

# BATTLEFIELD UPDATE

U.S. Department of the Interior  
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National Park Service

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## ABPP GOES UP ON THE INTERNET

The American Battlefield Protection Program is now reaching out to a larger audience by putting program information on the Internet. The National Park Service officially went on-line on May 31, 1995. Since then, there have been considerable efforts made to increase not only the amount of information available but also the quality of that information.

The ABPP Internet pages offer readers an overview of the ABPP, its mission, preservation activities, and financial and technical assistance opportunities. It also links to various publications. Readers can access the ABPP's *Battlefield Update* newsletter, The Civil War Sites Advisory Commission's *Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields* and the recently published *Study of Civil War Sites in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia*. Other links in the ABPP pages provide information on individual battlefields or parks and connections to additional preservation programs throughout the National Park Service.

In the future the ABPP plans to expand coverage of its opportunities, activities and achievements. New and updated material

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American Battlefield Protection Program

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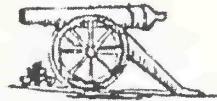
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Note: Battlefield Update is distributed free of charge. We invite readers to submit items for the Battlefield Update & reserve the right to select and edit items as space requires. Please call (202) 343-1210 or fax information to 020 343-1856 or mail to National Park Service, ABPP, P.O. Box 37127, Suite 230, Washington, DC 20013-7127

[Battlefield Update Home Page](#)

## THIEVES STEAL CANNON FROM CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD PARK

A piece of South Carolina's heritage was taken recently when thieves stole a Civil War cannon barrel from Rivers Bridge State Park near Ehrhardt. The cannon barrel, a 12-pounder Blakely Type 2, was removed from its brick mount in the park's memorial ground on the night of February 2-3, 1995. The theft was discovered the next morning by park employees as they prepared for the 130th anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Rivers Bridge.



The 700-pound cast iron barrel has a tapered reinforcing band near its center and a bead sign at its muzzle. It is marked at the rear with the inscription "BLAKELY'S PATENT, No. 30, FAWCETT-PRESTON & CO., LIVERPOOL, MAKERS, 1861." The cannon had been at Rivers Bridge since the late 1950's.

The park is the site of a two-day battle fought on February 3-4, 1865. It was the first historical site to become a South Carolina state park and is the only Civil War battlefield managed by the state park service.

Anyone with information concerning the cannon or its theft is urged to contact the Bamberg County Sheriff's office at (803) 245-3011. Questions about the cannon may be directed to South Carolina State Parks' chief historian at (803) 734-0539, the agency's district historic resource coordinator at (803) 852-4200, or the Rivers Bridge superintendent at (803) 267-3675.

## GETTYSBURG NATIONAL PARK ARRESTS TWO FOR BATTLEFIELD LOOTING

Gettysburg, PA--On April 28, 1995, William G. Senn of Skaneateles, New York, and Nancy L. McIntyre of Nedrow, New York, were apprehended by park rangers in Gettysburg National Military Park (NMP). During two days of surveillance by park rangers, Senn and McIntyre were observed in the act of artifact hunting and metal detecting in several areas on the Civil War battlefield. These activities are prohibited in Gettysburg NMP and on all Federal land.

Evidence seized at the time of the arrest included a Civil War artifact (a roundball), a metal fragment, animal bones, and two hand-held metal detectors. A loaded .38 caliber handgun and a speedloader with five rounds of ammunition were found in Senn's vehicle.

In addition to other evidence, rangers found park maps, annotated guides to the battlefield, and three portable radio/scanners with a list of radio frequencies used by the National Park Service, Gettysburg Police Department, Adams County, and the Pennsylvania State Police.

Federal charges will be coordinated with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Harrisburg and may include violation of the Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), theft of government property, possession and removal of animal parts, possession and use of a metal detector, and possession of a loaded weapon in a vehicle.

For more information contact Eisenhower National Historic Site, Gettysburg National Military Park, P.O. Box 1080, Gettysburg, PA 17325-1080.

## SPRING HILL, TN, PREPARES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COUNTRYSIDE EXCHANGE

Community leaders of Spring Hill, TN, including local elected officials, battlefield preservation advocates, and representatives of local and regional business interests have formed a Local Organizing Committee for the upcoming International Countryside Exchange to be held in Spring Hill, Tennessee, in September 1995. The Exchange will bring an international team of as many as eight professionals to Spring Hill and Maury County to discuss and collaborate on issues of battlefield preservation, economic development, and growth management. This event is co-sponsored by the non-profit Countryside Institute in cooperation with the American Battlefield Protection Program of the National Park Service. Like many rural communities, Spring Hill is facing the challenge of balancing economic development while protecting its local character and resources including the nationally significant Civil War Spring Hill battlefield, the site of Confederate General John Bell Hood's unsuccessful effort to intercept and destroy the Federal army of General John Schofield. The Countryside Exchange provides Spring Hill an opportunity to bring people of diverse interests together to develop civic skills and pursue a community vision that integrates environmental, economic, social, and cultural goals. The Spring Hill Exchange is the first collaborative effort between the American Battlefield Protection Program and the Countryside Institute.

Spring Hill's Local Organizing Committee (LOC) will meet throughout the summer to define the issues facing the community and to plan the itinerary and logistics of hosting the Exchange team during their week-long residency in the area. In addition to the LOC, a group of state and regional officials representing a wide variety of agencies and programs held an initial meeting in Spring Hill on June 7. This group will eventually form a Steering Committee for the Exchange. The role of the Steering Committee will be to keep

abreast of the work of the LOC, to participate in the Closing Session during which the Exchange team will present its findings and recommendations, and to assist in the implementation of the recommendations after the Exchange has been concluded.

Spring Hill is fortunate in having several successful preservation efforts well underway including the purchase of the 110-acre Weaver Farm, an important part of the battlefield, by the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, and the restoration of Rippavilla, a 19th century plantation house which played a role during the battle, as a visitors center. The Countryside Exchange will bring these positive efforts together within a broad-based framework for community stewardship and community-managed growth to ensure the long-term preservation of the battlefield.

## ANNOUNCING TWO BIG CHANGES FOR BATTLEFIELD UPDATE

The ABPP is working on a couple of permanent changes affecting the future publication and distribution of the *Battlefield Update*.

First, the July 1995 issue will be the last monthly issue. As a result of a new publication contract, ABPP will begin publishing an extended version of *Battlefield Update* quarterly, making the next newsletter the October 1995 issue.

Additionally, the *Battlefield Update* is going on the Internet (see the ABPP Internet access article, this issue). Readers can find the latest issue by selecting *Battlefield Updates' "latest issue"* hot-link on the ABPP home page (address: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/abpp/abpp.html>). We encourage our readers to look over the on-line Battlefield Update. Please send any comments and/or suggestions to National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division, ABPP, P.O. Box 37127, Suite 250, Washington, DC 20013-7127 or fax (202) 343-1836.

## GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS GROW CIVIL WAR NETWORK

Joe Brent, a historic sites data coordinator for the Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC), received numerous calls from local groups in his state about preserving Civil War sites and found himself answering many of the same questions. Civil War preservation groups needed ideas for interpretation, fund raising, and planning at their sites. Brent realized that many of the grassroots organizations in his state were unaware of each other's existence. Consequently, on May 20, 1995, Brent founded the Kentucky Civil War Heritage Association (KCWHA) to promote better communication between Civil War preservation groups; over half of the fifteen groups in the association protect battlefields.

The KCWHA is a loose network of local governments, regional universities, battlefield friends groups, and Civil War re-enactors. Each group brings its own skills and expertise to the association. Local governments promote tourism and take on the interpretation of sites. Regional universities provide technical assistance to survey resources and develop protection plans. One project completed by Murray State University surveyed Civil War resources in eight counties of southwest Kentucky through a grant from the KHC. Re-enactors have volunteered for projects, such as reconstructing a redoubt at Camp Nelson or clearing vegetation from around Fort Duffield.

Through these and similar efforts, the KCWHA has begun to expand the scope of Civil War preservation from individual sites to the entire state. An event committee coordinates Civil War activities at sites in Kentucky to ensure local and visiting Civil War enthusiasts take advantage of as many programs as possible. The tourism committee is establishing guidelines for site that will participate in the Civil War Heritage Trail being promoted by the Civil War Trust.

The association enables individuals at Civil War sites to share experiences in preserving their resources with a larger constituency. A meeting committee has put together a day of Civil War sessions for

Preserving Real Places, a state-wide preservation conference scheduled for this September. Members of the KCWHA will speak on topics ranging from fund raising tactics to African Americans during the Civil War.

The KCWHA has also prompted a state-wide publicity campaign to highlight the Civil War and associated sites. Brent encouraged post offices in Kentucky to hold ceremonies to release Civil War Stamps. Ceremonies will occur throughout 1995 and 1996. The KCWHA is coordinating the ceremonies with friends groups and activities at local Civil War sites.

Throughout KCWHA, local groups are pooling their resources and raising the profile of Civil War preservation issues within the state.

*To become a member of the KCWHA or to learn more about it, contact Joe Brent at the Kentucky Heritage Council, 300 Washington Street, Frankfort, KY, 40601, (502) 564-7005, Fax# (502) 564-5820.*

## BRANDYWINE BATTLEFIELD CONSERVATION LAUNCHES EASEMENT INITIATIVE

The Brandywine Battlefield Task Force has achieved nearly 75% of its funding goal of \$111,450 to begin the Brandywine Battlefield Conservation Easement Initiative. The funding has enabled the Task Force to begin contacting owners of critical properties on the battlefield about donating conservation easements.

The Initiative provides financial incentives designed to encourage the donation of conservation easements. The Task Force believes the private donation of easements is the most efficient and cost effective means of preserving the battlefield's remaining open space. The Brandywine Conservancy, of Chadds Ford, PA, will administer all phases of the project.

In April, the McLean Contributionship of Bryn Mawr, PA, awarded the Task Force, by way of the Brandywine Conservancy, \$75,000. Grants have also been received from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates, and the Chadds Ford Historical Society.

The Battle of Brandywine, fought on September 11, 1777, was one of the largest battles in the Revolutionary War. The battle raged over a ten square mile area in Chester and Delaware counties. More than 26,000 soldiers of both sides were engaged--losses were about 1,800 killed, wounded and captured. New houses rise on the very land where soldiers on both sides fell.

The Task Force is still over \$29,000 short of its goal. The funding is necessary to continue the project and preserve additional lands on the Brandywine Battlefield--a National Historic Landmark.

For more information write: Brandywine Battlefield Task Force, Brandywine Conservancy, P.O. Box 141, Chadds Ford, PA, 19317 or call (610) 388-2700.

## ADDITIONAL ABPP REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Civil War commemorative coins are currently available for purchase through the Civil War Coin Program, United States Mint, (301) 436-7400 or by the Civil War Trust, (800) CWTRUST. Proceeds from the surcharges of the coins will be allocated to the Civil War Trust for the preservation of Civil War Battlefields.

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A limited number of copies of the *Study on Civil War Sites in the Shenandoah Valley* are still available and can be obtained at no cost by contacting the ABPP at (202) 343-9505 or by fax (202) 343-1836 or by mailing a letter to ABPP, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

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The National Park Service, Pacific West Area, is currently seeking proposals for the preparation of a comparative analysis of an earthen redoubt built by the U.S. Army in 1859 on San Juan Island in the State of Washington. Individuals and organizations desiring additional information concerning the specifics of this request should contact:

Contracting and Procurement  
National Park Service  
909 First Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104-1060

These requests may also be faxed to (206) 220-4160.

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