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National Park Service  
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2019



Gettysburg National Cemetery  
Gettysburg National Cemetery

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## Cultural Landscape Summary & Site Plan

### Cultural Landscapes in the Cultural Resources Inventory System:

#### The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources and cultural landscapes. The set of CRIS records for cultural landscapes is referred to as CRIS-CL. CRIS-CL records conform to a standardized data structure known as the Cultural

Landscapes Inventory (CLI).

The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CRIS are: Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS Management Policies (2006), Director's Order 28 (Cultural Resources) and Director's Order 28a (Archeology).

#### The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI)

The CLI is the data structure within CRIS used to document and evaluate all potentially significant cultural landscapes in which NPS has, or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest.

Each CRIS-CL record is certified complete when the landscape is determined to meet one of the following:

- Landscape individually meets the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation; or,
- Landscape is a contributing element of a property that is eligible for the National Register; or,
- Landscape does not meet the National Register criteria, but is managed as cultural resources because of law, policy or decisions reached through the park planning process.

Cultural landscapes vary from historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes to historic ethnographic landscapes, but may also fit within more than one type. Those eligible for the National Register have significance in the nation's history on a national, state or local level, as well as integrity or authenticity.

The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are: *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)). Each Federal agency shall establish... a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places... of historic properties...*

*Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a)... Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA... No later than September 30, 2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior...*

*Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(c) Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying... historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Council and the Secretary...*

*The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Standard 2: An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A) Management Policies 2006. 5.1.3.1 Inventories: The Park Service will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories... about cultural resources in units of the national park system... Cultural Landscape Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes,... and historic sites...*

*Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28. As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate Service-wide inventories of cultural resources.*

### **Inventory Unit Description:**

The Gettysburg National Cemetery is part of Gettysburg National Military Park, located in south central Pennsylvania roughly halfway between and west of Harrisburg and Baltimore. The 5,989-acre park is the site of the Battle of Gettysburg on July 1-3, 1863, a Union victory that ended General Robert E. Lee's second and most ambitious invasion of the North and ultimately a turning point in the Civil War. Known also by its original name, Soldiers' National Cemetery, Gettysburg National Cemetery is a historic designed landscape that commemorates the thousands of U.S. military personnel interred on its grounds. The 22-acre cemetery is interpreted primarily for its historic association with the Civil War and President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, given at the dedication of the unfinished cemetery on November 19, 1863.

The landscape of Gettysburg National Cemetery has two distinct components: the original cemetery (Soldiers' National Cemetery), and the cemetery annex. The original 17-acre cemetery, opened for burials in 1863 was designed by William Saunders in 1863 and completed in large part by 1869. It is informal in overall character with winding drives and naturalistic groupings of trees in the style of English landscape gardens, except in the central Civil War burial area that has a geometric and uniform character.

The 5-acre annex adjoins the north side of the original cemetery and was developed beginning in 1968 according to plans by Park Service landscape architect Glen Caldaro and completed by JWF Architects of Harrisburg in 1993. The lawn-style cemetery features a semi-circular burial area and a central monument. While the design of the annex has no association with the National Cemetery System, it does contain typical features such as an enclosure and flagstaff, as well as government-issued grave markers.

Gettysburg National Cemetery today (2019) contains 5,217 occupied gravesites, most with a single body and some with multiple remains. The cemetery was officially closed in 1972, but still accepts interment of veterans and eligible dependents in reserved gravesites. The original central semi-circular burial area contains 3,620 graves, primarily Civil War reinterments from the battlefields, most with a single body; 979 graves have remains not identified by name or state, and some contain multiple remains. The added sections in the outlying areas of the original cemetery (Sections I-VIII) contain 1,596 graves of casualties and veterans dating back to the Spanish-American War (1898). The cemetery annex contains 2,177 graves of casualties and veterans associated with World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Dependents (close family members) are interred in many of the post-Civil War graves.

### **SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY**

Gettysburg National Cemetery is nationally significant under National Register of Historic Places Criteria A, B, and C in the areas of Military History, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Art. The cemetery is significant as a Congressionally-designated "primary memorial to the military history of the United States" and for all of the military burials from 1863 to the most recent in 2015. The cemetery is also significant for association with President Abraham Lincoln, who delivered his famous Gettysburg Address at the cemetery's dedication in November 1863, and William Saunders, a Scottish-born landscape gardener who designed the cemetery. Lastly, the cemetery is significant for the simple grandeur and complex symbolism of Saunders' design, the additions and alterations to the landscape by the War Department, and the installation of commemorative works at the site.

As proposed in the 2017 report, "Cultural Landscape Report for Gettysburg National Cemetery, Gettysburg National Military Park," and concurred by the Pennsylvania Bureau for Historic Preservation (SHPO), the period of significance under Criterion A for Gettysburg National Cemetery is 1863-2019, or until the last future interment. This period applies primarily to the graves and their immediately associated landscape (including markers) for both the original 17-acre Soldiers' National Cemetery section (1863-1869) and the 5-acre Annex section (1968-1993). The period of significance under Criterion C for the original cemetery section is 1863-1928. This period includes the original Saunders design and the overlay of standard national cemetery and commemorative additions designed and implemented under War Department administration, including the flagstaff and public comfort station.

### **ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION**

The physical integrity of the Gettysburg National Cemetery landscape is evaluated by comparing

landscape characteristics and features developed in the original historic portion of the cemetery from 1863 through 1928 with present conditions in 2019. Overall, the spatial organization, land-use, topography, circulation, vegetation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, and small-scale features continue to reflect the design of William Saunders and design additions under military jurisdiction as part of the National Cemetery System. Significant losses in historic character have occurred with overgrowth of evergreen shrubs in the Civil War burial area that has altered the historic open character and views of Soldiers' National Monument; loss of circulation through removal of walks around the New York State Monument and in the Civil War burial area; loss of topography and design of the granite curb headstones due to changes in grade in the Civil War burial area; and loss of the fence around Soldiers' National Monument, and the pipe-rail fence and hedge along the Evergreen Cemetery boundary intended to provide a sense of common enclosure. Changes in vegetation, including replacement of the Norway maple allée along the upper drive with Crimson King maples, and loss of historic specimen trees and shrubs, have also diminished the landscape's historic character.

The non-historic cultural landscape of the annex, established in 1968 and completed in 1993, is not evaluated because there are no historic conditions to evaluate. Most of its landscape features, including the enclosure fence, entrance gateway and plaza, and plantings, are considered non-contributing. However, as with the original cemetery, all of the annex graves and their immediate surrounding landscape are considered contributing to the historic property of Gettysburg National Cemetery because of the Congressional designation of the cemetery as a national memorial to the country's military history.

The overall condition of the landscape at Gettysburg National Cemetery is evaluated as "good." It shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The property's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

## Site Plan

### Property Level and CLI Numbers

<b>Inventory Unit Name:</b>	Gettysburg National Cemetery
<b>Property Level:</b>	Landscape
<b>CLI Identification Number:</b>	300184
<b>Parent Landscape:</b>	300184

### Park Information

<b>Park Name and Alpha Code:</b>	Gettysburg National Cemetery - Gettysburg National Cemetery - GETC
<b>Park Organization Code:</b>	4409
<b>Park Administrative Unit:</b>	Gettysburg National Cemetery

### CLI Hierarchy Description

Gettysburg National Cemetery is one of two landscapes at Gettysburg National Military Park. The other landscape is the Gettysburg NMP Landscape, which includes four component landscapes: Culp's Hill, Little Round Top/Devil's Den, Pickett's Charge, and the Memorial Avenue System. Adjacent to Gettysburg NMP to the west is Eisenhower National Historic Site, which is documented in two CLIs.

## Concurrence Status

**Inventory Status:** Complete

### Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

A Level 0 inventory established the park in the CLAIMS database. Information for this CLI has been extracted from the 2017 report, "Cultural Landscape Report for Gettysburg National Cemetery, Gettysburg National Military Park," authored by John Auwaerter, Historical Landscape Architect at the State University of New York-College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF). Student assistants included Christopher Anderson, Catherine Ponte, Nathan Powers, and Pamela Selby. Project Directors were George W. Curry, SUNY-ESF, and Robert R. Page, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation (OCLP).

## Concurrence Status:

<b>Park Superintendent Concurrence:</b>	Yes
<b>Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:</b>	07/08/2019
<b>National Register Concurrence:</b>	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
<b>Date of Concurrence Determination:</b>	12/02/2015

### National Register Concurrence Narrative:

On December 2, 2015, the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with recommendations for updating the National Register documentation for Gettysburg National Cemetery based on the findings of the draft "Cultural Landscape Report for Gettysburg National Cemetery."

## Geographic Information

### Geographic Information & Location Map

#### State and County:

**State:** Pennsylvania

**County** Adams County

**Size (Acres)** 21.8

#### Land Tract Number(s)

04-114, 15.55 acres; 04-115, 5.03 acres; 04-139, 0.13 acres; 04-140, 0.08 acres; 04-141, 0.09 acres; 04-142, 0.11 acres; 04-143, 0.20 acres; 04-144, 0.11 acres; 04-173, 0.50 acres.

#### Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

Gettysburg National Cemetery features an irregular boundary, defined by Steinwehr Avenue (U.S. 15 Business, also known as Emmitsburg Road) on the north; Baltimore Street (PA 97, known as Baltimore Pike outside the borough limits) on the east; Evergreen Cemetery, Gettysburg's non-sectarian rural cemetery established in 1854 on the east and south; and Taneytown Road (PA 134) on the west. The cemetery is within the boundaries of Gettysburg National Military Park.

#### Boundary Coordinates:

##### Source:

**Type of Point:** Area

**Latitude:** 39.822455

**Longitude:** -77.23228

##### Narrative:

##### Source:

**Type of Point:** Area

**Latitude:** 39.821958

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##### Narrative:

**Source:**

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**Narrative:**

**Source:**

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**Narrative:**

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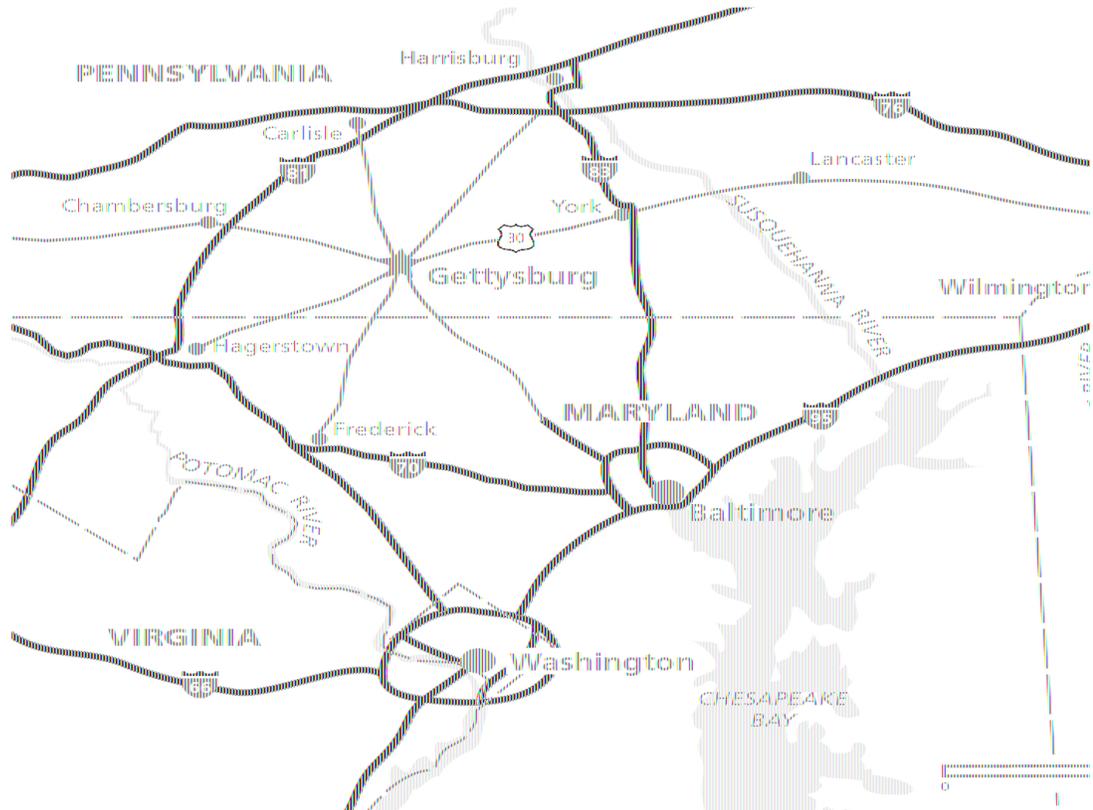
**Narrative:**

**Source:**

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**Longitude:** -77.232897

**Narrative:**

**Location Map:**



*Location Map Information. Regional location of Gettysburg in southern Pennsylvania, showing relationship to rivers, state lines, highways, and cities. (State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry--hereafter SUNY-ESF--2017)*

**Regional Context:**

**Type of Context:** Physiographic

**Description:**

Gettysburg National Cemetery is situated in the Gettysburg Plain, a broad expanse of the Piedmont Plateau that is punctuated by ridges and hills. The cemetery occupies the northern side of a subtle rise known as Cemetery Hill that has an elevation of 620 feet at its summit near Soldiers' National Monument, or about forty feet above the immediately surrounding lowlands to the north and east. Cemetery Hill is the northern terminus of the high ground of Cemetery Ridge that roughly parallels Taneytown Road south to Little Round Top. (CLR 2017: 208)

**Type of Context:** Cultural

**Description:**

Properties in the Borough of Gettysburg along Steinwehr Avenue, Baltimore Street, and the west side of Taneytown Road bordering the national cemetery are zoned "Tourist Commercial," which accommodate uses such as bed-and-breakfast, auto service stations, banks, gift shops, hotels, restaurants, and indoor museums. These areas are also part of a "Streetscape Enhancement Overlay District," intended to retain and enhance traditional pedestrian-oriented urban development. Land in Cumberland Township along Taneytown Road and Baltimore Pike is zoned "Institutional" or "Village—Mixed Use." The "Institutional" zone is intended to "provide appropriate locations and development standards for a wide range of types of institutions." The "Village—Mixed Use" zone is intended "to maintain and reinforce the historic, mixed-use, and pedestrian-oriented character of existing low-to-moderate intensity residential and commercial areas." (CLR 2017: 211, citing Borough of Gettysburg and Cumberland Township zoning maps)

**Type of Context:** Political

**Description:**

The cemetery straddles the boundary of the Borough of Gettysburg, an incorporated village with a population of 7,620 (2010), and Cumberland Township, population 6,178 (2013). The urbanized area of Gettysburg is primarily north of the cemetery, with Evergreen Cemetery and park land surrounding the other sides, mostly within Cumberland Township. Gettysburg is served by one limited access highway, U.S. 15, which is east of the borough and connects the Harrisburg area with Frederick, Maryland. The primary east-west thoroughfare through Gettysburg, along which the downtown business district and outlying commercial strip development is centered, is U.S. 30, also known as the Lincoln Highway. (CLR 2017: 208-209)

## Management Information

### General Management Information

**Management Category:** Must be Preserved and Maintained

**Management Category Date:** 07/08/2019

### Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Gettysburg National Cemetery meets the criteria for the “Must be Preserved and Maintained” management category because the preservation of the property is specifically legislated. Gettysburg National Cemetery was incorporated in 1864 by the Pennsylvania legislature as Soldiers’ National Cemetery. In 1872 the cemetery was transferred to federal ownership and management as part of the War Department’s National Cemetery System, based on an 1866 Joint Resolution passed by Congress giving the department broad authority to acquire and develop national cemeteries:

“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 properly interred; and to have the grounds enclosed, so that the resting-places of the honored dead may be kept sacred forever. (CLR 2017: 83, Sanger, ed., 1868: volume XIV, 353)

Gettysburg National Military Park was established in 1895 through an act of Congress. Section 8 of the 1895 act establishing Gettysburg National Military Park stated:

“That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed to cause to be made a suitable bronze tablet, containing on it the address delivered by Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, at Gettysburg on the nineteenth day of November, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, on the occasion of the dedication of the national cemetery at that place, and such tablet, having on it besides the address a medallion likeness of President Lincoln, shall be erected on the most suitable site within the limits of said park...” (CLR 2017: 122, citing Act to Establish a National Military Park...28 Stat. 651)

On July 28, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order No. 6228 that transferred national parks, buildings, and reservations, including Gettysburg National Cemetery and Gettysburg National Military Park, to civilian administration of the National Park Service. (CLR 2017: 341)

## Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

### Management Agreement:

#### NPS Legal Interest:

**Type of Interest:** Fee Simple

#### Narrative:

**Located in managed wilderness?:** Unknown

### Public Access:

**Type of Interest:** Unrestricted

#### Explanatory Narrative:

Gettysburg National Cemetery is open to the public without fee from dawn to dusk year-round. It is closed to vehicular traffic, except for mobility impaired visitors who may enter in private vehicles by permit. The closest parking lot is the National Cemetery Lot near Ziegler's Grove off Taneytown Road. Visitors may also use on-street parking along Baltimore Street. Pets, bicycling, and picnicking are prohibited, but bikes are allowed to park in racks located at the cemetery entrances. There is no visitor contact facility at the national cemetery. Visitor information is available at the park visitor center, located approximately one mile to the south. (CLR 2017: 215)

Visitors may tour the cemetery as part of the self-guided auto tour of the battlefield, which includes the cemetery as the final stop, or as part of a two-hour battlefield tour led by a Licensed Battlefield Guide. Visitors can also purchase a walking tour guidebook in the visitor center and attend 45-minute programs with park rangers. A ranger-led educational program, targeted to eighth-grade students, is also available. (CLR 2017: 215)

## Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** Yes

### Adjacent Land Narrative:

Adjacent lands are lands outside the cultural landscape boundary, including lands inside or outside the park. Gettysburg National Cemetery, the site of the apex of the federal fishhook-shaped defensive line along Cemetery Ridge, is an integral part of Gettysburg National Military Park. The battlefield park forms the immediate setting to the east and west, and the cemetery serves as the final stop on the park's tour route. The cemetery also forms a continuation of the commemorative landscape of the park, with battlefield monuments and markers that continue west to Ziegler's Grove and Hancock Avenue, and east to East Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill. (CLR 2017: 211)

In his dedication of Soldiers' National Cemetery on November 19, 1863, President Lincoln gave his Gettysburg Address from speaker's stand in Evergreen Cemetery. Gettysburg National Cemetery was originally envisioned as being within a single enclosure with adjacent Evergreen Cemetery, established in 1854, but beginning in 1863 the national cemetery was developed separately. However, the board of the Evergreen Cemetery stipulated that the two cemeteries share a semblance of unity, which was accomplished by construction of a low pipe-rail fence and hedge but later replaced with a taller iron fence. The Evergreen Cemetery frontage still contains remnants of several features historically designed to impart a sense of continuity and a common enclosure with the national cemetery. Evergreen Cemetery was also the site of military action on July 2, 1863; the boundary line between the two cemeteries straddled several Union batteries (CLR 2017: 4,34,213-214)

## National Register Information

### Documentation Status:

SHPO Documented

### National Register Explanatory Narrative:

NEED

### Concurrence Narrative:

On December 2, 2015, the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with recommendations for updating the National Register documentation for Gettysburg National Cemetery based on the findings of the draft "Cultural Landscape Report for Gettysburg National Cemetery."

**Name in National Register:** Gettysburg National Military Park  
**NRIS Number:** 66000642  
**Primary Certification Date:** 01/23/2004

### **National Register Eligibility**

**National Register Concurrence:** Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination  
**Contributing/Individual:** Individual  
**National Register Classification:** District  
**Significance Level:** National  
**Significance Criteria:** A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history  
**Significance Criteria:** B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past  
**Significance Criteria:** C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

### **Period of Significance:**

**Time Period:** CE 1863 - 2019  
**Historic Context Theme:** Shaping the Political Landscape  
**Subtheme:** The Civil War  
**Facet:** Battles In The North And South  
**Other Facet:** None

**Time Period:** CE 1863 - 2019

**Historic Context Theme:** Shaping the Political Landscape

**Subtheme:** The Civil War

**Facet:** Conquest And Emancipation

**Other Facet:** None

**Time Period:** CE 1863 - 2019

**Historic Context Theme:** Expressing Cultural Values

**Subtheme:** Architecture

**Facet:** Greek Revival (1820-1840)

**Other Facet:** None

**Time Period:** CE 1863 - 2019

**Historic Context Theme:** Expressing Cultural Values

**Subtheme:** Landscape Architecture

**Facet:** Rural Cemeteries

**Other Facet:** None

**Time Period:** CE 1863 - 2019

**Historic Context Theme:** Expressing Cultural Values

**Subtheme:** Painting and Sculpture

**Facet:** Sculpture Gardens/Outdoor Museums

**Other Facet:** None

**Area of Significance:**

<b>Area of Significance Category:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area of Significance Category:</b>	Art
<b>Area of Significance Category:</b>	Landscape Architecture
<b>Area of Significance Category:</b>	Military

**Statement of Significance:**

The following Statement of Significance reflects changes to the 2004 National Register documentation as recommended in the 2017 “Cultural Landscape Report for Gettysburg National Cemetery” and concurred by the Pennsylvania SHPO in 2015.

Gettysburg National Cemetery is nationally significant under Criterion A in the area of Military History, Criterion B for association with Abraham Lincoln and William Saunders, and Criterion C in the areas of Landscape Architecture, Architecture, and Art. The overall period of significance under Criterion A for Gettysburg National Cemetery is 1863-2019, or until the last future interment. This period applies primarily to the graves and their immediately associated landscape (including markers) for the original 17-acre Soldiers’ National Cemetery section (1863-1869) and the 5-acre Annex section (1968-1993). The period of significance under Criterion C for the original cemetery section is 1863-1928. This period includes the original Saunders design and the overlay of standard national cemetery and commemorative additions designed and implemented under War Department administration, including the flagstaff and public comfort station. (CLR 2017: 255)

**CRITERION A and CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS D, F, and G**

**Military History:**

Gettysburg National Cemetery is nationally significant in the area of Military History. As stated in the 2004 National Register documentation:

"Because it [Gettysburg battlefield] was early recognized as a place where the destiny of the nation had been determined, President Abraham Lincoln elected to make a profound statement there about the purposes of the war and the challenges for the future. Dedication of the Soldiers’ National Cemetery at Gettysburg in November 1863 provided the means by which President Lincoln delivered this declaration in his Gettysburg Address. No other historic site shares such an intimate association with those historic words. Lincoln’s remarks at the dedication of the national cemetery were a reaffirmation of national will to pursue the unfinished task of perfecting American society and its republican form of government. William Saunders’ 1863 design for the national cemetery began the formal commemoration of these two significant national events and reflected in its landscape Lincoln’s message about equality and the promise of renewal. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 2)

Additionally, the cemetery is a Congressionally-designated “primary memorial to the military history of the United States” (National Register Bulletin 15). This designation, made in 1872 upon federal transfer and continuing to the present, translates to significance under Criterion A (history) and fulfills the requirements of Criteria Considerations D (cemeteries), F (commemorative properties), and G (achieving significance within the last 50 years). The designation also means all of the interments, from the earliest in 1863 through the most recent (2015), are historically significant along with their associated features such as grave markers. This includes the graves in the annex, which was established in 1968. According to National Register Bulletin 15: "Those areas within a designated national cemetery that have been used or prepared for the reception of remains of veterans and their dependents, as well as any landscaped areas that immediately surround the graves may qualify [as eligible for listing in the National Register]. Because these cemeteries draw their

significance from the presence of the remains of military personnel who have served the country throughout its history, the age of the cemetery is not a factor in judging eligibility, although integrity must be present. (CLR 2017: 254, citing NR Bulletin 15, 1990-1991: 36)

#### CRITERION B

##### William Saunders:

Gettysburg National Cemetery is nationally significant for its association with William Saunders (1822-1900). Saunders was a botanist, nurseryman, landscape gardener, landscape designer, and horticulturist. Born in Saint Andrews, Scotland, Saunders immigrated to America in 1848 and engaged in private practice, most notably designing the grounds for the Clifton Park country estate of Johns Hopkins and the Ross Winark Place in Baltimore. Saunders was the U.S. Department of Agriculture's first botanist and landscape designer, and as Superintendent of the Propagating Gardens he developed hundreds of plants, trees and shrubs that are grown throughout the United States. With seven others he founded the fraternal organization, National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. Saunders also designed the park system in Washington, D.C., and oversaw the planting of 80,000 trees in the city. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 62; Wikipedia, "William Saunders")

Saunders' reputation as the designer of Rose Hill Cemetery in Chicago, as well as other cemeteries, likely brought his name to the attention of the state agents (who were appointed by their respective governors to see to the needs of the soldiers) at Gettysburg. The Department of Agriculture agreed to loan out the services of Saunders so that he could develop an appropriate design for the new cemetery at Gettysburg. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 62)

##### Abraham Lincoln:

Gettysburg National Cemetery is nationally significant for its association with Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865). Lincoln was an American statesman, politician, and lawyer who served as the 16th President of the United States from 1861 until his assassination in April 1865. As stated in the 2004 National Register documentation: "Plans for the development of the national cemetery included suitable ceremonies for its dedication and its sanctification. State agents agreed that they should spare no efforts or expense in gathering the most eminent of the nation's civil and military leaders to participate in the ceremonies. The selection of Edward Everett to deliver the oration was a nearly unanimous choice of the agents, such was his reputation as a scholar, diplomat, orator, and performer. Although the ceremonies originally were scheduled to occur on October 23, 1863, Everett could only agree to be the speaker if he had more time to prepare his major speech. Thus, the date for the dedicatory ceremonies was postponed until November 19. This was unfortunate since the agents had anticipated that reinterments would begin after the conclusion of the October dedication. With reinterments beginning on October 26, the decision was made to locate the speaker's platform at a site where participants and spectators would not trample any new graves when the ceremonies occurred on the November date. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 22-23)

"After the agents had finalized the date and secured the main speaker they completed the list of invited participants and distinguished guests. The governors of all states who furnished troops to the Gettysburg victory were invited to attend, as well as the commander of the victorious army and other prominent generals in the Army of the Potomac. The president and members of his cabinet received similar invitations, but Lincoln was asked if could do more than merely attend. It was hoped that he could make "a few appropriate remarks" in his capacity as national leader and commander-in-chief. Lincoln had apparently planned on attending in any capacity, even as a spectator, before he received his invitation to speak. The invitation provided him the opportunity of crafting a powerful, and eloquent message that justified the dead, recharged the living, and challenged the future. This message has been popularly known as the Gettysburg Address. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 23)

"On November 19, a large assemblage, variously estimated at 10,000 to 20,000, waited for the procession to arrive. The procession itself included not only President Lincoln and members of his cabinet, but General O.O. Howard, whose Eleventh Corps had fought during the battle along the very route of the parade. William Saunders also was in attendance, as were several governors and other political dignitaries. The last of the wounded soldiers from Camp Letterman and almost fifty of the wounded from the York hospital attended this tribute to their fallen friends. The ceremonies themselves consisted of an invocation, musical interludes, and the eulogy by Edward Everett, all preceding the brief address by Lincoln. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 23)

## CRITERION C

Landscape Architecture, Architecture, Art:

Gettysburg National Cemetery is nationally significant in the areas of Landscape Architecture, Architecture, and Art. As stated in the 2004 National Register documentation:

"When the Battle of Gettysburg ended, and the opposing armies marched away to new battlefields, they left behind them literally thousands of buried, half-buried, and unburied dead. Doctors, clergymen, reporters, mourners, and politicians who came to Gettysburg in the two weeks after the battle were awakened to the necessity of properly interring the Union dead. It soon became universally recognized that grounds on the battlefield should be set aside as a "Soldiers mausoleum," as a "National sepulchre," and as an "eloquent memorial" for the patriot dead. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 14)

"After a meeting of the various Northern state agents, it was decided to invite each Union state with Gettysburg casualties to join in incorporating a cemetery. The result of this meeting was the ultimate incorporation of the Soldiers' National Cemetery, with a board of directors representing each of those Union states whose dead reposed within it. The agents requested the assistance of William Saunders, a landscape gardener recently attached to the new Department of Agriculture, to design the grounds for the cemetery. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 14)

"Saunders completed his conceptual design sometime between August and October 1863, and personally came to Gettysburg for "plotting and laying out the grounds." Reinterments by contractors began on October 26. On the evening of November 17 Saunders met with President Lincoln to show him the plans for the cemetery. Lincoln's most memorable comments were elicited by the design and arrangement of the graves. He noted that the arrangement was quite different from other cemeteries. When Saunders explained his reasons, Lincoln said that what the landscape gardener had designed was "an admirable and befitting arrangement." The positioning of the graves, as designed by Saunders, coincided with the thoughts that Lincoln was soon to express at the dedication of the new cemetery; each interment, each person, was of equal status. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 15)

"Saunders adopted four overriding philosophies to guide his design: show no discrimination between the interment sections of the states; the design of the grounds of the cemetery should be one of "simple grandeur and propriety"; the arrangement of roads, walks, trees, and shrubs that satisfied utilitarian purposes should not interfere with the creation of "a pleasing landscape and pleasure ground effect"; and the monument needed to be in an appropriate site. Saunders' design of gates and fences, and considerations of views and vistas, also reflected these principles and helped establish the contemplative character of the cemetery. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 62,65)

"Saunders completed the general plans by December 1863, which were approved by the state agents. The implementation of the essential elements occurred over the next two years. The plans guided the completion of the grounds and roadways and provided a list and the location of trees and shrubs to be used. The local newspaper noted that almost one-thousand trees of 95 different varieties of trees had been secured by the cemetery through late April 1865. Although interments ended in March 1864, it was not until November 1865 that semicircular granite headstones replaced some of the temporary headboards and numbered stakes. At that time, additional grading was done so that the rows of graves appeared as neatly sodded raised terraces. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 15-16)

"Contracts for planting, the construction of roadways, and additional grading were awarded through 1864 and 1865. The drives were macadamized, with a layer of gravel rolled over small broken stones. By May 1865, the Baltimore Street entrance gates and fencing, the stone Greek Revival-style gatehouse, and the outer stone wall boundary wall had been completed, too. The gas pipe and iron post common boundary fence was erected and its arborvitae shrub boundary was installed. In 1865, on the second anniversary of the battle and just after the conclusion of the war, the cornerstone of the cemetery's central monument was laid. By this time most of the developmental improvements envisioned by Saunders either were underway or were completed. As 1865 ended, the local newspaper predicted that in the course of a few years the national cemetery would be "unsurpassed in beauty by any spot in the world." (NR 2004, Sec.8: 16, citing Adams Star and Sentinel, no date given)

"The year 1869 marked the completion of the Soldiers' National Monument, the central monument designed by the firm of J.G. Batterson (Hartford, CT) and sculptured by John Rodgers. This monument was the focal point

of the cemetery's design; even the soldier dead were interred with their heads directed toward this central emblem of the nation. Marble representations of liberty, history, plenty, peace, and war surrounded and surmounted the granite pedestal and column. Shortly after the monument was dedicated, a cast iron ornamental fence was erected to encircle the monument. In 1867 the State of Minnesota erected a modest memorial urn at the head of its state plot, the first of other ornamental installations that would occur in subsequent years. Other changes made to the cemetery included modification of the gatehouse to accommodate bedrooms on the upper floor and a piazza to give visitors shade and shelter when consulting burial registers at the office. Although Saunders' design had included a space at the south end of the cemetery for a flagstaff and/or other devices, nothing had been erected at that location. (NR 2004, Sec.8: 16-17)

There were also additions and alterations made to the landscape through the period of War Department administration beginning in 1872. It was during this period that the cemetery landscape was administered as part of the larger National Cemetery System. The landscape was changed with the addition of standard national cemetery features, most of which were designed by the Quartermaster's office, that were in large part additive to the original Saunders design. These included a flagstaff at the Baltimore Street entrance (1874/1928), marble blocks for the unknown Civil War graves (1874), a brick rostrum (1879), iron and wood settees (1878), government headstones for post-Civil War interments (ca. 1898 on), outbuilding (1890), Taneytown Road gate (1892), new lodge (1907), and a public comfort station (1928). In addition to standard national cemetery features, Gettysburg National Cemetery also saw historically significant changes between 1872 and 1933 through the addition of commemorative works, which were also a typical addition to many national cemeteries. These include regimental monuments and position markers (1867–1912), memorials to two generals (1872, 1906), the New York State Monument (1892), and the Lincoln Address Memorial (1912). These exhibit significant design characteristics in addition to historic significance associated with Gettysburg National Military Park. (CLR 2017: 254-255)

The landscape of the national cemetery annex, begun in 1968 and completed in 1993, is not historically significant under Criterion C. While the annex employed standard government-issued grave markers (which are contributing along with the interments under Criterion A), the rest of the cemetery, attributed to the design of National Park Service landscape architect Glen Caldarò, JWF Architects of Harrisburg, and the sculptor Ron Tunison of Cairo, New York, is not known at present to possess exceptional significance under Criteria Consideration G (properties less than 50 years old). The 55th and 73rd Ohio Volunteers monuments erected in 1887 are significant as part of the Gettysburg National Military Park district. (CLR 2017: 255)

## Chronology & Physical History

### Cultural Landscape Type and Use

**Cultural Landscape Type:** Historic Designed Landscape

### Current and Historic Use/Function:

**Primary Historic Function:** Cemetery

**Primary Current Use:** Cemetery

<b>Other Use/Function</b>	<b>Other Type of Use or Function</b>
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Battery (Defense)	Historic
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Battery (Defense)	Historic
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Grave/Burial	Current, Historic
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Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Current, Historic
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### Current and Historic Names:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Type Of Name</b>
Gettysburg National Cemetery	Both Current And Historic
Soldiers' National Cemetery	Historic
Annex	Both Current And Historic

### Chronology:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Annotation</b>
CE 1736	Inhabited	Prior to 1736, the National Cemetery site is part of the homeland of the Susquehannock people; most of the land is forested

### Physical History:

#### INTRODUCTION

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the site, organized by time periods. The text is extracted directly from the Site History Overview printed in the 2017 "Cultural Landscape Report for Gettysburg National Cemetery, Gettysburg National Military Park." An extensive history of the site is available in the CLR. Graphics associated with this section are located at the end of this report.

#### BEFORE THE NATIONAL CEMETERY, TO JULY 1863

The site of the national cemetery prior to the Civil War consisted of several fields on the southern outskirts of Gettysburg, in a region that had once been home to the Susquehannock people. The fence-enclosed fields bordered Evergreen Cemetery, the town's rural cemetery established in 1854 that was the namesake of Cemetery Hill, the northern terminus of Cemetery Ridge. During the Battle of Gettysburg, the national cemetery site and Evergreen Cemetery were part of the Union stronghold along Cemetery Ridge. Within the national cemetery site, Union artillery and infantry regiments established defensive lines against Confederate attacks on July 2 and 3 (Figures 1, 2). (CLR 2017: 4)

#### CONSTRUCTION OF SOLDIERS' NATIONAL CEMETERY, 1863-1872

After the battle, community and state leaders from Pennsylvania conceived the idea of establishing burial grounds in Gettysburg for Union casualties. Evergreen Cemetery wanted to include the burials within its grounds, but others wanted the national cemetery to be independent of local control. After much negotiation, the state acquired an undeveloped fourteen-acre site from Evergreen Cemetery, whose board stipulated that the two cemeteries share a semblance of unity. Between 1863 and 1869, the national cemetery board of commissioners oversaw development of the cemetery according to plans by landscape gardener William Saunders, who coined the name Soldiers' National Cemetery. Saunders' plan established a landscape of simple grandeur that reflected a picturesque style similar to Evergreen Cemetery, except for a contrasting geometric semi-circular burial area organized by state plots and plots for the many unknown remains. Saunders also designed the grave markers using a continuous granite curb-like form, and a perimeter of evergreen trees intended to provide a sense of exclusion. To maintain the required sense of unity with Evergreen Cemetery, Saunders designed an open enclosure along the boundary consisting of a low pipe-rail fence and hedge, in contrast to the massive stone wall and ornate iron fence that were used on the outer boundaries. (CLR 2017: 4)

On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln dedicated the unfinished national cemetery, just a month after burials in the cemetery had started. On July 1, 1869, dedication of Soldiers' National Monument at the center of the burial grounds marked the completion of the Saunders-designed landscape. The cemetery commissioners made changes to the Saunders design in their remaining three years of state ownership, adding features such as a flagstaff, vases with blooming annuals, cannons, and settees, and expanding the lodge in the Second Empire style. Two commemorative works were also added, one to the 1st Minnesota Volunteers, and the other a statue commemorating General John Reynolds, the commander of the Union 1st Corps who was shot dead on the first day of the battle (Figures 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9). (CLR 2017: 4)

### NATIONAL CEMETERY SYSTEM ERA, 1872-1933

In 1872, Soldiers' National Cemetery was transferred to federal ownership and management as part of the War Department's National Cemetery System, developed to address the vast need for military burials in the aftermath of the Civil War. The name was changed to Gettysburg National Cemetery, using the Army's convention of using the name of the battle or geographic place name for national cemeteries. Over the next decade, the War Department added standard features to the landscape including a rostrum, signs, settees, and white-marble blocks for unknown graves. Other changes included a new gate along Taneytown Road, addition of evergreens shrubs in the burial area, thinning of the perimeter evergreens to allow views out to the battlefield, and a new garage (outbuilding) and lodge. The War Department also allowed for the placement of monuments to mark the positions of Union regiments within the cemetery beginning in the 1880s. By 1912, there were fourteen regimental monuments in the cemetery, and three additional commemorative works: the New York State Monument, Collis Memorial, and Lincoln Address Memorial. Five monuments were outside of the cemetery walls along Taneytown Road, two of which were in the future annex site, where six houses had been erected along Steinwehr Avenue by 1915. Expansion of burial eligibility and subsequent wars led to the addition of new burial plots beginning in 1893. The final War Department improvements came in 1928, with a new flagstaff and a public comfort station. Changes in transportation, aesthetics, and maintenance led to removal or alteration of several original cemetery features, including the shrub belt around Soldiers' National Monument in ca. 1910, addition of asphalt to the main drive in 1919/23, and finally, removal of most of the gravel walks within the burial area in 1926 (Figures 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16). (CLR 2017: 4-5)

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ERA, 1933-2019

As part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's reorganization of Executive Branch agencies, Gettysburg National Cemetery and Gettysburg National Military Park were transferred from military administration under the War Department to civilian administration by the National Park Service within the Department of Interior. Federal work-relief programs provided the park with ample labor that was used to address maintenance and aesthetics that reflected the agency's limited experience in historic preservation. The most extensive change came with regrading of the Civil War burial grounds and area around the New York State Monument to create an expansive lawn, a project that was completed in 1935. The work removed turf- and gravel-surfaced walks and brought the lawn flush with the top of the granite curb grave markers. Other major changes included replacement of the pipe-rail fence and hedge along the Evergreen Cemetery boundary with a seven-foot-tall ornate iron fence, widening of the gateways to allow for two-way automobile traffic that required removal of the original gates, and removal of the settees and the iron fence around Soldiers' National Monument (Figures 17, 18). (CLR 2017: 5)

After World War II, new burial plots were established to accommodate the large number of casualties being returned from overseas. Continuing conflicts into the mid-twentieth century in southeast Asia led to a new surge of military burials that required the opening four new plots within the original cemetery and an annex to the north of the cemetery. Most of the annex graves, marked by flush granite markers in a semi-circle that echoed the appearance of the Civil War burial area as altered in 1935, were interred between 1968 and 1972. Completion of the annex landscape, which required the demolition of six houses along Steinwehr Avenue, was not completed until 1993 (Figures 19, 20, 21, 22). (CLR 2017: 5)

Around the same time, the original cemetery landscape underwent rehabilitation with replanting of the maple allée along the upper drive, replanting of perimeter evergreens to reestablish more of the original Saunders enclosure, and reintroduction of War Department-era settees. Renewed interest in the Saunders design and initial development of the cemetery led to the park's adoption of the original name, Soldiers' National Cemetery (Figure 23). (CLR 2017: 5)

## Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

### Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Integrity as defined by the National Register of Historic Places is the ability of a property to convey its significance through physical resources, as recognized through seven aspects: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Gettysburg National Cemetery retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Although no longer part of the U.S. military's National Cemetery System, the cemetery including the annex remains under federal ownership and continues to convey its purpose as a Congressionally-designated national memorial to the military history of the United States. As a whole, the cemetery landscape conveys its significance that is derived from its original design by William Saunders, and its subsequent commemorative works and standard national cemetery features. Loss of integrity is largely due to removal or alteration of associated features and details, rather than loss of entire resources. (CLR 2017: 258)

### INTEGRITY

The following evaluation is based on the recommended period of significance for the landscape from 1863 to 1928 under Criteria A and C, within the overall period of significance extending from 1863 to 2019, or until the last future interment, under Criterion A. The only features dating after 1928 that are considered significant are the graves and their immediately associated landscape, primarily the grave markers (National Register Bulletin 15). Therefore, this integrity evaluation primarily addresses the original 17-acre part of Gettysburg National Cemetery (Soldiers' National Cemetery). (CLR 2017: 256-258)

#### Location:

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. Gettysburg National Cemetery retains all of its historically associated land: the original seventeen acres acquired in 1863, and the six acres of the annex acquired between 1963 and ca.1990. Evaluation: Retains integrity of location.

#### Design:

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. The significance of Gettysburg National Cemetery under Criterion C is derived foremost from its original design by William Saunders that was completed by 1869, and second from the standard national cemetery features and commemorative works that were added between 1872 and 1928. The cemetery retains much of the historic Saunders design defined by the layout of the original Civil War burial section, general arrangement of trees and lawn, and alignment of the drives. The cemetery also retains the commemorative works and national cemetery-standard unknown blocks, tablets, flagstaff, lodge, public comfort station, and settees added between 1872 and 1928. The most significant changes in design since 1928 resulted from the regrading of the Civil War burial area in 1934, which converted the granite curb headstones into flat markers, and removed the beds of the burial area walks and drives. These changes, along with growth of evergreen shrubs into trees, transformed the simple grandeur and symbolism of the burial area into an undifferentiated lawn, with its plan discernible only from the air. Other significant changes that have diminished the historic design of the landscape include removal of walks around the New York State Monument, replacement of the Baltimore Street and Taneytown Road gates, loss of shot pyramids at the regimental monuments, and installation of the Lafayette Square Fence along the Evergreen Cemetery boundary. Changes have also occurred through development of new burial areas, which are considered significant in their own right. Evaluation: Retains integrity of design.

#### Setting:

Setting is the physical environment of a property, and in particular the general character of a place. Overall, Gettysburg National Cemetery retains its historic setting defined by its connection to Evergreen Cemetery and surrounding open-space character of the battlefield park on East Cemetery Hill to the east and Cemetery Ridge to the west and south. Changes to the historic setting after 1928 include a more distinct separation from Evergreen Cemetery through installation of the Lafayette Square Fence in 1934, clearing of the large grove at the south end of Evergreen Cemetery in 1956, and development of the Cyclorama-related parking area across Taneytown Road in 1962. Mid-twentieth century commercial development along Baltimore Street and Steinwehr Avenue has altered the primarily residential setting that existed along these roads prior to 1928. The development of the annex between 1968 and 1993 retains the open-space character of the setting north of the

original cemetery that existed during most of the period of significance. Recent removal of the old visitor center and parking areas across from the cemetery on Taneytown Road has also reintroduced the open agricultural setting that existed during most of the period of significance. Evaluation: Retains integrity of setting.

**Materials:**

Materials are the physical elements that give form to a historic property. In terms of built materials, Gettysburg National Cemetery retains the stone, brick, marble, iron, and Granolithic concrete that are found in buildings, walls, grave markers, monument, tablets, drives, and walks. Loss of historic built materials since 1928 includes replacement of gravel with brick on the walks around the Lincoln Address Memorial, and loss of gravel (macadam) on the walks in the Civil War burial area. Concrete has been introduced in the burial area through the post-and-chain fence around Soldiers' National Monument and the adjoining walk, and in curbs along the lower drive. Aluminum and plastic have been introduced at interpretive waysides and park signs. There have been no modern or artificial materials used to either cover or replace historic materials. The general palette of plant materials, including the lawn, perimeter evergreen border, specimen trees, and shrubs, remains generally consistent with those used during the historic period. Evaluation: Retains integrity of materials

**Workmanship:**

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts and methods of construction used during the historic period. Gettysburg National Cemetery retains workmanship characteristic of the period between 1863 and 1928 in the stone carving of the grave markers, the stone of the enclosure wall, the ironwork of the Baltimore Street fence, and the brick masonry of the rostrum, outbuilding, lodge, and comfort station. The commemorative works also display a high degree of historic workmanship through stone carvings, and casting of bronze sculptures and tablets. Erosion of the marble sculptures on the Soldiers' National Memorial and the marble unknown blocks detracts from historic workmanship. Evaluation: Retains integrity of workmanship

**Feeling:**

Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time resulting from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey the property's historic character. Gettysburg National Cemetery retains much of the feeling of simple grandeur and propriety in William Saunders' original design, as well as the military feeling that was enhanced through the installation of standard national cemetery features and regimental monuments through the early twentieth century. Alteration of the grade within the Civil War burial area (conversion of the granite curbs into flat markers) and growth of evergreen shrubs into trees has diminished the feeling of simplicity and unity designed by William Saunders. The cemetery has also lost some of its solemn dignity and military character due to alteration of the headstones and removal of the shot pyramids at the artillery monuments, removal of the entrance gates with their military symbolism, and loss of the General Orders, four of the Act of Congress tablets, and three of the Bivouac of the Dead tablets. Evaluation: Retains integrity of feeling.

**Association:**

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. Gettysburg National Cemetery remains intimately associated with the Civil War through its interments and monuments, with secondary association to later military history through the added burial sections and annex. The national cemetery also retains association with President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address that he delivered during the dedication of the cemetery on November 19, 1863. While recent research has confirmed Lincoln spoke from a grandstand located in Evergreen Cemetery, the national cemetery was the object of the occasion and the place where many people heard the speech. The association of the cemetery with Lincoln is conveyed through the Lincoln Address Memorial (1912) and Soldiers' National Monument (1869) that has Lincoln's address inscribed on its base. Gettysburg National Cemetery has lost some of its historic military association due to its transfer from the War Department's National Cemetery System to civilian administration of the National Park Service in 1933, and subsequent removal of shot at the artillery monument and entrance gates with their military symbolism.

Evaluation: Retains integrity of association

**Landscape Characteristic:**

**Historic Condition (1863-1928):**

Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation. During the historic period of the landscape, natural systems and features were minor aspects of the highly designed and developed landscape of Gettysburg National Cemetery. Natural systems did, however, influence William Saunders' design for the cemetery and the building materials used in the landscape. The natural landform comprising the foot of Cemetery Hill influenced the alignment of the main carriage drive, position of the semi-circular burial grounds around a high point occupied by Soldiers' National Monument, and another high point at the south end where a signal station stood during the battle and where Saunders recommended a flagstaff, later occupied by the Lincoln Address Memorial. Native Gettysburg granite was used in the stone enclosure wall and for the curb-like headstones and plot markers in the Civil War burial area. While some of the trees in the cemetery were native, all were managed; the only natural vegetation was a pre-Civil War grove of trees in Evergreen Cemetery that bordered the south end of the national cemetery. In the annex, old-field succession led to natural growth of deciduous woods by the early twentieth century. A natural pond was at the lowpoint of the site, but was regraded into a larger retention basin in ca. 1910. (CLR 2017: 259-260)

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

Natural systems and features have remained a minor characteristic of the Gettysburg National Cemetery landscape throughout its history, but were present in the immediate setting. The most significant loss in character occurred in 1956 from the clearing of the natural deciduous grove of trees in Evergreen Cemetery that bordered the south end of the national cemetery. (CLR 2017: 260)

**Landscape Characteristic:**

**Historic Condition (1863-1928):**

Spatial organization is the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in a landscape, including the articulation of ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces. With completion of the Saunders landscape by 1869, the landscape of the national cemetery was organized around a central open space formed by the semi-circular burial grounds. An allée of maple trees defined the back (south side) of the area. The perimeter of the cemetery was enclosed on the outer sides by a stone wall, along Baltimore Street by a substantial iron fence, and along Evergreen Cemetery by a low pipe-rail fence and hedge that was intended to maintain spatial continuity between the two cemeteries. Plantings of Norway spruce trees were intended to enclose all sides except for the border with Evergreen Cemetery and the short south end. Saunders' overall spatial organization of the cemetery reflected the informal aesthetic of English landscape gardens, while the burial area reflected a contrasting geometric organization that employed circular forms traditionally associated with life everlasting, in an open, simple space that conveyed equality and unity. A shrub belt and fence around Soldiers' National Monument defined a subtly distinct space within the larger burial area. (CLR 2017: 260)

After completion of the Saunders plan in 1869 through the last major War Department addition in 1928, the spatial organization of Saunders' design remained with a few notable exceptions. New burial spaces were added through establishment of three small burial areas in the east lawn and perimeter, planting of evergreen shrubs within the open lawn of the Civil War burial area (although these remained mostly small), and thinning of the perimeter Norway spruce trees to allow views to the surrounding battlefield park. The lawn surrounding Soldiers' National Monument became less defined following removal of the shrub belt in ca. 1910. (CLR 2017: 260-261)

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

Since the end of the historic period in 1928, there have been a number of changes to the spatial organization of Gettysburg National Cemetery, but overall the landscape still reflects Saunders' original design. The most notable changes include six added burial sections along the perimeter of the cemetery, but they had a subtle impact on the spatial character of the landscape since they were developed within preexisting lawn areas and did not include enclosing fences or plantings. Other changes included growth of the evergreen shrubs in the Civil War burial area into large trees, resulting in the interruption of the original open spatial character. Replacement of the low pipe rail fence and hedge along the Evergreen Cemetery boundary with the much taller and more substantial Lafayette Square fence in 1934 created a pronounced break in the space between the two properties. Most of the openings in the Norway spruce screen dating to the early 1890s were replanted in 1993 to reestablish the original Saunders-designed enclosure. (CLR 2017: 261)

Overall, existing spatial organization reflects a continuity of development from the original Saunders design through the National Cemetery System period, with the added burial sections reflecting later changes that are significant in their own right (Figures 24, 25, 26). Evergreen trees within the Civil War burial area, addition of the Lafayette Square fence, and loss of the fence around Soldiers' National Monument detract from the historic spatial character of the landscape. (CLR 2017: 261)

**Landscape Characteristic:**

**Historic Condition (1863-1928):**

Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize the landscape as a result of human interaction. Gettysburg National Cemetery was initially developed through 1869 as the resting place for war casualties and as a memorial to the Battle of Gettysburg. The focus of commemoration was Soldiers' National Monument at the center of the burial area, with a single memorial to a regiment (1st Minnesota) added in 1867. Secondary uses included a lodge for the custodian and a barn for maintenance at the northeast corner of the grounds. (CLR 2017: 261)

After completion of the Saunders plan in 1869 through the last major War Department addition in 1928, the cemetery retained its primary use as military burial grounds, but interments were extended beyond the Civil War to include casualties and veterans of the Spanish-American War and World War I. Three new burial sections were added to lawn space outside the semi-circular Civil War burial area. A rostrum built in 1879 formalized the use of the cemetery grounds for ceremonies such as Memorial Day and the anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Commemorative uses were expanded to memorialize the regiments that were positioned on the cemetery grounds during the Battle of Gettysburg; honor the contributions of individuals (Reynolds, Collis) and individual states (New York); and mark the cemetery as the site of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address (Lincoln Address Memorial). Tourism not directly related to commemoration increased with development of Gettysburg National Military Park and automobile tourism after 1890. The area between the lodge and outbuildings was established as a domestic service yard in ca. 1873, but the uses probably ceased when the yard was removed with completion of the new lodge in 1908. The brick outbuilding completed in 1890 introduced restrooms intended to serve cemetery and battlefield visitors; this use was shifted in 1928 to the public comfort station. The residential and office functions continued in the lodge (rebuilt 1907), and maintenance operations continued at the adjoining outbuilding (1890, replaced earlier barn and toolhouse). (CLR 2017: 261-262)

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

Since the end of the historic period in 1928, land use in Gettysburg National Cemetery has remained primarily as a place of military burial and commemoration. Through the 1970s, it was the only national cemetery in south-central Pennsylvania until establishment of Indiantown Gap National Cemetery east of Harrisburg in 1976. New burial sections were opened in lawn areas along the west and south sides of the cemetery, and in the adjoining annex. Use of the landscape for new interments decreased significantly after 1972, when the cemetery was closed to new burials, except in reserved grave sites. The cemetery continued to function as a place of solemn commemoration as reflected by the installation of two new works (American Legion tablet in 1955, Kentucky memorial in 1975), but tourism not directly related to commemoration increased. Residential use of the lodge ceased after ca. 1960, and its use as a visitor contact office ended afterwards. The outbuilding and public comfort station continued their historic uses. Overall, existing land use reflects continuity from the founding of the cemetery in 1863 to the present, with loss of minor secondary uses at the lodge (Figures 27, 28, 29). (CLR 2017: 262)

**Landscape Characteristic:**

#### Historic Condition (1863-1928):

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. Saunders' design of circulation in the cemetery contrasted geometric forms in the central burial area with surrounding informal and naturalistic alignments characteristic of the English landscape gardens. His simple treatment of the drive surfaces reflected his intent to minimize their visibility in the landscape. Saunders' primary circulation feature was the main drive that formed a loop through the grounds with a single entry from Baltimore Street. The main drive provided access to the semi-circular burial area, which contained a geometric network of drives that were later converted to walks. These included three radial drives, three semi-circular drives, and a central circular drive around Soldiers' National Monument. All of the drives were built of macadam—a pavement consisting of a broken stone base with a compacted gravel surface—without built drainage structures. Within the burial area, turf aisles between the plots and individual sections (rows) served as walks. Pedestrian access to the cemetery was from a brick sidewalk along Baltimore Street that was built in 1856 to connect Evergreen Cemetery with the town. The walk was expanded in front of the semi-circular gateway and extended into the cemetery to the lodge between 1865 and 1868. (CLR 2017: 262-263)

After completion of the Saunders plan in 1869 through the last major War Department additions in 1928, several new circulation features were added to the landscape. These included a circular gravel walk around the Reynolds Monument (1872), a circular walk around the flagstaff mound in the front lawn (1874), a short gravel drive to the outbuildings (1873, extended into a loop in 1890), a gravel loop drive to the summerhouse (1881) / Lincoln Address Memorial (1912), a gravel spur drive to the Taneytown Road gate (1892), gravel walks around the New York State Monument (1893), a Granolithic concrete sidewalk to the new lodge (1908) that replaced the earlier brick walk, and a brick walk to the public comfort station (1928). In 1897, brick gutters were added along most of the main drive (replacing swales introduced in 1878), and between 1919 and 1923, the drive was paved in asphalt. Circulation features that were removed between 1872 and 1928 included the walk to the flagstaff in ca. 1910 and the circular walk around the Reynolds Monument in 1923. The gravel surface of two of the three radial drives and the three semi-circular drives in the Civil War burial area was removed and converted to turf. The central radial drive and circular drive around Soldiers' National Monument were retained with their macadam pavement for pedestrian use. (CLR 2017: 263)

#### Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:

Since the end of the historic period in 1928, circulation in Gettysburg National Cemetery has undergone several substantial changes and number of minor alterations. The biggest changes came in 1934-35, when the brick gutters along the drives, the gravel walks around the New York State Monument, and the remaining gravel walks and turf roadbeds in the Civil War burial area were removed as part of the transformation of the landscape into an even and continuous lawn. Other changes in circulation included widening of the Baltimore Street and Taneytown Road gates between 1939 and 1941, and widening of the main drive across from the lodge and at the Lincoln Address Memorial for roadside parking in ca. 1935. A brick walk and set of steps was added to Section I off the lower drive in 1936. This was the only surfaced circulation feature in the added burial sections. Later changes in circulation include reintroduction of a paved circular walk around Soldiers' National Monument in ca. 1950 followed by the central radial walk through the burial area in 1988, and replacement of the gravel surface around the Lincoln Address Memorial with brick in 1982. Desireways of bare earth through lawn developed from heavy pedestrian use and lack of maintenance at the entry into the annex near Section II, in the middle aisle of Section III below the Lincoln Speech Memorial, and near popular markers and monuments. (CLR 2017: 263)

Overall, existing circulation reflects a continuity of development from 1864 through 1928, except in the Civil War burial area and east lawn, where non-historic changes from the National Park Service period prevail (Figures 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36). Circulation at the Lincoln Address Memorial is also characterized by park service changes that detract from the historic character of the landscape. (CLR 2017: 263)

**Landscape Characteristic:**

**Historic Condition (1863-1928):**

Topography is the three dimensional configuration of the landscape surface characterized by features (such as slope and articulation) and orientation (such as elevation and solar aspect). With completion of the Saunders landscape by 1869, built landforms in the national cemetery aside from roadbeds included a low turf knoll around Soldiers' National Monument (1869), and temporary mounds over each grave with adjoining sunken alleys that served as walks. The mounds and alleys were intended to be leveled once the underlying graves settled. According to Saunders' plan, the final grade between the grave sections was to consist of terraces that stepped up with each successive grave section toward the center of the burial area. Saunders used topography to accentuate the grave markers and direct attention toward the central monument. (CLR 2017: 263)

After completion of the Saunders plan in 1869 through the last major War Department additions in 1928, changes in topography resulted from leveling of the grave mounds, which last occurred in 1879 as part of the final grading (terracing) of the burial area. Topographic features added to the cemetery included a turf mound around the flagstaff (1874), which measured sixteen feet in diameter and five feet high, and a low turf knoll approximately sixty feet in diameter around the New York State Monument (1893). Drainage swales were built along portions of the main drives in 1878, but were replaced by brick gutters in 1897. The flagstaff mound was removed in 1928 when a new flagstaff was erected (by 1911, national cemetery regulations prohibited use of flagstaff mounds). (CLR 2017: 264)

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

Since the end of the historic period in 1928, the topography of Gettysburg National Cemetery has been significantly altered in the Civil War burial area. In 1935, CCC crews regraded the entire semi-circular area to create an even and continuous lawn, a beautification and maintenance-saving project that brought the grade flush to the granite curb headstones and evened the grade over the beds of the radial and circular drives. The change in topography converted the granite curb headstones into inconspicuous flat markers and concealed the profiles of the drives. These changes obscured the limits of the burial plots and their orientation along drives, although this aspect was earlier diminished through removal of the gravel surfaces in 1926. (CLR 2017: 264)

Overall, existing topography reflects the original Saunders design of the landscape with isolated changes through the War Department period, except in the Civil War burial area where National Park Service design dominates from the 1935 regrading (Figures 37, 38). These changes detract from the historic character of the landscape. (CLR 2017: 264)

**Landscape Characteristic:**

**Historic Condition (1863-1928):**

Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. Saunders' design reflected the informal aesthetic of English landscape gardening and funerary symbolism that equated evergreens with life everlasting. It also reflected the distinctive open space and geometric character of the burial area, as well as Saunders' own intent to create winter interest, add flowering and fall color, create groupings with a pleasing sky outline, and perhaps most importantly, imbue the landscape with a sense of simple grandeur. With completion of the Saunders landscape by 1869, vegetation in the national cemetery consisted of lawn that covered most of the cemetery grounds, an undulating perimeter border of evergreens (predominantly Norway spruce), and groves of mostly deciduous trees with understory shrubs clustered around open lawn at the intersections and bends of the main drive. In total, there were a reported ninety-five varieties of trees and shrubs planted. The only formal or geometric plantings were an allée of Norway maples along the upper drive at the rear of the burial area, a sheared arborvitae hedge along

the Evergreen Cemetery fence, and arborvitae shrubs at the corners of the triangular island in the main drive (Reynolds Monument) and at the heads of the radial drives surrounding Soldiers' National Monument. There was also a belt of dwarf shrubs with an undulating edge around the central lawn that surrounded Soldiers' National Monument. Saunders specified no flowerbeds in his design, and the only flowering annuals by 1869 were in the urn of the 1st Minnesota Memorial (1867). (CLR 2017: 264-265)

After completion of the Saunders plan in 1869 through the last major War Department additions in 1928, vegetation changed through the addition of flowery displays and shrubs that reflected Victorian interest in ornamentation and contrasted with the Saunders' design of simple grandeur. In ca. 1870, the cemetery commissioners added twenty-nine classical-style terracotta vases along the main drive and in the burial area, which were typically planted with red, white, and blue flowering annuals along with ivy and dusty miller. In ca. 1873, mounded flower beds were added near the lodge to either side of the main drive. Around the same time, rose shrubs were planted at each plot marker in the burial area. Maintenance of this flowering vegetation ceased after World War I. Added trees and shrubs included a weeping willow—another tree with funerary symbolism—planted along the Baltimore Street fence and near the barn (outbuilding). Between 1880 and 1882, cypress, arborvitae, spruce, and hemlock were planted in an informal arrangement at the heads of the burial plots, mostly in empty sections (rows). These were managed as shrubs, and most remained small into the early twentieth century. Other major plantings occurred at the south end of the national cemetery, where a U-shaped border of shrubs and trees was planted in ca. 1881, and at commemorative works. These included a ring of boxwood and arborvitae shrubs around the Reynolds Monument (1872) that was removed by 1892; moss cypress shrubs at the 75th Pennsylvania Monument (1886); buckeye trees along the upper drive at Huntington's 1st Ohio Battery (1887), and boxwood and yew shrubs along the walks to the New York State Monument (1893). Wisteria vines were planted at the rostrum (1879) along with trumpet vine, English ivy, and wintercreeper that were removed by ca. 1919. The War Department also oversaw alteration of two major vegetation features of the original Saunders design. Between 1890 and 1892, the perimeter screen of Norway spruce was extensively thinned to allow views out to the surrounding battlefield, and in ca. 1910, the shrub belt around Soldiers' National Monument lawn was removed and replaced by lawn. (CLR 2017: 265-266)

#### Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:

Since the end of the historic period in 1928, the overall patterns and species of vegetation in Gettysburg National Cemetery have remained consistent in large part. The most conspicuous changes occurred from the park's decision to allow historically sheared and managed shrubs to grow in their natural form. Most notable was the growth of the evergreen shrubs in the Civil War burial area and the yew and boxwood shrubs along the walks to the New York State Monument into trees, resulting in loss of historic spatial character and views. Other changes included removal of the arborvitae hedge along the Evergreen Cemetery boundary in 1934 and planting of scattered clusters of rhododendrons along the Lafayette Square fence in 1938; planting of holly trees around the public comfort station and along the enclosure in 1938; planting of an oak and other deciduous trees on the slope below the Lincoln Address Memorial in ca. 1935; and loss of a number of the specimen trees around the east, south, and front lawns. In ca. 1993, the Norway maple allée was replanted using red-leafed Crimson King maples, and most of the gaps in the Norway spruce perimeter were replanted to reestablish the original Saunders intent. The only formal display of flowering annuals maintained in the cemetery is in the 1st Minnesota Memorial within the Civil War burial grounds. (CLR 2017: 266)

Overall, existing vegetation in the landscape reflects the overall intent of the original Saunders plan, with exception of plantings in the Civil War burial area and east lawn that are overgrown War Department features, or reflect National Park Service beautification efforts from the 1930s; the maple allée along the upper drive with its red-leafed trees; and at the south end of the cemetery (section III), where large trees have grown since 1928 in formerly open space (Figure 39). These changes detract from the historic character of the landscape. The addition of new species by the park service, notably holly and rhododendron, is compatible with the historic character of the landscape, although the placement of individual specimens may not be. (CLR 2017: 266)

### **Landscape Characteristic:**

#### Historic Condition (1863-1928):

Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape, while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity. In the original Saunders design, buildings and structures were a minor characteristic of the landscape. They consisted of the enclosure wall of Gettysburg granite built in 1865 along the rear perimeter of the cemetery; the lodge of the same stone that was built in 1864 in the Greek Revival style; and Soldiers' National Monument, the focal point of the landscape. Subsequent changes by the cemetery commissioners included addition of Second Empire-style porches and a Mansard roof to the lodge in 1868; construction of a nearby white-painted frame barn in ca. 1868; and addition of the Reynolds Monument in 1872. (CLR 2017: 266)

After completion of the Saunders plan in 1869 through the last major War Department additions in 1928, buildings and structures underwent numerous changes and additions; only Soldiers' National Monument and enclosure wall remained from the earlier period. Buildings and structures became more numerous, but still remained focal points or secondary features. The original palette of gray Gettysburg granite that was also used for the grave markers was abandoned for red brick, which was first employed in a kitchen building erected at the side of the lodge in 1875 and demolished when a new lodge was begun in 1907. This new lodge was a Colonial Revival four square style brick house built according to a standard Quartermaster design. In the adjoining service area to the west, a white-painted frame building designed to store ornamental guns (cannons) during the winter was erected in 1873 next to the ca. 1868 frame barn. Both were demolished in 1890 for construction of a red-brick Romanesque Revival-style outbuilding (garage) designed by the Quartermaster. At the south end of the south lawn, a red-brick rostrum (speaker's stand) was built in 1879 following a standard Quartermaster plan. Two major monuments were added to the landscape: the New York State Monument, a classical column over ninety-four feet tall (thirty feet taller than Soldiers' National Monument) within the center of the east lawn, completed in 1893; and the Lincoln Address Memorial, a smaller monument comprised of pink granite walls and a pedestal supporting a bust of Lincoln that was completed in 1912 at the south end of the cemetery. The address memorial replaced a frame gazebo known as the summerhouse that was built in 1881. A similar gazebo that functioned as a well house was erected along the upper drive in 1880 and removed in ca. 1915. Substantial changes to buildings and structures during the period included addition of a gateway on Taneytown Road in the stone enclosure wall. A subsurface drainage system was built in 1897 that included inconspicuous inlets in the brick gutters along the main carriage drive, and stone header walls at the outlets along Taneytown Road. (CLR 2017: 266-267)

#### Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:

Since the end of the historic period in 1928, buildings and structures in Gettysburg National Cemetery have undergone little change, characterized by mostly minor alterations in outward appearance. The only buildings or above-ground structures added to the landscape were a small frame utility shed (oil shed) built on the west side of the outbuilding in ca. 1935, and a concrete drainage channel behind the outbuilding, added in 1935. Major exterior changes included removal of shutters and addition of a ramp on the lodge, and replacement of the arched side-hinged garage doors in the outbuilding with larger rectangular overhead doors. The turf floor and trellis at the rostrum were restored (a temporary extension was added and removed during the period), and two openings in the stone enclosure wall were created to provide access to the national cemetery annex. (CLR 2017: 267)

Overall, existing buildings and structures reflect a continuity of development from 1864 through 1928 that includes aspects of the original Saunders design and War Department additions (Figure 40). Changes that detract from the historic character of the landscape include changes in paint colors, loss of shutters on the lodge and outbuilding, alteration of the original doorways on the outbuilding, and the addition of the utility shed next to the outbuilding. (CLR 2017: 267-268)

**Landscape Characteristic:**

**Historic Condition (1863-1928):**

A view is the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision that may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. A vista is a controlled prospect of a discrete, linear range of vision, which is deliberately contrived. With completion of the Saunders landscape by 1869, there were expansive views across the national cemetery landscape due to the small size of the recently planted trees. Saunders' intent was for the perimeter of Norway spruce trees to screen inward and outward views in order to create seclusion and prevent external intrusions into the cemetery landscape. The primary internal view within the cemetery was of Soldiers' National Monument, which was the focal point from all the graves and framed by the allée of maples at the rear. View of the monument from the Baltimore Street gate was intended to be screened by trees at the bend in the main carriage drive. Views into Evergreen Cemetery were possible due to the low height of the arborvitae hedge and pipe-rail fence along the boundary. At the south end of the cemetery, Saunders designed an open lawn on the sloping ground, which allowed for a view south along Cemetery Ridge toward Little Round Top—the only designed external vista within the cemetery. A flagstaff proposed for the high ground, which would have been visible from the south lawn, was not built during the initial development of the landscape. Addition of the Reynolds Monument in 1872 created a new vista and focal point upon entrance into the cemetery. (CLR 2017: 268)

After completion of the Saunders plan in 1869, a substantial change in views and vistas occurred between 1890 and 1892 when the perimeter screen of Norway spruce trees was substantially thinned to allow views from the cemetery out into the surrounding battlefield park. Evergreens planted in the early 1880s within the burial grounds did not obscure views of Soldiers' National Monument because they were mostly maintained as small shrubs. The government flagstaff added to the front lawn in 1874 was visible from the burial area, but not central to it; at 107 feet tall, the flagstaff was visible from a wide area surrounding the cemetery. An open-air summerhouse erected in 1881 at the south end of the cemetery provided visitors with a shelter where they could enjoy the southward views across the battlefield toward Little Round Top. The addition of New York State Monument (1893) and Lincoln Address Memorial (1912, replaced the summerhouse) introduced two new focal points. The scale and location of the New York State Monument blurred the focus of internal views on Soldiers' National Monument. The Lincoln Speech Memorial shifted the focus of views to the structure and away from the external view toward Little Round Top. (CLR 2017: 268-269)

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

Since the end of the historic period in 1928, views and vistas within the national cemetery have undergone several changes in character. Within the Civil War burial area, the growth of the evergreen shrubs into trees obscured the once open views to Soldiers' National Monument from the graves. At the south end of the cemetery, the vista toward Little Round Top was obscured with the growth of a large oak tree at the top of the slope and a number of other trees along the sides and lower area. Views of Evergreen Cemetery in this area were opened up in 1956 when the Civil War-era grove adjoining the national cemetery boundary was cleared for a new burial section. In 1993, most of the openings in the Norway spruce perimeter were replanted to reestablish Saunders' design intent. Gaps remained along the north side of the cemetery that allowed views into the annex and northward from Soldiers' National Monument, and at the Baltimore Street gate that permitted views of a large light-blue water tower across the street.

Overall, existing views and vistas reflect a combination of Saunders' design and internal focal points added during the War Department period. The evergreen trees within the Civil War burial area and the trees at the south end in and adjoining Section III detract from the historic character of the cemetery's views and vistas. (CLR 2017: 269)

**Landscape Characteristic:**

Historic Condition (1863-1928):

Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. With completion of the Saunders landscape by 1869, small-scale features were limited to the iron fences and gates along Baltimore Street and the boundary of Evergreen Cemetery, the granite curb grave markers and granite plot markers in the burial area, and three guns on carriages that were positioned on the radial walks surrounding Soldiers' National Monument and near the cemetery entrance. With the exception of these guns and the highly-detailed iron fence and gateway along Baltimore Street that were designed by Wood & Perot Ornamental Iron Works, small-scale features reflected William Saunders' intent of simple grandeur and propriety. The Evergreen Cemetery boundary fence, which extended 1,450 feet from Baltimore Street to the south end of the cemetery, was a simple three-foot-tall iron fence behind a hedge of arborvitae, intended to maintain a sense that the two cemeteries were within a common enclosure. Temporary painted wood headboards and stakes were installed by ca. 1864 and were removed from both the known and unknown plots when the permanent markers were installed in the known plots in 1865. These permanent markers were continuous granite curbs set at a height of nine inches above grade. Designed by William Saunders, they provided a sense of unity and focused attention on the central monument. The unknown graves remained unmarked in 1869, except for a single granite plot marker. (CLR 2017: 269-270)

After completion of the Saunders plan in 1869 through the last major War Department additions in 1928, there were large increases in the number and type of small-scale features in the landscape. These increases reflected Victorian interest in ornament, national cemetery standards, and desire for commemorative works. Some of the first additions came in ca. 1870 during state ownership and included an ornamental iron fence around Soldiers' National Monument, eight iron benches ornamented with a fern pattern, and twenty-nine large white terra-cotta vases with flowering annuals set out at each burial plot and along the drives. Standard national cemetery features added by the War Department included a 107-foot-tall wood flagstaff on a mound built in 1874, marble posts known as blocks to mark the unknown graves installed in 1874, fifty iron and wood-slat settees acquired in 1878, and seventeen iron tablets (Bivouac of the Dead, Act of Congress, and General Orders) added in 1882. A set of ornamental iron gates was added with creation of the Taneytown Road entrance in 1892. Between 1885 and 1912, thirteen regimental monuments were installed within the cemetery on or near the main carriage drive. Most were stone and of unique design, except for three of standard design used throughout the battlefield park. Eight of the nine artillery monuments were flanked by guns and pyramidal shot piles. Between ca. 1893 and 1928, white marble government headstones and private markers of various designs were introduced in the Added Plot (1893, now Section VIII), Officers' Plot (1906, now Section II), and Illinois plot in the Civil War burial area. By World War I, changing aesthetic tastes and funding led to removal of the vases. (CLR 2017: 270)

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:

Since the end of the historic period in 1928, the character of small-scale features in the national cemetery has changed through modifications and additions. The most significant change related to the original Saunders design was the conversion of the granite curb markers into inconspicuous flat markers with the regrading of the burial area in 1934–35. The unknown blocks were also reduced in height, but remained above grade along with the plot markers. The Evergreen Cemetery boundary fence was removed and replaced in 1934 with a much larger and more ornate iron fence that originally stood around Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C. The original iron gates at the Baltimore Street and Taneytown Road entrances were removed to widen the roadways, and replaced with simpler metal gates that lacked the military symbolism of the originals. Three commemorative features were added: a stone bench that was a memorial to the GAR placed on a former radial drive near the Illinois Plot in 1941, along with a sundial installed near Soldiers' National Monument; and a small stone monument that commemorated Lincoln as Kentucky's native son, installed at the rear of Soldiers' National Monument in 1975. The sundial was removed prior to 1970. The NPS period saw the greatest increase in the number of small-scale features with more than 1,600 new grave markers in the added burial sections along the north and west perimeter and the south end of the cemetery. While there were some new private markers installed, most of the graves were marked by white marble tablet-style government headstones. (CLR 2017: 270)

Overall, existing small-scale features reflect the War Department period of development

characterized by commemorative works and standard national cemetery features (Figures 41, 42, 43). The only feature that remains largely intact from the original development of the cemetery is the Baltimore Street fence and piers of the gate. Saunders' distinctive granite curb headstones, while still present, are an inconspicuous part of the landscape as a result of the regrading completed in 1935. The raising of the grade also altered the historic cube-form of the unknown blocks. The most visible small-scale features are the government headstones on post-Civil War graves that date from the late nineteenth-century to the present. These small-scale features are significant in their own right, regardless of age. (CLR 2017: 270-271)

#### **Landscape Characteristic:**

##### **Historic Condition (1863-1928):**

Archeological sites are the locations of ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or subsurface features. With completion of the Saunders landscape by 1869, archaeological sites in the national cemetery consisted of the Civil War interments. At the time, these were highly visible in the landscape due to the mounded earth that was intended to be leveled once the graves settled. Grading and preparation for construction of the rest of the landscape most likely disturbed archeological remains associated with the Battle of Gettysburg and pre-war agricultural use. (CLR 2017: 271)

After completion of the Saunders plan in 1869 through the last major War Department additions in 1928, interments remained the primary archeological features in the landscape, marked in the landscape by stone grave markers. As a manicured landscape, there were no above-ground ruins maintained in the landscape from removed built features, such as the brick kitchen next to the lodge (1875–1907), or the walkway to the flagstaff and the flagstaff mound (1874–1928). A concrete cap installed over a well where a gazebo-like well house stood along the upper drive between 1881 and ca. 1915 was the only above-ground indication of a removed above-ground feature. (CLR 2017: 271)

##### **Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

Since the end of the historic period in 1928, interments continued to increase, most dramatically following World War II, but slowing after 1972 when the cemetery was closed to new burials outside of reserved sites. No above-ground remnants were maintained from landscape features removed after 1928, such as walkways, roadbeds, gates, and fences, except for the concrete pads at the artillery monuments that were left following World War II-era removal of the pyramidal shot piles. (CLR 2017: 271)

Overall, archeological features with above-ground visibility or representation consist only of the graves, which reflect a continuity of development in the landscape from the establishment of the cemetery to the present. The only historic above-ground remnants are the stone pads from the shot pyramids at the artillery monuments, and the concrete cap of the well house along the upper drive. The commemorative works mark the sites of historic events in the cemetery, but there are no associated above-ground remains. An archeological survey is needed to determine if there are significant subsurface remains in the cemetery landscape. (CLR 2017: 271)

## Condition

**Assessment Interval (Years):** 10

**Next Assessment Due Date:** 07/08/2029

## Condition Assessment and Impacts

**Condition Assessment:** Good

**Assessment Date:** 07/08/2019

### Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The condition of the Gettysburg National Cemetery landscape is evaluated as “good.” The property shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The site’s cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

### Stabilization Measures:

## Impacts

<b>Type of Impact:</b>	Disruption/Loss of Plant Species
<b>Other Impact:</b>	
<b>External or Internal:</b>	Internal
<b>Impact Description:</b>	Disease found in several hemlocks. Decline of specimen trees due to age (such as perimeter Norway spruce).
<b>Type of Impact:</b>	Exposure to Elements
<b>Other Impact:</b>	
<b>External or Internal:</b>	External
<b>Impact Description:</b>	Continued weathering of the marble government headstones.
<b>Type of Impact:</b>	Visitation
<b>Other Impact:</b>	
<b>External or Internal:</b>	Internal
<b>Impact Description:</b>	Foot traffic on lawns and specimen trees.
<b>Type of Impact:</b>	Other
<b>Other Impact:</b>	Tree Damage
<b>External or Internal:</b>	Internal
<b>Impact Description:</b>	One of the original trees, a huge tulip-tree, is heaving the lower drive.

## Stabilization Costs

## Treatment

### Treatment

**Approved Treatment:** Rehabilitation  
**Approved Treatment Document:** Cultural Landscape Report  
**Document Date:** 2017-01-01  
**Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:**

As presented in the 2017 CLR, based on the findings the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, national cemetery regulations, and the park's General Management Plan, Rehabilitation is recommended as the primary treatment for the cemetery landscape. Goals of a rehabilitated landscape include supporting the cemetery's ongoing purpose as a Congressionally-designated primary memorial to the military history of the United States by preserving all graves and maintaining the landscape in a way that conveys dignity and solemn commemorative character. For the original cemetery, the second goal is to preserve and enhance its historic landscape character as developed through the end of the period of significance in 1928, while respecting the later overlay of military burials and enhancing significant aspects of the original Saunders design. The third treatment goal is to enhance cemetery operations, including wayfinding. (CLR 2017: 6-7)

Overall, treatment recommendations identify that landscape features significant to the design of the original cemetery and to its development as part of the National Cemetery System through 1928 be retained, repaired, or reestablished. Changes that lack historical significance or detract from the historic character of the landscape may be removed. Features removed prior to 1928 will generally not be reestablished, unless they are significant to the Saunders design. Historic use of the landscape for interments will be continued within reserved gravesites, but no new burial sections are recommended. Contemporary changes necessary to address public access, interpretation, and maintenance will be minimized in visual appearance. Treatment that impact the setting or operation of Evergreen Cemetery should be developed in close consultation with the Evergreen Cemetery board. (CLR 2017: 7)

**Approved Treatment Completed:**

#### **Approved Treatment Costs**

#### **Landscape Approved Treatment Cost Explanatory Description:**

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## Bibliography and Supplemental Information

### Bibliography

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- Citation Title:** "An Act to Establish A National Military Park at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Approved February 11, 1895," 28 Stat. 651, Section 8.
- Year of Publication:** 1895
- Citation Publisher:** n/a
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- Citation Author:** Auwaerter, John
- Citation Title:** "Cultural Landscape Report for Gettysburg National Cemetery, Gettysburg National Military Park."
- Year of Publication:** 2017
- Citation Publisher:** Boston, MA: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
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- Citation Author:** Harrison, Kathy Georg
- Citation Title:** National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, "Gettysburg National Military Park/Soldiers' National Cemetery," revised 4 November 2003.
- Year of Publication:** 2003
- Citation Publisher:** Gettysburg National Military Park
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- Citation Author:** Harrison, Kathy R. Georg.
- Citation Title:** "This Grand National Enterprise: The Origins of Gettysburg's Soldiers' National Cemetery & Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association."
- Year of Publication:** 1982
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- Citation Publisher:** Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office

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