



1930s Postcard Illustrating the WPA's Reconstruction of Fort Negley.

★ The City of Nashville purchased the property in 1928.

In 1936, 800 men working for the WPA (Works Progress Administration) reconstructed Fort Negley at a cost of \$84,000. The Fort reopened to the public in 1938. In the late 1940s, the city removed the deteriorated stockade and the Fort closed to the public.



Entry Gates Constructed by the WPA

★ Interest in Fort Negley grew during the 1990s; *The Parks and Greenways Master Plan* made restoration and interpretation of the Fort a priority. The City of Nashville appropriated funds for the project in 2002.

The first phase of the project included stabilization of the Fort, installation of interpretive panels and construction of accessible walkways. Fort Negley reopened on the 140th anniversary of the Battle of Nashville in December 2004.

Fort Negley Visitors Center, the second phase of the project, opened in December 2007. The Visitors Center features films on the surrender of Nashville and Fort Negley, access to *Civil War Soldier and Sailors System* maintained by the National Park Service and interactive touch screens highlighting occupied Nashville and Fort Negley.



1100 Fort Negley Blvd. ~ Nashville, TN 37203
615.862.8470

www.nashville.gov/Parks-and-Recreation/Historic-Sites/Fort-Negley.aspx

Free and Open to the Public

Winter Hours (September - May)

Tuesday-Friday: Noon - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

And by Appointment

Summer Hours (June - August)

Tuesday-Thursday: Noon - 4:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

And by Appointment

**Fort Negley Park is open daily dawn to dusk
for self-guided walking tours**



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A Dozen Facts About The Fort



★ Nashville surrendered to the Union Army on February 25, 1862. Andrew Johnson became the nation's first military governor in March and ordered the fortification of Nashville. Union forces occupied Nashville and Fort Negley until September, 1867.



Steps of the Capitol with covered guns.

Library of Congress

★ Captain James St. Clair Morton, a West Point-trained engineer, designed Nashville's defenses including Fort Negley.



★ Fort Negley, the largest inland stone fort built during the Civil War, covers four acres and measures 600 feet long by 300 feet wide.



★ The Fort was named for the Union Post Commander Brig. Gen. James S. Negley.

★ More than 2700 laborers lived in camps around Fort Negley on St. Cloud Hill. Between 600 and 800 men and women died building Nashville's Fortifications. Only 310 laborers received pay for their work due to poor record keeping and Morton's long absences from Nashville.

★ Conscript laborers, predominately contrabands (runaway slaves) and free blacks, built Fort Negley between August and December, 1862. The Fort was constructed from 62,500 cubic feet of stone, 18,000 cubic yards of earth, logs and railway iron.



"Impressing Negroes to work on the Nashville Fortifications"

Annals of the Army of the Cumberland

★ Fort Negley was never directly attacked during the Civil War. Fort Negley's artillery may have helped in driving off General Hood's Confederate forces during the Battle of Nashville, December 15 & 16, 1864.

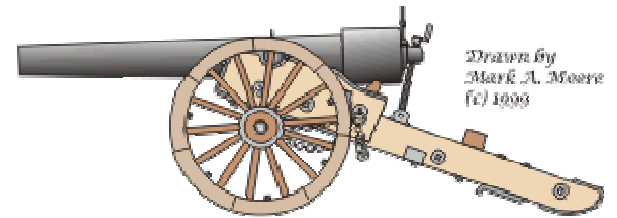
★ The 12th Indiana Light Artillery operated and maintained Fort Negley's 11 guns throughout the Civil War.



Fort Negley, 1864

Photograph by George S. Barnard

★ The Union Army upgraded Fort Negley's artillery in 1864. Casemate No. 1 contained a 30-pound Parrott Gun developed by Robert D. Parrott at his West Point Foundry.



The Parrott Gun, 11 feet long and 4200 pounds, fired two types of shells over 3 miles.

"Bolts," made of solid iron, effectively destroyed enemy guns, caissons, wagons and columns of infantry and cavalry.

Artillerymen used case-shot, hollow spheres packed with black powder and lead balls, against enemy gun crews and infantry. Case-shot exploded in front of the target spraying shrapnel.

★ Efforts to preserve Fort Negley as a national military park began in the 1890s. Under the leadership of Congressman Joseph W. Byrns two bills were introduced in the House of Representatives in 1910 and 1928. Both bills died in the House due to fiscal constraints.