COVER IMAGES:
BATTLE of MECHANICSVILLE
(engraving: Harpers)

COLD HARBOR NATIONAL CEMETERY
(photo: Michael Litterst)
CONSERVING RICHMOND’S BATTLEFIELDS

A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT AMONG CONCERNED CITIZENS; LOCAL PLANNING, PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION GROUPS; CHESTERFIELD, HANOVER AND HENRICO COUNTIES; THE CITY OF RICHMOND; THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA; AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DRAFT
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTEXT FOR THE STUDY</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RICHMOND AND THE CIVIL WAR</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peninsular Campaign of 1862</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Struggle for Richmond: 1864 and 1865</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHANGES SINCE THE CIVIL WAR</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Need for Collaborative Action</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threats to the Battlefields</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE BATTLEFIELDS</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Assessment of Resources</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Findings</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDEAS FOR CONSERVATION</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities/Partnerships in Conservation</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Council</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incentives for Conservation</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive Links</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced Community Values</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHAT'S NEXT</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chesterfield County Actions</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanover County Actions</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henrico County Actions</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth of Virginia,</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Historic Resources Actions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Park Service Actions</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTACTS FOR THE STUDY TEAM</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDICES</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GENERAL ULYSSES S. GRANT
(engraving: Battles and Leaders)

GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE
(engraving: Harpers)
VIEWS of the COLD HARBOR BATTLEFIELD, 1864 and 1989
(photo: Peter Iris-Williams/engraving: Harpers)
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In recent years, the communities around Richmond, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the National Park Service have become increasingly concerned that Richmond's Civil War battlefields and the rural qualities of the area are being lost. Rapid development is amplifying adverse impacts on important historic and community values.

On April 10, 1987 the National Park System Advisory Board requested that the Mid-Atlantic Regional Director of the National Park Service respond to these local, state and federal concerns about Richmond's Civil War battlefields. A partnership was formed among landowners, interested citizens, local governments, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the National Park Service to examine alternatives for the conservation of our common heritage.

With community guidance and review, thirty-two battlefield locations were identified and their condition assessed. During extensive public discussion of local concerns, issues, and goals, and based on a thorough resource evaluation, a collaborative approach to battlefield conservation surfaced. It is called the RICHMOND CIVIL WAR HERITAGE initiative. The goal is to conserve, through cooperative private and public action, a necklace of Civil War battlefields from the North Anna River to Petersburg. These battlefields would be strung with clusters of high-quality heritage interpretive sites, recreation opportunities and related visitor services. The main elements in this approach include:

1. A Heritage Council of community representatives that coordinates battlefield conservation, interpretation and promotion activities.

2. A conservation incentive program for landowners and local governments within the battlefield settings that includes a formal recognition of the battlefield settings, a development review process that is responsive to historic values, landowner incentives...
for voluntary conservation (i.e. resource identification, site planning assistance or project review) and conservation of critical community and battlefield values.

3 A battlefield trail and heritage interpretive program, including tour routes and interpretive facilities (the RICHMOND CIVIL WAR HERITAGE TRAIL), and a school program, based on state-mandated curriculum units, which focuses on our Civil War heritage and the value of resource conservation.

4 A promotion effort that showcases Richmond’s Civil War heritage, other cultural activities and recreation opportunities, and which encourages appropriate development.

This draft report has been prepared with the substantial involvement of interested community members and guidance from a core study team of county and state officials, local experts and National Park Service staff. Together, they have initiated six public workshops, numerous informal discussions and a number of study team meetings.

The report summarizes the community concerns, Richmond’s Civil War battlefield resources and the approach to conservation developed during this process. It can serve as a foundation for each county, the City, the Commonwealth and federal agencies to develop an approach to conservation that responds to their individual needs and situation.

Implementation of the ideas suggested in this draft would require coordination between private individuals, landowners and government agencies. Local, state and federal support could recognize the battlefields, create landowner incentives for their conservation and develop tour routes. Additional private and public support would be needed to implement the education and promotion components of this approach.
CONTEXT FOR THE STUDY

In March, 1988 a Memorandum of Understanding was adopted by the City of Richmond, Chesterfield County, Hanover County, Henrico County, the Commonwealth of Virginia State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service (see APPENDIX A). The objectives of this resolution were to:

1. "identify and evaluate [Civil War battlefield] resources of national importance relating to the period from 1861 to 1865;"

2. assess the patterns of development and methods of planning, design and construction which may adversely impact or protect these resources; and

3. outline a cooperative strategy to conserve the historic resources through private and public action."

As a result of this initiative, plans were developed to accomplish these objectives in the form of a proposed strategy for conserving Richmond's Civil War battlefields. This draft report is a statement of findings that represent a two-year cooperative effort to identify resources within each community to achieve these goals.

This report represents the first step in the development of a final document which would include various interests within individual localities. Further, this draft recognizes that each locality has its own approach to historic
preservation through zoning, land use plans and advisory boards. It is the intent of this effort to work with each locality, using its resources, in attaining the goals identified in the Memorandum of Understanding. The final report will highlight each locality's strategies and resources to be used to achieve the "...comprehensive strategy...through private and public action."
RICHMOND AND THE CIVIL WAR

The eyes of a divided nation were focused on the battle actions around Richmond throughout the Civil War. As the capital of the Confederate States of America and the financial, medical and manufacturing center of the South, Richmond was one of the main military objectives for Union commanders between 1861 and 1865. In the later years of the Civil War, General Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia’s ability to defend the city was often equated with the survival of the Confederate cause. Seven Union campaigns were launched against Richmond and although all were repulsed, two came within sight of the city - the 1862 Peninsular Campaign and the 1864-65 final struggle for Richmond.

These two major military actions were almost exclusively fought in the outlying villages and farmland to the north, east and south of the city. The battles occurred along streams and in open fields, thickets and woodlands along rural roads that connected isolated villages with the City of Richmond. The success of any action had as much to do with a commander’s ability to move and supply an army as with the military strategy. Consequently, many of the battles were initiated for control of strategic river crossings, roads, railroad junctions or village centers. These battles played a significant role in changing military tactics from those used on the grand battlefields of the Napoleonic era to those associated with trench warfare, which was employed during World War I with tragic effect.
Seven Days' Battles
PENINSULAR CAMPAIGN OF 1862

This campaign was designed to overwhelm the Confederate defenders of Richmond by squeezing them between two armies, a northern flank advancing up the peninsula between the York and James rivers and a second moving south from Washington. However, due to President Abraham Lincoln's concern over the safety of Washington, D.C. and because of the Confederate success in the Shenandoah Valley, thousands of the advancing soldiers were recalled, leaving the Union Army of the Potomac to attack Richmond alone.

Confederate President Jefferson Davis recognized this moment as opportune for seeking a dynamic leader and a more offensive strategy. He therefore appointed General Robert E. Lee to command the troops defending Richmond. The Confederate army initiated a series of attacks which drove the Union army from the gates of Richmond and reinvigorated the flagging spirit of the Army of Northern Virginia. By the end of the campaign, 35,000 Confederate and Union soldiers on both sides lay dead or wounded. It would be two years before Union troops were this close to Richmond again.
FINAL STRUGGLE FOR RICHMOND: 1864 and 1865

General Ulysses S. Grant, President Lincoln’s newly appointed commander of all Union forces, sought an all-out offensive to end the war. He directed his generals to simultaneously put pressure on all of the Confederate armies throughout the South - in the Shenandoah Valley, Texas, Georgia, along the Mississippi River, and from Gettysburg through the Wilderness and on to Richmond. By applying constant pressure on every Southern army at the same time, President Jefferson Davis’ limited ability to replenish his armies would be destroyed. His troops would fall from sheer exhaustion or no longer be able to maintain transportation, supply or communication lines.

Hoping to utterly decimate Lee’s army, Grant decided to isolate the Southern capital by coordinating a series of overland campaigns and cavalry forays. The Union’s attack on Richmond from the south was stopped on the Bermuda Hundred Peninsula and the initial thrust from the north was deflected east of Richmond. To avoid the heavily fortified outer defenses in Henrico County, Grant made a frontal assault on an entrenched Confederate position at Cold Harbor.

By the end of the first major battle on June 3rd, 7,000 Union soldiers lay dead or wounded; 5,000 of the casualties occurred within the first sixty minutes. After nine days of limited success, the Union army withdrew over the James River and laid siege to Petersburg. Ten months later, his defensive capabilities stretched to the breaking point, Lee ordered the evacuation of Petersburg and Richmond. Shortly thereafter, the Army of Northern Virginia surrendered at Appomattox Court House. This momentous event signalled an end to four long years of bloody civil war.
Action at North Anna and Cold Harbor
The Civil War is one of the most powerful events in the history of the United States. One hundred and twenty five years after the battles have ended, echoes of the values which sparked the war can still be heard. Richmond, once the focus of a divided nation, is currently one of the fastest growing metropolitan regions in the country.

Civil War battlefields, originally located in fields and small villages outside the city, are now experiencing pressure from residential, commercial and industrial development and increasing recreational use. Currently, less than 2% of the battlefields are owned or managed by local governments, the Commonwealth of Virginia or the National Park Service. Less than 1% are protected by private organizations and individuals.

Activities and land uses on property surrounding these battlefields often have adverse impacts on the historic resources. As more development occurs around the battlefields, the potential for destruction of these resources increases and our opportunity to experience this facet of our heritage diminishes. This situation concerns many people and has prompted action by landowners, local communities, public officials and private organizations.

TWO VIEWS of the COLD HARBOR BATTLEFIELD: 1864 and 1989
(engraving: Harpers/photo: Peter Iris-Williams)
THE NEED FOR COLLABORATIVE ACTION

For many years, battlefield conservation concentrated on the areas of heaviest fighting. This approach met with limited success. Although many of the battlefields were protected, they often were small, isolated and difficult to manage or interpret. Recognizing the need for a new approach, landowners, interested citizens and government agencies called for a cooperative effort to build on past conservation efforts and incorporate important but unprotected historic battlefields into already protected areas.

This joint endeavor is a response to these concerns. The National Park System Advisory Board and the Regional Director of the Mid-Atlantic Region, National Park Service recommended a cooperative study to conserve Richmond's Civil War battlefields. Through an agreement among the City of Richmond, Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the National Park Service, a study team of county, city, regional and state officials, local experts and National Park Service staff was created.

Building on interest in Richmond's Civil War heritage, the study team encouraged participation by federal, state and local governments, landowners, interested citizens and the business community. The goal of this effort was and is to conserve Richmond’s Civil War battlefield heritage and related community values, while maintaining opportunities for compatible development. To accomplish this goal, a three-part process was developed as follows:

STEP 1 Identify common issues and concerns held by community members and public agencies about the conservation of the Richmond’s Civil War battlefields.

STEP 2 Assess the condition, historic context and potential for conservation of the Civil War resources.
STEP 3  Develop an approach to battlefield conservation that would address needs of the community as well as resource concerns and encourage compatible private and public action.

A series of workshops, reviews and small group presentations have been held to encourage community involvement. To date, over 700 individuals and groups have participated by identifying concerns, offering ideas and reviewing material prepared by the study team. All will be encouraged to participate in the fourth series of public workshops where this approach to battlefield conservation, as presented in this document, will be reviewed.

Outline of Study Process
THREATS TO THE BATTLEFIELDS

The first step in the process was to identify community issues surrounding the conservation of Richmond’s Civil War battlefields. To solicit concerns throughout the area, a series of public workshops and follow-up discussions were held in Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties. These sessions were attended by landowners, interested citizens, business and conservation groups, elected officials and public agencies.

The results of these workshops were recorded in the first newsletter (see APPENDIX B). A summary of the most common concerns identified during these sessions are summarized below:

The rural character of the community is being lost:

The remaining fields, woods and crossroads that were important to the Civil War battles contribute to the identity of the existing community, but the loss of these historic values decreases the quality of life for people living, working and visiting the area.

The battlefields are not protected:

Located throughout the three counties, existing protected battlefield sites often only cover a portion of an important event. Few of the important battlefields have any significant level of protection.

The battlefields have not been identified:

No recent comprehensive effort to identify Richmond’s battlefields has occurred. No agreement exists about their location, physical condition or historical importance.
Existing battlefield parks are small and isolated:

The publicly owned or managed battlefields usually cover only a small portion of the historic setting. Small areas have a limited capacity to buffer the effects of inappropriate land use and are extremely vulnerable to activities occurring outside their boundaries. These sites tend to be separated by long distances, making management more expensive and fragmenting interpretation of the battles.

Richmond National Battlefield Park cannot manage all the land within its boundary:

The U.S. Congress established the park to protect and interpret the Civil War battles of Richmond. The boundary of Richmond National Battlefield Park includes all areas within five miles of Richmond city limits or within five miles of an existing National Park Service unit. Within the entire park boundary, the National Park Service owns 732 acres split up into ten individual units. Richmond National Battlefield Park has no authority to acquire more land except through donation, and only when it directly relates to the Congressional mandate of the park. More than half of the area within the park boundary is not related to the mandate of Richmond National Battlefield Park.

Battlefield conservation actions are not always sensitive to landowner and community concerns:

Some battlefield conservation actions have had limited public input and have not considered voluntary landowner options. Citizens are concerned that this exclusionary process may continue, and that future conservation might rely more on regulation than voluntary action.
Interpretive information is limited:

Existing interpretive markers and exhibits are oriented towards the military aspects of the battle. The educational potential of a broader social view and its relation to prior or subsequent American affairs remains largely unexplored. There is little relation between the historic markers on buildings or at roadsides and the interpretive exhibits at the battlefields.

The existing tour route is long and not well marked:

The existing battlefield tour route is very long and is difficult to modify in response to an individual’s schedule or travel route. Interstate and highway signs directing visitors to the battlefields are limited and have no consistent image. No comprehensive map or sign program exists for all the battlefields. The main visitor center is removed from the battlefields and is difficult to find.

Communities are not taking full advantage of the battlefields’ tourism potential:

There is limited marketing of the Civil War attractions in Richmond. Coordination between Civil War parks, historic sites and museums is sporadic. Much of the potential for expansion of business development related to heritage tourism within the area has not been explored.
See APPENDIX D for more detailed maps of these areas.

RESOURCE MAP KEY
Civil War Battlefields 1861 - 1865
THE BATTLEFIELDS

Union and Confederate soldiers walked over every acre of the Richmond area, at least once, between the shelling of Fort Sumter in 1861 and the Army of Northern Virginia's surrender at Appomattox Court House in 1865. Since this represents more than 1000 square miles of land throughout Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties, a mechanism was needed to identify battlefield areas and assess their cultural, interpretive and conservation values.

A second series of public workshops were held in each county. Responding to general campaign maps of the region, workshop participants developed general criteria for assessing these Civil War resources. The assessment would provide information about the condition of the resources and their cultural importance, their ability to contribute to the interpretation of the battles and the feasibility of their conservation.

The criteria generated during these sessions were further refined during briefings, review by local and nationally recognized Civil War historians and meetings of the study team. Through this process a general consensus was developed about the location, description and importance of each battle.
AN ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES

Throughout the war, the lay of the land often played a major role in the outcome of a battle. The location of hills, rivers, farms and villages were tremendously important to an army's strategy and their ability to successfully attack or defend a position. The combination of topography, land use and buildings associated with battle actions is called the BATTLEFIELD. Those areas where the heaviest fighting or a major strategic event occurred is called a CORE AREA. Important battlefield resources, covering a broad area in and around Richmond, include:

- sites of battle actions;
- surrounding lands used for troop formations, bivouacs, supply depots and other related military activities;
- landscape features and land uses that influenced the military strategy or activity;
- buildings or other man-made structures that influenced the battles; and
- monuments, signs, cemeteries and other commemorative markers.

MASS GRAVE - COLD HARBOR CEMETERY
(photo: Michael Litterst)
Three sets of criteria were developed in workshops to evaluate all Civil War battlefield resources that were identified. These criteria were:

1  **Cultural resource importance:**

   What was the type and concentration of military activity, and what was its strategic importance in the larger campaign-related events? or its association with specific individuals of unique importance to the battles of Richmond?

   What are the different values associated with commemorative markers or locations?

   How intact is the integrity of the individual battle resources? What about their broader historic context?

2  **Ability to contribute to the interpretation of the battles:**

   Does the resource provide a visual understanding of the battle to a visitor?

   Does the resource give an appreciation of, or information on, battlefield events or features important to the story?

   Does the resource commemorate events or features important to the story that no longer exist?

3  **Feasibility for conservation:**

   What is the current level and nature of development within and adjacent to the battlefield setting and likelihood of future change?

   What is the ownership of the battlefield resource?

   Where is the resource located in relation to other battlefield areas?
FINDINGS

By applying the criteria described on the previous page to each of the battlefields, the following findings emerged:

**Richmond's Civil War battles consist of thirty-five separate military actions relating to two major campaigns:** the 1862 Peninsular Campaign and the 1864-65 Final Struggle for Richmond.

The battlefields form a semi-circle around the city, from the North Anna River through the eastern part of the counties and south to the Bermuda Hundred Neck and Chesterfield Court House. These battlefields cover 250,000 acres, more than 95% of which are in private ownership. The remaining 5% is owned by the counties, Commonwealth or the National Park Service.

**Twelve core areas were identified that relate to both campaigns.**

For the most part, they center around parcels currently owned by the counties or the National Park Service. The integrity of those battlefields situated between the city line and I-295 are most likely to have been substantially altered, and have retained only limited resource and context integrity. Those furthest north and east tend to be the most pristine and undisturbed.
Five Civil War cemeteries, sixty-two private battlefield monuments and more than fifty state historic signs or markers can be located throughout the area.

Erected by private landowners, local historic groups and the Commonwealth of Virginia, these mark individual events or commemorate important figures related to the Civil War. They are most often erected as individual units and can usually be found adjacent to a main road. Many are on private property and maintained by the landowners. The one major exception is Monument Avenue in Richmond, an internationally-known commemoration of major Confederate leaders.

Gaines Mill, Drewry's Bluff and Malvern Hill offer an unparalleled interpretive opportunity to tell the entire story of the battles for Richmond within their broad political, social and economic context.

The twelve core areas are critical for interpreting important strategic events within the two main campaigns and their relationship to the course of the war as it raged around Richmond. Those areas within the battlefields but outside the core areas are important for relating individual events and for commemorating specific battle actions.

Civil War battlefield resources are more likely to retain a high degree of integrity where access is limited or traditional land use has been maintained.

On lands where the forest has regrown or in wetlands, the earthworks and associated archaeological resources are frequently protected by the tangle of vegetation. Those along field edges or hedgerows, where farming has continued over the past 150 years, are often conserved because the large landscape patterns have not changed since the Civil War. Generally, subdivision of wooded areas and larger farms puts these fragile resources at risk through increased exposure and erosion.
IDEAS FOR CONSERVATION

During the issues workshops and resource assessment, a new approach to battlefield conservation surfaced. This approach could both address important community values - such as maintaining the rural landscape, increasing recreation opportunities and protecting water quality - and conserve, interpret and promote Richmond's Civil War heritage. The concept is based on establishing a "necklace" of Civil War battlefields from the North Anna River to Petersburg; on this necklace would be strung clusters of high-quality heritage interpretive sites, recreation opportunities and related visitor services.

Cooperation between landowners, private organizations, and government is critical. No one group or individual can conserve, interpret and promote these resources on their own. Conservation is able to gather increasing support when it is voluntary, balanced with landowner goals and can provide opportunities to meet other community needs. Results of the current planning effort should meet those needs, enhancing battlefield conservation and interpretation of Richmond's Civil War heritage while providing opportunities for compatible development.

This approach would seek to involve private landowners and developers, concerned citizens, business and environmental interests, historic preservation and reenactment groups, elected officials, government agencies, and people who are concerned with maintaining the quality of life of their communities. Some of the large components of this concept are summarized on the following page.
OPPORTUNITIES/PARTNERSHIPS IN CONSERVATION

Keep the integrity of battlefield resources and their contextual surroundings through a coordinated collaboration among public agencies, government, private organizations and landowners.

The visitor experience and opportunities for interpretation are enhanced where the Civil War landscape remains. It is easiest to understand a historic event and the broad Civil War context when viewing an area that still retains landmarks similar to the Civil War. This can most readily be accomplished when the view and its surroundings are managed to support this idea. This type of management can provide opportunities for development and often is successful where the land is privately owned.

Encourage conservation strategies that concentrate on cooperation with private landowners.

A wide range of options for conservation exists throughout the region, from private development through public management. The consensus of landowners, elected officials and public agencies is that conservation efforts should focus on actions that encourage private ownership. Public action should be initiated only after all private options are exhausted. Both Private and public conservation could be supported through existing county, city, state and federal regulations.
HERITAGE COUNCIL

Establish a Heritage Council of community representatives to coordinate battlefield conservation, interpretation and promotion activities.

A council representing the diverse interests of the Richmond area would be formed to initiate the conservation of Civil War battlefield resources, encourage compatible economic development and promote the area’s battlefield attractions. This group could establish a battlefield management and development entity capable of accepting donations, purchasing, and managing land when directed by this organization.

INCENTIVES FOR CONSERVATION

Identify the battlefield settings as zones of special attention; recognize historic values within the development review process; provide incentives for voluntary conservation by landowners or developers; and initiate conservation efforts in critical areas.

The battlefields identified in the resource assessment, along with any areas required for interpretation or management of the historic sites, would be recognized by the county, city, state and federal governments as having historic value. All public agencies would be directed by their governing bodies to work towards their conservation. No public funds would be used to intentionally or inadvertently destroy their historic values. Every effort would be made to use existing programs where common goals can be identified.

In the designated battlefield areas, development proposals would record the resources of historic importance as part of the county development review process. Federal and state review would be required only in the core battlefield areas, or by special request.
The local, state and federal government would establish a conservation incentive program for landowners within the designated battlefield areas, and a community conservation assistance effort. A priority system would be developed to classify these resources in accordance with historic values, existing conditions and potential for future change. Possible areas of technical assistance might include identifying cultural resources, developing land conservation strategies, and reviewing design or land management options as requested by private or public landowners.

Core areas, critical to the interpretation or conservation of Richmond's pivotal Civil War battles, would be protected through joint private and public action. Core battlefield areas would be recognized by the partners involved in this study agreement. Any future conservation actions by a public agency that might affect these areas would be first discussed with all concerned landowners and community members. Every opportunity to both maintain land in private hands and conserve the battlefield resources would be considered. If all reasonable private options were then exhausted, public agencies would look to use local, state or federal conservation mechanisms. Every public action would solicit public involvement, require the consent of affected landowners, and look to meet joint battlefield conservation and community goals.
INTERPRETIVE LINKS

Establish the Richmond Civil War Heritage Trail system, linking the battlefields with the city, and initiate a school program, within the state-mandated curriculum, about the Civil War and the conservation of our American heritage.

A main tour route, using existing roads, would be developed and designated as a scenic byway. Called the RICHMOND CIVIL WAR HERITAGE TRAIL, it would connect the major battlefields with the City of Richmond. Secondary loops would recognize individual campaigns and connect with the main tour route at major battlefield sites. These would also be designated as scenic byways, and could commemorate events like the North Anna to Cold Harbor Campaign, the defenses and monuments of Richmond, the Bermuda Hundred Campaign, the Siege of Petersburg and J.E.B. Stuart’s Ride. These loops could also include access to other natural, cultural and recreational resources and facilities in the area. In the broadest sense, this system of trails could link people with their natural and cultural heritage.

HERITAGE CENTERS would be located within the setting of a major battle, where the main tour route and secondary trails connect. Each would interpret the entire story of Richmond’s Civil War battles, the specific events of the military engagement where it is located and a facet of the broad cultural context of the war. The centers would orient visitors to the trail system through exhibits, programs and interpretive material.

INTERPRETIVE STOPS, located at the site of an important event or skirmish, would provide interpretation of more limited engagements.

COMMEMORATIVE STOPS, placed on the tour route near the battlefield, provide information on a single event or person within a battle.
Richmond Civil War Heritage Trail Concept
A comprehensive road sign program would be developed to direct visitors along the trail system and to allied activities. This could be expanded to include car tours, horse trails and hiking paths, as well as garden spots, historic period tours or seasonal festivals. A companion information program would be developed to help orient visitors to the area and events. The goal is to allow people to begin at any point and tailor a personalized tour according to their time and interest.

A NATIONAL CIVIL WAR TRAIL would be established to link Richmond with other important Civil War battlefield sites throughout the nation. This would compliment the Richmond effort and provide opportunities for attracting heritage tourists from other battlefield sites around the country.

A HERITAGE EDUCATION PROGRAM would be developed, based on state-mandated curriculum units, to promote an understanding of our common heritage, and reinforce within future generations a conservation ethic towards our historic legacy. The battlefield sites would be used to explore history and civics issues. This effort would expand on special programs at museums, historic houses and other heritage sites that would compliment this education effort.
ENHANCED COMMUNITY VALUES

Expand the heritage tourism effort to take full advantage of Richmond’s Civil War attractions.

RICHMOND WELCOME CENTERS would be established along the interstate highways and at centers of activity within the community to acquaint through-travelers and regional visitors with tourism opportunities in the area. Each CENTER could provide information on the historic sites as well as additional cultural attractions, festivals, events, recreation opportunities, merchant participation programs, lodging and other visitor services. An expanded promotion effort would be developed to attract potential visitors to the area from other tourism markets.

VISITOR SERVICE AREAS would be designated along the tour routes. The growth of tourism-related services would be encouraged and targeted within these areas.

Enhance business recruitment and land development efforts to attract appropriate uses that enhance the community quality of life; integrate new opportunities within this common image.

Recruitment portfolios and promotion packets will be modified to highlight Richmond’s Civil War heritage and economic opportunities created by this battlefield preservation effort. State and local governments will target economic development programs to encourage business expansion compatible with the battlefield values.
WHAT'S NEXT

This effort entails a long-term commitment. It is a vision of the future that could conserve the area's Civil War heritage and community values that are important for a high quality of life. It could also provide opportunities for compatible growth.

Flexibility. Incentives for action. Voluntary involvement. Responsiveness to individual concerns. All these lie at the foundation of this approach. It can work. It will require your support, ideas and active participation.

Each action should encompass existing activities and encourage further initiatives. Achieving a commitment by federal, state and local governments to integrate this approach into existing policy is the key to its success. With such support, a strong program of conservation, interpretation and promotion activities could build this framework for community and individual action.

To implement this concept, a foundation needs to be laid that will encourage support actions by individuals, groups, communities and public agencies. Elements of this foundation could include development of the coordinating group, an interim conservation strategy and expanded interpretation and promotion efforts. Through these actions, the structure of the approach would be more fully developed, priorities set, new partners identified and future funding secured. As identified in the CONTEXT FOR THE STUDY (see page 1), each Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) partner will develop its own strategy for future involvement. Some of these MOU partners wrote summaries of the pathways they will pursue over the next several years. These summaries are included, subject to minor editing, in the next few sections of this document.
CHESTERFIELD COUNTY ACTIONS

This draft document will be used as a discussion instrument to develop strategies and actions with the Chesterfield County Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. Future cooperation with the Memorandum of Understanding partners and participation in the Heritage Council will be determined throughout these discussions.

There are a number of actions that Chesterfield County can initiate at this juncture:

Expansion of the Bermuda Hundred Tour.

This is a tour route of Civil War-related sites in Chesterfield County. It was developed by the Historical Society and has been implemented by county staff and dedicated volunteers. Additional sites exist and could be included on the tour route.

Execution of the Memorandum of Understanding with Richmond National Battlefield Park at Parker’s Battery.

This agreement allows the county to develop safe access and increased interpretation at the site with the assistance of the National Park Service. This site will be included in the Bermuda Hundred Tour.

Initiation of a full assessment study for Battery Danzler and development of a management and interpretation strategy.

This site was donated to the county and will be included in the Bermuda Hundred Tour.
Continuation of the surveying of historic sites and plotting Civil War resources on the zoning maps.

Further research on each of the major battlefield sites is being coordinated by the Historical Society, and detailed information on those sites provided to the Planning Department.

Securing of an agreement with the landowner of Fort Weed to protect the Civil War values of this site.
The following memorandum was presented to the Hanover County Board of Supervisors. The Board approved the position identified by this memorandum and voted to continue collaboration with the other partners of the MOU, subject to the comments identified in the "Recommendations" section of the memorandum. The quotes in the "General" section refer to an earlier version of this text. Consequently, there may be some word and phrase differences between what is in this memorandum and the language of this draft report.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Allan T. Williams, County Administrator
FROM: John H. Hodges, AICP, Director of Planning
SUBJECT: Miscellaneous Planning Matters:
National Park Service Proposed Master Plan
DATE: May 17, 1990

This memorandum is in response to the Board of Supervisors action of March 14, 1990 to request comments on the National Park Service report entitled "Conserving Richmond’s Battlefields" within the next sixty days. This report was distributed March 19, 1990 to the Architectural Review Board, Historical Commission and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (in lieu of the Planning Commission). The only specific comments have been provided by the Architectural Review Board. The Historical Commission is planning to discuss this report in their June meeting, and the Director of Parks and Recreation has not received comments from the Advisory Board.

The National Park Service has been advised that the County’s comments would be prepared by the end of May, so we have prepared the following comments based on the information already received.
Since 1987, the National Park Service has held community meetings and circulated newsletters in Hanover, as well as other jurisdictions in the Richmond area, in order to help them update their Master Plan for the Richmond National Battlefield Park. To protect the remaining battlefield resources within current federal fiscal limitations, the National Park Service will need to seek local, state and private cooperation in meeting its preservation goals.

What the National Park Service plan recommends, as it affects Hanover County, is summarized as follows:

1. "Establish a Heritage Council of community representatives."

   Proposal: "The National Park Service and the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (RRPDC) would initiate formation of the Council with city, county and state direction."

   Comments: The proposal would be expected to add to the responsibilities of the RRPDC in order to share the preservation policies and resources on a coordinated regional basis. Representatives would be appointed from each jurisdiction with a commensurate increase in support funding.

2. "Recognize the battlefield settings as zones of special attention; modify the development review process to recognize historic values; provide incentives for voluntary conservation by landowners or developers; and initiate conservation efforts in critical areas."

   Proposal: "Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties would incorporate the battlefield settings into their Comprehensive Plans and designate the area as having County Landmark Status."
Comments: With regard to the battlefields, the Comprehensive Plan currently recognizes only the existing Cold Harbor Battlefield Park properties. The North Anna, Haw’s Shop, Seven Days’ Battles and the greater Cold Harbor battlefield, as well as other minor areas, are not included. The addition of these areas would enhance the County’s preservation goals and leave specific interpretation of appropriate actions to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors in rezoning cases.

Proposal: "Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties would modify the County development review process through their planning offices and coordinate state and federal actions."

Comments: This goal would be expected to involve an amendment to the zoning and subdivision regulations to require that, in addition to known cemeteries and specific historic structures, trenches and battlefield features would have to be shown on the checklist for subdivision and site plan review. Adding these features to plans would allow the Board and the Commission to review the significance of development on these features. Currently, we are discovering important features after development approval.

Proposal: "The City of Richmond and Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties would coordinate landowner needs with state, federal and non-profit assistance programs. A special effort would be taken to explore cooperative actions that address both community recreation, open space, agriculture or water quality issues as well as battlefield conservation goals."

Comments: This goal would parallel current efforts such as the establishment of the Hanover Historic Foundation, which can accept donations and hold easements. These strategies would compliment the efforts of the Historical Commission and Architectural Review Board to encourage the public to protect historic resources.
Proposal: "The Commonwealth of Virginia, City of Richmond and Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties would participate in the core area identification and target where common goals meet."

Comments: This goal would result in more detailed planning around the core resource areas, with the ultimate land use actions left up to the Board and Planning Commission.

3 "Establish the Richmond Civil War Heritage Trail System of tour routes, interpretive areas and curriculum-based school programs about the Civil War and conservation of our heritage."

Proposal: "City of Richmond and Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties would coordinate the identification of the trails and development of allied routes or events. They would also participate in the development of interpretive exhibits and visitor materials."

Comments: This goal would be expected to be accomplished through use of the Historic Commission, or other already established organizations deemed appropriate by the Board, to review and recommend actions to the Board for Hanover (a regional context).

Proposal: "The City of Richmond and Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties would participate in the development of the curriculum and its integration into the local schools. The local government would initially provide the impetus for this program."

Comments: This goal would be expected to parallel current efforts by the Historical Commission and the School Board to develop a 4th grade curriculum addition to teach Hanover’s history. The Architectural Review Board also has an education committee which would be supported by this effort.
"Expand the heritage tourism effort to take full advantage of Richmond's Civil War attractions."

Proposal: "The City of Richmond and Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties would initiate expanded heritage tourism programs."

Comments: This goal would involve the establishment of new programs such as signage to attract traffic from I-295 to the battlefields.

"Modify business recruitment and land development efforts to attract appropriate uses that enhance the community quality of life and integrate new opportunities within this common image."

Proposal: "The City of Richmond and Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties would modify recruitment portfolios, networks and promotion packets to emphasize opportunities presented by Civil War heritage tourism and battlefield conservation."

Comments: This goal would parallel the Historical Commission establishment of a brochure for distribution to tourism centers to identify historic sites in the county. A separate brochure could be developed on one theme in Hanover's history - Civil War battlefields.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Architectural Review Board and staff have reviewed and recommend support for the planning proposals in "Conserving Richmond's Battlefields", subject to specific comments as outlined by the County Administrator.

These recommendations would include:

1. Support must include federal financial incentives and assistance to purchase or obtain easements for battlefield resources as well as provide impetus for other preservation efforts.

2. Specific delineation of referenced battlefield resources must be provided to localities so they can accurately define these areas in the development process.
3 Support must be provided for changes to state legislation to protect trenches and other non-structural battlefield features, problems which are not currently addressed.

4 The Heritage Council should include a regional implementation entity empowered to raise funds, hold preservation easements and otherwise manage historic properties with professional assistance (like a foundation).

5 The Heritage Council should document and prioritize historic properties to assist localities in defining which resources are the most critical to maintain, as opposed to those which are desirable to maintain.

6 The Heritage Council should be comprised of representatives of all jurisdictions and major local agencies having influence over historic resources. In Hanover, the Historical Commission would be the logical choice for such membership.

I hope this is responsive to your inquiry, and if you need additional information, do not hesitate to Contact Carol B. Corker, Planner, or me.
HENRICO COUNTY ACTIONS

The March 1988 Memorandum of Understanding and this resultant draft document represents a framework for local Civil War historic site identification and preservation. This document's goals could be realized in Henrico through a number of mechanisms. These mechanisms include:

1. The Comprehensive Plan, as approved and administered by the Henrico County Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission, could be used. In particular, the "Land Use Plan" element, currently under revision, could incorporate components of the battlefield conservation study.

2. As an outgrowth of the Federal Preservation Act of 1976, Henrico's Inventory of Early Architecture and Historic Sites was commissioned and published by the Planning Office in December of 1976. It initially identified 305 significant sites, including 10 currently on the National Register of Historic Places. An update to the Inventory now under consideration could include additional Civil War sites, if appropriate.

3. The Update 2005: Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan was completed in September 1985. It incorporates the sites identified in the Inventory, as well as numerous goals and policies directly related to the identification, preservation and interpretation of cultural and historic properties. Park and recreational facility development could consider preservation and interpretation elements in future plans.

4. The rezoning and Plan-of-development review process provides for departmental review of development plans and proposed changes in zoning classification - with a major citizen input component. The Board and Planning Commission could utilize the existing Comprehensive Plan and development review process to protect Civil War values, where feasible.

5. The Henrico Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and the newly formed Historic Advisory Committee could serve as the liaison among the Board, citizens and county staff.
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES ACTIONS

The Department of Historic Resources will continue to cooperate with federal, state and local government agencies, and with private citizens in conserving, interpreting and promoting Virginia's Civil War-related resources. Within budgetary and staffing constraints, the Department is prepared to continue or initiate the following actions:

1. Assist property owners and other interested parties in nominating historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and for consideration as National Historic Landmarks.

2. Study the Virginia Landmarks Register to identify Civil War-related landmarks for further study or protection, as needed.

3. Give priority for funding survey projects relating to the Civil War.

4. Provide technical assistance as requested to historic property owners, particularly those who wish to give easements for the continued protection of the resource.

5. Review and comment on the comprehensive land use plans of local governments, to assist them in giving protection to Civil War sites and other historic resources.

6. Cooperate with local governments in evaluating historic resources for their long-term protection.

7. Participate in the Heritage Council to work with all interested parties to preserve, interpret and promote Virginia's Civil War-related resources.
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ACTIONS

The National Park Service will initiate a number of actions over the course of the next year: a GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN process, including a boundary proposal; CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE to individuals and communities; DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS; and a search for future FUNDING sources. The timing and extent of work will be dependent upon available funding.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (GMP): During the next year, the GMP process will begin for Richmond National Battlefield Park. This process will identify the management strategy for the park, propose a modified National Park Service boundary that reflects the historic values and identify an interpretation approach that includes ideas presented in the Civil War Heritage Trail.

CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE: The National Park Service will continue to aid landowners, organizations and communities with the conservation, interpretation and promotion of Civil War resources. This will involve a number of actions including the following:

- continue site planning assistance on lands of national importance;
- provide proposal review and information assistance to communities on innovative conservation options when requested;
- redefine the Richmond National Battlefield Park Superintendent position to include related lands responsibilities;
- continue Mid-Atlantic Regional Office assistance in key projects; and
- initiate a process to develop a related lands position at Richmond National Battlefield Park.
DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM: To conserve critical resources and demonstrate the range of potential conservation techniques, four projects will be initiated by the National Park Service with Memorandum of Understanding partners. The projects include the following:

- **New Market Heights**: a cooperative planning effort for Henrico County’s Four Mile Creek Park to conserve battlefield resources and commemorate all those who fought, especially the 14 black Congressional Medal of Honor winners;

- **Cold Harbor and Gaines’ Mill**: concept plan with Hanover County to identify conservation and interpretation options on the Cold Harbor, Garthright House and Gaines’ Mill battlefields;

- **Drewry’s Bluff and Howlett Line**: conservation planning and facility development of sites in the Bermuda Hundred Campaign; and

- **Malvern Hill and North Anna**: conservation and interpretation planning with landowners, county government and the state.

FUNDING: To continue these efforts, additional funding sources will be sought. Sources could include continued National Park Service operating funds, specially designated funds and private grants.
This draft summary represents the collective ideas of everyone who has participated in this project. Through a series of presentations and workshops, the approach will be presented to all the partners of the study team and the general public. The ideas and revisions generated during these sessions will be incorporated into the final report and technical supplement. This will serve as a guidebook for future action by local, state and federal governments, non-profit organizations, landowners and interested citizens.

Notification of the public workshops will be placed in area newspapers and mailed to everyone who has expressed an interest to the study team. Copies of this summary are available from every member of the study team.

Please join us. Your participation will make this a more complete and realistic vision.

For further information, contact the study team through one of the people on the following pages.
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APPENDIX A

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, HANOVER COUNTY, HENRICO COUNTY, THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The Richmond area played a critical role during the Civil War and it still retains a number of important structures and landscapes from that era. These historic resources are owned and managed by a variety of individuals, organizations and public agencies, including the Commonwealth of Virginia, local communities and historic societies, private individuals and the National Park Service.

Civil War resources are a tremendous asset for the community and the nation; however as the region grows, these increasingly become more vulnerable to development pressure. A coordinated effort should be made to conserve the important archeological sites, structures and their historic context, while providing the opportunity for continued economic development. This will require the collaboration of individual landowners, interested citizens, historic preservation and economic development groups, as well as, county governments, and state and federal agencies.

The National Park Service, in cooperation with the Commonwealth of Virginia, the City of Richmond and Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties, will initiate a cooperative venture to conserve these resources of national importance. The objectives of this effort include:

1. to identify and evaluate resources of national importance relating to the period from 1861 to 1865;
2. to assess the patterns of development and methods of planning, design and construction which may adversely impact or protect these resources; and
3. to outline a cooperative strategy to conserve the historic resources through private and public action.

We the undersigned will actively participate in identifying Civil War resources of national importance throughout this area and developing a strategy for their conservation. The process will involve extensive opportunity for public input and will consider the broadest range of options for conserving resources.

The National Park Service, through the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office and Richmond National Battlefield Park will:

1. coordinate this conservation effort and maintain communication among all the participants and the community;

Hanover County Planning Office
2. provide technical assistance in the identification of the historic resources, growth patterns and conservation strategies; and
3. prepare all maps and written documents in cooperation with the state, county and city; and
4. provide opportunities for review and approval by all partners in this effort.

The Commonwealth of Virginia Historic Preservation Office, the City of Richmond, and Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties will:

1. provide information on historic resources, growth patterns and identify workable conservation options;
2. designate a representative to attend public meetings and assist the National Park Service with technical advice;
3. host public meetings to identify issues, resources and conservation strategies in their areas;
4. review and approve maps and written documents; and
5. assist in the implementation of mutually agreed upon strategies recommended through this effort.

The effort will officially begin on March 31st, in Richmond National Battlefield Park. The National Park Service, the State Historic Preservation Office and local historical societies will begin to identify and evaluate Civil War archeological sites, buildings and other structures and landscapes of national importance and assess current patterns of development with impact these resources. During the Spring and early Summer, a series of public workshops will be held to identify issues relating to these resources; review the cultural resource and growth pattern information; and discuss options for conservation.

This information will be reviewed by all the partners of this agreement and will be presented in a document outlining the issues, resources and recommended actions. Following review by the public, these recommendations will be implemented by all concerned to the extent possible.
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Mid-Atlantic Region

Dwight Storke
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Jan 27, 1979
Hanover County Planning Office
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John H. Hodges
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Received
JUN 27 1988
Hanover County
Planning Office
NEWSLETTER PURPOSE

This newsletter, a first in a series, will provide periodic updates on a cooperative effort to conserve resources related to the Civil War. This edition introduces the project and participants, describes the process and summarizes the ideas generated in the initial workshop.

CONSERVATION EFFORT BEGINNING

The story of Richmond and its defense during the Civil War is one of this country's most enduring and important. However, as Richmond has grown, many of the buildings, battlefields, and archeological sites related to events during 1861 to 1865 have come under increasing pressure from the region's growth.

Since the turn of the century, private individuals and public agencies have been searching for ways to balance the needs for economic opportunity and conservation of our heritage. Most of the preservation efforts have been focused on individual places, i.e. Richmond National Battlefield Park, the Valentine Museum and the park around Fort Stevens.

Recognizing the value of coordinated effort, the National Park Service, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the City of Richmond and Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties signed a Memorandum of Agreement to develop a cooperative strategy which both conserves our common Civil War heritage and is sympathetic to local concerns.

The immediate goal of this effort is to develop a framework for cooperative conservation action, focusing on cultural resources adjacent to existing Richmond National Battlefield Park sites.

PROJECT PROCESS

This effort will include an identification of the public issues and concerns, inventory of areas of historic activity, evaluation of potential threats and development of a system to address these concerns. The process used in this effort is designed to maximize participation. Each step builds on preliminary information developed by local and national experts, and reviewed and modified in public forums.

At every stage of the process, public involvement is critical. This is a long term process and requires the involvement of all levels of government, landowners, historic preservation and economic development groups, and interested individuals. With everyone's help, a workable strategy that responds to the region's needs can be developed.

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

In order to provide the opportunity for everyone's participation, a series of workshops have been held in each county. These were hosted by the counties and facilitated by the National Park Service.

The first series was held June 20, 21 and 29 and identified issues and concerns that will guide this initial effort, and is the focus of this newsletter. The second, held July 18, 19 and 20, focused on the inventory of areas of historic activity and described the criteria for identifying important sites.

A third will focus on developing the strategy for conservation - a system for conservation and a framework for individual action. Future issues of this newsletter will report on the second and third workshops.
SUMMARY OF ISSUES AND CONCERNS

After an introduction by the host county and the superintendent from Richmond National Battlefield Park, participants in the June workshops were asked to identify issues and community concerns relating to the conservation of historic resources. We have summarized the concerns generated at the workshops, and will use this summary to provide overall direction to the joint conservation effort.

A. CRITERIA AND EVALUATION
1. No reasonable and consistent set of criteria to evaluate resources currently exists;
2. Current evaluation is not always based on the significance of the resource and its potential for telling the story of Richmond;
3. Important cultural resources are rapidly being lost;
4. Resources of national significance are often conserved at the expense of ones of local importance;
5. The most important resources are not always identified.

B. EDUCATION
1. Education programs need to be developed to tell people about the area's history;
2. Civil War sites are often lost before they are documented;
3. The program of historic markers and signage is inadequate.

C. CONSERVATION ACTIONS
1. Developers and property owners are not involved in conservation actions;
2. There are not many existing financial incentives for conservation;
3. There are not enough governmental incentives for individuals and developers;
4. Communities are not always aware of the important sites and the measures necessary to protect them;
5. We react to situations that threaten important resources, rather than anticipate them and take proactive measures.

D. MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING
1. Current management, interpretation, development and funding for local, state and federally managed sites is inadequate;
2. Public monies are not likely to be adequate in the future;
3. Private support has not been tapped to augment public action.

E. LINKAGES TO ENHANCE TOURISM
1. History is an important draw for the area;
2. Communities do not take advantage of this resource;
3. There is no joint marketing of Civil War sites throughout the region and the Commonwealth.
ISSUES IDENTIFIED DURING THE WORKSHOPS

The following issues were identified at the three June workshops on public issues and concerns. The workshops were held at Thomas Dale High School, Chesterfield County (June 20), Board of Education, Hanover County (June 21) and Fairfield Area Library, Henrico County (June 29). The participants' comments are organized by major topic area.

June 20 - CHESTERFIELD COUNTY

A. CRITERIA AND EVALUATION

1. The aesthetic qualities of historic sites and surrounding areas are being lost. They make up an important part of community identity;
2. Choices or priorities have to be made about the important sites because it is not possible to save everything;
3. It is important to determine whether a resource is of national, statewide or local significance;
4. No clear criteria for evaluation of resources and no application process for individual sites currently exists;
5. The existing criteria are poor and should be modified;
6. The historic focus for this effort is not clear;
7. This effort should allow for conservation opportunities for historically significant resources from other periods.

B. EDUCATION

1. Historic sites are often unmarked;
2. 1860's landscapes are rarely documented before they change;
3. Historic information about these areas is not always available accessible to the public;
4. The variety of existing interpretation and education programs does not address enough people, especially tourists;
5. There is not enough variety of methods and materials used to present the information;
6. Very few people have an investment in the sites - a sense of place and belonging.

C. CONSERVATION ACTIONS

1. Homeowners and developers are not convinced of the value of conservation - "preserving every inch" [of cultural resource] scares developers;
2. The intent and process for using preservation incentives is not clearly described;
3. What tax benefits can be used to promote conservation;
4. Designating private property as historically significant may devalue it, by restricting landowner's use;
5. Each property requires a different conservation package - how are they developed and who will make sure they are successful;
6. Local, state and federal actions are not coordinated;
7. How can the county help, what is its role and who will do it.

D. MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING

1. There is little long-term management of preserved areas and they often become derelict;
2. Who owns the properties now and how can owners be identified in the future;
3. Existing funding is inadequate and future increases will be required;
4. Many people have no access to sites they have helped conserve;
5. Recreation is very important and should be included in the strategy.

E. LINKAGES TO ENHANCE TOURISM

1. There is little response to local, regional and national audiences.

F. SPECIFIC ISSUES OR LOCATIONS OF IMPORTANCE

1. Much of the Bermuda Hundred campaign is unprotected and it is a very important resource;
2. Opening of I-295 will rapidly increase development pressures.

June 21 - HANOVER COUNTY

A. CRITERIA AND EVALUATION

1. What land uses are compatible for areas adjacent to the park;
2. Conservation is not often considered during the development process;
3. What rating system is used to determine a site's value;
4. Can the Garthright House Citizens Advisory Group resource rating system be used for other sites.

B. EDUCATION

1. These is no clear signage from roads to individual sites, especially from I-295;
Much of the destruction of the resources occurs because of the lack of information about its historical importance; Realtors can be valuable in educating people about conservation; Tour routes should begin with an overall orientation to the area; Conservation is required for future understanding of historic events.

C. CONSERVATION ACTIONS
1. Conservation can be good business – especially for tourism;
2. Development adjacent to important sites can detract from the visitor experience;
3. People don’t know why specific places are important;
4. Land developers can significantly impact historic values – both positively and negatively;
5. What government incentives exist for preservation;
6. Can comprehensive plans be used to encourage conservation;
7. What is the balance between conservation and development;
8. Can notice of historic value be added to county tax information;
9. Private conservation associations have quicker access to money and can often assist county, state and federal efforts;
10. How can private landowners and developers assist in conserving important sites;
11. Can landowners be informed of the historic value of their property on their tax information.

D. MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING
1. Conservation is expensive;
2. Not enough money exists for conservation;
3. Private Civil War focused organizations have not been very involved and can provide funding for purchase, management and interpretation of sites;
4. Tours and reenactments can help spread ideas about conservation and provide a basis of support;
5. Future National Park Service facility planning has to involve the local community to a greater extent.

E. LINKAGES TO ENHANCE TOURISM
1. Currently, little coordination of programs exists between local museums and other Civil War national parks in the region; 2. The 125th anniversary of 1864 campaigns is a perfect opportunity for action;
3. There is no coordinated tourist program in state visitors centers;
4. Communities do not take advantage of state conservation and recreation programs;
5. Archeology and preservation are not used to attract visitors.

F. SPECIFIC ISSUES OR LOCATIONS OF IMPORTANCE
1. Ox Ford (Battle of North Anna) and Savage Station are very important;
2. Additional public access to the Garthright House unit of Richmond National Battlefield Park is desired;
3. More coordination is needed between Cold Harbor and other park areas in the county;
4. Identify and conserve calvery encampment west of Ashland;
5. River crossings are important historic sites;
6. The visitor center of Richmond National Battlefield Park is not close enough to the historic sites.

June 29 - HENRICO COUNTY

A. CRITERIA AND EVALUATION
1. How does the evaluation process work and who will do it;
2. Current conservation action tends to be reactive and many opportunities are missed;
3. Maintain the focus on 1861-65;
4. The conservation effort should include all 12,000 years of human occupation.

B. EDUCATION
1. Programs do not support, encourage and maintain public interest to support conservation efforts;
2. The community does not know about this conservation effort.

C. Conservation Actions
1. Regulatory devices should be the foundation of any conservation action;
2. The first step of conservation is to identify when an important property is being threatened;
3. The current trend is towards development rather than conservation;
4. What is the economic value of conservation to a landowner and how
does it affect the potential uses of land;
5. Conservation of historic values helps maintain community ambience and quality of life;
6. Often a cooperative effort between a landowner, historic societies and private individuals can lead further than any one party acting alone;
7. National Park Service and county actions should be coordinated;
8. Is there a reasonable process to encourage investigation on private property when resources of value are found - similar to the one used for public property;
9. What role should the county play in conserving these sites.

D. MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING
1. What is a property owners responsibility for resource conservation;
2. Long term maintenance program for the historic property are rarely developed;
3. There is a very limited local funding levels for conservation and other sources of money have to be located;
4. National Park Service does not maintain its property at a sufficient level of quality;
5. Volunteers are not effectively used.

E. LINKAGES TO ENHANCE TOURISM
1. There are few connections among federal, state and local park systems;
2. Better coordination is required among nearby national parks;
3. Civil War tourism has to be more actively promoted and can provide benefits for the community;
4. Develop commercial business opportunities from tourism.

F. SPECIFIC ISSUES OR LOCATIONS OF IMPORTANCE
1. Currently there is a void in the development process and a preservation voice should be sounded to support community interests;
2. There is not enough county staff with historic expertise and cultural resource permits;
3. Cemeteries are too often neglected or forgotten resources;
4. The old Richmond National Battlefield Park signs should be retained;
5. All governments should abide by their own regulations and laws;
6. There is not enough communication between the National Park Service and the local community, especially adjacent neighbors;
7. Visitors, on foot, coming to historic sites are often in danger of being hit by cars driving on park roads;
8. National Park Service planning and design does not adequately include local concerns.

For Further Information

For further information or to be included on our mailing list, please contact the National Park Service at one of the following locations:

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National Park Service
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(215) 597-6478

Dwight Storke, Superintendent
Richmond National Battlefield Park
3215 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23223
(804) 226-1981
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

SOME OF THE COMMON QUESTIONS RAISED DURING THE ISSUES WORKSHOPS

WHY IS THIS STUDY BEING CONDUCTED? The National Park Service focus is to conserve the important resources around the existing park units. Finding that conservation was also a concern of other individuals, community groups, local governments, and the state, this cooperative effort was organized to identify how we all can work together to accomplish resource conservation.

WHAT WILL THIS STUDY PRODUCE? The goal of this effort is to develop a framework for cooperative action, especially in the areas around Richmond National Battlefield Park.

WHO IS INVOLVED IN THIS PLANNING PROCESS? Representatives from the counties, the City of Richmond, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the National Park Service, interested community members, landowners, developers, architects and preservationists are participating in the planning process.

WHO APPROVES THE FINAL STRATEGY? The process will try to build a consensus among everyone involved. A document will be provided to all interested parties, who will then be given an opportunity to comment. After public review and comment, we hope all cooperators will approve and implement the identified actions.

WILL THERE BE ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT? Yes. Later this fall, we will be asking for your help in identifying needed actions and developing potential strategies to accomplish conservation with economic development. We will also bring the draft report to you for your review and comments.

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National Park Service
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
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CONSERVING RICHMOND’S BATTLEFIELDS
BATTLEFIELD CONSERVATION EFFORT

PROJECT UPDATE

This update provides information on the effort to conserve Richmond’s Civil War battlefields. The goal of this project is to develop a framework for cooperative private and public action that will protect historic values while maintaining the opportunity for continued growth.

The initial newsletter reported on the first three public workshops that identified issues and concerns relating to conservation. This issue describes the next three workshops, also held in Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties, which focused on developing an inventory of the battlefields in the Richmond area.

Using a preliminary map to initiate discussion, participants in the second series of public workshops:
1. developed criteria for selecting events related to the battles;
2. identified the areas where these events occurred; and
3. described each event.

The maps were revised based on public comments and comments from county, state and National Park Service historians and planners. This newsletter represents preliminary agreement on general criteria, location of areas and description of battlefield events. We encourage you to send us any comments or suggestions. You will have another opportunity to review this information in the draft report we will be preparing by September 1989.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR HISTORIC EVENTS

The resource map, on page 2, locates Civil War battlefields in Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties and the City of Richmond. It identifies where historic events occurred but does not indicate their present condition or their relative importance.

Military strategies and the outcome of battles were directly influenced by the physical features, structures and land uses which existed during the Civil War. The areas chosen for encampment and storage sites, battle areas, and transportation centers had qualities that could meet the strategic needs of the military commanders. This combination of features, uses and events, which occurred during the battles, comprise the cultural landscape of the Civil War.

Some of the elements important to these battlefield landscapes include:
1. topographic features like ridges and valleys, rivers and ponds and open fields, forests and swamps;
2. structures like hospitals and headquarters, roads and bridges; earthworks and observation points; and
3. land uses: like farming or logging, commercial centers and residential areas.

The criteria for identifying areas important to the battles were developed with the help of people at the public workshops, private and county historic groups, and historians and planners from the county, state and National Park Service. Two types of criteria were identified: general criteria which apply to every area and specific criteria which describe the unique context for each event.

GENERAL CRITERIA:
1. a major battle action or military campaign related to McClellan’s Peninsular Campaign of 1862 and the final struggle for Richmond in 1864 and 1865; or
2. an event recognized as having strategic importance at the time of the activity.

SPECIFIC CRITERIA:
1. the concentration of troops for a battle or movement of troops directly related to a major military engagement; or
2. an isolated event that is significant to the outcome of a major military activity; or
3. an action that directly affects the outcome of the major military action.
DESCRIPTION OF BATTLEFIELD ACTIONS

INTRODUCTION TO BATTLEFIELD AREAS

The map, on the facing page, locates battlefield areas for the Peninsular Campaign of 1862 and the final struggle for Richmond of 1864 and 1865. The boundaries are generalized and reflect the information gathered from the workshops and reviews. Comments and suggestions resulting from this newsletter may change the lines.

The significant events relating to the general and specific criteria are summarized for each area on the following pages. The individual engagements have been grouped into broad strategies or military actions and listed chronologically.

1862: INDIVIDUAL BATTLE ACTIONS

DREWRY'S BLUFF NAVAL ENGAGEMENT (May 15, 1862) Federal gunboats, including the famous ironclad Monitor, unsuccessfully attacked this fort. The fort and surrounding area served as the Confederate Naval Academy and Marine Corps camp of instruction.

SEVEN PINES (May 31–June 1, 1862) Confederate forces under General Joseph E. Johnston attacked Union positions astride the Williamsburg Road. The following day, during a Federal counter attack to recover portions of the lost ground, Johnston was wounded. President Davis relieved him from command and appointed Robert E. Lee as army commander.

GAINES' MILL (June 27, 1862) Union troops occupied a strong defensive position behind Boatswains Creek, protecting several bridges which crossed the Chickahominy River. Late that evening Texas and Georgian troops broke that line forcing the Union army to use those bridges and withdrawal south of the Chickahominy.

GRAPEVINE BRIDGE (June 27-28, 1862) Following the Confederate break through the Federal lines along Boatswains Creek, Union troops retreated across Grapevine Bridge; united with the remainder of McClellan's army; and began to move towards Harrison's Landing on the James River.

SAVAGE STATION (June 29, 1862) This was a brief engagement that unsuccessfully tried to disrupt the Union withdrawal towards the James. Due to the need for expeditious movement, approximately 2,500 Union wounded soldiers were left behind and captured at the Station.

WHITE OAK SWAMP (June 30, 1862) Using artillery, McClellan's rear guard again fought a successful delaying action that allowed the main body of the Union army to move closer to the James and the protection of Federal gunboats.

GLENDALE (June 30, 1862) A determined Federal defense frustrated Lee's efforts to cut off and destroy a large portion of the Union army in the thickly wooded area around Glendale and nearby crossroads. McClellen continued his withdrawal and established an even stronger position on the high ground at Malvern Hill.

1862: SEVEN DAYS' BATTLES

CHICKAHOMINY BLUFF (June 26, 1862) This is part of the Confederate outer line defending Richmond. Near the west of Mechanicsville Turnpike, General Robert E. Lee observed the beginning of the Seven Days' Battles.

MEADOW BRIDGE CROSSING (June 26, 1862) Part of the Confederate army crossed this bridge to attack the Union position at Mechanicsville. This bridge is near the crossing of Virginia Central Railroad, which was one of the major supply routes for the southern capital.

BEAVER DAM CREEK (June 26, 1862) Repeated Confederate assaults across the open slopes west of Beaver Dam Creek failed to drive Union defenders from their positions on the eastern banks. That evening, Federal troops fell back to an even stronger position near the Chickahominy River.

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MALVERN HILL (July 1, 1862) This was the final engagement of the Seven Days' Battles. Confederate troops launched several desperate assaults up the open slopes of Malvern Hill into the massed lines of Union artillery and infantry. All southern advances were repulsed and the Union retreat continued on to Harrison's Landing.

1864: BATTLE OF NORTH ANNA

HANOVER JUNCTION (May 23–26, 1864) This was the junction of two major Confederate supply lines - the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad running north to south and the Virginia Central Railroad going west to the Shenandoah.

JERICHO MILL (May 23, 1864); QUARLE MILL (May 23–26, 1864); CHESTERFIELD BRIDGE (May 23–24, 1864); and OX FORD (May 24, 1864) These crossings were used during Grant's efforts to dislodge Lee's entrenched troops on the south bank of the

CONSERVING RICHMOND'S BATTLEFIELDS

3
North Anna River. All of these Union efforts were unsuccessful. The Confederate position proved too strong and forced Grant to abandon his efforts here and moved southeast towards Cold Harbor.

1864: BATTLE OF COLD HARBOR

HANOVERTOWN CROSSING (May 28, 1864) and NELSON CROSSING (May 28, 1864) These crossings were used by Grant’s artillery and infantry to move south of the Pamunkey River into Hanover County.

HAW’S SHOP (May 28, 1864) The Union and Confederate cavalry engagement on the grounds of Enon Church was one of the larger cavalry battles of the war. By the end of the day, Federal units controlled the area; however, this action alerted Lee to the Union position allowing him to set up a defensive position behind the Totopotomoy Creek.

TOTOPOTOMOY CREEK AND BETHESDA CHURCH (May 27-31, 1864) Because of the strong Confederate defensive position on the south banks of the Totopotomoy Creek, a Union frontal assault was not possible. Instead, Grant moved southeast hoping to outflank the Confederate line at Cold Harbor. At Bethesda Church, Lee struck Grant’s left flank to drive him back towards Pamunkey and relieve pressure on the southern forces.

COLD HARBOR (May 31-June 12, 1864) Even though the Federal army occupied the crossroads at Cold Harbor, Lee still blocked the entrance into Richmond. In an effort to break the Confederate line, Grant ordered a massive assault on an entrenched Confederate position a mile west of the crossroads. In less than an hour, thousands of Union soldiers were killed or wounded. Grant’s failure to break through the Confederate position led to the Union move towards Petersburg.

1864-1865: BATTLE OF BERMUDA HUNDRED

BUTLER’S LANDING (May 5, 1864) To support Grant’s overland advance against Lee’s army, General Benjamin Butler established a base at City Point to attack Richmond from the south. Using pontoon bridges and an old wharf site, he brought men and equipment onto Bermuda Hundred Neck.

PORT WATHALL’S JUNCTION (May 6-7, 1864) One of Butler’s main objectives was to destroy the Richmond-Petersburg Railroad. Two sharp actions near Port Wathall Junction drove the Confederate defenders south below Swift Creek.

SWIFT CREEK (May 9, 1864) Portions of the Union army advanced south towards Petersburg and encountered Confederate resistance. The Federal troops found the southern position, below Swift Creek heavily defended and remained on the northern banks. Following a brief engagement, the Union forces turned north to rejoin Butler’s main army.

CHESTER STATION (May 10, 1864) Meanwhile, Butler’s main force advanced north from Port Wathall and encountered Confederate units from Drewry’s Bluff in the woods near Proctor’s Creek at Chester Station. The Confederate defenders slowed Butlers advance and withdrew to a stronger defensive position closer to the entrenchments at Drewry’s Bluff.

PROCTOR’S CREEK and WOOLRIDGE HILL (May 13-15, 1864) Following a successful flanking movement at Woolridge Hill and advance towards Proctor’s Creek, Confederate units fell back into their entrenchments protecting Drewry’s Bluff.

DREWRY’S BLUFF (May 16, 1864) An early morning Confederate assault drove Butler’s troops from the field. The Union army retired to a prepared defensive line on Bermuda Hundred. This was the closest any Union force advanced against the southern defenses of Richmond.

HOWLETT LINE AND BERMUDA HUNDRED LINE (May 1864 - April 1865) The Confederate forces built a three mile long line of entrenchments running south from Battery Danzler on the James to the Appomattox River. These parallel the Union defensive position, called the Bermuda Hundred Line, and effectively “bottled up” Butler’s army for the remainder of the war.

1864: ACTION AT YELLOW TAVERN

YELLOW TAVERN (May 11, 1864) As part of Grant’s diversion to support his overland advance, Union cavalry successfully disrupted communication and destroyed supplies in Hanover and Henrico counties, drawing Lee’s troops away from his main army. Following several hours of attack and counter attack in the open fields and woods north of Yellow Tavern, the Confederate cavalry withdrew and the Union troops advanced south towards Richmond. During this engagement, General J.E.B. Stuart, the renowned Confederate cavalry commander, was mortally wounded.

BATTLEFIELD AREA DESCRIPTIONS CONTINUED ON THE BOTTOM OF THE NEXT PAGE
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Who prepared the maps and descriptions of the battle actions?
The preliminary maps and descriptions used in the public workshops were developed by the City of Richmond, Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico counties, the National Park Service and interested individuals. These were modified by the National Park Service using the comments and suggestions from the public meetings and reviews by the city, the counties, the state and the National Park Service.

What do the mapped areas represent?
These maps identify battlefield areas in the Richmond area. Each area includes places where battles were fought and where military activities which directly relate to the battles, like encampments or formation lines, took place.

Are there important resources outside these areas? Yes. There are many important landscapes and structures outside these areas; however, they do not directly relate to Civil War battle actions of the Peninsular Campaign of 1862 or the final struggle for Richmond in 1864 and 1865.

What does it mean if I live in one of these areas?
It means that you live in an area with some value associated with the Civil War. This is an inventory only and does not identify or recommend any specific action or land use.

AREA DESCRIPTIONS CONTINUED...

1864-1865: ACTION AT FORT HARRISON

NEW MARKET ROAD (July 27-29, 1864) To divert Lee's attention from the construction of a tunnel beneath the Confederate lines in Petersburg, Grant ordered troops north of the James to threaten Richmond's defenses. Using pontoon bridges at Deep Bottom, they advanced to New Market Heights where they were stopped by the southern defenders. Once the attack was repulsed, the northern troops withdrew and the following day 8,000 pounds of powder were exploded under the Petersburg lines, producing the Crater.

STRAWBERRY PLAINS (August 13-20, 1864) To draw Confederate soldiers away from Petersburg, Union forces crossed the James and attacked the southern defenses around Deep Bottom Run. Following several days of fighting, the Union forces withdrew.

What happens with this information?
This map, detailed descriptions of each area, comments we receive from you and the issues and concerns identified in the first newsletter will be reproduced in the resource inventory to be distributed in September 1989. Recommendations for public and private conservation actions to protect these historic values will be generated in public workshops and reviewed by county, state and National Park Service officials.

How can I help?
Everyone is encouraged to join this effort. The development of a strategy will require all the creative ideas and insights of the public, elected officials, county and state agencies and federal organizations.

Notification of the next meeting will be sent to you and every person on the mailing list, and to all the area papers. To be included on the mailing list, send your name and address to the National Park Service address on the back of this newsletter.

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CHAFFIN'S BLUFF (September 29-30, 1864) Once again, Grant ordered a massive effort to break the Confederate defenses and threaten Richmond. Federal troops overran and captured Fort Harrison, but a later assault on Fort Gilmer failed. The following day, Lee ordered a counter attack to regain lost ground, but did not succeed.

NEW MARKET HEIGHTS (September 29, 1864) As part of the major effort at Chaffin's Bluff, Union troops advanced against the Confederate defenses along New Market Road. Following the successful Union capture of Fort Harrison, the Confederate defenders at New Market Heights withdrew towards the defenses at Chaffin's Bluff. During this action, 14 of the 16 Congressional Medals given to black troops during the entire Civil War were awarded for individual acts of courage and bravery.

DARBEYTOWN and NEW MARKET ROADS (October 7, 1864) Lee ordered an attack to recapture part of the Confederate defenses near Deep Bottom. The failed attempt resulted in the construction of a new line of defense running north from Fort Gilmer towards Williamsburg Road.
RICHMOND NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

For Further Information or Comments:

For further information or comments, or to be included on our mailing list, please contact the National Park Service at one of the following locations:

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CONSERVING RICHMOND'S BATTLEFIELDS
This is a select bibliography of Civil War books that the project team consulted. Much of the historic information was provided from the private research done by local, state and National Park Service historians.


Each of the Memorandum of Agreement partners provided their regulations and guidelines for current development and future growth. Some of the important ones include:


APPENDIX D

MAPS OF CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS
This map was prepared from the following USGS topographic quad maps for Virginia (1:24000): Ashland, Glen Allen, Hanover Academy, Hewlett, Ruther Glen and Yellow Tavern.
This map was prepared from the following USGS topographic quad maps for Virginia (1:24000):
Ashland, Hanover, Manquin, Quinton, Richmond, Seven Pines, Studley and Yellow Tavern.

LEGEND
- BATTLEFIELDS
- CORE AREAS
- J.E.B. STUART’S RIDE

RESOURCE MAP 2
This map was prepared from the following USGS topographic quad maps for Virginia (1:24000): Chester, Drewrys Bluff, Dutch Gap, Hopewell, Quinton, Richmond, Rosbury and Seven Pines.
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Chester, Drewrys Bluff, Dutch Gap and Hopewell.