CHAPTER 10: MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The result of the testing program conducted in 2000 and 2001 is a series of management recommendations to provide for the long term protection for resources contributing to the Fort Snelling National Register District and Fort Snelling National Historic Landmark. The recommendations are based on test excavations, stratigraphy, recovered material culture, and historic documentation as presented above. In order to effect the goal of long term preservation of the archaeological resources it is proposed that a series of resource zones be established within the BOM property. Based on findings from the current research and limited previous investigations that were correctly interpreted by Ollendorf (1996), 5 management zones have been defined. These zones are outlined with different colored lines as shown on Figure 55. Each of the zones is discussed in general below and recommendations for a revision of the National Historic Landmark boundary are also made.

Zone I

Zone I, outlined in green on Figure 55, is discontinuous and defined as an area containing seemingly undisturbed natural soils but which yielded no material culture. Due to the quite limited sample recovered from the 1996 work and the current project, it is probable that intact cultural deposits may be present in this zone. Further testing is recommended before declaring this zone does not contribute to the NHL or NR District.

Zone II

Zone II, outlined in red on Figure 55, is a continuous area at the west side of the central part of the BOM property that contains in situ cultural deposits and buried soils as well as material culture dating to the period of significance of the NHL and NR District. This area also corresponds to the general location documented as containing structures during both the early period of use at the Camp Coldwater settlement and during the last quarter of the 19th century as part of the waterworks. Portions of Zone II lie outside the current NHL boundaries. Proposed boundary changes to correct this deficiency are outlined in orange in Figure 58.

Zone III

Zone III, outlined in blue on Figure 55, is an area east and west of Building 1 that has been re-graded to slope towards the river by adding fill to the west and removing soil and bedrock to the east. The original construction of Building 1 removed topsoil and limestone bedrock from the footprint of the building and the parking lot to the east of the building. The soils from this area were then placed on the wetlands area east of the structure, filling in the wetlands and providing a slope to drain away surface and ground water in an easterly direction. This area is comprised primarily of fill deposits overlying (now filled) wetlands. The fill was designed to create a continuous sloping terrain to carry ground water and surface water away form the BOM parcel and move it towards the river. No cultural resources contributing to the significance of the NHL were documented in this zone. This zone does not appear to warrant inclusion in the NHL or NR and no further archaeological investigations appear warranted.

Zone IV

Zone IV, outlined in yellow in Figure 55, is an area in which natural soils have been removed or in which major structural features were constructed as part of BOM development. Archaeological research clearly indicates that this zone contains no in situ cultural strata nor any material culture that is considered contributing to the significance of the NHL or NR District.

Zone V

Zone V east of the marked zone boundaries in Figure 55 contains evidence of the late-19th-century military railroad grade that was cut into and laid on the exposed upper surface of the Platteville limestone formation. Except for the military railroad spur grade, visible most clearly in the northeast corner of the property, this zone contains standing water trapped in lower elevations dammed by fill, earth moving, and the damming effect of another old railroad grade east of the property. The military railroad grade is considered a contributing element to the NHL. The remainder of this zone has yielded neither archaeological features nor strata contributing to the NHL or NR. No further testing appears warranted in Zone V.

The intact strata and material culture in Zone II are buried below the surface and general maintenance and continuing normal use activities will not adversely affect those resources.

The NHL's existing western boundary through the BOM tract was initially drawn along topographic contours without knowledge of the archaeological resources in the area. Based on the findings of this research project, it is recommended that the Fort Snelling NHL boundaries be modified and moved to the west to include those areas delineated as Zone II. This zone clearly exhibits cultural strata and material remains in undisturbed contexts that contribute to the significance of the Fort Snelling NHL and NR District as defined for the last three quarters of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century (Figure 56).

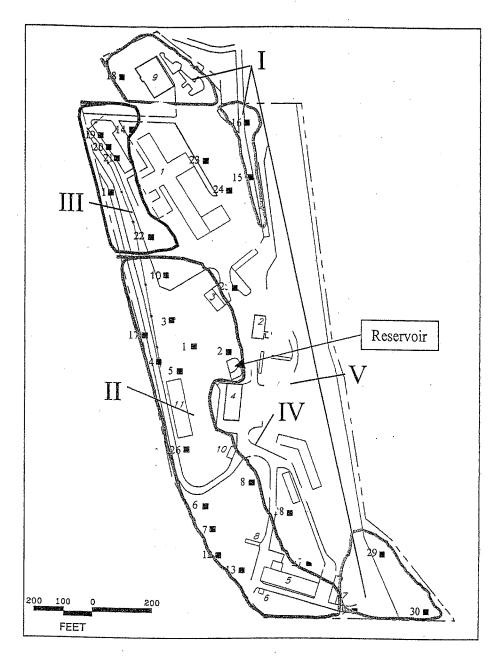


Figure 55 Recommendations for management areas on the BOM tract. Zone I – green outlines contain intact natural soils nor shows evidence of disturbance, but produced no material culture. Zone II – red outline contains undisturbed natural soils with in situ material culture relating to the period of significance of the NHL. Zone III – blue outlines areas with waterlogged and gleyed soil. Zone IV – yellow lines bound an area with no apparent remaining soils containing in situ material culture or heavily disturbed/destroyed area from the construction of the BOM facility. This area has some exposed bedrock at the surface. Zone V, east of the marked zone boundaries of Zones I and IV, contains evidence of the late-19th-century military railroad grade that was cut into and laid on the exposed upper surface of the Platteville limestone formation. This zone also has exposed bedrock at the surface and contains standing water trapped in lower elevations dammed by fill and the old railroad grade east of the property. Boundaries are approximate.

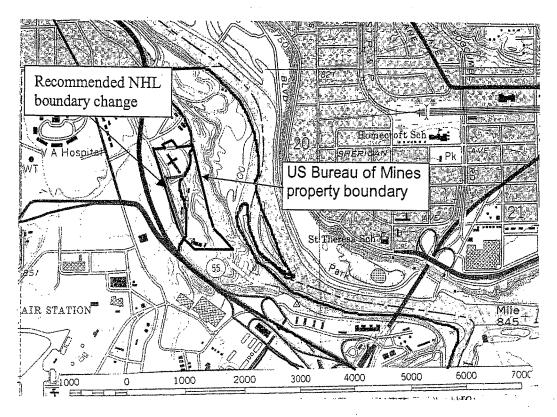


Figure 56 Fort Snelling National Historic Landmark boundary (blue line) and recommended boundary change (orange line).

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