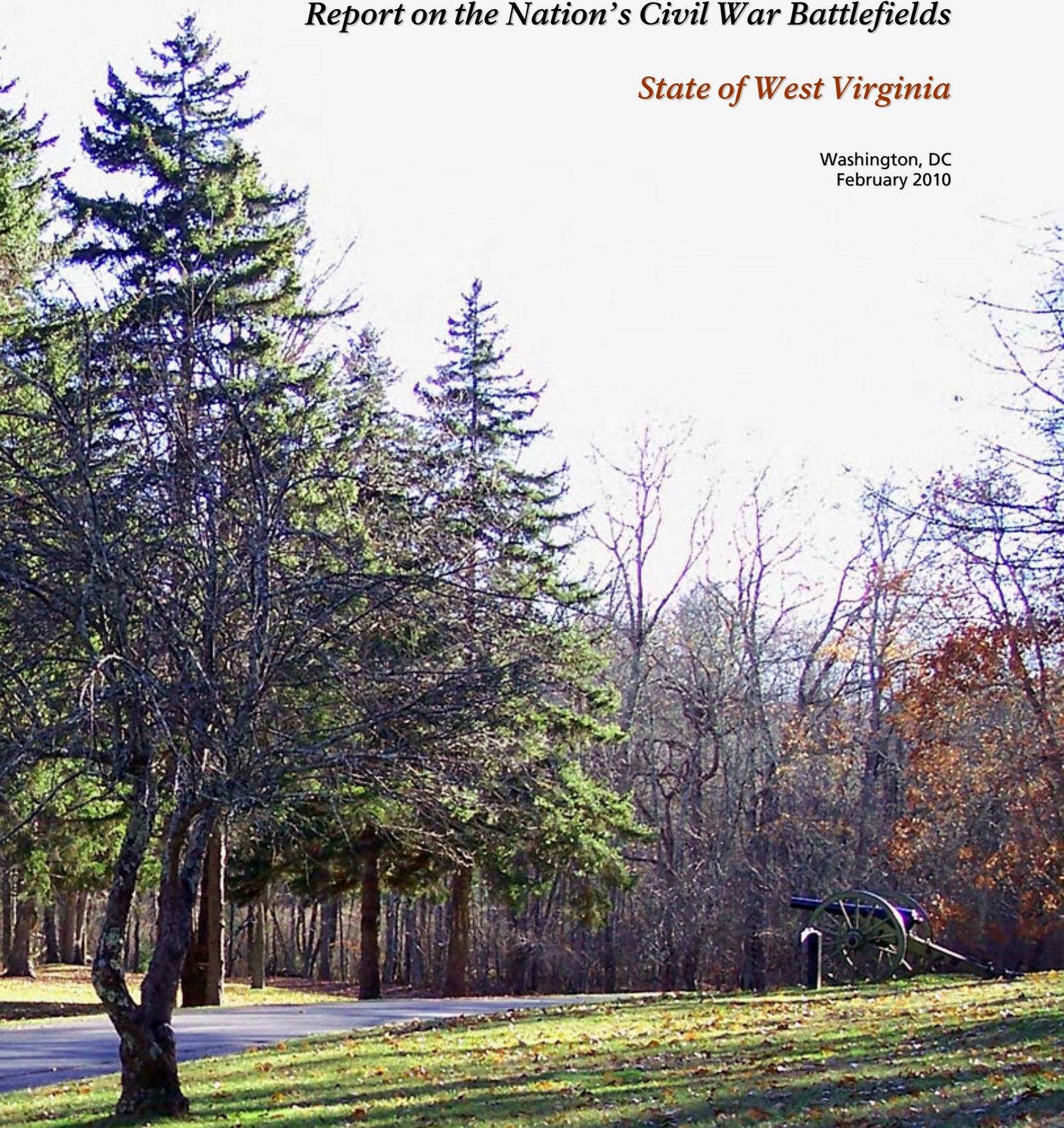




*Update to the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission
Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*

State of West Virginia

Washington, DC
February 2010



Update to the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields

State of West Virginia

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
American Battlefield Protection Program

Washington, DC
January 2010

Authority

The American Battlefield Protection Program Act of 1996, as amended by the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-359, 111 Stat. 3016, 17 December 2002), directs the Secretary of the Interior to update the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) *Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*.

Acknowledgments

NPS Project Team Paul Hawke, Project Leader; Kathleen Madigan, Survey Coordinator; Tanya Gossett and January Ruck, Reporting; Matthew Borders, Historian; Kristie Kendall, Program Assistant.

Battlefield Surveyor(s) Joseph E. Brent, Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc., and Lisa Ruppel, American Battlefield Protection Program.

Respondents John Calabrese, Monogahela National Forest; Sam Cawell, Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park; Michelle Depp, Rich Mountain Battlefield Foundation, Inc.; Edward Dunleavy, Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Foundation, Inc.; Dennis Frye, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park; John Howard, Antietam National Battlefield; Tom Ressler, Falling Waters Battlefield Foundation, Inc.; and Kathy Robertson, Civil War Preservation Trust.

Cover: In the Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park, a cannon indicates the final Confederate line during the battle on November 6, 1863. After this battle, Confederate resistance in West Virginia collapsed. Photo by Joseph E. Brent, 2007.

Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	1
INTRODUCTION	3
SYNOPSIS	5
METHOD STATEMENT	8
RESEARCH AND FIELD SURVEYS.....	8
QUESTIONNAIRES.....	11
SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS OF WEST VIRGINIA’S CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS	13
QUANTIFIED LAND AREAS.....	13
CONDITION ASSESSMENTS.....	14
REGISTRATION.....	14
STEWARDSHIP	16
PUBLIC ACCESS AND INTERPRETATION	18
LOCAL ADVOCACY	18
INDIVIDUAL BATTLEFIELD PROFILES	21
APPENDICES	66
APPENDIX A. CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION ACT OF 2002.....	66
APPENDIX B. BATTLEFIELD QUESTIONNAIRE	69
APPENDIX C. CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD LAND ACQUISITION GRANTS.....	72
APPENDIX D. AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM PLANNING GRANTS	73

Introduction

The information in this report fulfills, in part, the purposes of the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-359, 111 Stat. 3016). Those purposes are:

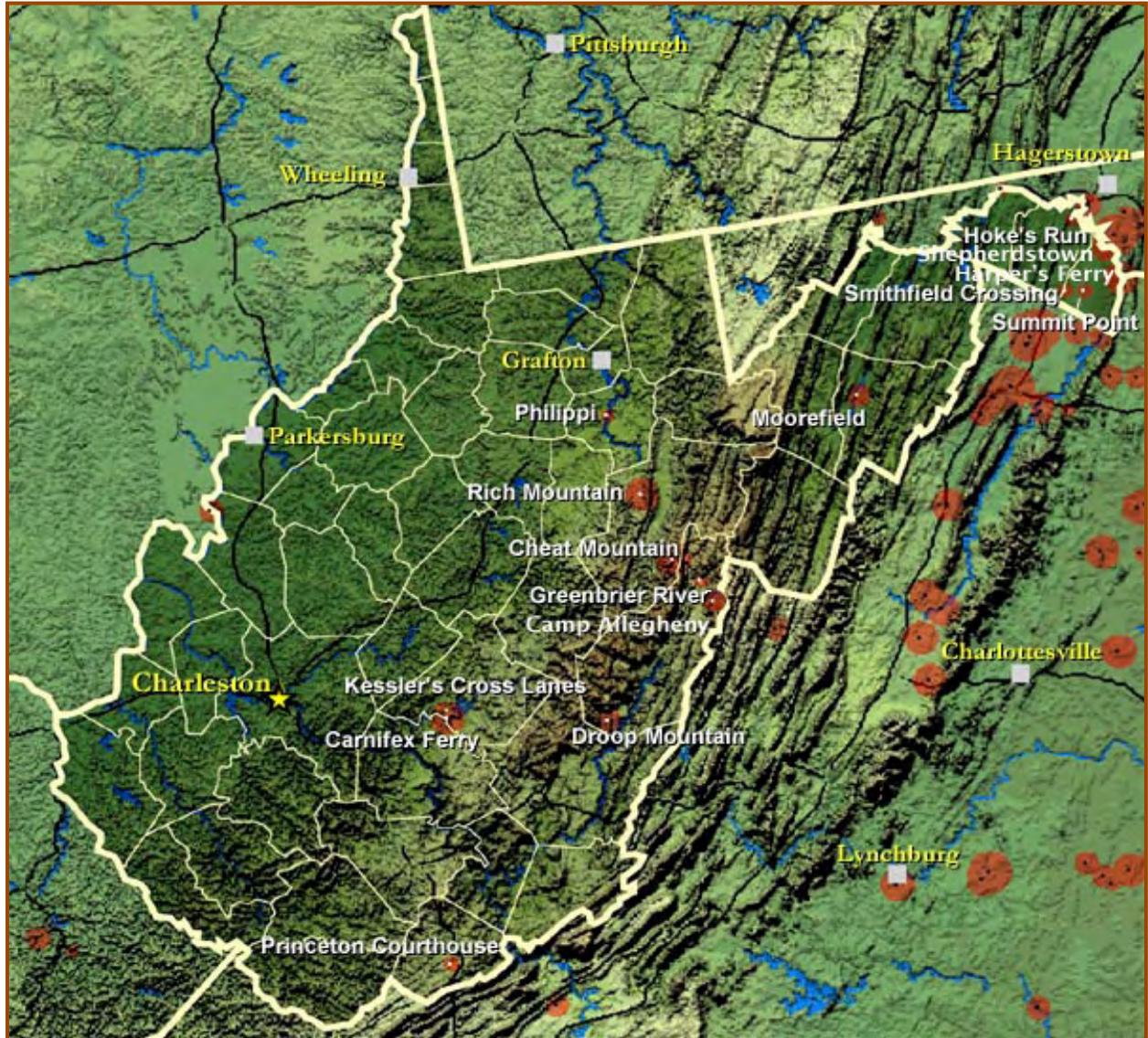
- 1) to act quickly and proactively to preserve and protect nationally significant Civil War battlefields through conservation easements and fee-simple purchases of those battlefields from willing sellers; and
- 2) to create partnerships among state and local governments, regional entities, and the private sector to preserve, conserve, and enhance nationally significant Civil War battlefields.

The Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002 directs the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) of the National Park Service, to update the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) *Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*. The CWSAC was established by Congress in 1991 and published its report in 1993. Congress provided funding for this update in FY 2005 and FY 2007. Congress asked that the updated report reflect the following:

- Preservation activities carried out at the 384 battlefields identified by the CWSAC during the period between 1993 and the update;
- Changes in the condition of the battlefields during that period; and
- Any other relevant developments relating to the battlefields during that period.

In accordance with the legislation, this report presents information about Civil War battlefields in West Virginia for use by Congress, federal, state, and local government agencies, landowners, and other interest groups. Other state reports will be issued as surveys and analyses are completed.

Figure 1. CWSAC Battlefields in West Virginia.



Synopsis

There are 15 CWSAC battlefields in the state of West Virginia. Historically, these battlefields encompassed about 101,800 acres.¹ Today, 49,000 acres, or about 48 percent, of these landscapes survive. These 49,000 acres have sufficient significance and retain enough integrity to make them worthy of preservation.² At present, about 14,400 acres, or 29 percent, are permanently protected by governments and private nonprofit organizations (see Table 8). The remaining 34,600 acres are at risk.

Since 1993, land use changes at the battlefields in West Virginia have been steady, but not overwhelming. The ABPP found that most of the battlefields survive with many of their historic features and terrain intact. Opportunities to preserve these sites within the next decade are great.

The CWSAC used a four-tiered system that combined historic significance, current condition, and level of threat to determine priorities for preservation among the battlefields. Nationwide, the CWSAC identified 50 top priority battlefields; two were in West Virginia. The CWSAC viewed these battlefields as the most historically significant of the war, the most endangered in 1993, and having a “critical need for action.” The CWSAC assigned three more West Virginia battlefields to the second highest priority, those considered “opportunities for comprehensive preservation.” These were battlefields “in relatively good condition, [and] face few threats, but are relatively unprotected....” The third priority included battlefields “that already have substantial historic land under protection and face limited threats,” but that needed “some additional land protection.” Seven were in West Virginia.

The CWSAC’s fourth and lowest priority was for “fragmented” battlefields. The CWSAC explained, “While some lost battlefields are truly obliterated, important remnants of others still exist....” Although these sites “to varying degrees no longer convey an authentic sense of the sweep and setting of the battle, they often remain important areas suitable for interpretation, museums, and commemoration.”³ In 1993, the CWSAC determined that three West Virginia battlefields had been substantially compromised by post-war development.

Of West Virginia’s two first tier battlefields from 1993, only **Rich Mountain** battlefield remains an immediate preservation concern. Accelerating residential development along county roads and in adjacent valleys is eating away portions of the historic landscape. Redoubled preservation efforts are needed to save the remaining, unprotected 1,400 acres of battlefield.

At the **Harpers Ferry** battlefield, most of what survives is protected by the National Park Service. The remaining intact but unprotected portions of the battlefield, such as lands north of Maryland Heights, along Elk Run, and northeast of Millville, need to be the focus of ongoing preservation efforts.

¹Using GIS, and accounting for overlapping areas, the ABPP calculated that the Study Areas for the 15 battlefields in West Virginia represent 101,792.23 acres. Study Areas for the battles of **Harpers Ferry**, **Shepherdstown**, and **Summit Point** include an additional 9,080.80 acres of land and water in Maryland and Virginia.

²Using GIS, and accounting for overlapping areas, the ABPP calculated that the Potential National Register Boundaries for the 15 battlefields in West Virginia represent 49,084.14 acres. Potential National Register Boundaries for **Harpers Ferry**, **Shepherdstown**, and **Summit Point** include an additional 5,795.84 acres of land and water in Maryland and Virginia.

³Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, *Report on the Nation’s Civil War Battlefields*, Washington, DC: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1993, 22- 23.

Table 1. CWSAC Preservation Priorities from 1993 – First Tier

CWSAC Priority	Battlefield	County
I Critical Need 2 Battlefields	Harpers Ferry (WV010)	Jefferson; Washington County, MD; Loudoun County, VA
	Rich Mountain (WV003)	Randolph County

The CWSAC’s second tier battlefields in West Virginia have and continue to be affected by development pressures. Rapid development within the **Hoke’s Run** (also known as Falling Water) battlefield has fragmented the historic landscape significantly. **Hoke’s Run** no longer remains an opportunity for comprehensive landscape preservation. **Smithfield Crossing** and **Summit Point** survive in good condition, although **Summit Point** is seriously threatened by residential development pressure west of Charles Town. Immediate protection of those two battlefields should be the focus of Federal, state, and local efforts.

Table 2. CWSAC Preservation Priorities from 1993 – Second Tier

CWSAC Priority	Battlefield	County
II Comprehensive Preservation Possible 3 Battlefields	Hoke’s Run (WV002)	Berkeley
	Smithfield Crossing (WV015)	Jefferson, Berkeley
	Summit Point (WV014)	Jefferson; Clarke and Frederick Counties, VA

The ABPP’s review of third tier battlefields in West Virginia found all seven battlefields in good or excellent states of integrity. With the exception of **Shepherdstown**, these battlefields are located in rural areas where development pressures are more subdued, but also more likely to occur randomly due to less restrictive local zoning. **Cheat Mountain, Droop Mountain, Kessler’s Cross Lanes, and Shepherdstown** have the largest percentages of Study Area land to land potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places land (see Table 5). The ABPP believes that all of these battlefields should be viewed as higher priorities for preservation. That only **Shepherdstown** benefits from the dedicated work of a local friends group is of special concern. Local or regional battlefield nonprofits are needed to lead protection efforts at the other six battlefields in this category.

Table 3. CWSAC Preservation Priorities from 1993 – Third Tier

CWSAC Priority	Battlefield	County
III Additional Protection Needed 7 Battlefields	Camp Allegheny (WV008)	Pocahontas, Randolph
	Cheat Mountain (WV005)	Randolph, Pocahontas
	Carnifex Ferry (WV006)	Nicholas, Fayette
	Droop Mountain (WV012)	Pocahontas, Greenbrier
	Kessler’s Cross Lanes (WV004)	Nicholas, Fayette
	Shepherdstown (WV016)	Jefferson; Washington County, MD
	Greenbrier River (WV007)	Pocahontas, Randolph

The ABPP’s research and recent assessments have also redefined many severely fragmented and “lost” battlefields in the fourth tier of CWSAC priorities. In West Virginia, the ABPP found that **Moorefield** retained enough historic terrain and features to be reconsidered for preservation. Protection efforts at **Moorefield** quickly need to target remaining historic parcels before the battlefield is lost to further development associated with the growth of the town and the new Corridor H highway.

The ABPP determined that the battlefield landscape at **Philippi**, while fragmented, does still present limited preservation opportunities. At **Princeton Courthouse**, the ABPP confirmed that the battlefield has been destroyed by significant changes in land use since the time of the battle. **Princeton Courthouse** provides opportunities for commemoration, but few opportunities for cultural resource preservation.

Table 4. CWSAC Preservation Priorities from 1993 – Fourth Tier

CWSAC Priority	Battlefield	County/City
IV Fragmented/ Destroyed 3 Battlefields	Moorefield (WV013)	Hardy, Hampshire, Mineral
	Philippi (WV0001)	Barbour, Taylor
	Princeton Courthouse (WV009)	Mercer

See the Individual Battlefield Profiles for detailed condition assessments and preservation recommendations. The National Park Service will issue updated priorities after all CWSAC battlefields nationwide have been surveyed and all state reports have been completed.

Method Statement

Congress instructed the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP), to report on changes in the condition of the battlefields since 1993 and on “preservation activities” and “other relevant developments” carried out at each battlefield since 1993. To fulfill those assignments, the ABPP 1) conducted a site survey of each battlefield, and 2) prepared and sent out questionnaires to battlefield managers and advocacy organizations (see Appendix B).

The 1993 significance rankings for each battlefield stand. Significance was assigned by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission and the ABPP sustains the CWSAC’s opinions as to the relevant importance of each battle within the larger context of the war.

Research and Field Surveys

The ABPP conducted the field assessments of West Virginia battlefields from November 2005 through March 2006. The surveys entailed additional historical research, on-the-ground documentation and assessment of site conditions, identification of impending threats to each site, and site mapping. Surveyors used a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver to map historic features of each battlefield and used a Geographic Information System (GIS) program to draw site boundaries. The ABPP retains all final survey materials. Each battlefield survey file includes a survey form (field notes, list of defining features, list of documentary sources, and a photo log), photographs, spatial coordinates of significant features, and boundaries described on USGS topographic maps. The surveys did not include archeological investigations for reasons of time and expense.

Study Areas and Core Areas

The CWSAC identified a Study Area and a Core Area for each principal battlefield in West Virginia (see Figure 2 for definitions). The CWSAC boundaries have proven invaluable as guides to local land and resource preservation efforts at Civil War battlefields. However, since 1993, the National Park Service has refined its battlefield survey methodology, which include research, working with site stewards, identifying and documenting lines of approach and withdrawal used by opposing forces, and applying the concepts of military terrain analysis to all battlefield landscapes. The ABPP’s *Battlefield Survey Manual* explains the field methods employed during this study.⁴ The surveys also incorporate the concepts recommended in the National Register of Historic Places’ *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America’s Historic Battlefields*, which was published in 1992 after the CWSAC had completed its original assessments of the battlefields.

Using its refined methodology, the ABPP was able to validate or adjust the CWSAC’s Study Area and Core Area boundaries to reflect more accurately the full nature and original resources of the battlefields (see Table 5). In West Virginia, the refined methodology resulted in significant increases in the size of Study Areas, Core Areas, or both. However, it is important to note that the Study Area and Core Area boundaries are simply historical boundaries that describe where the battle took place; neither indicates the current integrity of the battlefield landscape, so neither can be used on its own to identify surviving portions of battlefield land that may merit protection and preservation.

⁴ American Battlefield Protection Program, “Battlefield Survey Manual,” (Washington, DC: National Park Service, revised 2007)
Update to the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation’s Civil War Battlefields
Final DRAFT – State of West Virginia

Potential National Register Boundaries

To address the question of what part of the battlefield remains reasonably intact and warrants preservation, this study introduced a third boundary line that was not attempted by the CWSAC: the Potential National Register boundary (see Figure 2).

Looking at each Study Area, the surveyors assigned PotNR boundaries where they judged that enough battlefield land remained to convey the significance of the engagement. In a few cases, the PotNR boundary encompasses the entire Study Area. In most cases, however, the PotNR boundary includes less land than identified in the full Study Area.

In assigning PotNR boundaries, the ABPP followed National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) guidelines when identifying and mapping areas that retain integrity and cohesion within the Study Areas.⁵ However, because the ABPP focuses only on areas of battle, the ABPP did not evaluate lands adjacent to the Study Area that may contribute to a broader historical and chronological definition of “cultural landscape.” Lands outside of the Study Area associated with other historic events and cultural practices may need to be evaluated in preparation for a formal nomination of the cultural landscape.

Most importantly, the PotNR boundary **does not constitute a formal determination of eligibility by the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places.**⁶ The PotNR boundary is designed to be used as a planning tool for government agencies and the public. Like the Study and Core Area boundaries, the PotNR boundary places no restriction on private property use.

Figure 2: Boundary Definitions

The **Study Area** represents the historic extent of the battle as it unfolded across the landscape. The Study Area contains resources known to relate to or contribute to the battle event: where troops maneuvered and deployed, immediately before, during, and after combat, and where they fought during combat. Historic accounts, terrain analysis, and feature identification inform the delineation of the Study Area boundary. The Study Area indicates the extent to which historic and archeological resources associated with the battle (areas of combat, command, communications, logistics, medical services, etc.) may be found. Surveyors delineated Study Area boundaries for every battle site that was positively identified through research and field survey, regardless of its present integrity.

The **Core Area** represents the areas of fighting on the battlefield. Positions that delivered or received fire, and the intervening space and terrain between them, fall within the Core Area. Frequently described as “hallowed ground,” land within the Core Area is often the first to be targeted for protection. There may be more than one Core Area on a battlefield, but all lie within the Study Area.

Unlike the Study and Core Areas, which are based only upon the interpretation of historic events, the **Potential National Register (PotNR) boundary** represents ABPP’s assessment of a Study Area’s current integrity (the surviving landscape and features that convey the site’s historic sense of place). The PotNR boundary may include all or some of the Study Area, and all or some of the Core Area. Lands within PotNR boundaries should be considered worthy of further attention, although future evaluations may reveal more or less integrity than indicated by the ABPP surveys.

⁵ For general guidance about integrity issues and National Register properties, see National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, revised 1997). The survey evaluations described above do not meet the more stringent integrity standards for National Historic Landmark designation. See National Park Service, *How to Prepare National Historic Landmark Nominations* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, 1999), 36- 37.

⁶ See 36 CFR 60.1- 14 for regulations about nominating a property to the National Register and 36 CFR 63 for regulations concerning Determinations of Eligibility for inclusion in the National Register.

The term integrity, as defined by the National Register of Historic Places, is “the ability of a property to convey its significance.”⁷ While assessments of integrity are subjective, battlefields can have integrity only if they can be positively located through research and “ground-truthing,” and only if significant portions of the landscape’s historic terrain have not been substantially disturbed. Other conditions contribute to the *degree* of integrity a battlefield retains:

- the quantity and quality of surviving battle-period resources (e.g., buildings, roads, fence lines, military structures, and archeological features);
- the quantity and quality of the spatial relationships between and among those resources and the intervening terrain that connects them;
- the extent to which current battlefield land use is similar to battle-period land use; and
- the extent to which a battlefield’s physical features and overall character visually communicate an authentic sense of the sweep and setting of the battle.

Natural changes in vegetation—woods growing out of historic farm fields, for example—do not necessarily diminish the landscape’s integrity. Significant changes in land use since the Civil War do affect integrity; the degree to which post-war development has altered and fragmented the historic landscape and destroyed historic features is critical when assessing integrity. Still, some post-battle development is expected; slight or moderate change within the battlefield may not substantially diminish a battlefield’s integrity. Often these post-battle “non-contributing” elements are included in the PotNR boundary in accordance with NRHP guidelines.

The Potential National Register boundaries therefore indicate which battlefields are *likely* eligible for future listing in the NRHP and *likely* deserving of future preservation efforts. If a surveyor determined that a battlefield was entirely compromised by land use incompatible with the preservation of historic features (i.e., it has little or no integrity), it did not receive a PotNR boundary.

In cases where a battlefield is already listed in the NRHP, surveyors reassessed the existing documentation based on current scholarship and resource integrity, and, when appropriate, provided new information and proposed new boundaries as part of the surveys. As a result, some PotNR boundaries will contain or share a boundary with lands already listed in the NRHP. In other cases, PotNR boundaries will exclude listed lands that have lost integrity. (See Table 5 boundary comparisons.)⁸

The data from which all three boundaries are drawn do not necessarily reflect the full research needed for a formal NRHP nomination. Potential National Register boundaries are based on an assessment of aboveground historic features associated with the cultural

⁷ National Park Service, *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America’s Historic Battlefields*, 1992 ; Revised 1999 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division). Archeological integrity was not examined during this study, but should be considered in future battlefield studies and formal nominations to the National Register.

⁸ The ABPP’s surveys and PotNR assessments do not constitute formal action on behalf of the office of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). PotNR assessments are intended for planning purposes only; they do not carry the authority to add, change, or remove an official listing.

and natural landscape. The surveys did not include a professional archeological inventory or assessment of subsurface features or indications. In some cases, future archeological testing will help determine whether subsurface features remain, whether subsurface battle features convey important information about a battle or historic property, and whether that information may help to confirm, refine, or refute the boundaries previously determined by historic studies and terrain analysis.

The ABPP survey information should be reassessed during future compliance processes such as the Section 106 process required by the National Historic Preservation Act⁹ and Environmental Impact Statements/Environmental Assessments required by the National Environmental Policy Act.¹⁰ Likewise, more detailed research and assessments should take place when any battlefield is formally nominated to the National Register of Historic Places or proposed for designation as a National Historic Landmark. New research and intensive-level surveys of these sites will enlighten future preservation and compliance work. Agencies should continue to consult local and state experts for up-to-date information about these battlefields.

Seven West Virginia battlefields are already listed in the NRHP or are designated National Historic Landmarks (see Table 7). At each of these battlefields, the ABPP recommends a PotNR boundary of equal or greater size than the existing NRHP boundary (although the PotNR may not trace the existing boundary exactly if previously registered land has lost integrity).

Questionnaires

While the ABPP maintains data about its own program activities at Civil War battlefields, most preservation work occurs at the local level. Therefore, to answer Congress's directive for information about battlefield preservation activities, the ABPP sought input from local battlefield managers and advocacy organizations. The ABPP distributed questionnaires designed to gather information about the types of preservation activities that have taken place at the battlefields since 1993. The Questionnaire is reproduced in Appendix B.

In West Virginia, representatives of eight organizations responded to the questionnaires. Their responses, combined with the survey findings, allowed the ABPP to create a profile of conditions and activities at West Virginia's Civil War battlefields.

⁹ 16 USC 470f.

¹⁰ 42 USC 4331- 4332.

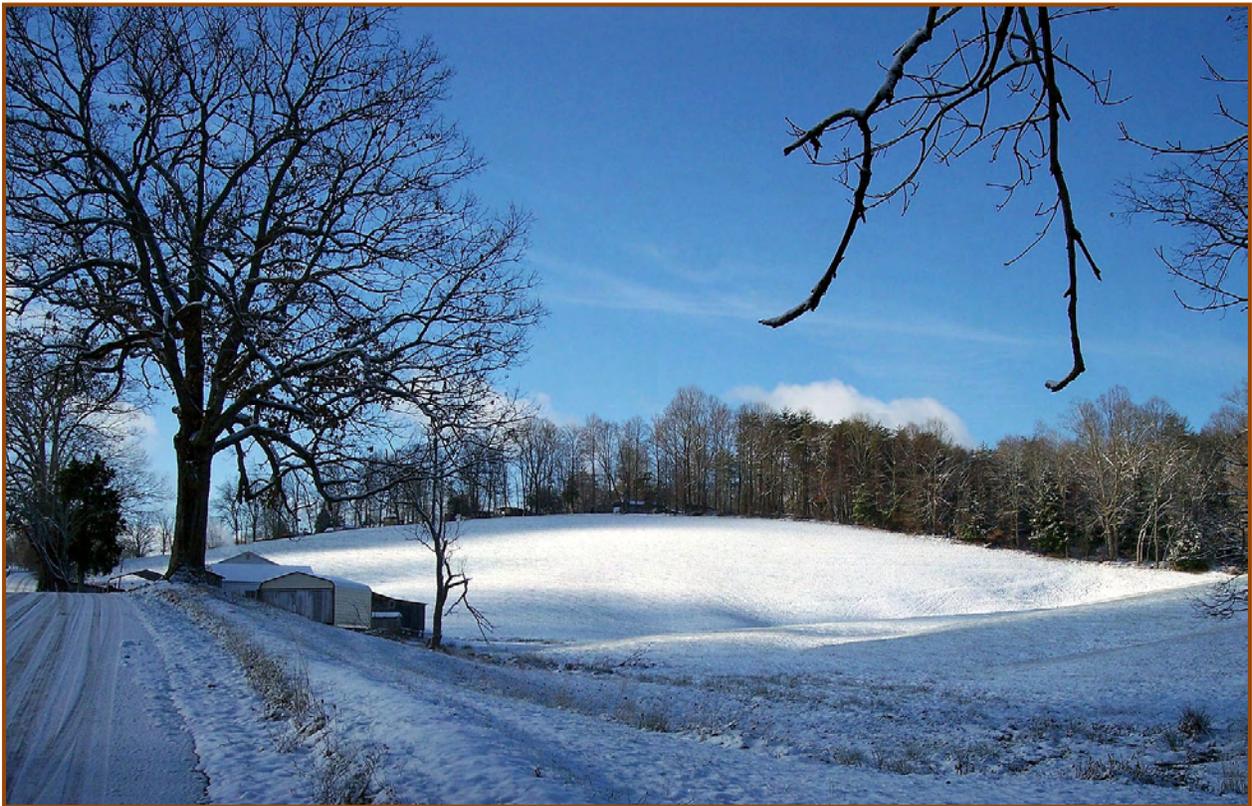


Figure 3: An unprotected portion of the **Carnifex Ferry** battlefield. Residential develop has begun on adjacent parcels. Photo by Joseph E. Brent, 2007.

Summary of Conditions of West Virginia’s Civil War Battlefields

Quantified Land Areas

Using a Geographic Information Systems program, the ABPP calculated the amount of land historically associated with the battle (Study Area), the amount of land where forces were engaged (Core Area), and the amount of land that may retain enough integrity to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (Potential National Register boundary).

As noted above, Study Areas and Core Areas have been revised in many cases. In particular, the original CWSAC surveys did not consistently include routes of approach and withdrawal or secondary actions that influenced the course or outcome of the battle. The revised boundaries take these movements and actions into account. In some instances, new or additional research has sharpened historical understanding of battle events. Therefore, the ABPP determined that additional lands belong appropriately in the Study and Core Areas because they lend additional understanding to the battle story. The individual battlefield profiles at the end of this report provide additional information about the extent of and reasons for any revisions to the CWSAC Study Area and Core Area boundaries.

Table 5 lists the size of the three boundaries, as determined by the ABPP, for each battlefield. Because Civil War armies waged numerous battles in West Virginia over the same ground—especially in Jefferson and Pocahontas counties—the total number of Civil War battlefield acres in West Virginia is lower than a simple summation of the Table 5 data would indicate. Calculating for the overlapping areas of the battlefields, there are 101,792.25 total Study Area acres, 21,733.34 total Core Area acres, and 49,084.14 total acres likely eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in West Virginia.¹¹

Battlefield	Study Area	Core Area	PotNR Boundary
Camp Allegheny (WV008)	5,029.80	1,320.60	2,946.10
Carnifex Ferry (WV006)	5,309.70	1,576.05	1,985.60
Cheat Mountain (WV005)	11,271.23	3,076.90	9,164.24
Droop Mountain (WV012)	8,128.50	2,952.27	5,967.69
Greenbrier River (WV007)	2,321.47	734.84	700.00
Harpers Ferry (WV010)	6,667.69 (WV)	3,477.66 (WV)	4,562.31 (WV)
	3,515.65 (MD)	1,489.94 (MD)	2,476.54 (MD)
	825.41 (VA)	0.00 (VA)	154.14 (VA)
Hoke's Run (WV002)	5,325.39	525.80	953.45
Kessler's Cross Lanes (WV004)	2,103.45	995.25	2,103.45
Moorefield (WV013)	14,266.22	1,902.81	1,824.36
Philippi (WV001)	11,879.07	403.03	4,546.67
Princeton Courthouse (WV009)	10,703.45	1,661.40	0.00
Rich Mountain (WV003)	4,203.80	140.58	1,872.31
Shepherdstown (WV016)	2,792.60 (WV)	1,034.64 (WV)	2,502.71 (WV)
	1,756.61 (MD)	499.76 (MD)	1,756.61 (MD)
Smithfield Crossing (WV015)	6,456.72	1,599.96	3,647.69
Summit Point (WV014)	11,112.24 (WV)	1,434.12 (WV)	6,966.62 (WV)
	2,980.24 (VA)	335.26 (VA)	1,705.01 (VA)

¹¹ The Study Areas for the battles of Harpers Ferry, Shepherdstown, and Summit Point include an additional 9,080.80 acres of land and water in Maryland and Virginia. The ABPP calculates that 5,795.84 acres in these other states are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register.

Condition Assessments

Using field survey data, the ABPP assessed the overall condition of each battlefield's *Study Area*. While no battlefield remains completely unaltered since the Civil War, 12 of West Virginia's 15 battlefields have experienced relatively little or only moderate change to their terrain and aboveground battle features in nearly 150 years.¹²

Table 6: Battlefield Condition Summary

Condition	Battlefield
Land use is little changed (3)	Camp Allegheny, Cheat Mountain, Rich Mountain
Portions of landscape have been altered, but most essential features remain (9)	Carnifex Ferry, Droop Mountain, Greenbrier River, Harpers Ferry, Kessler's Cross Lanes, Moorefield, Shepherdstown, Smithfield Crossing, Summit Point
Much of the landscape has been altered and fragmented, leaving some essential features (2)	Hoke's Run, Philippi
Landscape and terrain have been altered beyond recognition (1)	Princeton Courthouse

Registration

The nation's official method for recognizing historic properties worthy of preservation is listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). As of 2009, 7 of West Virginia's 15 battlefields have been listed in the NRHP. However, these listings do not include all of the land considered significant and eligible by the ABPP. The ABPP evaluated the integrity of the greater battlefield landscape. Isolated but significant fragments or features of battlefields may be eligible for listing in the NRHP, but only as remnants, not as cohesive landscapes.

The ABPP found that 14 battlefield landscapes may retain enough integrity to be eligible for listing. That so many of the state's Civil War battlefields survive appears to be due to their rural locations and the slower pace of development in those areas. Among the most intact battlefields are **Cheat Mountain, Droop Mountain, Kessler's Cross Lanes, and Shepherdstown.**

Registered battlefields meet national standards for documentation, physical integrity, and demonstrable significance to the history of the nation. Federal, state, and local agencies use information from the NRHP as a planning tool to identify and make decisions about cultural resources. Federal and state laws, most notably Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, require agencies to account for the effects their projects (roads, wetland permits, quarrying, cell towers, etc.) may have on listed and eligible historic properties, such as battlefields. Listing allows project designers to quickly identify the battlefield and avoid or minimize impacts to the landscape.

¹² The condition of archeological resources within the battlefields was not assessed. Future studies are needed to determine the degree of archeological integrity associated with subsurface battle deposits.

Properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places are also eligible for numerous federal and state historic preservation grant programs. Recognition as a registered battlefield may also advance public understanding of and appreciation for the battlefield, and may encourage advocacy for its preservation.¹³

West Virginia’s seven registered battlefields were listed prior to the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission’s study in the early 1990s. Only the Camp Bartow Historic District, a portion of the **Greenbrier River** battlefield, was listed after the CWSAC issued its 1993 report. The seven West Virginia battlefields already listed embrace more than 3,300 acres.¹⁴ The ABPP’s assessments, however, indicate that another 45,700 acres may be eligible for listing on top of the existing NRHP boundary. Of the eight West Virginia battlefields not currently listed in the NRHP, the ABPP believes seven are likely eligible for listing.

Table 7 compares the number of acres already designated or listed with the number of acres that are likely to meet the same criteria, but are not currently part of the existing NRHP, NHL, or NPS boundary. As noted earlier, several West Virginia battlefields overlap in land area. Therefore, the total amount of intact land potentially eligible for listing is lower than a simple summation of the Table 7 data.¹⁵

Table 7: Acres Registered Compared with Acres Potentially Eligible to be Registered				
Battlefield	Designation	Potentially Eligible (PotNR) Acres	Registered Acres	Unlisted Acres
Camp Allegheny (WV008)	NRHP	2,946.10	105.00	2,841.10
Carnifex Ferry (WV006)	NRHP	1,985.60	156.40	1,829.20
Cheat Mountain (WV005)	NRHP	9,164.24	34.00	9,130.24
Droop Mountain (WV012)	NRHP	5,967.69	288.00	5,679.69
Greenbrier River (WV007)	NRHP	700.00	182.00	518.00
Harpers Ferry (WV010)	NRHP	4,562.31	2,385.00	2,177.31
Hoke's Run (WV002)		953.45	0.00	953.45
Kessler's Cross Lanes (WV004)		2,103.45	0.00	2,103.45
Moorefield (WV013)		1,824.36	0.00	1,824.36
Philippi (WV001)		4,546.67	0.00	4,546.67
Princeton Courthouse (WV009)		0.00	0.00	0.00
Rich Mountain (WV003)	NRHP	1,872.31	215.00	1,657.31
Shepherdstown (WV016)		2,502.71	0.00	2,502.71
Smithfield Crossing (WV015)		3,647.69	0.00	3,647.69
Summit Point (WV014)		6,966.62	0.00	6,966.62

**Acreage figures reflect only those areas in West Virginia. See the Individual Battlefield Profiles for information about the size of these battlefields as they extend into other states.*

¹³ There are three levels of federal recognition for historic properties. Congressional designations, such as national park (NPS) units, National Historic Landmarks (NHL), and listings in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Congress creates national park units. The Secretary of the Interior designates National Historic Landmarks – nationally significant historic sites – for their exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. The National Register of Historic Places is the nation’s official list of cultural sites significant at the national, state, or local level and worthy of preservation. NPS units and NHLs are also treated as listed in the National Register.

¹⁴ National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, Washington, DC. The precise sum of listed lands is 3,365.40 acres. Note that some National Register lands may have lost integrity since they were listed.

¹⁵ Using GIS, and accounting for overlapping areas, the ABPP calculated that the Potential National Register Boundaries for the 15 battlefields in West Virginia represent 49,084.14 acres. Another 5,795.84 acres of potentially eligible battlefield lands lie in Maryland and Virginia.

Stewardship

Battlefield stewardship in West Virginia has come in fits and starts. The State made the earliest efforts to preserve its historic battlegrounds, setting aside battlefield land at **Droop Mountain** and **Carnifex Ferry**. In 1928, the State dedicated the Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park (318 acres), and seven years later, the Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park (280 acres).

The Federal government was also active in the early-20th century, setting aside large land areas in eastern West Virginia as part of the Monongahela National Forest. The national forest includes a combined 7,000 acres of Civil War battlefield land at **Camp Allegheny**, **Cheat Mountain**, **Droop Mountain**, and **Greenbrier River**. Although the primary mission of the national forest is not historic preservation, federal ownership and management of these sites shields them from inappropriate use and development.

In 1944, President Franklin Roosevelt created the Harpers Ferry National Monument (which became Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in 1966). Proponents of the national park continued to identify and preserve more land at **Harpers Ferry** throughout the 20th century, and this work continues today (about 3,300 acres of the 3,645-acre park are battlefield lands).

The latter half of the 20th century saw a lull in efforts to set aside historic battlefield land for permanent protection and public enjoyment in West Virginia. Then, in 1991, the Rich Mountain Battlefield Foundation, Inc. (RMBF), a private nonprofit organization, began its campaign to preserve **Rich Mountain**. For 18 years, the RMBF has worked with landowners, local officials, the Civil War Preservation Trust, and the American Battlefield Protection Program to protect more than 400 acres. Its success has made the RMBF a statewide model for battlefield stewardship.

Today, battlefield stewardship efforts in West Virginia are on the rise. Since 2000, local organizations and the Civil War Preservation Trust have negotiated conservation easements at **Harpers Ferry**, **Rich Mountain**, **Shepherdstown**, and **Summit Point**. Used in conjunction with or instead of traditional fee simple purchase, conservation easements are becoming increasingly popular land protection tools. Private property owners keep their land and receive tax benefits for donating an easement, but future development of the land is prohibited.

Table 8: Battlefield Stewardship

Steward	Battlefield at Which Land or Development Rights are Owned	Total Acres Protected
Federal Government	Camp Allegheny, Carnifex Ferry, Cheat Mountain, Greenbrier River, Harpers Ferry, Kessler's Cross Lanes, Philippi	12,499.33
State Government	Carnifex Ferry, Cheat Mountain, Droop Mountain, Kessler's Cross Lanes, Princeton Courthouse	1,064.45
Local Governments	None	0.00
Nonprofit Organizations	Rich Mountain, Shepherdstown, Summit Point	881.01
Statewide Total		14,444.79

Through the development of collaborative partnerships among federal, state, and local governments, civic organizations, nonprofit groups, and private individuals, significant protective measures have been and can continue to be effective in West Virginia. Opportunities for concerted action on the part of private landowners and land conservation groups are especially ripe at the eight battlefields where nearly all surviving lands are privately owned and unprotected. For each battlefield, Table 9 compares the amount of land permanently protected from development with the total amount of land that remains intact but is not protected.¹⁶ This information may serve planners as a tool for prioritizing future preservation initiatives.

Table 9: Protective Stewardship of Battlefield Land

Battlefield	Permanently Protected Acres	*ABPP PotNR Acres	Unprotected Acres Remaining
Camp Allegheny (WV008)	1,578.10	2,946.10	1,368.00
Carnifex Ferry (WV006)	1,786.09	1,985.60	199.51
Cheat Mountain (WV005)	5,156.27	9,164.24	4,007.97
Droop Mountain (WV012)	318.00	5,967.69	5,649.69
Greenbrier River (WV007)	583.56	700.00	116.44
Harpers Ferry (WV010)	3,381.85	4,562.31	1,180.46
Hoke's Run (WV002)	0.00	953.45	953.45
Kessler's Cross Lanes (WV004)	353.86	2,103.45	1,749.89
Moorefield (WV013)	0.00	1,824.36	1,824.36
Philippi (WV001)	278.44	4,546.67	4,268.23
Princeton Courthouse (WV009)	127.61	0.00	0.00
Rich Mountain (WV003)	425.60	1,872.31	1,446.71
Shepherdstown (WV016)	265.80	2,502.71	2,236.91
Smithfield Crossing (WV015)	0.00	3,647.69	3,647.69
Summit Point (WV014)	189.61	6,966.62	6,777.01

** Not all protected lands are included in the PotNR boundaries. The ABPP did not assign a PotNR boundary if substantial portions of the landscape do not survive, such as at **Princeton Courthouse***

¹⁶ The ABPP culled information about permanently protected lands from questionnaire respondents and numerous partner organizations. The data is not necessarily complete but provides an approximate idea of the amount of land protected at each battlefield as of 2009. Boundary figures reflect only those areas in West Virginia. See the Individual Battlefield Profiles for information about the size of these battlefields as they extend into Maryland and Virginia.

Public Access and Interpretation

In its questionnaire (see Appendix B), the ABPP asked battlefield stewards about the types of public access and interpretation available at the battlefields. The ABPP did not collect information about the purpose or intent of the interpretation and access, such as whether development of wayside exhibit was for purely educational reasons, to promote heritage tourism, or to boost local economic development.

The ABPP asked respondents to indicate the type of interpretation available at or about the battlefield. The categories included brochures, driving tours, living history demonstrations, maintained historic features or areas, walking tours and trails, wayside exhibits, websites, and other specialized programs. The results, summarized in Table 10, indicate that 10 of West Virginia's 15 Civil War battlefields currently provide some degree of public interpretation and educational opportunities.

Table 10: Types of Interpretation at West Virginia Battlefields

On-site Interpretation*	Battlefield
Battlefields with public interpretation, including visitors center (4)	Carnifex Ferry, Droop Mountain, Harpers Ferry, Rich Mountain
Battlefields with public interpretation, but no visitors center (6)	Camp Allegheny, Cheat Mountain, Greenbrier River, Hoke's Run, Philippi, Shepherdstown
Battlefields with no public interpretation (5)	Kessler's Cross Lanes, Moorefield, Princeton Courthouse, Smithfield Crossing, Summit Point

**For details, see each site's Individual Battlefield Profile.*

Local Advocacy

Nonprofit organizations play important roles in protecting historic battlefields. They step in to preserve historic sites when public funding and management for historic preservation are absent. When public funding is available, nonprofits serve as vital partners in public-private preservation efforts, acting as conduits for public funds, raising critical private matching funds, keeping history and preservation in the public eye, and working with landowners to find ways to protect battlefield parcels.

While organizations with general historical interests may play important roles in battlefield preservation, the nonprofit friends groups identified in Table 11 are dedicated *solely* to the preservation, interpretation, and promotion of a specific battlefield or battlefields. Of the four organizations listed Table 11, three formed or incorporated during or after the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission's study in the early 1990s. This information indicates that the CWSAC's efforts did help focus attention on the vulnerability of West Virginia's battlefields, and did inspire action. Today, well-organized local groups can be found at **Harpers Ferry, Hoke's Run, Rich Mountain, and Shepherdstown**, but others are needed to lead protection efforts at 11 other battlefields. There remains a tremendous opportunity for grassroots activism on behalf of these "unclaimed" battlefields.

Table 11: Active Battlefield Friends Groups

Battlefield	Friends Group(s)	Year Founded
Camp Allegheny (WV008)	None	
Carnifex Ferry (WV006)	None	
Cheat Mountain (WV005)	None	
Droop Mountain (WV012)	None	
Greenbrier River (WV007)	None	
Harpers Ferry (WV010)	Friends of Harpers Ferry Park	1987
Hoke's Run (WV002)	Falling Waters Battlefield Association	2004
Kessler's Cross Lanes (WV004)	None	
Moorefield (WV013)	None	
Philippi (WV001)	None	
Princeton Courthouse (WV009)	None	
Rich Mountain (WV003)	Rich Mountain Battlefield Foundation	1991
Shepherdstown (WV016)	Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association	2004
Smithfield Crossing (WV015)	None	
Summit Point (WV014)	None	



Figure 5: Although residential and commercial development is occurring around the town of Moorefield, the northern portion of the **Moorefield** battlefield remains in agricultural use. Photo by Joseph E. Brent, 2007.

Appendices

Appendix A. Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002

Public Law 107-359, 111 Stat. 3016, 17 December 2002

Amends the American Battlefield Protection Program Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 469k)

An Act

To amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) Findings.--Congress finds the following

(1) Civil War battlefields provide a means for the people of the United States to understand a tragic period in the history of the United States.

(2) According to the Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields, prepared by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, and dated July 1993, of the 384 principal Civil War battlefields--

(A) almost 20 percent are lost or fragmented;

(B) 17 percent are in poor condition; and

(C) 60 percent have been lost or are in imminent danger of being fragmented by development and lost as coherent historic sites.

(b) Purposes.--The purposes of this Act are--

(1) to act quickly and proactively to preserve and protect nationally significant Civil War battlefields through conservation easements and fee-simple purchases of those battlefields from willing sellers; and

(2) to create partnerships among State and local governments, regional entities, and the private sector to preserve, conserve, and enhance nationally significant Civil War battlefields.

SEC. 3. BATTLEFIELD ACQUISITION GRANT PROGRAM.

The American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 469k) is amended--

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as paragraph (3) of subsection (c), and indenting appropriately;

(2) in paragraph (3) of subsection (c) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))--

(A) by striking "Appropriations" and inserting

``appropriations''; and
(B) by striking ``section'' and inserting
``subsection'';

(3) by inserting after subsection (c) the following

``(d) Battlefield Acquisition Grant Program.--

``(1) Definitions.--In this subsection

``(A) Battlefield report.--The term `Battlefield Report' means the document entitled `Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields', prepared by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, and dated July 1993.

``(B) Eligible entity.--The term `eligible entity' means a State or local government.

``(C) Eligible site.--The term `eligible site' means a site--

``(i) that is not within the exterior boundaries of a unit of the National Park System; and

``(ii) that is identified in the Battlefield Report.

``(D) Secretary.--The term `Secretary' means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the American Battlefield Protection Program.

``(2) Establishment.--The Secretary shall establish a battlefield acquisition grant program under which the Secretary may provide grants to eligible entities to pay the Federal share of the cost of acquiring interests in eligible sites for the preservation and protection of those eligible sites.

``(3) Nonprofit partners.--An eligible entity may acquire an interest in an eligible site using a grant under this subsection in partnership with a nonprofit organization.

``(4) Non-federal share.--The non-Federal share of the total cost of acquiring an interest in an eligible site under this subsection shall be not less than 50 percent.

``(5) Limitation on land use.--An interest in an eligible site acquired under this subsection shall be subject to section 6(f)(3) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-8(f)(3)).

``(6) Reports.--

``(A) In general.--Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the activities carried out under this subsection.

``(B) Update of battlefield report.--Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that updates the Battlefield Report to reflect--

``(i) preservation activities carried out at the 384 battlefields during the period between publication of the Battlefield Report and the update;

``(ii) changes in the condition of the battlefields during that period; and

``(iii) any other relevant developments relating to the battlefields during that period.

``(7) Authorization of appropriations.--

“(A) In general.--There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to provide grants under this subsection \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008.

“(B) Update of battlefield report.--There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out paragraph (6)(B), \$500,000.”; and

(4) in subsection (e)--

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “as of” and all that follows through the period and inserting “on September 30, 2008.”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and provide battlefield acquisition grants” after “studies”.

-end-

Appendix B. Battlefield Questionnaire

State
Battlefield

Person Completing Form
Date of completion

I. Protected Lands of the Battlefield (“Protected lands” are these “owned” for historic preservation or conservation purposes. Please provide information on land protected since 1993.)

1) Identify protected lands by parcel since 1993. Then answer these questions about each parcel, following example in the chart below. What is the acreage of each parcel? Is parcel owned fee simple, by whom? Is there is an easement, if so name easement holder? Was the land purchased or the easement conveyed after 1993? What was cost of purchase or easement? What was source of funding and the amount that source contributed? Choose from these possible sources: Coin money, LWCF, Farm Bill, State Government, Local Government, Private Owner, Private Non-Profit (provide name), or Other (describe).

Parcel	Acres	Owner	Easement	Year	Cost	Source
<i>Joe Smith Farm</i>	<i>194</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>SHPO</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>	<i>LWCF/\$250,000 Private/\$250,000</i>
<i>Sue Jones Tract</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Battlefield Friends, Inc.</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>\$41,000</i>	<i>State/\$20,000 BFI/\$21,000</i>

2) Other public or non-profit lands within the battlefield? (Y/N)

- If yes, describe
- Name of public or non-profit owner or easement holder
- Number of Acres owned/held

3) Is the information in a GIS? (Y/N)

If yes, may NPS obtain a copy of the data? (Y/N)

II. Preservation Groups

1) Is there a formal interested entity (friends group, etc) associated with the battlefield? (Y/N)

If yes

Name

Address

Phone

Fax

E-mail

Web site? (Y/N)

- If yes, what is the URL?
- Does the web site have a preservation message? (Y/N)
- What year did the group form?

III. Public Access and Interpretation

1) Does the site have designated Public Access? (Y/N) (Count public roads if there are designated interpretive signs or pull-offs)

If yes, what entity provides the public access (Access may occur on lands owned *in fee* or *under easement* to the above entities)

Federal government

State government

Local government

Private Nonprofit organization

Private owner

Other

Name of entity (if applicable)

Number of Acres Accessible to the Public (size of the area in which the public may physically visit without trespassing. Do not include viewsheds.)

2) Does the site have interpretation? (Y/N)

If yes, what type of interpretation is available?

Visitor Center

Brochure(s)

Wayside exhibits

Driving Tour

Walking Tour

Audio tour tapes

Maintained historic features/areas

Living History

Website

Other

IV. Registration

Applies only to the battlefield landscape, not to individual contributing features of a battlefield (i.e., the individually listed Dunker Church property of .2 acres does not represent the Antietam *battlefield* for the purposes of this exercise)

1) Is the site a designated National Historic Landmark? (Y/N)

If yes, NHL and ID Number

2) Is the site listed in the National Register? (Y/N)

If yes, NRHP Name and ID Number

3) Is the site listed in the State Register? (Y/N)

If yes, State Register Name and ID Number

4) Is the site in the State Inventory? (Y/N)
If yes, State Inventory Name and ID Number

5) Is the site designated as a local landmark or historic site? (Y/N)
Type of Designation/Listing

V. Program Activities

What types of preservation program activities have occurred at the battlefield? Provide final product name and date if applicable (e.g., *Phase I Archeological Survey Report on the Piper Farm, 1994* and *Antietam Preservation Plan, 2001*, etc.)

1) Research and Documentation

2) Cultural Resource surveys and inventories (building/structure and landscape inventories, archeological surveys, landscape surveys, etc.)

3) Planning Projects (preservation plans, site management plans, cultural landscape reports, etc.)

4) Interpretation Projects (also includes education)

5) Advocacy (any project meant to engage the public in a way that would benefit the preservation of the site, e.g. PR, lobbying, public outreach, petitioning for action, etc.)

6) Legislation (any local, state, or federal legislation designed to encourage preservation of the battlefield individually or together with other similar sites)

7) Fundraising

- a. To support program activities?
- b. To support land acquisition/easements?

8) Other

Appendix C. Civil War Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants

The Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002 (PL 107-359) amended the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 (16 USC 469k) to authorize a matching grant program to assist States and local communities in acquiring significant Civil War battlefield lands for permanent protection. Most recently, Congress showed its continued support for these grants through its reauthorization of this program within the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (PL 111-11).

Eligible battlefields are those listed in the 1993 Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields prepared by the Congressionally-chartered Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC). Eligible acquisition projects may be for fee interest in land or for a protective interest such as a perpetual easement.

Since 1998, Congress has appropriated a total of \$38.9 million for this Civil War Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants (CWBLAG) Program. These grants have assisted in the permanent protection of more than 15,742 acres at 61 Civil War battlefields in 14 states. To date, two West Virginia battlefields have received funding through this program, but all 15 of the state's battlefields are eligible for future CWBLAG funding.

Battlefield	CWSAC Priority	Total Acres Acquired	Total CWBLAG Funds	Total Non-Federal Leveraged Funds	Total Acquisition Costs
Harpers Ferry	I	231.78	\$ 539,770.00	\$ 986,217.00	\$ 1,525,987.00
Shepherdstown	III	424.00	\$ 1,040,000.00	\$ 1,040,000.00	\$ 2,080,000.00
Total			\$ 1,579,770.00	\$ 2,026,217.00	\$ 3,605,987.00

Appendix D. American Battlefield Protection Program Planning Grants

Since 1992, ABPP has offered annual planning grants to nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, and local, regional, state, and tribal governments to help protect battlefields located on American soil. Applicants are encouraged to work with partner organizations and federal, state, and local government agencies as early as possible to integrate their efforts into a larger protection strategy. ABPP has awarded \$103,320 in West Virginia.

Grantee	Year	Project Title	Award
<i>Rich Mountain Battlefield Foundation</i>	2008	Camp Elkwater Documentation and Interpretation	\$23,020.00
	1994	Rich Mountain Battlefield Education for Preservation Project	\$39,800.00
	1994	Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike Civil War Corridor Coalition, Preservation, and Interpretation Project	\$40,500.00
Total ABPP Planning Grants as of FY2009			\$103,320.00