

USCT

National Monument

United States Colored Troops
Nashville National Cemetery
Nashville, Tennessee

The Nashville National Cemetery is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and was created shortly after the Civil War in 1866. The first burial took place in 1867.

The Veterans Administration lists approximately 35,000 internments at the cemetery, including 2,133 U.S. Colored Troops Soldiers; as part of more than 16,000 troops who served and died during the Civil War near Nashville. The United States Colored Troops, (USCT), were an instrumental part of the Civil War and their efforts helped to turn the Battle of Nashville, giving victory to the Union Forces.

Made of bronze and Georgian granite, the monument of a U.S. Colored Troop modeled after Mr. Bill Radcliffe, Civil War re-enactor, rises 9' high and stands guard over the hallowed graves of the Civil War servicemen. Internationally acclaimed sculptor, Roy W. Butler was commissioned to design and create the life-size bronze sculpture utilizing hyper-realism detail techniques which depict battlefield accuracy.

The monument was dedicated and accepted, February 18, 2006, in Nashville, Tennessee by the Honorable William Tuerk, Under-Secretary of the National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, D.C. The nationally celebrated monument is the first figurative sculpture representing the USCT ever to be placed in a National Cemetery and has been documented by the Smithsonian Institute.

The United States Colored Troops were memorialized to honor the sacrifices they made to insure America became the nation that she is today; so that all men could walk as free men and that all men would be equal. Funds for the project were donated from various individuals and groups including the Tennessee Historical Commission.

Roy W. Butler

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redefining the Art of Life



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Honorable William Tuerk,
Under-Secretary, National Cemetery Administration
Mr. Bill Radcliffe, Model



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