the White House and Lexington-Danville Turnpike. There appears to be some vegetation growing along a fence line south of the White House. A grid of trees is visible in the southeastern section of this character area by 1956, indicating that there may have been an orchard at the site. However, these trees are no longer present in a 1970 aerial.

Jessamine County purchased the property and began to develop visitor amenities at the site around 2000. Construction drawings dated 1998 show the existing trees around the White House, which included locust, catalpa, maple, hackberry, cedar, elm, persimmon, ash, sycamore, and oak. These trees ranged in size, and many trees were to be preserved in the construction of the new visitor parking lot.

Once completed, the new county facilities included an entrance gate with an oval-shaped planting island containing liriope (*Liriope* sp.), two Japanese plum yew (*Cephalotaxus harringtonia,* potentially var. *Drupacea*), and a persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*). Mature catalpa (*Catalpa* sp.), mulberry (*Morus* sp.), hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), and black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) grew in the areas near the White House. Jessamine County staff planted native trees at the site within the last ten years including red maple (*Acer rubrum*), tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), sweetbay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*), crabapple (*Malus* sp.), white oak (*Quercus alba*), and persimmon. Some of these plantings line the old driveway south of the White House. There is a small rectangular garden plot north of the White House, which national monument staff removed in 2021. During fieldwork, it did not contain any plantings. In the parking lot, there are two small planting islands containing Japanese plum yew. Just north of the planting islands are a crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*) and a clump of ornamental grasses. The lawn areas in the Visitor Center Character Area are a mix of Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), fescue (*Festuca* sp.), and rye (*Lolium* sp.) grasses with other weedy herbaceous species.

Evaluation

There is little documentation for the vegetation in the Visitor Center Character Area during the period of significance. There appears to be little groundcover in front of the White House and there appears to be a stand of trees located east of that building.

The trees located in the sink hole east of the White House parking lot, may be in a similar location and include similar species to those located here during the period of significance, but none of the trees date to the period of significance. All of the plantings associated with the entry gate and the visitor center parking lot postdate the period of significance. The shade trees located around the White House also postdate the period of significance.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

During the period of significance, this area was mostly cleared. Historic photographs show that there were some groups of trees located around buildings. For example, a photograph of the corrals area shows groups of trees in that area, but the zone between the corrals and the prison appears to be devoid of vegetation except for a few specimen trees (**Figure 4.39**). Historic mapping shows that the US Army left several clusters of trees in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area and that there was a line of trees along Lexington-Danville Turnpike south of the intersection of the main east-west road through this area of the site (**Figure 4.40**).

In 1865, the fortifications at Camp Nelson were not consistently sodded. A US Army inspector wrote that Forts Taylor and Jackson were in need of sodding, noting "the heavy rains this spring have washed deep gulleys in them, and will soon destroy them."[699] Sodding of the forts did eventually occur, but according to archeologist Stephen McBride, "Engineer records indicate that the earthworks were almost constantly in need of maintenance and repair. Erosion and the burrowing by rodents were often mentioned problems that needed attention. Resodding the surface of the earthworks,

699. Jason A. Hardie, Inspector General, US Army, "1. Camp Nelson Kentucky," May 13, 1865, reproduced in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky,* 199.

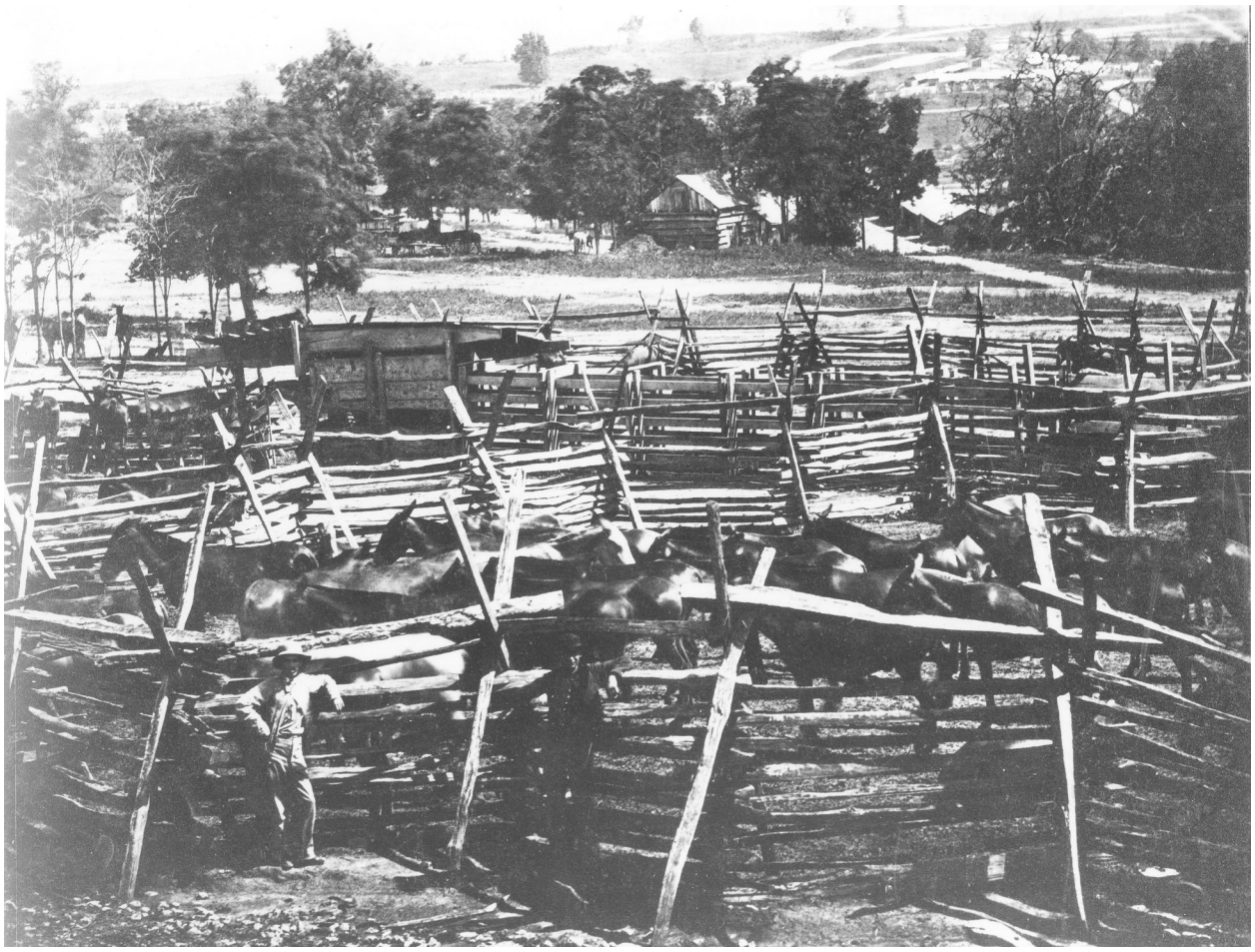


Figure 4.39. Historic image of the corrals area demonstrating vegetation patterns and the placement of small-scale features at Camp Nelson (1864). There are shade trees around the buildings, but the area to the west (top of photographs) is open with few specimen trees. The US Army used snake fencing for the corrals, which allowed for the enclosed areas to move locations (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photograph).

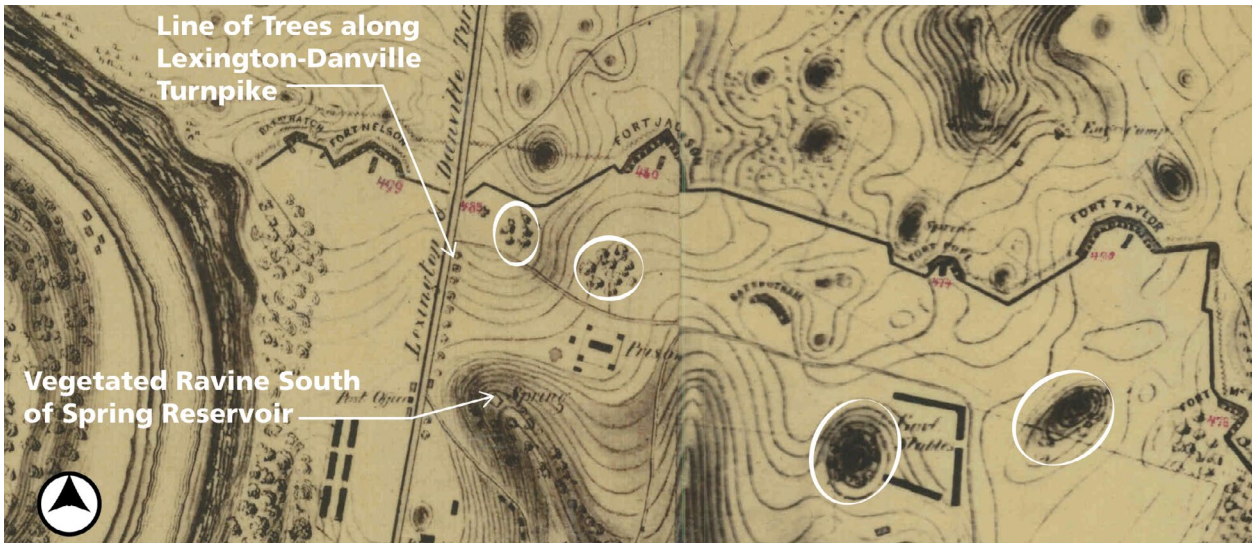


Figure 4.40. Annotated 1864 map highlighting stands of trees in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. There is a line of trees on the east side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike, vegetation in the ravine near the Spring Reservoir, and several large stands of trees within the area. The vegetation in the sink hole near the government sheds and stables area seems to have been removed by 1866, as this area is marked "pond" on a later map (Source: National Archives, RG 77: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers).

particularly the forts, seemed to be ongoing throughout their functional life."[700]

There appear to be trees located on the east and west sides of Fort McKee on historic maps. This condition is consistent with descriptions from the period of significance. According to historical reports, the US Army cleared all trees for fifteen hundred yards north of the forts and infantry entrenchments along the northern line of protection.[701] Records show that the US Army did not clear the wooded area east of Fort McKee, "to mask the line from the hills across Hickman [Creek]," meaning that the east edge of the character area was likely tree lined as it is today.[702]

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, documentation shows that the US Army abandoned the site and compensated the former property owners for damages to their properties. The Perry, Combs, and Naylor families went on to farm this property. The Northern Line of Protection Character Area remained a mostly open field with some specimen trees. The ravine around the Spring Reservoir appears to have remained vegetated throughout the decades following the Civil War. Aerial photographs show that there was a line of trees along Lexington-Danville Turnpike by 1937, consistent with conditions depicted on a Civil War era map.

The owners added fence lines to the area to separate fields, and vegetation grew up along the fence lines. By the 1980s the Naylor family had established a pasture area east of a barn located near the former prison area. Eventually, trees grew up along this fence line. When Jessamine County purchased the property, they removed many of the interior fences at the site, but they chose to keep the large trees lining this former pasture. The eastern edge of this tree line is the location of the snake rail fencing at the property.

By the late-1990s, there were several specimen trees growing along the farm road running diagonally through the character area. The remaining forts and infantry entrenchments were maintained without trees growing in them, with the exception of Forts McKee and Jackson, which had several large trees growing on them. Currently the sinkholes in the area have small patches of woodland with a mix of trees and shrubs. The sinkhole located in the southern portion of the character area is a pond with trees and woody vegetation on the north edge of the pond. The vegetation transitions to managed tall vegetation toward the pasture area. Jessamine County established the trail system at the site, which consists primarily of grass maintained at a length to accommodate foot traffic. Maintenance crews added new tree plantings along the trail between 2001 and 2020. Besides the trails and the forts, all of the open field areas in the character area are managed as tall vegetative cover and hayed periodically. The sinkholes, northern edge of the pond, and the slopes of the ravine leading to the Spring Reservoir contain a mix of trees and shrubs typical of an oak-hickory forest mix. There is woody vegetation and taller grasses located along the fence lines on the southern border of the character area. For the most part, the fence line along the western end of northern property boundary is devoid of woody vegetation with the exception of a few specimen trees. As the fence line nears Fort Taylor and turns toward the southeast, there is more woody vegetation. There is a row of red maple and sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) lining Danville Loop 2 Road at the western edge of the character area.

Evaluation

An open landscape, dotted with trees characterized the Northern Line of Protection Character Area during the period of significance. The forts and infantry entrenchments were sodded, though maintaining the sod was a problem for the US Army. There was a line of trees along Lexington-Danville Turnpike and the ravine leading to the Spring Reservoir was vegetated. Sinkholes located throughout the character area had trees in them. Today, there are similar vegetation patterns in these areas featuring plants that may be similar species as those present during the historic period.

Field and road patterns added after the Civil War resulted in new patterns of vegetation. Large trees began to grow along fence lines, around the pond located in the southern part of the character area, and on Forts Jackson and McKee. When Jessamine County removed the fences on the interior of the property, they left some of larger trees growing

700. McBride, McBride, and McBride, "Archaeology and Reconstruction of Fort Putnam, Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park, Jessamine County, Kentucky," 198.
701. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 773.
702. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 773.

along the fence lines. Other vegetation patterns that appeared after the period of significance also include trees along the farm road and grassed trails.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

Records show that the US Army did not clear the wooded area east of Fort McKee, in order "to mask the line from the hills across Hickman [Creek]." The east edge of the character area was likely tree lined as it is today.[703] Military maps show the area as a forested slope between Fort McKee and Hickman Creek.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, the historic features in this area were left largely intact. Property owners decided to timber the property in the 1990s, which resulted in the loss of specimen trees, but the area remained largely wooded. Trees began to grow in and around Fort Jones.

The Eastern Line of Protection Character Area is currently vegetated with a successional forest with a mix of evergreens and deciduous trees with areas of shrub understory. This is typical of areas timbered within the last twenty to thirty years. The oak-hickory forest includes other species such as tulip poplar and red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*). Toward the cliffside zone, where the character area approaches the bluff overlooking Hickman Creek, the successional forest becomes increasingly mesic and includes red oak (*Quercus rubra*), chinquapin oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), and black walnut. Understory plants include dogwood (*Cornus florida*), black haw (*Viburnum prunifolium*), and spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*). There are portions of the understory dominated by bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), a plant classified by the Kentucky Exotic Pest Plant Council as a "Severe Threat" exotic invasive species.[704]

Evaluation

A wooded slope characterized the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area during the period of significance. The forts and infantry entrenchments in this area were stone construction, which did not necessitate the installation of sod. The area was timbered (but not clear cut) in the 1990s, and while the species composition is likely different than the Civil War period, the vegetation in this area contributes to the historic setting of the site. The trees growing on Fort Jones post-date the Civil War era.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Historic Condition

Historic maps and photographs show that the Warehouse Industrial Character Area had stands of large trees and shade trees around some buildings. Photographs show that there were large trees growing between the buildings in the government shops and Quartermaster and Commissary office area (**Figure 4.41**). There was also a large stand of trees located inside the L-shape created by the warehouses (**Figure 4.42**, **Figure 4.43**). Maps show that the ravine south of the Spring Reservoir was also wooded. The ordinance office area had fewer trees than other locations in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. One historic photograph shows that there was a stand of trees along Lexington-Danville Turnpike between the forage office and cribs area and the government shops.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, this area became the Glass and Brumfield farms. The families divided their properties into pastures and fields of various sizes.

Pastures in the current Warehouse Industrial Character Area are managed through individual



Figure 4.41. Large trees dotted the slope between the buildings in the Quartermaster and Commissary office area, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photograph). Figure 4.21 is a larger version of this image.

703. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 773.
704. Kentucky Exotic Pest Plant Council, "Exotic Invasive Plants of Kentucky," 2013, https://www.se-eppc.org/ky/KYEPPC_2013list.pdf.



Figure 4.42. View facing north toward the warehouses. There is a group of trees located north of the warehouses, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photograph). Figure 4.12 is a larger version of this image.



Figure 4.43. View facing north toward the warehouses, showing that there were large trees located throughout the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photograph). Figure 4.22 is a larger version of this image.

special use permits for agricultural use and most are mown annually to semi-annually and/or grazed. Cattle graze on the southern portion of the character area on the parcel that was once the Brumfield farm. Horses previously grazed in a portion of this area until September 2021. Pastures in this area are less uniform in appearance. The grazed pastures include various grasses and forbs including Kentucky bluegrass, broomsedge (*Andropogon virginicus*), mustard (*Alliaria petiloata*), purple dead nettle (*Lamium purpureum*), and aster (*Aster* sp.).

Some pasture areas and fence lines in the former Glass farm are old fields giving way to succession. In these areas there is an invasion of woody shrubs including blackberries (*Rubus* sp.), buckberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*), sumac (*Rhus glabra*), and trumpet vine (*Campsis radicans*). Small trees include red cedar and red mulberry (*Morus rubra*), among others.

There are three sycamores in the former warehouse area that exceed seventy-two inches diameter. Sycamores are a fast-growing species, and despite their size, these trees likely do not date to the period of significance.

Evaluation

During the period of significance, the Warehouse Industrial Character Area contained stands of large trees and trees grew near many of the buildings. Though much of the area was likely cleared, photographs and maps show that there was a stand of woods in the ravine south of the Spring Reservoir. This area is vegetated today and contributes to the historic setting.

There is no longer a wooded slope north of the former warehouse area. Today, this area has fields and agricultural buildings. While the large sycamores in this area likely do not date to the period of significance, they contribute to the overall historic setting. There is no longer a stand of trees in the southwestern portion of the character area north of the former forage office and cribs area. The vegetation along the fence lines and former fence lines in the character area do not correspond to known vegetation locations during the period of significance.

Maintenance Character Area

Historic Condition

Research did not reveal the presence of any vegetation features in this area during the period of significance.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, the Maintenance Character Area became part of the Glass farm, which was cultivated through the late twentieth-century. Around 1970, the Glass family constructed a brick house in the northwest corner of their property. In developing the residential site, the Glass family planted shade trees and foundation shrubs around the house and garage. Many of these vegetation features exist at the site today.

Plantings in the Maintenance Character Area have a semi-formal aesthetic. Mature tulip poplar, blue

spruce (*Picea pungens*), red oak, red maple, and other ornamental trees form a dense canopy over the front and side lawn areas. The circular entry drive is lined with a trimmed Chinese privet hedge (*Ligustrum sinense*), while a row of dogwood trees lines the entrance to the driveway located north of the house. Foundation plantings in front of the house include yews (*Taxus* sp.) and other evergreen species. Plantings also include a cluster of southern Indian azalea (*Rhododendron indicum*) and Pfitzer juniper (*Juniperus* × *pfitzeriana*). A group of trees including a pine (*Pinus* sp.) is near the northeastern portion of the character area.

Evaluation

All the vegetation in the Maintenance Character Area postdates the period of significance and does not contribute to the historic setting of Camp Nelson.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Historic Condition

Historic records indicate that the US Army timbered portions of the Refugee Ward Character Area during the Civil War. Historical records state "Mr. Joseph M. Morse [Moss] owns two hundred acres of land within the fortifications all of which has been occupied by the Government, the Freedman's Village having been located thereon. Forty Acres of wood was cut and used by the troops."[705] The location of the felled woodland is unknown, but the Refugee Ward Character Area is located on the former Moss property. Historic photographs of the Home for Colored Refugees area show that there was a grass groundcover with some specimen trees.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

A map from 1891 seems to indicate that there may have been a wooded ravine in the same location as the existing ravine at the site. The map shows tree symbols next to a line, indicating a spring or stream with woods on either side (**Figure 4.44**). By the 1930s, the site was open with fields lining Hall Road and Church Streets. There appears to be a specimen tree, perhaps along a fence northwest of Fee Memorial Church. Two other specimen trees existed in this area along Church Street, but they were outside the current national monument boundary. By the 1970s, a wooded area occupied the entire slope northeast of Fee Memorial Church. There were two open field areas, including a narrow field along the portion of Hall Road that traveled northeast toward US 27 and at the northeast intersection of Hall Road and Church Street. The area between this field and Fee Memorial Church was lawn.

The frontage along Hall Road and Church Street leading to the Fee Memorial Church is currently maintained as a large expanse of turfgrass (B1 Functional-Short) with scattered trees. Most of the Refugee Ward Character Area is forested. The forest vegetation is a dense thicket of forty- to fifty-year-old successional oak-hickory forest and exotic invasive species including tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), Chinese privet, and winter creeper (*Euonymous fortunii*). There is a large mature multi-trunk mulberry (*Morus* sp.) tree just north of the Fee Memorial Church.

Evaluation

There is little information about vegetation in Refugee Ward Character Area during the period of significance. The US Army logged some of the property owned by Joseph Moss during the Civil War. Vegetation in the ravine located northeast of Fee Memorial Church is indicated on mapping as early as 1891. This forested vegetation covers most of the character area today. Since the historic condition of this area is unknown, the contributing status of the forested area and open fields is undetermined.

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- Trees located east of the White House (location of trees only)
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Shade trees around the White House
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Entry plantings
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Visitor Center parking lot plantings
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Former garden plot area behind the White House
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

705. Richard N. Batchelder to Meigs, April 4, 1866, reproduced in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 331.



Figure 4.44. Map of the Town of Ariel," redrawn from the photograph copy of a ca. 1891 plat map. (Source: RATIO Architects and WLA Studio, 2021).

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Line of trees along Danville Loop 2 Road
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Vegetation in the ravine near the Spring Reservoir
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Sinkhole vegetation
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Tree line at Eastern Line of Protection Character Area boundary
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Grass covering forts and infantry entrenchments
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- General vegetation pattern of open fields with few specimen trees
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Trees growing on Forts Jackson and McKee
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Fence line vegetation
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Trees along grass trails and former farm road
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Trees around former pasture in prison area
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- Forested slope toward Hickman Creek
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Trees growing on Fort Jones
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- Trees located in the slope from the former warehouse area to the Northern Line of Protection Character Area boundary
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Trees located between buildings in the government shops and Quartermaster and Commissary office areas
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Trees located along Lexington-Danville Parkway between the government shops and forage office and cribs areas
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Stand of trees located south of the sinkhole pond and quarry area
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Fence line vegetation
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Maintenance Character Area

- Shade trees around the Facilities and Maintenance Office
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Foundation plantings at the Facilities and Maintenance Office
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Plantings along driveway loop in Maintenance Character Area
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Plantings along north driveway in Maintenance Character Area
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Pines in Maintenance Character Area
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Mulberry near Fee Memorial Church
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Shade trees in turfgrass east of Fee Memorial Church
  - Contribution status: Undetermined
- Wooded area east of Fee Memorial Church
  - Contribution status: Undetermined

Views and Vistas

Summary Analysis

The US Army located Camp Nelson in an area with a topography that made it easier to defend. After the US Army removed much of the timber at the site, there were expansive views from one area to another. Historic photographs show that the White House, set on a high point, was visible from many locations across the site. The US Army strategically sited the warehouses at a low point, to shield them from view from the road. The Army left a portion of woods on the eastern edge of Camp Nelson to shield views of the fortifications in that area from across Hickman Creek. The bluffs above the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek offered excellent views across the surrounding territory. The undulating karst topography of the site limited clear sight lines within the fort's landscape.

After the Civil War, the War Department established Camp Nelson National Cemetery. Expansion of the national cemetery in the 1970s visually impacted the agricultural setting in the southern part of the current national monument. Modern development on adjacent parcels also impacts the viewshed of the national monument. The expansion of US 27 to a four-lane highway, the addition of houses and agricultural buildings on surrounding properties, and the addition of rickhouses for a nearby distillery have had significant impacts to the viewshed. Additionally, a new expansion project at Camp Nelson National Cemetery, located on a north-facing slope that notches into the national monument, impacts the views to the south within the site.

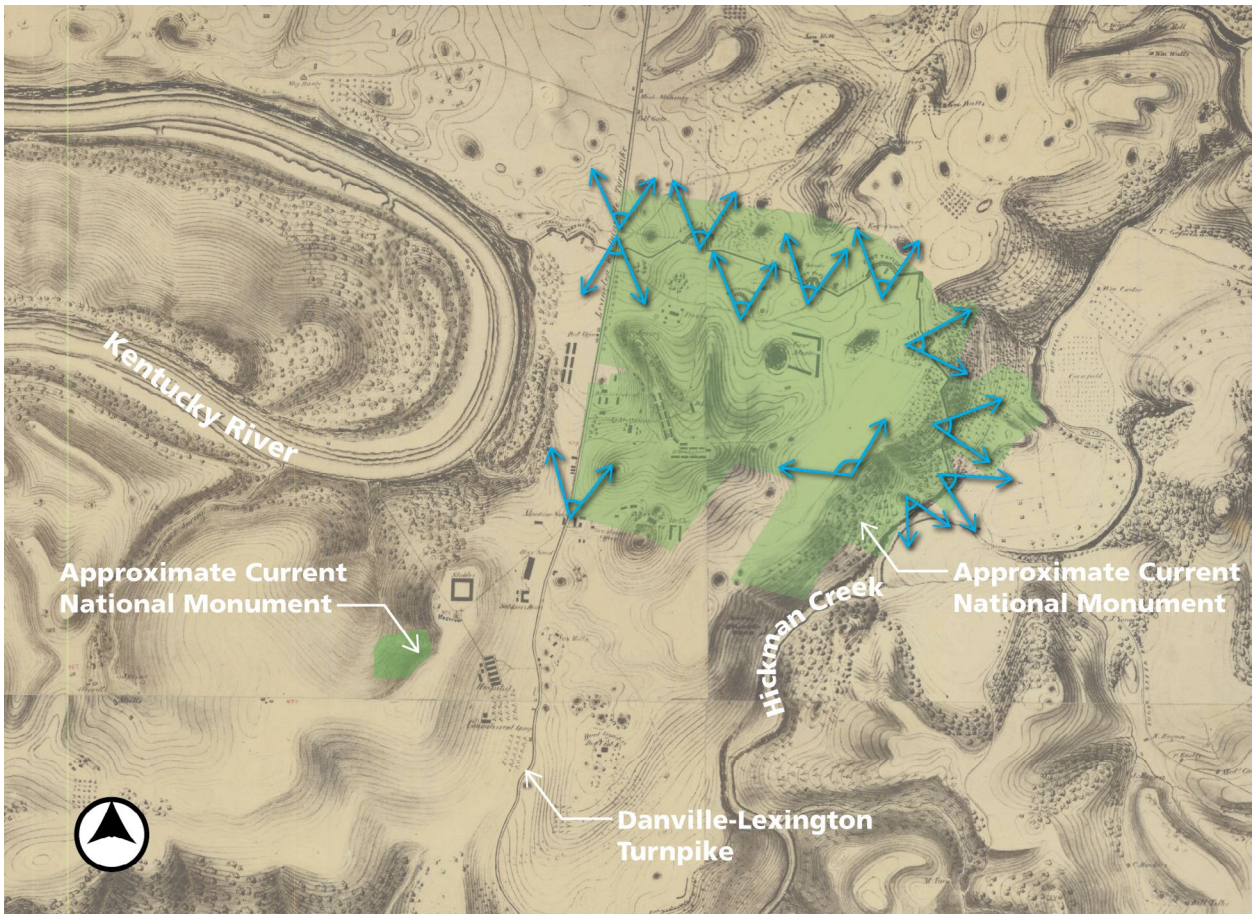


Figure 4.45. Annotated 1864 map of Camp Nelson showing the strategic views into and out of the area that would become the national monument (Source: National Archives, RG 77: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers).

Historic Condition

Views across the Visitor Center and Northern Line of Protection Character Areas were largely unobstructed during the period of significance (**Figure 4.45**). Historic photographs show that there were some stands of trees in this area, but the only factor limiting views was the undulating topography and the buildings added to the site by the US Army. The US Army removed trees for fifteen hundred yards north of the line of forts and infantry entrenchments, ensuring visibility along the front. The wooded slope in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area provided visual cover for the northern line of protection. The Stone Walls overlooking Hickman Creek had views toward the Hickman Creek valley.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, the area returned to residential and agricultural use. Outside of Camp Nelson, development impacted the views from the site (**Figure 4.46**). By 1956, a distillery purchased a parcel on the west side of US 27 to construct two rickhouses for aging whiskey. The distillery expanded, adding one house by 1960, and increasing the total to six rickhouses by 1970. These buildings, which are seven stories high, impacted the view from the former location of Camp Nelson toward the southwest.

Residential and agricultural development impacted views toward the north from the former site of Camp Nelson. By 1950, there was a barn on this adjacent property, just north of Fort Jackson. By the 1983, there was an additional agricultural building located north of the barn. By 1998, the area included a house and several additional agricultural buildings, all visible from the northern line of protection.

By 1998, Kentucky DOT had constructed US 27, a four-lane road parallel to the old US 27 and Lexington-Danville Turnpike. The grading required to construct the road impacted views

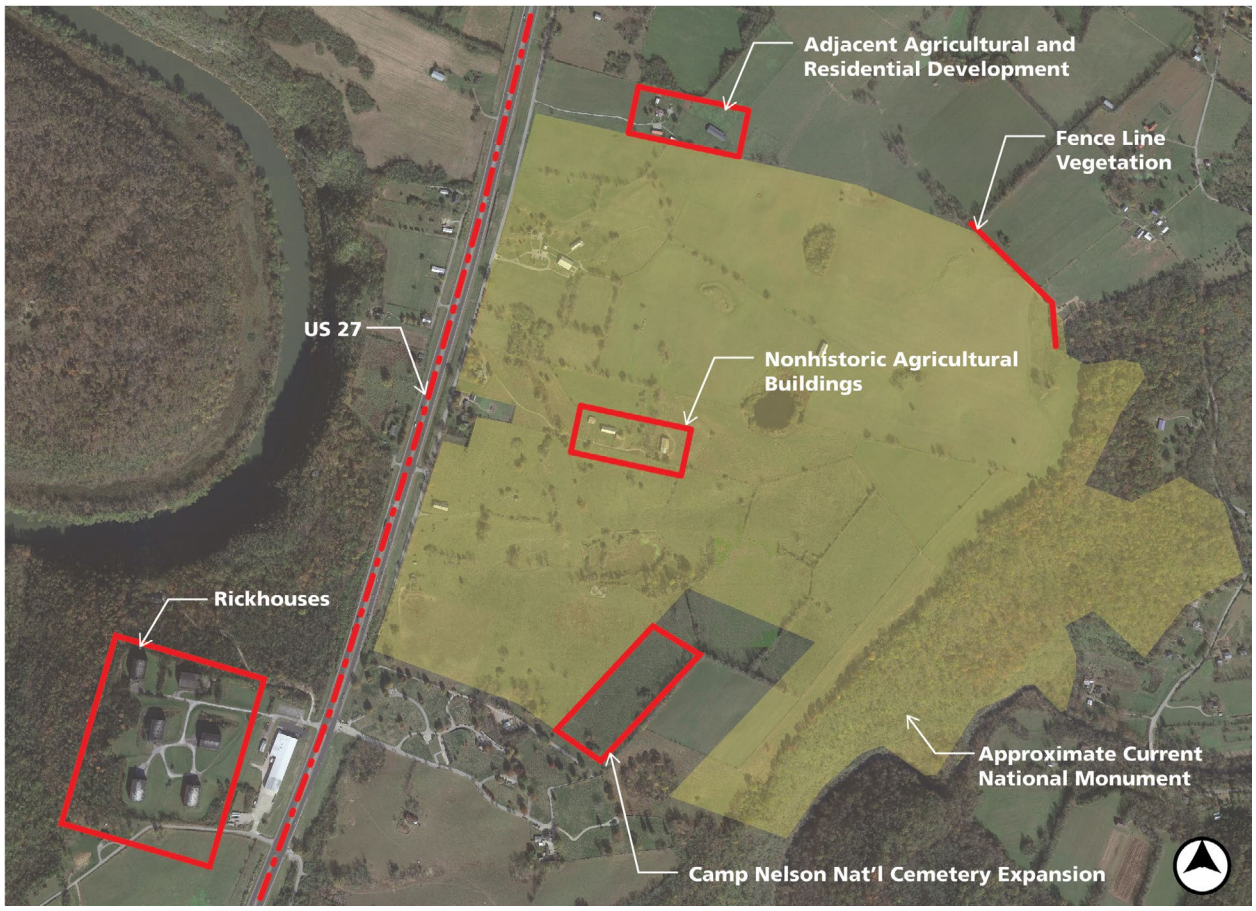


Figure 4.46. Modern intrusions on views from and within Camp Nelson National Monument (Source: Google Earth, WLA Studio, 2021).

toward the southwest from the former Camp Nelson site.

Views are expansive from the White House, which sits at a high point at the site. There are visual intrusions to the south including the road cut for US 27 and the rickhouses on the west side of US 27. The clearest view across the landscape toward the forts and infantry entrenchments exists behind the Visitor Center. Within the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, the view toward the north is still cleared of vegetation in the areas that are agricultural fields. There are modern intrusions visible along the northern property boundary. Residential and agricultural development on this adjacent property postdates the period of significance and impacts the view from the forts and infantry entrenchments toward the north. In the eastern portion of the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, fence line vegetation impacts views toward the northeast from Fort Taylor.

There is an overlook at the North Stone Wall that provides a view over the Hickman Creek valley toward a Jessamine County-owned property located below. Vegetative growth somewhat obscures the view. The best view of the Hickman Creek valley is from the South Stone Wall. There are residential and agricultural features in the view that postdate the period of significance.

The War Department developed the oldest portion of Camp Nelson National Cemetery immediately after the Civil War. Since then, the cemetery has expanded to accommodate additional interments. The latest expansion is located on a north-facing slope adjacent to the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. The grading activities for this expansion were underway during field work for this document. Because the slope is north facing, the cemetery expansion is visible from most points within the national monument.

Within the site, agricultural buildings that postdate the period of significance impact the views.

The group of agricultural buildings located on the former Glass property are visible from the former warehouse area. This group of buildings also impacts the view from the Northern Line of Protection Character Area toward the Warehouse Industrial Character Area.

After the Civil War, the Refugee Ward Character Area became known as Ariel/Hall, and a residential community, school, and church developed near the current national monument boundary. Between 1970 and 1983, the owners of a parcel across Church Street developed a one-story brick residence facing Fee Memorial Church.

Evaluation

The broad expansive views within the Visitor Center, Northern Line of Protection, Warehouse Industrial, and Maintenance Character Areas are consistent with those present during the Civil War period. The Eastern Line of Protection Area was intentionally left wooded during the period of significance and remains so today, limiting views out from the site. There is an expansive view of the Hickman Creek valley from an overlook located at the North Stone Wall. Views outside of the existing national monument boundary have been impacted by development that post-dates the period of significance. These visual impacts include the construction of US 27, the addition of seven-story rickhouses southwest of the national monument, residential and agricultural development north of the national monument boundary, and the expansion of the National Cemetery south of the national monument boundary. In the Refugee Ward Character Area, the residential neighborhood in the Hall community adjacent to the Fee Memorial Church area is visible from the site.

Features

- Views across the expansive open space within the Visitor Center, Northern Line of Protection, Warehouse Industrial, and Maintenance Character Areas
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Views toward the cleared areas north of the Northern Line of Protection
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- View from the North Stone Wall toward the Hickman Creek valley
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- View from Fort Taylor toward northeast
    - Contribution status: Missing
- View from the stone lined pond across Warehouse Industrial and toward Northern Line of Protection Character Areas
    - Contribution status: Contributing

Buildings and Structures

Summary Analysis

One historic building and thirteen structures survive within Camp Nelson National Monument date to the period of significance. These features retain sufficient integrity to convey their historic associations and contribute to the significance of the historic property. The White House dates to around 1856, and the US Army used the building as the Quartermaster and Commissary officers' quarters during the Civil War period. Thirteen structures including seven forts and the infantry entrenchment along the northern line of protection and Hickman Creek, the remnant Powder Magazine, the remnant Bakery Oven, the Prison Ice House, the Spring Reservoir wall, and the Quartermaster Ice House all date to the period of significance.

Over three hundred additional buildings appear on historic maps and in historic photographs that no longer exist at the site. These missing buildings relate to the US Army's occupation of the property during the Civil War. Buildings indicated on Civil War era maps include warehouses, prison buildings, hospitals, stables, magazines, sheds, dining rooms, cook houses, guard houses, mess halls, and buildings relating to the Home for Colored Refugees. Many of these buildings were located outside the current national monument's boundary.

The US Army dismantled almost all of the buildings at Camp Nelson between 1866 and 1868. The US Army left many of the earthwork and stone structures at the site. Former owners reoccupied their properties and constructed new buildings in the subsequent years. These included barns, houses, and other agricultural structures.

At the Home for Colored Refugees site, the Ariel/Hall community developed as an African



Figure 4.47. 1864 photograph that appears to have been taken from the upper porch of the White House facing east. Two of the buildings (right and left rear) in the photo appear to pre-date US Army occupation at the site. The stable on the right is similar to other US Army buildings that were present at the site. Fort Putnam appears to be under construction in the background of the photo (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photograph).

American hamlet. The Fee Memorial Church and a parsonage/manse foundation exist at the site. These features post-date the period of significance.

After Jessamine County purchased the property, they removed some of the agricultural buildings on the Naylor property and constructed a new Visitor Center and the Barracks. The county renovated the White House between 1998 and 1999. The county reused a carriage house associated with the White House for storage. Many of the agricultural buildings associated with the former Brumfield and Glass farms remain at the site.

Visitor Center Character Area

Historic Conditions

Prior to the US Army's occupation of this area, the Visitor Center Character Area was likely occupied by buildings supporting the agricultural use of the property. Buildings may have included barns, outhouses, and perhaps quarters for enslaved persons who resided at the property. The locations of are possibly documented in a historic photo (**Figure 4.47**).

During the Civil War period, this area included the White House, which the US Army used as the Quartermaster and Commissary officers' quarters. Historic maps show that there were four buildings in addition to the White House located in this character area. These buildings are not labeled on the map, and a historic photograph shows at least

three buildings east of the White House (**Figure 4.47**). One appears to be in the construction style of the US Army. Since the US Army dismantled most buildings at the site after the Civil War, the military buildings likely did not survive past the historic period.

Post-Historic Condition and Existing Conditions

After the Civil War, residential and agricultural use of this character area resumed, and the US Army removed most buildings from Camp Nelson. Owners constructed additional buildings in the character area between the end of the Civil War and 1950. By 1950, there were between seven and eight additional buildings in this character area. There was a stone wall along old US 27 (now Danville Loop 2 Road) by 1950, but the actual date of construction is unknown. The owners of the property continued to make changes to the number of buildings throughout the subsequent decades. They constructed the building now used by the NPS as a storage building sometime before 1983. They also removed several outbuildings east of the White House. The Naylor family sold the property to Jessamine County Fiscal Court in 1997, and the county removed many of the agricultural buildings in this character area and constructed the Visitor Center in 2003 and the Barracks in 2008. Jessamine County Fiscal Court rehabilitated the White House in 1998.

Buildings within the Visitor Center Character Area today include the White House, the Storage Building, the Visitor Center, and the Barracks. Structures include the stone wall paralleling Danville Loop 2 Road and drainage structures, including culverts under the two drive entrances, which convey water into the drainage ditch along the road.

Evaluation

As noted, the White House survives from the Civil War era period at Camp Nelson National Monument. This building retains a high degree of integrity, even though it has been rehabilitated since the period of significance. The resemblance to the historic condition is strongest from a distance; at closer range, the false shutters, too-tall balcony balustrades, too-steep portico pediment, and simplified moldings show clear differences from the house's documented appearance in the 1865 photograph. The interior of the house largely retains its original plan and retains Greek Revival mantels, architraves, doors, and other woodwork that are consistent with its date of construction.

All other buildings and structures present in the Visitor Center Character Area postdate the period of significance and were added to the site by later owners during the 1900s, the Naylor family, or Jessamine County Fiscal Court in the 2000s. These include the stormwater management structures and the stone wall along Danville Loop 2 Road.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

The US Army occupied the Scott family farm and constructed buildings and structures in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area to facilitate use of the property and to protect the Army's supply depot.

Forts and Entrenchments

The US Army constructed five earthen forts (Jackson, Pope, Putnam, Taylor, and McKee) in this area. A line of infantry entrenchments, running roughly east to west, connected the forts. (The US Army constructed two additional forts—Hatch and Nelson—to the west of this line. These forts are outside the current national monument boundary.) Fort Jackson was a four-sided, V-shaped, partially enclosed lunette. Fort Pope was a three-sided, L-shaped redan with four cannon platforms, two embrasures, and a powder magazine. Fort Putnam was set to the rear of the line of gun pits and the other forts and was a three-sided, roughly C-shaped redan. Fort Taylor was a four-sided, U-shaped, partially-enclosed lunette with a powder magazine. Fort McKee was a two-sided, V-shaped redan on the eastern portion of the defensive line around Camp Nelson. The powder magazines in the forts were constructed of wood planks and tar paper. They sat partially underground and were buried under a protective layer of earth.

The line of infantry entrenchments connecting the forts included gun pits (two feet deep, ten feet wide) and breastworks that were four feet wide and thick. The soldiers laid an abatis of tree branches along the outside of the line of entrenchments for added protection. A historic photograph appears

to show the construction of Fort Putnam (**Figure 4.47**).

Prison Area
The prison at Camp Nelson was located southeast of the White House, approximately seven hundred feet from Lexington-Danville Turnpike. According to an archeological study for the Camp Nelson Military Prison (15Js78),

> The Camp Nelson Prison was located east of the Lexington-Danville Turnpike (present U.S. 27) in the north section of the camp approximately 245 m [800 ft] southwest of Fort Jackson (Miller 1866). This facility consisted of a 100 by 50 ft timber jail with cells on either side, enclosed within a 10 ft tall by 10 in thick stockade (Sears 2002). Archival photographs of the prison illustrate that the stockade was constructed from cut trees with the bark still intact, unlike the other structures which were manufactured from planed wood. The 1866 Miller map depicts eleven structures, as well as the stockade, in the prison area. However, only eight of the eleven structures are identified on this map. Among the varied support structures located within and without the prison stockade were the provost marshal's office, a guard house, barracks, two cook houses, a cooking and dining hall, sheds, and at least two unidentified structures (Miller 1866). Further archival research suggests that additional structures and tents that were not depicted on this map were also located in the area.[706]

The prison area also included a dry-stacked limestone ice house with a wood structure on top of it.

Barracks at Fortifications
The barracks located in the northern line of protection area were a one-story, rectangular building with windows and a ventilator or chimney at the roofline. The building was south of Fort Jackson and east of the White House. Other barracks at Camp Nelson appear to have been frame construction with board and batten siding.

Spring Reservoir
The Spring Reservoir was located southwest of the White House approximately 330 feet east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike. The spring had a reservoir created by a dry laid limestone wall. There was one building located between the Spring Reservoir and Lexington-Danville Turnpike. This has been identified by archeologists as the Berkele (or Berkeley) Store location.

Shed and Stables Area
The operations to house, feed, and service animals for the US Army was one of the most labor and space intensive activities at Camp Nelson. The main sheds and stables area was east of the prison and west of the easternmost line of forts in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. Maps do not label all the buildings, but they likely included stables, cribs, barns, sheds, and corrals for the animals. The 1866 Miller map shows a complex of buildings consisting of a continuous C-shaped set of "open sheds and stables," five smaller sheds in the center of this area, the Quartermaster shed stable, warehouses at the corral, and a dwelling located just south of the area. Historic photographs and drawings show that the buildings were wood or log construction with gabled roofs.

Engineers' Camp (located outside current national monument boundary)
The engineers' camp was a cluster of at least six structures located north of the northern line of protection, northwest of Fort Taylor, and outside the existing national monument boundary. Historic photographs show a single-story log building for livestock, a larger L-shaped frame building, three sheds, and a hut constructed of mud and mixed lengths of wood.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition
After the Civil War period, residential and agricultural use of this character area resumed, and the US Army removed most buildings from Camp Nelson. Owners constructed additional buildings in the character area between the end of the Civil War and 1950. The Perry or Combs families constructed a barn by 1937 in the open field east of the White House. By 1950, there was a barn located west of the former prison area and the owners had either constructed a new barn in the open field or moved the previous barn to a location slightly south and rotated it ninety degrees (Barn #1). Jessamine County removed this building between

706. C. Brian Mabelitini and W. Stephen McBride, "The Archaeology of the Camp Nelson Military Prison (15Js78)" (Lexington, KY: Kentucky Archaeological Survey, 2020), 3–4.

1998 and 2004. By 1956, aerial photographs show a building between the existing Barracks and Fort Jackson. Site managers removed this building between 1998 and 2004. The property owners used the site for agriculture after the Civil War, which meant that plowing and grading affected some of the forts and entrenchments. Some forts have been subject to erosion. Owners did not heavily grade Fort Jackson, but it has experienced significant erosion. The Coombs or Naylor families demolished Fort Putnam in the 1960s. They also bulldozed portions of Fort Popes and Taylor in the 1950s or 1960s to facilitate cultivation. Fort McKee was not bulldozed, but owners allowed trees to grow on it. Some portions of the infantry entrenchments remain intact especially at the western and eastern ends of the character area, but others were damaged from agricultural activities after the Civil War. In 2001, volunteers reconstructed Fort Putnam based on findings from an archeological study of the fort ruins.

Evaluation

As noted, there are no buildings surviving from the Civil War period in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. Structures surviving from the Civil War era include Forts Jackson, Pope, Taylor and McKee, the infantry entrenchments, the Prison Ice House, and the wall at the Spring Reservoir. There are archeological remains related to Fort Putnam at the site, but the existing Fort Putnam is a reconstruction. All other structures in the character area postdate the period of significance and were added either by Jessamine County or former property owners.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Historic Condition

During the Civil War, the US Army constructed three defensive positions on the bluff above Hickman Creek to protect Camp Nelson. Fort Jones and two stone walls were in this area. Fort Jones was at the eastern end of the infantry entrenchments along the northern line of protection. Fort Jones was a closed fortification with thick parapet walls on all sides with stone interior faces to the earthworks. This fort also had a magazine buried under the transverse.

Two stone V-shaped forts defended the southeastern defensive line overlooking Hickman Creek, positioned between Fort Jones to the north and Battery Studdiford to the south. (Battery Studdiford is located outside the current national monument boundary.) These stone walls (now known as the North and South Stone Walls) served as defensive positions. Like Fort Jones, the interior faces of these earthworks were retained with a stone revetment. Engineer Gilliss stated that these forts, constructed in June and July of 1864 were "made on the edge of the cliff, just beyond Jones, to sweep the approach to the forts and the fords near the bridge over [Hickman] creek.[707]

These stone and earthworks were left in situ when the US Army departed from the site.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the historic period, the stone and earthworks constructed by the US Army remained in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. Due to the topographic conditions, the area was not suitable for cultivation, therefore these features remained fairly undisturbed. The earth and stone forts and the infantry entrenchments underwent some natural erosion. In the 1990s, logging crews constructed a road to access timber located on the southern end of the character area. Construction of this road destroyed the western portion of Fort Jones. This fort has well-preserved interior features and spans approximately 140 feet at the widest point. The North Stone Wall has a well-preserved arced limestone wall ranging in height from one to three feet. It is approximately 160 feet long. The South Stone Wall has low two- to three-foot-tall V-shaped limestone walls totaling approximately fifty feet in length, and only consists of three courses of limestone above grade.

In the 1990s, Jessamine County constructed two footbridges and an overlook at the North Stone Wall to facilitate visitor access to the structures located in the character area. These remain in place. In April 2022, a volunteer group replaced the treads and handrails on the westernmost footbridge and the overlook at the North Stone Wall.

707. John R. Gilliss, "Defenses of Camp Nelson, Kentucky," 1864, reproduced in *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies,* Series I, Vol. 39, Part 3 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1892), 773.

Evaluation
Historically, there were no buildings located in this character area. The structures included Fort Jones, the North and South Stone Walls, and portions of the infantry entrenchments. These features survive and retain a high degree of integrity, even though Fort Jones was partially destroyed by the construction of a logging road. The existing tree canopy provides protection for the features.

All other structures present today in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area postdate the period of significance and were added by Jessamine County to facilitate visitor use of the area. These features include two footbridges along the Fort Jones Trail and an overlook structure located at the North Stone Wall.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Historic Condition
During the Civil War, the Warehouse Industrial Character Area was one of the primary hubs of activity at the site. Archeological evidence shows that there was likely a refugee encampment or residential area in the central north portion of the character area, but archeology at the site has not yet revealed the exact locations or types of these buildings and structures. By 1866, the Miller map shows that there were numerous buildings in this area, centered around the Quartermasters warehouse area, strategically located in an easily defensible low point of the site.

Government Shops and Quartermaster and Commissary Office Area
The Miller map shows a cluster of government shops approximately fifteen hundred feet south of the White House. The area included six workshops including blacksmith, shoeing, wagon harness, woodworking shops, and a sawmill. These buildings were timber framed and wood sided. There was also a coal bin located near the blacksmith shop and an office and three smaller buildings located north of the shops.

The Quartermaster and Commissary office area was located between the government shops and warehouses, east of Lexington-Danville Turnpike. The largest building in this area was the Quartermaster and Commissary office, which was a two and one-half story building with board and batten siding. There were five mess and cook houses east of this office and two mess houses northeast of the office. These were typically one-story buildings with board and batten siding. There was at least one additional unidentified building in this area on the 1866 Miller map. The use of the building is not known, but its size is similar to the other mess houses.

Warehouses and Bakery Area
The warehouses and bakery area was at a low point on the property approximately one-half mile south of the northern line of protection. The twenty warehouse buildings were clustered in an L shape following the topography of the site. The warehouses were rectangular-shaped, side-gabled buildings with board and batten siding.

The US Army constructed a bakery building or baking bread for those residing at the camp and troops in the field. The bakery was a two-story, side-gabled building with board and batten siding. There was a small shed-roofed building located east of the bakery.

South of the bakery were three buildings, identified as the Quartermaster shed stable on the 1866 Miller map. Just east of the warehouses, there were three smaller buildings, the Superintendent of Transportation Office, a second Quartermaster shed stable, and an ice house. The Quartermaster Ice House was a two and one-half story gabled building with three vertically stacked openings on the gable end. The dry stacked stone foundation still exists at the site.

There was a shed-roofed building south of the warehouses associated with an ambulance storage yard. This building is not depicted on maps, but it is visible in a historic image.

Eastern Sheds Area
A collection of small buildings and a larger L-shaped building were located at the end of the road leading east from the warehouses, west of Fort Jones. The 1866 Miller map identifies the seven buildings as "shanties." West of the shanties there was an L-shaped building identified as "sheds."

Additional buildings set outside of the eastern shed cluster include a building labeled "east of the corral (hill)," located to the north, a building "ice house north front," located to the west, and two buildings

labeled "sheds," located to the southwest. Historic drawings show the "east of the corral" building as a one-story, side-gabled building with one door and one window on the façade. Historic drawings show the "ice house north front" as a two and one-half story front-gabled building with a central door opening on the first story.

Ordnance Depot Area
There was a group of eight buildings identified on the 1866 Miller map as the ordnance depot. This cluster included the ordnance office, two ordnance warehouses, a shop, a powder magazine, and two to three sheds. The buildings were wood construction, most with board and batten siding. The powder magazine was an earth and wood structure set into a north facing slope.

There was another group of five buildings west of the cluster of buildings and structures in the ordnance depot area. These buildings included a grain shed, a forage office, and mess house.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition
After the Civil War period, residential and agricultural use of this character area resumed and the US Army removed most buildings from Camp Nelson. Owners constructed additional buildings in the character area between the end of the Civil War and 1950.

By 1937, aerial photographs show that there were additional agricultural buildings in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area including Barns #2, #6, #7, and #8. Owners of the property constructed a barn using the Quartermaster Ice House as a foundation. There was a store located along Lexington-Danville Turnpike, in the southwestern quadrant of the character area.

Residential development adjacent to this character area began by 1950, when a house (located outside the national monument boundary) was constructed adjacent to Lexington-Danville Turnpike. There was a now missing agricultural building located just west of the large pond located at the boundary between the northern line of protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas

By 1980, owners had constructed Barns #3, #4, and #5 at the site. Additional residential development occurred along Lexington-Danville



Figure 4.48. 1970 aerial photograph of the Glass property with the brick house indicated (Source: USGS).

Turnpike in areas outside the current national monument boundary. The date of installation of several other small buildings in this character area is unknown. There is an agricultural shed located on the north side of the Glass farm road just west of the barn cluster in the center of the character area. Barns #2 through #5 are clustered in the north-central part of the character area. Barns #6 and #8 and the abandoned store are located on Danville Loop 2 Road, on the former Brumfield property. Barn #7 is in the interior of the character area, covering the ruins of the Quartermaster Ice House. The barns are in varying conditions, with some in good shape and others in very poor condition.

Structures in the area include the remnant Powder Magazine, which consists of a humped area measuring approximately thirty by one hundred feet, in the southern portion of the character area. The Bakery Oven foundation is located on the northern edge of the former Brumfield property just south of Barns #2 through #5. The foundation consists of a mound about four feet, six inches tall and eight feet in diameter. There is a cattle feeder structure located near the cemetery on the former Brumfield property. It is approximately six feet square with a metal shed roof.

Evaluation

As noted, several structures survive from the Civil War era in the warehouse industrial area. These include the remnant Powder Magazine at the ordnance depot area in the southern part of the character area and the remnant Bakery Oven at the warehouses in the northern part of the character area. The Quartermaster Ice House, located in the west-central part of the character area, is covered by a barn building.

All other buildings and structures present today postdate the period of significance and were added by the families who lived and farmed at the site after the US Army abandoned Camp Nelson. These include the barns, an agricultural shed, an abandoned store, and a cow feeder structure.

Maintenance Character Area

Historic Condition

The 1864 Simpson map and 1866 Miller map do not depict any buildings or structures in the Maintenance Character Area.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

The record of aerial photography from 1937-1970 does not show any buildings or structures in this character area. Around 1970, the Glass family constructed a brick veneer single-story house in the northwest corner of their property (**Figure 4.48**). The house was constructed over a basement level. It is unknown what year the family added a rear-projecting wood-sided addition to the house. The family also constructed a detached two-car garage east of the house. The date of the construction of the garage is not known, but it appears in a low-quality aerial photograph dating to 1975. It is possible that the Glass family constructed the rear addition at the same time they constructed a stone retaining wall on the east side of the house. The retaining wall is stacked-stone constriction ranging in height from two to four feet.

Evaluation

As noted, there are no buildings or structures in this character area dating to the Civil War era. All buildings and structures in this area postdate the period of significance including the Facilities and Maintenance Office, garage, and stone retaining wall.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Historic Condition

The current boundary of the national monument does not include the area where the US Army constructed the Refugee Ward. The NPS owns an area believed to be just east of the Home for Colored Refugees area and west of the hospital and stables complexes. These were all on the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike. During the Civil War period, the area west of Lexington-Danville Turnpike developed into the Home for Colored Refugees to accommodate the growing population of refugee women and children arriving at Camp Nelson. By 1866, this area contained ninety-seven cottages in three rows, a school, a mess hall, a hospital, a reception ward, a commissary, store rooms, a barracks, a laundry, a lime kiln, offices and surgeons' and teachers' lodging, and a private sutler's establishment. Additionally, there were around sixty tents and sixty huts erected in this area to accommodate the refugees. There were additional buildings and structures in the area, constructed to serve the African American population at Camp Nelson. West of this area, there were two smallpox hospitals, built away from the rest of the camp to quarantine refugees and soldiers who contracted that disease.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

Following the US Army's exit from Camp Nelson, the Home for Colored Refugees continued to operate under the management of both the Freedmen's Bureau and the American Missionary Association. African American families continued to live at the site. John G. Fee and his associates made plans to turn the site into an African American community centered on a church and school. The Ariel (now Hall) community developed out of policies established in this community to promote Black land ownership on the land formerly occupied by the Home for Colored Refugees. Black veterans and former refugees developed a permanent community in this location. Fee and other trustees also established a school, Ariel Academy, which later became known as Camp Nelson Academy and later the Fee Memorial Institute. By 1895, maps appear to show that any buildings remaining from the Civil War era had been replaced. (These buildings were located west of the existing national monument boundary).



Figure 4.49. Map of the Town of Ariel," redrawn from the photograph copy of a ca. 1891 plat map (Source: RATIO Architects and WLA Studio, 2021).

An 1891 map of the community shows some buildings in the area that is now part of the national register boundary. The earliest plat map of the town of Ariel references conveyances in 1891, suggesting that it was prepared around that time (**Figure 4.49**). The map shows symbols for generic houses along Front Street (now Church Street). These symbols suggest the front elevation of a two-story side-gabled house with a façade divided into three bays and chimneys on both gable ends. One house was off the southeast corner of what is now Hall Road (Main Street) and Church Street (Front Street). Three houses were in a row perpendicular to the end of Row Street. These buildings may represent the former refugee camp headquarters and the two ward buildings purchased in 1868, or they may represent later buildings built on roughly the same site. The south and center houses appear to roughly correspond with the locations of the present church and the parsonage/manse foundation, respectively.

Between 1890 and 1910 the Fee Memorial Institute constructed a wood-frame house on the western edge of the campus. The house was a gabled L-shaped building with an attached one-story porch. The entire building rested on a stacked limestone foundation. The building may or may not have been built as a parsonage/manse. On April 24, 1907, the Presbyterian Church obtained 9.5 acres, located west of Camp Nelson Academy. In 1912, they constructed the Fee Memorial Church at that site. The Fee Memorial Church is a one-story, gable-front, wood-frame building on a cast-in-place concrete foundation.

Little is known of the condition of the church and manse buildings between the 1920s and the 1980s. By the 1980s, the parsonage/manse was dilapidated, but the church building was in good condition as community members were caring for it. The church appears to have ceased meeting by June 1992. Jessamine County Fiscal Court purchased the church in 1996 as part of the development of the Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park. The county renovated the building in April 2000. By 2010, community members occasionally used the church for special meetings and services. County staff demolished the parsonage/manse around 2007 due to its dilapidated condition, leaving the stone foundation. The foundation was covered with vegetation by 2020.

In 1998, an Eagle Scout completed a project in this area that included an amphitheater with a wood stage and wood benches set in a semi-circle. The stage is twenty-five feet wide at its widest point. There are two benches left standing. The others are missing or completely covered by vegetation.

Evaluation

As noted, the NPS does not own the majority of the Home for Colored Refugees or Ariel/Hall Community area. There were no documented buildings located within the current national monument boundary during the Civil War period.

The Fee Memorial Church, constructed by the Presbyterian Church in 1912, postdates the period of significance. The parsonage/manse foundation, constructed ca. 1890-1910, postdates the period of significance. The structures in the Refugee Ward Area postdate the period of significance. These include an amphitheater stage and two benches.

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- White House
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Visitor Center
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Storage Building
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Barracks (reconstructed)
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Stone wall at Danville Loop 2 Road
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Drainage structures at Danville Loop 2 Road
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Four unidentified buildings near White House (Civil War era)
  - Contribution status: Missing

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Fort Jackson
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Fort Pope
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Fort Taylor
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Fort McKee
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Infantry entrenchments
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Prison Ice House
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Spring Reservoir wall
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Agricultural buildings on Naylor farm (seven to eight) (post-Civil War era)
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Eleven buildings located in prison area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Barracks south of Fort Jackson
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Six buildings located in the engineers' camp
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Ten buildings in the government stables and shed area
  - Contribution status: Missing
- One unidentified building located between the Spring Reservoir and Lexington-Danville Turnpike
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Fort Putnam
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Fort Putnam (reconstructed)
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Barn #1
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- Fort Jones
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- North Stone Wall
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- South Stone Wall
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Overlook at North Stone Wall
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Footbridges along Fort Jones / Overlook Trail
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- Quartermaster Ice House remnant
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Six shops in the government shops area, one coal bin, one office, and two buildings of unknown use
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Quartermaster and Commissary office
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Seven mess and cook houses near the Quartermaster and Commissary office
  - Contribution status: Missing
- One unidentified small building north of the Quartermaster and Commissary office
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Twenty warehouses
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Bakery and unidentified building
  - Contribution status: Missing
- Remnant Bakery Oven
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Three buildings identified as "Quartermaster shed stables" in a cluster
  - Contribution status: Missing

- Superintendent of Transportation Office, one Quartermaster shed stable, and an ice house
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Building in ambulance yard
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Seven shanties and one shed in the eastern shed and shanties area
    - Contribution status: Missing
- East of the corral building, ice house north front building, and two sheds
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Eight buildings at ordnance depot area, including the Powder Magazine
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Remnant Powder Magazine
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Five buildings at Lexington-Danville Turnpike (cribs and forage office buildings)
    - Contribution status: Missing
- One barn, located west of the pond at the boundary between the northern line of protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas (post-Civil War)
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Barns #2-8
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Agricultural shed
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Abandoned store
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Cow feeder structure
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Maintenance Character Area

- Facilities and Maintenance Office
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Garage
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Stone retaining wall at Facilities and Maintenance Office
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Fee Memorial Church*
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Parsonage/manse foundation
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Parsonage/manse (above foundation)
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Amphitheater stage and benches
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

*Note: While the Fee Memorial Church is considered noncontributing to the period of significance associated with eh Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape, it is individually eligible. See Appendix E.

Small-Scale Features

Summary Analysis

During the period of significance, historic photographs show fences and movable equipment such as wagons, barrels, and ambulances, but there are few recorded examples of these features at the site. There are many small-scale features at the national monument today. Most of these features are associated with visitor use or agricultural management of the site. None of these features date to the period of significance or are in known historic locations. The Griffing cemetery contains headstones that pre-date the Civil War; these features remain at the site.

Historic Condition

When the US Army occupied Camp Nelson, they constructed many buildings to support the military use of the camp. These included a prison, stables and sheds, cook houses, a hospital, mess houses, barracks, warehouses, and other support, storage, and service buildings. It is likely that many of these buildings had associated small-scale features, like fences, for which little information survives. One historic photograph of the corrals area shows a tall snake rail fence (**Figure 4.39**). Photographs also show snake rail fencing near the prison and government sheds and stables area (**Figure 4.50**). Other small-scale features dating to the historic period likely included utilities associated with the water distribution system at Camp Nelson. The US Army constructed trenches for supply pipes throughout the camp to distribute water for fire prevention. When the system was completed, it

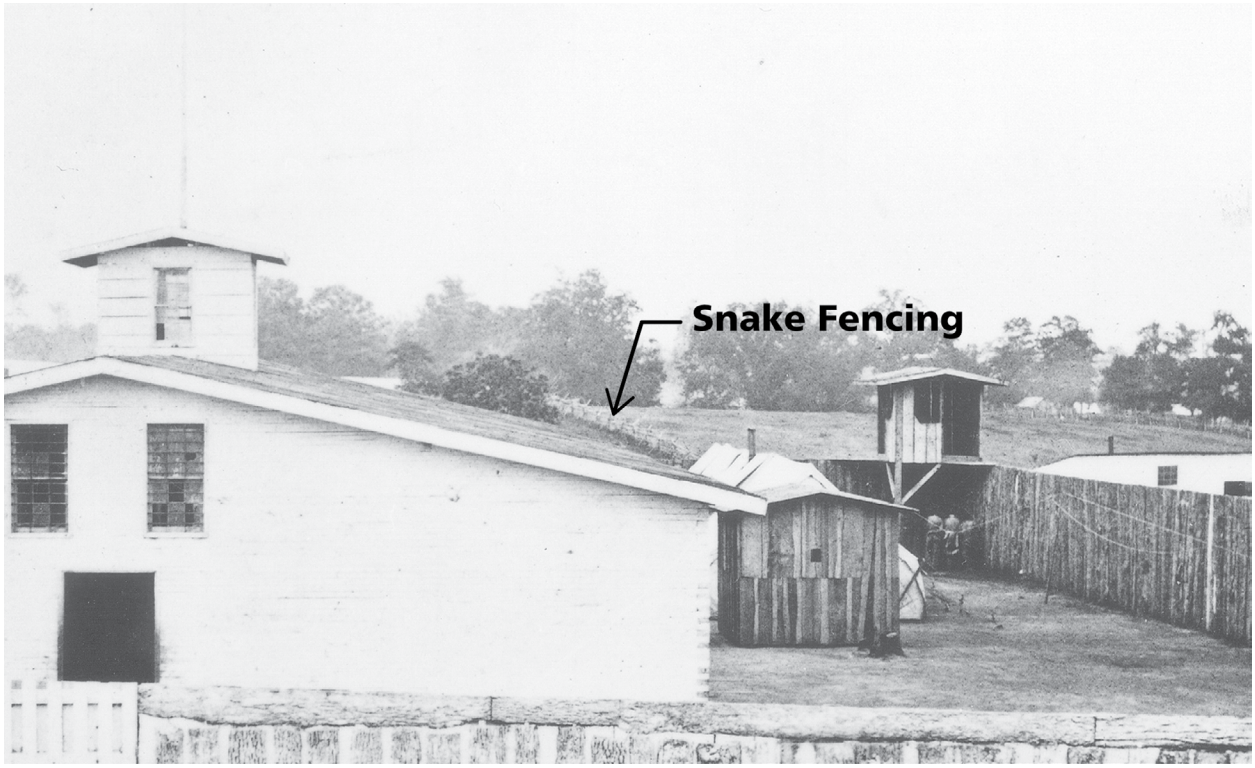


Figure 4.50. Enlargement of a historic photograph showing the location of snake fencing east of the prison area, 1864 (Source: National Archives, Still Picture Branch, Washington, D.C.; G. W. Foster and Co., photograph).

contained "about seventeen thousand (17000') feet of distributing pipes conveying the water to almost every Government building within the limits of the camp, where either the use to which it is put, or the value of the goods contained therein render the water a necessity as a protection and security against fire."[708] There were certainly other small-scale features at the site to support military operations, but many of these features are undocumented.

Post-Historic Condition

After the Civil War, the site returned to agricultural and residential use. The division of properties and field uses necessitated the construction of fences throughout the former camp site. By the late-1990s, multiple fence types were within the national monument boundary. Fence types included post and rail fence, woven wire fence, barbed wire, and electrified fencing. There were gates located at the farm road entrances and between fields.

In the early-2000s, Jessamine County began developing a trail system for the site and contracted a company for a signage package that included routed wood signs identifying trail and feature locations. These were installed during construction of the trail system. Soon thereafter, the county designed informational waysides for installation throughout the Visitor Center, Northern Line of Protection, and Eastern Line of Protection Character Areas. Additionally, the county installed regulatory signs at trailheads and along the fence in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. The county installed flags to mark the locations of important features including the forts (yellow), prison (orange), bakery (green), warehouses (white), Quartermaster and Commissary office (blue), and government shops (red).

Visitor Center Character Area

In 1951, the US Geodetic Survey added a survey marker in front of the White House marked "Camp Nelson." Typically, these markers are set in threes for triangulation by survey teams. A second marker is set near the Maintenance Character Area. It is not known where the third marker is; it may have been destroyed or buried during construction of US 27. Jessamine County erected multiple signs

708. Theron E. Hall, "Report of Inspection of Q.M. Dept. at Camp Nelson, Ky," June 23, 1864, reproduced in Sears, *Camp Nelson, Kentucky*, 80.

in the Visitor Center Character Area to support visitation to the park. They constructed a new entry drive south of the White House with an entrance pillar and park identity sign and installed gates at the entry. The county also installed gates at the former entry road south of the White House. The NPS maintained these features once the property came under federal ownership. To commemorate the 5th and 6th USCT and the Battle of Saltville, the county erected three flags and a monument in front of the White House in 2001. Above ground utilities at the site were rerouted during the 1999 renovation of the White House. There are still above ground electrical lines along Danville Loop 2 Road and within the national monument boundary. Other utilities at the site included HVAC units associated with each building except the Storage Building in the Visitor Center Character Area. The county installed lighting in this character area. These include six-foot-tall black light posts near the visitor parking lot and in-ground fixtures on the walkways around the White House. All of these features are currently maintained by the National Park Service. The National Park Service installed a park identity sign at the Visitor Center in 2020.

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

After the county purchased the property in 1997, they installed a split rail snake rail fence running north to south across the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. Site managers could not remember a date for installing the snake rail fence, but they believe it happened in the late-1990s. In April 2022, a group of volunteers relocated a portion of the snake rail fence to the west. It now follows a portion of the historic military road east of the Visitor Center and a portion of the Fort Trail. The county installed two gates along the fence to control visitor access to the trail system in the western or backcountry portion of the site. Woven wire fencing with wood posts ran east to west along the Naylor and Glass farm property. Jessamine County and later the National Park Service maintained this fence. The fencing ran through the sinkhole pond located along this character area's boundary. Site managers installed electrical fencing along the northern property boundary. The date of this fence installation is unknown. In the early-2000s, the county installed wood routed signs and waysides throughout the character area. After a cadaver dog survey confirmed internment locations in 2001, Jessamine County erected a monument commemorating those interred at Cemetery #1. The county also provided a bench on top of Fort McKee (since removed by NPS) and a metal picnic table near the Spring Reservoir, which NPS staff relocated in 2021.

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

The Naylor family installed a barbed wire fence at the edge of the tree line that separates the Eastern Line of Protection Character area from adjacent zones at an unknown date. The National Park Service maintains this fence. Jessamine County installed a galvanized metal livestock gate at the entry road at the east side of the site, likely in the late-1990s. In developing the trail system at the park site, the county installed metal signs in this character area directing visitors along the Fort Jones/Overlook Trail in the early-2000s. In 2001, the county installed two waysides in this character area, located at Fort Jones and the North Stone Wall.

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

During their ownership, the Glass and Brumfield families constructed fences around their properties and subdivided the fields in this area during their use of the site. Based on tree and shrub lines, some of the boundary and interior field fences appear in the 1937 aerial photograph. Fence types included woven wire, barbed wire, and electric fencing separating fields of differing uses. The families installed gates at the farm road entry points and at access points to the fields. Many of the fences and gates still exist at the site. Portions of these properties are still under special use permit for agricultural grazing; therefore, the gates are locked and the area not accessible to visitors. The county did not install any signs on the interior of the character area, but they did install metal detection warning sign on the fence paralleling Danville Loop 2 Road. By the 1970s, there were above ground utilities located on the western side of the site and on the interior, which provided power to the various residential parcels that were located along Lexington-Danville Turnpike. The owners added a water supply near the complex of barns at the Glass farm, and propane gas fueled heating equipment in buildings in that area at unknown dates. The county did not remove any of these utilities upon purchasing the property. During the development of an interpretive plan for the new county park, site managers decided to erect four flags of different colors to note the historic locations of the bakery, warehouses, government

shops, and Quartermaster and Commissary office in this area. Previous site managers could not remember an exact date of installation, but they believe it was in the early 2000s. There are multiple locations in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area where former owners or occupants have piled or arranged pieces of limestone. Their date or place of origin is unknown.

The Griffing family cemetery is on the former Glass farm property and dates to as early as 1809 (the date on the Jasper Griffing headstone). It is enclosed by a fence and includes three visible headstones and a sign post. Though research did not reveal mention of the cemetery during the historic period, the dates of the gravestones indicate that they are the only small-scale features that remain from the period of significance in this area.

Maintenance Character Area

Small-scale features in the Maintenance Character Area all relate to the Glass family's development of the property as a residence around 1970. Fencing on the north, south, and east sides of this character area is black-painted post and rail fence. There is a galvanized metal livestock gate at the end of the side driveway leading toward the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. There is a US Coast and Geodetic Survey Marker located on the north side of the north driveway. It is marked "Camp Nelson, 1951." There is a mailbox located at Danville Loop 2 Road.

Refugee Ward Character Area

In the late-1990s, Jessamine County purchased the property that included Fee Memorial Church and the parsonage/manse. The county installed two waysides at the site, likely with the installation of other waysides at the park in 2001. Aerial imagery does not reveal when above ground utilities were installed in this area, but there are currently above ground power lines running parallel to the property border on Hall Road and Church Streets. The line is on the south side of Hall Road, then it crosses to the other side where Hall Road turns to the west. The line runs along the east side of Church Street. There are three power poles adjacent to the national monument boundary. There is a set of concrete steps located just outside the national monument boundary near an existing wayside. The date and use of these steps are unknown as they do not correspond to any known building locations. There is a group of stones that are flush with grade and roughly rectangular in shape, located downhill and southeast from Fee Memorial Church. These may be foundation stones for a former building, but mapping and aerial imagery do not show any buildings in this location.

Existing Condition

Numerous small-scale features exist at Camp Nelson National Monument. These features generally fall into seven general categories: commemorative features, cemetery features, site furnishings, agricultural features, signs/markers and interpretive features, access control and fencing features, and utilities.

There are two commemorative features. One feature is located in the Visitor Center Character Area—the Saltville Monument and set of three flags. Another feature is located in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area—the Graveyard # 1 monument. Neither of these features date to the period of significance.

There are cemetery features in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. These include three headstones associated with the Griffing family. The dates of these headstones predate the Civil War era, and it is assumed that they were present during and after the US Army's occupation of the site.

Site furnishings are sparse at the site and date to Jessamine County's ownership of the site or to National Park Service ownership. Features include one bench, located at Fort McKee in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area and a picnic table, located near the Spring Reservoir. There is a mailbox for the national monument near the south side of the entry drive at Danville Loop 2 Road. These features postdate the period of significance.

Agricultural small-scale features are concentrated in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, where livestock continue to occupy the site. These include a cattle duster, feeding structures, watering troughs, and an in-ground cattle guard. All of these features postdate the period of significance.

Signs are numerous at the site and are concentrated in the Visitor Center, Northern Line of Protection, and Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. Routed wood signs date to Jessamine County's ownership of the property and include signs to

mark trail locations and signs to note features of the forts and infantry entrenchments. Waysides are located along the trail system and include historic photographs and text. Metal signs in the Eastern Line of Protection Area mark trail locations. There is one regulatory sign located along the fence in the Warehouse Industrial Area. There are two waysides located in the Refugee Ward Character Area. Other interpretive features at the site include an audio tour interpretive station and a gun placed as an interpretive feature. Jessamine County developed a system for interpreting the location of historic features at the park using different color flags. There are five yellow flags in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area marking the locations of the forts in this zone. A blue flag marks the location of the government sheds and stables area. An orange flag marks the former prison area. In the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, there is a green flag marking the bakery, a white flag marking the warehouses, a blue flag marking the Quartermaster and Commissary office, and a red flag marking the government shops. These flags are visible from waysides in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area that explain their importance. Park identity signs include a plaque mounted at the entry road near Danville Loop 2 Road and a sign mounted to the Visitor Center. Markers include US Geodetic survey plaques located in the Visitor Center and Maintenance Character Areas. All the signs, markers, and interpretive features at the site postdate the period of significance.

Access control features are present in all of the character areas except for the Refugee Ward Character Area. These features include fences and gates. The Visitor Center Character Area includes gates at the entry road and at the drive alignment south of the White House. The Line of Northern Protection Character Area is surrounded by fencing including a post and rail fence on the west side, an electric fence on the north side, a barbed wire fence on the east side, and a woven wire fence on the south side. A snake rail fence runs through the character area separating management areas into the frontcountry and backcountry. There are two gates leading to the trails located in the backcountry. There is a gate controlling access to the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area at Sugar Creek Pike. The Warehouse Industrial Character Area has numerous fence types subdividing and surrounding the property. Fence types include barbed wire, woven wire, post and rail, and electric. Gates control access to the farm roads and fields. The Maintenance Character Area is surrounded on three sides by post and rail fencing. All of the fencing at the site postdates the period of significance, and none are in known historic locations.

Utilities at the site are numerous. In the Visitor Center Character Area, utilities include lighting, HVAC equipment, power lines, and water. In the Northern Line of Protection Character Area, utilities include above ground power lines along Danville Loop 2 Road. There are no known utilities in the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. In the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, utilities include water, above ground power. In the Maintenance Character Area, utilities include water, above ground power, and an HVAC system. In the Refugee Ward Character Area, utilities include above ground power.

Evaluation

No small-scale features at the site survive from the period of significance except for the features associated with the Griffing family cemetery, which existed at the site before the Civil War. Changes were made to the property by subsequent property owners to support residential and agricultural use of the site. When Jessamine County managed the property, they added small-scale features to support visitation at the site including utilities, site furnishings, access control features, portable toilets, and interpretive and wayfinding features. The NPS maintains these small-scale features and has added signs and at the site.

Features

Visitor Center Character Area

- Entry gates and Camp Nelson Heritage Park Plaque
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Park identity sign
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Parking signs
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

- Routed wood trail signs
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Regulatory signs
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Audio interpretive station
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Mailbox for national monument
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Pad-mounted transformers
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Utility meters
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- HVAC units
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Water service and spigots
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Light posts at visitor parking lot
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- In-ground light fixtures near White House
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Spotlights at White House
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Saltville Monument and three flagpoles
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Gun
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Hand crank well pump
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- US Geodetic Survey marker
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Portable toilets
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- United States flag at Visitor Center
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Waysides
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

- Snake rail fencing associated with Civil War
    - Contribution status: Missing
- Snake rail fencing
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Post and rail fencing in Northern Line of Protection Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Electric fencing on northern property boundary
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Barbed wire fence at Eastern Line of Protection Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Woven wire fence at southern edge of Northern Line of Protection Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Gates at Fort Putnam Loop Trail
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Routed wood signs at fort features
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Waysides
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Interpretive flags
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Graveyard #1 monument
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Bench at Fort McKee (removed during CLR project)
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Picnic table at Spring Reservoir (moved close to White House during CLR project)
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Aboveground power lines and poles
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

- Metal trail signs on Fort Jones/Overlook Trail
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Access gate at Sugar Pike Road
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Waysides
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

- Fencing in interior of Warehouse Industrial Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Gates on interior and at farm road entrances to Warehouse Industrial Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Electric fencing around former horse area in southwest corner of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Livestock feeding and watering features
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Griffing family cemetery headstones
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Stones on former Brumfield farm
    - Contribution status: Undetermined
- Stones near stone lined pond
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Aboveground power lines and poles
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Maintenance Character Area

- Mailbox for Facilities and Maintenance Office
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- US Geodetic Survey marker
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Post and rail fencing at Maintenance Character Area
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Galvanized metal livestock gate at the end of the side driveway
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing
- Aboveground power lines and poles
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Refugee Ward Character Area

- Steps near Fee Memorial Church
    - Contribution status: Undetermined
- Rectangular stones near Fee Memorial Church
    - Contribution status: Undetermined
- Aboveground power lines and poles
    - Contribution status: Noncontributing

Constructed Water Features

Summary Analysis

During the period of significance, historic maps show constructed water features including a Spring Reservoir, a waterworks on the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike with a water distribution system, and a fountain in front of the headquarters area. Most of these features, with the exception of the Spring Reservoir, were on the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike and outside the current national monument boundary. Archeology has not yet revealed the locations of any water distribution pipes within the national monument boundary.

Historic Condition

The karst geology underlying the landscape at Camp Nelson National Monument means that there are natural springs throughout the property. This condition is noted on military maps from the Civil War era. Despite the presence of springs throughout the site, the US Army had to add features to ensure adequate water supply for the camp. They constructed the waterworks on the west side of Lexington-Danville Turnpike (outside the national monument boundary). The waterworks drew water from the Kentucky River and distributed it throughout Camp Nelson. The primary function of this system was to provide fire protection for buildings throughout the site.

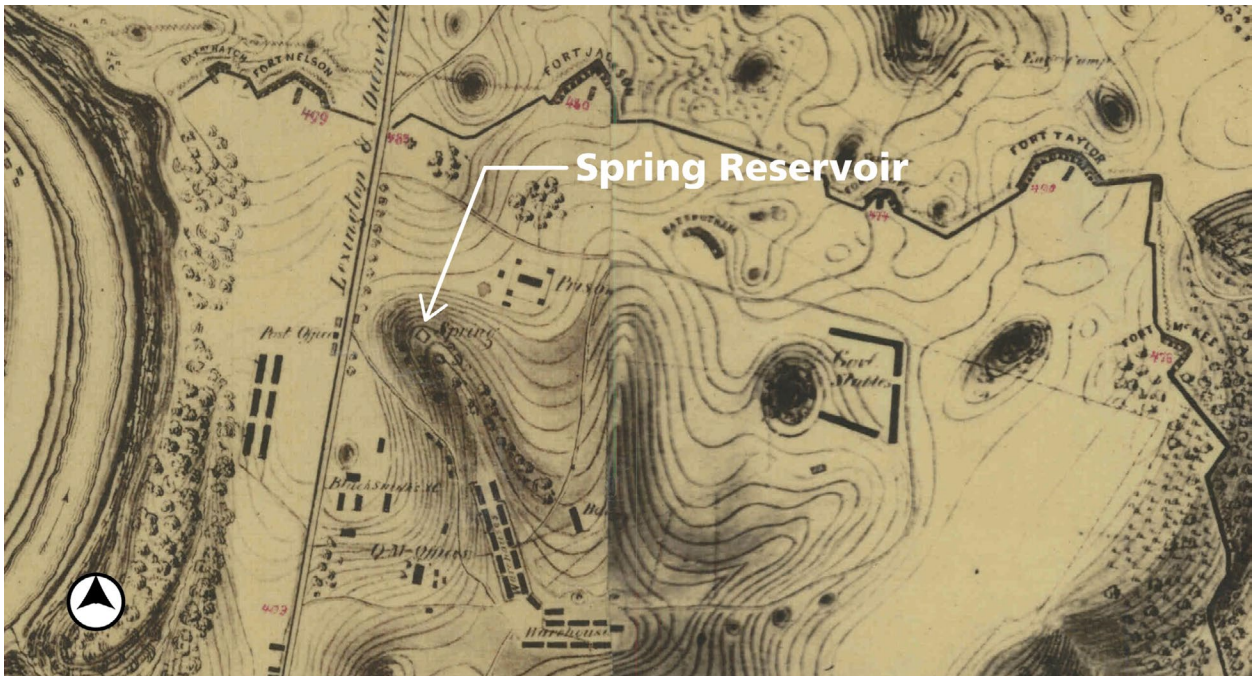


Figure 4.51. Annotated 1864 map showing the location of the Spring Reservoir (Source: National Archives, RG 77: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers).

The US Army constructed the Spring Reservoir south of the White House and noted it on military maps (**Figure 4.51**, **Figure 4.52**). Because the White House was an officers' quarters during the Civil War, this feature became known as the "Officer's [*sic*] Spring." The US Army created this feature by constructing a dry laid limestone wall near the mouth of a spring located approximately eight hundred feet south of the White House. It is not known if the name for the reservoir came from the proximity of the reservoir to the officers' quarters at the White House or if the officers were the only ones permitted to use the water. The spring is featured on both the 1864 and 1866 military maps of Camp Nelson.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the Civil War, the Perry and later Naylor families left the Spring Reservoir undisturbed. The topography around the feature may have protected it, as aerial photographs show the ravine surrounding this constructed water feature to be vegetated. A 1937 aerial shows that a fence separated it from what may have been an adjacent livestock area. The Spring Reservoir remains at the site today and has a boardwalk and bridge near it from which visitors can view the features.

By 1937, the Glass family had created a stone lined pond on the eastern edge of their property. The pond was likely constructed to provide water for livestock in this area, as livestock trails appeared to lead to the feature in the 1937 aerial. Currently, the pond has scattered stones around it indicating that the owners may have used stones to construct a portion the pond structure.

Evaluation

The Spring Reservoir is a documented feature on maps dating to the period of significance. The stone lined pond did not appear on military maps, indicating that it was constructed after the Civil War, likely for agricultural use.

Features

- Spring Reservoir
  - Contribution status: Contributing
- Stone lined pond
  - Contribution status: Noncontributing

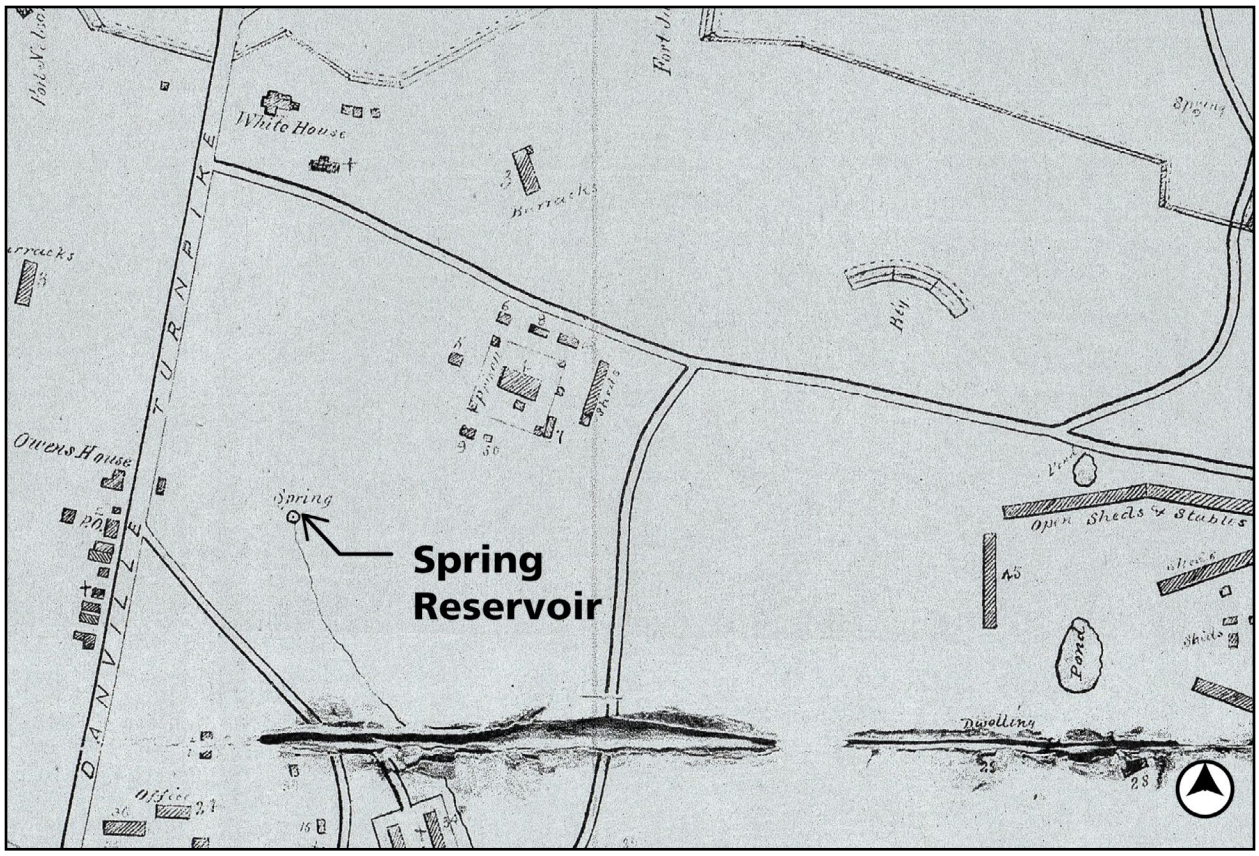


Figure 4.52. Annotated 1866 map showing the location of the Spring Reservoir (Source: Cartographic Section, National Archives, RG 92, 1.158-f).

Archeological Sites

Summary Analysis

The archeological studies that have occurred at Camp Nelson National Monument have been critical to understanding the events that occurred at Camp Nelson and the people who occupied the site during the historic period. There are four main sites that archeologists have studied inside the national monument boundary.

Historic Condition

Archeological resources present during the period of significance related to previous occupants of the site, including those buried in the Griffing cemetery.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

The entire Camp Nelson National Monument boundary is within the Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District, which was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2013.

Archeologist W. Stephen McBride states that "archeological surveys and test excavations have located numerous sites of varying functions at Camp Nelson, many with intact features, such as chimney and pier foundations, cellar pits, trash pits, prison stockade trenches, and fortification ditches, post molds, and magazines, all with artifactual assemblages associated with the camp's occupation of 1863-1866."[709] Within the current national boundary in the Visitor Center, Northern Line of Protection, and Eastern Line of Protection Character Areas, archeological investigations have found intact Civil War era deposits around the White House, the prison, Fort Putnam, Fort Taylor, Fort Jones, encampments east of the prison, south of Fort Taylor, and East of Fort Jones. These sites are all designated as part of 15Js78. In the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, archeological surveys have "identified shops, the warehouses, the bakery, the Quartermaster and Commissary office and mess houses, a pre-expulsion refugee encampment," and the

709. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 19.

ordnance depot.[710] These sites are designated as part of 15Js164 and 15Js166. Archeological investigations have not only yielded artifacts but have also recovered information about post-Civil War occupation patterns such as which fields were plowed historically. Excavation in Refugee Ward Character Area includes shovel probe excavation, which recovered artifacts dated from the Civil War era up to the middle twentieth century (15Js163). Some of the investigation associated with site 15Js163 was conducted outside the national monument boundary including areas of the Home for Colored Refugees.

Some archeological investigations have been "more intensive," involving sites with larger test units. These include those at the White House (site 15Js78A), the prison (site 15Js78B), Fort Putnam (15Js78C), Fort Taylor (15Js78D), the government blacksmith shop (15Js164A), the Quartermaster and Commissary office and mess houses (15Js164B), and the pre-expulsion refugee encampment (15Js164C) located near the warehouses and bakery area.

Potential future sites at the national monument have tremendous potential for yielding additional information about the Civil War era. According to the foundation document for the national monument, "Camp Nelson National Monument retains a high level of archeological integrity and is the best preserved archeological site of a large Civil War depot, recruitment center, and refugee camp. The cultural landscape of Camp Nelson's main depot and encampment area has remained largely undisturbed since the United States Army dismantled the camp after the Civil War. The site has potential to yield information about the working and living conditions of military personnel and civilian refugees."[711]

Evaluation

Archeological site 15Js78 includes the White House (site 15Js78A), the prison area (site 15Js78B), Fort Putnam (15Js78C), and Fort Taylor (15Js78D). These sites are located in the Visitor Center, Northern Line of Protection, and Eastern Line of Protection Character Areas. Archeological site 15Js164 includes the government shops (15Js164A), Quartermaster and Commissary office area (15Js164B), and a pre-expulsion refugee encampment site near the warehouses and bakery area(15Js164C) all located in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. Site 15Js166 is in the ordnance depot area in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. Archeological site 15Js163 includes portions of the area near the Home for Colored Refugees and the post-historic Aerial Academy site.

Features

- Archeological Site 15Js78
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Archeological Site 15Js164
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Archeological Site 15Js166
    - Contribution status: Contributing
- Archeological Site 15Js163
    - Contribution status: Contributing

Evaluation of Landscape Integrity

According to the National Register of Historic Places, integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance and the authenticity of its historic identity as a result of the survival of physical characteristics present during the period of significance. Landscape integrity refers to a cultural landscape's ability to convey its historic significance. *National Register of Historic Places Bulletin 16A* defines historic integrity as "the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's prehistoric or historic period." In *National Register Bulletin 15*, the national Register defines seven aspects of integrity to use when evaluating a historic property:

> **Location** is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred;
>
> **Setting** is the physical environment within and surround a property;
>
> **Design** is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property;

710. McBride, "National Historic Landmark Nomination," 11.
711. National Park Service, "Foundation Document Camp Nelson National Monument," April 2020, 7.

Materials are the physical elements that were combines or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property;

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory;

Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time; and

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

In order to retain historic integrity, a property must possess several, and usually most of these seven aspects. Evaluating historic integrity involves first determining the historic significance of a property and then identifying the existing features that contribute to our ability to recognize and understand this significance. Character defining features are those distinctive features or qualities that make a property unique. They are the individual parts that make the whole place special and worthy of our recognition as a historic property.

Location

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. Because of the important role that this geographic area played in the military installation, location is imperative to consider in assessing integrity of Camp Nelson National Monument. While many physical features dating to the period of significance have been lost, the historic resources that exist today remain in their original location. Camp Nelson National Monument remains at its original location, at a bend in the Kentucky River near its confluence with Hickman Creek, where the US Army occupied the site in 1863. The original US Army site was nearly 4,000 acres, and the National Park Service currently maintains around 465 acres of the former Army supply depot, recruitment center, camp, and refugee center. Integrity of location also relates to the ongoing existence of contributing features including the forts, infantry entrenchments, White House, Spring Reservoir, Bakery Oven foundation, Ice Houses, and Powder Magazine remnant. There is potential for future archeological work to identify additional features in their original locations at the site. Overall, the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape retains integrity of location to the period of significance.

Setting

Setting is the physical environment within and surrounding the property. Throughout the period of significance, the Kentucky River and Hickman Creek created a natural defensive boundary on three sides of Camp Nelson. The underlying karst geology of the site created a landscape that included springs, sinkholes, and caves. The karst landscape provided fresh water at the springs, and the depressions protected warehouses filled with stores critical to the US Army. Camp Nelson was sited on a key route leading from Danville to Lexington, Kentucky, just north of an important crossing point on the Kentucky River. Houses and farms occupied the land that became Camp Nelson prior to the Civil War, and when the US Army dismantled the camp, this use returned and continued into the twentieth century. There are some nonhistoric intrusions to the viewshed of the cultural landscape including rickhouses on the west side of US 27, modern residential development and agricultural buildings within and adjacent to the site boundary, and newly constructed portions of Camp Nelson National Cemetery. While the setting during the period of significance was a military camp and not a rural residential landscape, this condition is generally in keeping with surrounding properties during the Civil War era. Residential development in the Ariel/Hall community continued after the Civil War, and families subdivided large farm tracts and added utilitarian farm features such as barns and fences. Despite modern intrusions, the character of the site retains integrity of setting to the period of significance.

Design

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. The remaining historic period buildings and structures reflect the overall designed spatial patterns present during the US Army's occupation of the site. The buildings and structures themselves—White House, the seven

forts within the national monument boundary, the infantry entrenchments along the northern line of protection, the remnants of the Powder Magazine and Bakery Oven, the Prison Ice House, the Quartermaster Ice House, and the Spring Reservoir—also reflect the design traditions and engineering practices of the United States military during the Civil War. Additionally, three circulation features including roads dating to the Civil War period are discernible in the landscape. However, the majority of the designed aspects of the US Army camp are presently illegible. Because of the loss of the majority of the above ground features located at the site during the period of significance, including fences, vegetation, and all of the three hundred buildings constructed by the US Army at the site, the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape does not retain integrity of design to the period of significance.

Materials

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during the particular period of time and in a particular pattern of configuration to form the cultural landscape. The US Army removed much of the physical material that was present during the period of significance after decommissioning Camp Nelson. The remaining historic period buildings and structures retain materials dating to the Civil War period. Changes that occurred to historic materials in the post-historic period include the plowing and erosion of some of the forts and infantry entrenchments. The best preserved forts include Fort Jones and Fort McKee, which still reflect the materials used in the Civil War to construct fortifications at Camp Nelson. Built features including the Spring Reservoir, remnant Powder Magazine, remnant Bakery Oven, Prison Ice House, and Quartermaster Ice House retain materials dating to the period of significance. The White House retains much of its original historic fabric thanks to preservation efforts by Jessamine County Fiscal Court and the NPS. The road remnants within the national monument boundary are grassed, which does not reflect the soil surface roads of the historic period. The vegetation patterns, if not individual plants, are largely similar to that of the historic period. Woodlands are retained in the Eastern Line of Protection Area and around the Spring Reservoir, and open grassy fields and pastures are present in other areas of the National Monument. Contemporary introductions include the parking area, Visitor Center, and Barracks, numerous agricultural buildings, interpretive and wayfinding signs, and flags marking the locations of various historic site features. These features do not reflect historic materials. Missing original materials include all of the buildings constructed during the period of significance, fences, the original Fort Putnam, most of the roads, and portions of the forts and infantry entrenchments. Because of the loss of the majority of the above ground materials located at the site during the period of significance, the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape does not retain integrity of materials to the period of significance.

Workmanship

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during a given period in history or prehistory. The remaining built features dating to the period of significance include the White House, seven forts and the infantry entrenchment along the northern line of protection, the Ordinance Powder Magazine, the remnant Bakery Oven foundation, the Prison and Quartermaster Ice Houses, the Spring Reservoir, and road alignments. The remnants of these features demonstrate the skilled craftsmanship possessed by masons, laborers, enslaved workers, and engineers who constructed them. Many of these features reflect the military engineering traditions of the era and showcase the workmanship of the laborers who constructed them. However, the loss of most buildings and small-scale features at the site means that the majority of the site's built features are illegible. As such, the site does not retain integrity of workmanship to the period of significance.

Feeling

Feeling is a cultural landscape's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time. The period of significance for the site is 1863 to 1866. For the duration of the period, the site featured a military encampment and recruitment center presence in keeping with the Civil War era. After the US Army decommissioned the camp in 1866, the site lost many of the associated visual references, sounds, and smells. The subsequent dismantling and removal of buildings from the site and its return to farmland took away much of the

character one would find at a working military site. Impacting integrity of feeling are contemporary use of the site as a public park and post-historic use of the site as farms and residences. In sum, the removal of numerous buildings, structures, fences, and trees that characterized the space during the Civil War impacts the feeling associated with an active military camp. Despite these changes, the surviving evidence of the Civil War era fortifications and infantry entrenchments, the karst topography of the area, surrounding rural properties, and the open fields and views, and the wooded area overlooking Hickman Creek convey the feeling of Camp Nelson. The site retains integrity of feeling to the period of significance.

Association

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. The site retains its association with the American Civil War. The surviving above ground cultural resources reflect this long history and continue to convey a connection to the historic period. The archeological remains at the site contain material culture that tell the story of the people who occupied Camp Nelson during the period of significance. The loss of numerous features that supported an active military camp during the Civil War does affect the association of the site with the period of significance. But surviving evidence of US Army occupation of the site, such as the forts and infantry entrenchments, help to convey these associations. Camp Nelson National Monument demonstrates integrity of association to the period of significance.

Cultural Landscape Features Table

Note: Character area names are abbreviated in this table, Visitor Center Character Area (VCCA), Northern Line of Protection Character Area (NLOPCA), Eastern Line of Protection Character Area (ELOPCA), Warehouse Industrial Character Area (WICA), Maintenance Character Area (MCA), Refugee Ward Character Area (RWCA)

Feature Name	CRIS ID	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Natural Features				
Humid subtropical climate		Pre-Civil War	X	
Bluegrass Physiographic Region and Inner Bluegrass Ecoregion		Pre-Civil War	X	
Kentucky River and Hickman Creek Watersheds and Hydrology		Pre-Civil War	X	
Palisade cliffs		Pre-Civil War	X	
Karst geography including springs, sinkholes, sinkhole ponds		Pre-Civil War	X	
Topography				
VCCA				
Grading for road south of White House		Pre-Civil War	X	
Two sinkholes located east of White House		Pre-Civil War	X	
Grading associated with non-historic building sites		Post-Civil War		X
Grading associated with parking lot		c. 1999		X
Swale located east of Danville Loop 2 Road		c. 1999		X

Feature Name	CRIS ID	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
NLOPCA				
Forts Jackson, Pope, Taylor, McKee		1863-1866	X	
Infantry entrenchments		1863-1866	X	
Sinkhole northwest of Fort Pope		Pre-Civil War	X	
Sinkhole pond at former government sheds and stables area		Pre-Civil War	X	
ELOPCA				
Infantry entrenchments, Fort Jones, North Stone Wall, and South Stone Wall		1863-1866	X	
Slope toward Hickman Creek		Pre-Civil War	X	
Palisade at Hickman Creek		Pre-Civil War	X	
WICA				
Low point where warehouses were located		1863-1866	X	
Bakery Oven mound		1863-1866	X	
Powder Magazine mound		1863-1866	X	
Grading for two Civil War era roads		1863-1866	X	
Quarry		Unknown		X
MCA				
Grading associated with Facilities and Maintenance Office		c. 1970		X
Stone retaining wall on west side of Facilities and Maintenance Office		c. 1970		X
RWCA				
Grading associated with construction of Fee Memorial Church		c. 1912		X
Natural grade falling from Church Street toward the north		Pre-Civil War	X	
Spatial Organization				
VCCA				
Sinkholes east of White House		Pre-Civil War	X	
Relationship of White House to Danville Loop 2 Road		Pre-Civil War	X	
Orientation of buildings in VCCA to parking lot		1999-2008		X
Overhead plane west of White House		1950-2000		X
Stone wall at Danville Loop 2 Road		Pre-1950		X
NLOPCA				
Forts and infantry entrenchments		1863-1866	X	
Vegetation around sinkhole pond near government sheds and stables area		1863-1866	X	
Snake rail fence separating frontcountry and backcountry		c. 1999		X
Trees around former pasture in prison area		1983-1998		X
Fence lines and associated vegetation		1937-2000		X
Woodline at eastern character area border		Pre-Civil War?	X	

Feature Name	CRIS ID	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
ELOPCA				
Slope to Hickman Creek		Pre-Civil War	X	
Hickman Creek palisades		Pre-Civil War	X	
Woodland vegetation		Pre-Civil War	X	
WICA				
Majority of Glass farm road		Pre-1937		X
Brumfield farm road (central section)		Pre-1937		X
Civil War era portions of the farm roads		1863-1866	X	
Abandoned quarry		Unknown		X
Fence lines and associated vegetation		1937-2000		
Varied topography with low spot at warehouses area		Pre-Civil War		X
Cluster of agriculture buildings		Pre-1937-1990s		X
Woodline at eastern character area border		Pre-Civil War?	X	
MCA				
North driveway alignment		1863-1866	X	
Maintenance Character Area organizations		c. 1970		X
RWCA				
Fee Memorial Church and Parsonage/ manse foundation		1912		X
Wooded area east of Fee Memorial Church		Undetermined		
Amphitheater		1998		X
Hall Road and Church Street alignment		By 1891		X
Missing Spatial Organization				
Clusters of buildings throughout Camp Nelson		1863-1866		
Fences adjacent to building clusters throughout Camp Nelson		1863-1866		
Land Uses				
Commemorative		2001		X
Recreational		1999		X
Museum/Interpretive/Educational		1999		X
Administrative		2003		X
Maintenance		1998		X
Grazing/Agricultural		Pre-Civil War	X	
Quarrying		Post-Civil War		X
Missing Land Uses				
Military		1863-1866		
Residential		1863-1866		
Housing		1863-1866		
Prison		1863-1866		
Storage		1863-1866		
Food Preparation and Dining		1863-1866		
Religious		1912		
Community		1912		

Feature Name	CRIS ID	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Cultural Traditions				
Military building techniques		1863-1866	X	
Greek Revival architecture		1855	X	
Agriculture		1863-1866	X	
Commemoration		2001		X
Burial		Pre-Civil War	X	
Missing Cultural Traditions				
Separation of enlisted soldiers and officers		1863-1866		
Segregation of races at military sites		1863-1866		
Segregation/separation of sexes at military sites		1863-1866		
Burial		1863-1866		
Religious practices		1912		
Cluster Arrangement				
Cluster of agricultural buildings on former Glass farm		1937-1990		X
Cluster of features in the Visitor Center Character Area		c. 1956-2008		X
Missing Cluster Arrangement				
Cluster of features near the White House		1863-1866		
Cluster of features in the prison area		1863-1866		
Cluster of features near the government sheds and stables		1863-1866		
Cluster of features at the government shops		1863-1866		
Cluster of features at the Quartermaster and Commissary office area		1863-1866		
Cluster of features at the warehouses and bakery area		1863-1866		
Cluster of features at the eastern sheds and shanties area		1863-1866		
Cluster of features at the ordnance depot area		1863-1866		
Cluster of features at the forage office and cribs area		1863-1866		
Cluster of features at the Home for Colored Refugees area		1863-1866		
Circulation				
VCCA				
Western portion of driveway south of the White House		Pre-Civil War (?)	X	
Alignment of Danville Loop 2 Road (old US 27/Lexington-Danville Turnpike)		Pre-Civil War	X	
US 27 (four-lane)		c. 1998		X
Entry drive		1999		X
Visitor parking lot		1999		X
Service drive and parking		1999		X
Concrete sidewalk at visitor parking lot		1999		X
Concrete walkways near Visitor Center		2003		X

Feature Name	CRIS ID	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Concrete walkway to Barracks		2008		X
Asphalt walkway		c. 1999		X
NLOPCA				
Former farm road in NLOPCA		Pre-1937		X
Fort Trail		c. 2000		X
Depot Trail		c. 2000		X
Fort Putnam Loop Trail		c. 2000		X
Long Fort Trail		c. 2000		X
ELOPCA				
Sugar Creek Pike (existing alignment)		Pre-1941		X
Fort Jones/Overlook Trail		c. 2000		X
Former logging road		c. 1990s		X
Maintenance access trail		c. 2000		X
Access road and parking in ELOPCA		c. 1998		X
WICA				
Existing farm road from Danville Loop Road 2 to warehouses area (northern warehouses access)		1863-1866	X	
Existing farm road from Danville Loop 2 Road to former warehouses area (portion of the southern warehouses access)		1863-1866	X	
Majority of Glass farm road		Pre-1937		X
Brumfield farm road (central section)		Pre-1937		X
Portion of Brumfield farm road from warehouses area to shed and shanties area		1863-1866	X	
MCA				
North driveway alignment		1863-1866	X	
Circular drive west of Facilities and Maintenance Office		c. 1970		X
RWCA				
Concrete walkway from Church Street to Fee Memorial Church		Pre-1937		X
Trail to amphitheater		1998		X
Missing Circulation				
US Army road east-west through NLOPCA		1863-1866		
US Army road from prison to warehouses and bakery		1863-1866		
US Army road from stables to warehouses		1863-1866		
US Army road from stables to engineers' camp		1863-1866		
Sugar Creek Pike (historic alignment)		Pre-Civil War		
US Army road from warehouses to eastern sheds and shanties		1863-1866		
US Army road from warehouses to ordnance depot area		1863-1866		

Feature Name	CRIS ID	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Small loop road at Lexington-Danville Turnpike		1863-1866		
Circulation between Fee Memorial Church and parsonage/manse		Pre-1937		
Vegetation				
VCCA				
Trees east of White House		Pre-Civil War	X	
Shade trees west of White House		1950-2019		X
Entry plantings		c. 1999		X
Visitor parking lot plantings		c. 1999		X
Former garden plot area behind White House		c. 2000s		X
NLOPCA				
Line of trees along Danville Loop 2 Road		Pre-Civil War	X	
Vegetation in ravine near Spring Reservoir		Pre-Civil War	X	
Sinkhole vegetation		Pre-Civil War	X	
Trees growing on Forts Jackson and McKee		Post-Civil War		X
Tree line at ELOPCA boundary		Pre-Civil War	X	
Grass covering forts and infantry entrenchments		1864	X	
Open fields with specimen trees		1863-1866	X	
Fence line vegetation		Post-Civil War		X
Trees along farm road		Post-1950		X
Trees around former pasture in prison area		1983-1998		X
ELOPCA				
Trees growing on Fort Jones		Post-Civil War		X
Forested slope toward Hickman Creek		Pre-Civil War	X	
WICA				
Fence line vegetation		Post-Civil War		X
Trees south of sinkhole pond in WICA		Post-1983		X
MCA				
All plantings in MCA		Post-c. 1970		X
RWCA				
Mulberry near Fee Memorial Church		c. 1970		X
Shade trees		c.1970-2000		X
Wooded area east of Fee Memorial Church		Unknown		
Missing Vegetation				
Group of trees near warehouses and bakery area		Pre-Civil War		
Trees between buildings in government shops and Quartermaster and Commissary office areas		Pre-Civil War		
Group of trees between government shops and forage office on Lexington-Danville Turnpike		Pre-Civil War		

Feature Name	CRIS ID	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Views and Vistas				
Views across open spaces at Camp Nelson		1864	X	
Views toward the cleared area north of the northern line of protection		1864	X	
View from North Stone Wall toward the Hickman Creek valley		1864	X	
View from stone lined pond across WICA and toward NLOPCA		Unknown		
Missing Views				
View from Fort Taylor to the northeast		1864		
Buildings and Structures				
VCCA				
White House		1855	X	
Visitor Center		2003		X
Storage Building		c. 1956		X
Barracks		2008		X
Stone wall at Danville Loop 2 Road		Pre-1950		X
Drainage structures at Danville Loop 2 Road		c. 1999		X
NLOPCA				
Infantry entrenchments		1864	X	
Prison Ice House		1863-1866	X	
Fort Jackson		1864	X	
Fort Pope		1864	X	
Fort Putnam (reconstructed)		2001		X
Fort Taylor		1864	X	
Fort McKee		1864	X	
Barn #1		Pre-1950 (possibly Pre-1937)		X
Spring Reservoir Wall		1863-1866	X	
ELOPCA				
Fort Jones		1864	X	
North Stone Wall		1864	X	
South Stone Wall		1864	X	
Overlook at North Stone Wall		c. 2000		X
Footbridges on Fort Jones/Overlook Trail		c. 2000		X
WICA				
Remnant Powder Magazine		1863-1866	X	
Remnant Bakery Oven		1863-1866	X	
Remnant Quartermaster Ice House		1863-1866	X	
Cow feeder structure		Post-1950		X
Abandoned store		Pre-1937		X
Agricultural shed		1960-1970		X
Barns # 2, 6, 7, 8		Pre-1937		X
Barns #3-5		1950-1980		X

Feature Name	CRIS ID	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
MCA				
Facilities and Maintenance Office		c. 1970		X
Stone retaining wall at Facilities and Maintenance Office		c. 1970		X
Garage		c. 1970		X
RWCA				
Fee Memorial Church*		c. 1912		X
Parsonage/manse foundation		1890-1910		X
Amphitheater stage and benches		1998		X
Missing Buildings and Structures				
Parsonage/manse (above foundation)		1890-1910		
Barn west of pond in WICA		c.1950		
Civil War era buildings		1863-1866		
Fort Putnam (original)		1864		
Agricultural buildings on Naylor farm		1937-1983		
Small-Scale Features				
Gates in all character areas		Post-1866		X
Fencing in all character areas, including snake rail fence		Post-1866		X
Above ground utilities in all character areas		Post-1866		X
VCCA				
Entry gates and sign		1999		X
Park identity sign		2000		X
Regulatory signs		Post-1998		X
Audio interpretive station		Post-1998		X
Mailbox		Post-1970		X
Pad-mounted transformers		Post-1998		X
Utility meters		Post-1866		X
HVAC units		Post-1866		X
Water service and spigots		Post-1866		X
Light posts at visitor parking lot		c. 2000		X
In-ground lights near White House		c. 2000		X
Spotlights at White House		c. 2000		X
Saltville Monument and three flagpoles		2001		X
Gun		2001		X
Hand crank well pump		Post-1866		X
US Flag at Visitor Center		2020		X
Waysides		2001		X
Wood routed trail and feature signs		2001		X
Portable toilets		Post-2000		X
US Geodetic marker		1951		X
NLOPCA				
Aboveground power lines and poles		Post-1866		X
Wood routed trail and feature signs		2001		X
Waysides		2001		X
Interpretive flags		2001		X

Feature Name	CRIS ID	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
ELOPCA				
Metal trail signs		2001		X
Waysides		2001		X
WICA				
Livestock feeding and watering structures		Post-1866		X
Griffing family cemetery headstones		Pre-Civil war	X	
Stones in former Brumfield farm		Unknown		
Interpretive flags		2001		X
Stones near stone lined pond		Unknown		
MCA				
US Geodetic marker		1951		X
Mailbox		Post-c. 1970		X
RWCA				
Steps near Fee Memorial Church		Unknown		
Rectangular stones near Fee Memorial Church		Unknown		
Missing Small-Scale Features				
Snake rail fencing associated with Civil War era		1863-1866		
Constructed Water Features				
Spring Reservoir		1863-1866	X	
Stone lined pond		Pre-1937		X
Archeological Sites				
15Js78		1863-1866	X	
15Js164		1863-1866	X	
15Js166		1863-1866	X	
15Js163		1863-1866	X	

* While the Fee Memorial Church is considered noncontributing to the period of significance associated with the Camp Nelson cultural landscape, it is individually eligible. See Appendix E for Determination of Eligibility correspondence.

Treatment

Introduction

The treatment recommendations for this cultural landscape report (CLR) propose a preservation strategy for long-term management of the cultural landscape based on research, inventory, and analysis. The appropriate preservation approach considers the evolution of the landscape alongside historic significance, existing conditions, current use, and methods to improve overall sustainability of the landscape. The CLR combines the site history and analysis with input from the current site managers to formulate an appropriate treatment and management philosophy.

Recommendations follow National Park Service policy directives, including the Director's Orders No. 28: *Cultural Resource Management Guidelines* and *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. These documents identify four types of treatment: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. Each treatment ranges by level of physical intervention and includes specific guidelines and standards.

As defined by the National Park Service, the purpose of a landscape treatment plan is to set forth guidelines for preserving and enhancing historic landscape characteristics and features within the context of contemporary park uses.[714] Treatment describes the future appearance of the landscape at the planning level with preliminary design recommendations. It does not provide construction level details necessary for implementation, nor does it address routine maintenance.

Management Summary

Since establishment of the national monument in 2018, the NPS has carefully stewarded the site's cultural landscape to best reflect the period of significance and use of the site as a US Army supply depot and camp while accommodating the visiting public and their expectations.[715] This has resulted in a well-preserved historic site that provides a variety of interpretive and recreational opportunities to visitors. The overarching management philosophy has been one that balances preservation and rehabilitation—safeguarding significant cultural resources while allowing for limited development and change in the landscape. The park's first managers, Jessamine County Fiscal Court, approached site maintenance cautiously, using in-kind or compatible materials where possible and conducting maintenance based on the best available practices. Subsequently, the NPS has continued this approach, which has included new mowing regimes, the discontinuation of accommodating horses at the site, and the eventual phasing out of leasing portions of the park for grazing.

The treatment and use of the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape must be considered within a framework of applicable laws, agreements, and policies. These mandates govern a wide range of management issues beyond the preservation, protection, and interpretation of Camp Nelson National Monument's cultural resources. They extend to issues of visitor and staff use, safety, and universal accessibility, and resiliency to natural hazards, among others.

Park Enabling Legislation

Presidential Proclamation 9811 established Camp Nelson National Monument on October 26, 2018. The John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act of 2019 stated the purpose of the national monument: "Camp Nelson Heritage National Monument in the State of Kentucky, to preserve, protect, and interpret

714. Robert R. Page, Cathy A. Gilbert, and Susan A. Dolan, "A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques" (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, 1998), 81.

715. Note: The NPS assumed management and ownership of the property known as the Glass Farm in 2021.

for the benefit of present and future generations, the nationally significant historic resources of Camp Nelson and the role of Camp Nelson in the American Civil War, Reconstruction, and African American history and civil rights."[716] The act also states that the Secretary of the Interior should complete a general management plan (GMP) for the national monument within three years of designation of funds for this purpose. The Secretary of the Interior has not designated funds for a GMP to date.

Foundation Document

An April 2020 foundation document provides a basic understanding of the national monument's resources and values and outlines planning needs for the future. The document includes a park purpose statement:

> Camp Nelson National Monument in Jessamine County, Kentucky, preserves and interprets the historic and archeological resources of the Union Army [US Army] supply depot that became one of the largest Civil War era recruitment and training centers for United States Colored Troops and an African American refugee camp. The monument is a testament to the courage, resiliency, and perseverance of those seeking freedom from slavery and pursuing self-determination during and after the Civil War.[717]

The foundation document states that the national monument's significance is directly linked to its cultural landscape and the archeological features it includes. Statement number five reads:

> Camp Nelson National Monument retains a high level of archeological integrity and is the best-preserved archeological site of a large Civil War depot, recruitment center, and refugee camp. The cultural landscape of Camp Nelson's main depot and encampment area has remained largely undisturbed since the United States Army dismantled the camp after the Civil War. The site has potential to yield information about the working and living conditions of military personnel and civilian refugees.[718]

The document identifies in situ archeological resources, the cultural landscape, and the White House (Oliver Perry House) as fundamental resources and values of the national monument. These features are essential to the significance of Camp Nelson National Monument and should be a primary consideration in all present and future projects at the national monument. The foundation documents states:

> Archeological Resources. The well-preserved, in situ archeological resources associated with the U.S. Army Depot, recruitment camp, original refugee encampment, and the Home for Colored Refugees provide robust opportunities for researchers to understand African American experiences during the Civil War. The broader Camp Nelson archeological record also provides opportunities for research and scholarship related to military history, race, identity, and gender during the Civil War—a pivotal chapter of the nation's history.
>
> Camp Nelson Cultural Landscape. Camp Nelson includes the archeological remains and several landscape features connected to the large Civil War era Union Army [US Army] supply depot, recruitment camp, hospital facility, and African American refugee camp. The site's earthen fortifications, depot magazine, historic roads, one period building, and archeological deposits together convey a sense of place and allow a visitor to understand and explore the Civil War history retained on the landscape. The largely undeveloped, agricultural landscape is similar to its appearance just before the Civil War and presents a high degree of integrity of setting and location.

716. U.S. Congress, Senate and House, "John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act," Pub. L. No. S.47, § 2303 (2019), 166–67. The Dingell Act contradicted the name of the national monument given in the original Presidential Proclamation by adding "Heritage" into the national monument's name. The NPS has proceeded with using the original name "Camp Nelson National Monument."

717. National Park Service, Interior Region 2, *Foundation Document, Camp Nelson National Monument* (Atlanta, GA: National Park Service, 2020), 6.

718. National Park Service, Interior Region 2, *Foundation Document, Camp Nelson National Monument*, 7.

> The Oliver Perry "White" House. The only remaining building from the Civil War era on the Camp Nelson landscape is the Oliver Perry House or "White" House as it was called by the Union Army [US Army]. This two-story, hipped roofed, frame house of the Greek revival style was built circa 1855 by Oliver and Fannie (Scott) Perry and maintains an appearance very close to that of the Civil War period.[719]

Other important resources and values related to the cultural landscape at the natural monument include:

> Appropriate Recreational Opportunities. Appropriate recreation fosters relevancy with a broad range of park visitors. Passive recreation—such as fitness activities, bird and wildlife viewing, picnicking, and general enjoyment of green space—creates opportunities for engagement by additional local user groups and fosters relevancy with a broad range of park visitors. While recreational activities can lead to additional appreciation of the monument and its resources, such use must not conflict with the monument's purpose as a place of reflection and remembrance.
>
> Reverend John G. Fee Memorial Church. The John G. Fee Memorial Chapel is the only standing building on the Hall parcel owned by the National Park Service. The church was constructed circa 1910. The church served an active congregation of formerly enslaved individuals that gained their freedom at Camp Nelson and their descendants. The church was the center of the Hall community into the late 20th century.
>
> Karst Features. Camp Nelson National Monument sits in the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky, which is characterized by rolling hills and a karst landscape of sinkholes, streams, caves, and springs. This varied topography allowed the Union Army [US Army] to hide warehouses and other strategic buildings outside enemy sightlines, while the limestone palisades along the Kentucky River provided natural protection against potential Confederate attacks. The Camp Nelson area's sedimentology, stratigraphy, and structural geology is recognized by the Kentucky Society of Professional Geologists as Distinguished Geologic Site 2 because of the quality of exposures, accessibility, and importance of the site in research and geologic education.[720]

The foundation document identifies current conditions, potential threats and opportunities, planning and data needs, and selected laws and NPS policies related to management of resources and values associated with the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape. Conditions at the site include:

> Forts Jones, Jackson, and McKee—earthen fortifications within the monument—have high integrity and are primarily undisturbed; Forts Pope and Taylor are stable, but have diminished integrity from being bulldozed during the mid-20th century.
>
> Some portions of Fort Jones's stone revetment are deteriorated, and a portion of the fort was damaged during timber removal prior to county ownership, but seems to be stable.
>
> Fort Putnam is a reconstruction created by Jessamine County to illustrate Civil War fort construction and design. The reconstructed fort sits adjacent to the original site that was bulldozed during the mid-20th century. The reconstruction has maintenance issues as the revetment walls are aged and deteriorating.
>
> Holes in the ground surface of the undisturbed forts are beginning to form as a result of rotting wood substructure.
>
> Infantry entrenchments are well preserved in front of the Oliver Perry "White" House and between Forts Jones and McKee.
>
> Dedicated Jessamine County monument staff effort has kept the existing infantry entrenchments clear and visible in wooded areas.
>
> There is mature tree growth on Forts McKee and Jones and several trees near Fort Jackson.

719. National Park Service, Interior Region 2, *Foundation Document, Camp Nelson National Monument*, 8.

720. National Park Service, Interior Region 2, *Foundation Document, Camp Nelson National Monument*, 10.

The stone forts have a high degree of integrity, with Stone Fort #1 being in better condition than Stone Fort #2.

Wood observation platform was constructed over Stone Fort #1 to provide a visitor overlook.

Earthworks for powder magazine are located north of National Cemetery. The earthworks are in good condition but exhibit tree growth.

Stone foundations with earthen mounds exist for bakery ovens and two icehouses: the prison icehouse, which is filled in and has an interpretive sign, and the bakery icehouse, which has a more recent building covering it, but is in good condition.

The Officers' Spring stonework needs preservation maintenance.

Living ash trees are no longer present on landscape; all have been lost to emerald ash borer. Dead trees are present and being removed.

Non-historic, noncontributing barns located within the monument are currently used for Jessamine County storage.

There is a distinct division between "frontcountry" and "backcountry" areas of the monument. A large portion of the front country landscape is maintained as mowed turf. Some areas of the property closer to Hickman Creek are wooded.

The southern part of the property is grazed by cattle and horses through individual hay leases.

Snake fencing installed by Jessamine County to guide visitor experiences and manage leased lands in the monument does not follow historic property boundaries or fence lines.

Trails in the developed "frontcountry" portion of the park consist of mowed paths. The rest of the fields are hayed two to three times per year under leases.

Trails in the "backcountry" wooded section of the park are in poor condition with overgrown vegetation, including poison ivy. There are also several wooden bridges over features, which are in poor condition.

Camp Nelson's original fortification line extends outside the monument boundaries: Forts Hatch and Nelson are on the west side of the highway, and a small portion of Fort Jones is on private property.[721]

Trends identified for the cultural landscape include:

Mature trees throughout the monument are reaching the end of their life expectancy.

There is a noticeable increase in visitation since the national monument was established.

Locals actively use the mowed, frontcountry trails for exercise and walking paths. As development associated with Lexington continues to spread south, more people will move to Jessamine County, and trail use by local residents may increase as the population increases.[722]

Threats identified to the cultural landscape include:

Development on adjacent private property could impact visitor experience, disrupt the rural, agricultural setting and viewsheds, and damage portions of the historic archeological district outside monument boundaries.

Future growth of the National Cemetery could encroach on monument land.

Erosion could threaten trees and landscape features.

Deer and turkey poaching affects monument wildlife and potentially could impact visitor safety.

Looting / relic hunting at earthworks could hurt the site's integrity or damage the earthworks.

721. National Park Service, Interior Region 2, *Foundation Document, Camp Nelson National Monument*, 17.
722. National Park Service, Interior Region 2, *Foundation Document, Camp Nelson National Monument*, 18.

Horse and cattle grazing and landscape trampling contributes to devegetation and erosion.

Invasive species, including Asian honeysuckle and thistle, disrupt the natural ecosystem function.

Dead / hazard trees could either uproot archeological artifacts or damage earthworks and forts and present public safety hazards.

Allowing portions of the landscape to revert to woodland or forest could affect the cultural landscape and visitor experience.

Operations and maintenance activities have the potential to impact the fort structures and landscape.

Increase in visitation and associated visitor facility development could lead to conflicts between monument administrative and visitor needs and the undeveloped cultural landscape.[723]

Opportunities identified at the national monument include:

Reestablishing native vegetation would support the Civil War era cultural landscape and native ecosystem.

Clearing to reestablish 19th-century viewsheds would allow visitors to get a better sense of the Civil War depot and encampment.

The extensive historic photograph collection could be used to create visitor opportunities and interpretive materials that connect to current views.

Acquiring additional property within legislated boundary will preserve the overall Camp Nelson landscape and archeological district.

A future boundary adjustment to include Fort Hatch and Fort Nelson could lead to complete federal management of the northern line of fortifications.

Installing a gate counter would result in more accurate visitor count that could inform visitation data.

Partnerships between the National Park Service and Lexington Area Metropolitan Planning and other local planning and recreation groups could support expanding bike and pedestrian trails to Camp Nelson.[724]

Other Planning Documents

Existing data for the national monument includes the numerous archeological reports related to Camp Nelson. Additionally, LiDAR data from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet dates to 2009, providing aerial view of the topographic resources at the national monument. The Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District National Historic landmark documentation includes the national monument boundary. The national monument had adopted the above mentioned foundation document but does not currently have any additional planning documents. A historic structure report for the Fee Memorial Church is being developed concurrently with this CLR. Several projects have been or may about to be funded including: a long range interpretive plan (LRIP) (funded for FY 2023), a comprehensive wayside plan for the entire national monument (funded for FY 2022), and an archeological overview and assessment of the entire national monument (formulated for FY 2023). These plans will inform future treatment of the cultural landscape. Many of the treatment recommendations included in this section are dependent upon future development of these documents.

723. National Park Service, Interior Region 2, *Foundation Document, Camp Nelson National Monument*, 18.

724. National Park Service, Interior Region 2, *Foundation Document, Camp Nelson National Monument*, 18.

Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations

The following laws, executive orders, and regulations apply to the treatment of the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape.

National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) mandates that federal agencies such as the National Park Service consider the effects of their actions on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and allows the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) a reasonable opportunity to comment.[725] The Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape is listed as a contributing resource in the Camp Nelson Historic and Archeological District, and any undertakings involving the expenditure of federal funds will be reviewed in accordance with NPS policy and federal historic preservation laws including the service-wide *Programmatic Agreement Among the National Park Service (U.S. Department of the Interior), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers for Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act* (2008).[726]

Section 110 of the NHPA clarifies the broad historic preservation responsibilities of federal agencies with the intention of ensuring that historic preservation is fully integrated into the ongoing programs of all federal agencies by identifying, protecting, and avoiding unnecessary damage to historic properties. Additionally, each agency is required to use historic properties available to it and when managing these properties and must consider preservation of their historic, archeological, architectural, and cultural values.[727]

Executive Order 11593

Executive Order 11593: Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment (1971) mandates that "the Federal Government shall provide leadership in preserving, restoring, and maintaining the historic and cultural environment of the Nation."[728] Responsibilities of federal agencies include:

- Nominating "...to the Secretary of the Interior all sites, buildings, districts, and objects under their jurisdiction of the control that appear to qualify for listing on the National Register of Historic Places."
- Exert caution "…during the interim period until inventories and evaluation… are completed to assure that any federally owned property that might qualify for nomination is not inadvertently transferred, sold, demolished, or substantially altered."
- "Initiate measures to assure that where as a result of Federal action or assistance a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places is to be substantially altered or demolished, timely steps be taken to make or have made records, including measured drawings, photographs, and maps, of the property, and that copy of such records then be deposited in the Library of Congress as part of the Historic American Buildings Survey or Historic American Engineering Record for future use and reference."
- "Initiate measures and procedures to provide for the maintenance, through preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration, of federally owned and registered sites professional standards prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior."[729]

725. The NHPA of 1966 was last amended in 2006. A downloadable copy is located at http://www.achp.gov/nhpa.html.
726. A copy of this agreement can be found on the NPS's website at http://www.nps.gov/policy/106agreement.pdf.
727. More information on Section 110 can be found on the NPS's website at http://www.nps.gov/hps/fapa_110.htm.
728. A copy of this E.O. can be found in the National Archives at https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/11593.html.
729. "Federal Register, Executive Orders," National Archives, May 13, 1971, https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/11593.html.1971, appear at 36 FR 8921, 3 CFR, 1971-1975 Comp., 559, unless otherwise noted. By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and in furtherance of the purposes and policies of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (83 Stat. 852, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.

Executive Order 13006

Executive Order 13006: Locating Federal Facilities on Historic Properties (1996) mandates that "the Federal Government shall utilize and maintain, wherever operationally appropriate and economically prudent, historic properties and districts." Furthermore, "any rehabilitation or construction that is undertaken pursuant to this order must be architecturally compatible with the character of the surrounding historic district or properties."[730] As the NPS develops narratives for projects at the national monument, they may want to consider adding language specifying design with architecturally compatible materials.

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes

Recommended treatments for the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape are to be guided by *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects*.[731] Descriptions of the four standards are as follows:

> **Preservation** is "the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project."
>
> **Rehabilitation** is "the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values."
>
> **Restoration** is "the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project."
>
> **Reconstruction** is "the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time and in its historic location."

The preferred option for the ultimate treatment of the cultural landscape at Camp Nelson National Monument is **rehabilitation** with preservation of character defining features; this treatment may include replacement of damaged or missing historic fabric with "replacement in-kind" or reproduction elements (sidewalks, plantings, fencing, etc.).

The site has six different character areas, which require different types of treatment recommendations. The Visitor Center Character Area contains the most recent development by Jessamine County and is currently the most frequently visited area of the national monument. The Northern Line of Protection Character Area is currently the second-most visited area of the park and contains the bulk of the aboveground historic resources at the park. The Wooded Eastern Line of Protection Character Area has some developed trails and waysides and contains the best preserved fort within the park boundary. The Eastern Line of Protection Character Area contains many noncontributing agricultural buildings and is a key location for future trail and interpretive development. National monument staff have recently converted the Residential Character Area into a maintenance and facilities headquarters. The

730. A copy of this agreement is located on the ACHP's website at http://www.achp.gov/EO13006.html.

731. Weeks, Kay D. and Anne E. Grimmer. "The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings." United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Heritage Preservation Services, Washington, DC, 1995.

Refugee Ward Character Area is detached from the main site and contains few visitor amenities. Archeological resources within the park boundary are largely intact except where there has been heavy plowing or cultivation, meaning that the site has immense potential for yielding future information about the Civil War.

Director's Order-28

Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline (DO-28) is intended to guide the National Park Service through successful cultural resource management through three steps:[732]

1. Research: "identify, evaluate, document, register, and establish other basic information about cultural resources;"
2. Planning: "ensure that this information is well integrated into management processes for making decisions and setting priorities;" and
3. Stewardship: "planning decisions are carried out and resources are preserved, protected, and interpreted to the public."[733]

The research and planning (for treatment and use) of this cultural landscape is addressed through the development of this CLR. The general preservation philosophy integrated into this CLR is best represented by the following guidance: "Better to preserve than to repair, better repair than restore, better restore than [re]construct. It is ordinarily better to retain genuine old work of several periods, rather than arbitrarily to 'restore' the whole, by new work, to its aspect at a single period."[734]

Decisions for the future stewardship of this cultural landscape are under the purview of Camp Nelson National Monument. As part of DO-28, "stewardship focuses on five major activities:

- Control of treatment and use,
- Monitoring conditions of deterioration and structural failure,
- Protecting from human and environmental threats,
- Retaining or delegating responsibility for structures, and
- Developing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to support the program."[735]

DO-28 provides standards for each of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. Rehabilitation is discussed further below, as these treatments directly apply to the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape.

Rehabilitation improves the utility or function of a historic landscape, through repair or alteration, to make possible a compatible contemporary use while preserving those portions or features that are important in defining its significance.

In DO 28, Chapter 7: Management of Cultural Landscapes states that "rehabilitation improves the utility or the function of a cultural landscape, through repair or alteration, to make possible an efficient compatible use while preserving those portions or features that are important in defining its significance. The following standards based on the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* apply:

- A cultural landscape is used as it was historically or is given a new or adaptive use that maximizes the retention of historic materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.
- The historic character of a cultural landscape is retained and preserved. The replacement or removal of intact or repairable historic materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a landscape is avoided.
- Each cultural landscape is recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features from other landscapes,

732. A copy of NPS-28 can be found at https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/nps28/28contents.htm.
733. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management," May 23, 2000, 1, https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/nps28/28contents.htm.
734. The Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments policy statement (1936). Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Director's Order #28," 2.
735. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Director's Order #28," 127.

are not undertaken. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate, and conserve historic materials and features is physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.
- Changes to a cultural landscape that have acquired historical significance in their own right are retained and preserved.
- Historic materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a cultural landscape are preserved.
- Deteriorated historic features are repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or replacement of a historic feature, the new feature matches the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Repair or replacement of missing features is substantiated by archeological, documentary, or physical evidence.
- Chemical or physical treatments that cause damage to historic materials are not used.
- Archeological and structural resources are protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures are undertaken including recovery, curation, and documentation.
- Additions, alterations, or related new construction do not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the cultural landscape. New work is differentiated from the old and is compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing of the landscape.
- Additions and adjacent or related new construction are undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the cultural landscape would be unimpaired.[736]

736. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Director's Order #28," 127."

Management Policies Regarding Burials

NPS Management Policies, 2006, 5.3.4

"Stewardship of Human Remains and Burials
Marked and unmarked prehistoric and historic burial areas and graves will be identified, evaluated, and protected. Every effort will be made to avoid impacting burial areas and graves when planning park development and managing park operations. Such burial areas and graves will not knowingly be disturbed or archeologically investigated unless threatened with destruction."[737]

NPS Management Policies, 2006, 8.6.10.2 Family Cemeteries

"The burial of family members in family cemeteries that have been acquired by the Park Service in the course of establishment of parks will be permitted to the extent practicable, pursuant to applicable regulations, until space allotted to the cemeteries has been filled. Family members (or their designees) will be allowed access for purposes of upkeep and commemoration (such as wreath-laying and religious rituals) that do not jeopardize safety or resource protection. Whenever applicable, park managers will keep active files on cemeteries for the purpose of responding to requests and inquiries. (Also see Director's Order #19: Records Management)."[738]

Secretarial Order 3289

Secretarial Order 3289 "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" establishes a Department of the Interior approach for applying scientific tools to increase the department's understanding of climate change. The order also aims to coordinate effective response to impacts of climate change.

International Existing Building Code

According to The Public Buildings Amendments of 1988, any building constructed or altered by a Federal agency must, "to the maximum extent feasible, be in compliance with one of the nationally recognized model building codes and with other applicable nationally recognized

737. United States, *Management Policies 2006* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept., of the Interior, National Park Service). https://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/LPS113931, 67.
738. United States, *Management Policies 2006*, 117.

codes."[739] The International Existing Building Code (IEBC) is one of the allowable recognized model building codes.

Treatments of the buildings and cultural landscape are to be guided by the International Existing Building Code (IEBC).[740] Threats to public life, safety, and welfare are to be addressed; however, when a building and site is historic, alternatives to full legislative and code compliance are recommended where compliance would needlessly compromise the integrity of the cultural landscape such as the removal of character defining features or infringement upon the national register characteristics of the site and/or structures.

Accessibility

There are currently no fully accessible trail routes at Camp Nelson National Monument. The Visitor Center entrance is accessible from a ramped concrete sidewalk leading to the north side of the entry porch. Future construction projects at the site should consider scoping and technical design requirements of the Architectural Barrier Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS) and skillful application of preservation principles to preserve the historic character and historical integrity of this property.[741] Refer to NPS *Preservation Brief 32: Making Historic Properties Accessible* for more information.[742]

739. The General Services Administration had more information on this amendment and other accepted building codes at http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/101288.
740. IEBC is overseen by the International Code Council. More information is located at http://www.iccsafe.org/CS/Pages/default.aspx.
741. The Architectural Barrier Act Accessibility Standards are under the authorization of the United States Access Board. More information can be found through Access Board's website, http://www.access-board.gov/aba/.
742. Jester, Thomas C. and Sharon C. Park. "Making Historic Properties Accessible." Preservation Brief 32. Washington, DC, September 1993. Accessible at http://www.nps.gov/hps/tps/briefs/brief32.htm.

Planning for Resiliency (Response to Natural Hazards)

Note: Terminology used in the 2016 National Park Service *Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy* is quoted from the report.[743] The NPS uses the terms "natural hazards" and "climate change" when discussing this topic.

Cultural resources including historic buildings and small-scale features "are fixed in place or derive much of their significance from the place within which they were created. Many are non-living, and all are unique. As a result, the capacity of cultural resources to adapt to changing environments is limited."[744] Natural hazards can impact cultural vegetation with even the slightest variation in temperature and moisture. As stated in the Director's Policy Memorandum 14.02, "NPS cultural resource management must keep in mind that (1) cultural resources are primary sources of data regarding human interactions with climate change; and (2) changing climates affect the preservation and maintenance of cultural resources."[745]

Then-Associate Director of Cultural Resources Partnerships and Science provided the following description in the Foreword to the 2016 National Park Service *Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy* (CRCC Strategy):

> This strategy was developed in 2016 in conjunction with the centennial of the NPS Organic Act and the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, which established the framework for the current national historic preservation program. The NPS CRCC Strategy responds to the mandates of both Acts and provides guidance for NPS managers to anticipate, plan for, and respond to

743. Marcy Rockman et al., "Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy" (Washington, DC: Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science and Climate Change Response Program, National Park Service., 2016).
744. "Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy - Climate Change (U.S. National Park Service)," accessed May 8, 2019, https://www.nps.gov/subjects/climatechange/culturalresourcesstrategy.htm.
745. John B. Jarvis to All National Park Service Employees, memorandum, 10 February 2014, Climate Change and Stewardship of Cultural Resources, Policy Memorandum 14-02, https:www.nps.gov/policy/PolMemos/PM-14-02.htm.

> the real and potential effects of a changing climate on the cultural resources the 1916 Act commits us to protect unimpaired for future generations. Under the NHPA, it further provides guidance to…the national historic preservation program to recognize and respond to a wide range of environmental changes that are threatening cultural resources in communities throughout the Nation.
>
> The CRCC Strategy…defines the impacts of a changing climate on different cultural resources and organizes methods for evaluating these resources, assessing their vulnerabilities, and prioritizing our options to respond.
>
> This strategy builds on the foundation of PM 14-02 (Director's Policy Memoranda, *Climate Change and Stewardship of Cultural Resources*) and is intended primarily as a companion document to the *Climate Change Response Strategy* (2010). The purpose of this strategy is to set out the broad scope of cultural resources in relation to climate change and identify major directions of action in cultural resources and climate change for the NPS.[746]

Goals for the CRCC Strategy include:

1. Connect Impacts & Information: Set the broad scope of cultural resources and climate change response by connecting the concepts of impacts and information with the four pillars of climate change response: science, adaption, mitigation, and communication.
2. Understand the Scope: Coordinate science, management, and communication to identify and improve understanding of the effects of climate change on cultural resources.
3. Integrate Practice: Incorporate climate change into ongoing cultural resources research, planning, and stewardship.
4. Learn & Share: Collaborate with partners to grow and use the body of knowledge and practice for cultural resources and climate change.

746. Rockman et al., "Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy," 1.

The application of these goals toward the requirements of a cultural landscape report are most directly seen in Goal 3 where planning and stewardship are identified as "action tasks" along with research. Research, planning, and stewardship work together to create a holistic approach to preserving a cultural landscape.

Research is the identification, evaluation, documentation, and full understanding and interpretation of cultural resources and is essential to informed decision making for park planning and operations, including maintenance and visitor services.

Planning includes the definition of the site history, the existing conditions, and analysis sections of a CLR. In broader terms, planning "… integrates cultural resource concerns into other park planning and management processes." It also "identifies the most appropriate uses for cultural resources and determine their ultimate treatment (preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, reconstruction)."[747]

Stewardship relates most directly to the recommendations for treatment and use sections where specific action plans are presented for consideration for the treatment of the resource's contributing features (using NPS systems, such as the Cultural Resources Inventory System).[748] Planning decisions are carried out and resources are preserved, protected, and interpreted to the public.

Goal 3 also states that,

> Integrating climate change into cultural resource management is a merging process…. Goal 3 sets the broad objective of climate change – cultural resource integration. Many NPS programs, regions, and parks have already or are developing detailed guidance, action, and stewardship plans which include cultural resources in a variety of ways. Goal 3 supports these diverse efforts by organizing and illustrating points of intersection between developing approaches for

747. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Director's Order #28," chap. 3.
748. Definitions for Research, Planning and Stewardship are found in the Introduction to NPS-28, 1-4.

> climate change and *established cultural resources management practices* [emphasis by author].[749]

As such, recommendations pertaining to climate change have been incorporated into the recommendations for treatment of the individual landscape features below.

Adaptation Options (part of *Goal 3 Action Tasks*) includes improvement to resilience / resistance. Improving resilience / resistance consists of one or more actions that change the nature and / or setting of a resource that are designed to make a resource better able to withstand or be recovered from environmental hazards or other forces. The goal of this option is survival of the resource, despite possible impacts of actions on integrity of the resource, although this option does not necessarily mean the resource will be unimpaired. Examples include treatment of site materials to better withstand increased moisture, wind, or an invasive species.

The National Park Service conducted a 2018 study of climate change, which analyzed climate trends including temperature and precipitation in all national parks in the United States.[750] The study includes data from a date range of 1950-2010 and projected trends for 2000-2100.[751] Statistics for Camp Nelson National Monument show a past and projected increase in temperature and precipitation.[752] Additional threats caused by climate change include increased intensity of hurricanes and tornadoes. Intense tornadoes "can result in catastrophic damage to infrastructure from high winds, and associated debris, hail, and flash flooding."[753]

According to the Environmental Protection Agency document "What Climate Change Means for Kentucky," increasing temperatures and severe flooding is already apparent in the state, and rain includes heavy downpours.[754] Higher temperatures may affect the composition of forests and forest productivity and increase the damage that invasive pests may cause to forests. "In central Kentucky, the population of maple, beech, and birch trees is likely to decline, in favor of the oak and hickory trees that dominate forests in most of the state."[755]

Treatment recommendations must aim to protect the cultural resources at the site, but treatment must align with NPS climate change policies. More frequent heavy rain events are of particular concern as these events could cause increased erosion around the earthworks at the site. The National Park Service Climate Change Response Program also predicts that "Heavier rain events and an increased number of days between rain events will lead to both more frequent droughts and more severe flooding and erosion."[756] Wind from increased storm events could cause damage to buildings at the site such as the Fee Memorial Church. Rising temperatures and increased moisture may also have distinct impacts on cultural resources within cultural landscapes such as Camp Nelson National Monument, including the following:[757]

- Decline/disappearance of some vegetation species, other species favored;
- Heat stress on culturally significant vegetation;
- Increased desiccation, warping, and cracking of constructed landscape features;
- Limited ability to plant in waterlogged soil;
- Loss of historical integrity with improved drainage systems;
- Decreased soil fertility from erosion, waterlogging, and leaching;
- Loss of landscape features;
- Increased susceptibility to destructive fungi;

749. Rockman et al., "Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy," 26.
750. P. Gonzalez et al., "Disproportionate Magnitude of Climate Change in United States National Parks," Environmental Research Letters (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 2018), https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2265248.
751. Gonzalez et al., "Disproportionate Magnitude of Climate Change in United States National Parks," S22.
752. These statistics are based on an analysis of Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park, which is located approximately 95 miles southwest of the site.
753. National Park Service, "Camp Nelson National Monument, Climate Change Summary 2021," 2021, 2.
754. US EPA, "What Climate Change Means for Kentucky," EPA 430-F-16-019, August 2016, 2.
755. US EPA, "What Climate Change Means for Kentucky."
756. Nicholas Fisichelli, "Climate Change Trends for Planning at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park, Kentucky" (National Park Service Climate Change Response Program, June 3, 2013), 6.
757. Marcy Rockman et al., "Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy" (Washington, DC: Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science and Climate Change Response Program, National Park Service, 2016).

- Wash out or damage to roads, trails, and landscape features throughout parks;
- Variable damage / loss of organic and inorganic materials and landscape features;
- Soil erosion;
- Survival, spread, growth, and establishment of invasive species;
- Immediate alteration / destruction of historic landscape, particularly trees; and
- Exposure of vegetation to conditions that are potentially less suitable for optimal growth thereby making them more susceptible to invasive species.

NPS site managers should be prepared for any number of these impacts and have actionable strategies incorporated into all planning documents to address maintenance, repairs, and preservation of cultural resources.

Treatment Philosophy

The treatment philosophy articulates the essential qualities of the landscape that convey its significance and helps to guide decisions and provide context for the treatment tasks in this report. This landscape is a surviving remnant of the Civil War era occupation of the site by the US Army and by refugees during the war. The National Historic Landmark nomination identifies the period of significance for Camp Nelson as 1863 to 1866. This cultural landscape report uses the NHL period of significance for the evaluation of contributing and noncontributing features. This period commences with the occupation of the site as a fortified US Army supply depot and encampment and ends with the date the US Army closed the depot and recruitment center at the site. The period includes the spring and summer of 1864, when the site became a recruitment and training center for African American troops.

Contributing landscape features survive at the site. Rehabilitation of the landscape will advance the preservation, education, and interpretation goals of the national monument. The overall treatment philosophy for the cultural landscape includes the following:

- The NPS should preserve the essential spatial organization and landscape features that contribute to the significance of the landscape including the buildings, circulation, structures, vegetation, and small-scale features.
- Future interpretation and visitor access should include areas in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area.
- Future interpretation should emphasize the connection between the main park site and the Refugee Ward Character Area.
- The rehabilitation of the cultural landscape should include compatible alterations to the landscape to allow visitors of all physical abilities to experience the property and to enhance opportunities for visitors to engage with the site's history. These alterations shall be guided by future visitation and interpretive plans for the site.
- The NPS should perform skilled care and upkeep of the landscape to present the qualities that characterized the property during the period of significance.
- The NPS will carry out replacement in-kind of aged features with the recognition of cyclic and long-term changes inherent in landscape features, land use practices, and natural systems.
- The NPS should enhance visitor support facilities in the Visitor Center Character Area.
- Park furnishings, signs, and other features necessary for identification, public use, and comfort will be inconspicuous and compatible with the historic setting.
- The national monument will work with the community to protect the historic setting around the site.

Primary Landscape Treatment: Rehabilitation

There is no GMP for Camp Nelson National Monument, therefore a provisional primary landscape treatment has been selected. The recommended primary treatment for the Camp Nelson National Monument cultural landscape is **Rehabilitation**, one of four treatments defined by the Secretary of the Interior, which is defined as "…the act or process of making possible a compatible use of a property through repair, alterations, and

additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values."

The Secretary of the Interior identifies the following ten standards under Rehabilitation:

1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.
2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.
4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.
5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.
7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Rehabilitation is the most appropriate treatment for Camp Nelson National Monument because of the need to provide for contemporary park functions, visitor services, and environmental sustainability. While alterations are expected, the ninth standard emphasizes differentiating the old and new as well as the selection of updated compatible historic materials. This treatment focuses on managing the landscape for its historic character by preserving significant landscape characteristics and features, replacing in-kind key features, and allowing for changes to parking and circulation to accommodate park visitors. Contemporary changes will be in keeping with the historic character of the landscape and represent a minor component in the overall treatment.

Treatment Concept

The primary goal of the treatment recommendations in this CLR is the long-term preservation and protection of existing Camp Nelson landscape features that contribute to the historic character, setting, and significance of the property, while specifically addressing the goals, issues, and concerns identified for consideration by the CLR.

Given the lack of existing built features remaining aboveground, the goal of treatment is not restoration of the landscape to the Civil War Period, but rather, appropriate long-term treatment measures that preserve and protect the existing qualities and character defining features of Camp Nelson National Monument. Another goal is to maintain contributing features in good condition, address repair needs, and identify treatment of individual feature types to support maintenance and preservation at the site. Additionally, until

visitor use and interpretation in currently undeveloped areas of the site are determined, the CLR cannot suggest improvements for providing universal access and movement through these areas, but it can make general recommendations for this use.

Park Management Goals, Issues, and Concerns

The management goals, issues, and concerns addressed by Part 2 of this CLR were identified in several ways. Many were established by the scope of work for the project team issued by Interior Region 2 for this project, from field investigations, and from review of the foundation document. The majority of the issues and concerns were conveyed during a project meeting at Camp Nelson National Monument, when CANE staff met with the project team in December 2021 to discuss the many issues facing this new park unit. The issues conveyed by park personnel include:

Visitor arrival and access

Public visitation is currently limited to the Visitor Center, Northern Line of Protection, and Eastern Line of Protection Character Areas. Park identification is limited to one sign located on US 27 and the park identity sign located on the Visitor Center. The NPS will create recommendations for these features in conjunction with future wayfinding, visitation, and interpretive plan development.

It is anticipated that once visitors begin to access the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, there will need to be additional pedestrian and/or vehicular access points located on the south side of the site along Danville Loop 2 Road. CANE staff have not determined how visitors will enter this portion of the site; however, it is anticipated that a trail network will connect to the existing network in the Northern Line of Protection and Eastern Line of Protection Character Areas. It is unknown at the time of this report if visitors will also access the southern part of the site by car.

Visitation to the Eastern Line of Protection Area is currently limited to visitors who are willing to walk over a mile to the edge of this character area from the main parking lot. Fort Jones is one of the most well-preserved forts at CANE, and it would be beneficial for more members of the public to access this feature. There is a vehicular entrance near Fort Jones off Sugar Creek Pike. The gate at Sugar Creek Pike is locked at all times and CANE staff occasionally access this point with volunteer or special tour groups.

There is no signage on US 27 indicating the location of the Refugee Ward Character Area and there are no park identity signs at that site. There are no accommodations for vehicles near Fee Memorial Church.

As plans for visitation to the rest of the site develops, NPS should consider addressing the need to provide visitors access to the features of the cultural landscape. Design for accessibility should follow the guidelines afforded in the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ADA/ABAAS).

Site identification, interpretation, and wayfinding

The national historical monument should develop recommendations for offsite directional signage, onsite identification and wayfinding signage, and interpretive wayside location recommendations especially for areas that have not yet had visitor access. A Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan and Long Range Interpretive Plan for the park will guide these efforts, but general recommendations for these uses are included in this CLR.

Vegetation management

The Camp Nelson National Monument landscape contains open pasture, wooded areas, specimen trees, and turfgrass areas. When the national monument opened, NPS staff followed maintenance regimes established by Jessamine County, the previous owner. As Camp Nelson National Monument has hired new staff, they have changed some maintenance regimes, such as the mowing height of the forts and infantry entrenchments. Park staff have expressed that they would like guidance on the other vegetative features within the national monument boundary including but not limited to sinkhole bank vegetation, turfgrass areas, grass foot trails, and wooded areas.

Management of former agricultural features

The site contains many former agricultural features including farm roads, fences, livestock ponds, and buildings. These are noncontributing features that require maintenance, and they may become hazardous if not maintained. The Warehouse Industrial Character Area has not been developed for visitor use, and the area is under special use permits for agricultural use through 2022. When this lease expires, the national monument would like to facilitate visitation.

Integrity of views to, and from Camp Nelson National Monument

Currently, land north of the national monument features agricultural and residential use. Park staff have expressed concern about the impacts future development on these parcels could have on the integrity of the national monument.

Land use and park ownership

The park has expressed interest in exploring the possibility of a slight boundary adjustment to include two parcels along Danville Loop 2 Road that notch into the park boundary, a portion of a parcel adjacent to the Refugee Ward Character Area that may contain archeological resources related to the Home for Colored Refugees, and a portion of a parcel located east of Fort Jones. The Danville Loop 2 Road parcels would allow the national monument to have continuous ownership along its western boundary, and these parcels have archeological potential. Owning these parcels would also allow the national monument to control the viewshed in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. Archeology on the parcel adjacent to the Refugee Ward Character Area has the potential to inform the public's understanding of the refugee experience at Camp Nelson, especially of women. Archeology on this parcel also has the potential to inform the public's understanding of the development of the Ariel / Hall community after the Civil War. Fort Jones is very close to the national monument boundaries. Archeology may reveal that there are outworks related to the fort located on the parcels just outside the existing boundary.

Long term, the NPS may want to consider the addition of properties containing the other fortification structures associated with Camp Nelson including Fort Nelson and Fort Hatch, located on the west side of US 27 and Fort Studdiford (sometimes referred to as Battery Studdiford), which is southeast of the national monument boundary.

Treatment Objectives and Tasks

This section provides treatment objectives and tasks to enhance the historic landscape setting including programming and visitor experience, circulation, vegetation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, and small-scale features. Treatment objectives include:

- Convey the importance of Camp Nelson National Monument to the public;
- Facilitate safe visitor circulation in the landscape;
- Facilitate visitation to previously undeveloped areas of the national monument;
- Protect views to and from Camp Nelson National Monument;
- Provide a scenic landscape maintained to emphasize and enjoy the natural environment of the area and protect natural habitats;
- Preserve and protect the existing buildings, forts, and infantry entrenchments at the national monument; and
- Provide amenities for visitor safety, comfort, and engagement.

The individual treatment tasks are outlined below. The task narratives identify affected landscape features as inventoried in the Analysis and Evaluation chapter. Preservation is the default treatment for historic landscape features having no specific tasks identified. The treatment recommendations are described for each character area. However, some items such as archeology and programming apply to the entire national monument. Therefore, these topics are discussed first.

Recommendations for Entire National Monument

GENERAL RECORD KEEPING

Record landscape changes

The NPS should document all alterations to contributing features through drawings, notes, and photographs. Use available technology such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS) to record the location of the changes. Documentation should include a Record of Treatment as described in *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques*.[758]

PROGRAMMING AND VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Improve visitor experience and access to national monument features

Visitors to and staff at the national monument use vehicular and pedestrian circulation developed by Jessamine County and other previous property owners (e.g. driveways at the Facilities and Maintenance Office). NPS staff have expressed that the exterior facilities currently located at the Visitor Center are undersized for large groups and for anticipated future visitation. Future development plans will address previously undeveloped areas of the national monument including the Warehouse Industrial Character Area and the Refugee Ward Character Area. Future planning, especially the Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan and the Long Range Interpretive Plan, should make connections between these spaces and the main encampment site a priority.

The Refugee Ward Character Area currently lacks any visitor amenities except for the two waysides outside the Fee Memorial Church. Parking is ad hoc. Future development at the site should include parking and outdoor interpretation. Once the Fee Memorial Church is rehabilitated and possibly open for visitation, the national monument may evaluate the value of a shuttle between the Visitor Center and the Refugee Ward Character Area. There is currently no regular visitor access to the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area via Sugar Creek Park. Future development at the site may include improvements to the vehicular access on this road to facilitate visitation to Fort Jones, one of the national monument's premier historic features, and the North and South Stone Walls, which offer some of the best views at the national monument.

NATIONAL MONUMENT STAFFING

Protection of the national monument's existing cultural resources and implementation of many of the proposed treatment recommendations may require additional staffing. The NPS should consider hiring a resource manager to oversee management of cultural resources. Additionally, the NPS may want to hire staff to support an active archeology program. Positions might include a museum technician and an archeology outreach and educational manager.

ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Resource Preservation Management

The NPS should conduct an archeological survey (shovel probe excavation and metal detecting) before any ground disturbing activity occurs at the park. If significant archeological remains are encountered, these should be mitigated or the project impact area moved, following Section 106 or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This work should be completed by a qualified individual, as outlined in the aforementioned laws.

Archeological Survey

The NPS should conduct archeological surveys for any area not previously surveyed archeologically. Geophysical surveys should be conducted within unexcavated portions of known archeological sites. This work should be completed by a qualified individual, as outlined in the aforementioned laws.

Public and Student Involvement

The NPS should develop an internship program for students from local universities to participate in archeological research. The NPS could include public volunteers in archeology projects designed to meet Section 106 or Section 110 goals.

Collections/Records Management

The NPS should place present artifact lists and catalogs in an up-to-date computer catalogue system to allow more efficient data management and future research. The NPS should digitize existing field records to allow for better data management and future research. The NPS should include black and white photographs, color slides, and digital photographs of excavations in this

758. Page, Gilbert, and Dolan, "A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques," 121–22.



Figure 5.1. Map showing the two parcels that inset into the national monument boundary on Danville Loop 2 Road (Source: Jessamine County Tax Assessor and WLA Studio, 2022).

system. The NPS should transfer any artifacts and records to archivally stable acid-free boxes. The NPS should complete technical reports for past archeological projects that have no completed reports. This task is especially important for the past archeological surveys, since these reports can assist in future landscape and resource management and interpretation. The NPS should evaluate existing facilities to determine capacity to house collections and records.

LAND USE

Evaluate inclusion of properties along Danville Loop 2 Road in CANE

There are two properties on Danville Loop 2 Road that are surrounded by Camp Nelson National Monument but are excluded from park property (**Figure 5.1**). Due to their archeological potential, it would be advantageous for these parcels to be included in the national monument boundary. Including these parcels in the national monument boundary would also allow for the removal of overhead utilities and fences associated with these parcels that affect views at Camp Nelson National Monument. Including these properties in the national monument boundary would also allow the NPS to control development on the parcels, which could currently be rezoned or developed with uses that impact the national monument. If it is not possible to include these two parcels in the CANE boundary, the NPS may want to consider assisting these property owners in the development of scenic easements. See easements recommendation below.

Evaluate inclusion of additional properties adjacent to the Refugee Ward Character Area in CANE

The NPS currently owns a seven-acre tract associated with the Fee Memorial Church and its adjacent parsonage/manse foundation. The NPS currently does not own parcels within the area of the former Home for Colored Refugees. It would be beneficial for the park to own portions of the former Home for Colored Refugees location and add them to the Refugee Ward Character Area for interpretive purposes and archeological potential.

Evaluate inclusion of additional property on the east side of Fort Jones

The visible works of Fort Jones appear to be on NPS property, but they are within a few feet of the boundary of the national monument. Outworks, including the ditch and berm on the east side of the fort, may be outside the national monument

boundary and on private property. Archeological research may reveal if these works lie outside the boundary. If so, the NPS may want to pursue inclusion of this area in the national monument. Even if portions of the fort are not found on private property, the NPS may want to pursue inclusion of a portion of this property so that they can properly manage vegetation around Fort Jones (see Buildings and Structures, Vegetation, and Recommendations for the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area).

Assess possibility of easements on adjacent residential properties

The residential property north of the Northern Line of Protection is currently occupied by residential and agricultural land uses. The NPS may want to coordinate with these property owners to discuss the possibility of the owners selling or donating scenic easements for all properties that will remain visible from the national monument. According to the NPS,

> A historic preservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement, typically in the form of a deed, which permanently protects a significant historic property. Since it is a perpetual easement, an owner is assured that the property's historic character will be preserved. In addition, an owner who donates an historic preservation easement may be eligible for one or more forms of tax benefits. Under the terms of a typical preservation easement, a property owner places restrictions on the development of, or changes to, the property and transfers these restrictions to a qualified organization whose mission includes environmental protection, land conservation, open space preservation, or historic preservation. The organization must have the resources to manage and enforce the restrictions provided for in the easement and have a commitment to do so. Once recorded, the easement restrictions become part of the property's chain of title and "run with the land" in perpetuity, thus binding not only the owner who grants the easement but all future owners as well. Preservation easements in some states may also be called preservation "restrictions," "covenants," or "equitable servitudes."[759]

759. National Park Service, Technical Preservation Services, "Easements to Protect Historic Properties: A Useful Historic Preservation Tool with Potential Tax Benefits," 2010, 3, https://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives/taxdocs/easements-historic-properties.pdf.

NPS Director's Order #25: Land Protection, effective in 2001 states that "The NPS may employ a variety of different methods, as appropriate, for protecting resources. These methods will be considered in the land protecting planning process for each unit. . . . Examples are . . . Acquisition of less-than-fee property interests, such as easements or rights-of-way."[760]

Avoid impacts to archeological resources

The NPS should avoid land use activities that might threaten or impact known potential archaeological resources. The NPS should consider both natural and cultural features at the park in any treatment decisions. The NPS should employ maintenance regimes that minimize long-term damage to cultural resources, especially the remaining forts, infantry entrenchments, and stoneworks. Also see recommendation for archeological resource preservation management.

Support wildlife conservation

As the NPS develops a general management plan for the park, planners may want to consider the valuable natural habitats that exist at Camp Nelson National Monument. Guiding principles for site development should recognize that there are important environments for birds and other wildlife that exist within the park boundary and that wildlife is critical site feature for many community members and national monument visitors. Partnerships with state and local chapters of organizations such as the Nature Conservancy and National Audubon Society, who support wildlife and habitat preservation, will be important for making decisions regarding wildlife habitat at the national monument.

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Consider value of noncontributing buildings and structures

The NPS should consider the value of the many noncontributing agricultural buildings at the property. The NPS may want to consider the removal of noncontributing buildings that are intrusive to the historic landscape only if they are found to be without historical or functional merit or value. Some buildings may be valuable for storage, visitation, and or interpretive uses.

760. National Park Service, "Director's Order #25: Land Protection" (Washington, D.C.: DOI, NPS, WAPC, May 23, 2000), https://www.nps.gov/policy/DOrders/DOrder25.htm.

Develop an earthworks and stoneworks management plan (PMIS Project 2, Appendix C)

The NPS should consider developing a preservation and maintenance/mowing policy for the forts and infantry entrenchments in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area consistent with recommendations from Historian David Lowe, Cultural Resources GIS, NPS. Lowe suggests that "a thicker layer of grass breaks up heavy rainfall and also blunts the compacting tendencies of mechanical mowers."[761] He states that the higher grass also provides an interpretive benefit as "it provides a visual clue to visitors, first as to the size and outline of the forts, next, it is a way to 'set aside' the resource or emphasize it for the purposes of interpretation."[762] Lowe also recommends engaging an expert from the Jessamine County agricultural extension office to make recommendations about "the appearance of the grass-legume mix over time and its change of appearance during its seasonal cycle."[763] Lowe suggests that Forts Jackson, Putnam, and McKee should have a manual maintenance approach, "particularly on the steep outer slopes."[764] See Appendix B for the full letter from David Lowe to Camp Nelson Superintendent Ernest Price, "CANE Earthworks." The earthworks management plan should be developed in conjunction with a proposed vegetation management plan to address vegetation on the earthworks including turfgrass and trees.

Currently, NPS staff and volunteer groups perform stonework management at Fort Jones and the North and South Stone Walls. Typically, woody vegetation is controlled with a "cut and paint" method, where small woody growth is hand trimmed and painted with a broad leaf herbicide at least once per year.

According to best practices for preservation of stone fortifications, experts recommend that the NPS remove any trees growing directly on the forts, noting "Generally, trees growing directly on the works should be removed at ground level, and the stump permitted to naturally rot. The stump must be carefully monitored to ensure that it does not become a new erosion location."[765]

Until the Camp Nelson National Monument Earthworks and Stoneworks Management Plan is produced, the treatment for Fort Jones and the North and Stone Walls should include cyclic maintenance for preservation. At Fort Jones, the NPS should have an ISA Certified Arborist assess the trees on the fort and those within range of producing damage if they fall onto the fort. The NPS should immediately remove any hazardous or dead large trees, cutting the trees at the stump. The NPS should consider using the existing "cut and paint" method for any trees growing directly on the fort that are four inches diameter at breast height or smaller to prevent additional damage to the structure from roots.

The NPS should inspect the North and South Stone Walls regularly for bulges, gaps, or holes, indicating where the stone has failed. The NPS should record any large trees growing directly on the North and South Stone Walls, as the "roots of a tree growing on a dry-laid stone work are particularly destructive. . . they grow behind the stone work and serve to dislodge the stones. The small chink stones are particularly vulnerable to being displaced by roots."[766] As recommended above, the NPS should have an ISA Certified Arborist assess the trees on the stone walls and within a distance that might fall and impact the structures. Any dead or hazardous trees should be cut at the stump.

According to guidance for dry laid stone structures provided in the Department of Defense,

> Maintenance procedures of a stand-alone dry-laid stone structure are relatively straight forward:
>
> - Insuring that the wall remains vertical, and has not shifted;

761. David Lowe to Ernest Price, "CANE Earthworks," May 18, 2021.
762. Lowe to Price, "CANE Earthworks," May 18, 2021.
763. Lowe to Price, "CANE Earthworks," May 18, 2021.
764. Lowe to Price, "CANE Earthworks," May 18, 2021.
765. Douglas R. Cubbison and Travis Beckwith, "Project 05-239: Stabilization and Preservation of DoD-Owned Military Fortification" (Department of Defense, Legacy Management Program, March 13, 2006), 60.
766. Cubbison and Beckwith, "Project 05-239: Stabilization and Preservation of DoD-Owned Military Fortification," 60.

- Insuring that chink and shim stones remain in place;
- Insuring that the wall has a stable base (not undermined by erosion or changes in water patterns);
- Insuring that inappropriate materials have not been placed against the wall in such a manner as to place pressure on it (i.e. a slope slumping against the wall, or silt/debris/earth building up against the side of a wall);
- Insuring that vegetation is not growing out of the wall (the roots will disturb the stones), or that vegetation is not growing against the walls (such as a tree growing adjacent to or underneath the wall);
- Insuring that rocks have not been pulled out or similarly disturbed by animals or humans.[767]

Any repairs to the North and South Stone Walls should be performed by a professional mason with experience working on historic dry-laid stone walls. One source for consultation and masonry analysis is the NPS's National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT). NCPTT staff include conservators and experts in historic materials such as stone and mortar. Another source is the Dry Stone Conservancy, located nearby in Lexington, Kentucky.

Specific maintenance for the North and South Stone Walls follows recommendations provided by the Department of Defense,

> Each spring, vegetation should be inspected, and selective re-seeding as appropriate should be performed for areas where vegetation has died, diminished, or been removed over the winter. Vegetation monitoring is particularly important, as military fortifications usually consist of soil excavated or removed from protective ditches around the work. Accordingly, the soil on top of the fortifications are usually not top soils, rather they are usually poorer quality soils that often make it difficult for vegetation to become well established. Re-seeding may require several seasons or applications to provide complete vegetation coverage.
>
> A mason should visit the fortification every six months, and insure that chink or shim stones are tight and present. The mason should manually tighten loosened chink or shim stones, and replace any missing chink or shim stones as appropriate. Chink stones and shims should be no smaller than one inch to 1 ½" by three inches in size; and should be recovered from the site when possible. Slate stones cannot be used, as they are not strong enough to be effective. Chink stones and shims should generally match the color and type of stone used in the adjacent dry-laid masonry. Do not bring chinking stones beyond the face of the major masonry stones.[768]

Consideration of possible interpretive approaches to missing buildings and structures at the site

As the NPS develops the Camp Nelson Long Range Interpretive Plan, national monument staff will need to decide on best practices for interpreting the many buildings and structures that were once located at the site. The US Army documented many of the buildings and small-scale features at Camp Nelson in maps, architectural drawings, and high-quality historic photographs. These records are located at the Library of Congress. The level of documentation for these buildings could meet Secretary of Interior Standards to justify restoration of certain buildings. However, current national monument management staff indicate that they may not be able to manage the maintenance and upkeep associated with reconstructed buildings. There are alternative strategies for interpreting missing buildings at CANE. Possible approaches range from physically marking building footprints to developing mobile web-based interpretation. Another interpretive approach would be to develop waysides that include a historic image on a transparent background, placed at the location of the photographer who took the historic photo. All three methods would be appropriate at CANE, so long as they are informed by historical documentation and confirmed by archeological research. Since maintenance of and upkeep of reconstructed buildings may not

767. Cubbison and Beckwith, "Project 05-239: Stabilization and Preservation of DoD-Owned Military Fortification," 28.

768. Cubbison and Beckwith, "Project 05-239: Stabilization and Preservation of DoD-Owned Military Fortification," 61.

be feasible, another option at CANE would be to restore specific small-scale features at the site to allow for the interpretation of areas within the historic landscape. For example, the stockade fence at the prison site is very well documented in historic maps, in historic photographs, and through archeological investigations. The high-quality historic photographs capture remarkable details about the fence, its materials, design, and workmanship. The NPS could consider reconstructing this feature, which would inform visitors to the spatial organization of the prison area, even if the other buildings and structures are no longer present. In the warehouse area, it may be appropriate to use an interpretive method to depict the number and layout of the warehouse buildings. Possible strategies include marking the building corners with posts or marking the buildings with flush-to-grade footprints. This allows a visitor to understand the arrangement and spatial organization of this important group of buildings during the Civil War era.

VEGETATION

Develop a vegetation management plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C)

The NPS should develop a vegetation management plan that preserves the historic character of Camp Nelson National Monument. The vegetation management plan should identify a maintenance plan for the open fields at the National Monument and a management plan for trees and shrubs at the national monument. Historic maps and photographs show that there were trees throughout the landscape, some in large masses. The vegetation management plan should provide for rehabilitation of some of these areas. The vegetation management plan should emphasize the use of native species that perform well in the central Bluegrass region. Appropriate species are those that can be maintained in current and anticipated future climate and soil conditions.

The vegetation management plan should address field maintenance to determine where and if mowing, haying, manual vegetation removal, or prescribed burns are the most appropriate treatment. The vegetation management plan should be developed in conjunction with a proposed earthworks management plan to address vegetation growing on earthworks including turfgrass and trees.

Following established practices by Jessamine County when they managed the site, the NPS has continued a successful pasture and field management routine. Presently, most of the backcountry areas in the Northern Line of Protection Area are hayed under a Special Use Permit (SUP). This arrangement, whereby a farmer-contractor is responsible for haying, and thereby field maintenance, is working well according to national monument staff. The SUP is still in effect, but if the NPS decides to end this relationship, the following guidance for pasture management is provided:

Conducting a soil test and following fertilization recommendations are important components of pasture and field management. The USDA's Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SSARE) advises:

> A soil sample should be taken at the right time and correct depth to satisfy the crop needs. A soil sample should be taken at least 3-6 months ahead of time in case the soil test report recommends lime; then there will be enough time to allow the lime to adjust the soil pH. Collecting a soil sample in perennial pastures is recommended every 2-3 years while in hay fields soil samples should be collected every year. The reason for a yearly soil sampling in hay field is because there are a large number of nutrients removed during hay production since that hay might be taken out of the farm or fed in other areas than where it is produced.[769]

Regarding weed management, SSARE notes that there are no "silver bullets" and that a weed control is best approached with Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies that include cultural, physical, biological, and chemical tools. Integrating different methods often improves control over single method approaches.

Once the SUP for grazing expires in the Eastern Line of Protection Area, it would be advantageous for the NPS to extend the backcountry maintenance regime to this area. Some open fields

769. "Sustainable Year-Round Forage Production and Grazing/Browsing Management in the Southern Region," SARE Southern, accessed August 30, 2021, https://southern.sare.org/resources/sustainable-year-round-forage-production-and-grazing-browsing-management-in-the-southern-region/.

in this area have woody growth that will need to be cut back and controlled before a consistent maintenance regime is implemented. The NPS should consider the removal of vines and shrubs that currently grow along the fence lines (see Small-Scale Features). To establish a consistent vegetative cover in these areas, the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment suggests overseeding pastures, stating,

> Overseeding of pastures is an excellent management tool that improves pasture production, forage quality, and ensures a good ground cover the following year without major pasture renovations. Overseeding consists of planting seed in a field with existing grass cover in order to fill in bare patches and thicken the stand. It can be done over the entire pasture or limited to trouble areas. The best time for overseeding is the fall when weed competition is low and ideal growing conditions exist for cool-season grasses.
>
> Controlling competition from weeds is an important step in overseeding. While herbicides are an effective way of controlling weeds, spraying may also hinder young seedlings, resulting in a failed establishment. Carefully check the label for the recommended waiting period before seeding. In general, weeds are less aggressive in the fall, making it the best time to overseed. Usually, close mowing or grazing can help seedlings establish.
>
> Many overseeding applications fail to establish due to grazing the pasture too soon after seeding and grazing too heavy the first 6– 8 months.
>
> Proper seeding method is also an important factor in overseeding success. The goal of any seeding method is to place the seed ¼ to ½ inch into the soil and cover it to achieve good seed to soil contact. Using a no-till drill is recommended to provide the best chance of success. Harrowing before and after broadcast seeding is another seeding method; however it is much less accurate and effective than a no-till drill. Using a cultipacker or roller after the harrow method can help improve seed to soil contact. Finally, frost seeding is an option for overseeding clovers. Frost seeding is broadcasting seed onto the ground during mid to late February and relying on the freeze and thaw cycle to work the seed into the soil. Frost seeding works well with red and white clover, but success is limited with grasses and alfalfa.
>
> Allowing time for seedlings to establish is another critical step in overseeding. . . . The following recommendations will increase the chances of a successful overseeding application:
>
> Apply any needed lime and fertilizer amendments – An up-to-date soil test will indicate the needs of many nutrients needed for both established and growing plants. For more information, contact your local County Extension Agent or consult the UK publication Lime and Fertilizer Recommendations, AGR-1 (www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage under "Publications"). A low rate of nitrogen at seeding (30 to 40 lbs/acre) will improve the chances of successful establishment.
>
> Use high-quality seed of an improved variety – Use a variety that has proven to be a top performer under Kentucky conditions. The University of Kentucky forage testing program tests the survival of cool-season grasses and legumes under grazing and reports these findings in Forage Variety Trials, www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage. High-quality seed has high rates of germination and is free of contamination from weed seed. Remember, quality seed will produce a pasture that lasts for years; "cheap seed" will only lead to headaches.
>
> Plant enough seed – Seeding rates are determined by the grass mixture to be planted. See Table 1 for the recommended seeding rates for common forage plants.
>
> Use the best seeding method available – Using a no-till drill is recommended for overseeding, as discussed previously.
>
> Control competition – Close mowing or grazing prior to overseeding will reduce existing grass and weed competition.
>
> Allow immature seedlings to become established – In addition to limiting grazing of an overseeded pasture, also limit herbicide applications at critical times. Typically, seeding grasses should not happen until six to eight weeks after spraying

and wait an additional six to eight weeks before spraying a newly overseeded stand. With clovers the waiting period for seeding after spraying can be six or more months with some herbicides. Always follow herbicide labels.

Allow immature seedlings to become established – In addition to limiting grazing of an overseeded pasture, also limit herbicide applications at critical times. Typically, seeding grasses should not happen until six to eight weeks after spraying and wait an additional six to eight weeks before spraying a newly overseeded stand. With clovers the waiting period for seeding after spraying can be six or more months with some herbicides. Always follow herbicide labels.

Other Considerations When Overseeding - Perennial ryegrass is a short-lived, cool-season grass that has exceptionally high seedling vigor and is often used to thicken up troublesome areas. If perennial ryegrass is seeded at high rates (above 20%) it will outcompete other grasses, which will result in bare spots as perennial ryegrass dies out in two to three years. Perennial ryegrass can be infected with an endophyte similar to that of tall fescue, therefore only endophyte-free perennial ryegrass should be seeded.

Purchase seed well in advance of overseeding. High quality seed is in high demand in the fall and may not be available at that time.

Store seed in a cool, dry area to maintain germination levels. Always store in a container that is rodent proof.[770]

University of Kentucky suggests the following common seeding rates and optimum seeding dates for pasture plant species:

Species	Rate lb/ acre (seeded alone)	Rate lb/ acre (in mixes)	Optimum Seeding Dates
Endophyte-free or novel endophyte tall fescue	20-25	10-15	8/20–9/20
Orchardgrass	15-20/td>	10-15	8/20-9/20
Kentucky Bluegrass	15-20	10-15	8/20-9/20
Perennial Ryegrass (Endophyte-free)	20-25	5-10	8/20-9/20

Additionally, the NPS may want to diversify the species planted in fields to support wildlife, which NPS staff have identified as a community goal. Should the NPS wish to add species with wildlife value, those that would be appropriate for central Kentucky pastures include, but are not limited to:

Common Name	Botanical Name
Shallow or Ridge-Top Soils (dry)	
Side-oats grama	*Bouteloua curtipendula*
Little bluestem	*Schizachyrium scoparium*
Prairie dropseed	*Sporobolus heterolepis*
Mesic Well-drained Soils (moist)	
Little bluestem	*Schizachyrium scoparium*
Big bluestem	*Andropogon gerardi*
Indiangrass	*Sorghastrum nutans*
Switchgrass	*Panicum virgatum*
Bottomland Soils	
Prairie cordgrass	*Spartina pectinata*
Eastern gamagrass	*Tripsacum dactyloides*
Indiangrass	*Sorghastrum nutans*
Forbs (Wildflowers)	
Lance-leaf coreopsis	*Coreopsis lanceolata*
Purple coneflower	*Echinacea purpurea*
Butterfly weed	*Asclepias tuberosa*
Spiked blazingstar	*Liatris spicata*
Wild bergamot	*Monarda fistulosa*
Gray coneflower	*Ratibida pinnata*
Black-eyed Susan	*Rudbeckia hirta*
Legumes	
Illinois bundleflower	*Desmanthus illinoensis*
Partridge pea	*Chamaecrista fasciculata*
Round-headed blush clover	*Lespedeza capitata*
Purple prairie clover	*Dalea purpurea*

Note: Should the NPS select these species, they may need to establish an alternative maintenance regime for the areas in which they are planted. The NPS should consult with University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service for soil preparation and maintenance regimes if they elect to adopt field areas for wildlife.

770. University of Kentucky, College of Food and Environment, "Overseeding Pastures in Kentucky | Master Grazer," accessed April 1, 2022, https://grazer.ca.uky.edu/content/overseeding-pastures-kentucky.

Currently management of the open field areas occurs with mowing of the functional short turfgrass areas (NPS Turf Class B1) and haying of the managed tall vegetative cover areas (NPS Turf Class S4). The trails at the park are currently managed as functional short turfgrass (NPS Turf Class B1) as well. In the southern portion of the national monument, the open field areas are either bush hogged as needed or are under special use permit for agricultural grazing, which means livestock keep the areas largely free of woody growth. The national monument does not have a formally adopted mowing plan. In conjunction with the proposed vegetation management plan, the national monument may want to adopt a mowing plan that addresses mowing regimes, equipment, and the desired turf grass height for different areas of the national monument.

The vegetation management plan should address the wooded areas in both the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area and the Refugee Ward Character Area including a plan for the removal of invasive exotic vegetation and maintenance of a healthy forest ecosystem.

The vegetation management plan should address maintenance of sinkhole embankments within the national monument boundary. (These are located in the Visitor Center, Northern Line of Protection, and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas.) The NPS should maintain the embankments of the sinkhole areas as wooded. It is difficult and dangerous to mow the steep banks of these features. Currently, most of the sinkholes have trees and various woody species growing in them. These natural features are ecologically important and should be protected. Some of the sinkholes in the Northern Line of Protection Area contain trash and brush. The NPS should consider removing this material to protect the sinkhole ecology. The vegetation management plan should suggest maintenance for sinkhole vegetation in a way that maintains the ability of the features to maintain ecological health and addresses the different scales of sinkholes located within the national monument boundary. The NPS should follow best management practices for sinkholes as outlined by the National Cave and Karst Management Symposium.[771] Best practices include management for both the inner and outer rims of the sinkhole feature.

The vegetation management plan should make recommendations for reestablishment of tree areas within the open field areas of the national monument (see tree cover section below).

Consider the addition of selected areas of tree cover

With an overall recommended treatment goal of rehabilitation for Camp Nelson, this CLR recommends that the national monument reestablish vegetation patterns that contributed to the spatial organization of the landscape during the period of significance. Today, large expanses of the property are treeless and reflect the agricultural use of the property after the Civil War period. To better evoke and interpret the cultural landscape during the period of significance, the national monument should reestablish vegetation patterns recorded in historic photographs and maps of Camp Nelson. This document illustrates the approximate locations of tree groves and specimen trees present during the period of significance. These landscape features defined physical spaces within Camp Nelson. For example, historic photographs reveal a large grove of trees growing along northern edge of the Quartermaster and Commissary warehouses. These trees visually separated this area from the Prison Complex to the north. Trees also appear in historic photographs growing within developed areas, including, for example, around the Quartermaster and Commissary offices.

In order to reestablish these character defining features of the historic landscape, the national monument should identify and mark the general area where trees existed in the historic landscape, using the period maps included in this CLR as Illustrations 2.1 through 2.9 or GIS provided in the forthcoming Cultural Landscape Inventory project. The national monument should perform archeological investigations to locate potential archeological resources associated with adjacent developed areas—i.e., the buildings within the

771. Cory Holliday, Stuart D. Hale, and Christopher Groves, "Ecology-Based Cave and Karst Forest Management Recommendations and Best Management Practices for Working Forests," Proceedings of the 22nd National Cave and Karst Management Symposium (Eureka Springs, AK, October 2017), http://nckms.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2017_NCKMS_Proceedings.pdf.



Figure 5.2. Example of post and rail fencing at Camp Nelson National Monument. This fence type is common in the central Bluegrass region (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 5.3. Example of wire fencing with mesh panels and round posts. This fence type is common at agricultural sites and is visually unobtrusive (Source: Photo courtesy of Deer Buster fencing, 2021).

Quartermaster and Commissary warehouses. The archeological investigations should also ensure that the area being proposed for tree planting are clear of archeological resources.

The steps for establishing trees in the landscape include marking the tree locations. They should be placed in an irregular pattern with trees approximately fifteen to twenty-five feet apart. A six-foot diameter planting area should be cleared of vegetation. The NPS should test the soil to ensure that it will support tree establishment and only amend the soil if it is severely lacking in nutrients to support proper growth. During the first few years of establishment, a mulch ring will protect the new trees from accidental damage by mowing. After several years, once the canopy begins to form, the grass can be removed from the area underneath the trees and the area transitioned to natural, leaf litter.

SMALL-SCALE FEATURES

Consider removal of non-historic and non-functional fencing

The NPS should consider the value of the many noncontributing fences at the property. Once grazing leases are expired, the NPS may want to consider the removal of noncontributing fences that are intrusive to the historic landscape only if they are found to be without historical or functional merit or value. Some fences may be valuable for security, especially those at the park boundary. There is photographic documentation of some fences from the period of significance, and the NPS may want to reuse some of this fencing as a non-architectural interpretive feature. Much of this fencing is dilapidated and unnecessary. Examples include the fencing separating the Northern Line of Protection Character Area from the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, fencing on the interior of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, and fencing between the Northern Line of Protection Character Area and the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. NPS maintenance crews have begun to remove some fencing. In 2022, NPS staff removed portions of the barbed wire fencing in the wood line between the Warehouse Industrial and Eastern Line of Protection character areas.

Consider installation of one type of perimeter fencing

There are currently several types of fencing along the NPS boundary on Danville Loop 2 Road. A stone wall also acts as a boundary in this area near the White House. The NPS should consider choosing one type of fencing along this entire property boundary should it be deemed necessary for site security. Historically, fence types at Camp Nelson varied from informal, rough hewn pickets or logs to formal, white painted picket fencing, but there is little photographic documentation of fencing along Danville Loop 2 Road (historically Lexington-Danville Turnpike). Appropriate fence types include post and rail fencing and post and wire mesh fencing (**Figure 5.2**, **Figure 5.3**). Post and rail fencing is common throughout the central Bluegrass region, but it requires maintenance such as painting and board replacement. Post and wire mesh fencing would require occasional replacement of posts and maintenance of the wire. Post and wire fencing is less visually unobtrusive and requires less maintenance than post and rail fencing. This type of fencing would create a continuous boundary along this boundary,

providing site security. There may be areas of the park where boundary fencing is not necessary. These areas include the boundary with Camp Nelson National Cemetery where there is a historic stone wall (southeastern boundary) and the eastern edge of the park where the park boundary includes the palisade at Hickman Creek. Park staff have noted that fencing is also not necessary along portions of the Danville Loop 2 Road where there are large specimen trees. The row of trees north of the Spring Reservoir provide a barrier to vehicular access to the open field south of the entry drive. However, the trees to do not provide security from pedestrian access, and CANE staff may decide to erect a fence in this location for resource protection.

Consider burying overhead utility lines

The NPS may want to consider a project to bury overhead utility lines where they exist in the park. Two locations are along Danville Loop 2 Road in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area and in the Maintenance and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas. See the associated Land Use project "Evaluate inclusion of properties along Danville Loop 2 Road in CANE." As noted, previously, The NPS should conduct an archeological survey (shovel probe excavation and metal detecting) before any ground disturbing activity occurs at the park. If significant archeological remains are encountered, these should be mitigated or the project impact area moved, following Section 106 or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Choose compatible materials

New or replacement small-scale features for the park should be compatible in character with historic features at the site. For example, national monument staff recently replaced metal parking sign posts with wood 4 × 4 posts, in keeping with other materials at the site. Jessamine County chose to construct the Visitor Center with board and batten siding, in keeping with the buildings that were present during the period of significance. Best practices for historic preservation recommend using materials that are clearly modern and distinguishable from historic materials (e.g., the wood posts for the parking signs are clearly manufactured and not "hand hewn" and the Visitor Center is not at a scale that reflects the historic period). The NPS should develop a site furnishings guide for the national monument that identifies appropriate styles for site amenities such as benches, trash receptacles, pedestrian scale lighting, and signs. The forthcoming Camp Nelson Comprehensive Wayside Plan should address the replacement of directional and trail signs located throughout the Visitor Center and Northern Line of Protection Character Areas. Many of these signs, particularly those constructed out of wood, are in poor condition and are illegible.

Visitor Center Character Area

Illustration 4.1 depicts the locations of some of the treatment recommendations described below. The overall treatment objective for this character area, which includes the Visitor Center, White House, Barracks, entry road, and the main and White House parking lots, is to retain and maintain contributing features such as the White House, existing topography, and archeological features while providing improved visitor experience. Specific recommendations for treatment of resources within this character area include the following:

- The NPS should retain and maintain the features that are character-defining for the Visitor Center Character Area:
    - The road alignment for the road south of the White House
    - Two sinkholes located east of the White House
    - The White House (see below)
    - Trees east of the White House

Buildings and Structures

- The NPS should preserve, maintain, and manage the White House as a cultural resource. The NPS should consider developing a historic structure report for the building (PMIS Project 10, Appendix D). Treatment recommendations in that future document will aim to preserve the character-defining features of the interior and exterior of the building. The report will recommend repairs necessary to stabilize the building, potentially for future visitation and interpretation. The project scope should include structural engineering evaluation of critical conditions of the White House, including foundation, floor, wall, and roof structure, stability, and causes of deterioration.

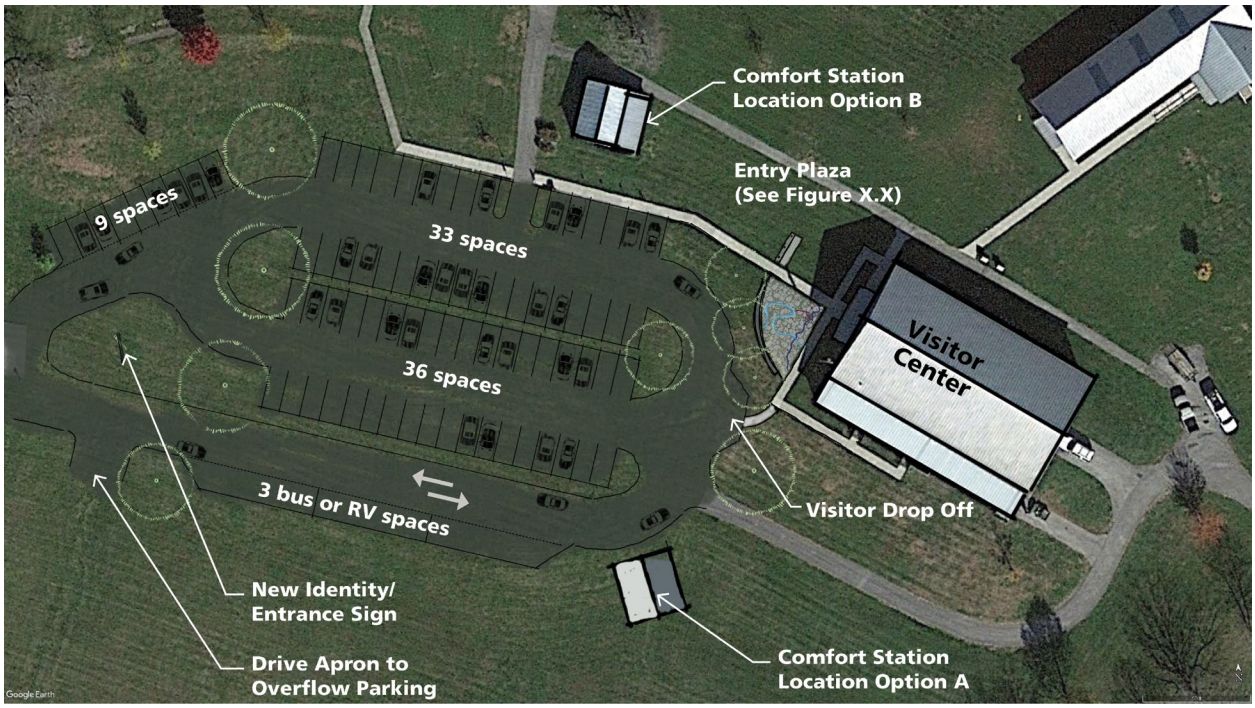


Figure 5.4. Concept sketch showing expanded visitor parking, possible stand alone comfort station, a visitor drop off area, and an entry plaza near the Visitor Center (Source: WLA Studio, 2022).

This should be completed by a team including a structural engineer familiar with historic wood frame buildings of the period. The structural engineering assessment should propose options for repair, including a summary of impacts on the historic structure's integrity. As part of the documentation of the White House the national monument should follow Executive Order 11593, which requires a thorough record of the building through measured drawings and photographs for inclusion in the Library of Congress (LOC).[772]

- The NPS may consider adding an exterior comfort station near the visitor center (PMIS Project 6, Appendix C). NPS staff have expressed that the restroom facility inside the Visitor Center is better suited to serve the administrative uses and offices that are housed in the building rather than the public. There have been portable toilets stationed near the main parking lot to serve visitors. Any new restroom facility would require an assessment of the existing septic system capacity and could possibly require a new septic field. Any septic work and/or ground disturbing activities would require archeological observation (see archeology recommendations above). The facility should include a water filling station and water fountain. Three potential locations are:
    - The existing Storage Buildings (Buggy Shed) location (**Figure 5.4**). If the NPS could relocate the powder magazine and facilities storage items currently stored in this building, they could potentially repurpose the footprint of the building with a stand-alone comfort station. The comfort station could be designed to reflect the aesthetic of the existing Storage Building, which uses an architectural style common to the noncontributing agricultural buildings at the site.
    - South of the existing parking lot and near potential new parking areas (**Figure 5.4**, **Figure 5.5**). If the NPS were to develop a picnic / visitor amenity zone south of the existing main parking lot,

772. A copy of this E.O. can be found in the National Archives at https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/11593.html.

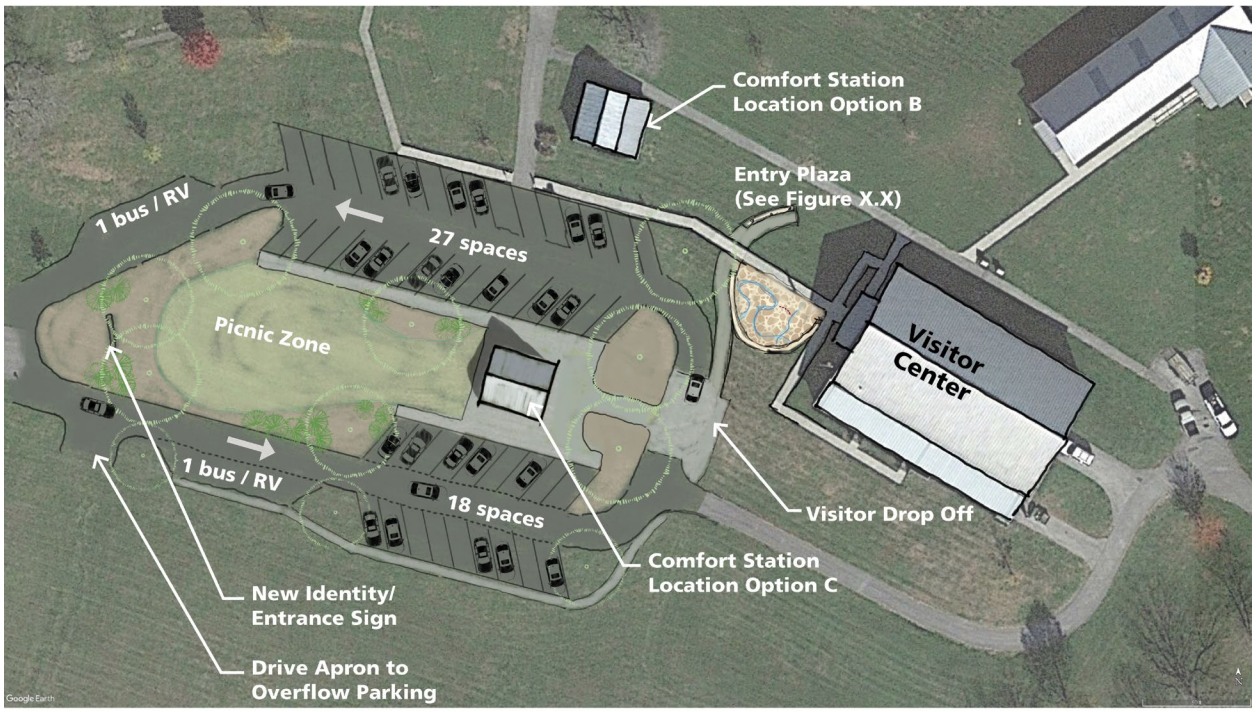


Figure 5.5. Concept sketch showing expanded visitor parking, possible stand alone comfort station, a visitor drop off area, and an entry plaza near the Visitor Center (Source: WLA Studio, 2022).

this area could include a stand-alone comfort station. Creating a visitor amenity zone in this area may require the construction of retaining walls to accommodate slopes. The design of the comfort station would need to meet accessibility requirements.

- South of the existing entry road, near the service drive (**Figure 5.5**). This location separates the comfort station from the main parking area and may be the least universally accessible option unless the NPS develops additional parking adjacent to this area. The advantage of this location is that it is close to the entrance of the Long Fort Trail, which many community members use as a recreational resource.

- The NPS should consider the value of Barn #1 to the national monument. This barn is situated in the middle of the character area and is visible from many locations at the national monument. It is noncontributing. It currently serves as a storage feature for the park, but it is not near the Facilities and Maintenance Office. The NPS may want to consider divesting or moving this barn to a location that is more easily accessed by maintenance staff, adjacent to Danville Loop 2 Road.

Circulation

- The NPS should consider maintaining the alignment of the vehicular entry at Danville Loop 2 Road. The entry road to the main parking lot is in an appropriate location, and the entrance functions well. Using this entrance also preserves the Civil War era road alignment located to the north.
- The NPS should consider adding parking capacity to the main parking lot. Currently the park has twenty-three visitor parking spaces (PMIS Project 4, Appendix C). Park managers see a need to increase this capacity, but they have not yet determined the project parking need. The NPS may want to consider the addition of some electric vehicle charging stations in the lot. Refer to **Figure 5.4** and **Figure 5.5** for sketches that show the locations of potential additional spaces.
- The NPS should consider adding parking for buses and recreational vehicles (RVs) (PMIS Project 4, Appendix C). Currently



Figure 5.6. Concept sketch showing a new entry plaza in front of the Visitor Center and the relocated flagpoles and Saltville Monument (Source: WLA Studio, 2022).

there are no designated bus or recreational vehicle parking spaces at the national monument. Bus and recreation vehicle drivers currently park along the entry road shoulder in an ad hoc fashion. The NPS may want to consider adding parking spaces designated for school or tour buses. Refer to **Figure 5.4** and **Figure 5.5** for potential locations for bus parking. Any parking lot redesign should meet Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS).

- The NPS should consider adding three spaces to the southeast side of the White House parking lot (PMIS Project 4, Appendix C). Though the spaces are not currently defined in this lot, it currently accommodates about five to six vehicles. This expanded lot could be designated as "staff and volunteer parking," freeing up parking in the main visitor lot.
- The NPS should consider creating a vehicular drop-off area and enhanced entry plaza near the Visitor Center (PMIS Project 4, Appendix C). Having a dedicated bus drop off area would facilitate vehicular traffic at the site when buses are unloading visitors near the Visitor Center. This feature could be incorporated into a reconfigured entry plaza area for the Visitor Center (**Figure 5.6**, **Figure 5.7**).
- The NPS should consider creating an enhanced entry plaza at the Visitor Center (PMIS Project 5, Appendix C). Currently, there is no large outdoor space for gathering visitors at the site. A hardscape plaza could provide a more formalized entrance into the Visitor Center and serve as a place for performing commemorative ceremonies and group orientation. The NPS may want to consider using pavement with integral color to depict a map of the Camp Nelson area as an interpretive feature. Visitor centers for other NPS sites use this type of feature to gather groups for orientation talks prior to a tour. One example of this type of orientation map is the terrazzo floor at the entrance to the interpretive museum at the Gateway Arch Museum (**Figure 5.8**). Figures 4.3 and 4.4 show sketch concepts for an entry plaza

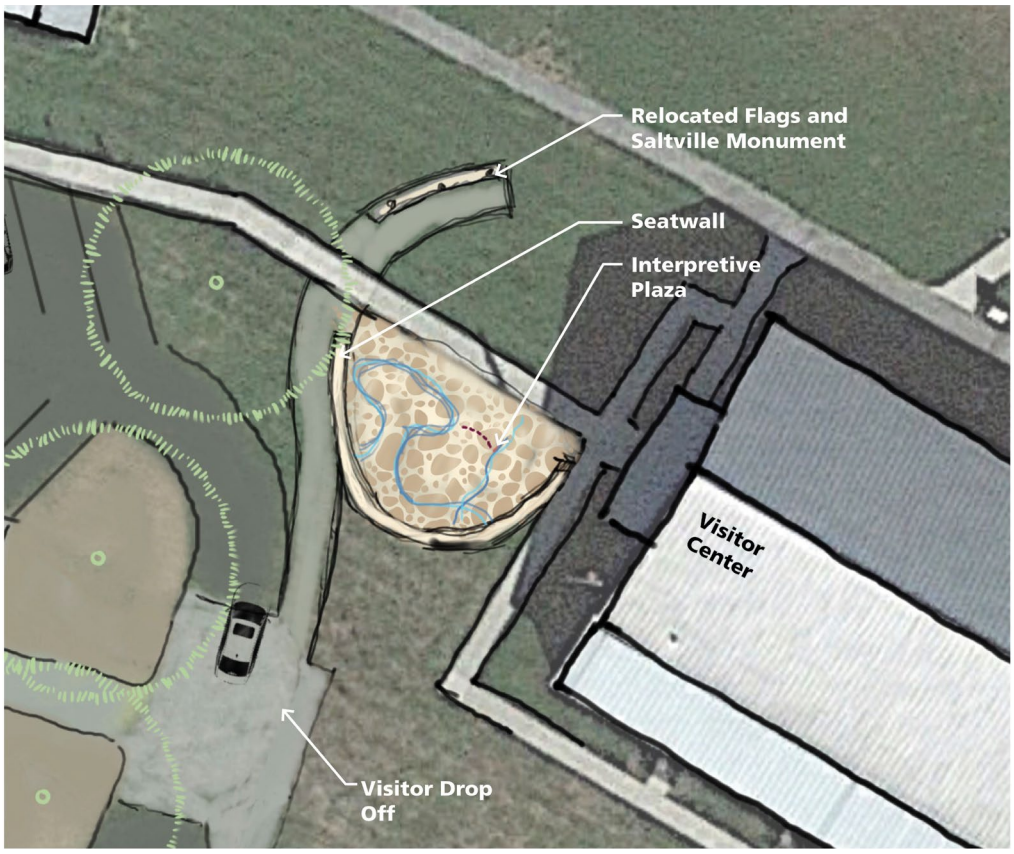


Figure 5.7. Concept sketch showing a new entry plaza in front of the Visitor Center and the relocated flagpoles and Saltville Monument (Source: WLA Studio, 2022).

that incorporates paving to show a map in the plaza surface, seatwalls, plantings, and alternative locations for the three flagpoles and the Saltville Monument discussed below (Small-Scale features). The design should consider universal access from the parking area, the potential bus drop off area, and into the Visitor Center.

- The NPS should evaluate the value of the asphalt walkway that is located north of the Visitor Center. The material is degraded, and it appears to follow a portion of a Civil War era road alignment. Trail maps available at the national monument show this walkway as part of the Fort Trail. Park staff uses the walkway as a vehicular access route to the Storage Shed. Should the NPS decide to limit vehicular access to the Storage Shed, it may be appropriate to consider an alternate material for this walkway that is more compatible with other amenities at the site or for interpreting the Civil War era road alignment. The NPS may consider a natural material or the material selected for the universally accessible trail (see below). The walk should continue to provide access to the north side of the Visitor Center and to the Barracks.
- The NPS should preserve the Civil War era road alignment located south of the White House. The NPS should consider discontinuing the practice of planting trees in rows along the alignment as this does not appear to have been the historic condition.
- The NPS should consider designing a universally accessible trail that allows visitors to travel through key areas of the site and affords them access to character-defining features and enhanced interpretive opportunities (PMIS Project 3, Appendix C). The trail could begin in the Visitor Center Character Area and into the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. The route could rehabilitate portions of the Fort Trail to accommodate universal access. The existing surface is a mown trail, and materials should be selected to have a minimal visual impact, but they must be stable, firm, and slip resistant.

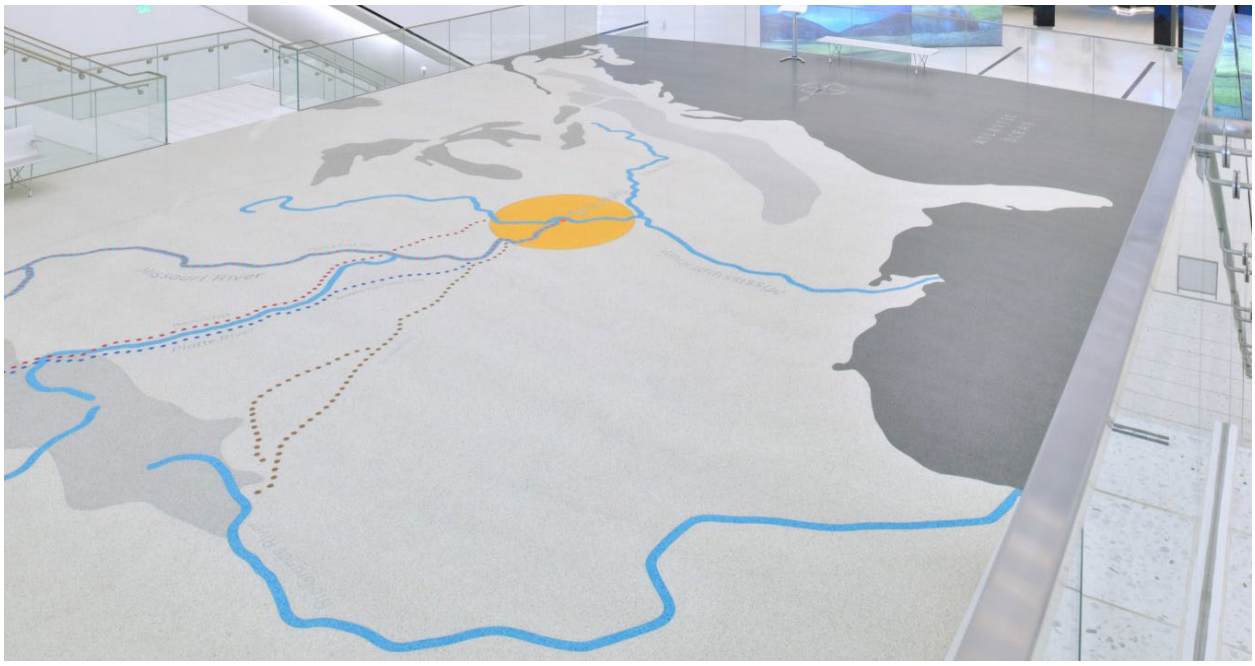


Figure 5.8. Example of an interpretive map integrated into a walking surface. This map is located in the Gateway Arch Museum in St. Louis, MO. A similar effect could be achieved with colored concrete to create a map of the geographic context for Camp Nelson National Monument (Source: Project completed by Missouri Terrazzo, Photo by David Laudadio).

Alternates to a mown grass trail include stabilized turf, permeable or non-permeable concrete (colored concrete is an option), or stabilized crushed aggregate (such as PolyPavement™, Stabilizer™, or Slatescape®). The trail would provide access to the following features: the Barracks (potential future interpretation feature), a high point northwest of the Barracks that can provide a view of most of the forts at Camp Nelson, a view of a well-preserved portion of the Northern Line of Defense infantry entrenchments, Fort Jackson, Cemetery #1 Monument, and Fort Putnam. National monument staff have expressed that they would like the trail to include tactile wayside stations.

- The NPS should consider adding a sidewalk extension on the south side of the Visitor Center, connecting the south exterior door of the building with the service bays on the east side of the building.

Vegetation

- The NPS should consider maintaining the following existing frontcountry areas with a weekly mowing regime and per the recommendations of a vegetation management plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C):
    - Turfgrass area between the White House and Danville Loop 2 Road
    - Area between the White House, Barracks, and Visitor Center
    - Area between the Visitor Center and the prison area
    - Zones adjacent to Danville Loop 2 Road and the stone wall
    - Area adjacent to entry road and service road

Small-Scale Features

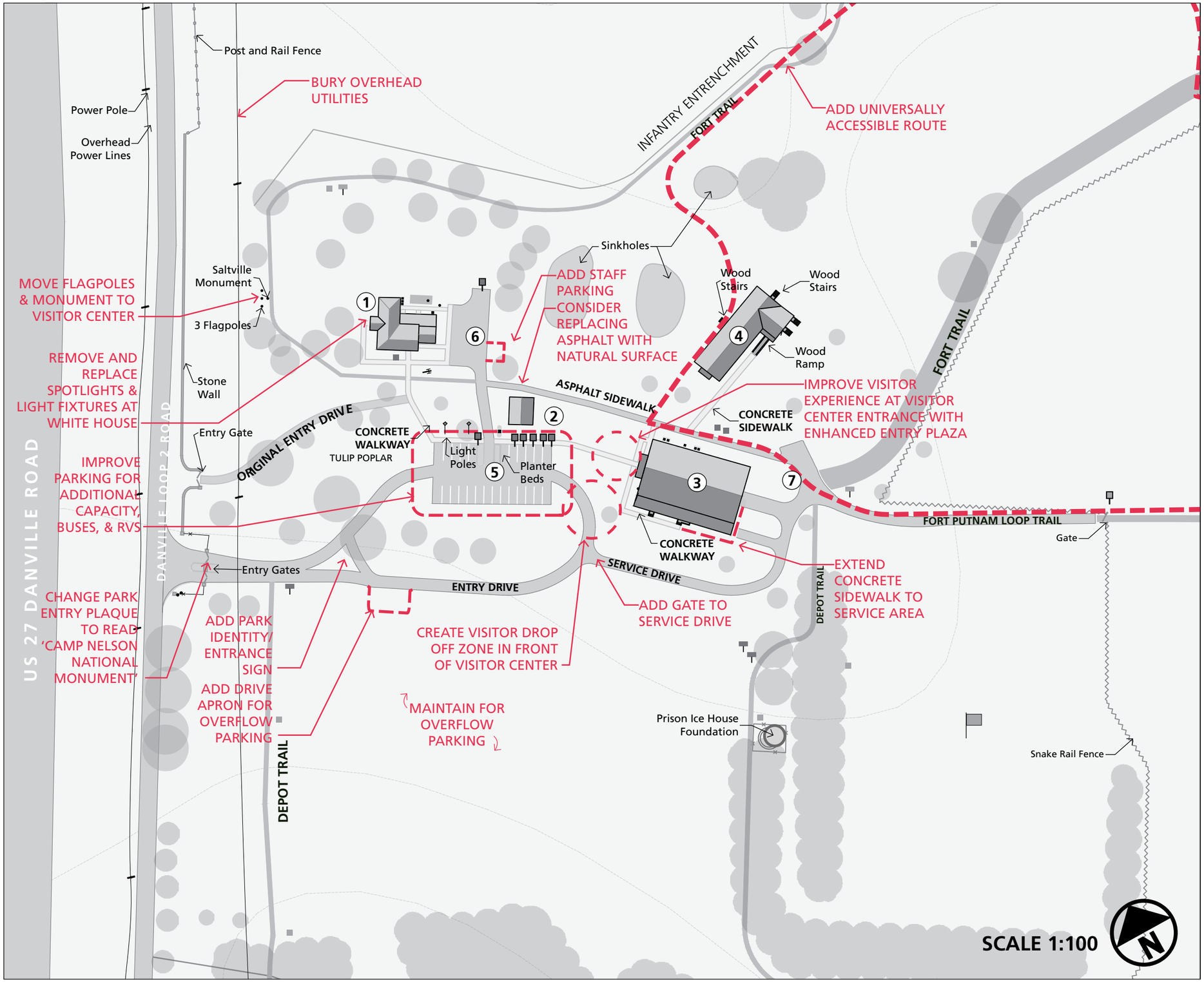
- The NPS should consider moving the three flagpoles and the Saltville Monument located between the White House and Danville Loop 2 Road (coordinate with PMIS Project 5, Appendix C). A more appropriate location for these features is in front of the Visitor Center. The future development of an enhanced entry plaza could incorporate these features so that they are more easily accessed for ceremonies and maintenance. The

flagpoles should be placed far enough away from the building that the flags do not hit the building in windy conditions.

- The NPS may want to consider updating the entrance gate to the national monument. The black metal pike fencing, and granite posts are non-historic and visually obtrusive. The entrance requires a secured closing (gate). Alternative materials include fencing consistent with the selected fencing for the boundary along Danville Loop 2 Road. At a minimum, the national monument should replace the plaque on the sign to read "Camp Nelson National Monument" instead of "Camp Nelson Heritage Park."
- The NPS should consider developing a new park entrance / identity sign for Camp Nelson National Monument (PMIS Project 4, Appendix C). Entrance / identity signs at many NPS units use materials compatible with the historical materials present at the site. According to the NPS *UniGuide Standards*, "Above all other signs used in a national park, entrance signs represent an architectural statement that should reflect the importance and quality of the park and the agency."[773] Potential materials and themes for the Camp Nelson National Monument identity sign include board and batten siding, hand quarried limestone, and horseshoes. The sign should follow *Sign Standards Reference Manual*, *UniGuide Sign Program*, *UniGuide Standards Manual*, and *Graphic Identity Program*. **Figure 5.4** and **Figure 5.5** depict potential locations for this sign.
- The NPS should consider adding a securable gate to the service road located south of the Visitor Center to prevent visitors from accessing this area by vehicle.
- The NPS should consider replacing the wood trail signs in this area per recommendations in the forthcoming Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan.
- The NPS should consider a material to screen the HVAC units on the north side of the Visitor Center. These currently sit adjacent to the Fort Trail and the proposed universally accessible route. Appropriate screening materials include wood panels composed of horizontally mounted wood boards or slats, with a natural finish or painted to match the color of the Visitor Center. The panels should be ventilated and mounted at an appropriate distance from the units.

773. National Park Service UniGuide Program, "NPS UniGuide Standards," n.d., I.I-17.

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Feature Key

1 White House (Oliver Perry House)
2 Storage Building (Buggy Shed)
3 Visitor Center
4 Barracks
5 Main Visitor Parking Lot
6 White House Parking Lot
7 Service Area

Regulatory Sign
Wayside
Routed Wood Sign
Feature Identifier Flags
Gate
Light Pole

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

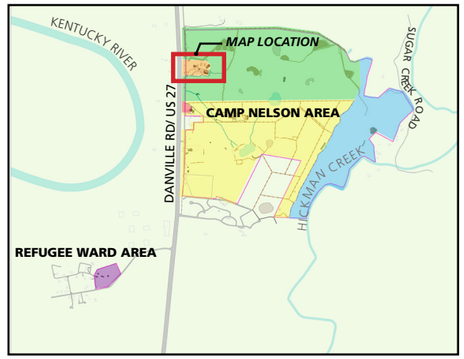


Illustration 4.1
Treatment:
Visitor Center Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument
AUGUST 2022

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Illustration 4.2 depicts the locations of some of the treatment recommendations described below. The overall treatment objective for this character area, which includes the Northern Line of Protection forts and infantry entrenchments, is to retain and maintain contributing features such as the forts, existing topography, and archeological features while providing improved visitor experience. Specific recommendations for treatment of resources within this character area include the following:

Buildings and Structures

- Based on recommendations in the proposed Camp Nelson Vegetation Management Plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C) and the proposed Camp Nelson Earthworks and Stoneworks Plan (PMIS Project 2, Appendix C), the NPS should consider removing the trees growing on Forts McKee and Fort Jackson. Camp Nelson National Monument is in a geographic area subject to strong wind events. According to the NPS, "uprooted trees, often caused by strong wind events (i.e. microburst, tornadoes, hurricanes), displace large sections of soil and destroy the integrity of historic features. . . . Any tree is subject to being windthrown but trees greater than twelve inches dbh (diameter breast height) have a higher risk."[774] Uprooted trees may also damage earthworks by falling directly on their slopes and causing impact damage and depressions. Trees adjacent to earthworks can provide protection because they produce leaf litter, which provides a protective cover, and because they intercept rainfall; however, those growing on top or on the slopes of earthworks may have shallower root systems and be more susceptible to being windthrown. The NPS should follow guidance for tree removal from forts provided in the NPS's "Earthworks Landscape Management Manual" (1989) and the Department of Defense's "Project 05-239: Stabilization and Preservation of DoD-owned Military Fortifications" (2006).
- The NPS should consider rebuilding the deteriorated portions of Fort Putnam (reconstructed). Park staff have expressed that it would be beneficial for interpretation to rebuild the center platform to accommodate a 30-pounder parrot or 12-pounder Napoleon gun.
- Based on the proposed Camp Nelson Earthworks and Stoneworks Management Plan (PMIS Project 2, Appendix C), the NPS should stabilize and preserve the Spring Reservoir. The NPS should consider assessing the construction of the Spring Reservoir walls. Selected materials testing would reveal appropriate mortar cleaning and repair methodologies. One source for consultation and masonry analysis is the NPS's National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT). NCPTT staff include conservators and experts in historic materials such as stone and mortar. In warm months, the reservoir has algae growing on the walls and floating in the water. Blue-green algae occur naturally in bodies of water in Kentucky, "but if their numbers get too high they can pose health risks to humans and animals."[775] The NPS may wish to contact the Kentucky Division of Water for resources for testing the algae. Since the reservoir is naturally fed, water may circulate enough that the seasonal algae growth is not harmful.

Circulation

- The NPS should maintain the Long Fort Trail and Depot Trail in their current configuration or based on the recommendations / findings of the future Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan and Long Range Interpretive Plan. Maintenance crews should continue to mow the trails as functional short turfgrass (NPS Turf Class B1) for visitor access. The NPS should consider connecting these trails to newly developed trails in the Warehouse

774. Dave Shockley, "Earthwork Management at Petersburg National Battlefield" (Petersburg, VA: Petersburg National Battlefield, June 2000), 24.

775. Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife, "Information on Blue-Green Algae and Harmful Algae Blooms," accessed March 29, 2022, https://fw.ky.gov/Fish/Pages/Blue-Green-Algae-Info.aspx.

Industrial Character area based on recommendations in the forthcoming Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan and Long Range Interpretive Plan.

- Portions of the Fort Trail may be converted into a universally accessible trail described above and in PMIS Project 3 in Appendix C and recommendations in the Visitor Center Character Area. The NPS should consider grading the trail for accessible slopes, which are typically 5 percent or less according to guidance from the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and the standards outlined in the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS). Materials should be selected to have a minimal visual impact, but they must be stable, firm, and slip resistant. Materials to consider might be stabilized turf, permeable or non-permeable concrete (colored concrete is an option), or stabilized crushed aggregate (such as PolyPavement™, Stabilizer™, or SlateScape®). The proposed universally accessible trail begins near the Visitor Center and routes near the Barracks, infantry entrenchments, Fort Jackson, Cemetery #1, and Fort Putnam (reconstructed), and then back to the Visitor Center.

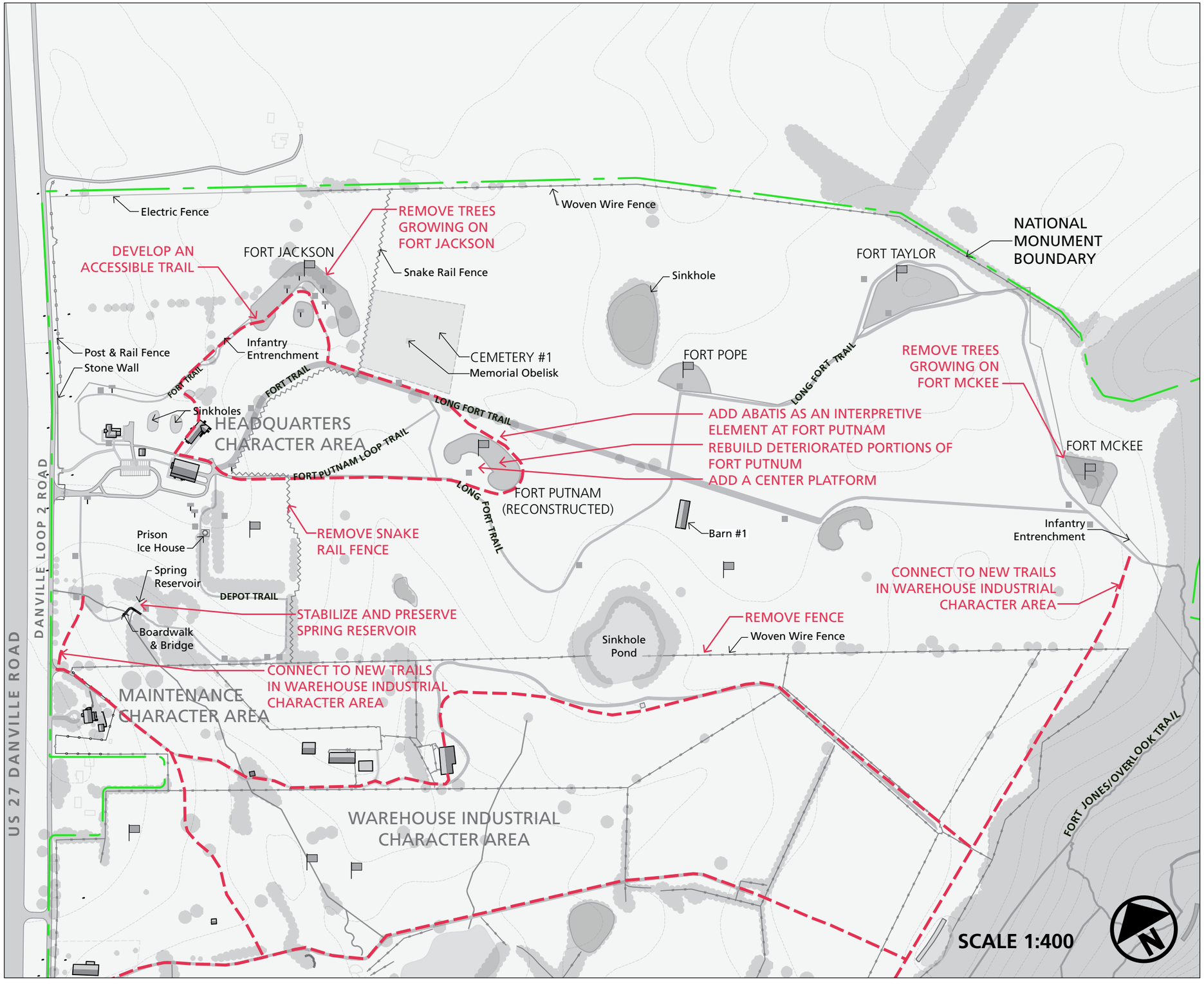
Vegetation

- Based on recommendations in the proposed Camp Nelson Vegetation Management Plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C), the NPS should consider continuing its special use permit for haying the backcountry areas of the park. In this agreement, an approved vendor cuts and removes hay from the open field areas in the backcountry on a semi-annual basis. The vendor enters the property through the northernmost gate on Danville Loop 2 Road. This practice cuts down on maintenance requirements by NPS staff and performs the needed vegetative management for the open fields at the park. An alternative treatment for maintaining the open field areas would be to adopt a prescribed burn regime. Other NPS sites such as Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site have long-range fire management plans (FMPs). If the NPS chooses this maintenance regime for the backcountry areas, they will need to consider factors such as visitor safety, safety of adjacent properties, and protection of cultural resources. The benefit of the prescribed burns is that they result in reduced wildfire risk (reduction of fuel), reduce invasive plant species, reduce woody growth in field areas, and increase the foliar cover of grasses.
- Based on recommendations in the proposed Camp Nelson Vegetation Management Plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C), the NPS should retain and maintain existing trees that are not growing in or on forts in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. Historical mapping and photos show that there were scattered trees throughout the area south of the forts and infantry entrenchments. The existing trees provide shade along trails in this area, which is important for summer visitation. However, the NPS should avoid the practice of planting trees in rows along the trails in the future as historic documentation shows that in this character area, trees were scattered among buildings or concentrated around sinkholes. (See recommendations in Warehouse Industrial Character Area for larger areas of tree plantings.) The NPS should maintain and retain the trees planted along Danville Loop 2 Road that appear to be in similar locations as those shown on Civil War era maps.
- The NPS implemented a reduced mowing regime in the summer of 2022 (see Appendix F). The NPS should consider maintaining the following existing frontcountry areas with a weekly mowing regime to maintain them as functional short turfgrass areas (NPS Turf Class B1):
    - Prison area
    - Overflow parking area
    - Area between the Visitor Center and the prison area
    - Mown trails

Small-Scale Features

- Depending on the recommendations in the future Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan, the NPS may want to consider adding abatis as an interpretive element to the north side of Fort Putnam. The abatis would deteriorate over time, and the feature would need cyclic replacement.
- Should Camp Nelson National Monument staff decide that the snake rail fence is not necessary as a maintenance boundary demarcation (i.e., to separate frontcountry and backcountry areas of the national monument), the NPS may want to consider removing the snake rail fence that bisects the Northern Line of Protection Character Area. It does not "secure" the site, and it is not in a historically accurate location. Portions of the snake rail fence could be reused for interpretive purposes in other areas of the park such as the prison area, the corrals area, and the warehouses area should the forthcoming Camp Nelson Long Range Interpretive Plan determine that non-architectural features are an appropriate interpretive method at the national monument. NPS staff have noted that the snake rail fence does serve a purpose as a demarcation line in the park. The Superintendent's Compendium notes that some recreational activities such as picnicking are allowed in the frontcountry that are now allowed in the backcountry. (Note: in April 2022, a group of volunteers relocated a portion of the snake rail fence to the west. It now follows a portion of the historic military road east of the Visitor Center and a portion of the Fort Trail.)
- The NPS should consider replacing the wood trail signs in this area according to recommendations in the forthcoming Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan.

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Feature Key

- Gate
- Feature Identifier Flag
- Routed Wood Sign
- Wayside
- Woven Wire Fence
- Chainlink Fence
- Post & Rail Fence
- Electric Fence
- Snake Fence

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

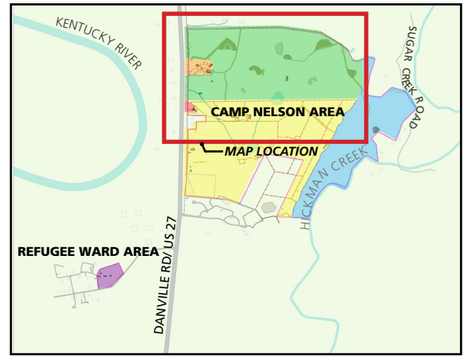


Illustration 4.2

Treatment:

Northern Line of Protection Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument

AUGUST 2022

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Illustration 4.3 depicts the locations of some of the treatment recommendations described below. The overall treatment objective for this character area, which includes the forested area along the eastern boundary of the national monument, Fort Jones and the two stone walls, and a vehicular access point, is to retain and maintain contributing features while protecting wildlife habitat and the forest ecosystem. Specific recommendations for treatment of resources within this character area include the following:

- Preserve and protect the character-defining features in this area including:
    - Fort Jones
    - North Stone Wall
    - South Stone Wall
    - Infantry entrenchments

Circulation

- In the past, this area has been accessible via an extension of the Long Fort Trail in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area or, on special workdays, via the vehicular entrance on Sugar Creek Pike. Currently the vehicular access is only available if park staff unlock the gate, but NPS staff consider this the "best" access point for Fort Jones and the North and South Stone Walls. Fort Jones is one of the premier cultural landscape features at the park, so NPS staff should consider providing an accessible trail in this area. The asphalt road is currently wide enough for one car, and portions of the pavement are in poor condition. Should the national monument wish to expand visitation to this area and make it open to the public on a regular basis, they would need to design and install an entry road that accommodates two-way traffic and improve the parking area to accommodate parking and traffic. CANE staff have expressed concern about the ability to open and close a gated entrance at this



Figure 5.9. Rendering of a trail with wood bollards at Fort Jones to prevent visitors from accessing the sallyport (Source: WLA Studio, 2022).



Figure 5.10. View from the South Stone Wall. If the NPS removed the smaller trees in this viewshed, the view to Hickman Creek valley would be enhanced (Source: WLA Studio, 2021).

vehicular entrance with their current staffing levels. Should staffing in the future allow for regular opening and closing of the gate, it is possible that visitors could regularly access the features in the Eastern Line of Protection Area from Sugar Creek Pike.

- The trails in this character area are natural surfaced and are steep in many places, so they are not accessible. Should the NPS wish to provide easier access to Fort Jones, the former logging road trail would need to be graded with switchbacks for approximately one hundred feet from the end of the parking area. Once the trail has traversed this slope, it returns to a more accessible grade. The entire trail could potentially be made accessible with the addition of boardwalks or additional grading in the area closest to Sugar Creek Pike. This quarter mile trail would provide visitor access to Fort Jones and the stone infantry entrenchments, which area some of the best preserved military structures at the park.
- The NPS may want to consider installing posts or bollards with chains on the south and east sides of Fort Jones. Without impacting the view, this feature would guide visitors to view the revetment of the fort and would discourage visitors from damaging the sallyport (**Figure 5.9**).
- The forthcoming Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan could consider recommendations to rehabilitate the extension of the Fort Jones / Overlook Trail that follows the wooded edge of the Eastern Line of Protection Character Area to connect to the future trail network in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area.
- The NPS should consider re-rerouting the Fort Jones / Overlook Trail near the South Stone Wall. The trail currently passes a cave entrance that could be hazardous to visitors. The NPS could move this trail slightly to the east, eliminating this hazard. This recommendation should be coordinated with the Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan.

Small-Scale Features

- The NPS should consider replacing the overlook at the North Stone Wall, which has degraded. (Note: In April 2022, a volunteer group replaced the treads and handrails of the overlook at the North Stone Wall with pressure treated pine.) The NPS may want to consider using a recycled / composite building material for construction of treads and steps to reduce the need for frequent replacement. Railing heights and handrails should meet current code requirements.
- The NPS should consider upgrading the wood footbridges along the Fort Jones / Overlook Trail. (Note: In April 2022, a volunteer group replaced the treads and handrails of the westernmost footbridge with pressure treated pine.) Railing heights and handrails should meet current code requirements and the width should accommodate two people. The NPS may want to consider using a recycled lumber material for construction of treads and steps to reduce the need for frequent replacement.
- The waysides in the Eastern Line of Protection area are in poor condition. The Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan should address upgrading these signs and potentially identify additional locations for signs. These locations may include at the infantry entrenchment crossings, the South Stone Wall, and at the start of the Fort/Overlook Trail near Fort McKee.
- The NPS should consider replacing the small metal trail signs in this area per recommendations in the forthcoming Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan. While these small signs are visually unobtrusive, they are inconsistent with directional signage in other areas of the park, and some are damaged or turned in the wrong direction.

Views and Vistas

- The NPS may want to consider vegetation management on the east side of the North and South Stone walls to preserve the views toward Hickman Creek from these features. Removal of small trees (less than four inches dbh) would enhance the view from the South Stone Wall, especially in winter months (**Figure 5.10**). Recently, a volunteer group removed small trees to enhance the view from the North Stone Wall. The maintenance of these views should be addressed in the Camp Nelson National Monument Vegetation Management Plan (PMIS Project 2, Appendix C).

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WAREHOUSE INDUSTRIAL CHARACTER AREA

NORTHERN LINE OF PROTECTION CHARACTER AREA

MOWN ROAD

FORT MCKEE

LONG FORT TRAIL

REMOVE FENCING
(portions removed 2022)

Stone-lined Pond

INFANTRY ENTRENCHMENTS

REHABILITATE TRAIL & CONNECT TO FUTURE WAREHOUSE INDUSTRIAL CHARACTER AREA TRAILS

REPLACE WOOD BRIDGE

TO CAMP NELSON NATIONAL CEMETERY BOUNDARY

FORT JONES/OVERLOOK TRAIL

UPGRADE TO TWO-WAY VEHICULAR ACCESS AND PROVIDE PARKING FOR CARS

Trail Closed
April 2022

REBUILD OVERLOOK

REPLACE WOOD BRIDGE

Maintenance
Trail Closed
April 2022

MOVE TRAIL AWAY FROM CAVE ENTRANCE

ASPHALT DRIVE

FORMER LOGGING ROAD

SOUTH STONE WALL

NORTH STONE WALL

FORT JONES

REGRADE FIRST 100 FT OF TRAIL FOR BETTER ACCESSIBILITY

Gate

ADD TRAIL & BOLLARDS AT FORT JONES TO PREVENT DAMAGE FROM VISITORS

NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY

HICKMAN CREEK

SUGAR CREEK PIKE

SCALE 1:300

Feature Key

- Gate
- Wayside
- Woven-wire Fence
- Feature Identifier Flags

Credits:

1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021



Illustration 4.3

Treatment:

Eastern Line of Protection Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument

AUGUST 2022

Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Illustration 4.4 depicts the locations of some of the treatment recommendations described below. The overall treatment objective for this character area, which includes the former Glass and Brumfield farms, the Powder Magazine remnant, and Bakery Oven remnant, is to preserve the setting and character defining features in the area while providing visitor access to the area. The NPS has not previously developed this area for visitation, and the development of visitor amenities in this character area should follow recommendations in the Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan and Long Range Interpretive Plan.

- Preserve and protect the character-defining features in this area including:
    - Bakery Oven remnant
    - Powder Magazine remnant
    - Quartermaster Ice House
    - Civil War era road alignments
    - Griffing family cemetery

Specific recommendations for treatment of resources within this character area include the following:

Buildings and Structures

- The NPS should evaluate the value of the many noncontributing agriculture buildings in this character area. The NPS should assess the structural soundness, future usability, and value of these buildings to the national monument. The national monument may decide that divestment is the best option for public safety and future budgeting. If the NPS decides to divest the buildings, they should document the structures prior to removal. The NPS may want to consider removing the agricultural shed, Barns #2, Barn #3, Barn #4, Barn #7 (see below), and the abandoned store. The following agricultural buildings may have some functional merit:
    - Barn #5. This building has water and power service, and it is in good condition; therefore, it may be a useful structure for future interpretive efforts. It may be useful as an open-air interpretive display building, a seasonal visitor contact station, or as a shaded resting spot for visitors at the park.
    - Barn #6. This building is on Danville Loop 2 Road. Its size, location, and condition make it ideal for reuse as a storage building. Maintenance crews can store materials and equipment in the building. NPS staff can easily access the building from the road and the Facilities and Maintenance Office. The NPS may want to consider adding pavement between Danville Loop 2 Road and the front of Barn #6 to facilitate its use for storage. Construction of vehicular access may require the installation of a culvert across the swale adjacent to Danville Loop 2 Road. Barn #6 may need some repairs such as electrical upgrades, roofing, and siding repairs, and security features (lockable doors, etc.) prior to its use.
    - Barn #7. This building sits on top of the Quartermaster Ice House. The NPS should preserve the masonry features, but they should consider removing the wood structure. The barn is a safety hazard, and the floor is unsound. The NPS should consider rehabilitating the ice house structure once interpretation is determined for the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. The feature should be included in the Camp Nelson Earthworks and Stoneworks Management Plan (PMIS Project 2, Appendix C). Treatment should prevent the public from falling into the structure while preserving its historic character. One treatment option would be to conduct an archeological investigation on the base of the feature and then fill it with soil. This treatment option would allow the public to view the feature up close.

- Barn #8. The NPS should assess the age and structural stability of Barn #8. While it is not a contributing feature to the cultural landscape, it may be one of the oldest barns on the property. If it is structurally stable and/or can be repaired, the NPS may want to preserve this feature. If the NPS determines that it does not have a legitimate use and because it does not date to the period of significance, the NPS could consider removing the building after completing all compliance activities. Prior to removal, the NPS should document the building because it is historic.

Circulation

- The NPS should consider developing a trail and a visitor parking area in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area following the recommendations of the forthcoming Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan and the Long Range Interpretive Plan. The trail should connect to existing trails in the Northern Line of Protection and Eastern Line of Protection Character Areas (Long Fort Trail, Depot Trail, and Fort/Jones Overlook Trail). Cultural features to highlight in this area include: the government shops area, the Quartermaster Ice House, the Civil War era road alignment, the warehouses area, the Bakery Oven remnant and original refugee encampment area, the Griffing family cemetery, the sheds and shanties area and the view from the stone lined pond, the abandoned quarry, the Powder Magazine remnant, and the original section of Camp Nelson National Cemetery. Additionally, there are many historic photos from the period of significance showing the built features that were present at the site. Future archeological studies may reveal additional features for visitation in this area. The Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan may include recommendations for waysides showing these images at their photo locations. It would be beneficial for some portion of this trail to be universally accessible.
- The NPS may want to consider routing a portion of the interpretive trail in this area along the historic military road alignments (see Maintenance Character Area – Circulation and Illustrations 4.4 and 4.5).
- The NPS should consider adding one or two small parking areas in the southern end of the national monument to provide trailhead parking and access to the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. This zone is approximately a third of a mile from the main visitor parking lot meaning some visitors will not be able to access these features without auxiliary parking. It is not anticipated at this time that vehicular traffic will enter the interior of this Character Area to preserve the setting and feeling of the cultural landscape. It would be appropriate for the NPS to include identification signs and a small visitor amenity zone (such as an informational kiosk and trash receptacles) at these locations. Potential parking development zones have been identified on Illustration 4.4.
- The NPS should consider adding an accessible trail route in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. This trail could begin at one of the potential vehicular parking areas and route visitors to several features located within a relatively flat area. One such route might follow portions of the former Brumfield farm road and lead to the warehouse area, Bakery Oven remnant, and provide a view of the original refugee encampment site.

Small-Scale Features

- After 2022, the special use permit for agricultural use for the Warehouse Industrial Character Area will expire. The NPS should consider removing all the interior fencing in this area to facilitate visitation and appropriate vegetation management. The NPS should retain fencing along the southern boundary adjacent to Camp Nelson National Cemetery. The NPS should remove and replace the fencing around the Griffing family cemetery. Since it is not known if fencing existed around this cemetery

during the historic period, the NPS should consider replacing the existing rustic wood post and split rail fence in kind.

- Once visitation is allowed in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area, it will be appropriate for the NPS to add directional / trail signs and waysides in this zone of the park. Recommendations should follow the forthcoming Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan and Long Range Interpretive Plan.
- The NPS should consider adding a smaller identification sign in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area once it is open for visitation. Appropriate locations include near the suggested auxiliary parking areas (see Circulation).
- The Long Range Interpretive Plan may include recommendations for non-architectural interpretive features in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. These features may include small-scale features such as stacks of flour barrels (shown in a historic photograph of the US Army bakery at the site) or a mule chute (shown in a historic photograph of the US Army government shops area), and wagons. This type of interpretation is appropriate at Camp Nelson National Monument so long as they are placed in an appropriate location, that they are removable from the site (reversible), and that they do not affect special organization at the national monument or diminish the site's integrity setting and feeling.
- The NPS may want to consider an additional study to determine the date and use of the former quarry area. Historical research did not reveal the dates of the quarry. There are hand hewn stones in the Warehouse Industrial Character Area that are possibly quarried from the site. Materials analysis of the quarried stones may determine more information about the types and methodologies used to cut and drill these stones. Should a future study reveal additional information about the abandoned quarry, the NPS may decide to place these stones near this site as an interpretive feature. The NPS may want to consider placing these stones in a single area, either for interpretive purposes or for the ease of field management.
- Griffing Family Cemetery. The NPS should consider treatment including restoration or conservation of the headstones in this cemetery, which are contributing features. The NPS should follow the guidelines presented in Preservation Brief 48: Preserving Grave Markers in Historic Cemeteries and/or consult with NCPTT researchers on best methods for preserving these headstones. The NPS should consult with NCPTT staff to determine a best cleaning and repair method. Generally cleaning should be undertaken with the mildest, least abrasive method. The NPS should document inspections and document any work performed. Vegetation in this area should be maintained and removed by hand as possible to prevent further damage to the grave markers.

Vegetation

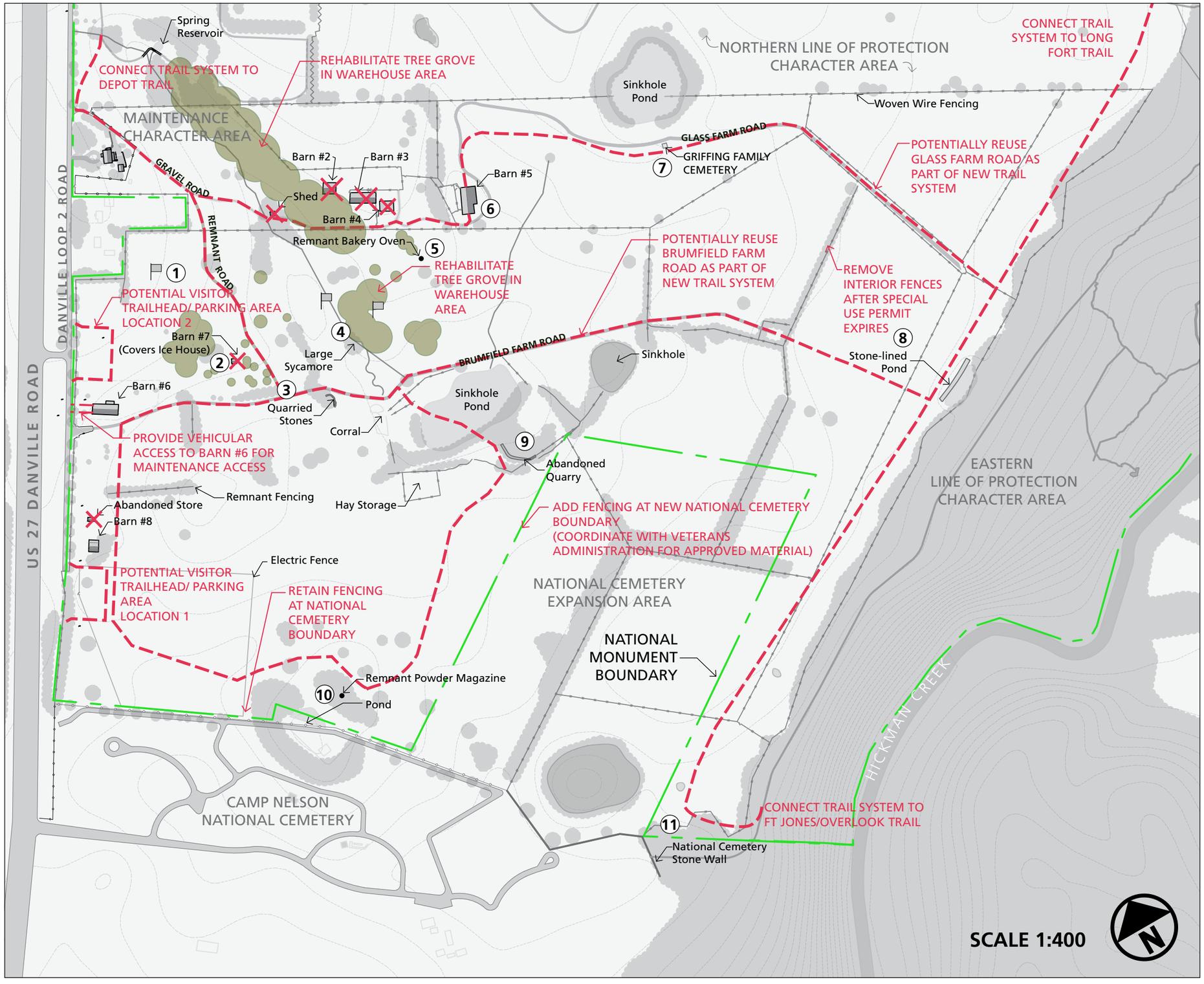
- Based on recommendations in the proposed Camp Nelson Vegetation Management Plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C) and the proposed Camp Nelson Earthworks and Stoneworks Plan (PMIS Project 2, Appendix C), the NPS should consider removing the trees growing on the Powder Magazine remnant. Camp Nelson National Monument is in a geographic area subject to strong wind events. According to the NPS, "uprooted trees, often caused by strong wind events (i.e. microburst, tornadoes, hurricanes), displace large sections of soil and destroy the integrity of historic features. . .. Any tree is subject to being windthrown but trees greater than twelve inches dbh (diameter breast height) have a higher risk."[776] Falling trees may also damage earthworks by falling directly on their slopes and causing impact damage and depressions. Trees adjacent to earthworks can provide protection because they produce leaf litter, which provides a protective cover; however, those growing on top or on the slopes of earthworks may have shallower root systems. The

776. Shockley, "Earthwork Management at Petersburg National Battlefield," 24.

NPS should follow guidance for tree removal from forts provided in the NPS's "Earthworks Landscape Management Manual" (1989) and the Department of Defense's "Project 05-239: Stabilization and Preservation of DoD-owned Military Fortifications" (2006).

- Based on recommendations in the proposed Camp Nelson Vegetation Management Plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C) and the proposed Camp Nelson Earthworks and Stoneworks Plan (PMIS Project 2, Appendix C), the NPS should consider maintaining a thick layer of turf cover on the Powder Magazine and Bakery Oven remnants. Historian David Lowe, Cultural Resources GIS, NPS. Lowe suggests that "a thicker layer of grass breaks up heavy rainfall and also blunts the compacting tendencies of mechanical mowers."[777] He states that the higher grass also provides an interpretive benefit as "it provides a visual clue to visitors, first as to the size and outline of the forts [in this case the Powder Magazine and Bakery Oven remnants], next, it is a way to 'set aside' the resource or emphasize it for the purposes of interpretation."[778] Lowe also recommends engaging an expert from the Jessamine County agricultural extension office to make recommendations about "the appearance of the grass-legume mix over time and its change of appearance during its seasonal cycle."[779]
- Once the special use permits for agricultural use on this property are expired, the NPS will need to decide upon a field management methodology for the field areas in this character area. Current management practices vary and include irregular bush hogging and allowing livestock to manage grassed areas. The NPS may decide to extend the special use permit for haying into this character area. It is an appropriate maintenance strategy that protects the historic integrity of the site since the recommended treatment is to keep this character area as a managed tall vegetative cover (NPS Turf Class S4). It would also be appropriate for trails in this area to be maintained in a manner consistent with the mown functional short turfgrass trails in the Northern Line of Protection Character Area (NPS Turf Class B1). The Camp Nelson National Monument Vegetation Management Plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C) should suggest appropriate mowing / haying regimes in this area.
- The NPS should consider adding a tree mass north of the former warehouse area. Historic photographs show that there was a mass of trees in this area, which shielded the warehouses from view from the Northern Line of Protection. A tree mass in this area would create shade, reduce maintenance, and reflect the spatial organization of and views to and from this area during the historic period. There are several options for establishing this tree mass area. The NPS may designate a zone for "reforestation" and allow natural succession to establish a forested cover. The NPS may also choose to plant a mass of trees in this area using a mix of native hardwood species and maintain the area to promote their establishment. Appropriate tree species include those native to the region and / or species identified in historic photographs.

777. Lowe to Price, "CANE Earthworks," May 18, 2021.
778. Lowe to Price, "CANE Earthworks," May 18, 2021.
779. Lowe to Price, "CANE Earthworks," May 18, 2021.



Feature Key

- Feature Identifier Flag
- Gate
- Electric Fence
- Woven-wire Fence
- Chainlink Fence
- Horse Fence
- Remove Agricultural Buildings
- Rehabilitated Tree Stands

Potential Future Wayside Locations

1. Government Shops Area
2. Quartermaster Ice House
3. Civil War Era Road Alignment
4. Warehouses Location
5. Bakery Oven Remnant / Original Refugee Encampment / Seasonal Contact Station
6. Potential Interior Exhibit Location
7. Griffing Family Cemetery
8. Sheds/Shanties Area/Pond
9. Abandoned Quarry
10. Powder Magazine Remnant
11. Camp Nelson National Cemetery

Credits:

1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

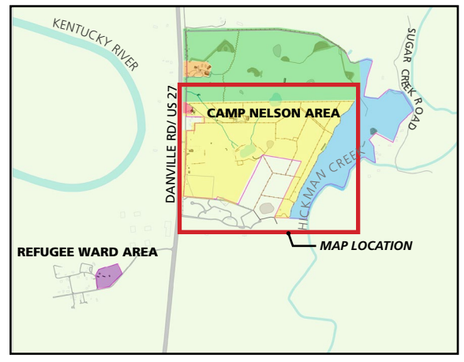


Illustration 4.4

Treatment: Warehouse Industrial Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument

AUGUST 2022

Maintenance Character Area

Illustration 4.5 depicts the locations of some of the treatment recommendations described below. The NPS began using this former residence as a Facilities and Maintenance Office in 2021. National monument staff have expressed the need for additional and more formalized parking.

Buildings and Structures

- The NPS should provide universal access to the first floor of the facility and maintenance office.

Circulation

- The NPS should maintain the Civil War era road alignment that currently serves as access to the rear driveway and Eastern Line of Protection Character Area. In the future, the NPS may want to consider removing vehicular use of this road if access to the rear of the Facilities and Maintenance Office can be established in conjunction with the recommendation to develop a parking lot south of the Facilities and Maintenance Office. If the NPS were to decommission this drive from vehicular use, it could serve as part of the trail system connecting the Northern Line of Protection Character Area with the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. The NPS should consider removing the asphalt from the driveway if it becomes part of the trail system. The trail could either be a stabilized soil surface to mimic the appearance of the historic condition of the roads in Camp Nelson, or this alignment could be a mown grass trail, consistent with other trails in the national monument. This road alignment currently serves as the field access into the northern part of the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. Should the NPS decommission this driveway from vehicular use, access to these fields could occur through gates in the fence between the Northern Line of Protection and Warehouse Industrial Character Areas. See Illustration 4.2, 4.4, and 4.5.
- The NPS should consider paving the gravel pad north of the garage to facilitate moving equipment in and out of the garage. Note: as of July 2022, this was a project currently in the NPS PMIS.
- The NPS should consider developing a parking lot south of the Facilities and Maintenance Office to accommodate eight staff vehicles. The parking lot should have an accessible walkway leading from it to the Facilities and Maintenance Office.
- The NPS could consider removing the residential driveway located on the west side of the house if it is no longer deemed a necessary access point to the Facilities and Maintenance Office.

Small-Scale Features

- The NPS should consider adding a sign near Danville Loop 2 Road to identify the "Camp Nelson National Monument Facilities and Maintenance Office."

Vegetation

- The red oak (*Quercus rubra*) located on the south side of the driveway loop is in poor condition and should be removed from the site.
- The large canopy trees west of the office and the trees east of the office currently provide a visual buffer from the rest of the national monument. Though these features are noncontributing, they should be replaced in-kind as they decline to maintain the buffer.

Refugee Ward Character Area

Illustration 4.6 depicts the locations of some of the treatment recommendations described below. The overall treatment objective for this character area, which includes the Fee Memorial Church, the parsonage/manse foundation, and wooded and open turfgrass areas is to preserve the character defining features while providing additional visitor amenities. Specific recommendations for treatment of resources within this character area include the following:

- Preserve and protect the character-defining features in this area including:
    - Fee Memorial Church
    - Parsonage/manse foundation

Buildings and Structures

- The NPS should follow the recommendations of the Fee Memorial Church Historic Structure Report (HSR), developed concurrently with this CLR. The HSR recommends a preservation treatment plan as an intermediate level of treatment until additional research and investigation are completed and funding can be secured for a rehabilitation treatment.
- The NPS should consider preserving the parsonage/manse foundation, maintaining the ruins in their present condition. Reconstruction of the house is not recommended due to a lack of available evidence of its appearance and lack of potential interpretive value for the site. Future archeological study in this area may further inform future treatment and interpretation. The following are specific recommendations:
    - The NPS should remove small trees and shrub sprouts from inside and within five feet from the perimeter of the parsonage/manse and regularly inspect larger trees that have root systems that may grow under foundation. Maintenance crews should prune roots or remove as necessary to prevent possible damage to the structure.
    - The NPS could consider installing a weed barrier / landscape cloth inside of the parsonage/manse foundation to prevent future growth of vegetation and reduce ongoing maintenance.
    - Maintenance crews should regularly inspect the masonry features of the parsonage / manse foundation. Locate missing stones or fallen pieces. Store in safe place for future repairs.
    - The NPS should consider providing interpretation of the house and its relationship to the church, school, and community. The NPS should coordinate this effort with the Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan.
- Camp Nelson National Monument staff do not anticipate adding a separate visitor center, contact station, office, storage, or primary maintenance facility at the Refugee Ward Character Area. In long-term planning, the NPS may consider providing a restroom to support visitor and programming use of the Fee Memorial Church.[780]
    - Because a restroom cannot be accommodated within the footprint of the Fee Memorial Church, the building should be assumed as a freestanding restroom structure elsewhere on site. The restroom building might also include a maintenance storage space.
    - The restroom building should be well-designed and built to provide a durable, clean, and sanitary facility.
    - The NPS will need to consider careful placement and design to make the building unobtrusive and to avoid giving the impression that it was historically present on the site while also making it convenient for visitor use.
    - A prefabricated restroom structure might be appropriate for the site, but the NPS must take care in its selection, siting, and exterior finish.
    - Camp Nelson National Monument may desire to construct a pavilion or amphitheater somewhere on the seven-acre site to continue the heritage of music in the Ariel / Hall community. The location of such a feature must be carefully planned to avoid disturbance of archaeological, architectural, and landscape resources.
    - A possible location for these features (pavilion and restroom) could be the cleared area located on Hall Road. This zone may also be an advantageous location for

780. As of 2022, it is not the intention of park management to add restroom facilities in the Refugee Ward Character Area.

a trailhead connecting to the Jim Beam Nature Preserve.

- The NPS should consider removing the amphitheater and benches in the wooded area east of the Fee Memorial Church. The NPS does not use or maintain these features, and they are noncontributing to the historic period. The amphitheater structure is dangerous, and injury could result from climbing on the structure. Prior to their removal, the NPS should consult with community members.

Circulation

- The NPS should consider providing parking and informational signage at the Refugee Ward Character Area. The provision of visitor parking and walkways must be carefully designed to avoid altering the historic character of the Fee Memorial Church's setting. Consider strategies to blend new features into the site (e.g., pavement matched to the color of the local soil). Screening of new features should be carefully designed to reflect the simple, rural character of the setting. New interpretive features should coordinate with the forthcoming Long Range Interpretive Plan and Comprehensive Wayside Plan. Interpretation of the location of the dormitory and recitation building and of the Refugee Home buildings will be a key part of the site's interpretation plan. Wayside signage will likely be an important part of the site. The NPS may wish to add a visitor amenity zone next to the parking lot that includes an informational kiosk and trash receptacle. The design should include BMPs for stormwater management if additional impervious pavement is included. The parking lot should include five to six parking spaces with at least one universally accessible space; pedestrian circulation should provide access to the visitor amenity zone and informational kiosk.
- The NPS should consider removing and replacing the four-foot-wide degraded concrete sidewalk in front of the Fee Memorial Church and replacing it in kind. A five-foot-wide concrete sidewalk should connect this walkway to the proposed visitor parking area (outlined above). The sidewalk should follow the east edge of the parking lot and connect to the walkway leading to the Fee Memorial Church.
- The NPS should consider adding trail connections to the Jim Beam Nature Preserve from the character area. This recommendation should be informed by the forthcoming Camp Nelson National Monument Comprehensive Wayside Plan and would require agreements with the Nature Conservancy, which manages the preserve. See Land Use - Evaluate inclusion of additional properties adjacent to the Refugee Ward Character Area in CANE.

Vegetation

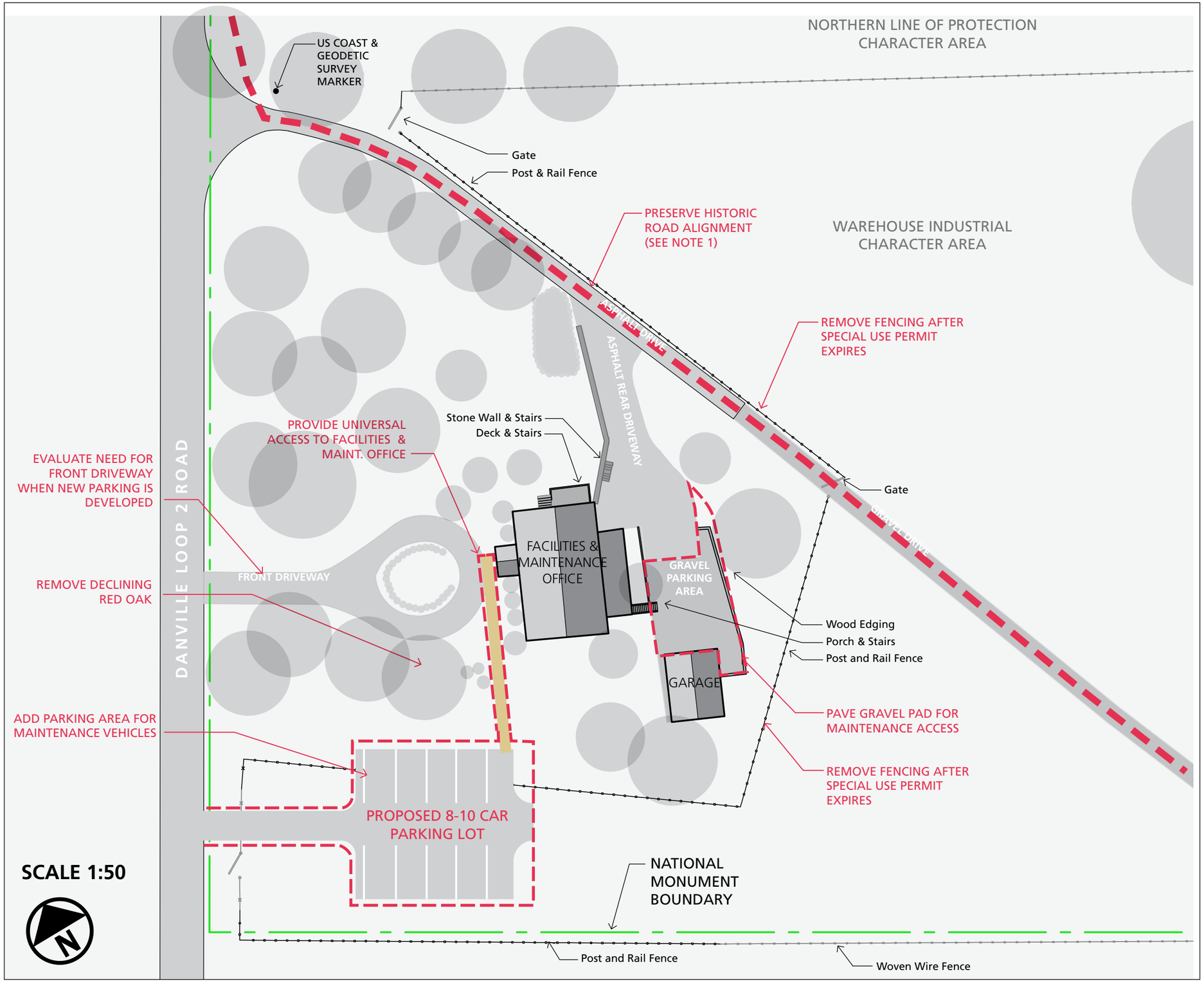
- The NPS should maintain the existing open turfgrass areas with regular mowing as functional short or functional tall turf grass areas (NPS Turf Class B1 or B2). These areas include the space immediately adjacent to the Fee Memorial Church and parsonage/manse foundation. In 2022, the NPS updated their mowing regime to reduce mowing in the southeastern portion of the site (see Appendix F). Should the NPS develop this area into a trailhead in the future, they may want to consider reintroducing some areas of functional tall turf grass in this zone. NPS maintenance staff should avoid the use of motorized maintenance equipment or chemical pesticides adjacent to these features to avoid accidental damage to historic materials including stone and wood. The NPS should follow maintenance recommendations for turfgrass areas outlined in the proposed vegetation management plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C).
- The NPS should remove small trees and shrub sprouts from inside and within five feet from the perimeter of the parsonage / manse foundation and regularly inspect larger trees that have root systems that may grow under foundation. Site managers should prune roots or remove as necessary to prevent possible damage. Note: NPS staff removed excess vegetation at the parsonage / manse foundation in 2022,

exposing the foundation stones of the building.

- The NPS should follow best practices for invasive exotic removal in the wooded area. The NPS should follow maintenance recommendations for invasive exotic plant removal outlined in the proposed vegetation management plan (PMIS Project 1, Appendix C).
- The NPS should maintain the location of the existing wood line unless future archeological research reveals that it was in a different location.

Small-Scale Features

- The NPS should consider replacing the waysides at the Refugee Ward Character Area and adding additional interpretation about the Ariel / Hall community, Ariel Academy, and Rev. John G. Fee and Matilda Fee. The NPS should develop these waysides per recommendations in the Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan.
- The NPS should consider adding a small NPS identification sign to the site. The sign should follow *Sign Standards Reference Manual*, *Uniguide Sign Program*, *Uniguide Standards Manual*, and *Graphic Identity Program* and recommendations in the forthcoming Camp Nelson Comprehensive Wayside Plan.



NOTES:

1. If design of a proposed Facilities and Maintenance Office parking area allows for access to the garage from the south side of the character area, the NPS may want to consider removing vehicular use of this road if access to the rear of the Facilities and Maintenance Office can be established in conjunction with the recommendation to develop a parking lot south of the Facilities and Maintenance Office. If the NPS were to decommission this drive from vehicular use, it could serve as part of the trail system connecting the Northern Line of Protection Character Area with the Warehouse Industrial Character Area. The NPS should consider removing the asphalt from the driveway if it becomes part of the trail system. The new trail could either be a stabilized soil surface to mimic the appearance of the historic condition of the roads in Camp Nelson, or this alignment could be a mown grass trail, consistent with other trails in the national monument.

Credits:

1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021



Illustration 4.5

Treatment:
Maintenance Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument

AUGUST 2022

APPARENT FEE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE CAMPUS BOUNDARY

NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY

Scattered Rectangular Stones

PRESERVE PARSONAGE/ MANSE FOUNDATION AND CLEAR VEGETATION

REPLACE 2 WAYSIDES

Concrete Steps

REPLACE CONCRETE SIDEWALK

Concrete Sidewalk

Wayside

Parsonage/Manse Foundation

POTENTIALLY CONNECT TO JIM BEAM NATURE PRESERVE TRAILS

FEE MEMORIAL CHURCH

REMOVE STEPS AND EDGING

Amphitheater & Benches

PROVIDE SIDEWALK PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION FROM PARKING TO THE FEE MEMORIAL CHURCH

Gravel Trail with Railroad Tie Edging & Steps

CHURCH ST

Scattered Rectangular Stones

REMOVE AMPHITHEATER AND BENCHES

FUTURE POTENTIAL TRAILHEAD DEVELOPMENT AREA

PROVIDE APPROXIMATELY 5-6 VISITOR PARKING SPACES AT REFUGEE WARD CHARACTER AREA

PROVIDE VISITOR AMENITY ZONE: INFORMATIONAL KIOSK & TRASH RECEPTACLE

Power Poles

HALL ROAD

SCALE 1:80

N

Credits:
1. ESRI
2. WLA Studio, Fieldwork Oct 2020 and Apr 2021

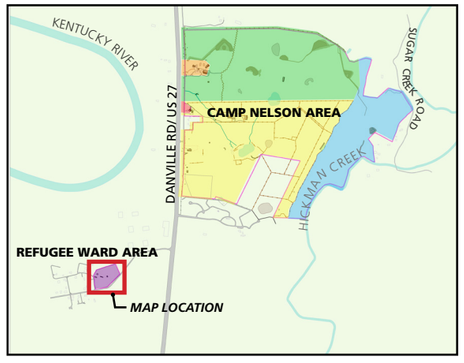


Illustration 4.6

Treatment:

Refugee Ward Character Area

Camp Nelson National Monument

AUGUST 2022

Recommendations for Further Research

Archeological Research

As Camp Nelson National Monument's archeological resources are such a critical part of the park, it would be ideal to continue ongoing archeological research to better understand this site and the lives of the people who lived at Camp Nelson. Some topics for further study and future research include, but are not limited to, Black and White soldier living conditions, Black and White refugee living conditions, industrial activities within the camp, private commercial enterprises within the camp, conditions and lifeways of women within the camp, the Tennessee refugees, fortification design and construction, and buildings and activities at Ariel Academy. The NPS should consider ways to further include the general public in archeology, such as reinstating family summertime "archeology days," which were popular in the past. The NPS may want to complete additional booklets on Camp Nelson archeology to be distributed or sold in the gift shop and by other means.

Burial / Cemetery Study

There is little documentation of exactly where all the burials are in the national monument boundary based on the number recorded in historical texts. The NPS should consider further investigation of burial sites at the park in conjunction with future archeological surveys. This grave or burial study could include exhaustive research into burials in or around the monument, Civil War burial practices, ground penetrating radar (GPR) or cadaver dog verification of suspected burial areas, and inventory of surrounding community cemeteries connected to Camp Nelson, including the Hall Community Cemetery and the Black Bridge Community Cemetery. The Griffing family cemetery, located within the national monument boundary, should be included in this study.

Preservation Maintenance Plan

Based on future historic structure reports, the Fee Memorial Church Historic Structure Report, and this CLR, the national monument should develop a preservation maintenance plan for the entire site.

Call for Public Assistance

The national monument should develop a strategy for public outreach to solicit photographs and information concerning the recent history of the site. There was limited photographic documentation of the landscape during the 1980s and 1990s and aerial photographs from these decades are low quality. Photographs and records from this era will improve documentation of the site and inform ongoing evaluation of landscape features.

National Register Nomination

The NPS may want to consider a separate listing in the National Register of Historic Places for Fee Memorial Church. Correspondence regarding a Determination of Eligibility between the NPS and the Kentucky Heritage Council is included in Appendix E.

The Fee Memorial Church was classified as a noncontributing resource within the Camp Nelson Civil War District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2001. This district's period of significance of June 1863 to June 1866; this period of significance excludes later resources, including those associated with the post-1866 experiences of Black Kentuckians who settled in the village of Ariel / Hall. This period of significance was also used for the Camp Nelson Historic and Archaeological District, designated a National Historic Landmark in 2013.

The Fee Memorial Church should be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, and the NPS should submit an updated survey form for the resource to the Kentucky Heritage Council. This nomination could be for the church itself or for the Fee Memorial Institute, with the church as a contributing resource. Regardless of the selected title, the nomination should include the Fee Memorial Church, the parsonage / manse foundation, and, if possible, the site of Ariel Academy / Camp Nelson Academy / Fee Memorial Institute as contributing resources. If possible, the listing should encompass the full boundaries of the Fee Memorial Institute campus.

The property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and Criteria Consideration A, being a religious property

that derives its primary significance from historical importance to the story of African Americans in Kentucky after the Civil War, including its association with Ariel Academy / Camp Nelson Academy / Fee Memorial Institute. Based on information contained in Part 1 of this CLR, and in consultation with NPS staff, the following period of significance and areas of significance are recommended:

- Epoch 1: 1912-1924[781]
    - State-level significance in the areas of Education, Ethnic Heritage: Black.
    - Further evaluation may find national-level significance in this epoch.

In addition to the Fee Memorial Church and the parsonage / manse foundation, the former campus of Ariel Academy / Camp Nelson Academy / Fee Memorial Institute is likely to possess archaeological resources that may yield information on the history of the school. Pending further archaeological investigation, the site may also be eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion D, being likely to yield information important to the history of African American education in Kentucky after the Civil War. The period of significance for the archaeological resources would be 1868 to 1924, covering the full operation of the school. These resources exist on the same site as Civil War era archaeological resources associated with the National Home for Colored Refugees and the earliest buildings used by the school and the church had been built as a part of the refugee camp in 1864-1865.

If a future theme study is conducted on Reconstruction and Interracial Democracy, the nomination should consider the Fee Memorial Church as an example of this area of significance. The Fee Memorial Church is more than a church, it also represents Ariel Academy / Camp Nelson Academy / Fee Memorial Institute and the efforts made in the post-Civil War Reconstruction era towards building an interracial society.

The property should be evaluated to determine whether it possesses national-level significance as an example of a congregation and school supported by the national Board of Missions for Freedmen of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Any future nomination could consider eligibility under Criterion C, as a well-preserved vernacular example of an African American religious structure in rural Kentucky.

Cultural Landscape Inventory

The NPS is completing a Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) in conjunction with the CLR project. This data entry will allow site managers to manage the resources at the site through the National Park Service's Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS).

Ariel/Hall Community Study

The NPS may want to consider commissioning a special study on the Ariel/Hall community and its history. The project may include mapping of community resources including cemeteries and community resources, excerpts from the History of Hall, Kentucky Oral History Project, and potentially make recommendations for further archaeological study.

Suggested Implementation Projects

To implement the specific recommendations included above, the following section outlines projects designed to guide implementation of the CLR treatment recommendations outlined in Part 2. The project scope of work states that the report will include implementation projects "similar to the Government's Project Management Information System (PMIS), including Project Title, narrative fields for Project Description, Justification and Measurable Results."

781. A draft Historic Structure Report for the Fee Memorial Church states that there is possibly a second epoch that could be proposed for the building. Epoch 2: 1925-1991 Local-level significance in the area of Ethnic Heritage: Black. Further evaluation may find additional significance in this epoch.

These projects include:

1) Camp Nelson National Monument Vegetation Management Plan

2) Camp Nelson National Monument Earthworks and Stoneworks Management Plan

3) Develop a Universally Accessible Trail at Camp Nelson National Monument

4) Improve Visitor Amenities Near the CANE Visitor Center – Parking

5) Improve Visitor Amenities Near the CANE Visitor Center – Visitor Plaza

6) Improve Visitor Amenities Near the CANE Visitor Center – Exterior Comfort Station

7) Establish a Camp Nelson National Monument Design Guide for Site Furnishings and Lighting

8) Develop Visitor Parking Area and Improve Walkway at the Fee Memorial Church

9) Preservation and Maintenance of Parsonage/ Manse Foundation

10) White House Historic Structure Report

Descriptions of these projects are included in Appendix C.

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Appendix A. Historic Maps

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Credits:
1. *Camp Nelson and its Defences* by Sullivan (Source: National Archives, RG 77: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers).

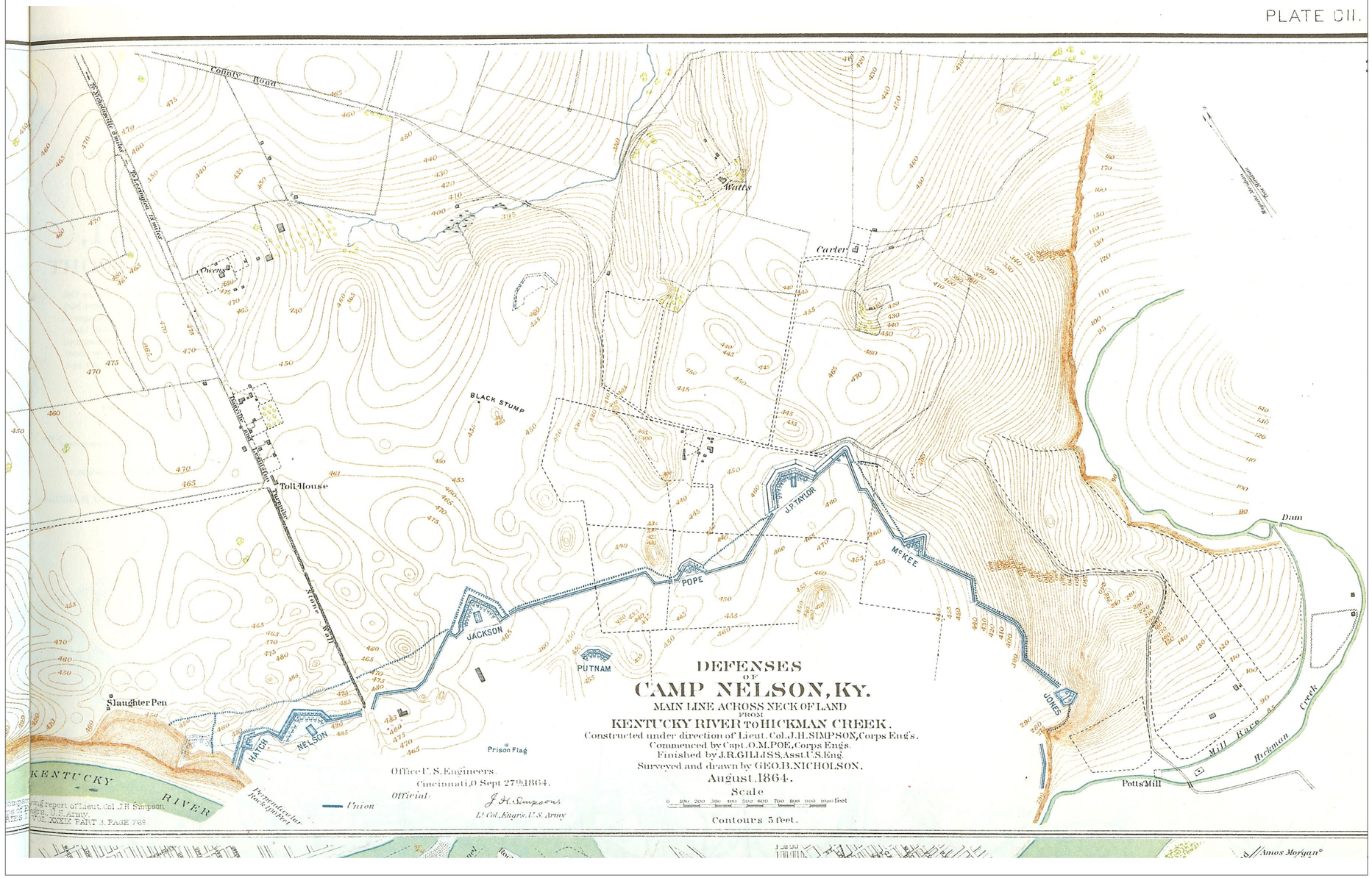
Appendix A.1

1864

CAMP NELSON AND ITS DEFENCES

Camp Nelson National Monument

August 2022



Credits:
1. *Defenses of Camp Nelson, KY* (Source: ULPA 1999.71, University of Louisville Photographic Archives, University of Louisville, KY).

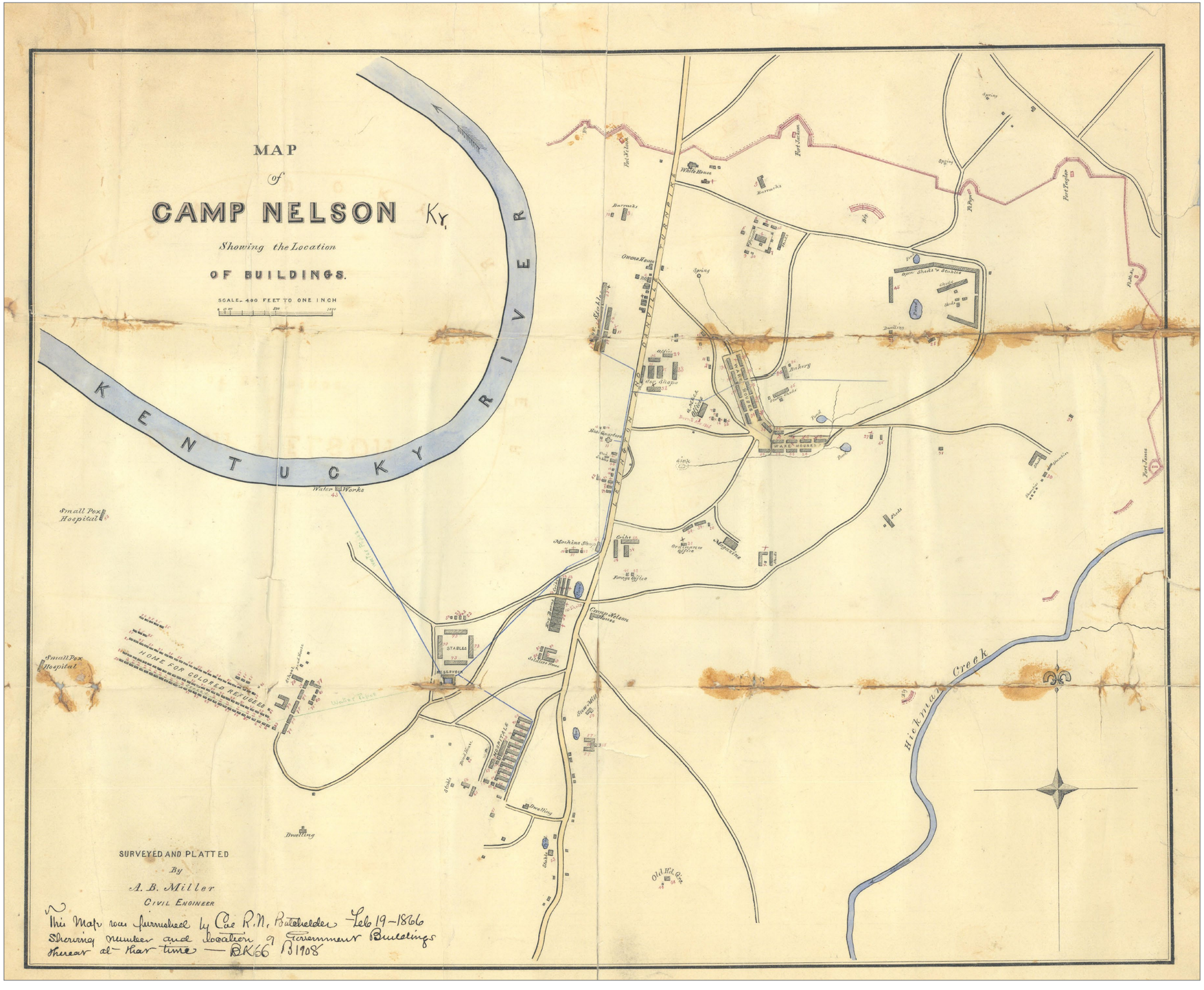
Appendix A.2

AUGUST 1864

DEFENSES OF CAMP NELSON, KY

Camp Nelson National Monument

August 2022



Credits:
1. *Map of Camp Nelson KY* by A.B. Miller (Source: National Archives, Cartographic Section, College Park Maryland).

Appendix A.3

FEBRUARY 19, 1866

MAP OF CAMP NELSON, KY

Camp Nelson National Monument

August 2022



Credits:
1. 1937 aerial photograph showing Ariel/ Hall (Source: Aerial photograph duplicated from National Archives Files, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, Courtesy of Stephen McBride).

Appendix A.4
1937
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH
Camp Nelson National Monument
APRIL 2022

Appendix B. Earthworks Memo

Historian David Lowe, NPS to Superintendent Ernest Price, May 18, 2021

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To: Superintendent Ernie Price, Camp Nelson National Monument
Cc Ranger Steve Phan
From: David Lowe, historian, Cultural Resources GIS, NPS
18 May 2021

Thank you for the opportunity of visiting Camp Nelson. It is exciting to be involved with a brand new and demanding national park unit. I wanted to summarize our thoughts on changing the mowing regime for the forts. First, the blend of pasture grass and clover growing on the northern tier of earthworks today is a wonderful ground cover, very thick, deep sod, protective. For me, protective is the key quality. The integrity of the resource should always come first. You have that now in the park. Second, you have resources that have mounds and ditches—Jackson, Putnam, McKee, and the Main Magazine—and forts that were razed—Pope, and Taylor. Jones is the outlier under forest cover and will be left alone for the moment.

In discussions on the ground at Jackson, Putnam, McKee, and Magazine, it was thought that mowing the forts too short at a constant height was likely detrimental to the resources. A thicker layer of grass breaks up heavy rainfall and also blunts the compacting tendencies of mechanical mowers. The benefit of higher grass on the mounds and ditches is that it provides a visual clue to visitors, first as to the size and outline of the forts, next, it is a way to "set aside" the resource or emphasize it for the purposes of interpretation. A common comment from visitors encountered in the field is that they wanted to "play through" on what was perceived as a golf course environment. This perception needs to be changed. Taller grass on the resources and shorter grass around the resources emphasizes the structure's size and importance. It sets aside a precinct that we are saying is special.

During our week on the ground, we initiated a changed maintenance approach, flagging the resources and encouraging the grass to grow higher inside the flags. This should be considered a "proof of concept." We had minimal time to observe any long-term effects. The initial change, however, seemed pretty dramatic. The "golf course" effect was instantly dissipated with the focus placed on the resource, and shorter grass areas for walking and observation. This difference in mowing heights needs to be maintained over time. The proper difference in heights needs to be determined—4 inches? 8 inches?, 14 inches? Much will depend on whether maintenance has the equipment they need to do the job and maintain it. I don't think that the higher grass can be allowed to grow indefinitely. It would be productive, I think, to bring in an expert from the Jessamine County agricultural extension office at the university, who could talk about the appearance of the grass-legume mix over time and its change of appearance during its seasonal cycle. Other parks use a boom mower on their earthwork slopes so that the mower itself never rides on the resource. His of curse requires extra time and effort. Long-term change requires winning over maintenance to the concept but also supplying the crew with the equipment they need to do the job. Jackson, Putnam, McKee, and the Magazine should transition to a more manual maintenance approach, particularly on the steep outer slopes--scarp and counterscarp. In our brief time in the field, we were unable to discuss equipment with the maintenance crew.

Even with a higher mowing regime within the flagged resource area, there is no reason to ban mechanical mowers on Pope and Taylor, as there is really nothing intact to wear down. The mowing height should simply be adjusted inside and outside of the flagged resource area within the capabilities of the mowers. A difference in height of 4-6 inches might be all that is required to achieve the interpretive effect, and this may be accomplished with current equipment.

The table below reflects a rough estimate of the acreage effected by the changed mowing regime. The most labor intensive forts will be Jackson and Putnam. These are also the forts most accessible to visitors. McKee should be treated manually but likely not as often as Jackson and Putnam. (McKee also needs one or two dead trees removed). Pope and Taylor can continue to be maintained mechanically with height adjustments.

Resource Footprints	
Fort Jackson	1.9 acres
Battery Putnam	1.0 acre
Fort Pope	0.5 acre
Fort Taylor	1.7 acres
Fort McKee	0.7 acre
Ordnance Magazine	0.2 acre
Total	**6.9 acres**

This is currently a summary of our thinking on the subject. Obviously there will be a period of transition from current condition to desired state.

Thank you for the chance to discuss the recommended changes to the mowing regime. Please keep me informed of further developments. I look forward to visiting again soon.

Appendix C. Draft PMIS Statements

CANE – Draft PMIS Statements

1) Camp Nelson National Monument Vegetation Management Plan

Description:

Camp Nelson National Monument is currently in need of a vegetation management plan to guide maintenance of the historic landscape in order to keep it in good condition and to protect the existing historic features. Goals for the plan include the identification of short- and long-term vegetation management approaches for the different areas of the park; identification of appropriate and preferred maintenance regimes, including mowing and field management; a plan for rehabilitating tree stands in certain areas; and maintenance of vegetation near the Visitor Center.

The vegetation management plan would specifically address:

- treatment of vegetation on earthworks
- treatment of vegetation on sinkhole banks
- treatment of turfgrass areas and other ground cover
- treatment of open field areas
- invasive species control
- development of a plan to re-establish tree masses in select location
- management of existing trees at the national monument
- establishment of tree stands in certain areas of the national monument
- preservation and enhancement of views and vistas from the South and North Stone Walls

Location:

The vegetation management plan would cover the entire national monument, including the property near the Fee Memorial Church.

Related Projects:

- Camp Nelson National Monument Earthworks and Stoneworks Management Plan

2) Camp Nelson National Monument Earthworks and Stoneworks Management Plan

Description:

Camp Nelson National Monument is currently in need of an earthworks and stoneworks management plan to facilitate appropriate treatment of the historic forts, infantry entrenchments, stone walls, Stone Reservoir wall, Powder Magazine and Bakery Oven remnants, and Prison and Quartermaster Ice Houses. Goals for the plan include identification of short-and long-term management approaches for these character-defining features. These features are constructed of soil and limestone and are subject to damage and deterioration due to weather, stormwater runoff, lack of maintenance, inappropriate past management practices, visitor abuse, algae, and vandalism. Existing trees, tree roots, and branches are of particular concern on several forts and the Powder Magazine remnant. Materials testing may be required to evaluate the stoneworks, in particular the limestone wall at the Spring Reservoir.

Location:
The features are located throughout the national monument boundary on the east side of US 27, including in open field and wooded areas.

Related Projects:
- Camp Nelson National Monument Vegetation Management Plan

3) Develop a Universally Accessible Trail at Camp Nelson National Monument

Description:
Currently, none of the trails to historic features at Camp Nelson National Monument are universally accessible. The landscape is not designed to be available to all users, and most of the trails are grass or natural surface. There are no tactile waysides at the park. Park staff have identified enhanced accessibility as a goal to be considered in the CLR. Given the historic character of the landscape, the CLR provides recommendations for approaching accessibility without diminishing integrity.

Additional considerations include:

- Waysides: The NPS may want to develop tactile waysides / stations along the accessible route.
- Accessible slopes: Accessible slopes are typically five percent or less according to guidance from the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and the standards outlined in the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS).
- Materials: Materials should be selected to have a minimal visual impact, but they must be stable, firm, and slip resistant. Materials to consider might be stabilized turf, permeable or non-permeable concrete (colored concrete is an option), stabilized crushed aggregate (such as PolyPavement™, Stabilizer™, or SlateScape®).

Location:
The proposed universally accessible trail begins near the Visitor Center and routes near the Barracks, infantry entrenchments, Fort Jackson, Cemetery #1, and Fort Putnam (reconstructed), and then back to the Visitor Center.

Related Projects:
- Camp Nelson National Monument Wayfinding and Trail Plan (Funded FY 2023)
- Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan
- Camp Nelson National Monument Design Guide for Site Furnishings and Lighting

4) Improve Visitor Amenities Near the CANE Visitor Center - Parking

Description:
National Park Service staff have expressed that the existing twenty-three visitor spaces are inadequate for the expected growth in visitation to the national monument. There is currently no provision for bus or recreational vehicle parking. This project would involve design of additional parking spaces, a drop off area in front of the Visitor Center, a paved apron leading to overflow parking, and accommodations for two to three buses and/or RVs. The projected number of parking spaces depends upon project future visitation. The design should include BMPs for stormwater if additional impervious pavement is included. The proposed design should use the existing main parking lot and drive lane footprint to the extent possible to minimize adverse impacts to cultural resources. As staff numbers increase, there is a need for additional staff parking spaces, which is currently located just east of the White House. The NPS proposes to add three spaces to this parking lot on the east side of the lot. The design should include a dedicated bus and /or car drop off area adjacent to the Visitor Center. Having a dedicated bus drop off area would help facilitate vehicular traffic at the site when buses are disembarking visitors near the Visitor Center.

The project should include the design and installation of a new entrance / identity sign for the park, to be located on the north side of the entry road.

Location:

The proposed improved visitor parking is located south of the White House, west of the Visitor Center, and east of Danville Loop 2 Road.

Related Projects:

- Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan
- Camp Nelson National Monument Wayfinding and Trail Plan (Funded FY 2023)
- Camp Nelson National Monument Design Guide for Site Furnishings and Lighting

5) Improve Visitor Amenities Near the CANE Visitor Center – Visitor Center Plaza

Description:

Camp Nelson National Monument needs an enhanced and enlarged entry plaza at the Visitor Center. Currently, there is no large outdoor space for gathering groups of visitors at the site. A hardscape plaza would provide a more formalized entrance into the Visitor Center and serve as a place for commemorative ceremonies and providing group orientation. The NPS may want to consider using pavement with integral color to depict a map of the Camp Nelson area. Visitor centers for other NPS sites use this type of feature to gather groups for orientation talks prior to a tour. The entry plaza could incorporate seatwalls, plantings, and locations for the three relocated flagpoles and the Saltville Monument. The design should consider universal access from the parking area, from a potential bus drop off, and into the Visitor Center.

Location:

The entry plaza will be located adjacent to the west elevation and main entrance to the Visitor Center at Camp Nelson National Monument.

Related Projects:

- Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan
- Camp Nelson National Monument Wayfinding and Trail Plan (FY 2023)
- Camp Nelson National Monument Design Guide for Site Furnishings and Lighting

6) Improve Visitor Amenities Near the CANE Visitor Center – Exterior Comfort Station

Description:

Camp Nelson National Monument and the Interior Region 2 office should develop this statement once location and capacity is determined by future studies. The work of the project should be performed in accordance with the Denver Service Center (DSC) Workflows. The DSC provides guidance for all design phases describing required workflow process from Predesign (PD) through Construction Documents (CD).

7) Establish a Camp Nelson National Monument Design Guide for Site Furnishings and Lighting

Description:

There are currently very few site furnishings at Camp Nelson National Monument. National monument staff have expressed a need to locate additional visitor amenities at the site, including benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles, signs, and appropriate lighting. The guide would illustrate standards for site furnishings to accommodate all visitors. The guide should include products, materials, sizes, and typical

installation details. The palette of materials should respond to Camp Nelson National Monument's unique identity but also be compatible with National Park Service standards. There is lighting near the White House, but it is noncontributing and does not provide illumination in places where national monument staff think it is needed. The plan should consider the following:

- Standards for signs: sign standards should be developed with guidance from the National Park Service *Sign Standards Reference Manual*, *Uniguide Sign Program*, *Uniguide Standards Manual*, and *Graphic Identity Program*.
- Dark skies: any lighting should adhere to NPS "Dark Skies" or "Night Skies" policies. The NPS has a policy for lightscape management, which states that NPS will preserve, to the greatest extent possible, the natural lightscapes of parks and minimize light that emanates from park facilities to prevent the loss of dark conditions and natural night skies.

Related Projects:

- Camp Nelson National Monument Wayfinding and Trail Plan (Funded FY 2023)
- Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan
- Improve Visitor Amenities Near the CANE Visitor Center
- Develop Visitor Amenities in the Refugee Ward Character Area

8) Develop Visitor Parking Area and Improve Walkway at the Fee Memorial Church

Description:

Camp Nelson National Monument wishes to provide parking and informational signage at the Refugee Ward Character Area near the Fee Memorial Church. The provision of visitor parking and walkways must be carefully designed to avoid altering the historic character of the Fee Memorial Church's setting. Consider strategies to blend new features into the site (e.g. pavement matched to the color of the local soil). Screening of new features should be carefully designed to reflect the simple, rural character of the setting. New interpretive features should coordinate with the Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan and Wayfinding and Trail Plan. The NPS wishes to add a visitor amenity zone next to the parking lot that includes an informational kiosk, trash receptacle, and NPS identity sign. The design should include BMPs for stormwater if additional impervious pavement is included. The parking lot should include five to six parking spaces with at least one universally accessible space, leading to the visitor amenity zone and informational kiosk. The NPS also wishes to replace in kind the existing walkway in front of the Fee Memorial Church. The existing concrete sidewalk is in poor condition. It connects Church Street to the Fee Memorial Church. The NPS also wishes to construct a five-foot-wide concrete sidewalk connecting the proposed visitor parking area and informational kiosk to the existing walkway.

Location:

The Refugee Ward Character Area is located on the west side of US 27 in the Hall Community. The parking should be located on Church Street.

Related Projects:

- Camp Nelson National Monument Wayfinding and Trail Plan (Funded FY 2023)
- Camp Nelson National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan
- Camp Nelson National Monument Design Guide for Site Furnishings and Lighting
-

9) Preservation and Maintenance of Parsonage / Manse Foundation

Description:

Camp Nelson National Monument wishes to preserve the parsonage / manse foundation ruins located in the Refugee Ward Character Area. Work should include removing small trees and shrub sprouts from inside and within five feet from the perimeter of the parsonage / manse foundation and pruning roots or remove as necessary to alleviate possible damage. Work will also include installation of a weed barrier or landscape cloth inside of the parsonage / manse foundation to prevent future growth of vegetation and

to reduce ongoing maintenance. Work should include installation of an interpretive wayside providing information about of the house and its relationship to the church, school, and community.

Location:
The Refugee Ward Character Area is located on the west side of US 27 in the Hall Community. The parking should be located on Church Street. The parsonage / manse ruin is in the turfgrass area north of the Fee Memorial Church.

Related Studies

- Camp Nelson National Monument Wayfinding and Trail Plan (Funded FY 2023)
- Long Range Interpretive Plan
- Camp Nelson National Monument Vegetation Management Plan

10) White House Historic Structure Report

Description:
Develop a historic structure report for the White House (Oliver Perry House), which currently shows signs of deterioration. The White House is the only surviving building at Camp Nelson National Monument that was present during the Civil War. The wood-frame Greek Revival house was built around 1856 for Oliver and Fannie (Scott) Perry. The surrounding property became part of Camp Nelson in 1863 and the White House was requisitioned to serve as the Quartermaster and Commissary officers' quarters. The United States Army referred to the Perry House as the "White House" due to its exterior color (an 1865 photograph suggests that it was painted white with shutters of a contrasting color, a common treatment of the period) and that remains its common name.

The house was returned to the Perrys at the end of the war and remained in the family until 1948. The exterior was significantly altered by a remodeling around 1890, but a 1997-1999 renovation by the Jessamine County Fiscal Court returned the exterior to something like its Civil War appearance as documented in an 1865 photograph. This resemblance is strongest from a distance; at closer range, the false shutters, too-tall balcony balustrades, too-steep portico pediment, and simplified moldings show clear differences from the house's documented appearance in the 1865 photograph. The interior of the house largely retains its original plan and retains Greek Revival mantels, architraves, doors, and other woodwork that are consistent with its date of construction. Aspects of the interior as renovated in the 1990s are inconsistent with the period of interpretation, including the treatment of the brick fireboxes and the use of Colonial Revival chandeliers. Existing furnishings of the house, acquired by Jessamine County, include a mix of pieces, some suitable to the period of interpretation and many dating from around 1870 to around 1970 that are unsuitable for interpreting this property.

The White House is largely as it was when NPS received the building from Jessamine County. It needs assessment and treatment to support the mission of Camp Nelson National Monument. This HSR should document the house's history and significance, support treatment consistent with the national monument's management documents, and support accurate presentation and interpretation of the house to support the national monument's mission. The project scope should include structural engineering evaluation of critical conditions of the White House, including foundation, floor, wall, and roof structure, stability, and causes of deterioration. This should be completed by a team including a structural engineer familiar with historic wood frame buildings of the period. The structural engineering assessment should propose options for repair, including a summary of impacts on the historic structure's integrity.

Location:
The White House (Oliver Perry House) is located at Camp Nelson National Monument in the Visitor Center Character Area, near Danville Loop 2 Road. See Appendix D – White House Field Notes completed by RATIO Architects.

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Appendix D. Field Notes White House (Oliver Perry House)

Introduction

During the site visit for the Fee Memorial Church Historic Structure Report in October 2020, park staff expressed concern with the deteriorating condition of the Oliver Perry House / White House at Camp Nelson National Monument (CANE). The architecture and engineering team walked through the house as a courtesy to CANE staff. This field note documents observations made during that walkthrough.

History & Significance

The Oliver Perry House is the only surviving building at Camp Nelson National Monument that was present during the Civil War. The wood-frame Greek Revival house was built ca. 1855 for Oliver and Fannie (Scott) Perry. The surrounding property became part of Camp Nelson in 1863 and the Perry House was requisitioned to serve as the Quartermaster and Commissary officers' quarters. The United States Army referred to the Perry House as the "White House" due to its exterior color (an 1865 photograph suggests that it was painted white with shutters of a contrasting color, a common treatment of the period) and that remains its common name.

The house was returned to the Perrys at the end of the war and remained in the family until 1948. The exterior was significantly altered by a remodeling around 1890, but a 1997-1999 renovation by the Jessamine County Fiscal Court returned the exterior to something like its Civil War appearance as documented in an 1865 photograph. This resemblance is strongest from a distance; at closer range, the false shutters, too-tall balcony balustrades, too-steep portico pediment, and simplified moldings show clear differences from the house's documented appearance in the 1865 photograph. The interior of the house largely retains its original plan and retains Greek Revival mantels, architraves, doors, and other woodwork that are consistent with its date of construction. Aspects of the interior as renovated in the 1990s are inconsistent with the period of interpretation, including the treatment of the brick fireboxes and the use of Colonial Revival chandeliers. Existing furnishings of the house, acquired by Jessamine County, include a mix of pieces, some suitable to the period of interpretation and many dating from ca. 1870 to ca. 1970 that are unsuitable for interpreting this property.

Observations

The following conditions were observed during the walkthrough:

- The exterior of the house exhibits significant paint failure. This may indicate inadequate surface preparation, use of incompatible paint finishes, and the presence of excessive moisture in the siding and exterior woodwork. Badly weathered and alligatored paint was observed below the flaking paint on some areas of siding.
- Biological growth was noted on many exterior painted surfaces.
- While gutters and downspouts were present on only the north half of the façade in the 1865 photograph, these features are critical for the preservation of the house's historic fabric. Existing gutters and downspouts were installed during the 1997-1999 renovation. These appear to be of unpainted copper, while the 1860s gutters and downspouts were likely of painted sheet metal. Existing gutters are compatible in style with the gutters shown in the 1865 photograph. Downspouts terminate near the foundation and some splash blocks were misaligned, allowing water to penetrate the ground along the foundation.
- Stone steps at the rear (north) elevation exhibit spalling and damage around modern metal guardrails. Some of these steps do

not appear to meet current code requirements.
- Metal guardrails installed in the 1990s are visually intrusive and exhibit corrosion.
- Unpainted trim was observed around the frame of a modern entry door on the rear (north) elevation. This trim may be covering gaps or damage in the siding and door frame. The six-panel "Colonial" door is inappropriate for use on a building of this period.
- The stone foundation exhibits mortar loss above grade and particularly within the cellar. It appears to need repointing with compatible mortar.
- There is a wood post in the cellar that may or may not be original. This needs further review to determine the structural integrity of the post and the floor structure that it appears to support.
- Paint, plaster, and gypsum board damage were observed along the interior face of exterior walls, including along the interior of the west façade and south elevation.
- Plaster cracks were observed on several interior walls. These appear to reflect settlement or movement of the house since the 1997-1999 renovation. Further investigation is needed to determine whether this settlement or movement is active and whether it is related to structural issues that require repair.
- The fireplace in the parlor (room 102) appears to have experienced significant displacement based on the angle of the brick masonry when compared with the adjacent wood mantel.
- Staff noted structural concerns with the house, including sagging floors and ceilings. A pronounced sag was evident in the floor and ceiling of the north bedroom (room 202). Photographs of the 1997-1999 renovation displayed in the house include what appears to be a view of the parlor (room 102) with its flooring and some of its wall finishes removed, exposing the underlying wood framing. This suggests that extensive demolition and repair work may have taken place in this wing.
- The stair requires additional investigation to determine whether it is sagging and whether any structural issues are present.
- The roof ridge is sagging slightly, possibly indicating a structural issue.
- Paint and plaster damage in the south bedroom (room 203) suggest an active roof leak. Fallen plaster and paint were observed covering furniture, carpets, and other artifacts. Evidence of water damage was observed on the ceiling of the dining room (room 103) directly below. These leaks and other potential past leaks have likely done structural damage that will need investigation and repair.

Conclusion

The Oliver Perry House / White House is largely as received from Jessamine County by NPS and needs assessment and treatment to support the mission of Camp Nelson National Monument. Based on the team's visual observations during this walkthrough, we recommend that a Historic Structure Report (HSR) be prepared for the house in the near future. This HSR should document the house's history and significance, support treatment consistent with the Park's management documents, and support accurate presentation and interpretation of the house to support the Park's mission.

The project scope should include structural engineering evaluation of critical conditions of the Oliver Perry House / White House, including foundation, floor, wall, and roof structure, stability, and causes of deterioration. This should be completed by a team including a structural engineer familiar with historic wood-frame buildings of the period. The structural engineering assessment should propose options for repair, including a summary of impacts on the historic structure's integrity.

Figures



Figure 1. Oliver Perry House / White House, 1865



Figure 2. West façade, 2020. Note different proportions of portico pediment and balustrades compared with Figure 1.



Figure 3. South elevation, 2020



Figure 4. Detail of typical paint failure at exterior.



Figure 5. Detail of typical paint failure at and deterioration of weatherboard siding at south elevation.



Figure 6. Detail of biological growth and deterioration at north elevation. Note downspout termination and small splash block.



Figure 7. Biological growth on roof of north porch.



Figure 10. Parlor (room 102), facing north.



Figure 8. View in cellar of north wing showing wood post and stone foundation walls.



Figure 11. Detail of fireplace in parlor (room 102) showing angle of brick within fireplace compared with mantel.



Figure 9. Detail of stone foundation wall showing significant mortar loss.

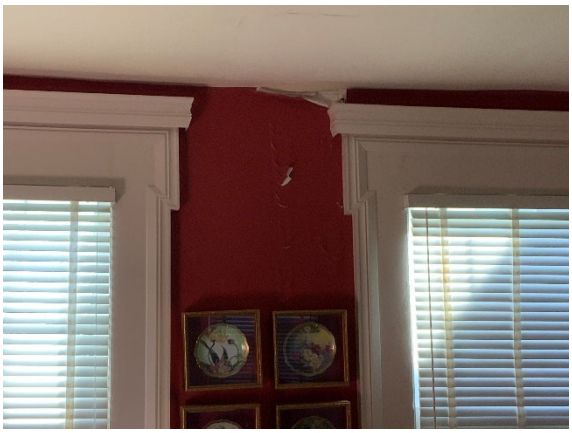


Figure 12. Detail of damage to paint and plaster at west wall of parlor (room 102) below sagging ceiling.



Figure 13. North bedroom (room 202), facing west; note pronounced sag of floor and ceiling.



Figure 14. Water damage to wall finishes at south wall of kitchen.



Figure 15. View south in dining room (room 103). Note water damage to ceiling above right side of mantel. This aligns with damage in room 203 above.



Figure 16. View of south bedroom (room 203), facing southeast, showing water damage at ceiling.



Figure 17. Fallen plaster and paint in south bedroom (room 203) impacting artifacts in interpretive space.



Figure 18. Fallen plaster and paint in south bedroom (room 203) impacting artifacts in interpretive space.

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Appendix E. Kentucky Heritage Council Correspondence, Fee Memorial Church

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ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

JACQUELINE COLEMAN
LT. GOVERNOR

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CRAIG A. POTTS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICER

06/18/2022

Ernie Price
Superintendent
Camp Nelson National Monument
6614 Danville Loop 2 Road
Nicholasville, KY 40356

Re: CANE, Fee Memorial Church Determination of Eligibility and 95% Draft Historic Structures Report
Camp Nelson National Monument, Jessamine County, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Price:

Thank you for your submittal of a revised 95% Historic Structures Report (HSR) and determination of eligibility for the above-referenced project. Our office has worked with CANE throughout its development of the HSR for the Fee Memorial Church in Jessamine County, Kentucky. The Fee Memorial Church is housed on discontinuous NPS land in the former community of Ariel/Hall. This community was settled by the soldiers and families formerly at Camp Nelson during the war. Through missionary-led efforts, this community served the educational, religious, and community needs of African Americans for many decades.

The Fee Memorial Church, named after its founder John Fee, is one of the last remaining resources from the Ariel/Hall Community. Built in 1912, this HSR outlines the history, usage, rehabilitation needs, and recommendations for this resource's future preservation and use. As noted, through additional consultation, future research may highlight additional associations with the property and other resources, including possible connections such as those between Ariel/Hall and the African American community of Black Bridge, also developed in the post-Civil War era in Jessamine County by former residents of Camp Nelson.

Based upon the information provided, our office concurs with the recommendations that the Fee Memorial Church is individually Eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with the cultural and educational life of the African American community of Ariel/Hall from 1912-1924. Our office also concurs that it meets Criteria Consideration A, and is individually Eligible under Criterion C, as an important intact example of vernacular African American worship places from the same period. We additionally concur that the resource is significant at both the state and local levels, with the proposed period of significance, and with the proposed NRHP boundary.

Re: CANE, Fee Memorial Church Determination of Eligibility and 95% Draft Historic Structures Report, Camp Nelson National Monument, Jessamine County, Kentucky

This concurrence is conditional upon receipt of a final electronic HSR and electronic copy of the survey form for the Fee Memorial Church so its eligibility recommendations can be recorded. Our office has appreciated the opportunity to work with CANE throughout this project and looks forward to future consultation regarding its preservation and rehabilitation goals.

Should you have any questions, please contact Gabrielle Fernandez of my staff at Gabrielle.Fernandez@ky.gov.

Sincerely,

Craig Potts
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

CP: gf KHC# 65744

KENTUCKY TOURISM, ARTS & HERITAGE CABINET

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Appendix F. 2022 Mowing Reductions and Fence Relocation



Mowing reduction map provided by Camp Nelson National Monument. The red stars indicate areas that staff formerly maintained as mown turfgrass areas. These areas will receive a less frequent mowing regime as of summer 2022. The green stars indicate areas that staff will continue to maintain as mown turfgrass. The green line indicates the relocated portion of the snake rail fence, which volunteers moved in April 2022. The area just east of the fence will now be included in the haying regime at the park (see Existing Conditions section for more information) (Source: Camp Nelson National Monument).

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As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.



NPS CANE 532/177499, September 2022
Camp Nelson National Monument

Camp Nelson National Monument
Cultural Landscape Report

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Camp Nelson National Monument
6614 Old Danville Road, Loop 2
Nicholasville, Kentucky 40356
www.nps.gov/cane

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