Cultural Landscape Inventory

Southern Portion

MANASSAS
National Battlefield Park
Manassas, Virginia
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Executive Summary

I. Executive Summary
Project Status

The National Capital Region requested the Cultural Landscape Inventory Program to initiate an inventory of Manassas National Battlefield Park (MANA) to help the General Management Plan (GMP) team in making sound recommendations regarding the historic cultural resources for the entire park. Baseline information is inconsistent concerning the physical history for the park from the early 1700s to the present. Based on the evaluation of the physical history, the intent is to determine the historic significance and integrity of the existing cultural landscape features.

When the CLI was started at Manassas in January 1995, the time needed to complete the inventory for the park was underestimated, thinking it would take nine months to complete. Now a year and a half within the process, the northern portion and southern portion of the park have been inventoried. The complexity of the resource and lack of research assistance, contributed the long time frame to complete the CLI at Manassas.

As time permits, the CLI team will input the information from the three inventories into a computerized database now being developed by the Washington office.

Historic Significance and Integrity

Manassas National Battlefield Park encompasses most of the battlefield landscape that comprised the major engagements for the First and Second Battles of Manassas. These battles were significant Confederate victories for the Confederate forces during the early years of the American Civil War. Although most of the historic landscape resources from the 1860s are intact, they are in remnant form above or below ground. By looking at the landscape in different way, one can decipher the traces left by farm roads, fence lines, woodlots, house sites, and even burial locations. Surprisingly, after almost 140 years, much of the 1860s land patterns, spatial arrangement, circulation systems, topography and views are still evident. Unfortunately, the more prominent features such as structures and small scale features have succumb to the destruction caused by the Civil War or caused by deterioration. Only two buildings are left intact from the 1860s, the Stone House and Lucinda Dogan House. After analyzing the landscape resources of the northern and southern section of Manassas, the battlefield landscape from the 1860s has a high degree of integrity.
II. Introduction
Objectives

The goal is to document historic landscape resources, existing conditions, and analyze and evaluate the cultural landscape resources for the entire park.

Because of the size of the park, 5100 acres, MANA is segmented into four parts. The two major boundaries separating the quadrants are U.S. Route 29 (Warrenton Turnpike) and State Route 234 (Sudley Road).

Northwest Quadrant - includes Brawner Farm, Unfinished Railroad, Groveton, Dogan Ridge and Sudley.

Northeast Quadrant - includes Matthew's Hill, Buck Hill, Pittsylvania, Stone House and Stone Bridge.

Southern Portion - includes Henry Hill, Chinn Ridge, Stuart's Hill and Bald Hill, Confederate campground, Portici, and confederate earthwork fortifications.

Southwest Quadrant - includes Stuart's Hill.

By breaking the park down into four parts, the research and analysis effort is more manageable for the team (one person). The southwest part of the park was thoroughly investigated in a Cultural Landscape Restoration Report and Cultural Resource Survey and Inventory for the Stuart's Hill Tract from 1990-1993. Because this most recent documentation is adequate enough for park managers to make sound decisions, the CLI process was not conducted for this part of the battlefield. This report for the Southern Portion represents the third inventory for the park.

General Description

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a new program in the National Park Service designed to identify and document cultural landscapes in the National Parks.

Cultural landscapes are diverse historic resources that provide important information about how people have shaped the natural environment for both subsistence and pleasure. Cultural landscapes range from large agricultural tracts, like Manassas Battlefield, to small designed gardens.

The Process

The cultural landscape inventory process helps the identification of cultural landscapes. It establishes priorities for further inventories and research, and responds to specific park management needs. The Northwest Quadrant inventory includes:

- a reconnaissance survey, which will:
  - identify the scope of the cultural landscape;
  - identify what is known about the resource; and
  - identify future research needs.
an analysis and evaluation section, which will:
□ provide a site history of the landscape development;
□ define the characteristics that contribute to the historic character of the landscape; and
□ identify the individual features associated with those characteristics.

Historical Research

Historical research to support the CLI largely relied on park documents and secondary sources. Some questions were raised concerning the validity of documents previously completed. The differences are discussed in the site history and analysis and evaluation. For portions of the Southern Portion, no baseline information existed. Primary research was completed only as time allowed to address some of these questions. Because of time constraints, Prince William County court records were not looked for this inventory as they were in the two previous inventories for the Northwest and Northeast Quadrants. But the agricultural censuses for 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880 were used to extensively to find out if the battles affected the productivity and/or use of the land.

Benefits of the CLI

Besides identifying significant elements within the cultural landscape, the CLI provides a thorough documentation of the cultural landscape as it appears today. The CLI can assist park managers in planning, programming and recording management decisions. It can also help interpreters understand the physical changes to the landscape, and relate this information to the visitor. To know why the landscape appears as it does today, it is necessary to understand the broad patterns of historic use and development of an area.

Difference Between the Cultural Landscape Inventory and Cultural Landscape Reports

Please be aware that this new inventory differs from a cultural landscape report (CLR): the CLI simply inventories the features of National Register eligible cultural landscapes for planning purposes, whereas the CLR is an approved treatment document for a designated cultural landscape. The CLI and a CLR perform different functions in the management of cultural landscapes, however, the CLI can be used as baseline information for a CLR and to identify whether a CLR or other studies might be needed.

Why Document Cultural Landscapes?

The Department sanctioned the establishment of the servicewide cultural landscape program during the revision of NPS Management Policies in 1988. Policy now mandates the recognition and protection of significant cultural landscape resources. Cultural landscape preservation encourages a more holistic approach to resource preservation, generating an increased understanding of shared contexts and interrelationships among cultural and natural resources in the parks.
Future Recommendations

☐ Conduct archeological investigations of the historic house sites which would include; Hazel Plain, Henry Farmstead and possible Wigginton House Site, to gain a better understanding of the effects of the battles on the community, and to examine prewar conditions before the battle.

☐ Conduct geophysical prospecting to determine location of grave sites within Hooe Family Cemetery so that these sites can be monitored for illegal digging.

☐ Update National Register Nomination to include significant landscape resources not previously mentioned in existing nomination.

☐ Update Wayside plan for the entire park, to include most recent historical findings.

☐ Revise trail plan for entire park, and separate recreational and interpretive uses.

☐ In specific areas where development may occur, a Cultural Landscape Report should be considered for that area for treatment recommendations. (ie - Chinn Ridge, Henry Hill, Van Pelt, or Brawner).
III. Site History
1724-1808
The Early Development Era

During the Early Development Era (1724-1808) the land that eventually became Manassas National Battlefield Park, was once made up of three different land patents. In 1724 Robert "King" Carter purchased two land patents known as the "Great Bull Run" and "Lower Bull Run" tracts, and then purchased a third in 1729 called the "Middle Bull Run Tract." Heirs of Robert "King" Carter reaped the benefits of these Northern Neck properties. The southern half of Manassas National Battlefield Park, the subject of this Cultural Landscape Inventory, is almost entirely in the Lower Bull Run Tract with a small area just south of the Warrenton Turnpike near Groveton and another area near the Stone Bridge, falling within the boundaries of the Middle Bull Run Tract. Landon Carter, Sr., acquired the Middle Bull Run Tract from his father and the Lower Bull Run tract was given to Robert Carter II. In 1732 Robert Carter II died and his son Robert Carter III inherited 40,000 acres from his father, including the Lower Bull Run Tract and an additional 30,000 acres from his grandfather Robert "King" Carter. Since Robert Carter III was a minor, the property was held in trust for him by his three uncles John, Charles, and Landon Carter. The uncles employed overseers to operate Robert's estate until 1751 when Robert "Councillor" Carter started to manage his own plantations. To manage this large tract of land on the Lower Bull Run, the land was divided into lots averaging 180 acres. Between 1755 and 1785 leases were given out in which the lessor was required within three years to build:

a Good dwelling house twenty feet by sixteen and a house thirty two feet by twenty feet as good as the Common Tobacco houses and plant fifty apple trees and fifty peach trees and the same enclose with a lawful fence... and from time to time sufficiently maintain and keep all in good repair and at the end of the Term will so yield up and leave the same to the said Carter his heirs and assigns.

Within the Bull Run vicinity, plantation owners paid others for hauling their cash crops to market. The closest markets were Alexandria, 28 miles, and the county seat at Dumfries, 24 miles. To get to the markets the farmers used farm roads. An efficient transportation system in the rural Piedmont was nonexistent. Fords developed over streams where the natural topography allowed for easy access over the water features. Along the Bull Run, the characteristic high bluffs limited accessible passage ways. Ball's ford developed across Bull Run on the Robert Councillor Carter estate. Farms roads radiated from area plantations to adjoining properties, fields, and villages. This early road system evolved during the 1700s into a more developed system of roads. Usually the roads followed along the edges of existing fields or property boundaries.

By 1780, the Carter family had established a grist mill further up the Bull Run from the Landon Carter estate, "Pittsylvania." A new mill was constructed at the confluence of Catharpin Run and Bull Run by the 1800s. The local plantation owners processed some grain for shipping to the major markets. The area around the mill became known as Sudley, named after a spring.
1815 plat map of the Pittsylvania estate. A part of the study area is shown to the south of the turnpike running on the southern boundary of the estate. Prince William County Court House, Land Causes 3:67.
located downstream from the mill. Many farm complexes developed near other natural springs along Bull Run and its tributaries.\(^7\)

In 1793, Robert Councillor Carter divided his property into ten lots of approximate equal value. In 1798 the ten surviving children of Robert Councillor Carter were permitted to choose the tracts of land they wished to acquire upon their father’s death. Carter’s heirs came into possession of the land upon his death in 1804.\(^8\) To the south of Landon Carter III’s Pittsylvania tract, Robert Councillor Carter had owned most of the Lower Bull Run Tract. Licking Branch, now known as Young’s Branch, served as the dividing line between the Middle and Great Bull Run tracts, and the Lower Bull Run Tract. George Carter, son of Robert, obtained this upper portion along Young’s Branch. In 1799 George Carter’s sister Elizabeth Landon Carter and her husband, Spencer Ball, arrived to live on a portion of this tract of land that is today located in the southeast quadrant of Manassas National Battlefield Park.\(^9\) By 1802 the Ball family plantation Pohoke was built.\(^10\)

Another tract of land in the southwest quadrant, belonging to Robert Carter, was leased to John Hooe in 1766.\(^11\) A total of 140 acres of land was included in this lease agreement. Sometime between 1766 and 1780 John Hooe purchased this land. In 1780 this land was willed by John Hooe to his son, Bernard Hooe Jr. who is believed to have built a substantial home on this property around 1809. This home was latter referred to as Hazel Plain and more recently as the Chinn House. Both Pohoke and Hazel Plain represent two examples of early development of this region of the Northern Neck.

1808-1861
The Turnpike Era

During the Turnpike Era (1808-1861), land owners supported the endeavors of a corporation to build a road through their properties east toward Alexandria. In 1808, the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike was established. To construct the road, land within the final alignment was condemned. The roadbed grading proceeded soon after. By 1815, construction of the turnpike was completed through the southern portion of Wormley Carter’s Pittsylvania tract. The company received many complaints from area residents about the condition of the road. In 1821, Charles Ewell wrote to company stating;

\[\ldots \text{it is our opinion that the Road from Dogins [Dogan's] Hill to Bull run is out of repair Generally & unfit [sic] for a Turnpike according to Law or the true intent & meaning of the Ac. of Assemble.}\]\(^12\)

The corporation tried to improve the road soon after this point. A summary of work for 1824 through 1825 includes these improvements.

\[\text{During the last year there have been taken up of the old road btw Fairfax & Buckland a considerable distance, which was relaid upon McAdam plan, there has also been a new and substantial Stone Bridge erected over an important water course [Bull Run], in the place of an old wooden one taken down, these and}\]
other improvements and repairs has necessarily thrown the travel off the road during a considerable part of the year.  

The road rarely went out of its straight alignment across the rolling hills, but at the Stone Bridge the road diverged to the north to meet the alignment of the bridge. Stage coaches and wagon trains used this thoroughfare through the Piedmont landscape from Warrenton to Alexandria. To help pay for the construction of the road, the company placed toll gates every five miles along the turnpike, with one at the intersection of Sudley Mill Road. The turnpike crossed over Young's Branch twice between the stone bridge and Sudley Mill Road intersection. A dip in the road surface and later a wooden bridge was all that was necessary to ford over this stream.

Land owners built fences on either side of the turnpike to keep animals in the fields and out of the road, and to mark their property boundaries. The owners built two fence styles, worm, and post and rail, constructed of chestnut, oak and cedar. They harvested these materials from their woodlots. Areas of steep, sloping ground and rocky, shallow soils, not suitable for crops, were retained as woodlot by the land owners. Mostly located along streams and in the floodplain of Bull Run, woodlots served the land owners with a supply of wood products for the farm. Woodlot management was promoted by foresters, to obtain quality saw lumber and cord wood for annual use by the farm. Primary uses for the wood products included building material, fence posts, house shingles, and fuel wood.

In 1817, George Carter sold 333 acres of his Lower Bull Run Tract to his cousin, Elizabeth Carter. It was on this tract of land that Spring Hill farm, later to be called the Henry house was built sometime in the early 1800s, possibly around 1812. The original Henry house was described as a typical small, six room farm house made of log, later plastered and covered with weather board. A letter written during this time period addressed to Dr. Isaac Henry from Robert Hamilton stated that Henry Harris was the overseer of the property (Spring Hill farm) and that he planted wheat in the corn land in 1820.

In 1822 Elizabeth Carter died and left her property in three equal parts to Robert Hooe, William Henry, and the Bruce children, who were her deceased sister's children. Elizabeth said that the estate should be kept together "till Christmas next for the purpose of finishing the crop now growing and collecting all my slaves together that are hired out, and when the crop is finished at the end of the year." She owned some animals, including: One sorrel mare, one sorrel horse, one old bay horse, one colt, one large steer, five cows, 12 sheep and five shoats.

Elizabeth Carter conveyed Spring Hill Farm to her sister Judith and her husband, Dr. Isaac Henry.

Dr. Henry and his wife Judith moved to Spring Hill Farm after Elizabeth's death. In 1829 Dr. Henry died and was buried in the Carter family cemetery at Pittsylvania. Judith Henry and her daughter, Ellen Phoebe Morris remained in the house until 1861. A portion of the property, east of Young's Branch, changed hands in 1836, when John Lee bought 230 acres from John Bruce. The property included land on both sides of the turnpike.

In 1840 John Lee sold 170 acres to James Robinson. Robinson was a free African American who had previously worked as a waiter in a Brentsville tavern, and was believed to have been descended from a Carter family member and one of his slaves. Robinson's land was south
of the turnpike. In 1849 the tax records for Robinson show an increase in the ADDED BUILDINGS column, suggesting the date that he built his one and a half story log home and began farming his land. Also in 1849, Robinson sold twenty and a half acres to T.O. Clark. It was during this time period that Robinson leased land from Landon J. Carter, the contract was dated May 7, 1849 and stated,

...the said Landon Carter has this day promised and agreed to permit the said James Robinson to cultivate all the land not sowed in wheat contained in this West or Barn Field, in oats or any other grain, provided the said Carter has full and entire possession of the field as soon after harvest as the oats and wheat can be taken together after harvest....

This reference does not clearly delineate the location of the land that Robinson leased from Carter.

A deed of trust dated January 1855 demonstrates that Robinson acquired additional land from Sarah Ball.

...Recorded in the Prince William County Clerk's office the said James Robinson in order to secure the payment of a certain bond of $800 executed by the said James Robinson and payable to Sarah Ball bearing the date January 15, 1855 did convey in trust to John Dogan certain property set forth, and described in said deed as follows, the farm upon which the parties of the 1st part (Dogan) now resided situated on the turnpike road near Groveton, adjacent to the land of Mrs. Judith Henry, Abram Van Pelt, and the farm, being the land bought by Robinson from John Lee, and by him conveyed by deed bearing date August 5, 1840, and the lot of land bought by Robinson from Alfred Ball conveyed to him by the widow and heirs, March 3, 1854, the said farm containing 164 acres, and whereas the bond has been fully paid...

To the southwest, the Hazel Plain estate passed through several ownerships during the Turnpike Era. Bernard Hooe Jr. retained the property until his death in 1825 upon which he willed portions of the land to his wife Margaret Pratt Hooe (4,792 acres, including Hazel Plain), and 4,000 acres to his daughters, Elizabeth Thacker Hooe and Lucy Buckner. A Hooe family cemetery that had previously been established on the property contained a number of graves, including that of Bernard Hooe. The earliest known burial in the family plot was that of Sarah Hooe in 1795. There may be an upwards of 30 graves at this site.

Margaret Pratt Hooe died in 1828, passing the estate to her daughter, Elizabeth Thacker Hooe Fowle. According to the tax records for that year, Hazel Plain was comprised of 957 acres. Elizabeth Thacker Hooe Fowle owned Hazel Plain until 1836, after which the estate went through a series of ownership. Names associated with the property from 1836 to 1853 include: William H. Fowle, John Kemp, Elizabeth Jones, Sophia Jones, and William Downman. In 1853,
the property was purchased by Benjamin T. Chinn who owned the estate until after the Civil War.27

The time period of 1808 to 1861 also showed great change for Portici. In 1811 Spencer Ball purchased the 762 acres that made up Pohoke plantation from his brother-in-law, George Carter.28 In 1820, Ball constructed a new home for his family, and because the house suffered a series of fires, it was renamed "Portici" taken from the name of a classical village near the base of Vesuvius that also suffered from frequent fires.29

Upon Spencer Ball's death in 1831, his estate became the property of his wife, Betty Landon Ball.30 For the next nine years Betty Landon Ball managed Portici. At the time of her death, in 1842, Betty Landon Ball left the plantation to her son, Alfred.31 Between 1847 and 1849, Alfred Ball increased Portici's acreage to 1,022.32 Alfred Ball died in 1853, leaving his estate to his wife, Sarah Carter Ball, and his four sisters. Sarah Carter Ball received 350 acres including the house and the family cemetery. Sister Fanny Lewis was allotted 146 acres, Elizabeth Lucy Carter received 250 acres, Louisa Weir inherited 31 acres, and Adeline Best was given 283 acres.33 In 1855, Fanny Lewis sold her 146 acres to her son Frank. Along with this land, Frank Lewis received one quarter of the widow Ball's 400 acre dower including the mansion house.34 Within the next four years, Frank Lewis began amassing land and built Portici back up to 769 acres by 1859.35

In the 1850s, another house is noted on the William H. Dogan farm at Groveton. William H. Dogan's farm, "Peach Grove," encompassed land within the study area, southeast of the crossroads community of Groveton. When he died in 1854, his land was subdivided to his children and wife. Three of his daughters, Henrietta, Anne, and Medora, obtained land in what is now called the "New York Avenue area." On Henrietta's land, she acquired a few buildings at the Groveton crossroads (blacksmith shop and other miscellaneous structures) and some undeveloped land. Anne's land had no improvements and was situated southeast of the present Groveton Confederate Cemetery. Medora obtained the Wigginton House, located somewhere on her property where the present day New York Monuments are located.36 No further information has been found regarding the Wigginton House, other than a structure is indicated in this area on two Civil War era maps, Atkinson and Hotchkiss.37

1850 Agricultural Census38

The 1850 Agricultural Census for Prince William County, is cited for all information provided in this section. This census provides a clearer picture of land use. During this decade farmers in the area planted corn, oats, and hay for cash crops and grew vegetables for the subsistence of the farm. Different animal breeds suited varying needs for the farm. Milk cows provided fresh milk, which was used to make butter and other products; oxen and horses pulled the plows and wagons; horses were used as a means of transportation; sheep were raised for wool; and sheep, swine and cattle were slaughtered for meat. On some farms, beehives were a common feature near orchards and clover fields. Beeswax and honey were gathered from the hives.

Four farms were listed on the 1850 Agriculture Census for the areas that are currently deemed the southeast and southwest quadrants of Manassas National Battlefield Park. In the
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southeast, Judith Henry was listed as owning 100 acres having a cash value of $600. Judith Henry owned one horse, two milk cows, and two swine on her farm with a combined cash value of $30. The cows and swine providing subsistence to the Henry household, with 600 lbs. of butter recorded and a value of $50 for slaughtered animals. The majority of produce harvested on the Henry farm in 1850 was cash crops, exemplified by 75 bushels of wheat, 20 bushels of rye, 400 bushels of Indian corn, and 50 bushels of oats. Also produced were: 50 bushels of Irish potatoes and 10 bushels of buckwheat.

Mrs. Henry's neighbor, James Robinson was recorded as owning 130 acres of land with a cash value of $4,000. James Robinson owned four horses, three milk cows, and six swine with a total value of $175 dollars. Four hundred lbs. of butter was recorded on the Robinson farm and a cash value of slaughtered animals totalled $175. Interestingly, Robinson also had 100 lbs. of wool although he was not recorded owning any sheep. This inconsistency is believed to be the result of the census information having been gathered after Robinson sold the sheared sheep. James Robinson produced one cash crop during the time of the 1850 census, harvesting five tons of hay. The only other crop recorded for the Robinson farm was seven bushels of Irish potatoes, likely grown for subsistence.

Alfred Ball's "Portici" and "Hazel Plain" owned by Sophia Jones were the other two farms included on the 1850 census for the southern regions of the park. These two estates were much larger than the farms owned by the Henry and Robinson families. Alfred Ball was recorded as owning 1,150 acres of land with a cash value of $11,000. This farm contained twelve horses, fifteen milk cows, four working oxen, thirty-nine other cattle, two-hundred eighty sheep, and fifty swine. The stock was valued at $1,750, with $153 recorded for the value of slaughtered animals. A large quantity of cash crops were being produced at Portici, including: 700 bushels of wheat, 2,000 bushels of Indian corn, 300 bushels of oats, and 1 ton of hay. There were no subsistence crops noted.

To the west of Alfred Ball's Portici was Hazel Plain. Sophia Jones was listed as the property owner for the 550 acre farm valued at $5,000 in 1850. Jones' farm had three horses, four milk cows, two working oxen, eight other cattle, and fifteen swine, with a total value of $300 in stock and $18 worth of slaughtered animals. Hazel Plain produced three bushels of peas and beans, eight bushels of Irish potatoes, one-hundred fifty lbs. of butter, one ton of hay, and thirty lbs. of beeswax and honey. It is difficult to determine how much of these crops were sold for cash or used for subsistence, but it is probably safe to assume that there was a combination of land use for both means.

1860 Agricultural Census

The information in this section is cited from the 1860 Agricultural Census for Prince William County, Virginia, unless otherwise noted. The production of the farms improved from 1850 to 1860. The once-large agricultural tracts of the extended Carter family diminished between 1820 and 1850 into smaller parcels. The new owners rarely owned slaves and worked their own property, some successfully, others not so successfully. Unfortunately, there appear to be gaps in the 1860s census, or farm lands are being leased to unknown tenants. There is no listings for Robinson farm and the Henry farm. There is, however, a record for both Benjamin
Chinn's Hazel Plain and Frank Lewis' Portici. There is a noticeable pattern of crop diversification. This meant not relying on one product, but trying many, in case one should fail. Agriculture remained the primary occupation of landowners in the area.

An example of diversification can be seen at Hazel Plain. Benjamin Chinn owned 450 acres of improved property and 100 acres of unimproved land. The cash value of the farm was $8250 for the year and the farming implements was worth $120. Chinn owned 6 horses, 5 milk cows (150 lbs. of butter), 2 working oxen, 19 other cattle, 35 sheep (140 lbs. of wool), and 20 swine with a total value of $1,150. The value of slaughtered animals was $75. The value of livestock for the Hazel Plain Estate almost tripled since the 1850 census. Chinn also increased the productivity of the Hazel Plain from when Sophia Jones owned the estate in 1850. The croplands at Hazel Plain yielded 100 bushels of indian corn, 200 bushels of oats, 18 tons of hay, 10 bushels of other grass seed, and 20 bushels of Irish potatoes. Seven gallons of wine were also produced at Hazel Plain during this year.

Frank Lewis farmed Portici plantation successfully, with a high value of stock and large quantities of crops grown. Lewis owned 467 acres of improved land and 60 acres of unimproved land when the 1860 census was recorded. The cash value of his farm was $12,000 unmatched by any of his Manassas area neighbors. Lewis owned 8 horses, 7 milk cows (25 lbs. of butter), 4 working oxen, 25 other cattle, 34 sheep (112 lbs. of wool), and 21 swine. The value of Lewis' stock in 1860 was $1,883, with $260 worth of slaughtered animals. These figures are also unmatched by neighboring farms. The fields of Portici produced 35 bushels of wheat, 75 bushels of rye, 825 bushels of indian corn, 650 bushels of oats, and 25 tons of hay. Unfortunately, these production levels ceased for the farmers in this area the following year when a significant event changed the entire landscape in the Sudley area.

1861-1865
War Between the States

First Battle of Manassas

The majority of information in this section is cited from a Troop Movement study of the Battle of First Manassas unless otherwise noted. The landscape near Sudley underwent its most significant changes between 1861 and 1870. With the onslaught of the Civil War in April 1861, most Americans expected the conflict to be brief. The first shots of the American Civil War occurred at Fort Sumter, where the Confederates began the war with a victory. The first major land battle occurred near Manassas, Virginia on July 21, 1861.

Union General Irvin McDowell planned to lead the largest field army ever seen in North America in an advance on the Confederate capital at Richmond. Confederate forces concentrated at Manassas to protect its vital railroad junction and made their stand along the west bank of Bull Run. Rifle pits were constructed by the 19th Virginia Regiment to defend Lewis Ford near "Portici". These pits were supported by two 6-pounders of the Lynchburg Artillery. The Confederates also placed artillery at key locations between Lewis Ford and the Stone Bridge to cover those crossing points.
In other areas, many established fords crossed Bull Run, making it difficult to guard the stream effectively. The Federals planned to cross Bull Run at two points, Sudley Ford and at Stone Bridge on the Warrenton Turnpike. Trying to maneuver around the left flank of the Confederate position, two Federal divisions advanced over Sudley Ford and Sudley Springs Ford and followed the Sudley Mill Road south towards Young's Branch. Manassas Junction was the planned destination, but the Federal Army never made it that far.

The Confederates positioned artillery southeast of Van Pelt's farm house to protect the Stone Bridge crossing. Confederate Colonel Nathan Evans established his headquarters at Van Pelt's house. Between a ridge on Van Pelt's land and the Stone Bridge, the soldiers felled trees to open the view. Confederates defended the Stone Bridge crossing point from Van Pelt's house to the mouth of Young's Branch. Skirmishers were positioned on the edge of the woods fronting an abatis (protective measure using felled trees, pointing the sharp edges toward the enemy). Opposite the Confederate line, the Union Army positioned troops on the east side of Bull Run 1,000 yards from the bridge. The troops were "sheltered partly in a hollow, covered by a ridge and wood in front, and partly by the edge of the timber lying between ... them and the run." The first cannon fire of the battle ensued at the Stone Bridge when the Federal army fired a 30-pounder Parrott rifle "upon a house across Bull Run about a mile and a half range." Union forces crossing at Sudley Ford followed Sudley Mill Road south. The troops "emerged from the woods one mile south of the ford, and came upon a beautiful open valley about one and a quarter miles square, bounded on the right or west by a wooded ridge, on the east by the rough spurs or bluffs of Bull Run, on the north by an open plain and ridge, on which our troops began to form, and on the south by another ridge [Henry Hill] on which the enemy were strongly posted, with woods behind their backs".

Because of the defensive positioning of the Confederates at the Stone Bridge, Federal support troops decided to cross over north of the Stone Bridge at a farm ford. To help the Federal line on the Matthew farm, the advancing troops set up a line "in front of the Carter house, on the brow of the hill overlooking the valley of Young's Branch". Support arrived to assist the broken Confederate line, but without success. The Confederate forces started to retreat across Young's Branch and Warrenton Turnpike, suffering heavy casualties along the way. The Federal army launched a charge on the retreating Confederate force, advancing through the Matthew woodlot "which were about twenty rods long and full of dead bodies." The smaller Confederate force retreated south, to the next ridge occupied by the Henry farmstead. They held a line along the edge of pine thickets to the southeast of the Henry House. A small ridge served as the location for the Confederate artillery. This landscape for the gunners was described as "under shelter, behind the undulations of a hill" about 150 yards north of the Henry House.
Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston established his headquarters at Portici, a strategic location from which he could view Bull Run, the Stone Bridge, and his troops near Manassas Junction. It was also from this location that General Johnston deployed reinforcements to the field.

About noon, six hundred South Carolinians of Hampton's Legion took possession of the ground immediately around the Robinson House. The 7th Georgia Regiment occupied a position halfway between the Robinson House and the turnpike. Finding these locations too exposed to Union artillery fire, both units formed a new line in the Warrenton Turnpike in front of and to the east of Robinson's gate where they were joined by the remnants of the 8th Georgia Regiment. There they made a futile attempt to stem the Union advance. An attack made by the 2nd Maine and 3rd Connecticut of Keyes' brigade eventually pushed the Confederates back to and beyond the Robinson's yard.

A Confederate soldier describes the area as he remembered it, surmising that the landscape was poorly suited for agriculture.

Standing where I did just on the edge of the woods, and then advancing as our line had advanced in 1861, I noted the thin, wiry grass barely covering the slaty, poor land; the washing on the hillside; the occasional little pine brushes; the tops of the Henry and Robertson [Robinson] Houses... 

Advancing to Henry Hill, the inexperience of the Federal troops was evident as the battle dragged on. The Union took control of the Stone Bridge, once the Rebels left the site. The retreating Rebel forces left obstructions on the roadway and bridge. Debris left on the bridge was removed to provide easy access by Federal troops advancing to the battlefield from the east. Henry Hill continued to be the fighting ground. Confederate reinforcements arrived from the south to support the line using a farm road from Manassas Junction to Portici. Several charges by the
Union Army, weaken the Confederate line but never broke it. To support the Confederate line, Captain George Davidson, commanding a section of the Lynchburg Artillery, deployed one of his six-pounder guns north of and, later, in the turnpike in front of Robinson's lane.54

Sudley Mill Road was one path used by the Union to arrive at the battlefield on Henry Hill from Matthew's Hill. Colonel Sherman reported that the Sudley Mill Road "was worn deep enough to afford shelter" from Young's Branch up to the Henry farm entrance road.55

During the last phase of the battle, an engagement took place on Chinn Ridge and Bald Hill, where the Union right, (General Howard's Brigade) were located. After General Jubal A. Early's Confederate reinforcements arrived the Union right was broken. During the waning hours of the afternoon, the Federal army retreated from the fight on Henry Hill and formed a line on the opposite heights on Buck and Matthew's hills. As the Federal right began to crumble, the Confederates launched a direct offensive on the Federal brigades. The Union retreated disorderly toward Sudley Ford and a farm ford, the same routes used to arrive on the battlefield approximately 12 hours before.

During the retreat, the Federal army left behind an abundance of equipment and artillery for the winning Confederates. Most standing structures were used for taking care of the wounded, including Portici and Hazel Plain. A Confederate field hospital, under the direction of Dr. John Thompson Darby was established at Portici not only to care for wounded Confederates, but also to treat captured Union soldiers.56 The losses for both sides amounted to nearly 4,700 (killed, wounded, or missing) out of the approximately 60,000 soldiers who fought the first battle of Manassas also known as the battle of Bull Run.

Despite its location amidst the fighting, the Robinson House escaped major damage. As the battle raged closer, James Robinson sent his family to the Van Pelt House where they took refuge in the cellar.

*Ruins of Henry house after the battle, 1861.* MANA photofiles.
Atkinson map of the First Battle of Manassas, July 21, 1861.
Unable to join them, Robinson himself hid under the turnpike bridge over Young's Branch with silverware from "Portici" that had been entrusted in his care by the Lewis family. After the battle, Robinson reportedly found thirteen dead rebels in the yard of his house, six from Hampton's Legion.

A tragic civilian casualty occurred at the Henry house during this first battle. On the afternoon of July 21, 1861, Mrs. Judith Henry, the 85 year old bed-ridden owner of the property, was fatally wounded when Rickett's guns were turned on the house to flush Confederate sharpshooters from the structure. During the shoot out, the house was also damaged beyond repair. A family cemetery was established near the ruined house shortly after First Manassas. The small plot is surrounded by a wrought iron fence and currently contains the graves of Judith Henry, her daughter Ellen, and her son Hugh Fauntleroy Sr.

In the woods near Portici, Confederate troops camped from December 1861 to March 1862. A series of log huts with stone chimneys were built which, at one time, housed members of the 38th Virginia. During their stay in this camp, these soldiers were under the direction of Major General G.W. Smith, whose namesake the camp received. The 38th Virginia left Camp Smith on March 10, 1862. Soon following their departure, members of the 20th New York State Militia arrived in the area. At this time, officers of this group stayed at Portici while approximately 300 soldiers camped at Fort Smith.

A few weeks following the First Battle of Manassas soldiers from Col. Francis S. Bartow's Brigade erected a marble column on Henry Hill to honor the Colonel. The memorial may have been erected around September 5, 1861 by soldiers from Bartow's Brigade. The memorial was inscribed with Bartow's last words, "They have killed me boys, but never give up the fight". Today, only the base of the original Bartow monument remains near the location of a replacement monument dedicated in the 1936.

In 1862, before the Second Battle of Manassas, the Stone Bridge was destroyed. A makeshift timber bridge replaced the original, in which the builders used the remaining stone abutments.
Second Battle of Manassas

The information in this section is primarily cited from a study of troop movements during the Second Battle of Manassas, unless otherwise stated.

The following year, the two armies, now more seasoned, met again on the battlefield of Manassas. Unfortunately, the community was still recovering from the first meeting. Farmers tried to recover from the great losses in the first battle, and replanted their fields. Consequently, when the second battle started at the end of August, most crops were ready for harvest.

Fighting began at the Brawner Farm on the evening of August 28th and continued the following day along an unfinished railroad grade to the northwest of Henry Hill. On August 30 the Union launched another major offensive toward Jackson's right flank at "deep cut." The unsuccessful and costly fire fight became the deadliest engagement in the three-day battle.

Between 3:45 and 4:30 pm on August 30th, a battle ensued in the area west of Chinn Ridge (now called New York Avenue). It was here that Warren's Brigade was overtaken by a rebel offensive. The 10th New York retreated into the woods to the south east of the Turnpike, but unfortunately, screened the fire of the right flank of the 5th New York. The two New York regiments then fled the battle, retreating towards Young's Branch and then on to Chinn Branch. The Union suffered great casualties during this engagement. During the battle on Chinn Ridge, McLean's men, utilizing Wiedrich's Battery were unsuccessful in fending off a Confederate advance. A description of the surroundings was provided by a member of the 73 Ohio:

The 73rd Ohio was right upon the crest of the hill, in our rear not a great distance back was a run in the edge of the woods... On our immediate left and rear was a two story white frame house... The right of our brigade swept the open field, whilst the extreme left (the 73rd) faced within about 90 or 100 yards a piece of woods. In these woods, running parallel to the regiment's front was a deep ravine.

The 55th and 75th (Ohio) gained some shortlived success. Pvt. John Rumpel wrote, "[The Confederates] came from the woods into a large field and about the middle of the field was a house. There were a column of rebels on each side of it. We broke the column to the right of the house and cut them all to pieces but to the left they were five columns deep..."

The Federal left flank started to break with a surge by Longstreet's troops south of the turnpike. This rush left the Federal line retreating from their line on Dogan and Chinn Ridge and reorganizing on Henry Hill and Matthew's Hill. During the shifting of troops to Henry Hill, they followed a "road which runs from Sudley Church to New Market [Sudley Mill Road], crossing
Map of Manassas Battlefield Vicinity as it was in 1862.
the pike at right angles nearly, the pike at this point being in a hallow. 69 The command post initially on Buck Hill moved to Henry Hill. Jackson's troops to the west and Longstreet's troops to the southwest started an assault on the Federal line.

Darkness ended the battle, with most of the Federal troops retreating the battlefield via the Stone Bridge, a farm ford and Poplar Ford toward Centreville. Pope's Army of Virginia had suffered one of the worst beatings of the war, with 1,700 dead and 8,200 wounded. Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia lost 1,300 lives and 7,000 wounded. This victory started Lee's 1862 Maryland Campaign. 70

The Robinson farm remained safely behind Union lines through most of the second battle. General Franz Sigel, commanding the First Corps of Pope's Army of Virginia, established his headquarters on the Robinson farm. 71 It was also during this battle that the Robinson House was used as a field hospital. 72

At this time many of the local farms and houses behind Union lines, including the Robinson farm, were subject to pillaging by the troops. Fences were consumed for firewood while forage and other supplies were often taken when the urgency of the situation dictated. An article in The Rebellion Record in 1862 describes the landscape as witnessed after the battles:

Most of the fences have been demolished. The race of fences, in this part of Virginia, seems to have expired... The timbers were shattered, broken, and scarred with powder. The stream is deep, rapid and impetuous. On the opposite bank a high bluff arises, covered with scanty foliage, and overhung in some places with trees and shrubbery.... We can see traces of the conflict in shattered trees and broken trunks, limbs and boughs. The grass is long and rank, the ground is uneven and marshy and in some places traversed by streams of water.... 73

1870-1921
Recovery

The Manassas community suffered greatly during the War Between The States, losing houses, crops, woodland, livestock, fences, and most importantly the lives of soldiers and civilians. To recover some financial losses incurred during the battle, some owners submitted war claims to the government.

James Robinson presented one such claim against the United States on February 2, 1872. 74 Robinson attempted to gain compensation for crops, household items, and fencing lost during the Civil War. The items claimed included 25 tons of hay, 60 bushels of wheat, 20 bushels of corn, 12 acres of corn, 25 acres of oats, 1 acre of potatoes, 2 horses worth $275, 7 hogs worth $125, 2 cows, $25 worth of fish, 800 lbs. of bacon, groceries an provisions, beds and furniture, garden house and services (probably tools), and 12,600 (fence) rails. The total amount Robinson claimed for these items was $2,608. Robinson was allowed $1,249 of this claim.

James Robinson and his family gradually recovered from their losses, as demonstrated in the 1870 Agricultural Census, discussed below. Robinson died in 1875. The tax record listed the property as the James Robinson Estate from 1877 through 1880 and it was not until 1881 that the
division of the estate was recorded. At this time the land was divided among four Robinson family members. Susan Robinson, James' widow was taxed for a total of seven acres including the property containing buildings. During this same year, Tasco Robinson, son of James, held 55 acres with no building improvements. James Robinson's daughter, Henrietta was taxed for 48 acres. Bladen Robinson, another one of James' sons received two tracts of land. One was made up of 44 and 1/4 acres that had been a part of Portici and the other consisted of 79 acres on Bull Run.

During deed research, an 1876 record was located whereas James Robinson's heirs requested the recognition of a deed from a land transaction between James Robinson and Sarah Ball in 1855. The property was released at this time.

Further study of the deed records revealed an 1879 legal division of James Robinson's land among his heirs. Before this division took place the county had the land surveyed and 249 acres valued at $10 per acre were recorded. This record describes the distribution of Robinson's land. Susan Robinson was allotted Lot No. 1, containing the buildings on a total of seven acres. Henrietta Smith received Lot No. 2 which consisted of 48 unimproved acres. Jemima (Robinson) Harris was given Lot No. 3 which contained sixty acres with no improvements—this land was then sold back to Susan and Bladen Robinson. Lot No. 4 was received by Bladen Robinson, containing seventy-six unimproved acres. Tasco Robinson received Lot No. 5 containing 55 acres of unimproved land. This deed information is somewhat consistent with the tax records although there are some minor discrepancies in the amount of acres each heir acquired.

The Henry house, which was extensively shelled during the First Battle of Manassas and laid in ruin. In the 1870s a new Henry house was built. This house was believed to have incorporated the fireplace from the original house. The 1870s house along with 128 acres remained in the Henry family until 1921.

In 1864 and 1865, countless houses were burned and destroyed by Union and Confederate forces. Portici, was burned around 1863 after which the Lewis family was forced to spend several years in Loudoun County, Virginia. In 1865 the Lewis family returned to Portici and began rebuilding the farm, on a much smaller scale than the original plantation. "Portici II" was built on a ridge just east of the former house site but soon burned. In the 1870s, "Portici III," in more recent years called the Lewis-Wheeler House, was erected. It was during this time that Frank Lewis sold off much of the Portici property with approximately 400 acres sold by 1896. Frank Lewis' wife, Fannie, died in 1899 and the Lewis children gradually took over the management of the farm. It was during this time that a son, Warner Lewis built a small house called "Tadpole Flat" in an adjoining field on the Portici property. Frank Lewis died in 1913, willing 75 acres of his farm to his son, Robert Lee Lewis, who continued to manage the farm until his death in 1938. Frank Lewis also deeded 60 acres to his deceased sister's children, and left the remaining property to his children Warner and Rosa Lewis. The other 110 acres of Portici had previously been given to Frank Lewis' niece, Fannie Lewis Lee. Robert Lewis Jr. inherited Portici from his father and retained the property until 1950, when he sold the farm to William Wheeler.

Following the Civil War, Hazel Plain went through a series of ownerships. Benjamin Chinn sold the property to W.A. Downman in 1871. In 1883 G.L. Sanford sold the property to Andrew Cather. The property stayed in the Cather-Swart family until 1936.
1870 Agricultural Census

Agricultural changes in the area were evident from the 1870 agricultural census. Many landowners started to rent their properties for others to cultivate. The pattern of crop diversification continued in this decade. Although the Henry family remained the owners of the Henry House and surrounding property after the war, there is no record of them in the 1870 Agricultural Census. The family may have leased their farm lands at this time.

James Robinson continued to farm successfully, with 50 acres of improved land, 20 acres of woodland and 130 acres of unimproved land. The cash value of his farm in 1870 was $3050 with $50 worth of farming implements. Three horses, 3 milk cows, 2 working oxen, 3 other cattle, and 4 swine comprised Robinson's stock, with a value of $450. The Robinson farm produced 60 bushels of wheat, 400 bushels of Indian corn, and 25 bushels of oats, a sizeable cash crop during the recovery period.

Frank W. Lewis, of Portici was listed with 100 improved acres, 70 acres of woodland, and 313 acres of unimproved land. The value of the farm was listed as $14,000 with $50 worth of farming implements. Despite the impact of the Civil War, Portici continued to thrive. Livestock at Portici included: 2 horses, 4 milk cows (400 lbs. of butter), 2 working oxen, 3 other cattle, and 13 swine, with a total value of $633. The animals slaughtered at Portici were worth $100 in 1870. Eighty-five bushels of wheat, 750 bushels of Indian corn and 360 bushels of oats contributed to the farms cash crops. Also cultivated were: 40 bushels of Irish potatoes, and 10 tons of hay, probably used both for subsistence as well as cash crops. An estimated value of $1157 was recorded for farm production.

The Agricultural census information for Hazel Plain has not been located. The land may have lain barren for a time period following the Civil War, or it may have been leased. Further research is required in this area.
For the 1880 agricultural census, (which was partially recorded in 1878 and 1879) the format changed. The form includes detailed information concerning the use of the farm, providing a better understanding of the production rates per acre for crops and animal husbandry techniques.

The typical farmer owned a small amount of land, enough for the family and a few hired laborers to manage. Animal husbandry continued to be popular, including dairy and poultry farms, but it was "rarely pursued at the expense of production of grain or food for home consumption." 

Bladen Robinson owned a portion of the original Van Pelt farm along with a large portion of the Robinson farm located south of the turnpike in the southeast quadrant of Manassas National Battlefield Park. Production rates of Bladen's property were from a combination of the two farms. Bladen owned 155 acres, 129 acres purchased from the Van Pelt heirs. From the 155 acres, 50 acres were tilled, 50 acres were woodland and the remaining 55 acres were unimproved. Robinson also supplemented his plowed fields with fertilizer, $38 worth. On 30 acres he produced 500 bushels of corn and on two 10-acre plots, he raised 75 bushels of oats and 100 bushels of wheat. Potatoes continued to be a staple product for most farms, with Robinson raising 10 bushels. The orchard again became an integral part of the farm and Bladen Robinson planted both apple and peach trees. A 15-acre apple orchard with 70 trees produced 50 bushels of fruit. The peach orchard only covered 5 acres, with 50 trees yielding 50 bushels of peaches. Robinson also owned 2 oxen, 5 milk cows, 5 other cows, and 8 swine, with the milk from the cows producing 150 lbs. of butter. Along with this stock Robinson also owned 30 chickens which produced 50 dozen eggs.

Animal husbandry increased dramatically between 1870 and 1880. Farmers saw the economic benefit of raising animals and cultivating crops. Again orchards became an integral part of the farm. During the Civil War, orchards were destroyed or damaged, and needed to be replanted. Farmers started to replant their orchards in the 1870s, and by the 1880s peaches and apples became another important cash crop for farmers.

The Henry farm reappears on the Agricultural Census for 1880. Hugh Henry was recorded as owning 20 acres of improved land, 60 acres of woodlands, and 53 acres of other unimproved land. The value of the Henry farm was $1,200 and $30 worth of farming implements was entered. The Henry farm appeared to have been a small-scale operation for livestock, including: 2 milk cows, 2 calves and 10 chickens with a combined value of $270, with 2 cows sold. The 10 chickens produced 50 dozen eggs. Crops listed for Henry included: 4 acres of planted hay, 8 acres of Indian corn which yielded 200 bushels of produce, and 8 acres of wheat producing 80 bushels of grain. Information was also provided for orchards on the farm. At the time this census was recorded, the Henry farm contained 40 apple trees that produced 20 bushels of fruit and 100 peach trees that produced 200 bushels of fruit. The orchard products were worth $15. Henry also had 10 cords of wood cut on his property valued at $10. The estimated value for all farm productions for this year was $175. With Henry spending $50 on fertilizer for the year, the production yield was relatively small.
Francis W. Lewis continued to farm Portici in 1880. Lewis owned a total of 310 acres with: 80 acres of improved land, 70 acres of woodland, and 160 acres of other unimproved land. The value of the farm was listed as $5805 with $50 worth of farming implements recorded. A high increase in livestock was evident at Portici. In 1880, Lewis owned $625 worth of animals including: 6 other cattle, 1 calf, 7 cattle purchased, and 7 cattle sold. A total of 150 lbs. of butter was also noted. This is confusing since no milk cows were listed. The remaining livestock recorded on the farm consisted of: 31 lambs (born), 20 lambs (bought), 7 lambs (sold), and 3 lambs (died). Forty-eight fleece were weighted at 150 lbs. Lewis also raised 150 swine and 50 chickens which produced 250 dozen eggs.

Frank Lewis spent $95 on fertilizer in 1880 and his crops were valued at $500. Among the crops grown during this census were 8 acres of hay, 30 acres of indian corn that yielded 575 bushels, 50 bushels of oats produced on 5 acres, and 100 bushels of wheat harvested on 15 acres.

Early Memorials

Many commemorative efforts honoring fallen soldiers and battle heroes were made following the battles at Manassas. Some individuals who owned the land on which the battles were fought resumed farming practices, while others allowed some of their fields to go fallow. the combination of the two management techniques, retained somewhat the appearance of the landscape as it was during the battles. In other areas monuments were dedicated by veterans and private citizens or groups. The Bartow monument, erected by soldiers shortly after First Manassas, represented one of the first memorial dedications.

Soon after the Civil War the U.S. Army ordered Lieutenant James M. McCallum of the 16th Massachusetts Battery and troops from the 5th Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery to construct additional monuments on the battle grounds. In June of 1865, a 20 foot high square-shafted
obelisk, made of native blocks of Triassic sandstone and embellished with five 200 pound Parrott shells, was placed just east of the Henry House. The monument was erected to honor Union veterans, "In Memory of the Patriots Who fell at Bull Run." The monument was dedicated on June 11, 1865. Hugh Henry started charging visitors to view the battlefield and the sandstone monument located on his farm. Some days Hugh made five dollars showing the battlefield. At the same time that the Henry Hill monument was built, a second 16-foot obelisk was erected at Groveton, an area that also was the scene of heavy fighting and casualties for the Second Manassas. This monument was adorned with relic shot and shells retrieved from the battlefield and held a similar inscription as the Henry Hill monument.

The Washington, D.C. Evening Star reported the condition of the landscape along the turnpike en route to the ceremonies.

The roads are characterized by all the horrors of a barbaric period. The pike paved with boulders from which the sand and gravel have been washed away, stretches on, an interminable highway of suffering, while the by-ways filled with stumps and pit-holes, afford scarcely less terror to the traveller [sic].

The vicinity of Bull Run would scarcely be recognized as a battlefield. Four years have obliterated nearly all the marks of the struggle and the relic hunter only now and then finds in the grass a memento of the event. Very few shot and remains upon the surface, the trees are hiding the blotches on their trunks made by bullets, and the only bones that are found, with few exceptions, are those of horses. . . Some fences have been rebuilt, and corn is planted in many places, while the rapidly growing bushes hide nearly all the original features of the field.

Veterans of the 7th Georgia Infantry Regiment also returned to the battle fields after the war to mark the location of the regiment at First Manassas. There were believed to be six original markers placed in areas on the battlefield. Today, two 7th Georgia markers remain on and near Henry Hill, one near Rickett's Battery and the other near a tree line to the east of Robinson House.
In 1866, the Federal Government wanted to move all Union bodies buried on the battlefield, and re-inter them properly in a new Federal cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. R.W. Tyler led a survey to locate burials from the two battles. In his letter to the Chief Quartermaster in Washington, D.C., Tyler described where he found graves. "There are graves of those who fell in the Second battle - South-Southeast & Southwest of this monument [Henry Hill 1st battle monument] in the woods, als[o] across Young's Creek on the Mathey [Matthew] Farms." Tyler looked at the Starbuck property on Buck Hill and thought the plot selected would be "favourable" for re-interment of Union dead. He recommended a fence or enclosure around the plot of land, but there was no wood. During the war years, the soldiers had stripped the area of all trees. To construct an enclosure, materials would have had to be brought in. The Federal government decided to follow through on their original plans and exhumed the Union dead and buried them at Arlington Cemetery. In contrast, the Confederate dead remained on the battlefield and were buried on Lucinda Dogan's farm at the newly formed Groveton Confederate Cemetery.
In 1906, three granite monuments were erected on 5.8 acres of land in Manassas in honor of the Fifth New York Volunteer Infantry (Duryee's Zouaves), the Tenth New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment (National Zouaves), and the Fourteenth New York State Militia Regiment (Brooklyn) (84th New York Volunteers). Each of these groups suffered heavy losses during the Second Manassas. The state of New York authorized the purchase of the property and established commissions for the design of the monuments. The New York Avenue Gates were also erected at this time and serve as an additional commemoration of the New York regiments who lost their lives. The gates are made of wrought iron and are inscribed with "5th New York Volunteer Infantry" and state seals. No easement was acquired for public access to the monuments and by 1940, they fell into a state of disrepair. Following World War II, the National Park Service unsuccessfully sought to acquire additional land around the New York monuments, which were still owned by the State of New York. John T. Hottel, owned the majority of lands adjacent to the three monuments and sold portions of the land to a suburban developer. By 1947, 37 acres was sold to three different parties for the construction of a housing development. Although Hottel offered to sell a portion of his land to the National Park Service at this time, the necessary funding was not available. However, the National Park Service did convince the State of New York to donate the monuments and ground to Manassas National; Battlefield Park, but the transfer of property was restricted due to insufficient park boundaries around the area of the New York Monuments. Finally, in 1957, the boundaries at Manassas National Battlefield Park were extended with the park acquiring the acreage surrounding the monuments. In May of 1957 the State of New York deeded the three parcels of land containing the New York Monuments to the National Park Service. Manassas National Battlefield Park accepted these monuments in June of 1958.

Survivors of the 12th Massachusetts Regiment and members of the Colonel Fletcher Webster Post dedicated a monument to Fletcher Webster on October 21, 1914. The monument, a large granite boulder brought to Manassas from Fletcher Webster's home in Marshfield,
Massachusetts, was placed on the spot where he was mortally wounded during Second Manassas.\textsuperscript{100} The Webster Memorial is located on Chinn Ridge, on property that was purchased from Anna Cather, Cordelia Swart, and Mrs. Emma L. Cather, by trustees of the Webster Memorial Association. The deed to the one acre purchased for the Webster Memorial was granted based on several contingencies including:

\begin{quote}
... this conveyance is in trust that the said trustees shall hold said acre for the purpose of the erection of such monument, marker or other memorial by the Association of the Survivors of the said 12th Mass. Regiment or by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts...
\end{quote}

It is understood that whatsoever fencing or enclosures are desired by the said trustees shall be at their expense and until erected the said parties of the first part, or their assignees have the right of pasturage thereon.

It is likewise understood that the said trustees and their employees or agents shall have the right of ingress and egress by the roadways now used for farming purposes from the public road, along with any persons desiring to see the said Acre or the memorials thereon; Said right of way however may be changed by the parties of the first part or their assigns for another one equally convenient.\textsuperscript{101}

George Round lead the first efforts to preserve the battlefield where the First and Second battles of Manassas were fought. In 1900, a bill, introduced by Representative Peter J. Otey of Lynchburg, Virginia, proposed the establishment of a "National Battle Park," although congress failed to act. George Carr Round tried for decades to memorialize the battles at Manassas and establish a National Military Park. In 1902 he testified, along with Brig. Gen. George Breckenridge Davis, before a Congressional subcommittee for the federal government's acquisition of the Virginia battlefield. The proposal suggested that the U.S. government purchase the land around the monuments and acquire easements to the monuments for visitors. Four areas of the battlefield interested Round the most; they included Henry Farm, Dogan Farm, strips of land around General Pope's headquarters (on Buck Hill), and the unfinished railroad cut.\textsuperscript{102} The bill never left the subcommittee.\textsuperscript{103} One possible reason why Manassas Battlefield was not purchased at this stage and designated a National Battlefield or Military Park like other significant battlefields, was that it "represented two stunning Confederate victories."\textsuperscript{104}

On July 21, 1911 Round organized the Manassas National Jubilee of Peace in observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the first battle. The Virginia Governor, William Hodges Mann, made the introductory speech. Other Congressmen made speeches and president William Howard Taft delivered a keynote address to about ten thousand visitors who gathered on Henry Hill at the site of the Union monument and then moved on to the deep cut monument near Groveton.\textsuperscript{105}

Development of the Battlefield Park seemed eminent when Congress passed and the president signed into law the Manassas bill on March 3, 1913 which enabled the War Department to appoint a board to survey the site, interview landowners, and establish a reasonable purchase
price for lands. The War Department recommended that the federal government repair the two 1865 monuments and purchase the lands on which they stand. Acquisition of additional lands for memorials was not necessary. Congress failed to act on the board's recommendations. George Carr Round died in 1918 and never saw the dedication of the battlefield.106

Touring Battlefields

Touring Civil War battlefields became a popular pastime following the war. Often times, travelers would create descriptive narratives and take photographs or create illustrations of the landscapes they toured. Many of these works were published around the turn of the century. J.T. Trowbridge gives his viewpoint of the landscape when he toured Civil War battlefields, including Manassas, in 1865:

The original country roads had passed into disuse; and, the fences being destroyed, only the curious parallel lines of straggling bushes and trees that grew beside them remained to mark their courses. Necessity and convenience had struck out new roads winding at will over the fenceless farms. We crossed thinly wooded barrens, skirted old orchards, and passed now and then a standing chimney that marked the site of some ruined homestead. . . . I remember not more than three or four inhabited houses on our route.

In its external features I found it greatly changed. Many of the trees had been cut away. Every fence had disappeared. Where had waved the fields of grass and grain, extended one vast, neglected, barren tract of country.107

In 1904 Clifton Johnson presented another description of the landscape in the Sudley area. Like Trowbridge before him, Johnson visited battlefield sites and interesting natural wonders in the southern states. His descriptions paint a desolate picture of the ravaged landscape.

Houses were few and far between. Most of them were set well back from the highway, at the end of a lane to which you gained entrance from the main road by a big wooden gate.108

Of all the roads that I became acquainted with in this region, the worst was the Warrenton Pike right on the battlefield. At some remote period a vast amount of stone had been dumped on it, and this stone had become more or less mixed with the red clay.109

Johnson visited the members of the Robinson family near the end of his visit to the battlefields.
The house at the time of the war was a small log cabin. It has been added to since, but the older portion is practically what it was, and there are numerous bullet-holes in the weather-boarding. Some of the trees, too, in the yard still bear the scars of battle.¹¹⁰

Johnson provided us with another clue about the Robinsons' landscape through additional description. "The wind had blown down a big limb from a cherry tree near the house during the previous night..."¹¹¹

Photographs from the publication provide more information about the landscape and the way of life in the area. The land remained in poor condition due to the neglectful agricultural practices of the local residents.

Barns were small and unsubstantial, and frequently a few makeshift hovels sufficed instead. Many farmers kept their cows and horses in long, rude sheds, eight or ten feet high, with sides of rails and poles, and the top piled over with straw.¹¹²

The perspective of the landscape given by Johnson and the other travelers, provides images of the condition and use of the land following the Civil War.

¹¹⁰ Site History

1921-1996
Preservation of the Battlefield
The establishment of Manassas National Battlefield Park was a long and hard Battle. During the 1890s while the federal government established National Military Parks in Chickamaunga, Chattanooga, Shiloh, Gettysburg, and Vicksburg, Manassas had to wait almost a half a century for federal recognition.¹¹³

In 1921, the Sons of Confederate Veterans established a Confederate Park

Photograph published in *Highways and Byways of the South* showing Mrs. Robinson chopping wood in her yard.
at the site of the Manassas Battlefields. The veterans purchased the 128-acre Henry Farm. The new Henry farm house, built to replace the house destroyed during the Civil War, served as a museum to display artifacts found in the area. Very little effort was spent on restoring the historic appearance of the battlefield. The early efforts of George Round, continued by the Confederate veterans, persuaded the U.S. Government to establish the framework for an expanded battlefield park. Legislation in June of 1926 authorized the War Department, then in charge of all battlefield parks, to survey and identify battlefields associated with engagements fought on U.S. soil.\(^{114}\)

In 1933 the National Park Service obtained control over the War Department's historic parks and monuments and correspondences soon developed between the Manassas Battlefield Corporation and the National Park Service. By 1935 the federal government established over 1400 acres for the Bull Run Recreational Demonstration Area. It was part of the New Deal policy to develop recreational areas close to cities to better the lives of urban residents.\(^{115}\)

Northern Virginia's representative, Howard V. Smith, saw this as an opportunity to preserve significant historic sites, provide recreational facilities for area residents, and make submarginal land productive in the form of a military park (as well as winning favor with his constituents, especially since he oppose many New Deal reforms). History, recreation, and work relief combined to develop this land. The recreational area did not include the Henry Hill Tract and some members of the Manassas Battlefield Corporation resisted incorporation into the Recreational Demonstration Area. They held reservations about the federal government taking a park that Southern money had created.

The following year, in 1936, they had agreed to donate the property, although the transfer was not completed until 1940. That year the Secretary of Interior used the authority of the 1935 Historic Sites Act to designate 1600 acres of the Bull Run Recreational Area and the former Manassas Battlefield Confederate Park to create Manassas National Battlefield Park.\(^{116}\)

A series of memorial efforts took place during this early National Park Service occupation. On July 21, 1939, the Mary Taliaferro Thompson Southern Memorial Association of Washington, D.C. erected a monument on Henry Hill to mark the spot where Confederate General Barnard Elliott Bee was believed to have fallen during First Manassas.\(^{117}\) The monument consists of a tall shaft of granite containing an inscription dedicated to Bee.

When the Manassas Battlefield Confederate Park, Inc. and the Sons of Confederate Veterans transferred the battlefield property to the U.S. government in 1938, a provision was made whereby "the State of Virginia was given permission to erect a monument on the Manassas Battlefield in honor of General Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson."\(^{118}\) A total of $25,000 was
appropriated for the commission of the sculpture. J.P. Pollia was chosen to design and sculpt the bronze statue of Jackson on his horse "Old Sorrel." The monument was placed on the crest Henry Hill near the spot where Jackson's Brigade was posted during the First Battle of Manassas. It was during this episode that General Bee made the famous exclamation, "Look! There stands Jackson like a stonewall—Rally behind the Virginians." Plans were also underway to construct an administrative museum building to serve visitors of the park. Henry Hill was selected as the site of the museum and construction began in June 1941. The two-story, Greek revival building was constructed of native brownstone with a portico. On the east side of the building, a single story wing made of cinder block, treated with stucco, was built to house the museum. The administration-museum building opened to the public in 1942. An additional wing was constructed on the west side by 1962 to accommodate a new auditorium and additional park offices.

A team of professionals surveyed the existing landscape, mapping the vegetation cover and the locations of historic and non-historic features. Local residents unemployed during the Depression helped clear grounds and restore the landscape, according to the historians' findings. The demonstration project exposed the local community to "proper natural resource conservation techniques." It was at this time that the historic road trace, running west of Portici from the Old Warrenton, Alexandria, and Washington Road to the north connecting with the Warrenton Turnpike, was paved with cobbles and deemed "Rock Road." Demonstration projects centered on the Chinn Farm and Henry Farm. The stabilization of historic structures and control of erosion was largely done by participants in the Work Progress Administration. Proposed National Park Service development changes considered placing a tour road on an older abandoned road. The road was proposed to start near the Van Pelt's driveway and continue in a wide curve to Pittsylvania, then venture further west to the Matthew house and on to Sudley Mill Road. Portions of this road alignment seemed to relate to early roads from the 1860s, but other sections did not. To complete the development of the road system, the National Park Service needed to purchase additional lands.

In 1936, Cordelia Cather Swart and her husband, Hamilton Swart, conveyed 523.74 acres, including Hazel Plain, (Chinn House) to the United States government, to become part of Manassas National Battlefield Park. A National Park Service memorandum written in 1948 described preservation efforts started on the house, soon after acquisition and the condition of the structure.

The present condition of the Chinn House is, through an unfortunate chain of circumstances, due largely to its treatment under National Park Service administration. At the time the National Park Service took over it was apparently in a fair state of preservation. Plans were then being considered for its restoration. A phase of the early study of the structure resulted in the removal of its weatherboarding. Later developments, the abolition of the CCC and the war, made the restoration of the house impractical. Finally, the framing was covered with tar paper in lieu of replacing the weatherboarding. The tar paper in a few years was destroyed by the elements, leaving the framing exposed. As a result the
Although Historian Wilshin struggled for the restoration of the structure, the Chinn House was deemed a safety hazard and was razed in 1950. The two chimneys remained standing but, within days the east chimney was destroyed by strong winds. Concerned about safety, the National Park Service leveled the remaining chimney and capped both at the level of the house foundation. In 1961, two parking areas were installed on Chinn Ridge, one near the Chinn House and the other at the north end of Chinn Ridge, and one parking lot in the area of the New York Monuments. The farm road running through the Chinn farm was also realigned at this time.

The year 1936 also marked the year that McKinley Robinson, great grandson of James Robinson, sold 6.69 acres containing the Robinson House, a barn, and two outbuildings to the National Park Service. In 1941 an architectural investigation of the Robinson House was conducted by Frederic Fairweather. During his investigation, Fairweather concluded that the present building was built on the site of the original Robinson House and that many of the materials were recycled from the previous structure. The architect went on to note that the house was "unsightly" in appearance and contained no particular architectural or historical significance. Fairweather recommended that the house be demolished at this time. This suggestion of demolition was not acted upon, but some historical architectural fabric was removed from the building and replaced with modern materials. Included in this era of alteration was; the installation of replacement window sashes, the replacement of siding on the 1870s structure with "german siding", installation of homesote and/or drywall either over plaster or after plaster was removed, installation of a second episode of flooring in several rooms, installation of electrical wiring and fixtures, and construction of the outbuilding.
In the 1980s further repairs and restoration work was completed on the Robinson House. This work included: repairing the bottoms of studs in the frame, installing "german siding" along several sills, repointing the foundation with mortar, relaying the porch piers above ground, replacing the existing porch frame and deck, installing a gutter system, glazing windows, and repairing the concrete pad for the "outbuilding."132

The Orientation of the Original Robinson House is a report completed by Manassas National Battlefield Park Ranger James Burgess in 1987. In this account, Burgess presents photographic documentation that supports the conclusion that the porch was attached to the south side of the structure. The report also states that the eastern portion of the most modern structure coexisted with the original house, therefore concluding that the modern western portion of the house was placed where the original house once stood.133

In 1994, Park Ranger Steve Moore prepared the Historic Structures Analysis Report for the Robinson House. In this report, Moore emphasizes the Civil War significance of the structure, discusses the existence of outbuildings that may have been present during different periods of the farm's development and addresses the confusion surrounding the orientation of the original house. Moore concluded that several outbuildings stood near the house during the Civil War, including a barn and a meat house.134 Based on an oral interview with Oswald Robinson, it is believed that as many as six outbuildings existed on the property during the postbellum years.135 The confusion about the orientation of the original house was caused by the misinterpretation of two historic photographs of the structure. The porch on the house was once believed to face north, but after further evaluation of the photographs, it is now believed that the porch was on the back, or south elevation of the dwelling.136

On July 26, 1993 The Robinson House was extensively damaged by fire, believed to be caused by arson. In 1994 the Williamsport Preservation Training Center (WPTC) began a project
with the goals of collecting information related to the physical history and development of the Robinson House and related outbuildings and to then compare the results to historical information that already exists. During this investigation the Robinson House was tediously dismantled and the construction chronology began to unfold.

Once the work was complete the architects were able to resolve several of the controversies surrounding different construction nuances of the structure. First, the architectural dismantling in 1994 proved that the 1940s era Robinson House had a porch on the south elevation rather than the earlier belief that the porch was on the northern face of the dwelling as perceived in an historic photograph in the Park's collection. This information confirmed Burgess' 1987 findings. Another area of confusion is the chimney seen in an historic photograph. At one time this chimney was believed to have been present on the most recent structure. The work performed by WPTC proved that the chimney in the photo no longer existed and that the chimney on the 1870s addition was a new chimney built in the same location as an earlier one. In 1926 the Robinson's removed the 1840s portion and added a wing to the 1870s building. WPTC also located ghost mark patterns of the roof line for the 1840s structure on the 1870s addition.

The Wheeler Tract, containing Portici III, became part of Manassas National Battlefield Park in 1985. The Park immediately sought blanket approval to remove all derelict, non-period buildings from the tract of land. Since Portici III was not part of the Civil War landscape and it was not eligible for nomination to the Virginia Landmark Register of Historic Places the Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks agreed that the house should be removed. The barn and silo associated with Portici III was razed in 1987. During this time period the house was being used by the U.S. Secret Service as an anti-terrorist training facility. The house was removed in 1994. The only remaining standing structure is a hay barn built after 1956, which is associated with the Wheeler occupation period of the site.

The 1870s chimney remains after the Robinson house was severely damaged in the fire in 1993. NCA photo file MANA 354-4.
A barrage of preservation issues have sparked controversy since the establishment of Manassas National Battlefield Park. A thorough study of these preservation issues was completed by Joan Zenzen in 1995.
Endnotes

1. Early history for the Middle Bull Run Tract are included in the *Cultural Landscape Inventories* for the northwest and northeast quadrants.


3. Hernigle and Parker, p. 10.


5. Prince William County Court Deed Book (PWCC DB) Q: 444-447.


7. Ibid, p. ?.


10. Davis 1802, p. 52-53, cited in Hernigle and Parker, p. 15

11. PWCC DB Q: 444-447.


13. Wilshin, p. 64.


17. PWCC WB L: 510.


3-35


22. Robinson Papers, MANA file, catalog #21475.

23. PWCC DB 30:563.


25. Unfortunately, a combination of vandalism and the destructive effects of natural elements has destroyed the grave markers. Steadman Letter, 1967, MANA files.

26. Smith, p. 32.

27. Hazel Plain ownership from Wilshin Memorandum March 25, 1948, MANA files.


29. Hernigle and Parker, p. 16.

30. PWCC WB M,N from Hernigle and Parker, p. 16.

31. PWCC WB M,N from Hernigle and Parker, p. 16.


33. PWCC DB 23:392.

34. PWCC DB 24:268.

35. PWCC DB 24:400-401.

36. PWCC DB 24:308.

37. See discussion of Battle Maps found in Cultural Landscape Inventory: Northwest Quadrant.

38. National Archives, Non-Population Schedules, Agricultural Census, Prince William County, VA, 1850. Also located at the Prince William County Library, Bull Run Branch, RELIC
Collection, Microfilm, Manassas, VA.

39. National Archives, Non-Population Schedules, Agricultural Census, Prince William County, VA, 1860. Also located at the Prince William County Library, Bull Run Branch, RELIC Collection, Microfilm, Manassas, VA.


42. Bearss, p. 15.


44. Ibid, p. 25.


46. Ibid, p. 44.

47. Ibid, p. 55.


49. Hernigle and Parker, p. 20.


51. Warder and Catlett, 1862, pp. 42, 47, 48.


53. Ibid, p. 65.


60. Ibid, p. 10.


65. Hennessy, p. 376.


68. Ibid, p. 401.


70. Ibid, p. 57.


73. Moore 1862, p. 289, cited in Joseph, p. ?.


75. PWCC DB 32:523.


77. PWCC Land Tax Records, 1896-1897, p. 16.
78. Hernigle and Parker, p. 28.

79. PWCC WB X: 386-387.

80. PWCC DB 143: 371.

81. Francis Wilshin Memorandum 1948, MANA files.

82. WPA historic sites survey, 1936, MANA files.

83. National Archives, Non-Population Schedules, Agricultural Census, Prince William County, VA, 1870. Also located at the Prince William County Library, Bull Run Branch, RELIC Collection, Microfilm, Manassas, VA.

84. National Archives, Non-Population Schedules, Agricultural Census, Prince William County, VA, 1880. Also located at the Prince William County Library, Bull Run Branch, RELIC Collection, Microfilm, Manassas, VA.


86. Zenzen, p. 23.

87. Mahr, p. 3.

88. Letter from Edwin L. Carter to Mary E. Carter, April 15, 1894, Cat. MANA #1487, MANA files.


90. Mahr, p. 21.


92. Ibid.

93. Benson L. Pridmore re-inter remains of the Confederate dead for the Ladies of the Bull Run and Manassas Memorial Association, c. 1865. Original contract with Benson L. Pridmore is within the Manassas Battlefield Park study collection, catalog #1797.


95. Ibid, p. 24-25.
96. Ibid, p. 80.
97. Ibid, p. 81.
98. Ibid, p. 96.
93. Mahr, p. 91.
102. Zenzen, pp. 31-32.
113. Shackel.
114. Zenzen, p. 47.
115. Shackel.
117. Mahr, p. 16.
118. Ibid, p. 28.
119. Zenzen, p. 64.
120. Mahr, p. 28.
121. Zenzen, p. 69.
123. Ibid, p. 56.
124. Map showing "General Development Plan, Part of the Master Plan, Manassas National Battlefield Park," 1941?
125. Zenzen, Appendix F.
127. Zenzen, p. 90.
128. ?? parking development.
131. Ibid.
132. Ibid.
135. Ibid, p. 3.
137. Sandri, p. 2.
138. Ibid.
139. Ibid.

140. Zenzen, Appendix F.


142. Ibid.

143. Ibid.
IV. Analysis and Evaluation
Introduction

The analysis and evaluation of the cultural landscape of the Southeast Quadrant and the Chinn Ridge region of Manassas National Battlefield Park are supported by the examination of the historical record, including material such as: census, agricultural census, deeds, wills, personal property tax lists, letters, accounts, inventories, and public notices. Another resource used during this landscape analysis and evaluation was a collection of historic and acquisition period photographs found in the library at Manassas National Battlefield Park. A series of aerial photographs taken in the twentieth century was heavily relied upon. Archeological reports and historical research projects conducted at the park also aided in the compilation of this Cultural Landscape Inventory.

A summary of the character defining features of the overall landscape for the southern area of the park is addressed first. This summation includes information pertaining to: spatial organization, response to the natural environment, topography, land use, views and vistas, circulation, vegetation, structures, archeological sites, small scale features, and land patterns. These character defining features address broad landscape patterns that cross property boundaries. Components Landscapes are addressed in the next section. The component landscapes contain specific patterns of use relating to each farmstead.

Overall Landscape

Southern Portion

Component Landscape

Henry Farmstead
Robinson Farmstead
Portici Estate
Hazel Plain Estate

The character defining features which are site specific will be included in greater detail in the component landscape section.

Overall Landscape

Southern Portion

Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the farmsteads in the southern half of the park varied. In general, the houses to each property were built on hilltops with pastures and croplands stretched out around the houses at lower elevations. Characteristics specific to each farmstead identify significant social, racial, economic, and temporal trends that were prevalent through the various historic periods in Piedmont Virginia.

Hazel Plain (Chinn House) was built at the highest elevation, on Chinn Ridge in the southwest portion of the park. The 30 ft by 47 ft, two and a half story house was built around 1809 and contained a full English cellar. The house had two sets of twin attached chimneys. A
unimpaired view of the valley of Chinn Branch was probably a major factor in the placement of the house. Hazel Plain was surrounded by a terraced landscaped yard and outbuildings with rolling hills, fields and pastures around the periphery. The house was located amidst both battles of Manassas, and was used as a field hospital during the war.

Pohoke plantation was built around 1802. Little is known about this early house, although portions of the foundations and a chimney associated with the house have been documented through archeological investigation. Pohoke was built on an incline, not far from Rock Road. Later, around 1820, a larger house, Portici was constructed as a replacement for Pohoke. Portici was an example of the classically Georgian style of architecture, with the outbuildings exhibiting the carefully organized pattern in which the home was the center of the plantation community. This house went through a series of architectural expansions and around 1845 a detached kitchen was added. The other outbuildings making up the complex "Georgian" landscape defined the exterior space of the plantation, viewed as a small community. Portici was utilized as a field headquarters for General Johnston and also served as a field hospital following First Manassas. While Pohoke and Portici were built in close proximity to the road that is now referred to as Rock Road, the later house, Portici III or the Lewis\Wheeler House was built closer to the Old Warrenton, Alexandria and Washington Road and the current Interstate 66.

Little information is available about the original Henry house, (Spring Hill farm) built around 1812. The size of the house was modest and was believed to have been located at nearly the same position as the later Henry house, built in the 1870s. The Henry Farm was positioned on top of a slope on Henry Hill, with farmland and outbuildings existing on the undulating terrain surrounding the house. This farm is characteristic of the vernacular building tradition of nineteenth-century Virginia. (Additional information in Structure section) The lane to the Henry house entered from the west at Sudley Mill Road (Route 234). The Henry Hill surrounding area, including the Henry house, was the scene of a great deal of action during First and Second Manassas. On the afternoon of July 21, 1861, during the first battle, Mrs. Judith Henry, the 85 year old bed-ridden owner of the property, was fatally wounded when Ricketts' guns were turned on the house to flush Confederate sharp shooters from the structure. Mrs. Henry was buried in a family cemetery near the family home. The outcome of this battle was determined on Henry Hill. During Second Manassas, Henry Hill was an important Union defense position as the army retreated across Stone Bridge.

Also on Henry Hill was the Robinson farm. The lane to Robinson's Farm was accessible from the Warrenton Turnpike. The size and orientation of the original house, along with placement of the porch, all exhibit characteristics related to African-American historic sites. The majority of outbuildings on the Robinson farm were built to the south of house. Robinson house played a major role in First and Second Manassas, serving as a headquarters for General Franz Sigel and as a field hospital during the second battle. The landscape at Manassas National Battlefield Park currently reflects broader spatial relationships of the mid-nineteenth century. Primary property lines on many of the farmstead sites are still evident. Today, tree lines, roads and streams delineate the historic property boundaries. Internal spatial organization for each farmstead within the southern region of the park will be discussed in greater detail in the component landscape section of this report.
Contributing Features

Henry Farmstead
Robinson Farmstead
Portici Estate
Hazel Plain Estate
Overall Landscape

Note: All maps are overlay on existing conditions map and show existing roads, streams, and 1875 property boundaries. Unless otherwise indicated, information shown on maps reflects historic features still evident in 1996. Please read accompanied text for further information.

Source:
- Field Observations, 1996.

Legend
- 1800 Property Line
- Historic House Site

Spatial Organization
Response To The Natural Environment

The natural environment of the area played a major role in the settlement of the Piedmont land. The early Native American inhabitants chose this area for a number of reasons. First, the proximity of a water source, in this case, Bull Run and nearby streams and springs, was vital to both mobile and sedentary native groups. The presence and quantity of indigenous flora and fauna also governed the influx of inhabitants. Also, the presence of a source of lithic raw materials (natural stone) determined if the region was useful to Native Americans. Lithics in the material may have been utilized for tool and projectile manufacture include quartz and quartzite.

When the first European settlers arrived in this area of Piedmont, Virginia in the early eighteenth century, they felled trees and used the timber to build frame dwellings and eventually fences to define their property lines. Houses were often built on hills and ridges from which the occupants could benefit from prevailing winds and also have a clear view of their surrounding agricultural fields. Like the Native Americans before them, a nearby water source was important to settlers, who placed their dwellings near springs and streams.

Along with utilizing the lumber resource, settlers in this area also made use of the local red sandstone as a building material. Foundations, chimneys, outbuildings, and bridges were constructed of this native stone. Hazel Plain foundation and the Robinson House foundation and chimney are visible examples of the use of local sandstone for building material that remain intact today.

The management and use of the natural environment by settlers in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and by soldiers during the Civil War created the field and forest pattern that is evident today on portions of Manassas National Battlefield Park. During the Civil War several existing fords across Bull Run were utilized by both Union and Confederate soldiers. Lewis Ford (19th century) and Balls Ford (18th-20th century) were located downstream from the Stone Bridge crossing. Woodlots and cultivated fields provided the farmers with the subsistence and cash products necessary for them to live and prosper in this area. During the two battles of Manassas in the Civil War, soldiers stripped the landscape of nearly all woodland, raided farms for their supply of stored crops, and damaged the crops that remained in fields, based on photographic evidence and war claims submitted by a few area residents. James Robinson filed a War Claim that was reviewed in court in 1872. During the questioning by counsel Robinson described the destruction of his land on different occasions. When questioned about his corn crop Robinson replied:

There were about twelve acres in corn. It was in the field standing in the stack. It was in August, they (Union soldiers) just cut that down and fed it. They settled right in the corn field. What they did not cut down, the mules from their artillery cut and threw about: there was nothing left when they left.

It took some farmers a number of years to recover after the destruction caused by the First and Second Manassas fought on their properties.

Past farming practices led to a serious soil erosion problem in the 1930s. During early National Park Service ownership (1930s to the 1950s) soil conservation methods were utilized in

Cultural Landscape Inventory: Manassas National Battlefield Park: Southern Portion
an attempt to restore the soil in certain areas of the Park. Soil erosion continued in areas along stream banks, interpretive trails, and horse trails. Currently, the National Park Service uses protective management strategies, such as water bars, wooden boardwalks, and bridges to minimize the impact of trail systems on the natural environment.

The management philosophy at Manassas National Battlefield Park is to preserve and restore the woodlots and open fields as closely as possible to the historic, Civil War period landscape. To help maintain the open areas, the National Park Service has a lease agreement program with area farmers for Park lands to be used for the cultivation of hay. A few of the fields are mowed by the National Park Service maintenance personnel.

Native sandstone foundation used for the main house at Hazel Plain, 1996. NCA photofile MANA 415-14.
Overall Landscape Analysis and Evaluation

Topography

The land encompassing Manassas National Battlefield Park is part of the eastern portion of the Piedmont physiographic zone. This area of the Piedmont is characterized by low hills and ridges and deep narrow stream valleys found within a broad undulating surface. The geology of the eastern Piedmont is made up of a series of metamorphosed rock consisting of gneiss, slate, phyllite, schist, marble, serpentine, granite, and gabbro. These different metamorphosed rocks retain various resistance to erosion contributing to the surface topography. In areas where stronger, more erosion resistant rock is found below the surface, ridges and hills, such as Chinn Ridge and Henry Hill were formed. In other areas where the underlying rock such as shale is less resistant to erosion, lower slopes and valleys formed, demonstrated in the valley along Bull Run.

Elevations for the southeast and southwest quadrants of Manassas National Battlefield Park range from the highest point, approximately 290 feet at Chinn Ridge to the lowest point of approximately 150 feet, in the valley of Bull Run in the southeast portion of the park. These different topographic elevations determined the historic use of the land. For example, the upland surface has primarily been used for agricultural purposes or has remained open land while the areas of slopes and hills are more often wooded. The topography of the land at Manassas was a major contributing factor of prehistoric use, European settlement beginning in the eighteenth century, troop movements and maneuvers during the Civil War, farming and land development after the war and into the twentieth century, and in the development, interpretation and use of the battlefield grounds during National Park Service occupation. During the prehistoric period, the topography of Manassas would have been ideal for both hunting and gathering groups as well as for sedentary communities. The ridges were ideal for camps while the lower valleys provided hunting grounds and protective cover. Later, in the early eighteenth century, the ridges and hills were used for house sites by settlers, while the low-lying areas were set aside for cultivated fields and pasture land, necessary for plantation use.

The topography of the Virginia Piedmont also played a major role in both battles of Manassas during the Civil War. Low lying areas were used for protective cover against the enemy while ridges and hills were paramount to the placement of artillery batteries and the establishment of headquarters from which to view the battlefield. The high elevation of Henry Hill and Chinn Ridge provided defensive positions for both the Union and the Confederate armies. Robinson House and Portici were both utilized as headquarters during different phases of battle, due in part to their strategic topographic location at high elevations.

The topography at Manassas has changed very little since the Civil War era. Minor grade changes were made to the Turnpike in the 1920s, and erosion has altered the terrain in some areas, otherwise the topography remains unchanged.
Land Use

The land encompassing the southern quadrants of Manassas National Battlefield Park was used for agricultural purposes. It is possible that James Robinson operated a Drover's Inn on his property near the turnpike, but no historical or physical evidence has been found to support this Robinson family claim.

The land encompassing Manassas National Battlefield Park became historically significant at the time of the Civil War when the First and Second Manassas battles were fought. During the two battles, existing farm and plantation sites located on hills and ridges served as military field headquarters and hospitals. Most standing structures were used for taking care of the wounded, including Robinson House, Portici and Hazel Plain. A Confederate field hospital, under the direction of Dr. John Thompson Darby was established at Portici not only to care for wounded Confederates, but also to treat captured Union soldiers.

During the First Battle of Manassas, Henry Hill, containing the Henry House and Robinson House, served as battleground for the Union and Confederate armies. Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston established his headquarters at Portici, a strategic location to the southeast of Henry Hill, from which he could view Bull Run, the Stone Bridge, and his troops near Manassas. It was also from this location that General Johnston deployed reinforcements to the field. During this battle another engagement took place on Chinn Ridge and Bald Hill, where the Union right, (General Howard's Brigade) were located. After General Jubal A. Early's Confederate reinforcements arrived the Union right was broken. In the woods near Portici, Confederate troops camped from December 1861 to March 1862. A series of log huts with stone chimneys were built which, at one time, housed members of the 38th Virginia. These sites have been identified in the archeological record, with only a few remnant surface stones remaining.

Another use of the land and topography at Manassas during the Civil War was the construction of batteries and rifle pits, with evidence of these features still found today. Heaton's Battery was positioned by the Confederates at the confluences of Holkums Branch and Young's Branch with Bull Run. The battery was placed on the right bank of a bluff in order to defend Lewis Ford. From this position, an artillery battle was fought with Union batteries on the east side of Stone bridge. A system of rifle pits were also placed on a bluff overlooking Bull Run and Lewis Ford. Schaeffer's Battalion of the 19th Virginia constructed these pits, supported by two six-pounders of the Lynchburg Artillery.

When the armies returned to the area for the Second Battle of Manassas, Chinn Ridge and Bald Hill saw more battle action. Henry Hill was also the scene of maneuvers during this engagement. During Second Manassas, the Robinson House remained safely behind Union lines. General Franz Sigel, commanding the First Corps of Pope's Army of Virginia, established his headquarters at the Robinson House. It was also during this battle that the Robinson House was used as a field hospital.

Following the war, farmers attempted to rebuild and recover from the destruction wrought on the land. The properties in the south quadrants of the park were farmed following the war, but on a smaller scale. Farms were often divided into smaller lots, as demonstrated by the Robinson Farm. In 1881 the property making up the Robinson Farm was divided among four Robinson...
family members. Portions of this land was still used for agricultural purposes.

Commemoration soon became a permanent addition to the landscape, especially on Henry Hill. The first signs of commemoration appeared shortly after the First Manassas and following the Second Manassas memorials became a significant symbol on the battlefield. These attributes are discussed in more detail in the Small Scale Feature section of this report.

After the National Park Service acquired the majority of land encompassing the southeast and southwest quadrants of the park some agricultural practices continued in the open fields that were leased to local farmers for harvesting hay. A Visitor Center was built on Henry Hill in the 1940s in order to aid in the interpretation of the Battlefield. Pedestrian trails, as well as equestrian trails are located throughout the park and serve a dual purpose, to interpret the battles and provide recreation opportunities. These trails are heavily used, especially the interpretive loop trail on Henry Hill, which is the most widely used trail in the park.
Overall Landscape

Note: All maps are overlays on an existing conditions map which shows existing roads, streams, and NPS property boundaries. Unless otherwise indicated, information shown on maps depicts historical features still evident in 1862. Please refer to accompanying text for further information.


Analysis and Evaluation

LEGEND

- UNION ATTACK
- UNION RETREAT
- CONFEDERATE ATTACK
- HEADQUARTERS
- HOUSE SITE/ BUILDING SITE

LAND USE
FIRST MANASSAS
Overall Landscape

Analysis and Evaluation

Note: All maps are overlaid on an existing courthouse map which shows existing roads, streams, and NPS property boundaries. Unless otherwise indicated, information shown on maps reflects historic features still evident in 1996. Please read accompanying text for further information.

Source:
- Field Observations, 1996.

LEGEND

- Union Attack
- Union Retreat
- Confederate Attack
- Horse Site/Building Site

LAND USE
SECOND MANASSAS
As discussed in earlier sections of this report, the majority of historic house sites at Manassas National Battlefield Park are located on ridges or hills. The views from these elevations were not only important to the nineteenth-century planters, but also played a major role in the military movements during the First and Second Manassas. Along with the necessity of valleys and tree cover for defensive protection, ridges and hills were utilized as observation areas and locations from which to deploy artillery. Robinson House, Chinn House, and Portici were all utilized as headquarters during different phases of the two battles.

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Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston established his headquarters at Portici, a strategic location from which he could view Bull Run, the Stone Bridge, and his troops near Manassas Junction. It was also from this location that General Johnston deployed reinforcements to the field.

During the early stages of First Manassas the smaller Confederate force retreated south, to the next ridge occupied by the Henry farmstead. They held a line along the edge of pine thickets to the southeast of the Henry house. A small ridge served as the location for the Confederate artillery. The ground occupied by a Confederate battalion "was quite well sheltered from view by a small growth of old-field pines, ... with some small gullies" southeast of the Henry house.
At Second Manassas, General Franz Sigel, commanding the First Corps of Pope's Army of Virginia, established his headquarters on the Robinson Farm, he had an open view of the Henry Hill from this station. It was also during this battle that the Robinson House was used to treat the wounded. Another sight line important to the outcome of the battle occurred during the last phase of the Second Battle of Manassas on Chinn Ridge. The Confederate Army position themselves in the Hazel Plain yard, while the Federal forces maintained their ground further north on Chinn Ridge. The Confederate Army's view along Chinn Ridge and later to Henry Hill was significant during this fire fight. The opposing view along the ridge by the Federal troops was just as important.

Since the time of the Civil War internal and external views have changed. In some areas successional tree growth occupies once open pastures and cultivated fields. This is evident on portions of Chinn Ridge, Bald Hill, and Henry Hill. Even though some areas have succumb to successional growth which block significant views, Henry Hill has maintained its open character and views to J. Dogan's house, Buck Hill and Matthew Hill are still prominent. A narrow corridor was cleared in the early 1980s from the Henry Hill, Visitor Center, to Chinn Ridge. This has been the only attempt to open up a interpretive viewing corridor from Henry Hill to Chinn Ridge. Since then, the open area has not been maintained and the corridor is no longer evident.

**Contributing Features**

Views from Henry Farmstead to: Robinson Farmstead, Buck Hill, Dogan Ridge, Ridge containing Van Pelt Farmstead, and to the northern part of Chinn Ridge

Views from Robinson Farmstead to: Henry Farmstead, Van Pelt Farmstead, Buck Hill, Turnpike

Views from Hazel Plain Estate to: Bald Hill, Chinn Branch, and New York Ave. area

Views from Portici Estate to: Bull Run and Manassas Junction

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View from ridge near Portici house site to the northeast towards Stone Bridge, 1996. NCA photofile MANA 415-37.

Overall Landscape

Analysis and Evaluation

Note: All maps are overlaid on an existing conditions map which shows existing roads, streams, and NFS property boundaries. Unless otherwise indicated, information shown on maps depicts historic features vital today in 1996. Please read accompanying text for further information.

Source:
- Field Observations, 1996.

Legend

B View Zone

* House Site

Legend

1" = 1100 ft

Views and Vistas
Circulation

Once the Groveton/Sudley area was settled in the late 18th to early 19th century a road system was developed out of necessity. The circulation system was made up of farm roads that often followed field patterns and fence lines leading from the main plantation house out to the agricultural fields. A north-south public road, "Sudley Mill Road," was established from the Carter mill at Sudley, to the southern market center at Dumfries by 1780. Near Portici, Balls Ford was established to provide a crossing point over Bull Run for the "Old Warrenton, Alexandria and Washington Road." It is believe this road was one of the earliest east-west connections between Centreville and New Market, circa 1800. In 1815, the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike (Warrenton Turnpike) was under construction. The turnpike passed through the area in a northeasterly to southwesterly direction, crossing over Bull Run once, where the Stone Bridge was built. Another crossing point, Lewis Ford, developed sometime after 1820 across Bull Run which provided a shortcut from the Portici Estate to Warrenton Turnpike.

During the Civil War the existing road system was used as the primary access for both armies since the topography and vegetation cover hampered alternative routes. Minor farm roads also were utilized, including what is now referred to as Rock Road (running between the Old Warrenton, Alexandria, and Washington Road to the west of Portici and the Warrenton Turnpike to the east of Henry Hill) and farms roads on the Hazel Plain estate and driveways to the Henry and Robinson farmsteads.

The primary roads, Sudley Mill Road and the Warrenton Turnpike, are still heavily used today and follow approximately the same alignment. Both roads have been widened and paved and the turnpike was rerouted downstream to a new bridge in the 1920s. The original roadbed is still evident in the areas where the roads were realigned. Many of the early farm roads are currently used by the National Park Service as fire roads, interpretive trails, or bridle paths and are surfaced with gravel or compacted soil. Traces of historic farm roads that are not under current use can still be detected along fence lines, where forest growth and high grass conceal the features. A slight depression in the ground surface is often all that is left of these earlier roads.
Overall Landscape

Analysis and Evaluation

Contributing Features
Warrenton Turnpike/ U.S. Route 29-211/ Lee Highway
Sudley Mill Road/ Sudley Road/ State Route 234
Lewis Lane/ Groveton Road/ Route 622
Comptons Lane/ Road Trace/ trail
Old Warrenton Alexandria and Washington Road/ Balls Ford Road/ Route 621
Farm Road / Rock Road / trail
Driveway to Robinson Farmstead
Driveway to Henry Farmstead
Farm Road Trace from Henry Farmstead to Rock Road / hiking trail
Farm Road Trace from Rock Road to Sudley Road / bridle & hiking trail
Farm Road Trace from Lewis Ford to Portici Estate
Farm Road from Sudley Road to Hazel Plain Estate / Park Road to Hazel Plain
Two Road Traces from Hazel Plain to
Comptons Lane / hiking & bridle trail
Balls Ford
Lewis Ford

Farm road, "Rock Road," through Robinson property, 1996. NCA photofile MANA 415-34.
Historic road from Hazel Plain Estate to Compton's Lane currently used as hiking trail, 1996. NCA photo file MANA 415-24.
Overall Landscape

Analysis and Evaluation

NOTE: All maps are overlaid on an existing condition map which depicts existing roads, streams, and NFS property boundaries. Unless otherwise indicated, information shown on maps depicts historic features still evident in 1996. Please read accompanying text for further information.

Source:
- Data set, Prince William County Office of Mapping and Information Resources, GIS Division, Prepared from USDA, 1957.
- Field Observations, 1996.

LEGEND

- Primary Road - Public Road
- Abandoned Primary Road - Trace
- Secondary Road - Public Road
- Farm Road - Tour Road, Bridge or Hiking Trail
- Abandoned Farm Road - Trace
- Abandoned River Crossing
- House Site

1" = 1100'

Historic Circulation
Vegetation

In the eighteenth century, when the first settlers arrived in the region of the Piedmont that later became known as Manassas, the timber resources were utilized as building products and fuel. Estate owners slowly cleared the land of forest and established woodlots, primarily along streams and in rocky areas, not ideal for cropland. Gradually, some of these woodlots were cleared and left to succeed again to forest.31 The primary use of the land was agriculture based. First tobacco, and later corn, were the main cash crops grown during the early settlement period of the area.

Forest areas were cleared once again, during the Civil War. By clearing the forest, soldiers created unobstructed views for firing artillery. The wood also provided a source of fuel and was used as a primary construction material for the building of temporary structures. The remaining forest at the time of the battle was a mixture of oak-hickory-hardwood stands and Virginia pine. The oak tree stand to the east of the Robinson house was the location of the Confederates who "rallied in the oak stand to join General Stonewall Jackson's line."32 Many accounts written by participants in the war describe the utilization of tree cover and crossing agricultural fields. In an article entitled "Reminiscences of the First Battle of Manassas," recorded in Confederate Veteran, Smith describes a portion of the battlefield;

...the ground occupied by the battalion was quite well sheltered from view by a small growth of old-field pines, as was Jackson's left, with some small gullies now plainly to be seen in the rear of my left. Looking around me, I found myself on the eastern slope of the ridge or plateau opposite to, with my left a little to the south of the Henry house, and directly in front of Rickett's battery...33

The tree stands on Henry Hill proved to be significant in the placement of artillery and movement of troops during the battles of Manassas. Along with the small stands of pines on the hill, the deciduous forest that stood on the edge of the pasture to the east and west of Henry Hill were continuously utilized for cover.

The ground cover in the area along Rock Road was described by James G. Hudson in "A Story of Company D, 4th Alabama Infantry Regiment, C.S.A.," printed in The Alabama Historical Quarterly:

The 4th Alabama of Bee's brigade on its march to Youngs Branch, traveled "in a northwesterly direction through pine thickets and cedar hammocks, over ditches, gullies, briar patches, fences, swamps, hills, and valleys...." 34

Chinn Ridge was an open pasture during the time of the Civil War, with the exception of a tree stand along Chinn Branch. This stand of trees was used to conceal General Jubal Early's
troops during First Manassas. Also near the Chinn House, Colonel Elzey formed his brigade in a stand of trees. These recollections are but a few examples of references to the vegetation of the battlefields.

Open agricultural fields consisted of pastures, as well as corn and oat crops. The local farmers built fences that delineated land use, separating cropland from pastures and woodlots.

Vegetable gardens were also prevalent. At the time of the Civil War, James Robinson was growing a variety of crops, including: timothy hay, wheat, and oats, as well as vegetables, such as 1 acre of potatoes, cabbage and "all kinds of vegetables." Robinson also discussed the destruction of his fences during the war. The farmer described his rail fences with nine to ten rails to the panel and covering approximately two miles of his farm, not including cross fences. Robinson claimed that the fence rails and cross fences were taken by Union soldiers, burned for cooking purposes. The croplands at Hazel Plain yielded 100 bushels of Indian corn, 200 bushels of oats, 18 tons of hay, 10 bushels of other grass seed, and 20 bushels of Irish potatoes. Seven gallons of wine were also produced at Hazel Plain during this year. The fields of Portici produced 35 bushels of wheat, 75 bushels of rye, 825 bushels of Indian corn, 650 bushels of oats, and 25 tons of hay. After the Civil War these farms continued producing agricultural material, on a smaller scale.

The effects of First and Second Manassas were felt by farmers well into the twentieth century. To replace the destroyed fences and buildings, landowners further depleted the timber resources. The forested areas were revitalized by the turn of the century, but some were logged again. When the National Park Service purchased battlefield properties in the 1930s, some forests were cleared, including areas of Chinn Ridge and Bald Hill. These forests were extensively cleared at this time in order to reconstruct the historic battlefield views and vistas. Although some historic woodlots were cleared during the 1860s and into the 1900s, the majority
have since succeeded to hardwood forest. In contrast, some historically open areas are now encroached by a forest canopy. The National Park service maintains the open areas by mowing and leasing field for hay cultivation. No forests have been cleared since the 1940s.

A vegetative survey was conducted at Manassas National Battlefield Park in 1979, to aid the development of a General Management Plan for the park during this time. This survey was thorough and it appears that very little change has taken place in the vegetation in the Park since this 1979 survey was completed. The information in this section is primarily cited from the Dames and Moore 1979 vegetation survey, with additional information provided from present observations, when necessary. Six major vegetation types were identified during the Dames and Moore survey, including: deciduous woodlands, coniferous woodlands, mixed woodlands, brushlands, herbaceous lands, and croplands.

Twenty-five percent of the land that makes up Manassas National Battlefield Park was covered by Deciduous Woodlands as of 1979. This deciduous woodland represents the natural climax vegetation for this region of the Piedmont and is dominated by an oak-hickory association. Other dominant species include: white oak, black oak, mockernut hickory, and shellbark hickory. A well developed understory was recorded containing: flowering dogwood, redbud, slippery elm, serviceberry, and sassafras.

Approximately fifteen percent of the Park was covered by Coniferous Woodland as of 1979. Most of these stands are believed to have developed on previously cleared or open land. The coniferous woodlands often occur in small stands within or next to larger stands of deciduous woodlands. The variety of trees constituting the coniferous woodlands are: Virginia pine, loblolly pine, and white pine. The undergrowth is similar to that of the deciduous woodland, with flowering dogwood, Japanese honeysuckle, sassafras, Virginia creeper, and oak and hickory seedlings.

In areas where there is a transitional stage between the deciduous and the coniferous
Overall Landscape Analysis and Evaluation

A third vegetative type, **Mixed Woodlands**, was identified. The mixed woodland makes up about nine-percent of Manassas National Battlefield Park and contains species that are dominant to the deciduous and coniferous woodlands. The understory for mixed woodlands is usually dense. The total amount of woodlands was recorded as covering approximately forty-nine-percent of the park as of 1979.

**Brushlands** made up about three-percent of the park land at Manassas. These brushlands are usually found on previously open fields that have not been mowed and have developed early successional woody vegetation. Virginia pine, red cedar, sumac, various oaks, white ash, and persimmon seedlings, poison ivy, and bramble characterize the brushland. In areas where fences once stood, brushlands often grow linear extensions of woodlands. These areas of brushland often crisscross in open areas and are a good indicator of boundaries for historic fields.

Approximately forty-four percent of Manassas National Battlefield Park consisted of **Herbaceous Land**. This classification ranges from monotypic, grass dominated fields to field of various perennial grasses and shrub seedlings. Some of the common grass found in the Park are: Bermuda, orchard, fescue, broomsedge, and little bluestem. The herbaceous land is essentially a dense ground covering.

The final vegetative type at Manassas National Battlefield Park is **Croplands**, covering an estimated three-percent of the property in 1979. This figure is considerably higher today. While these croplands consisted of cultivated fields of corn found mostly in the northeast and southwest portions of the Park in 1979, the agricultural fields today consist of hay. Manassas National Battlefield Park has a lease agreement with neighboring farmers who cultivate hay in cropland areas where cultural resources are not in danger of being impacted.

**Contributing Features**

* Field Patterns*
* Woodlots*

*See individual component landscapes for further information regarding wooded and open areas.

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Overall Landscape

Analysis and Evaluation

SOURCES:
- Field Observations, 1996.
- "Map of the Battlefield of Manassas from Action, Surveyed by the Officers of Genl. Sickles Corps of Staff Showing the Exact Position Occupied by Federal & Rebel Forces in the Battle of 21st July 1861." 1861.

NOTE: All maps are overlaid on an existing condition map which shows existing roads, streams, and NPS property boundaries. Unless otherwise indicated, information shown on maps depict historic features still evident in 1996. Please read accompanying text for further information.
Overall Landscape

Analysis and Evaluation

NOTE: ALL MAPS ARE OVERLAP ON AN EXISTING CONDITIONS MAP WHICH SHOWS EXISTING ROADS, INTERSECTIONS, AND VARIOUS PROPERTY BOUNDARIES. UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, INFORMATION SHOWN ON MAPS DEPicts HISTORIC FEATURES STILL EVIDENT IN 1996. PLEASE READ ACCOMPANIED TEXT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

LEGEND

- DECIDUOUS WOODLAND
- MIXED WOODLAND
- CONIFEROUS WOODLAND
- BRUSHLAND
- HERBACEOUS LAND
- FENCE ROW

"1" = 1100'
Structures

The early architecture in Piedmont Virginia reflected either the vernacular tradition, houses built without formal plans, or from a formal architecture in which the houses and outbuildings created an ordered division of living space. Typically, it was the wealthiest land owners who built the formal plantations, while the vernacular dwellings were more common on smaller farmsteads.

The characteristics of a vernacular house included: a one-and-one-half story frame structure with only several rooms per floor. A chimney was built on the gable of one or both ends of the house, and the houses were typically covered with untreated clapboards.

Both the 1840s Robinson house and the circa 1812 Henry house are examples of the Virginian vernacular house. The house at Spring Hill Farm was believed to have been a one-and-one-half story log house, later covered with clapboard. Little documentation has been located related to this house, although it was recorded to have been damaged severely during the First Battle of Manassas. When the new house was built in the 1870s, a portion of the original house foundations and chimney may have been incorporated in the construction, but this has not been substantiated. The new Henry house stands on the battlefield today, and is a two story frame, I-type house covered with channeled siding. A vertical board shed with a shake roof also remains on Henry Hill, not far from the Henry house, dates from before 1941.

The 1840s Robinson House was very similar in appearance to the early Spring Hill Farm house. James Robinson lived in a one-and-one-half story frame log structure that was covered with clapboard. A stone chimney was on the west gable of the house and a porch extended from the south elevation of the house. The Robinson House remained this style and size until after the
Civil War. Following the war, and James Robinson's death, members of the Robinson family constructed a two-story addition on to the east side of the 1840s house. Later, sometime in the 1880s a shed or kitchen was added to the west of the house. The Robinson family remained living on the property and made another change to the house in 1926. At this time the 1840s portion of the house and the 1880s shed were removed and an addition with stone and brick chimney was built onto the 1870s addition. This new construction matched the roof line of the 1870s house addition. It was also at this time that the porch was built on the north of the house. The 1926 era Robinson House and surrounding property was acquired by the National Park Service in 1936 and stood intact until July 26, 1993, when 60% of the structure was destroyed by arsonists. The National Park Service torn down the gutted wooden structure in 1994, and kept the chimney. Today, only the 1870s chimney and the stone foundations remain.

Pohoke, the first house built at what later became the Portici Estate, was also believed to have been built probably in the vernacular hall and parlor style. This vernacular style exhibited a floor plan of British origin, containing a hall or large main room accessed from the buildings exterior, and another smaller room called a parlor, which was accessed through the hall. The house at Pohoke measured approximately 16 feet by 20 feet, constructed on a native sandstone foundation with a half-cellar. After the main house, Portici was built around 1820, the building materials comprising the Pohoke house were believed to have been recycled and utilized in the construction of another dwelling, a nineteenth-century slave quarter associated with Portici plantation.

When Spencer Ball had Portici built in the 1820s, the characteristic of the architectural layout of the plantation changed from vernacular to the Georgian style. This 37 ft by 36.9 ft house featured four rooms on the main floor with a central passage or hall. The hall was considered the most important room since it was the center of the formal and social side of the planter and his family. The exterior north and south walls of the house contained massive
parapeted brick chimneys that contributed to the ordered layout of the plantation. The Portici house also contained a full English cellar divided into four rooms like the above main floor. At least one room of the basement was believed to have been inhabited by domestic slaves. Around 1836 a small, 8 ft by 12 ft addition was built onto the north west exterior corner of the planter's house. The function of this addition remains in question. Spencer Ball died in 1832 and the responsibilities of the plantation were taken over by his son, Alfred.

[Image of Portici Estate, 1862]

During Alfred Ball's management of Portici, the plantation underwent substantial expansion. Along with increasing the acreage surrounding the plantation, Alfred Ball added several architectural features to the plantation including: a detached winter kitchen, and an enclosed frame walkway built between the detached kitchen and the southwest corner of the main house.

During the Civil War, Portici was destroyed by fire. By this time the property was under the management of Francis W. Lewis, who during the 1860s built Portici II, after Portici was destroyed by fire. Portici II was located southeast of the original Portici and consisted of a simple framed farm house that went back to the vernacular style of architecture. Soon after this construction, Portici II also burned to the ground. In the 1870s, Portici III (Lewis/Wheeler House) was built in the same location as Portici II. Another dwelling, Tadpole Flat, was built by members of the Lewis family in a field adjoining the family home. In 1985, the National Park Service purchased the property containing the Lewis/Wheeler House and sought approval to remove the non-Civil War period structure and surrounding outbuildings. In 1987 the park razed the barn and silo on the farm. The house was dismantled in 1994. A hay barn constructed after
1956 is the only standing structure left on the Portici estate.

Hazel Plain, later known as the Chinn House, was also an example of the ordered style of architecture that became popular among plantation owners in Virginia. The house was built around 1809 and was a large two-and-one-half story frame structure with a full English cellar. Like the original Portici, Hazel Plain was believed to have been built in the Georgian style and exemplified the ordered plantation community. The Chinn House was deemed a safety hazard and razed in 1950. The two chimneys remained standing but, within days the east chimney was destroyed by strong winds. Concerned about safety, the National Park Service leveled the remaining chimney and capped both at the level of the house foundations.

The visitors center at Manassas National Battlefield Park was built in 1941 and was being utilized by 1942. The main building is a two story native brownstone structure with a portico. A single story stuccoed cinder-block wing protrudes from the east side if the main structure. In the early 1960s the National Park Service added a west wing to the original visitor center.

visitor center, on Henry Hill, was in agreement with the 1938 deed of conveyance. In this deed, the Manassas Battlefield Confederate Park, Inc., in accordance with the request of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, required the National Park Service to erect a museum and historic markers and monuments "upon the historic spots" of the conveyed land in memory of the soldiers who fought there. The Visitor Center serves as the primary contact site for the park, providing information and initial orientation services for all visitors. This museum/visitor center, along with the Henry House and outbuilding are the only structures standing on the Henry Hill area of the Park. Further discussions on the existing conditions of the house sites in the southern quadrants of Manassas National Battlefield Park will follow in the Archeological Sites section of this report.

Several National Park Service buildings were placed on Bald Hill in the 1930s and 1940s
provide storage and offices for the parks Maintenance Division. These buildings do not make a significant contribution to the cultural landscape of Manassas National Battlefield Park and are hidden from view by tree cover.

**Contributing Features**

- 1870s Henry house
- Henry shed

**Non-Contributing Features**

- Park Visitor Center
- Park Maintenance Buildings
- Hay Barn associated with Wheeler family
Overall Landscape Analysis and Evaluation

Archeological Sites

A wide range of cultural occupation and use during both the prehistoric and the historic periods have been identified in the archeological record at Manassas National Battlefield Park. A total of ninety-seven sites were recorded in the park as of 1995. In 1981, an archeological survey was conducted in order to inventory and evaluate historic period sites. Within the south quadrants of the Park at this time, the Chinn House, the Henry House, and the Robinson House were recorded. Other features within these sites were also recorded, for example, the 19th Virginia rifle pits and Heatons Battery along Bull Run. One of the main goals during this survey was to locate cultural resources related to the First and Second Battles of Manassas. A second survey, conducted in 1982, was conducted in open areas of the park, in order to locate and evaluate previously unknown prehistoric and historic sites within park boundaries. The Wheeler Tract was not owned by the National Park Service at this time and was not included in the surveyed area. Since these initial surveys, archeological investigations have taken place on various tracts in the southern portion of the park. Beginning in 1986, National Capital Region archeologists and archeologists from the University of Maryland conducted various surveys on the Wheeler Tract and the southern portion of the Fannie Lee Henry Tract. Twenty-five sites were recorded in this area of the park, including four prehistoric and twenty-one historic of which four were Civil war related. A large-scale excavation continued at the Pohoke\Portici sites through 1988. In 1988 archeologists contracted from the University of Maryland conducted a survey of the Nellie Edwards Tract, south of the Warrenton Turnpike and to the east of Henry Hill. During this survey, five sites were located, including, three prehistoric, one historic and one multi-component site. In 1989, archeological investigations and clearance was performed for the installation of wayside exhibits in different areas of the park. Within the southern boundaries of the park, excavation and clearance took place at the Robinson House, and the Henry House. In 1995, archeological excavations began at the Robinson House. A team of archeologists from Harpers Ferry National Historical Park conducted the investigations and are continuing into a second field season for the spring and summer of 1996.

Historic Domestic Sites

Thirteen historic domestic sites have been identified within the southern half of Manassas National Battlefield Park. The Henry House is the only structure still standing. The 1870s chimney and 1870s/1926 foundations remain at the Robinson House. Capped chimneys and foundations, a well and cistern remain at the Chinn House. All other remnants are either at grade or below ground in the archeological record.

In 1981, Thomas McGarry, from the Denver Service Center, conducted a ground survey in which he located known or obvious features, such as exposed foundations, and examining the ground surface for indications of subsurface features. At the Henry House, McGarry recorded the present postbellum house, a garage, the Henry family cemetery, and the Bull Run Monument. The only other recorded archeological information pertaining to the Henry House is found in the Manassas National Battlefield Park Wayside Exhibit Installation: Archeological Investigations and Clearance report. During this study, two areas were tested. The first area covered 10.3 square yards. This test unit yielded historic artifacts dating to antebellum and postbellum
occupation of the house. The second test area covered a total of 7.7 square yards and several archeological features were exposed. A frame building sill, portions of a sandstone foundation, and a plaster deposit were identified, as well as a utility trench, probably installed in the 1960s.

The Robinson House was within the 1981 survey area, and along with the house that was still extant at this time, McGarry identified several ground surface anomalies believed to be outbuildings associated with the occupation of the farm. The next time the Robinson House was investigated was during the Wayside Installation project. At this time a 12.6 square yard unit was excavated. Artifacts related to the Robinson occupation periods as well as the NPS era. In the fall of 1995, Phase I of archeological excavations were performed at the Robinson House. During this investigation the chimney and a portion of a hearth associated with the 1840s house were uncovered. Also located at this time was a well, and a possible temporary Civil War grave. Excavations will continue on this site with the goal of locating evidence of outbuildings on the Robinson farmstead.

The Chinn House site was surveyed during the 1981 McGarry study. In addition to the house foundations, thirteen features were defined. The house measured 30 ft by 47 feet, with a south facing front porch and walk. A carriage house, a cistern, a series of undefined buildings—possibly servants quarters, storage buildings, or a summer kitchen, another unknown building, stables, an icehouse or spring house, a root cellar, two check dams, Chinn Spring, the Hooe family cemetery, and another cemetery, possibly for slaves. McGarry also located two additional historic sites (44PW285 and 44PW286) near the Chinn House. The function of these sites is undetermined.

A total of twenty-one historic sites were encountered during a survey in 1988, of the Wheeler Tract. Of these sites, 12 were associated with four different domestic sites. The remains of the historic house sites, Pohoke (44PW335), antebellum Portici (44PW348), the Lewis\Wheeler House (44PW345), and Tadpole Flats (44PW454) were identified on the Wheeler Tract. Another site, the Ball family cemetery (44PW334), located near Pohoke, is associated with Pohoke and Portici. Three additional sites located on the Wheeler Tract are believed to be directly associated with the Portici site. One of these sites was a 19th-century domestic site (44PW336) that was probably an outbuilding on the antebellum Portici plantation. The other two sites were a well (44PW453) and a possible slave quarters (44PW337). Additional sites associated with the Lewis House were identified as two late 19th- to early 20th-century domestic sites (44PW346 and 44PW347), the functions of these sites were not determined. The last domestic site, Tadpole Flats, was a late 19th- to early 20th-century house built by Frank Warner Lewis. Two other domestic sites (44PW343 and 44PW456) were linked to this house site. To the northeast of the only remaining standing structure, a hay shed, the Fannie Lee Henry house was located (44PW339).

To the north of the Portici property, the Bladen Robinson house site is noted to the east of Rock Road. Bladen was the son of James Robinson and built this house sometime after 1870.
Civil War Military Sites

A total of five sites found in the southern portion of the park are linked specifically to the military occupation of the area during the Civil War. On the Nellie Edwards Tract several military encampments were recorded (44FX1480 and 44FX1481). This series of huts may have been the encampment of Shaeffer's Battalion. 75 Fourteen other hut sites (44PW456) were found near Portici. This site has been identified as a Confederate winter encampment that was utilized from 1861 to 1862. 76 Two other military sites along Bull Run, established by the Confederates before First Manassas, Confederate earthenworks established near Lewis Ford in order to protect this crossing, and Heatons Battery, the site of two six-pounder guns that defended Lewis Ford and carried on an artillery battle with Union positions east of Stone Bridge. 77

Prehistoric Sites

A total of twenty-six prehistoric sites were identified in the park during the 1982 McGarry survey. Eight of these prehistoric sites were located in the south portion of park. The sites were defined as "a locale where two or more artifacts were collected from the same physiographic feature, for example, a hilltop." 78

During the Wheeler Tract survey four prehistoric sites were recorded near Holkums Branch and Bull Run. In 1988 three prehistoric sites were located on the Nellie Edwards Tract. These sites were also found close to Bull Run. Just west of these sites three more prehistoric scatters were identified in a cluster between the confluences of Young's Branch and Bull Run. In
the southwestern portion of the park five prehistoric sites were located. Two of the prehistoric scatters were found on Bald Hill, one along Chinn Branch, one on Chinn Ridge, and one along Young's Branch.


Heatons Battery upstream from Lewis Ford, 1996. NCA photofile MANA 378-14.
Contributing Features

Domestic
Henry Farmstead Site
Robinson Farmstead Site: well, 1840s chimney, various outbuilding features
Hazel Plain Estate: south porch, well, cistern, various outbuildings, drainage system
Portici Estate: Portici House Remnants, Pohoke House Remnants, Slave Cabin

Military
Heatons Battery
Rifle Pits
Confederate Encampment- near Portici
Confederate Encampment- Nellie Edwards Tract

Prehistoric
Nellie Edwards Tract around Bull Run (unknown date)
Portici Estate, near Bull Run (unknown date)
Bald Hill and Chinn Ridge (unknown date)
Along Young's Branch between Groveton and Sudley Road (unknown date)
East of Robinson Farmstead, near Rock Road (Archaic and Late Woodland)
Civil War Military Sites
Manassas National Battlefield Park: Southern Portion

NOTE: All maps are overlaid on an existing conditions map which shows existing roads, streams, and NPS property boundaries. Unless otherwise indicated, information shown on maps depicts historic features still present in 1860. Please read accompanying text for further information.

LEGEND

* 1860s House Site
* Post Civil War House Site

Cultural Landscape Inventory

Source:
- Field Investigation, 1996.
Cultural Landscape Inventory

Manassas National Battlefield Park: Southern Portion

[Map of Manassas National Battlefield Park: Southern Portion]
Small Scale Features

There are thirteen significant small scale features located within the southern half of Manassas National Battlefield Park. The first type of feature, commemorative monuments, are located on Henry Hill, Chinn Ridge, and the New York Avenue area. Fences make up the second type of small scale features significant to the southern portion of Manassas Battlefield.

Monuments

Henry Hill

In May of 1865, special orders from government headquarters were given for the construction of markers on Civil War battlefields. It was at this time that Lieutenant James M. McCallum of the 16th Massachusetts Light Artillery Battery was detailed to erect a monument on Manassas Battlefield. The construction of the Henry Hill monument, along with a similar monument near Deep Cut, at Groveton, began on June 7, 1865 and was completed within four days. The monument was erected just east of the Henry House to commemorate the Union soldiers who lost their lives in the First Battle of Manassas, July 21, 1861. The obelisk sits approximately 15 yards from the Henry House and a greatly attended dedication for the monument took place on June 11, 1865. A split rail fence surrounded the monument and four cedar trees were planted around the obelisk. Restoration work done in the mid-1970s included the replacement of an original natural cement plaque that had deteriorated, with a simulated stone plaque, and the removal of all Parrott shells for deactivation. The shells with the exception of one, were returned to the monument. Since then these shells, with the exception of the uppermost one, have disappeared from the monument. In July of 1987, the Northern Virginia Relic Hunters Association added replacement reproduction shells on the original stone pedestals of the Henry Hill Monument (Mahr 1986). In 1993, the National Park Service initiated another restoration effort and replaced the simulated stone plaque with a concrete plaque, similar to the original. At this same time, some trees that grew up around the monument were removed. Photographic evidence seems to suggest that deciduous trees were originally planted around the base of the monument in 1865. It is not known what type of tree was planted. Over the years, other less desirable trees encroached within the fenced in area. It is not known when the original trees were removed due to old age or other circumstances.

Only a small base to the original Bartow monument remains on Henry Hill, wedged in the base of a cedar tree. A second monument was dedicated to Bartow and placed approximately 24 feet south of the original. This second monument was dedicated by the Georgia Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1936 and consists of a gray granite block with a bronze inscribed plaque.

The Bee Monument, dedicated to General Barnard Elliott Bee, C.S.A. is located on Henry Hill near the spot where Bee fell while leading troops against the Union position during First Manassas. The monument, a granite shaft with inscriptions, was dedicated in 1939 and remains in good condition.

Approximately 100 feet to the north east of the Bee monument stands the Jackson Monument. This large bronze equestrian statue of Brigadier General "Stonewall" Jackson was
dedicated in 1940 and remains one of the most visited monuments in the Park.

Two of the original six Georgia Markers remain at Manassas National Battlefield Park. One marker, for the 5th Position Georgia, is located along a tree line to the south east of the Robinson Farmstead remnants. The second marker is located adjacent to Ricketts' position on Henry Hill north of the Visitor Center. Little information is known about the history of the markers, although it is surmised that surviving veterans of the regiment returned after the War to mark the locations of the regiment at First Manassas.82

**Chinn Ridge**

The Hooe Family Cemetery is a small scale feature located near the Chinn House site on Chinn Ridge. The cemetery is believed to contain the graves of members of the Hooe family dating from 1772 to the last dated burial in 1825.83 The grave markers have been adversely affected by vandalism and natural elements and none remain.

The Fletcher Webster Memorial is another small scale feature located on a portion of Chinn Ridge on property that was purchased by trustees of the Webster Memorial Association. Survivors of the 12th Massachusetts Regiment and members of the Fletcher Webster Post dedicated a monument to Colonel Fletcher Webster on October 21, 1914. The monument, a large granite boulder brought to Manassas from Fletcher Webster's home in Marshfield, Massachusetts, was placed on the spot where he was mortally wounded during Second Manassas.84

**New York Avenue area**

Three other monuments, the 14th Brooklyn, the 5th New York, and the 10th New York are located on New York Avenue, south of the Warrenton Turnpike, just west of Chinn Ridge. These granite monuments were dedicated in 1906 after the state of New York authorized the purchase of the three separate non-contiguous lots and established commissions for the design of the monuments.85 The New York Avenue Gates were also erected at this time and serve as an additional commemoration of the New York regiments who lost their lives. The gates are made of wrought iron and are inscribed with "5th New York Volunteer Infantry" and state seals. When the National Park Service decided to put a tour road within the New York Monuments area in the 1960s, they widen the existing narrow farm road to accommodate a twenty-four feet wide paved road. By widening the road, they had to move the entrance gates further apart. Now the gates no longer function as originally planned.

In 1996, the wrought fences placed around the monuments were removed to repair and protect the original fabric. They will be placed in the same location after their conservation.

Base of original Bartow Monument. NCA photofile MANA 376-33.


5th position of the 7th Georgia Regiment, 1995. NCA MANA 3-3.

Overall Landscape

Analysis and Evaluation

Fences

Because of the temporal nature of some features, such as wooden fences, there is no longer any evidence of them remaining on the sites. This is the case for the Virginia rail or worm fence, an important small scale feature that symbolized Manassas Battlefield and the rural Piedmont landscape. This fence type is synonymous with the Manassas battlefield and is represented in historic photographs from the 1860s. The National Park Service continues the long standing tradition, and has restored many Virginia rail fences within the park. Today when a visitor enters the battlefield along Warrenton Turnpike (U.S. Route 29) or Sudley Road (VA Route 234), the Virginia rail fence placed along the road gives a sense of entry into the battlefield landscape. Other types of fences, such as the post and rail and picket fence, were less common, but were also used to define properties and fields. These other fence types are not represented today within the southern portion of the park.

There is evidence of historic fence placement within the southern part of the park, but the historic fabric has long since vanished or has been replaced with a new wire fence. One such fence line to the west of the Hazel Plain Estate is still visible because stones that were through to the side of the field delineate the fence line. This particular fence remnant is included as a contributing feature for the Hazel Plain Estate within the Component Landscape section.

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Various interpretive devices are used to tell the battlefield story on Henry Hill. To the south of the Henry house the National Park Service has placed reproduction cannons to represent one of the most significant artillery positions during the First Battle of Manassas. Also along the interpretive loop trail, the park has also installed waysides to give further description about the battles. Although these features are important to telling the story of the battles, they do not contribute to the historic scene.

Contributing Features

Monuments

*Henry Hill*

Henry Hill Monument / First Battle of Manassas Monument
Bee Monument
Bartow Monument
Original Bartow Monument base
Jackson Monument
7th Georgia Markers
4th and 5th positions

*Chinn Ridge*

Fletcher Webster Memorial

*New York Avenue area*

10th New York Monument
5th New York Monument
14th Brooklyn Monument
New York Monuments Gate

Fences

Virginia Rail Fence / Worm Fence type
Overall Landscape

Non-Contributing Features

Waysides
Cannons
Component Landscapes

Introduction

Four Component Landscapes within the south region of the park analyzed in this Cultural Landscape Inventory have been identified and analyzed. Specific attributes and character defining features for each Component Landscape, including: the Henry Farmstead, the Robinson Farmstead, the Portici Estate, and the Hazel Plain Estate will be addressed in this section.

Henry Farmstead

Spatial Organization

Although little information is available about the original Henry house, (Spring Hill Farm) built around 1812, the spatial organization, i.e. house placement, was believed to have been similar to the Henry house that stands today. The size of the first house was modest and the chimney of this structure is may be incorporated into the construction of the later Henry house, built in the 1870s, but this has not been determined. The Henry Farm was situated on top of a slope on Henry Hill, with a view of Chinn Ridge, the Robinson Farm, Dogan Ridge, and Buck Hill. The farmland and outbuildings at the Henry Farm were located on the undulating terrain surrounding the house. This farm is characteristic of the vernacular building tradition of nineteenth-century Virginia. Today a Virginia rail fence defines the yard space around the Henry house. Within the yard there is the main house, a frame garage, the Henry family cemetery, and First Battle of Manassas Monument.

The lane to the Henry House entered from the west at Sudley Mill Road. Another historic road trace still exists in some areas, extending from the Henry Farm to the east, connecting with what is now called Rock Road. This road can be seen on several of the historic, Civil War era maps. Another historic road trace was detected along the Park boundary line to the south of the Henry House connecting what is now Rock Road and Sudley Road (Route 234), and portions of the road trace are currently use as a trail.

The area on Henry Hill surrounding and including the Henry House was the scene of a great deal of action during First and Second Manassas. On the afternoon of July 21, 1861, during the first battle, Mrs. Judith Henry, the 85 year old bed-ridden owner of the property, was fatally wounded when Ricketts' guns were turned on the house to flush Confederate sharp shooters from the structure. Mrs. Henry was buried in a family cemetery near the family home. The outcome of this battle was determined on Henry Hill. During Second Manassas, Henry Hill was an important Union defense position before the army retreated across Stone Bridge.

Vegetation

The Historic Agricultural Census data not only provides us with quantitative information about particular farms, but also lists the types and value of crops that were being grown. In 1850, Judith Henry was listed as owning 100 acres. The majority of produce harvested on the Henry farm in 1850 was cash crops, exemplified by wheat, rye, indian corn, and oats. Irish potatoes and buckwheat were also harvested.
The Henry farm does not reappear on the Agricultural Census again until 1880. Hugh Henry (Judith Henry's son) was recorded as owning 20 acres of improved land, 60 acres of woodlands, and 53 acres of other unimproved land. Crops listed for Henry included: hay, Indian corn, and wheat. Information was also provided for orchards on the farm. At the time this census was recorded, the Henry farm contained 40 apple trees and 100 peach trees. Henry also had 10 cords of wood cut on his property.

The tree stands on Henry Hill proved to be significant in the placement of artillery and movement of troops during the battles of Manassas. Along with the small stands of pines on the hill, the deciduous forest that stood on the edge of the pasture to the south, east and west of Henry Hill were continuously utilized for cover.

The forest pattern that exists on Henry Hill today is similar to that of the Civil War period although in some areas tree lines have expanded and extend into what were historically pastures and crop lands. According to several Civil War maps the area directly around the Henry House was covered with corn. Today, these fields are kept mowed by the National Park Service. Trees were planted around the Visitor Center and the Henry Hill Monument as documented on a 1949 map depicting the development plan for Henry Hill. Also four deciduous trees were planted around the Henry Hill monument in 1865. Over time, other trees encroached the fenced in area. In 1993 all trees were removed within the fenced in area.

**Contributing Features**

Remnant Fence lines
Field Patterns
Road Trace from Sudley Road to Rock Road on southern boundary
Driveway to Henry house continuing to Rock Road
Structures

The house at Spring Hill Farm was believed to have been a one-and-one-half story log house, later covered with clapboard. Little documentation has been located related to this house, although it was recorded to have been damaged heavily during the First Battle of Manassas. Several battle era photographs depict the house ruins. A portion of the original house foundations and chimney may have been incorporated in the construction of a new house in the 1870s but this has not been determined.\textsuperscript{89} The "new" Henry House may have been built by a Confederate Veteran named Andrew Norman, who in later years (around 1920) visited the house and along with signing the visitors guest book, he wrote, "I built this house in 1870."\textsuperscript{90} This new Henry House standing on the battlefield today was the first museum operated on the battlefield by the Sons of Confederate Veterans in the 1920s. The building is a two story frame, I-type house covered with channeled siding.\textsuperscript{91} A 10 foot square batten board covered shed with a gabled roof also remains on Henry Hill, approximately 25 feet east of the Henry House.

The Park Visitor Center on Henry Hill was built in 1941 and opened in 1942. This building continues to serve as a museum and information center for Manassas National Battlefield Park visitors, but does not contribute to the historic battlefield scene. Administrative functions were moved to a new location near Stuart's Hill in 1992.

Contributing Features
1870s Henry House
Shed/Garage- built before 1941

Non-Contributing Features
Park Visitor Center
Small-Scale Features
Judith Henry was laid to rest in a family cemetery that was established approximately 10 yards northwest of the ruins of the Henry House shortly after First Manassas. The small plot is surrounded by a wrought iron fence and currently contains the graves of Judith Henry and two of her children - daughter Ellen who died in 1888 and son Hugh Faunleroy Sr., who died in 1898. The original headstones and two footstones still remain in the cemetery and are well preserved.

Contributing Features
Henry Family Cemetery - headstones, footstones, wrought iron fence

*Henry Family Cemetery surrounded by wrought iron fence, 1996. NCA photofile MANA 376-36.*
Henry Farmstead yard from Manassas Historic Sites Survey by Thomas McGarry with additional information provided by the CLI survey, 1996.
Cultural Landscape Inventory

Robinson Farmstead

Spatial Organization

The original Robinson House, probably built around 1849, played a major role during First and Second Manassas, serving as both a headquarters and a field hospital. The house and yard area, containing numerous outbuildings, were surrounded by cropland and pastures. A worm style fence has been built by the National Park Service to replicate the location and appearance of historic fence lines. The space around the house was utilized throughout the occupation period of the structures. There were a number of outbuildings, as well as gardens, which were utilized by the Robinson family for almost a century.

The Robinson farm landscape provides a study of a free African-American homestead which portrays certain African traditions in their style of building and use of space. For example, African Americans typically built small homes by choice, guided by specific survival strategies. Both slaves and freemen have been known to do this based on an African tradition of utilizing the dwelling mainly for storage and sleeping, and using the yard as an extension of the house. The Robinson family made use of the space outdoors by employing the back porch as a connection between two spaces, outside and inside, and in turn, the back yard, where much activity took place, was an extension of the house. The Robinson family probably cooked outside frequently during the early occupation period, as well as socialized and entertained in the yard and on the back porch. Out back they had easy access to their outbuildings and gardens, where they probably spent a great deal of time. Because of the amount of time spent outdoors, occupants often swept their yards. Sometimes the dirt would become so polished it became almost like a cement floor, and excess refuge was easily swept away. This tradition continues even today, and is supported by the archaeological and ethnographic record. During excavations at the Robinson house, very few artifacts were found close to the house, while most of the material culture was uncovered in those excavation units farthest away.

The historic road system on the Robinson farmstead was similar to what exists on the site today. The Robinson Lane runs south from an entrance along the Warrenton Turnpike. Historically, the lane turned sharply to the east before reaching the house and followed a straight path for approximately 100 feet before turning to the south. Today, the driveway from Warrenton Turnpike is still evident and used by park maintenance. Where the driveway turned to the east on the north side of the house, only a trace of the road remains.

Vegetation

The vegetation patterns on the Robinson property seem to have changed little since the historic period. Patches of pines and hardwoods that appeared to the east and south of the Robinson house on historic Civil War period maps have been maintained in a similar pattern today. The major difference in vegetation occurs in use of pastures and croplands. Historic documentation has shed a great deal of light on the farming practices of James Robinson at the time of the Civil War. The war claim filed by Robinson in 1872 contains descriptions of both the types of crops the farmer was cultivating and the quantities. This information, combined with the agricultural census listings, has enabled researchers to get a detailed overview of the use of land.
by the Robinson family.

James Robinson claimed 25 tons of timothy hay (approximately 20 acres), 60 bushels of wheat, 20 bushels of corn, 12 acres of standing corn, 25 acres of oats, one acre of potatoes, a cabbage garden and a variety of garden vegetables taken or destroyed by Union soldiers. Approximately 12,600 fence rails, equivalent to two acres, were also recorded as being lost at this time. Robinson described the fence as being rail with 9 to 10 rails per panel, covering about two acres around the farm.94

The Agricultural Census for James Robinson in 1850, shows the farmer owning 130 acres of land. The farmer produced five tons of hay during the time of the 1850 census. The only other crop recorded for the Robinson farm was seven bushels of Irish potatoes, likely grown for subsistence. The next Agricultural census listing for the Robinson Farm was in 1870. At this time the Robinson farm produced wheat, indian corn, and oats. Bladen Robinson was listed in the 1880 Agricultural Census. At this time he owned a portion of the original Van Pelt farm along with a large portion of the Robinson farm, located south of the turnpike in the southeast quadrant of Manassas National Battlefield Park. Production rates of Bladen's property were from a combination of the two farms. Bladen owned 155 acres, 129 acres purchased from the Van Pelt heirs. From the 155 acres, 50 acres were tilled, 50 acres were woodland and the remaining 55 acres were unimproved. Robinson also supplemented his plowed fields with fertilizer. He produced corn, oats and wheat. Robinson also raised potatoes at this time. Orchards became an integral part of the farm and Bladen Robinson planted an apple orchard and a peach orchard.

*Looking south toward the Robinson house, showing open fields around fenced, c. 1940. MANA photofile.*
Areas where historic fence lines traversed fields and pastures can still be detected today. Linear patterns of brush and cedar trees currently are growing along historic fence lines and roads. These tree lines can be seen clearly in areas across the park. Aerial photographs that were taken from the 1930s to present also depict these features and closely resemble the fence patterns drawn on historic maps of the battlefield.

**Contributing Features**
- driveway road trace
- field patterns
- fence lines

**Non-Contributing Features**
- interpretive trails

**Structures**
The first dwelling of the Robinson family, built some time around 1849, was a one and one half story log structure with approximately 400 square feet of living space. It had a stone chimney, a wood shingled roof, horizontal wood siding, and a wooden porch on the back of the house, open to the yard area, gardens and outbuildings. The first structure stood like this for approximately forty years, from the 1840s, through the Civil War, until sometime in the 1870s.

At this time a two story addition with another stone chimney was attached to the east side of the first house. During these modifications, the porch, which served as a connection between the inside and the yard, work areas, and outbuildings, remained on the back of the house. In the 1880's a shed or kitchen extension was attached to the west side of the 1840s structure. In 1926, the 1840s structure and the shed were dismantled, and a new two story addition was built to match the roof line of the remaining 1870s extension. It was during this time that the porch was built to the "front" or north side of the house, instead of where it was historically on the south side. Finally, in 1993, sixty percent of the remaining 1870/1926 dwelling was destroyed as a result of arson. It was deemed unsafe, and the remaining exterior walls were documented and dismantled. Today, the foundations to the 1926 dwelling and the 1870's chimney are all that visibly remain. Through archeological excavations in the fall and winter of 1995, the 1840s chimney and a portion of the hearth were located to the west of the above-ground foundations.

Through the study of historic documents, photographs, oral history descriptions, and topographic anomalies, several areas have been noted possible locations for outbuildings. Barns, an icehouse, a meat house, gardens and a well were described by family descendent, Mr. Oswald Robinson during an interview in the fall of 1995, who placed these features in the south yard of the house. The locations of these structures have also been determined by a probing survey conducted by Thomas McGarry in the early 1980s. This information, combined with photographs and drawings from the Civil War period, will guide the archeological investigation that is currently underway (spring/summer 1996). Another area to be investigated lies in the open field north of the house ruins and south of the Turnpike. It is at this location that James Robinson may have ran a drovers inn.
Robinson Farmstead

Contribution Features
1870/1926 foundations and chimney
remnant outbuildings
remnant well

Non-Contributing Features
Concrete Pad Demarking Outbuilding
Stone Gravel Pad

1862 view of James Robinson house. MANA photofile.
View of 1880s wing added to western side of building, c. 1900. MANA photofile.

Robinson Farmstead Analysis and Evaluation

Robinson Farmstead: house and yard, produced by HAIE archeologist for the Robinson House archeological study, 1996.
Robinson house additions as defined by 1995-1996 archeological field investigations.
Portici Estate Analysis and Evaluation

Portici Estate

Spatial Organization

A great deal of information about the spatial organization of the Pohoke-Portici-Lewis/Wheeler House clusters has been gleaned from the archeological record, historic documentation, historic photographs, period maps, and Civil War accounts. Although there are no above ground remnants of the Portici/Pohoke estate, except for the Ball family cemetery, the remnant field patterns, fence lines and road traces are still visible.

Based on the archeological record, the placement of outbuildings and slave quarters in relation to the main house exemplified an architectural landscape that changed with time. The slave quarters that was located just north of Pohoke (44PW348), was built extremely close to the main house. This was an earlier pattern of vernacular building placement in which the slaves were kept close under the watchful eye of the master. When Portici (44PW348) was constructed, around 1820, the domestic slaves quarters were probably located in the cellar rooms of the main house and the field slaves lived in dwellings located a greater distance away, in order to fit in with the ordered Georgian architectural pattern. During the archeological survey of the Wheeler Tract, containing the various house sites, several sites were located around the periphery of Portici, beyond the domestic space of the house. One of these possible slave quarters sites (44PW337) is located north of Portici, near Lewis Ford at Bull Run and the other potential slave quarters (44PW455- also Confederate winter camp) is located at the opposite property line in the woods west of Rock Road. A third slaves quarter (44PW336) was identified along the historic road trace approximately 600 feet north of Portici.

The other spatial feature still visible are portions of the farm road network. In the 1860s a farm road ventured off Rock Road to the main complex and then continued to the Old Warrenton Alexandria and Washington Road. Another farm road followed the ridge line from the main house to Lewis Ford, northeast of the main estate complex. The ridge road is still evident today, now marked by a depression along a fence line and another portion of a farm road is being used today for access to the hay barn.

During the Civil War, the land encompassing Portici served as the location of camps, a headquarters, and a field hospital. Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston established his headquarters at Portici, a strategic location from which he could view Bull Run, the Stone Bridge, and his troops near Manassas. It was also from this location that General Johnston deployed reinforcements to the field.
Vegetation

The acreage making up Portici was historically clear rolling pastures and croplands with tree lines around the periphery of the plantation. The tree coverage today is similar. Cedar trees are growing along fence lines and historic road traces on the land tract.

Alfred Ball was recorded as owning 1,150 acres of land during the 1850 Agricultural Census. Cash crops were being produced at Portici, including: wheat, Indian corn, oats, and hay. There were no subsistence crops noted. In 1860, Francis W. Lewis was farming Portici plantation and he added rye and hay production in addition to the previous crops raised by Ball in the 1850s. Following the Civil War, Frank W. Lewis, of Portici was listed with 100 improved acres, 70 acres of woodland, and 313 acres of unimproved land. Among the crops grown at this time were wheat, Indian corn, Irish potatoes, hay and oats.

During the Civil War period, all of the area surrounding Portici estate was open cultivated land. A small orchard is indicated on one historic Confederate map from 1861 to the north of the main complex and along the same ridge as the Ball family cemetery. On the west side of Rock Road, the rolling land was forested. Another stand of woods was located south of Balls Ford along Bull Run and yet another smaller patch of woods remained along Holkums Branch.

Robert Lewis provided further information about the area around the main house and orchard during an historical inventory in 1937. Mr. Lewis stated that:

> the ground in front of the house (Portici) was terraced, and several of the old terraces remain, and a few flowers come up every year from the once spacious garden. There are some cedars left that were there long before the war ravaged the beauties of the place and a few storm-torn pear trees that continue to flower each year and bear some fruit, one having distinguished itself by bearing two crops of fruit in one year, flowering while the first fruit was ripening, and the second crop of good size when taken by the frost.101

None of the features noted in Mr. Lewis's description are evident today. Only the open areas, as depicted on the 1861 map are still intact, except for some areas were the forest cover has encroached on the adjacent field along Holkums Branch and along Bull Run. This area is kept open today because it is leased to local farmers to cut hay. At one point the National Park Service permitted the harvesting of sod on this tract of land, but this agricultural practice was abandoned when it was considered to be a threat to the cultural resources.102

Contributing Features
Historic fence lines
Field patterns
Open fields in foreground and wooded area along Holkums Branch in the background, on Portici Estate, 1996. NCA photosfile MANA 415-37.
Detail of unscaled 1861 Confederate map suggests the location of Portici plantation (Manassas National Battlefield Park).
Structures

The subterranean remains of five domestic house sites were located on the land that once encompassed Portici plantation. The earliest house, Pohoke (tobacco plantation), was discovered in the archeological record approximately 100 feet east of the Ball family cemetery. Pohoke was probably built in the late eighteenth century by a tenant farmer who leased the land from George Carter. This house was later occupied by Spencer Ball and his family before he built Portici. Along with determining the location of the main house at Pohoke, a possible slave quarters that exhibited signs of continual use during the occupation period of Portici, was also excavated.

At the Portici I site, the location of a burned nineteenth-century plantation house were discovered with a slave quarters located in a cellar beneath the main structure. Along with the excavation of the main house remains, the location and documentation of several clusters of outbuildings associated with Portici was achieved. This house went through a series of architectural expansions and around 1845 a detached kitchen was added. The other outbuildings making up the complex "Georgian" landscape defined the exterior space of the plantation, viewed as a small community.
Fannie Lee Henry house before it was demolished, c. 1930. MANA photofile.

The hay shed is the only standing structure left on the Portici Estate, 1996. NCA photofile MANA 419-2.
Portici II was built southeast of the original complex, and subsequently burned. Portici III, known as the Lewis/Wheeler House, was built to replace Portici II, at this same location. This late nineteenth- to twentieth-century house was not part of the historic battlefield period and park officials took steps in having it removed from the landscape. At one point, in the mid-1980s the house was utilized by the United States Secret Service as an anti-terrorist training facility. The house continued to deteriorate and was finally razed by the National Park Service in 1994.

The remnants of the turn of the century home of Fannie Lee Henry was located to the west of the standing hay shed and northwest of the Portici site. According to one source, Mrs. Henry was a relative of the Lewis family and resided in the house until the 1930s. The house was probably demolished by the Lewis family in the 1940s.

Tadpole Flat, was built by Warner Lewis in a field adjoining the Lewis/Wheeler House. The site is located north of the New Portici (Lewis/Wheeler House) about half way between this house and Bull Run. No other documentation for the site has been located.

Today, a hay shed, associated with the Lewis/Wheeler complex is the only structure standing on the land tract that once contained one of the largest plantations in the area.

**Non-Contributing Features**

Hay Barn associated with Wheeler

**Small-Scale Features**

The Ball Family Cemetery sits on a small ridge about a quarter of a mile west of the Portici site and 100 feet west of the Pohoke site. This cemetery continues to symbolize the historic occupation period of the affluent family who maintained ownership of the plantation for 226 years. The cemetery contains five marked graves of members of the Ball family. The earliest marked burial denotes the interment of Spencer Ball, who died in 1831. The next dated grave marker is for Francis Waring Ball, a child of Spencer and Elizabeth, who died in 1835. Elizabeth Landon Carter Ball died in 1842 and was buried just south of her husband Spencer. Alfred Ball, the son of Spencer and Elizabeth, died in 1853 and is buried south of his mother. The last marked grave is that of Sarah Ball, Alfred’s wife, who died in 1875.

A sandstone wall measuring approximately 40 feet by 30 feet and 3 feet high surrounds the graves. The five inscribed headstones and the undecorated foot stones are made of quartzite. Some time during National Park Service ownership the headstones were turned around, facing away from the foot stones, so that visitors to the Park would have a better view from which to read the inscriptions. Apparently the motivation behind this alteration was to keep visitors from entering the enclosed walls to read the headstones. Several other unmarked fieldstones are also present within the cemetery walls.

A letter addressed to the National Park Service in 1936 from a local farmer indicated that the farmer had unearthed the remains of sixteen Civil War soldiers in the early twentieth century and reburied them in the Ball Family cemetery. During a remote sensing study conducted at the Ball Family cemetery in the late 1980s, a mass burial feature was detected and partially excavated. The data from this investigation confirmed that a mass burial was located in the northwest area of the Ball family cemetery, with artifacts directly connected to the Civil War (military buttons and
bayonet) found in the grave. The remote sensing and excavations also proved that the wall that encloses the cemetery today is not the same as the original wall. This fact became clear when the mass burial was discovered on the inside and outside of the cemetery wall. Therefore, when the farmer reinterred the soldiers remains in the early twentieth century the area of the interior cemetery was larger. Portions of the cemetery wall were repaired and rebuilt in the 1950s and it was probably at this time that the cemetery was made smaller and the mass grave was impacted. Mr. Robert Lewis provided information for the W.P.A. of Virginia Historical Inventory concerning the condition of the cemetery in 1936.

The very old cemetery on the place is surrounded by a substantial stone wall and overgrown with lilac and other shrubs, besides the shade of the trees that surround it, so that even in the sunlight, it has an air of twilight.

Contribution Features

Ball Family Cemetery

*Headstones at the Ball family cemetery, 1996. NCA photofile MANA 17-26.*
Hazel Plain Estate

Spatial Organization

Hazel Plain (Chinn House) was built at the highest elevation, on Chinn Ridge in the southwest portion of the park. The 30 ft by 47 ft, two and a half story house was built around 1809 and contained a full English cellar. The house had two sets of twin attached chimneys. An unimpaired view of the valley of Chinn Branch was probably a major factor in the placement of the house. The main house was bordered by landscaped terraced yards containing outbuildings to the east and west with rolling hills, pastures, and cropland around the periphery of the property.

During the First Battle of Manassas an engagement took place on Chinn Ridge and Bald Hill, where the Union right, (General Howard's Brigade) were located. After General Jubal A. Early's Confederate reinforcements arrived the Union right was broken. At Second Manassas, the Chinn Farm was behind the Union left and this was where General Longstreet's wing engaged Federal brigades attempting to weaken the Confederate attack.

Little is known about the condition of the farm after the Civil War or how the farm was used. When the National Park Service purchased the property in 1935, the main house was the only building left from the estate. In 1936, the W.P.A. paved over a farm road and added two other roads along the Chinn Ridge and along Chinn Branch. In 1961, the road that runs through the Hazel Plain complex was realigned. It was also at this time that a parking area was installed to the north of the main house and on the northern edge of Chinn Ridge where a picnic area was located.

There is quite a bit of spatial integrity still evident, for the Hazel Plain Estate. The remnants for the main house as well as other outbuilding remnants are visible on a series of terraces. Cedar trees growing along the terraces on a north-south axis probably represent fence lines that historically delineated the different yard spaces. Also, remnant fence lines and road traces are still apparent at the Hazel Plain Estate. An historic road trace, which currently serves as a trail, is lined by a row of cedar trees that cut across the western most yard on the farm and continues into the forest to the southwest of the house to Comptons Lane. Another road trace and fence line, where field stones have been thrown, was located to the west of the western yard. This same farm road continues in the opposite direction to Sudley Road to the east. Today the paved farm road is used as a tour road for park visitors. Interpretive trails and markers guide visitors from the park road to the Hooe family cemetery, up the hill to the Hazel Plain ruins and across the north field towards the Webster Memorial. Also, walking trails and bridle trails wind through the forest around the complex leading to other areas of the park.
Vegetation

Sophia Jones was listed as the property owner for the 550 acre Hazel Plain Estate in 1850. The estate owner raised peas and beans, Irish potatoes, hay, and beeswax and honey. It is difficult to determine how much of these crops were sold for cash or used for subsistence, but it is probably safe to assume that there was a combination of land use for both means.

Benjamin Chinn owned Hazel Plain by 1860. The croplands at Hazel Plain yielded Indian corn, oats, hay, other grass seed, and Irish potatoes. Seven gallons of wine were also produced at Hazel Plain during this year.

Chinn Ridge was an open pasture during the time of the Civil War, with the exception of a tree stand along Chinn Branch and a fairly open woodland on the west of the ridge line. The stand of trees along the ridge was used to conceal General Jubal Early's troops during First Manassas. Also near the Chinn House, Colonel Elzey formed his brigade in the woods one of these wooded areas. To the east of Chinn Branch, another woodlot was located from the stream to Sudley Road. On the upper most portion of the hill, Bald Hill, the area was open. To the west of the main complex, some historic maps depict an orchard and corn field. It is assumed that the majority of the other cleared areas were also utilized for cultivating crops or grazing animals.

During a Works Progress Administration of Virginia Historical Inventory completed in 1936 several informants described the area around Chinn House.
Both the approach and the setting of this house is beautiful, although the fine old garden which was once one of the attractions of the place is no longer there, but in the spring many of the strays appear which have persisted through time and war. There are some scarred and battered locusts that were evidently there in 1861, but time and nature have covered the scars.\textsuperscript{116}

When the National Park Service purchased Hazel Plain in the 1930s, some forests on Chinn Ridge and Bald Hill were extensively cleared at this time in order to restore historic scene from the 1860s. A series of photographs were taken from the attic of the Chinn House to document the land clearing.

\textbf{Contributing Features}

- Fence lines
- Road Traces
- Field Patterns
1861 Beauregard Map, depicting vegetation patterns on Chinn Ridge, location of woodlots, cultivated fields and fence lines.
Structures

Hazel Plain, later known as the Chinn House, was also an example of the ordered style of architecture that became popular among plantation owners in Virginia. The house was built around 1809 and was a large two-and-one-half story frame structure with a full English cellar. Like the original Portici, Hazel Plain was believed to have been built in the Georgian style and exemplified the ordered plantation community. The Chinn House was deemed a safety hazard and razed in 1950. The two chimneys remained standing but, within days the east chimney was destroyed by strong winds. Concerned about safety, the National Park Service leveled the remaining chimney and capped both at the level of the house foundations.

A series of features are still discernable across the site. In a survey conducted in the early 1980s, Thomas McGarry ventured to guess the function of these features including: a carriage house, a series of undefined buildings—possibly servants quarters, storage buildings, or a summer kitchen, another unknown building, stables, an icehouse or spring house, a root cellar, and two check dams, based on the layout of Georgian style plantations. McGarry also located two additional historic sites (44PW285 and 44PW286) near the Chinn House. The function of these sites is undetermined. For the purpose of this Cultural Landscape Inventory the majority of the features were located and recorded, and in some cases a function was speculated, but not positively identified. All of the features but one were found to the east of the house foundations. The one feature to the south consisted of a raised area in the field to the southeast of the house along the same north-south axis as the second terrace in the east yard. This feature appears to be a structure with several slabs of native sandstone located on the ground surface around the perimeter of the elevation.

Just to the north of the northeast corner of the house a cistern and well still exist. Several unidentified clusters of features, possibly outbuildings were recorded to the north of the house situated along the northern edge of the yard space running along the road that runs east west
through the Hazel Plain Estate. Another structural feature, possibly a bank barn sits to the north of the road, across from the third east yard terrace. To the east of the spring remnant house foundation is visible. The historic background for this house is uncertain.

**Contributing Features**

Hazel Plain Foundations
outbuilding remnants

*Remnant foundations of the main house and cistern, 1996. NCA photofile MANA 415-12.*
Small-Scale Features

The Hooe Family Cemetery is a small scale feature located near the Chinn House site on Chinn Ridge. The cemetery is surrounded by a three and a half foot high native sandstone wall with two five foot high carved sandstone gate posts centered in the west wall. Nothing remains of the gates. The present wall is mortared with concrete, probably completed in the 1960s by the National Park Service. A memorandum from 1967 suggest that the cemetery walls were originally dry-laid.121

The cemetery is believed to contain the graves of members of the Hooe family dating from 1772 to the last dated burial in 1825.122 The grave markers have been adversely effected by vandalism and natural elements and only the foot stones remain. The W.P.A. report in 1936 contains some information about the cemetery:

Going to the cemetery it is disappointing that many of what seem to be the oldest graves are so old and time worn that it is impossible to read the inscriptions. Those it was possible to make out follow:

Bernard Hooe died at Hazel Plain, Prince William Co., Virginia, August 28th, 1825, aged 85 years.

Mary Anna, daughter of James and (chipped off) died Sept. 18th, 1804, aged 3 years, 10 months and 15 days.123
Another reference concerning the Hooe family cemetery was a letter written by a minister who had visited the site in 1950. In this correspondence, Mr. Steadman described the inscriptions he recorded:

*In memory of James H. Hooe, who died January 26th, 1825, in the 53rd year of his age (Foot stone) J.H.H.*

*Thomas P. Hooe, born November 26, 1772, died February 3, 1809 (Foot stone)*

*T.P.H.*

The inscription on Bernard Hooe’s headstone was also legible at this time. Mr. Steadman also stated that many other broken fragments of stones were present and that he had heard that at least thirty burials were at this cemetery, including a corner for slaves. Further research and a remote sensing survey would be required to support these claims.

The only other small scale features for the Hazel Plain estate are associated with water retention or drainage. Chinn Spring is located northeast of the Chinn House and Chinn Branch. A concrete slab and pipe are remnants of a possible water collection system at the spring. No other information is known concerning this spring. The other feature could be a drainage system, which are indicated with a series of depressions and channels or possible check dams, to the east of the main complex.

*Hooe family cemetery as it appeared in 1996. NCA photofile MANA 415-15.*
Contributing Features
Hooe Family
   Cemetery
Chinn Spring
Possible drainage
   system

Concrete cap and metal pipe at Chinn Spring, 1996. NCA photofile 415-17.
Headstones in Hooe family cemetery destroyed by vandals in 1967. MANA photofile.
Endnotes


3. Ibid, p. 58.


6. Ibid.


9. Ibid.


11. Ibid.


15. Ibid, p. 20.


17. Gentry, p. 10.

18. McGarry, p. 11.
19. Ibid.


23. PWCC DB 32:523.

24. Hernigle and Parker, p. 20.


29. It is believed that the Warrenton, Alexandria and Washington Road was the major east-west road before the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike was built in 1815.

30. Portici was built in 1820, so an assumption is made that the Ball family developed a shortcut to the turnpike from their complex.

31. Joseph, p. 74??.

32. Dames and Moore, p. 39.


34. Ibid, p. 22.

35. Ibid, p. 97.


37. Ibid.
38. See discussion in Site History, concerning the agricultural census for 1870 and 1880.

39. Joseph, p. 74??.

40. Ibid.

41. Ibid, p. ???.

42. Ibid.


44. Carson, 1974, p. 186 cited in Hernigle and Parker, p. 44.


46. The shed to the north of the Henry house is shown as existing on a Jan. 1, 1941 map. "Development Plan of Henry Hill, Site for Museum, Administration Building, Jackson Memorial. Part of the Master Plan Manassas National Battlefield Park."

47. Hernigle and Parker, p. 45.


49. Hernigle and Parker, p. 45.

50. Ibid, p. 47.


52. Hernigle and Parker, p. 53.

53. Ibid.

54. Ibid, p. 54.


56. Ibid.


58. McGarry, p. 51.

60. Ibid.

61. Ibid, p. 69.


63. Zenzen, p. 68.

64. Little, p. 204.


70. Ibid, p. 11.

71. Ibid, p. 7.

72. McGarry, p. 55.

73. Ibid, p. 60.

74. Parker Memorandum, MANA files.

75. Parker, p. 7.


77. McGarry, p. 11.

Endnotes


80. Ibid.

81. Workers Progress Administration, W.P.A. installed the Bartow Monument in 1936.

82. Ibid, p. 21.


84. Mahr, p. 91.

85. Zenzen, pp. 24-25.


91. Ibid.


93. Ibid.


98. Ibid, p. 270.
99.Ibid.

100.Ibid, p. 20.


102.Memorandum, MANA file.

103.Hernigle and Parker, p. 265.

104.Ibid, p. 58.


106.Hernigle and Parker, p. 324.


111.Strutt, p. 126.

112.Workers Progress Administration, 1936, W.P.A. files, MANA files.


114.The picnic area on Chinn Ridge was relocated to its present location on Dogan's Ridge in the 1970s.


118.Zenzen, p. 90.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endnotes</th>
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<tr>
<td>119. McGarry.</td>
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<td>120. Mowing practices in this field have disrupted several of the stones and this cultural resource is in danger of further damage and impact.</td>
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<td>123. Workers Progress Administration, 1936, W.P.A. files, MANA files.</td>
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VI. Maps
Oversize Map:

Existing Conditions
Southern Portion
As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural and cultural resources. This includes fostering wise use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all the people. The department also promotes the goals of the Take Pride in America campaign by encouraging stewardship and citizen responsibility for the public lands and promoting citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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