

Shiloh National Military Park

Tennessee and Mississippi

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



New Lands Development Concept Plan

The National Park Service (NPS) is requesting public input on preliminary ideas for the development and management of new lands incorporated into Shiloh National Military Park over the last few years. The park needs long-term guidance for public access and resource preservation at recently added siege and battle sites in and around Corinth, Mississippi, and it intends to develop a “New Lands Development Concept Plan” to provide that guidance. Please help inform the management of the park’s outstanding resources by participating in the planning process and attending a public meeting. This newsletter provides background on the planning process and shares information about when the public meetings will occur and how to provide your comments. Thank you for being involved in this process!

Project Overview

Shiloh National Military Park was established in 1894 to preserve the scene of the first major battle in the western theater of the Civil War. Until 2000, the park contained about 3,900 acres of the Shiloh battlefield and the Shiloh National Cemetery in southwestern Tennessee and the land around Battery Robinette in Corinth, Mississippi. The Corinth Battlefield Preservation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-271, 16 US Code 430f-6) significantly expanded the park’s boundary by creating the Corinth unit of the park. The boundary was again expanded through Public Law 110-161 121 Stat. 2122 on December 26, 2007, and again through the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (the Dingell Act) of 2019, bringing the total authorized acreage of Shiloh National Military Park to approximately 9,200 acres.

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May 2024



To date, just over 6,800 acres of that authorized boundary is under NPS management, with about 5,400 at the Shiloh Battlefield Unit (includes Fallen Timbers), approximately 600 acres at the Corinth Battlefield Unit, and approximately 850 acres at the Davis Bridge Battlefield Unit. For the purposes of the development concept plan, “new lands” refers to all park property beyond the Shiloh Battlefield. “Subunit(s)” refers to each distinct area (i.e., Battery Robinette or Contraband Camp) that make up the three management units of the park. Subunits may be made up of multiple legal parcels, not all of which are federally owned.

Currently, there is no management plan to guide restoration of the new lands or to direct interpretive planning and development for visitor access at the distinct subunits. Individual subunits within the new lands have varying degrees of existing access, NPS branding and signage, and visitor opportunities. This development concept plan will act as a general management plan update for the new lands, which were not part of Shiloh National Military Park when the existing general management plan was finalized. General management planning is required for every unit of the national park system, and the development concept plan will ensure that the national military park has a defined direction for resource protection and visitor use. The development concept plan will focus on achieving and maintaining the park’s resource conditions and visitor experiences over time.

It will also consider previous planning work, public input received during this planning process, and planning priorities consistent with the national military park’s purpose.

The NPS kicked off this planning effort in 2023. The development concept plan will allow park management to envision the comprehensive visitor experience throughout the park’s new lands, consider development needs at the new sites, and outline management strategies to provide high-quality recreational opportunities and protect park resources. Of the fifteen subunits making up the park’s new lands, the development concept plan will address those in which the federal government currently has sufficient ownership interest to exercise management authority. The NPS has identified the following nine prioritized areas to include in the development concept planning effort; other new lands will receive management planning at a later date:

- Battery Robinett
- Corinth Contraband Camp
- Fallen Timbers
- Davis Bridge Battlefield Unit
- Battery F
- Federal Lines 5/17
- Federal Lines 5/19
- Federal Lines 5/28
- Confederate Siegeworks

From the Superintendent

Dear Friends,

In recent years, Shiloh National Military Park has seen tremendous growth in acquiring new lands, in large part because of strong community partnerships and engagement. The NPS has expanded operations and is excited to establish a variety of visitor experience opportunities across the park’s new lands. From interpretive walking routes highlighting the rich and unique history of the park’s new properties, to nature trails with abundant opportunities for wildlife viewing, we are excited to embark with our partners, stakeholders, and the public on development concept planning that will guide the park for the next twenty years and beyond. Please take a few moments to review this material and let us know your thoughts about what you want to see in your national park.



Catherine Bragaw,
Superintendent



This newsletter presents potential management options for the national military park's future. Please consider sharing your feedback with us on these preliminary options and answering the questions below. We value your input and thank you for your time.

Preliminary Management Concepts for New Lands of Shiloh National Military Park

The NPS planning team has developed preliminary management concepts that lay a framework for what should be achieved (desired conditions) in new lands and how it can be accomplished (management strategies). The planning team crafted preliminary management concepts for the entirety of new lands (new lands desired conditions) and for each of the nine subunits within new lands (subunit-specific management concepts). You can learn more in the maps and descriptions below.

As you review the preliminary management concepts in this newsletter, please think about how you would like the NPS to manage the park's new lands. Consider sharing your feedback on the following questions:

- **What kinds of activities do you currently enjoy at the park? What types of activities and experiences do you want to see in the future?**
- **What is your vision for future management of the park's new lands? How should the NPS preserve important resources?**
- **What local community organizations or initiatives are you aware of that the NPS could partner with to advance stewardship and preserve resources in the park's new lands?**
- **Which park areas are most important to you and why?**
- **What do you like or dislike about the preliminary management options described in this newsletter and why?**

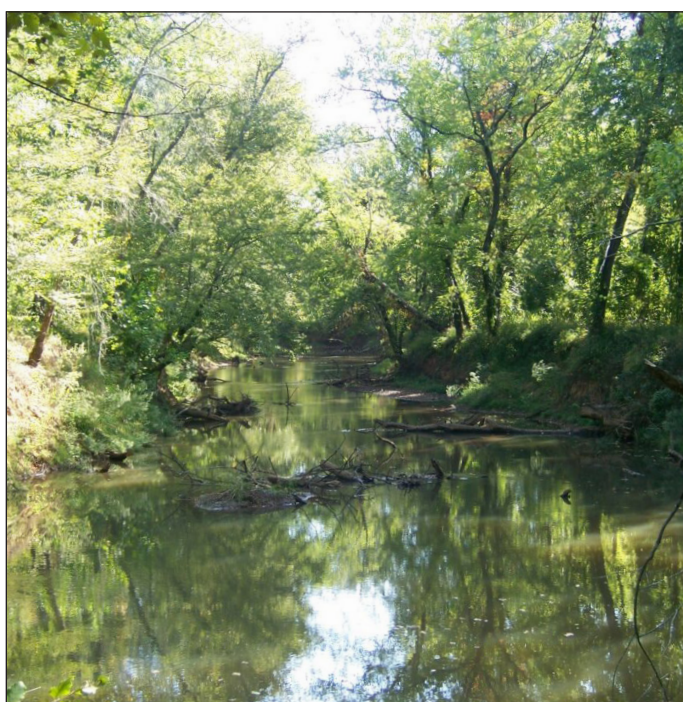
Preliminary New Lands Management Concepts (All Areas)

Preliminary New Lands Desired Conditions

This section outlines the general management direction for new lands of Shiloh National Military Park, including desired conditions for all new lands and subunit-specific descriptions in the section below.

Desired conditions outline the vision for resource conditions, visitor experiences and opportunities, and facilities and services that an agency strives to achieve and maintain in a particular area. They help park managers answer the question, "What are we trying to achieve?" Desired conditions focus on the park's fundamental resources and values; the visitor experience opportunities associated with them; and the types and levels of management, development, and access that would be appropriate in a particular location. The desired conditions descriptions for specific subunits articulate what kinds of experiences and opportunities should be provided for specific areas of the park (these are presented in the subunit-specific descriptions section below).

Subunit-specific descriptions capture where desired conditions and appropriate management actions differ among new lands.





Visitor Experience

- Visitors of all levels of ability will have access and opportunities to experience the park's main attractions and facilities.
- Visitors have access to recreational, interpretive, and educational opportunities consistent with the solemnity of the site.
- Visitors understand the appearance of the landscape before, during, and after the period of historical significance of each site.
- Visitors have opportunities to explore, discover, and find meaning and relevance in the landscape and the history that it represents.
- Visitors have opportunities for solitude and reflection.
- Visitors have a consistent experience with coordinated regulatory, interpretive, and wayfinding signage and messaging that contribute to visitor understanding of the history of the lands and orientation/navigation within the park.
 - Visitors can navigate between discontinuous units of the park in a logical manner that contributes to their understanding of the history associated with the siege, battle, and occupation of Corinth, and its association with the Battle of Shiloh.
 - Visitors understand the history of and relationship between adjacent park lands.
 - Signage ensures visitors know they are visiting a NPS unit.
- Park programs and events appeal to diverse audiences, facilitate personal connections, and inspire stewardship of the park.



Cultural Resources & Natural Resources

- Natural and cultural resources are protected and contribute to the historic and contemplative aspects of the landscape.

Cultural Resources

- Cultural resources are understood, preserved, and interpreted.
- To the extent feasible, newly acquired properties are restored to their historic conditions, including historic viewsheds.
- Cultural resources outside of the park's boundaries related to its period of significance are understood and connected to the park's historical narratives and, to the extent possible, preserved in cooperation with partners.

Natural Resources

- Natural resources are understood, managed for ecosystem protection, and interpreted.
- Natural resources complement the historic settings of the park's landscapes, and native species dominate the landscape.

Plan Project Area

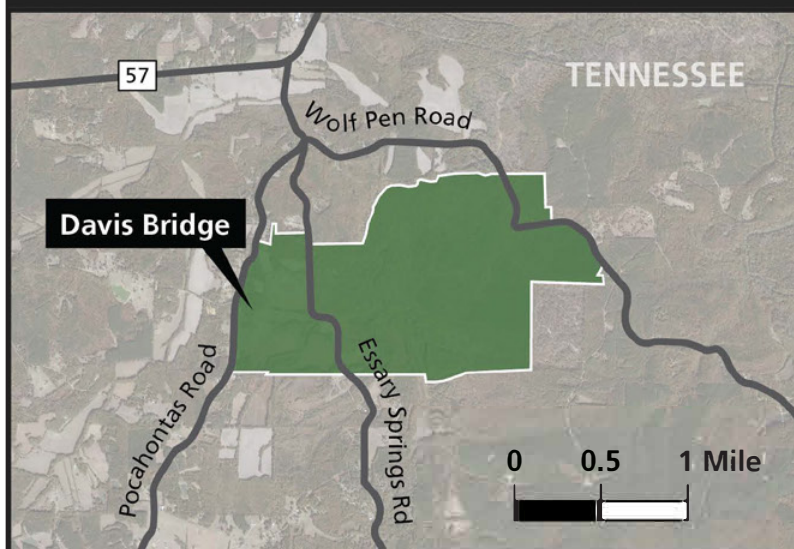
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Shiloh National Military Park
New Lands Development Concept Plan

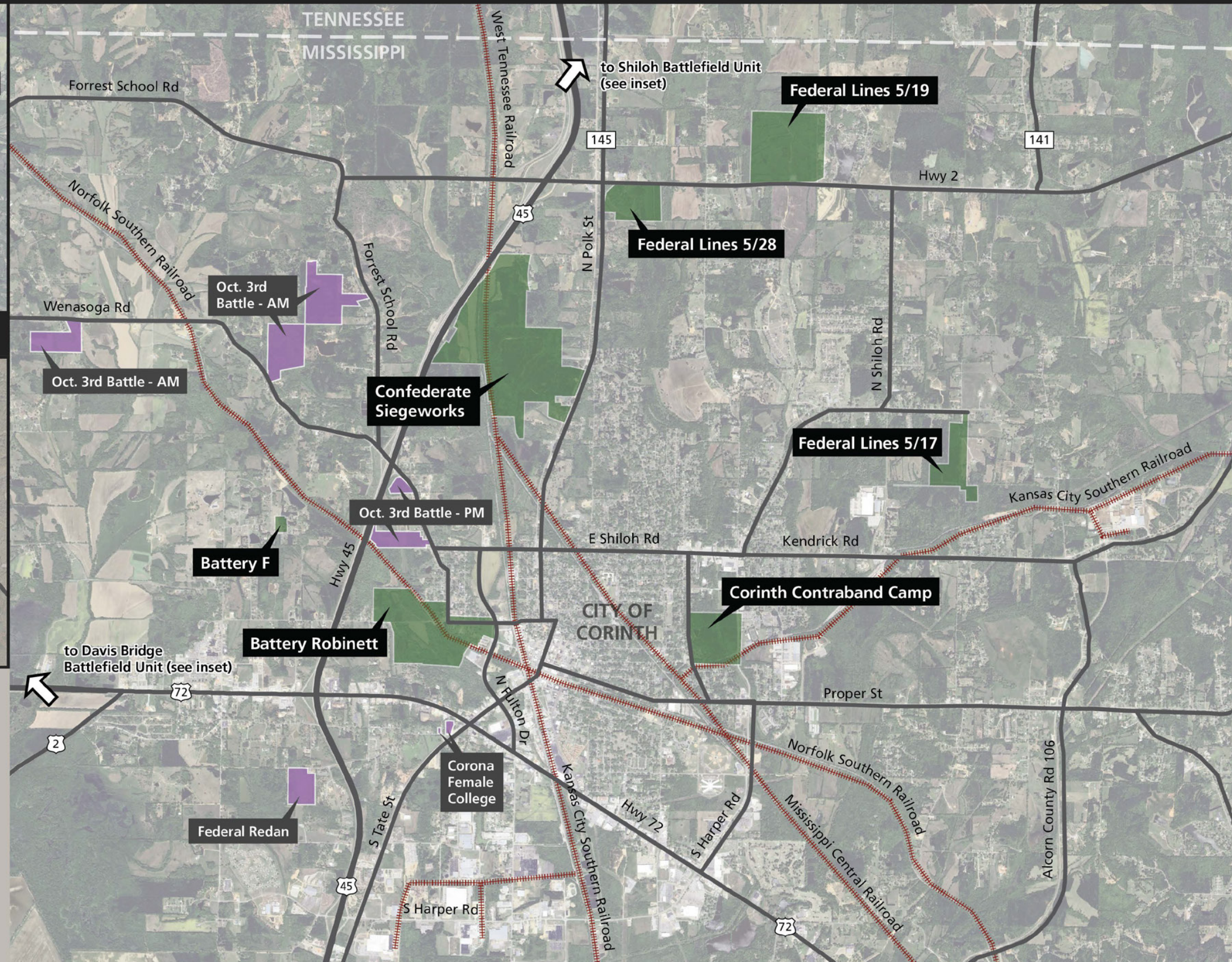
Shiloh Battlefield Unit


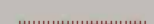




Davis Bridge Battlefield Unit



Corinth Battlefield Unit



-  Road
-  Railroad
-  Plan Project Area
-  Other Park Lands





Preliminary New Lands Management Strategies

A consistent interpretive and orientation experience would be provided within the new lands by installing a kiosk adjacent to where the visitor experience begins at each subunit (parking lots, outdoor recreation access routes, etc.). The kiosk would include interpretive information specific to the subunit that identifies the land's association with the siege, battle or occupation; orientation information specific to navigating opportunities within that subunit; a timeline that connects the historic events of that subunit with the broader story of all lands within the park; and a relief that geographically presents the historic events of that subunit within the broader story of all lands in the park. Similarly, consistent NPS branding infrastructure would be established at each subunit so visitors know they are visiting a unit of the NPS. Worm fencing would be placed in areas adjacent to parking areas and along the corner boundaries of the subunits. NPS boundary signs would be installed along the perimeter of each subunit's NPS land ownership boundary.

To the extent feasible given topography and resource constraints at each subunit, new and modified pedestrian routes would be developed to meet Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS). Routes to primary visitor experiences and facilities would meet accessible route standards (ABAAS 401-403). Routes to viewing areas and trailheads would be developed as outdoor recreation access routes and are typically referred to as "routes" in the descriptions below. New hiking trails, where the trail's primary purpose is interpretive and recreational, would be constructed to meet trail standards as outlined in ABAAS 1017 to the extent practicable and are referred to as "trails" below.



Facilities & Services

- Facilities are sustainably designed, provide accessible services, and facilitate interpretive opportunities.
- Facilities and other anthropologic signs on the landscape are appropriate relative to the cultural landscape and contribute to telling the story of the history of the park.
 - To the extent feasible, regimental markers are present in a fashion resembling the commission markers at Shiloh, as are cannon placements and waysides marking other historical events of significance to facilitate interpretation.
 - Knowledge of the location and significance of cultural and natural resources inform the placement of facilities.
 - Grounds are well maintained so there are no signs on the landscape that detract from the visitor experience, including but not limited to modern debris and litter.

Partnerships

- Meaningful relationships with partners, including but not limited to neighboring communities, are developed and maintained to work toward common goals, including protecting, stewarding, and interpreting the park.

Preliminary Subunit-Specific Management Concepts

Battery Robinett

Preliminary Desired Conditions

In addition to parkwide desired conditions, the following conditions description applies to Battery Robinett.

This subunit is managed as a solemn and historic landscape. Visitors have opportunities for contemplative, meditative, and reflective experiences and to understand the connection between burial sites (e.g., those known to exist and those only recognized as memorial in context) and the soldiers and citizens who experienced the battle. As such, active forms of recreation are not compatible with this subunit. In addition to opportunities to interpret and connect to the monuments, visitors have opportunities to learn about how the entire battle of Corinth was decided at this location and that this is the site where a Civil War general is buried, making it unique among all other NPS Civil War sites. The subunit’s significance as the location where the battle was ultimately decided is interpreted to and understood by visitors. This subunit’s topography (a high point) is leveraged to orient visitors to the larger battlefield. As the orientation site for new lands, visitors have frequent encounters with one another, with opportunities for quiet contemplation increasing as visitors venture farther from the visitor center.



Monuments, including those erected shortly after the battle, are preserved in perpetuity and in a sensitive manner. Regimental markers are present to indicate to visitors where actions took place. Visitors can access and interpret these markers via walking and observation.

This subunit is within a city, and the natural landscape resembles an urban interface typical of other local city parks. The area north of W. Linden Street west of the railroad tracks offers a more forested experience compared to the rest of the subunit, with abundant opportunities for wildlife viewing. To the extent feasible, visitors have opportunities to observe wildlife such as deer grazing in the evening or bird species such as woodpeckers. This subunit will be managed to maintain the current greenspace and acquire new lands to expand greenspace as appropriate. Future acquired lands will be reverted to the historic landscape.

Resources and the visitor center meet Architectural Barriers Act accessibility standards. This subunit has a higher density of visitor use facilities (including existing facilities) and serves as the central location for interpretive, administrative, and maintenance facilities for the Davis Bridge Battlefield Unit and all subunits of the Corinth Battlefield Unit. These facilities are maintained and enhanced for staff operations and visitor orientation, education, and interpretation. New facilities are developed in a manner that minimizes impacts to the integrity of the historic battlefield, including historic viewsheds.

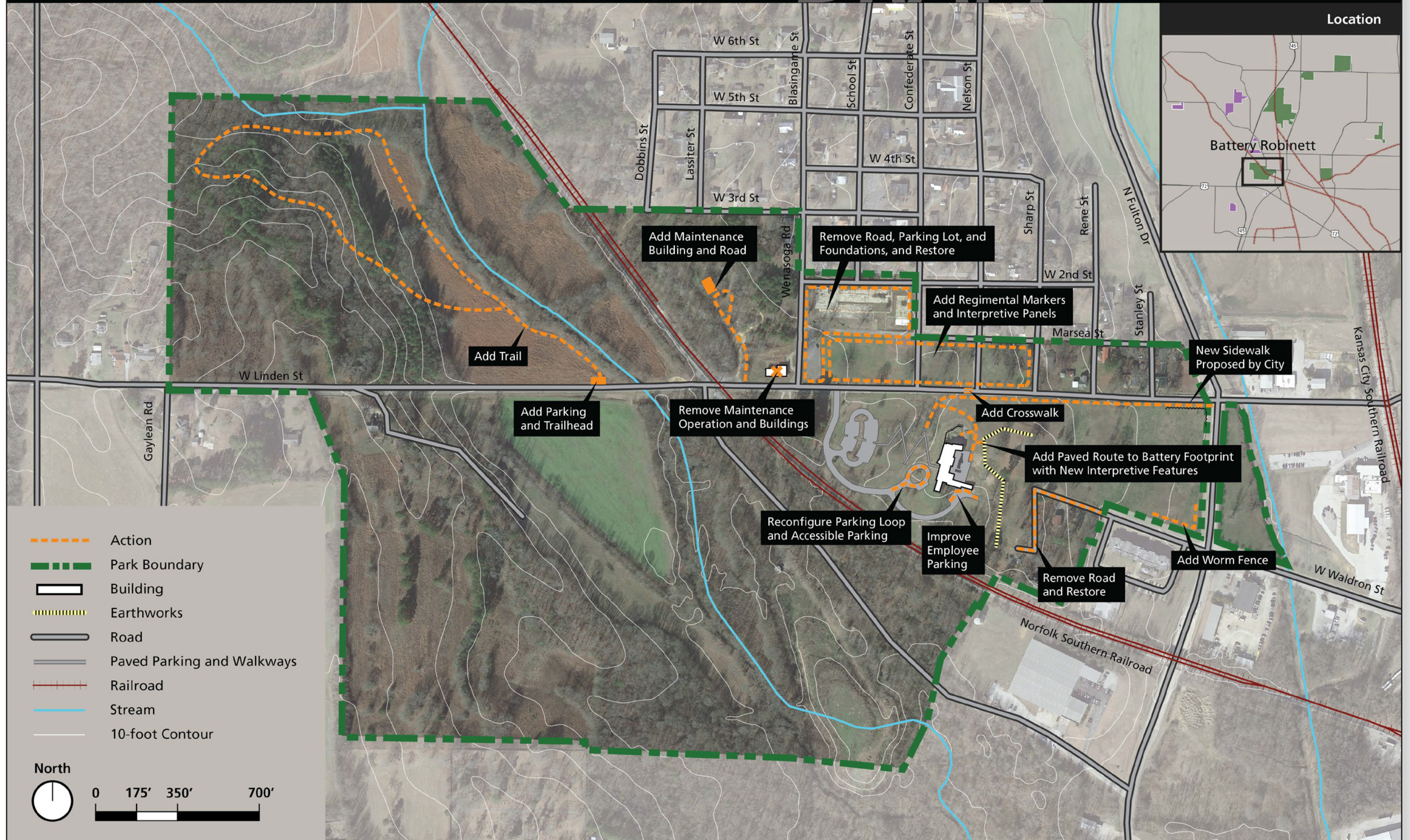
Preliminary Management Strategies

Battery Robinett and the Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center would continue to be the initial and most prominent visitor contact experience. The interpretive center would be redesignated the “Siege and Battle of Corinth Visitor Center, Shiloh National Military Park,” and signs and media would be updated. At this subunit, visitors would receive information about Battery Robinett as well as the other NPS areas in and around Corinth and would be provided information about how to plan visits to the other sites most efficiently. The memorial fountain area at the visitor center would be repaired.

Battery Robinett - Preliminary Management Strategies

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New Lands Development Concept Plan



Battery F - Preliminary Management Strategies

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Shiloh National Military Park
New Lands Development Concept Plan



A small parking area that accommodates up to five passenger vehicles would be established on the northern side of Linden Street just west of Turner Creek to provide access to the westernmost areas of the subunit. The existing dirt road would be rehabilitated and would be part of a new trail established to create a nature loop experience. Interpretive waysides with information on the natural and cultural significance of the land would be installed along the loop trail.

A new maintenance facility with an access road would be built on an existing concrete footprint just east of the Norfolk Southern railroad. The existing forested conditions around the area would be retained to screen the new facility from view. This new maintenance facility would replace existing maintenance facilities in the repurposed brick building (former day care center), which would be removed and its surrounding landscape restored to natural conditions similar to the lands adjacent to it.

The park would work with the City of Corinth to remove and restore the section of W. Waldron Street west of the assisted living apartment complex.

Similarly, the parking lot adjacent to the intersection of W. Linden Street and Wenasoga Road would be removed, and the landscape would be restored. After the concrete schoolhouse foundation is removed from the land just north of Marsea Street, Marsea Street would be removed, and the landscape would be restored to a more natural appearance comparable to the existing grounds in the wider unit.

The existing vehicle loop near the entrance to the visitor center would be reconfigured within its existing footprint to provide additional accessible parking spaces and opportunities for improved tour bus navigation and parking within the lot. Reconfiguration of the staff parking lot (within the existing footprint) south of the visitor center would provide more spaces.

New, safe pedestrian access will be provided to downtown Corinth via a city-installed sidewalk that will run east/west on the south side of Linden Street. It will enter the park on its eastern boundary at Linden Street, run parallel over the natural ridge of the site, then turn southwest to meet the existing entrance walkway for the visitor center.

The park would work with partners to establish a crosswalk along the sidewalk with flashing safety lights to cross Linden Street. This crossing would provide visitors safe access to additional interpretive opportunities, including regimental markers and interpretive waysides placed north of Linden Street.

A natural paved pedestrian route would be established beginning at the exit of the memorial fountain and providing access to the area of the battery, the existing monument area, and the battery exhibit north of the visitor center; it would meet the city-installed sidewalk to the northwest of the visitor center. The battery would be marked on the landscape, and interpretive features including regimental markers and cannons would be placed at the battery according to the battle action. Interpretive waysides would be installed along the route and at the battery area.

Worm fencing would extend approximately 50 feet from the center point of the 90° angle on each boundary corner of the subunit (100 feet of fencing per corner total).

Battery F

Preliminary Desired Conditions

In addition to parkwide desired conditions, the following conditions description applies to Battery F.

This subunit is situated within a surrounding residential neighborhood. Access improvements for this subunit include providing a parking lot and trails to connect visitors to resources. New infrastructure, including the parking lot and trails, is accessible and has adequate signage to inform visitors of the importance of preserving the surviving historic fabric. Given the sensitive nature of surviving resources, combined with the small size of the subunit, active forms of recreation are not compatible at this subunit.

Visitors have opportunities for self-guided interpretation to experience the contemplative and educational landscape. Visitors have opportunities to understand the appearance of the landscape before, during, and after the period of significance of the Battery. Interpretive waysides convey the historic significance of the placement of the battery as well as the battle and occupation of Corinth.



Interpretive installations, including cannon, regimental markers, and waysides, contribute to visitor understanding of the history of the subunit. Ranger-led interpretive experiences are infrequent and associated with historic anniversaries, and other special events are small in scale and infrequent.

To the extent feasible, the cultural landscape is restored while protecting natural resources, preserving the stability of the earthworks, and maintaining the forested screening of the modern communities that surround this subunit.

Minimal facilities and services provide access to and understanding of the site.

Preliminary Management Strategies

Worm fencing would extend approximately 30 feet from the center point of the 90° angle on each boundary corner of the subunit (60 feet of fencing per corner). Worm fencing would also be installed east of Bitner Road across from Scenic Lake Drive to mitigate resource impacts from parking in this undesignated parking area. The existing worm fencing on the east side of the subunit would be removed and reused in the locations described above.

A parking lot would be established in the southeast corner of the subunit off Davis Drive to accommodate up to three passenger vehicles and a tour bus. Hardwood trees would be planted adjacent to the northwest corner of the parking lot to provide shade and screening of the lot, and benches would be installed in the shaded area.

A natural-surface route would be established starting at the north side of the parking lot and leading to the footprint of the battery. At the southern base of the battery footprint, the route would split into two routes—one moving northwest following the exterior of the battery and the other continuing northward into the battery. A wayside would be installed where the route splits into two to provide interpretive and wayfinding information. At the end of the route within the footprint of the battery, a wayside would provide additional interpretive information that complements artillery installations and regimental markers that would be placed in this area.

The two existing waysides across from Scenic Lake Drive in the interior of the subunit would be removed. Similarly, the signpost near Scenic Lake Dive would be removed and relocated.

Native grasses and wildflowers would be planted throughout the subunit to support pollinator habitat and reduce mowing obligations. Regular mowing would be limited to a mowed buffer 12–16 feet wide around the perimeter of the subunit. Likewise, areas around pedestrian routes, waysides, artillery installations, and regimental markers would be maintained.

Confederate Siegeworks

Preliminary Desired Conditions

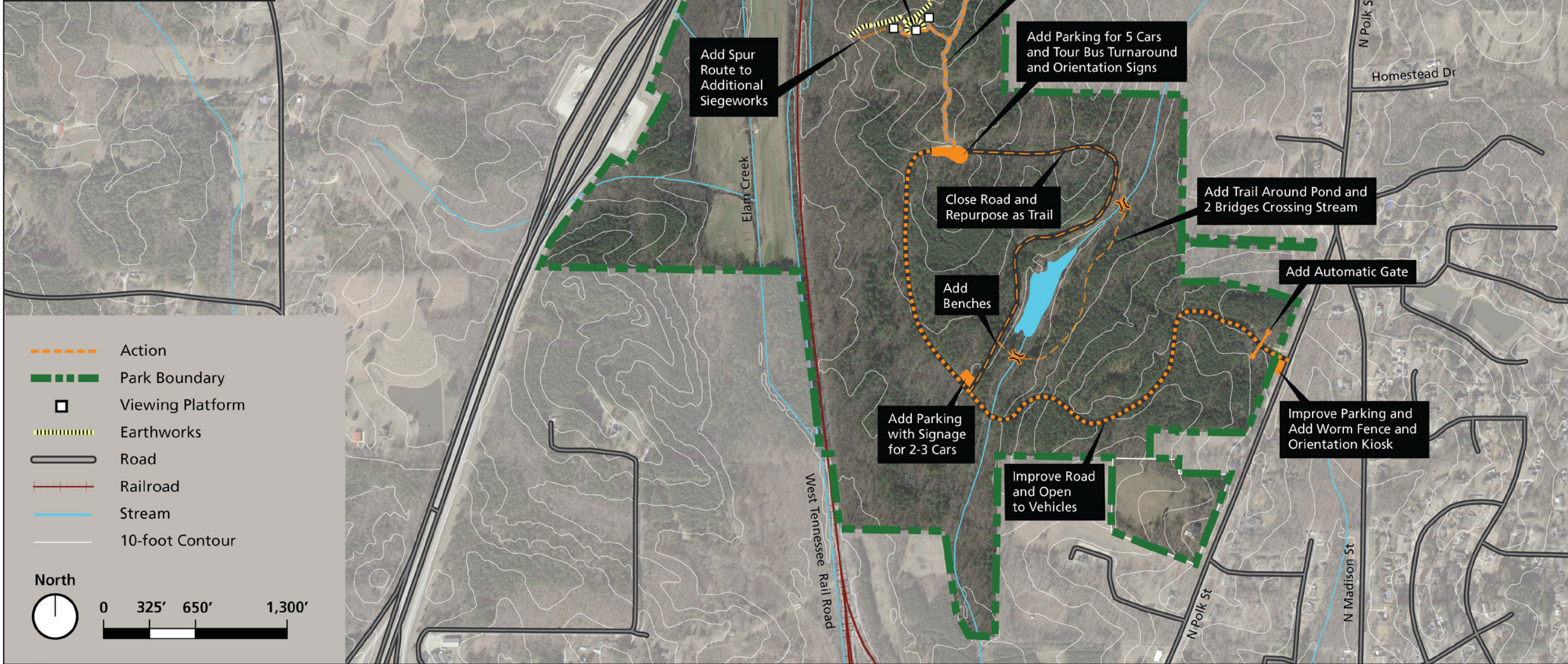
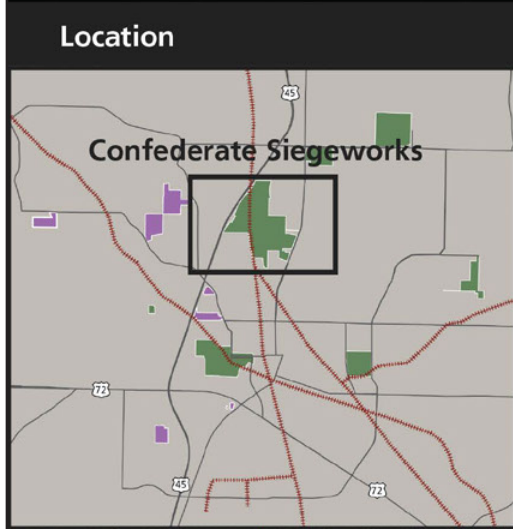
In addition to parkwide desired conditions, the following conditions description applies to Confederate Siegeworks.

This subunit offers a more secluded experience with more greenspace when compared to other subunits of new park lands. As such, this subunit supports opportunities for hiking, wildlife viewing, running, and other forms of recreation, though interpretation and education is the primary use. Visitors can access the intact earthworks and interpret them through a reflective and contemplative experience. Visitors understand siegeworks were built by enslaved peoples forced to work alongside Confederate soldiers; here they have additional opportunities for reflection and contemplation.

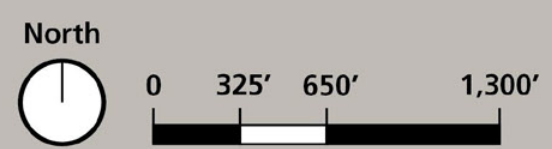
Confederate Siegeworks - Preliminary Management Strategies

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Shiloh National Military Park
New Lands Development Concept Plan



- Action
- Park Boundary
- ▣ Viewing Platform
- Earthworks
- ▬ Road
- ▬ Railroad
- ▬ Stream
- ▬ 10-foot Contour



Federal Lines 5/17 - Preliminary Management Strategies

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Shiloh National Military Park
New Lands Development Concept Plan



The existing historic fabric of the siegeworks are preserved and protected, and on-site interpretive materials further describe its historic appearance. Similarly, natural resources and processes are protected and interpreted to visitors in areas of natural significance and access. The existing native ecosystem is maintained, and native flora and fauna dominate the landscape.

Infrastructure operations balance visitor access with the preservation of sensitive cultural resources. Use of automatic gates may be considered to manage day and night use. Parking and safe vehicle access to the subunit support opportunities to access and interpret the earthworks in a manner consistent with resource preservation and visitor safety. Trails and waysides provide access to cultural and natural resources of significance and educational opportunities to learn about the native environment and historic significance of the subunit. Observation platforms may be considered to provide additional wildlife observation opportunities.

The NPS collaborates with partners and/or acquisition authorities to preserve the intact siegeworks outside the NPS boundary.

Preliminary Management Strategies

An automatic gate would be installed at the existing entrance road off North Polk Street. The automatic gate would operate to manage day use and close at sunset, with vehicles still able to exit from inside the subunit. The road from N. Polk Street to the existing parking lot near the trailhead to the earthworks would open to vehicle access. The rest of the road loop that follows the creek (approximately 0.8 miles) would remain closed to vehicle traffic to provide for a hiking and nature trail experience. Gates would be installed at both ends of the road loop section closed to vehicle use to manage that section as a hiking and nature trail while still providing administrative and emergency access. The section of the road loop open to vehicle access would be widened to accommodate both vehicle and pedestrian use, and speed bumps would be installed to manage slow speeds on the road. The surface type of the road would be identified in the future, and associated compliance would be completed.



The existing parking lots on N. Polk Street and along the road loop near the trailhead to the earthworks would be improved to accommodate pedestrian vehicles and a tour bus, including a turnaround area. The interpretive and orientation kiosk as described in would be installed at the existing parking lot on N. Polk Street. A new parking area with minimal signage would be established on the road loop just west of the creek and near the intersection of the loop junction to accommodate two to three pedestrian vehicles. Signage here would provide route orientation information and minimal interpretive information.

The existing route to the earthworks would be improved, and existing observation platforms would be improved and replaced as needed. A new natural-surface route off the main route leading to the earthworks just east of the railroad would be established and would include an observation platform. Interpretive waysides would be installed at the three earthworks viewing areas of the existing route and new spur route.

A new trail would be established in the section of the loop road closed to vehicle traffic to complement the hiking and nature trail experience. The new trail would cross the creek to form a loop around the pond, intersecting with the existing loop road in two areas. Benches would be installed where the loop trail intersects with the existing road to provide for nature viewing experiences.

1862 Federal Siege Lines 5/17, 5/19, and 5/28

Preliminary Desired Conditions

In addition to parkwide desired conditions, the following conditions description applies to 1862 Federal Siege Lines 5/17, 5/19, and 5/28.

These subunits are located in different areas, consistent with the relevant evolving military events and timeframe of the occupied territory as well as the corresponding earthwork fortifications the subunits' dated names represent; however, the subunits share broadly similar management goals. At the Federal Siege Lines 5/17 and 5/19 sites, visitors have opportunities for immersive experiences through exploring the surviving Federal earthwork fortifications on foot, providing a visceral connection to the experience of a soldier in war. Visitors also have opportunities to recognize nature's reclamation of the land and appreciate nature's ability to heal and restore itself, inspiring feelings of serenity. Visitors to the Federal Lines 5/28 site will have a less immersive experience due to the proximity of a busy highway and parking lot closer in context to the surviving earthworks. This site is more conducive to general recreation and active group recreation such as running. In addition, the site offers visitors the opportunity to engage with a sizable natural landscape inhabited by native wildlife.

Cultural resources are protected and preserved at all three sites, including but not limited to historic viewsheds. For example, visitors have opportunities to interpret a restored viewshed that represents conditions present at the time of the May 19th fortification period, to the extent feasible given available historic documentation. Natural processes progress and shape the landscape while NPS balances preserving and protecting cultural resources. Given the urban interface of these subunits, invasive species management will contribute to an ecosystem dominated by native flora and fauna.

Access and experience improvements for these subunits include providing parking lots, trails, and interpretation. Wayfinding signage provides both interpretive and orientation information that connects the three subunits. Designated footpaths provide visitors with intentional access to resources of significance and mitigate adverse impacts associated with off-trail use.

Preliminary Management Strategies for Federal Siege Lines 05/17

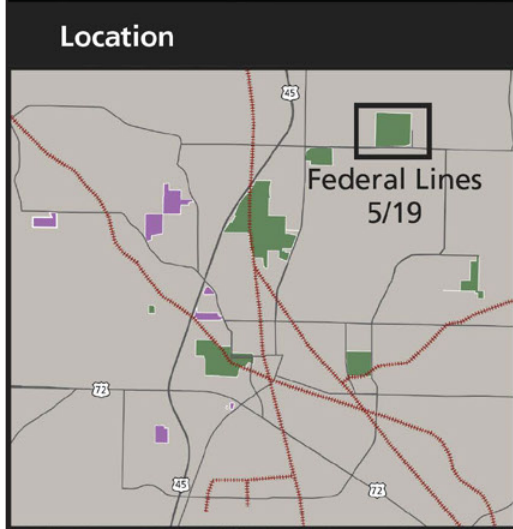
A parking lot would be established in the northeast corner of the subunit off Henderson Road to accommodate up to five passenger vehicles and a tour bus. Benches and an orientation kiosk would be installed adjacent to the parking lot.



Federal Lines 5/19 - Preliminary Management Strategies

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Shiloh National Military Park
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- - - Action
- i New Interpretive Feature
- / / / Vegetation Action
- - - Park Boundary
- ||||| Federal Earthworks
- Road
- Stream
- 10-foot Contour

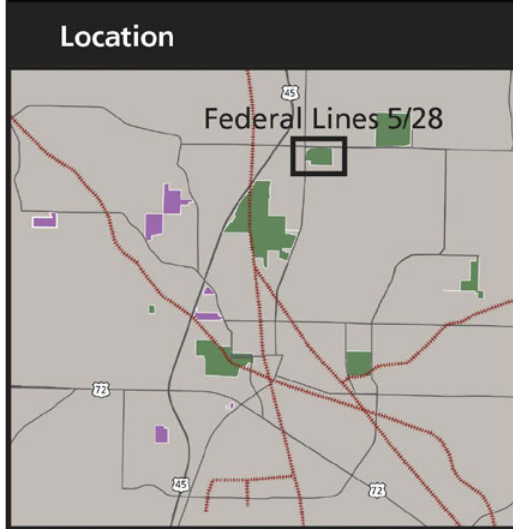
North



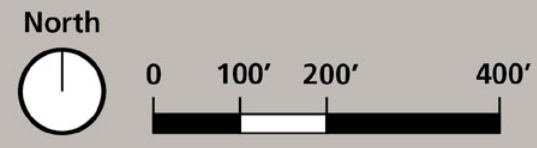
Federal Lines 5/28 - Preliminary Management Strategies

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Shiloh National Military Park
New Lands Development Concept Plan



- Action
- New Interpretive Feature
- Vegetation Action
- Park Boundary
- Federal Earthworks
- Road
- Existing Nature Trail
- Stream
- 10-foot Contour



A natural-surface route would be established starting at the south side of the parking lot and leading to the southern end of the subunit. North of the old access road and east of the historic viewshed, the route would split into a loop—one way moving west to the historic redoubt/redan and viewshed and the other continuing southward toward the earthworks. Waysides would be installed along the route leading to the loop, where the loop splits into two directions and the historic viewshed can be experienced, and in the southeasternmost area of the subunit to interpret the earthworks in this area.

The area of and around the former access road on the south side of the subunit would be reforested.

Preliminary Management Strategies for Federal Siege Lines 05/19

A parking lot would be established near the northeast corner of the subunit off Cantrell Road to accommodate up to five passenger vehicles and a tour bus.

A natural-surface loop route would be established starting on the west side of the parking lot and leading to the earthworks. Moving northwest, the loop route would lead to the northern boundary of the subunit before turning back southeast and following the east side of the earthworks, then turning northeastward to loop back to the parking lot. Interpretive waysides with historical information regarding the camps and earthworks would be installed along this route. Adjacent to where this loop route turns northeast leading back to the parking lot, there's a natural break in the earthworks. Here, another loop trail would be established on the west side of the earthworks, leading westward to a feeder branch for Bridge Creek, with an interpretive wayside installed adjacent to Bridge Creek with information on May 21 lines. After following the feeder branch for Bridge Creek south and turning east to loop back to the parking lot, this loop trail would cross back to the east side of the earthworks through another natural break in the resource, leading northwest and following the earthworks to connect to the initial loop route. Though this loop trail would provide nature-based recreation opportunities, an interpretive wayside with information on the earthworks would be installed where the loop trail crosses from the west side to the east side of the earthworks.

The area on the west side of the earthworks just north of the west loop trail would be cleared to provide intermittent and partial historic vistas using prescribed fire management.

The existing parking lot off State Highway 2 would be removed, and the footprint would be restored to historic battlefield conditions. Similarly, the existing road beginning on the north side of the existing parking lot off State Highway 2 would be removed, and the landscape would be restored to historic battlefield conditions.

Preliminary Management Strategies for Federal Siege Lines 5/28

A parking lot would be established off State Highway 2 on the north side of the subunit or on the west side of the subunit with access off North Polk Street. The parking lot would be built to accommodate up to five passenger vehicles and a tour bus. The current signed entrance at the northwest corner of the subunit adjacent to the right-of-way formed by the intersection of North Polk Street and State Highway 2 would be removed, as would the short connector trail that services the current entrance.

If the lot is established off State Highway 2, the park would work with partners to seek a speed limit reduction on a short stretch of the highway approaching the North Polk Street intersection (to provide increased safety entering the lot) and would establish a natural-surface route starting at the southwest corner of the parking lot and leading southeast toward the earthworks. At the base of the footprint of the earthworks, the route would split in two directions to form a loop—one way moving southeast following the west side of the earthworks and the other leading south, forming a loop at the southernmost point of the trail. Waysides would be installed along the route between the parking lot and the start of the loop trail to interpret the historic viewshed as well as along the loop route adjacent to the earthworks. To the west and south of these waysides, respectively, the viewshed would be restored through vegetation thinning. The existing nature trail in this subunit would be maintained.

If the lot is established off North Polk Street, the trail system would be as described above but would be accessed by a short spur running northeast from the lot, including a footbridge over the drainage.

Fallen Timbers

Preliminary Desired Conditions

In addition to parkwide desired conditions, the following conditions description applies to Fallen Timbers.

This subunit provides opportunities for visitors to interpret the Federal advance upon Corinth and its subsequent siege after the Battle of Shiloh. Visitors understand this subunit is associated with the Battle of Shiloh and the importance of the subunit within the broader context of the entire park unit. Visitors have opportunities for both self-discovery and guided experiences, including special events to celebrate important Civil War anniversaries, though self-guided interpretation and discovery is the primary use. Opportunities for ranger- or partner-led programs, including but not limited to living history events, are available on occasion. The NPS collaborates with community partners to host community-led interpretive programs for visitors.

With mostly open terrain, there's an opportunity to restore the Civil War-era landscape, including restoring historic viewsheds and preserving significant topography and extant resources such as the Ridge Road trace.



Natural resources are protected and managed in a way that compliments the historic landscape and rural surroundings of the subunit. Prescribed fire is used to ensure a healthy forest ecosystem with abundant wildlife. Archaeological resources are understood, and their location and condition inform the restoration actions and placement of interpretive infrastructure.

Facilities and infrastructure on site are minimal and provide access to historic features of the battlefield. Existing roads, parking lots, and trails provide vehicle and pedestrian access to meaningful locations and can accommodate bus parking as part of a tour stop. Waysides and other signage provide information for visitors to navigate to Fallen Timbers from the state highway and from other new lands.

Preliminary Management Strategies

A parking lot would be established on the west side of Joe Dillon Road, just north of the historic road trace, to accommodate five passenger vehicles and a tour bus. An orientation kiosk would be installed near the lot; this kiosk would offer more extensive information compared to kiosks at other subunits, as it would be the only interpretive structure in this subunit and the final tour stop interpreting the Battle of Shiloh. The kiosk would include extensive wayfinding information to ensure visitors are able to navigate south to Corinth.

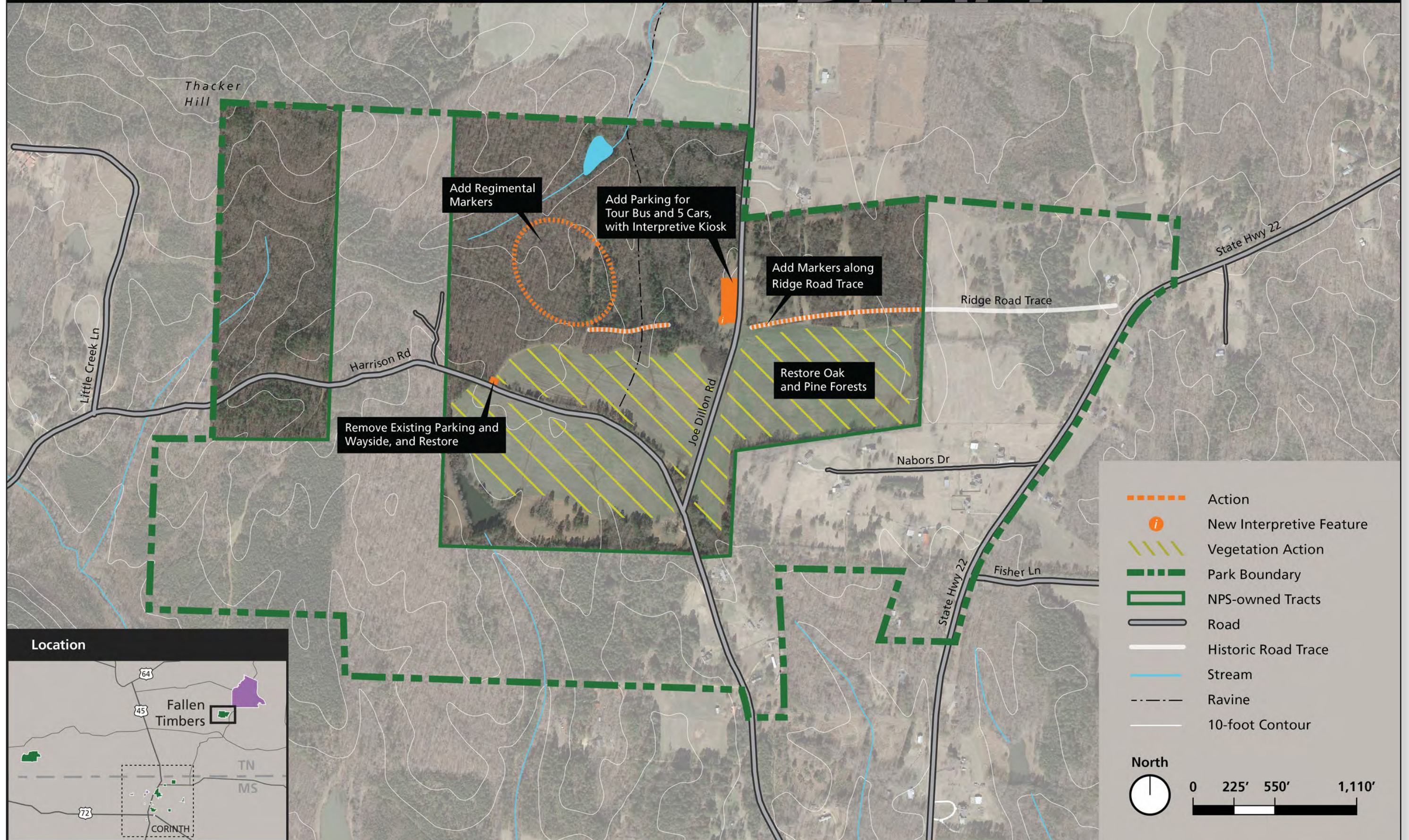
No new routes or trails would be established until further research is complete. Regimental markers would be placed to mark historical actions in the core combat area around the creek. The area between the creek and parking lot would be cleared and restored, with the aid of prescribed fire management, to provide opportunities for visitors to view and interpret the regimental markers in the core combat area. Clearings upslope from the creek would represent where fallen timbers were historically located. The historic road trace would be marked on both the west and east sides of Joe Dillon Road.

The area south of Harrison Road and the area east of Joe Dillon Road and south of the historic road trace would be encouraged to densely reforest to reflect the historic conditions.

Fallen Timbers - Preliminary Management Strategies

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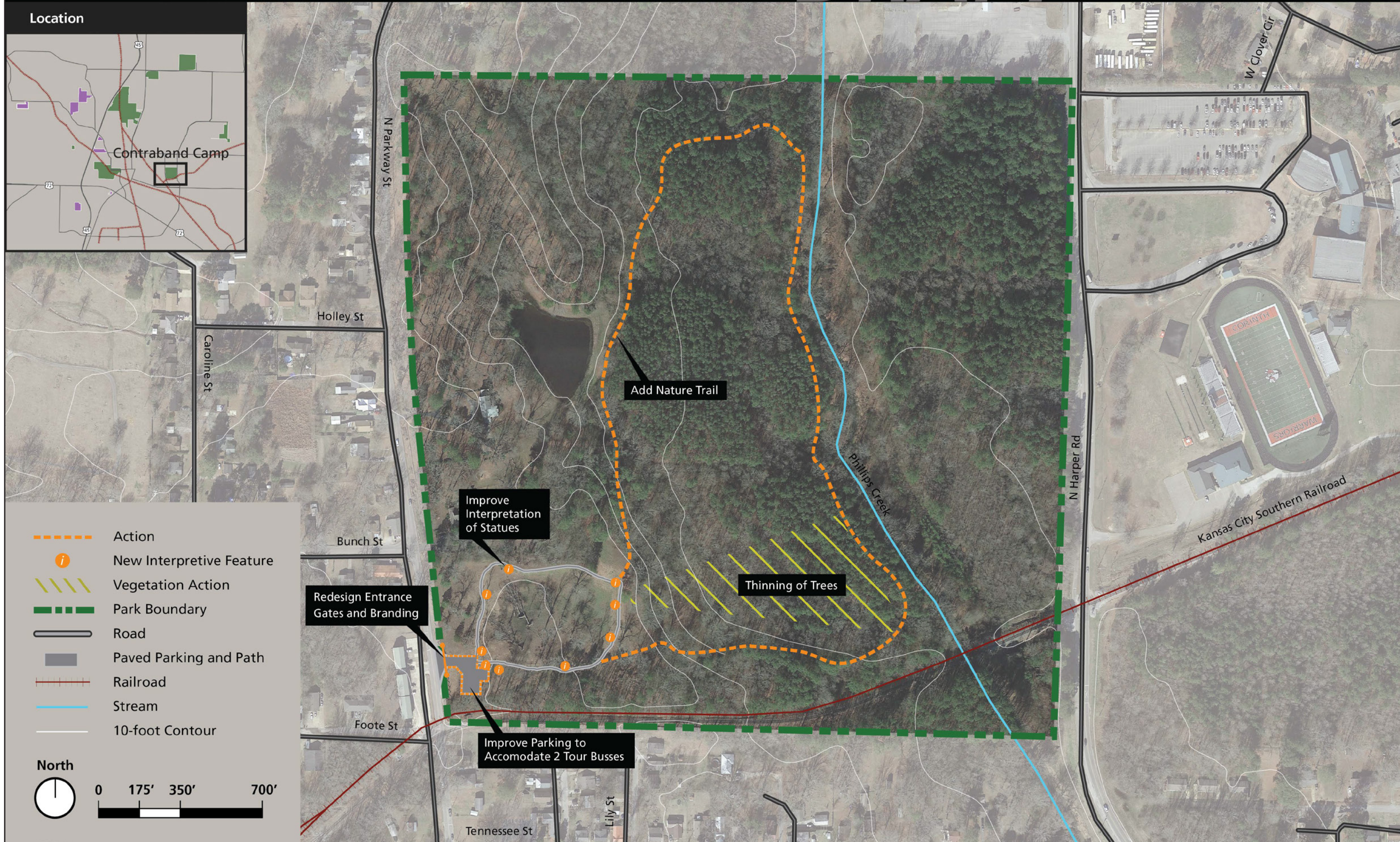
Shiloh National Military Park
New Lands Development Concept Plan



Contraband Camp - Preliminary Management Strategies

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Corinth Contraband Camp

Preliminary Desired Conditions

In addition to parkwide desired conditions, the following conditions description applies to Corinth Contraband Camp.

The Contraband Camp site includes remains of artillery redoubts that were manned by Confederate troops. However, this subunit is unique among park lands in that the post-battle Contraband Camp cooperative farm facility was established here. Visitors will recognize this and understand the history of self-emancipation, the unique personal stories of the residents of Corinth, and the history of this site as a “model” contraband camp during the war. Interpretive materials elaborate on the significance and meaning of the six existing statues and convey the origin and importance of the term “contraband.” Though the primary use is interpretation, walking paths provide visitors additional recreational opportunities such as walking and observing wildlife.

Remnant Confederate earthworks are preserved and protected, and archeological resources are understood. However, public interpretation of the contraband camp and cooperative farm are the primary focus in this subunit. The condition of archeological and other cultural resources informs landscape restoration actions and placement of interpretive infrastructure. Resources related to the Corinth Contraband Camp outside NPS boundaries are identified, researched, and, to the extent feasible, preserved in collaboration with partners.



Natural resources provide services as a healthy urban-interface public greenspace.

Facilities and infrastructure provide access to the commemorative and historic features of the site and facilitate a comprehensive educational experience interpreting the camp. Trails throughout the subunit facilitate visitor access to cultural and natural resources of significance. Waysides that are complementary to existing signage would augment existing commemorative elements (statues, bronze reliefs) along the existing loop trail and would provide opportunities for self-guided interpretation and discovery. Vehicle access to this subunit from the Corinth visitor center is improved to support visitation by tour buses and RVs. Parking lot design mitigates congestion and competition between smaller vehicles and buses/RVs.

Preliminary Management Strategies

The existing parking lot off Bunch Street would be reconfigured to safely accommodate up to two buses. The parking lot reconfiguration would stay within the existing footprint of disturbance. The existing gates in the parking lot will be removed. The existing concrete path and interpretive bronze sculptures will be maintained as an interpretive loop experience.

A nature trail loop will be established, starting at the northeast and southeast corners of the parking lot. From the northeast corner, the loop trail will move north on the east side of the pond to the northern area of the subunit before turning south following the west side of Phillips Creek. When the loop trail approaches the Kansas City Southern railroad tracks, it will turn west and lead back to the southeast corner of the parking lot.

The area between the east side of the parking lot and west of Phillips Creek will be cleared to restore the historic viewshed per the cultural landscape report.

Davis Bridge Battlefield Unit

Preliminary Desired Conditions

In addition to parkwide desired conditions, the following conditions description applies to Davis Bridge Battlefield Unit.

This unit offers an incredible viewshed of the river valley from Metamora Ridge and is recognized as a nature preservation area of the battlefield and surrounding lands. The setting provides visitors opportunities to understand the history of the battlefield through interpreting historic viewsheds and connecting with the experience of soldiers as they move through the rural landscape from the other Corinth-area NPS sites. Visitors would have a lower encounter rate in this unit given lower levels of use compared to other new lands and would have opportunities for solitude and self-discovery. In addition, the size of the unit and its conditions could offer visitors opportunities for exploration and access (such as horseback riding or off-trail exploration) not available in other parts of Shiloh National Military Park. Ranger-led programs associated with anniversary events may occur infrequently.

Historic viewsheds and road traces are preserved, including the historic view from Metamora Hill, and allow outstanding views of the river valley and battlefield to the east.

Natural processes of the Hatchie River are protected and provide natural ecosystem services. These services and the nature of the river are recognized as important components of the history of the battle and experience of the soldiers.

New accessible facilities at Metamora Hill are minimal and provide access to the river and interpretive opportunities. There is minimal hard infrastructure in this unit, and trails have a natural surface consistent with the more rural and natural setting when compared to other new lands. As such, experiences at this unit would be considerably more rugged and rustic than those provided at other new lands.



Preliminary Management Strategies

A parking lot would be established on the east side of Essary Springs Road just north or just south of the historic road trace to accommodate ten passenger vehicles and a tour bus. The existing trail between Essary Springs Road and the river will be retained to connect visitors from the new parking lot on the east side of Essary Springs Road to the new route described below. The existing structures west of Essary Springs Road would be removed and the landscape would be restored to represent the historic battlefield.

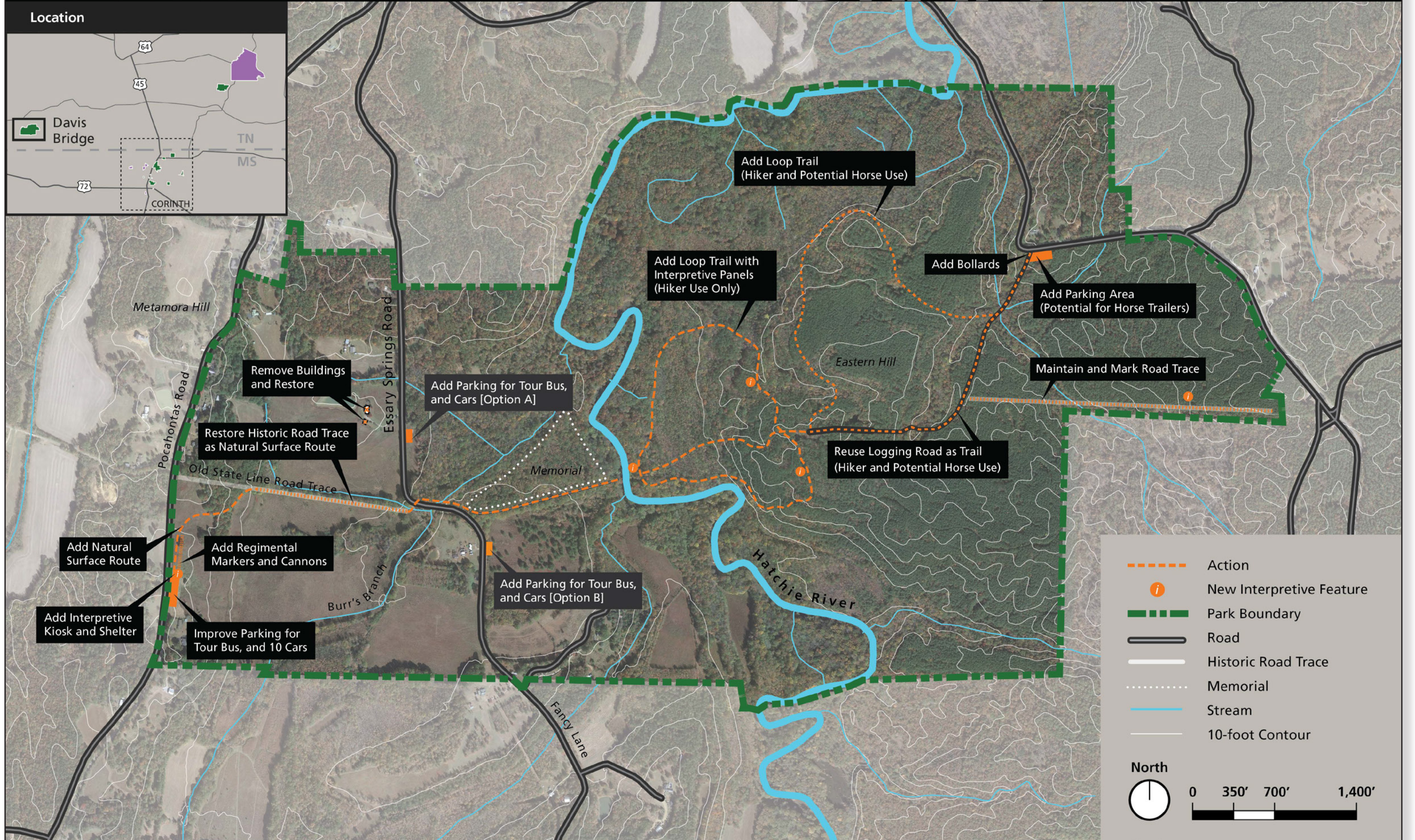
The existing parking lot off Pocahontas Road will be improved to safely accommodate a tour bus and accessible parking. Any needed parking lot expansion would stay within the existing footprint of disturbance. An interpretive shelter would be installed on the north side of the parking lot. Regimental markers and cannons would be installed on the east side of Pocahontas Road, just north and just south of the existing parking lot, and worm fencing would be added near the lot.

A natural-surface route would be established from the northeast corner of the parking lot heading east toward Essary Springs Road. The route would cross Essary Springs Road and cross the tributary creek associated with the nearby Hatchie River. The route would continue east, crossing the Hatchie River and following the historic road trace that connects to the logging road, then concluding at a gate that would be installed on the logging road just south of its intersection with Wolf Pen Road. At this intersection, a small parking lot would be established to safely accommodate horse trailers. Equestrian use may be permitted on the new route described above east of the Hatchie River crossing and outside the area of battlefield restoration. The rest of the route would be pedestrian use only to protect known historic resources in the unit from trampling and erosion. Interpretive waysides would be installed along the route in the battlefield restoration area adjacent to where the route crosses the Hatchie River. The road trace east of the logging road would be maintained and marked, and an interpretive wayside would be installed.

Davis Bridge - Preliminary Management Strategies

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


The Path Forward

Public engagement is an essential component of the planning process for the new lands of Shiloh National Military Park. The NPS will gather input on potential management strategies for the park’s new lands and develop a draft development concept plan that will be shared with the public for additional feedback and comment (likely by the end of 2024). This step will include further consultation with interested stakeholders and other agencies. Below are important steps in the planning process, along with anticipated timelines for completion (subject to change).

Once complete, implementation of the approved development concept plan would depend on future NPS funding levels, servicewide priorities, and partnership funds, time, and effort. It is anticipated that full implementation will take many years to accomplish. Learning about which park lands and visitor activities are public priorities will assist the National Park Service in prioritizing actions described in the development concept plan.

Anticipated Completion	Planning Process Steps
May 20 – July 4, 2024	Open public comment period, develop preliminary management concepts.
June 2024	Public meetings at the Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 11 at 5:30 pm • June 12 at 11:00 am
July 2024 – February 2025	Incorporate public feedback, develop draft development concept plan.
March 2025 (estimated)	Release draft plan, open public comment period.
April – July 2025 (estimated)	Review and incorporate public comments.
August 2025 (estimated)	Complete development concept plan.

We are here 



How to Comment

BY MAIL:

National Park Service
Denver Service Center
Attn: Shiloh NMP DCP / Charles Lawson
12795 West Alameda Pkwy.
Denver, CO 80228

ONLINE (Preferred Method):

https://parkplanning.nps.gov/SHIL_DCP



The 45-day public comment period on the preliminary concepts in the development concept plan starts on May 20, 2024, and ends on July 4, 2024. The NPS will hold two in-person meetings to share information about the plan and planning process, gather input, and answer questions from the public. Please consider joining the planning team at the meeting most convenient to you:

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

5:30 pm to 7:30 pm (CT)

Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center
501 W. Linden St., Corinth, MS 38834

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

11:00 am to 1:00 pm (CT)

Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center
501 W. Linden St., Corinth, MS 38834

While we welcome and appreciate all comments, the following suggestions may help you consider responses that will aid our shaping of the future of the national military park:

- Focus on the questions presented on page 4 and on the online commenting form (https://parkplanning.nps.gov/SHIL_DCP).
- Be as specific as possible in your suggestions.
- Include any questions about the process that remain unanswered for you.

We Want Your Feedback!

NOTE: NPS will not accept comments via fax or any method other than those specified above. Please also note that your entire comment—including personal identifying information such as your address, phone number, and email address—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can request in your comment that we withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. The NPS will not accept comments submitted by individuals or organizations on behalf of other individuals or organizations.





**Shiloh National Military Park
New Lands Development Concept Plan
May 2024 Newsletter**