
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
1999



Drewry's Bluff
Richmond National Battlefield Park

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Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

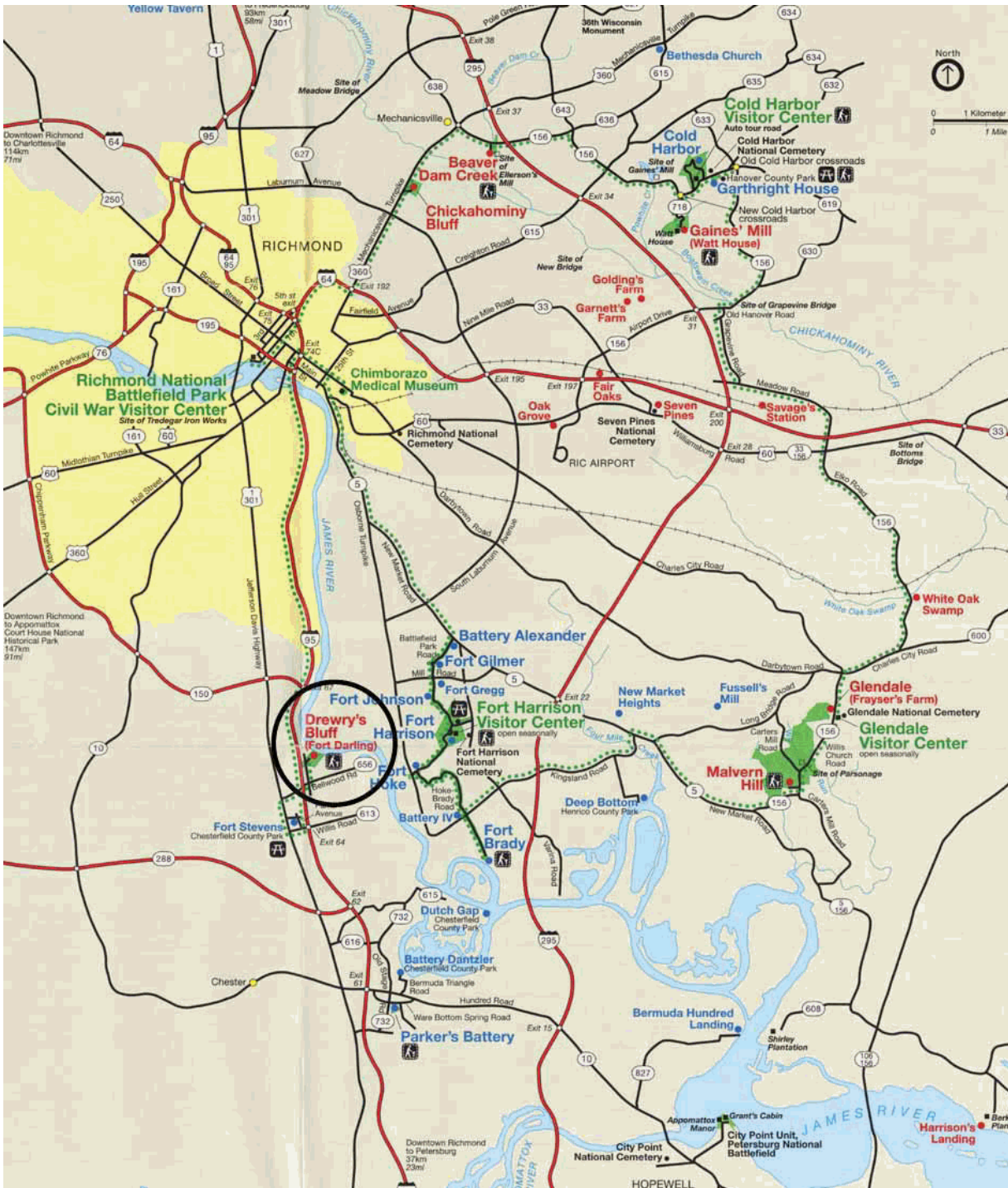
Drewry's Bluff is one of eight component landscapes in Richmond National Battlefield Park. The 39.5-acre unit is located 8 miles down the James River from Richmond, Virginia, between the river and Interstate Route 95. The unit includes the earthen fieldworks remaining of the Confederate Civil War Fort Drewry, a pedestrian interpretive trail with waysides, an overlook, and an original cannon mounted on a reproduction carriage.

The earthworks on Drewry's Bluff were critical for the defense of Richmond from Federal naval attacks. The battle fought here on May 15, 1862 proved to the Federal navy that the Confederate defense of the James River would be very difficult to breach. After defeating the Federals in 1862, the Confederates improved the fortification and added more guns and a permanent garrison. The site also was the headquarters for the Confederate Marine Corps and the Confederate Naval Academy.

In 1927 the Richmond Battlefield Association acquired the land to preserve the site from development, and placed a Freeman Marker on the site to commemorate its role in the war. During the 1930s the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) worked on clearing the earthworks and established trails.

Drewry's Bluff is significant under Criterion A for its association with the defense of Richmond during the Civil War from 1862-1865. The fort is significant under Criterion C for military engineering and archeological resources. Under Criterion D, the earthworks and surrounding land, including the Confederate Camp of Marine Instruction, which had numerous buildings including a chapel, are significant for their potential to yield military information from the period, and could possibly yield information regarding prehistoric use of the area. In conservation, the park unit is significant for its association with the local efforts to commemorate Civil War sites from 1925-1951. It may also have state significance for its association with the New Deal from 1933-1941 when a CCC camp worked here to assist with clearing and construction projects.

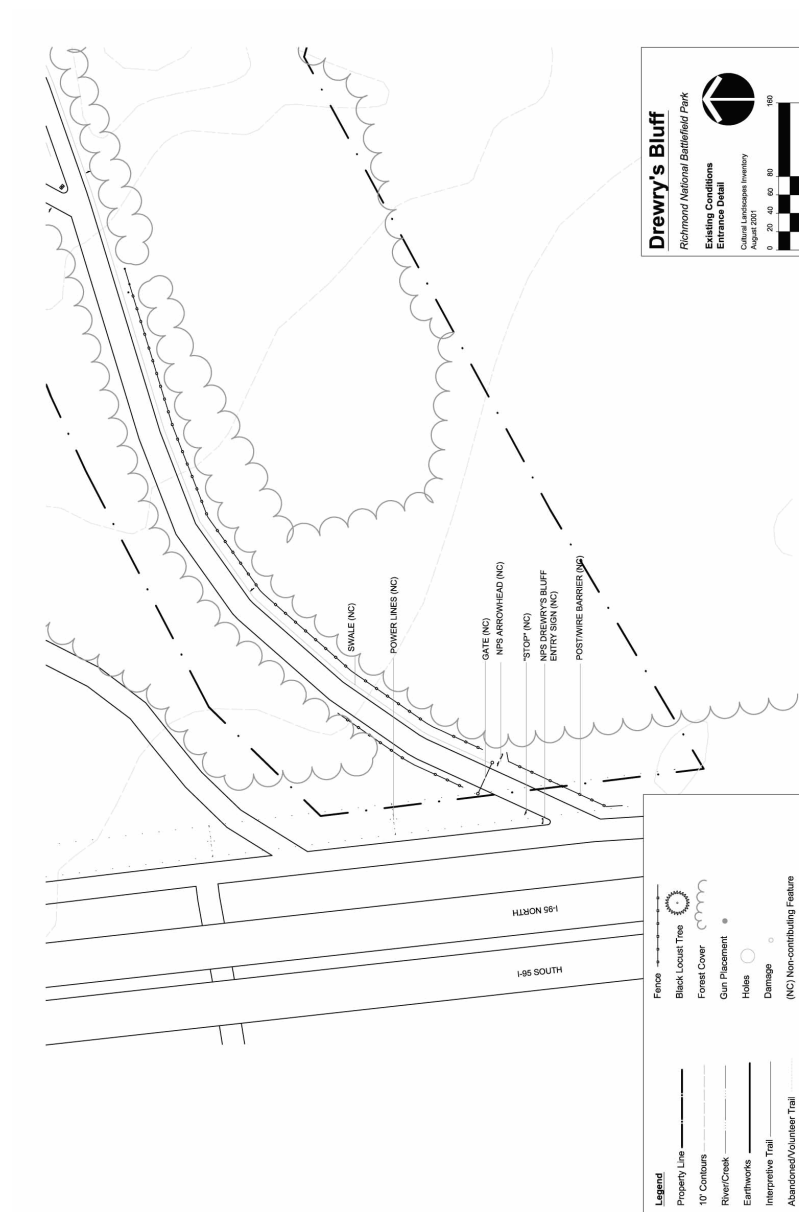
Site Plan



This maps shows the location of all component landscapes in Richmond National Battlefield Park (Park brochure 2000).

Drewry's Bluff

Richmond National Battlefield Park

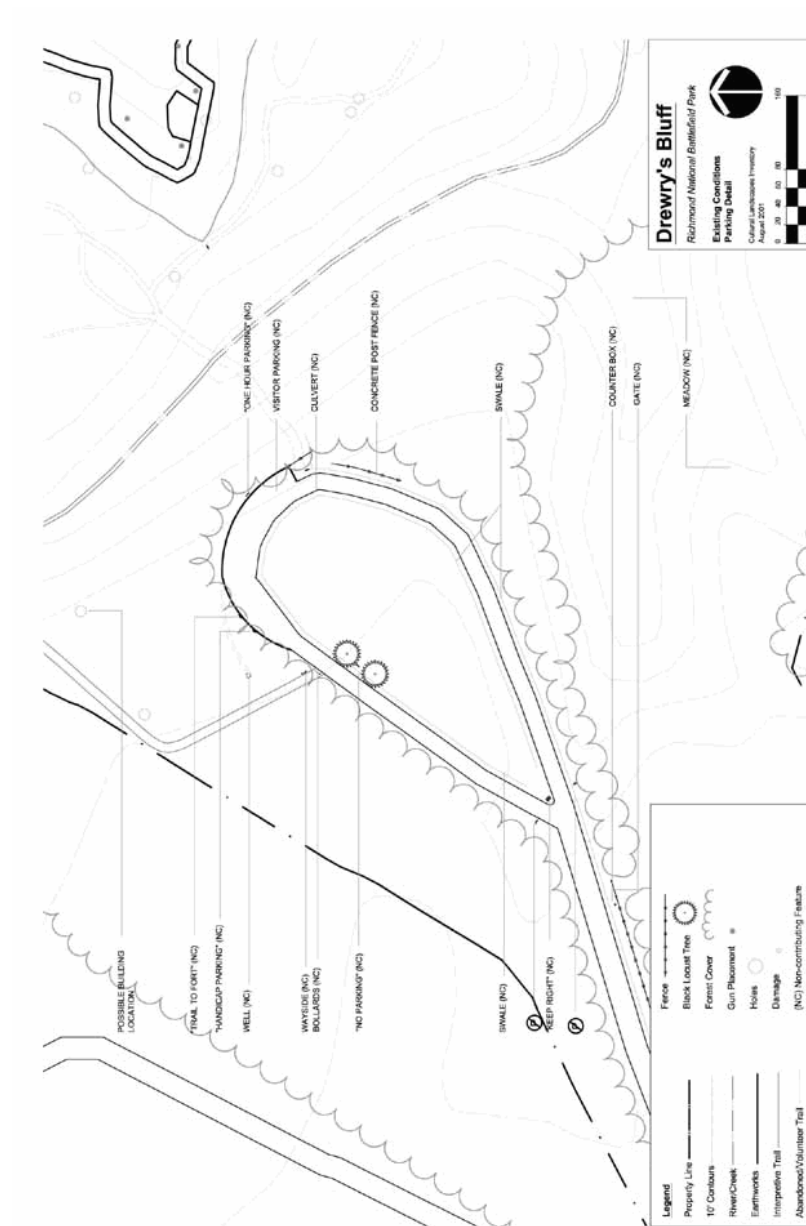


Existing Conditions: Entry Detail (See Addenda for enlargement).



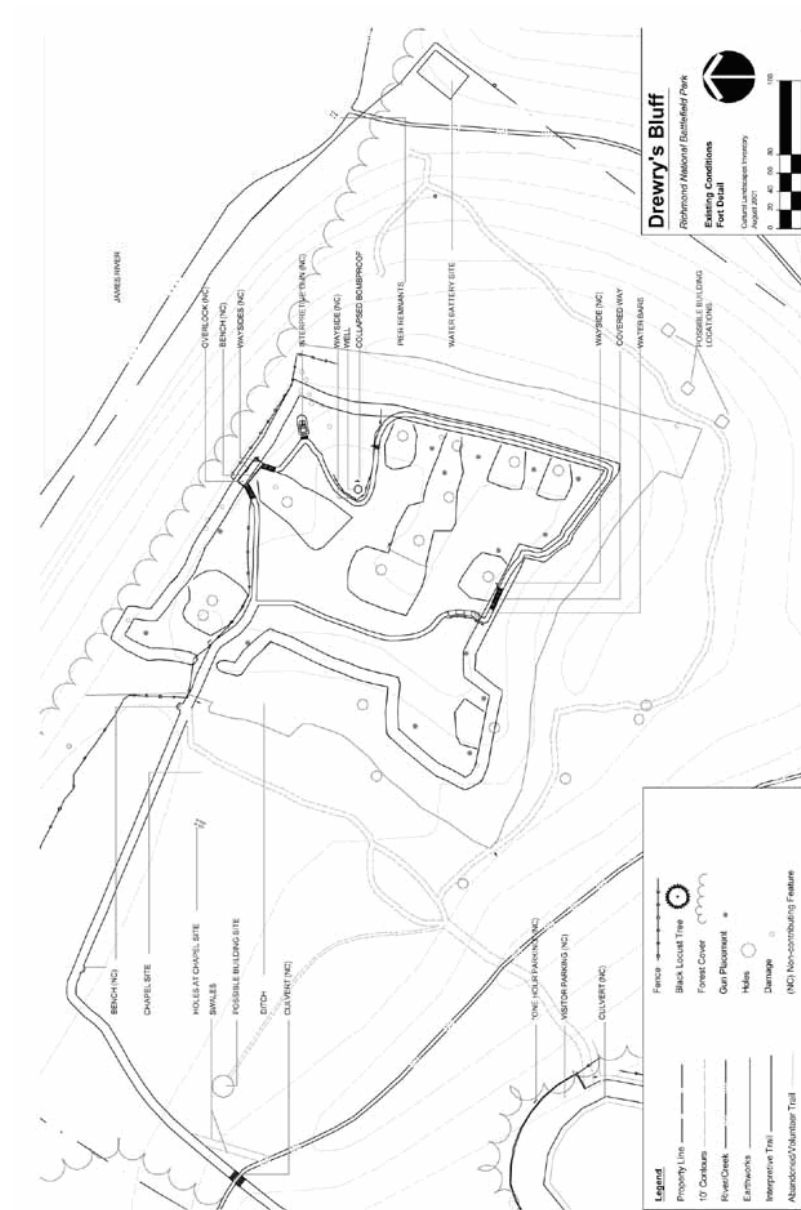
Existing Conditions: Overview (See Addenda for enlargement).

Drewry's Bluff
Richmond National Battlefield Park



Existing Conditions: Parking Detail (See Addenda for enlargement).

Drewry's Bluff
Richmond National Battlefield Park



Existing Conditions: Fort Detail (See Addenda for enlargement).

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Drewry's Bluff
Property Level:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	300098
Parent Landscape:	300092

Park Information

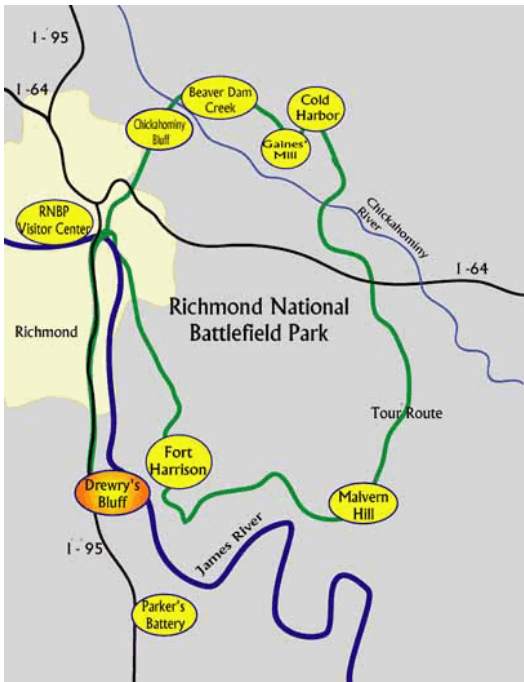
Park Name and Alpha Code:	Richmond National Battlefield Park -RICH
Park Organization Code:	4800
Park Administrative Unit:	Richmond National Battlefield Park

CLI Hierarchy Description

Richmond National Battlefield Park is comprised of a series of noncontiguous Civil War sites. The Drewry's Bluff unit makes up one component landscape of the park. Other component landscapes that have been identified include: Beaver Dam Creek, Chickahominy Bluff, Ft. Harrison, Cold Harbor, Gaines' Mill, Malvern Hill, and Parker's Battery.

Richmond National Battlefield Park is located in the Chesapeake Cluster of the Northeast Region of the National Park Service.

Drewry's Bluff
Richmond National Battlefield Park



This diagram illustrates the general layout of Richmond National Battlefield Park and the approximate location of the component landscapes.

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Level II field survey work was performed by N. J. Brown, C. Sams and summer intern T. Layton in July, 2000. Sams completed additional research, writing and editing in 2001 under the guidance of Brown. Existing conditions maps were prepared by Layton and Sams. Sams entered the information into the CLAIMS database.

The park contact for the Cultural Landscape Inventory is David Ruth, Chief of Interpretation and Cultural Resources Manager, at (804)771-2808.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	06/13/2002
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	09/13/2004

Concurrence Graphic Information:

**Cultural Landscapes Inventory
Condition Reassessment
2008**

Richmond National Battlefield Park:
Drewry's Bluff
and
Parker's Battery

Richmond National Battlefield Park concurs with the condition reassessments for
Drewry's Bluff and Parker's Battery, including:

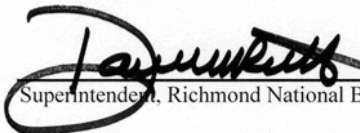
CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Poor – Drewry's Bluff
 Fair – Parker's Battery

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The condition reassessments for Drewry's Bluff and Parker's Battery in Richmond National Battlefield Park are hereby approved and accepted.

 8/14/2008
Superintendent, Richmond National Battlefield Park Date

Condition reassessment form, August 14, 2008.

Revisions Impacting Change in Concurrence: Change in Condition

Revision Date: 08/14/2008

Revision Narrative:

Condition reassessment completed as scheduled.

Revision Date: 04/08/2002

Revision Narrative:

Upon final review of the Drewry's Bluff CLI, with the condition definitions listed with the condition assessment, the park staff strongly felt that the unstable condition of the eroding bluff warranted a poor condition assessment rather than fair.

Due to the importance of the bluff to the understanding of Drewry's Bluff role in the Civil War along with the further understanding of the precarious situation of possibly losing Civil War topographic features if the erosion is not halted, the PHSO CLI staff agreed that Drewry's Bluff should be listed in poor condition

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

“The northwestern corner of the Drewry's Bluff unit of Richmond National Battlefield Park is located along the banks of the James River, one-quarter mile east of Interstate Route 95 and one and one-half miles north of Interchange 64. The park unit boundary follows the bank of the river in a southeasterly direction for 1,200 feet, to a point south of a drainageway emptying into the James River. The boundary subsequently turns to the southwest at an obtuse angle and travels for 700 feet in this direction. Subsequently, the boundary turns to the southwest, continuing in this direction for 1000 feet until reaching Fort Darling Road east of Interstate 95. The boundary parallels this roadway for 400 feet in a northwesterly direction, and then turns to the northeast, paralleling the park entrance road to its west. After traveling 600 feet in this direction, the boundary line turns more steeply to the north for an additional 1,200 feet until it reaches the northwestern corner of the park unit boundary” (Oculus 1996, Vol. II 4:5).

State and County:

State: VA

County: Chesterfield County

Size (Acres): 39.50

Boundary UTMS:

Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	285,700
UTM Northing:	4,144,150
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	285,600
UTM Northing:	4,144,180
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	285,720
UTM Northing:	4,144,230
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	285,640
UTM Northing:	4,144,280

Location Map:



General location of Richmond National Battlefield Park within the Mid-Atlantic states.

Map Source: <http://clients.mapquest.com/infoseek/mqcustomconnect?screen>)

Regional Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

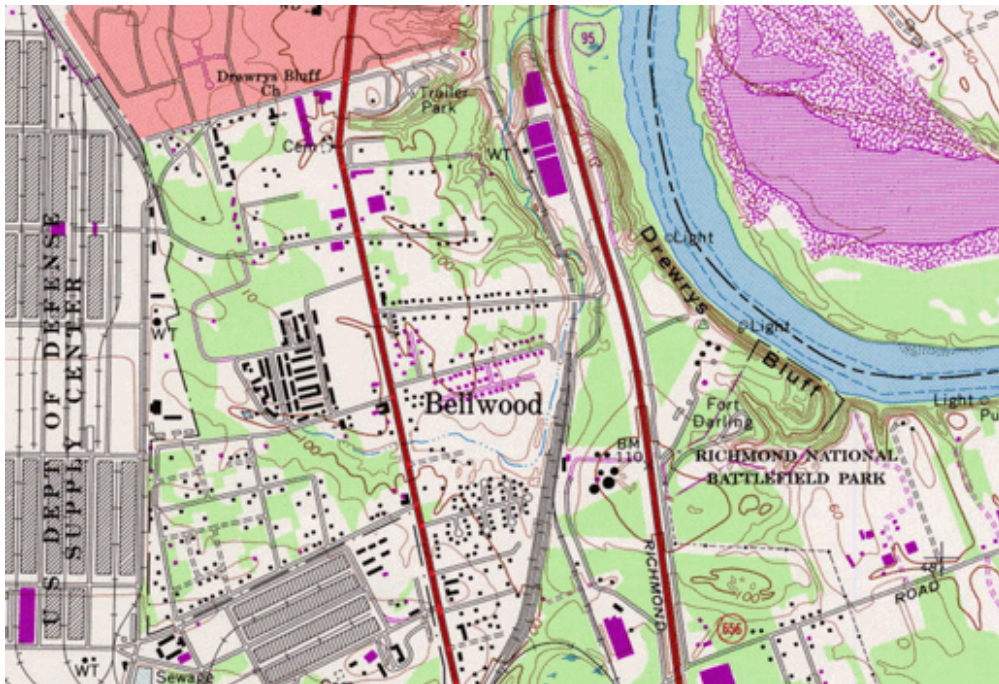
The Drewry's Bluff unit of Richmond National Battlefield Park is located in an industrialized area south of Richmond, Virginia. The meadow in the southern portion of the site was once used as a landfill.

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Drewry's Bluff is located in the relatively flat lands of the Atlantic Coastal Plain Province, but just east of the fall line of the Piedmont Province. "The topography east of the fall line includes large, relatively level terraces or plateaus bounded by steep embankments associated with the margins of the waterways, many of which are edged by swamps and other wetlands over much of their floodplains" (OCULUS 1996, Vol. I 2:1). The Drewry's Bluff unit is situated in the Virginia Tidewater, on an alluvial terrace built up by streams draining into the James River. The river is located directly northeast of the unit, and it flows in a meandering southeasterly direction.

The soils of the area are made up of Coastal Plain sediments, which are found deep beneath the park. These sediments are "primarily Tertiary sands and gravels, and shallow clayey silts, overlying thicker Tertiary and Cretaceous clayey silts, quartz sands and interbedded limestones found at deeper points. The oldest and deepest Cretaceous sediment, the Patuxent Formation, is a source of potable water in the general eastern Richmond area" (NPS-General Management Plan 1996, 3:112).



1994 USGS Map of Drewry's Bluff unit of Richmond National Battlefield Park.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

The Drewry's Bluff unit of RNBP is located in Chesterfield County, Virginia. The parcel of land lies directly east of Interstate 95 several miles south of the city of Richmond.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must Be Preserved And Maintained

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

Adjacent Lands Description:

Drewry's Bluff

Richmond National Battlefield Park

The area surrounding the Drewry's Bluff unit is very industrial, but because the earthworks are in a wooded area, the adjacent land does not impact the experience on the site. There are some industrial features within the viewshed of the overlook, but their impact is minimal at this time. Further development along the river viewshed could significantly impact the visitor's experience of the site. The land directly opposite Drewry's Bluff in Henrico County played an important role during the war as the location where the pontoon bridge across the James River landed. Development in this location would have an adverse impact on the Drewry's Bluff site as well.



View downstream from Drewry's Bluff with industrial features. (PHSO 2000)

National Register Information

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register:	Richmond National Battlefield Park
NRIS Number:	66000836
Primary Certification:	Listed In The National Register
Primary Certification Date:	10/15/1966

Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria:	C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
Significance Criteria:	D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	AD 1862 - 1865
Historic Context Theme:	Shaping the Political Landscape
Subtheme:	The Civil War
Facet:	Battles In The North And South
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1933 - 1941
Historic Context Theme:	Shaping the Political Landscape
Subtheme:	Political and Military Affairs 1865-1939
Facet:	The Great Depression And The New Deal, 1929-1941
Other Facet:	None

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Military
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Engineering
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Archeology
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Conservation
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None

Statement of Significance:

To have historical significance, a landscape must be associated with at least one of four criteria established by the National Register of Historic Places. The four criteria are: Criterion A: Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; Criterion B: Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; Criterion C: Embodies distinct characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; Criterion D: has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. These criteria can be judged to be significant at the national, state or local level.

The CLI documents the national significance of the Drewry's Bluff unit under Criterion A for its association with the overall defense of Richmond during the Civil War from 1862-1865, and with the events of the battle contested there on May 15, 1862. The remnant fieldworks at the Drewry's Bluff unit are significant under Criterion C as representations of military engineering and archeological resources. In addition, many of the remaining earthworks are significant under Criterion D for their potential to yield archeological information important to the history of the Civil War period. The Drewry's Bluff unit may also have state significance under Criterion A for its contribution to the conservation movement.

One area of significance for the Drewry's Bluff unit is military, with its years of significance from 1862-1865. Drewry's Bluff played a critical role in the defense of the Confederate capital, Richmond,

Drewry's Bluff

Richmond National Battlefield Park

Virginia, during the Civil War. At 90 feet above a narrowed bend in the James River, Drewry's Bluff made an ideal location for a fort to defend Richmond from a naval attack. On May 15, 1862 their defense was put to the test. As part of the Peninsula Campaign, a Federal naval offensive, led by the USS [Galena] and the [Monitor], came up the river. The river was barred by a series of cribs and sunken vessels so that the Confederate artillery and infantry could fire down on the ships as they were stalled by the debris. The four-hour engagement was a victory for the Confederates and the Federals knew that Drewry's Bluff's defense would be very difficult to breach. After the battle, the Confederates strengthened the earthworks and continued to occupy the fort as a defensive military compound throughout the war. The Confederate Marine Corps and Naval Academy were also headquartered at Fort Drewry.

The permanent fortifications at the Drewry's Bluff unit are significant in the area of engineering, as they contribute to the understanding of the military strategy used during the Civil War. These military remnants are associated with another area of significance: archeology. The earthworks have the potential to yield information related to the creation and development of field fortifications between 1862 and 1865. In addition archeology could possibly yield information regarding prehistoric use of the area.

Conservation is another area of significance for the Drewry's Bluff unit. The years of significance for commemoration begin in 1925 and continue until 1951, which includes the period up to fifty years prior to the current date. The park unit is significant for its contribution to the conservation movement at the local level, and perhaps at the state or national level. In 1925 the Battlefield Markers Association erected fifty-nine markers, that have come to be known as Freeman markers after the group's leader Douglas Southall Freeman, in the Richmond area to commemorate significant Civil War sites. Freeman Marker 59 is located within the park unit. The markers contribute to the understanding of the commemorative movement in the United States, and according to Park Historian Robert E. L. Krick, may be the oldest series of non-governmental historical markers in the nation. Beginning in 1927, the Richmond Battlefield Parks Corporation purchased battlefield land, which protected the battlefield sites, including Drewry's Bluff, until Virginia acquired them to create the first Virginia state park in 1932.

The final area of significance is politics/government for the park unit's association with the New Deal, from 1933-1941. Beginning in 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) established camp NP-13 Richmond National Battlefield Park near Fort Harrison. The CCC provided labor for clearing brush and trees, stabilizing earthworks, and other construction projects. The CCC worked at Drewry's Bluff during this period.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Historic Site

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function:	Battery (Defense)
Primary Current Use:	Leisure-Passive (Park)
Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
Military Facility (Post)	Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Drewry's Bluff	Both Current And Historic
Fort Darling	Historic
Fort Drewry	Historic
Ward's Bluff	Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Significance Description:

An Ethnographic study should be done at Drewry's Bluff to discover any possible Native American use of the site during its history. There is also a history of African American involvement during the New Deal when the Civilian Conservation Corps' Colored Company 1375 worked on clearing this site for public access. Further research is also needed on this topic.

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 200 - 1697	Settled	Various Algonquin-speaking groups settled in Drewry's Bluff area.
AD 1607 - 1775	Colonized	English colonized the region.
	Farmed/Harvested	English settlers farmed tobacco for shipment to England.
AD 1775 - 1800	Built	Both canals and roads built to improve shipment of goods from region.
AD 1800 - 1860	Developed	Region became rich in industrial development, such as flourmills, sawmills and sugar refineries.
AD 1862	Altered	Strengthened and enlarged fort on top and built fieldworks extending westward from fort for approximately 4 miles.

Drewry's Bluff
Richmond National Battlefield Park

	Built	Constructed pontoon bridges to help troop movements
	Built	March-May: Confederate forces built fort on Drewry's Bluff.
	Established	Headquarters of Confederate Marine Corps and Confederate Naval Academy.
AD 1865	Abandoned	April 2, Confederates evacuated Drewry's Bluff one week before Lee's surrender at Appomattox.
AD 1925	Memorialized	Freeman marker placed on site.
AD 1927	Purchased/Sold	Richmond Battlefield Parks Corporation purchased battlefield lands including Drewry's Bluff.
AD 1932	Land Transfer	State of Virginia accepted Richmond Battlefield Park's land and established the first state park of Virginia.
AD 1933	Established	Civilian Conservation Corps' (CCC) Colored Company 1375 established at Richmond Battlefield Park.
AD 1935	Preserved	CCC cleared brush and opened Drewry's Bluff to the public.
AD 1936	Established	FDR signed enabling legislation for National Park Service (NPS) to establish Richmond National Battlefield Park (RNBP).
AD 1944	Land Transfer	July 14: NPS officially accepted management responsibility for RNBP.
AD 1963	Altered	By 1963, interpretive trail cleared.
	Built	By 1963, river overlook constructed on bluff's edge.
	Reconstructed	By 1963, battery reconstructed with interpretive gun added.

Drewry's Bluff
Richmond National Battlefield Park

AD 1999	Altered	NPS laid out and installed new interpretive trail from parking lot to fort.
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Physical History:

200 – 1607 Native American Settlement/Habitation

The settlement and habitation of various Algonquin-speaking groups took place in the region during this period. While the CLI did not discover any documentation of actual Native American settlements at the Drewry's Bluff unit, villages sprang up and remained near rivers to take advantage of their numerous resources, so it is conceivable that there were settlements in the region.

1607-1775 English Colonization

With the settlement of Jamestown in 1607, Virginia entered the period of English colonization. English explorers discovered many natural resources available to ship back to England, and the land was very good for growing tobacco, a lucrative crop. Thus, the British settlers started to force the Native Americans from their land. The late 17th century saw typical rural settlement through the area with mills and trading posts located along the river.

1775-1800 American Revolution/Aftermath

After the American Revolution, the area around Richmond, Virginia, began to bustle with manufacturing establishments to supply the new nation. Now that England was not ruling the colonies, they could manufacture supplies locally instead of sending the raw materials to England, who in return, forced the colonies to purchase their finished goods. "The area's vast growth resulted from a number of factors, including its navigable waterways, rich soils, access to ores and other natural resources" (OCULUS 1996, Vol. II 2:9). The aftermath of the American Revolution also demonstrated a shift of some agricultural lands surrounding Richmond to produce grains instead of tobacco. Due to Drewry's Bluff's location adjacent to the James River and the fertile soil in the area, the CLI can infer that the agricultural lands near the Drewry's Bluff unit were producing grains at this time.

The roads of eastern Henrico County served to link the small rural communities with the wholesale markets for the agricultural produce. These markets were located primarily in Richmond, which contained grain mills and was a commercial transportation hub for the Mid-Atlantic and even Trans-Atlantic markets. Besides River Road, the fan-like network of roads emanating from Richmond toward southeastern Henrico County included Darbytown Road, New Market Road, Varina Road, and Osborne Turnpike.

This time period ushered in another important advancement: the canal system. A system of canals, the James River and Kanawha Canal, opened the James River to the west beyond the series of falls at the end of the piedmont. These canals enabled rural farms to export grains more expediently. While Drewry's Bluff lies south of Richmond, the canal system helped the exporting infrastructure to be established in Richmond. Thus, the farmers in the Drewry's Bluff area would benefit as well.

1800-1860 Industrial Development

With the completion of the canal system, Richmond became a premier industrial city. Tobacco began to dominate commercial activities as manufacturers set up warehouses and factories to store and process it. Coal was shipped via the canal to Richmond to be used locally and to be shipped to other markets. Several of the other industries established in Richmond were flourmills, cotton-clothing manufacturers, sawmills, sugar refineries, and many others. Some industries were more successful than others were, but in general Richmond's industry thrived during the first half of the 19th century (OCULUS 1996, Vol. II 2:13). Little is currently known about any industrial development of the Drewry's Bluff area, but Richmond's industrial development would have impacted the farmers around the city.

1861-1865 Civil War

With the start of the Civil War, Richmond gained additional significance by being named the capitol of the Confederacy in 1861. Richmond's industrial strength was also a great contrast to the South's mostly agricultural economy. For these two reasons, control of Richmond became a key factor for both sides to win the war.

Richmond was located at the fall line of the James River. While this proximity to the river was advantageous for Richmond's industrial growth, it proved to be a liability in wartime, making the city vulnerable to naval attack. At the outbreak of the war, the Confederate military began to scout the river out for possible locations for defense posts. The Drewry's Bluff location was ideal for defending the river from naval attacks. The bluff had a relatively level top located 90 feet above a narrowed bend in the river and a nearly 90 degree slope to the river. From March to May 1862, the Confederate army hastily built a fort on the bluff between the James and a hooked creek leading to the river and blocked the river with a series of concrete cribs and sunken vessels. The Confederates did not have the fort completed by the time they saw a Federal flotilla heading up the James on May 14. Federal Commander John Rodgers led "5 ships: 3 ironclads, including [Galena], a steam frigate with newly applied 3 1/8-inch armor, [Monitor] and [Naugatuck]; the wooden sidewheeler [Port Royal], and wooden screw steamer [Aroostook]" (Oculus 1996, Vol. I 3:3). Rodgers, leading the way in the [Galena], noticed the fort on the bluff and the debris in the river, so he decided to spend the night of May 14 harbored at the mouth of Kingsland Creek to plan his attack for the morning.

Many of the fort's defenders were up all night preparing for the attack. At 7:30 am, May 15, 1862, the engagement began. Even though it had weaker armor than the [Monitor] the [Galena] led the attack because of its six guns, while the 2-gunned Monitor followed. The [Naugatuck] and the wooden vessels stayed downstream to provide support from a safer distance. The ships fired at the fort for four hours, but did little damage. The defenders were able to fire down directly on the [Galena], and its armor was not strong enough to withstand the barrage. When the [Monitor] saw that the [Galena] was enduring extensive damage, it moved forward to shield it from the fort's fire. However, from this position the ironclad could not raise its guns high enough to hit the top of the fort. Rodgers finally signaled a retreat and it was the first time that an ironclad had been defeated in combat.

The Confederate victory at Drewry's Bluff demonstrated to the Federal navy that Fort Darling's (the Federal code name for the fort) defense of the James River would be impossible to

Drewry's Bluff

Richmond National Battlefield Park

defeat without land troops working in cooperation with a naval attack. The victory proved to the Confederates the importance of a stronghold at this location and they set forth to improve and expand the fort, named it Fort Drewry, and assigned a permanent garrison to patrol it. The Confederate Marine Corps and Naval Academy were also headquartered at Fort Drewry. The Federal navy never seriously threatened Richmond again.

The fortifications at Drewry's Bluff did come close to seeing action again during the Bermuda Hundred campaign in 1864. In May of 1864, Federal Major General Benjamin F. Butler saw that the Bermuda Hundred peninsula would be very advantageous in cutting Richmond's supply route of the Richmond-Petersburg railroad and turnpike. He launched 30,000 troops of the Army of the James on the south bank of the James River on May 5. After landing the Union troops built a 3-mile long defensive line of fortifications across the neck of the peninsula.

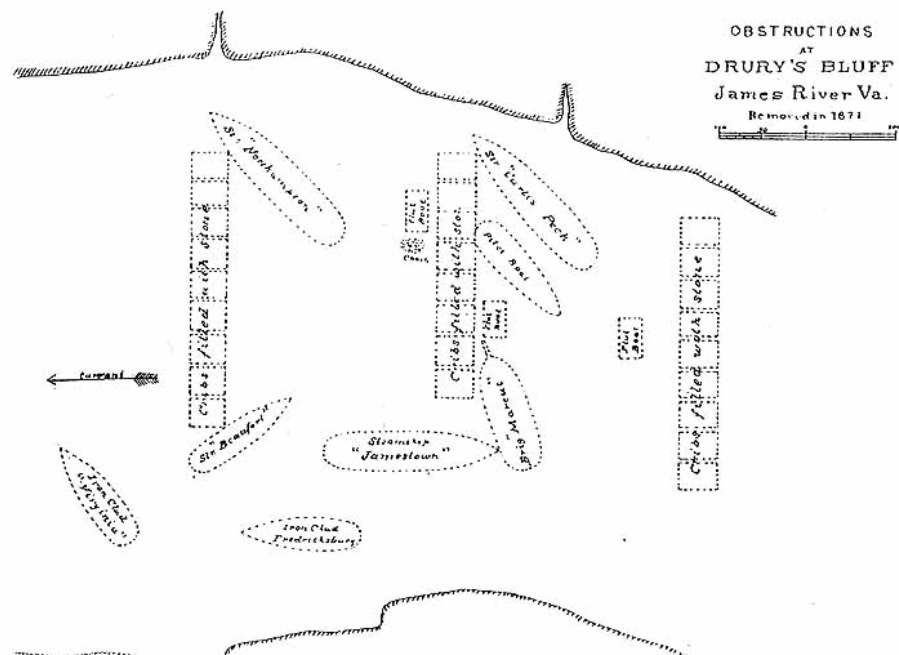
Butler started advancing towards Richmond winning small clashes from May 6-10. However, Confederate General P. G. T. Beauregard was able to scrape together 18,000 troops to defend the Drewry's Bluff area, which was located just five miles north of the Bermuda Hundred. The second battle of Drewry's Bluff, which occurred south of the Confederate fortifications, was fought on May 16, 1864, and was a defeat for Butler's men. The Confederate attacked and forced the Federals back, with heavy losses, to their defensive line of fortifications across the Bermuda Hundred neck. At this point the armies were at a standoff, and the Richmond-Petersburg railroad was again under Confederate control.



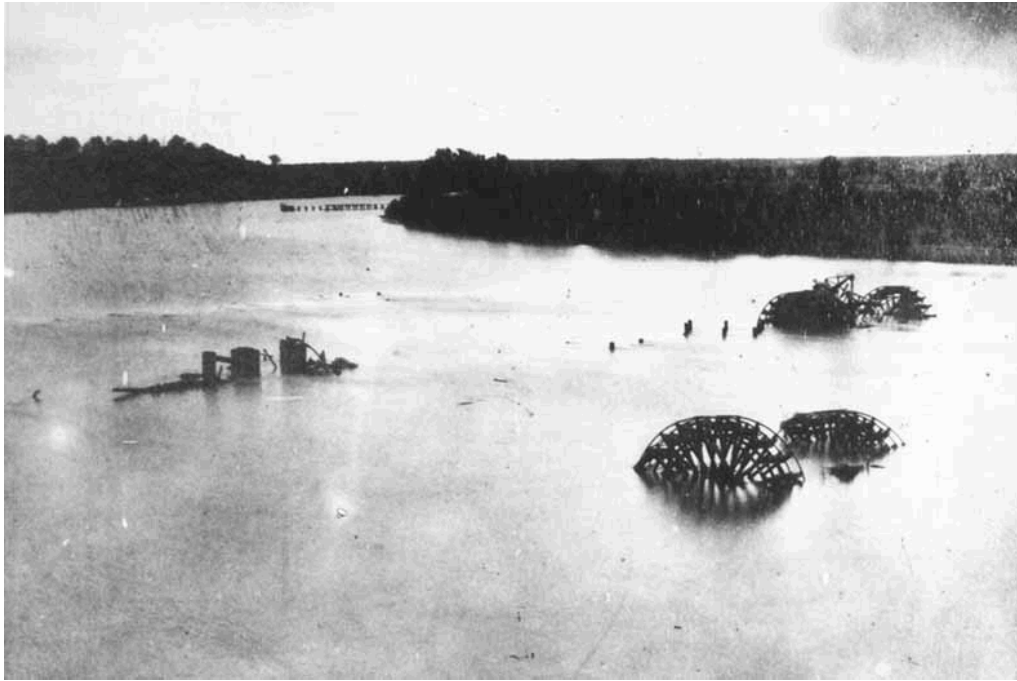
View of Fort Drewry from the water battery at river's edge. (Rich Archives n.d.)



Entry to fort in the 1860s. (RICH Archives ca. 1860)



Obstructions at Drewry's Bluff (Oculus 1996).



Obstructions in the James River. (RICH Archives n.d.)

1866-1944 Commemoration

While the United States saw a commemoration movement around the Civil War begin almost immediately after the war's end, the Richmond battlefields did not benefit from congressional preservation efforts beyond the establishment of National Cemeteries such as Cold Harbor, Richmond, and Fort Harrison National Cemeteries built in 1866.

The president of the C & O Railroad led one of the earliest attempts to memorialize the Richmond battlefields in 1914. He proposed the construction of a road linking the significant battles of the Civil War fought near Richmond. His plans were postponed by the United States entering World War I, but the effort to commemorate the Civil War was resumed in 1925 with the placement of 59 Freeman Markers throughout the Richmond area. Douglas Southall Freeman, a Richmond journalist, began a group called The Battlefield Markers Association, whose mission was to memorialize important battles of the Civil War through the placement of commemorative markers. One of these markers, which became known as Freeman Markers, was placed within the current Drewry's Bluff unit of the park.

The Richmond Battlefield Parks Corporation was formed in 1927 to quietly purchase crucial battlefield land to avoid inflating real estate prices. The group purchased approximately 550 acres of battlefield lands around Richmond and developed a road system, later known as State Route 156, linking the parcels (OCULUS 1996, Vol. I 2:58).

The Richmond Battlefield Parks Corporation knew that they did not have the resources to

maintain this park, so they sought to create a state park. Richmond Battlefield Park, therefore, became the first state park of Virginia on January 12, 1932. The state developed Battlefield Park Road in the 1930s as part of the Virginia State Route 156, which connects the nine units of the Richmond National Battlefield Park.

An immediate problem for the Virginia Conservation Commission was a lack of funds for the development or maintenance of the park. Thus, there was a push to transfer the park to the National Park Service. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the enabling legislation on March 2, 1936, but the National Park Service didn't officially accept the park until July 14, 1944 (OCULUS 1996, Vol. I 2:59).

Before the parks were officially transferred to the NPS, federal dollars were already being spent on their development. Due to the push to move Richmond Battlefield Park to the National Park Service, the federal government put them on the duty list for the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Thus, a CCC camp was established in the immediate vicinity of Fort Harrison in 1933. "There was a dichotomy in camp management. Actual supervision of the camp was assigned to the United States Army. By contrast, management of the work projects was assigned to the host agency. Thus, the National Park Service found it necessary to hire employees at CCC sites that were located in National Parks and elsewhere. Since there was some impetus to absorb Richmond Battlefield State Park into the national system, the NPS hired among others, Floyd B. Taylor, a young man with no prior experience in land management work as a Junior Historian and assigned him to Richmond" (Baril n.d., 1). In July 1933, CCC Junior Colored Company 1375, a group comprised of about two hundred young African American men, was assigned to Richmond Battlefield Park.

The CCC primarily focused on the Fort Harrison area in the first couple of years, but by 1935 they fanned out and started clearing other areas. By September, the CCC enrollees had cleared out a veritable wilderness and Drewry's Bluff was opened to the public. In 1935 the CCC also spent substantial time making maps of the properties, including Drewry's Bluff (Baril n.d., 12-13).

With the departure of the CCC camps in 1941 and the US entry into World War II in 1942, most work at the park came to a halt, and much of the work performed by the CCC became overgrown again.

1944-Present National Park Service Stewardship

The National Park Service (NPS) took over the management of Drewry's Bluff in 1944, but little was done until after World War II was over. The park was administered in conjunction with Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County National Military Park until 1951. After that, the park then had its own administrative staff.

"By the mid-1950s, increasing park visitation had taken a toll on parks nationwide, many of which had been little developed since CCC days. Recognizing this shortfall, National Park Service Director Conrad Wirth initiated the Mission 66 program, in which Congress agreed to allocate a billion dollars over a ten-year period so that parks across the country could be

developed and improved in time for the fiftieth anniversary of the system in 1966.

“To meet the goals of Mission 66, Richmond National Battlefield Park drew up a master plan to guide its improvements. As part of the master plan, the park sought to acquire a large building in Richmond, the Weather Bureau building Chimborazo, to serve as park headquarters and visitor center” (OCULUS 1996, Vol. II 13:22).

Photos in the Richmond National Battlefield Park archives indicate that by 1963 the Park Service had cleared a trail to the fort, and installed a bridge over the creek, the river overlook, and the interpretive cannon. In 1999-2000, the bridge over the creek was deteriorated and the steep path was determined to be a safety liability, so the park staff took this opportunity to lay out a new interpretive trail running closer to the historic circulation pattern used in the 1860s.



Interpretive trail and bridge over creek in 1963. (RICH Archives 1963)



River overlook platform with interpretive gun in background in 1963. (Rich Archives 1963)

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The Drewry's Bluff unit of Richmond National Battlefield Park contains an important Civil War resource, the earthworks of Fort Drewry, or as the Federal army referred to it, Fort Darling. This fort was the primary reason why Richmond, the capitol of the Confederacy, was not vulnerable to a Federal naval attack via the James River. The Confederates successfully stopped a Federal naval attack on May 15, 1862 and proceeded to deploy a permanent garrison at this location as well as establishing the Confederate Marine Headquarters and Naval Academy.

The 39.5-acre unit is comprised of an entry loop drive leading to a parking area and an interpretive pedestrian trail to lead the visitor to the fort. The fort is a large, enclosed series of earthworks perched on a bluff above the James River. The park provides an overlook for views up and down the river, a reconstructed battery position that includes an original cannon, interpretation of a well and collapsed bombproof, and a bridge over the covered way demonstrating its use during the war.

There is considerable erosion affecting the earthworks. Large amounts of earth, at least an inch per year with some catastrophic sloughs, are eroding from the fort's river face. The interior of the fort is maintained within woodland of deciduous trees, with grass and evergreen groundcover. The trees post-date the Civil War, but serve to protect the interior earthworks from serious erosion.

While the area surrounding Drewry's Bluff has become very industrialized, the views up and down river have been minimally impacted so far. The view during the period of significance would have been of open farmland with a few wood lots, but today the visitor can still appreciate the advantageous position of this fort by looking up and downstream at the land covered by woodland.

The fort has a great deal of integrity as an earthen fortification, but most of the features that link the fort to its use as the Marine Corps Headquarters and Naval Academy are now part of the archeological record.

Landscape Characteristic:

Natural Systems And Features

The reason for choosing the location of the fort at Drewry's Bluff during the Civil War was due to its features relating to the natural systems in the area. The fort was located at the top of a bluff overlooking the James River at a point where the river narrows and curves. While scouting out possible positions for defending Richmond from a naval attack via the James River, the Confederates seized on the opportunity afforded by a relatively level plateau between the top of a steep bluff overlooking the river and the ravine cut by an unnamed creek.

Today the Drewry's Bluff unit of Richmond National Battlefield Park retains these relationships with the natural systems and features. The bluff remains perched above the James River at a narrowed bend in the river, although erosion has cut into the side of the hill in the

years since the civil war. Large amounts of earth, at least an inch per year with some catastrophic sloughs, are eroding from the bluff. The site also features an unnamed creek running southeast through the site before turning northeast to head down into the James River.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Identification Number:	93598
Type of Feature Contribution:	Undetermined

Spatial Organization

The spatial organization during the period of significance was oriented around the fort. The fort was built between the bluff's edge and a hooked creek draining into the river. Originally, the earthworks of the fort were well defined with three gun embrasures pointing down to the river. Later the fort was expanded to include at least eight additional gun emplacements upriver. The interior of the fort had several bombproofs and wells. Historic photographs indicate that there were guard shack-like structures on the parapets as well. Michler's 1867 map of Chesterfield and Henrico Counties indicated a road leading to the bluff's edge from the southwest and another road running along the bluff's edge leading to the military barracks. The map and photos also depict a chapel and graveyard were directly adjacent to the fort's southwest side. There is also documentation of a hotel near the fort, but more research will be necessary to discover its precise location.

The spatial organization of the Drewry's Bluff unit today is organized around the circulation system to bring the visitor into the park and lead them through the earthworks of the fort. The vehicular circulation is limited to the southwest portion of the site. There is an entrance drive with a loop to bring the cars to the parking area. The interpretive trail system to bring the pedestrians to the fort swings along the northwest boundary of the site before heading east into the fort which is located in the northeast portion of the site. This trail system appears to follow the path of the historic roadbed. Natural features, such as the creek running southeast through the site dividing the northeast from the southwest and the meadow located southeast of the entry drive, also organize the site. The pedestrian cannot view the overall spatial organization of the site due to the wooded nature of the vegetation.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Identification Number:	93613
Type of Feature Contribution:	Undetermined

Land Use

Drewry's Bluff was used for military purposes during the Civil War. The location of a fort on the bluff overlooking the James River was ideal for defending Richmond from a Federal naval attack. The fort's location at a narrowed bend in the river gave the Confederates an opportunity to blockade the river to stall the boats and a protected angle to fire on the advancing ships.

Today Drewry's Bluff is a unit of the Richmond National Battlefield Park and its primary purpose is for passive recreation and commemoration of the role that Drewry's Bluff played in protecting Richmond from Federal attack during the Civil War. The site has also been commemorated by the placement of a Freeman Marker on site.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Identification Number: 93597
Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Topography

The earthworks at Drewry's Bluff were originally constructed very quickly in preparation for the battle on May 26, 1862. However, after the success of their defense the confederates greatly expanded the earthworks and established navy and army quarters near the fort. A chapel, graveyard and hotel were part of the Drewry complex as well.

The earthworks were sculpted landforms, which were reinforced with sandbags and wood. They were in an open setting of agricultural fields.

Today Drewry's Bluff unit of Richmond National Battlefield Park is marked by distinctive natural and manmade topography. The primary natural topographic feature is the 90-foot bluff resting above the James River. The topography at the top of the bluff is relatively flat. The steep cliff, nearly 90 degrees, made it a desirable location to build the fort.

The second distinguishable natural topographic feature on the site is the ravine cut by the creek as it runs through the site. The first part of the creek ravine measures 3-4 feet wide to 3-4 feet deep. The ravine cut becomes increasingly wider and deeper as the creek heads down the steeper slope and gets closer to the river.

The manmade topography consists of the earthworks that comprise Drewry's Bluff or Fort Darling. The embankments framing the fort form a 350 square foot interior. The fort has several bombproofs and wells on the interior. The remains of a covered way on the southwest side of the fort are interpreted by a wayside and a footbridge. Most of the earthworks measure approximately 12 feet high.

The interior earthworks are showing signs of erosion: rounded, sloped angles, collapsed bombproofs and volunteer trail paths, and the riverfront side of the fortification is eroding at a dangerous pace into the James River. The earthworks are primarily in forest cover on the site. While this is not the way the fort looked during the period of significance, the protection provided by the trees and leaf litter help keep the earthworks from eroding further.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Fort Drewry
Feature Identification Number: 93614

Drewry's Bluff
Richmond National Battlefield Park

Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	06743
LCS Structure Name:	DREWRY'S BLUFF
LCS Structure Number:	1100

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Fort Drewry earthworks. (PHSO 2000)



Interior view looking east of Fort Drewry during the war. (RICH Archives n.d.)



Interior view of fort July 2000. (PHSO 2000)

Vegetation

The vegetation at Drewry's Bluff during the Civil War consisted primarily of farm fields and

wood lots. However, many of the wood lots were cut for defensive purposes, so the land was very bare of vegetation and open.

The Drewry's Bluff site is primarily set in deciduous woodland. The type of vegetation tends to shift with their location and proximity to water. The upper elevations are covered primarily with Sweetgum [*Liquidambar styraciflua*], Maples [*Acer* sp.], Oaks [*Quercus* sp.], Sassafras [*Sassafras albidum*], Willow Oak [*Quercus phellos*] and Cherry [*Prunus* sp.]. However, the vegetation located in the creek ravine tends to be Mountain laurel [*Kalmia latifolia*], Wild Ginger [*Asarum canadense*] and Maples [*Acer* sp.].

The site has some invasive species as well. The entry drive trees are fighting trumpet vine [*Campsis radicans*] and grapevine [*Vitis* sp.], and poison ivy [*Rhus radicans*] can be found throughout the woods.

The meadow located to the southeast of the entry drive is covered in high grass. The entry drive loop's island has been covered with turf grass and there are two specimen Black locust trees [*Robinia pseudoacacia*] on the south edge. Trumpet vine [*Campsis radicans*] is affecting these two trees too.

The earthworks at Drewry's Bluff are all covered in woodland. The leaf litter from the trees does a good job protecting the trees from erosion, but there has been some herbaceous vegetation growth on most earthworks.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Identification Number:	93615
Type of Feature Contribution:	Undetermined

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Forest and ground cover typical at Drewry's Bluff. (PHSO 2000)

Circulation

According to Nathaniel Michler's 1867 map of Chesterfield and Henrico Counties, the circulation system of Fort Drewry during the period of significance led out of the fort on its northwest side and headed northwest along the bluff's edge. The road also branched off to the southwest shortly after leaving the fort to cross the creek before curving west to head for a second line of earthworks. The current interpretive trail appears to follow this circulation path.

Today the vehicular circulation at Drewry's Bluff consists of the entry drive, parking loop and parking area. Vehicles access the site from the southwest via a long entry drive. The 24-foot wide drive is paved with pea gravel imbedded in asphalt. After approximately 650 feet, the drive splits to go around a grass island to the parking area, which consists of eleven linear parking spaces and one handicapped space along the north end of the loop. Emergency and maintenance vehicular access is provided along the current interpretive trail leading to the fort's entrance. Regular cars are barred from this trail by a removable wooden bollard.

The pedestrian circulation consists of the interpretive trail system to lead the visitor through the earthworks. The main trail is located at the west end of the parking area. The trail leads the visitor along the northwest boundary before turning southeast to enter the fort. This section of the trail appears to run closely to the historic road trace, but there was no archeological testing done at the site to ascertain the exact road trace, so this feature is listed as noncontributing until further research proves otherwise. This main trail is a 10-foot wide path covered with loose pea gravel over asphalt. The gravel is laid fairly thick except where it has washed out on the descending slopes.

The fort loop trail leads the visitor through the fort, passing the river overlook, gun embrasure, well and collapsed bombproof and covered way. This trail consists of compacted soil and the steps and slopes are held with timber. The fort loop trail is directly on top of several of the Fort Drewry earthworks.

The Drewry's Bluff unit also has several abandoned trails. The first was accessed via the northeast side of the parking area, but it is now blocked by a rail fence. The trail's surface is broken-up asphalt and compacted soil. It leads down grade until it reaches the creek ravine, which is 10-12 feet deep and at least 15 feet wide, where a bridge once stood. The washed-out bridge is the reason this trail has been abandoned.

The second abandoned trail heads southwest from the point where the main trail leads into the fort. This trail leads past the site where the chapel was located then continues down the slope to the other side of the creek from the first abandoned trail.

At a point just northeast of the washed out bridge, a couple of volunteer trails lead in to the woods in opposite directions. The first heads northwest towards one of the holes described in the archeology section. The second leads southeast, just beyond the ditch surrounding the fort, then curves northeast to lead down the slope to the James River. There is another volunteer trail located off the northwest edge of the parking area that leads to the well described in the small scale features section.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Abandoned/Volunteer trails

Feature Identification Number: 93593

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Entry Drive

Feature Identification Number: 93594

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Interpretive trail

Feature Identification Number: 93595

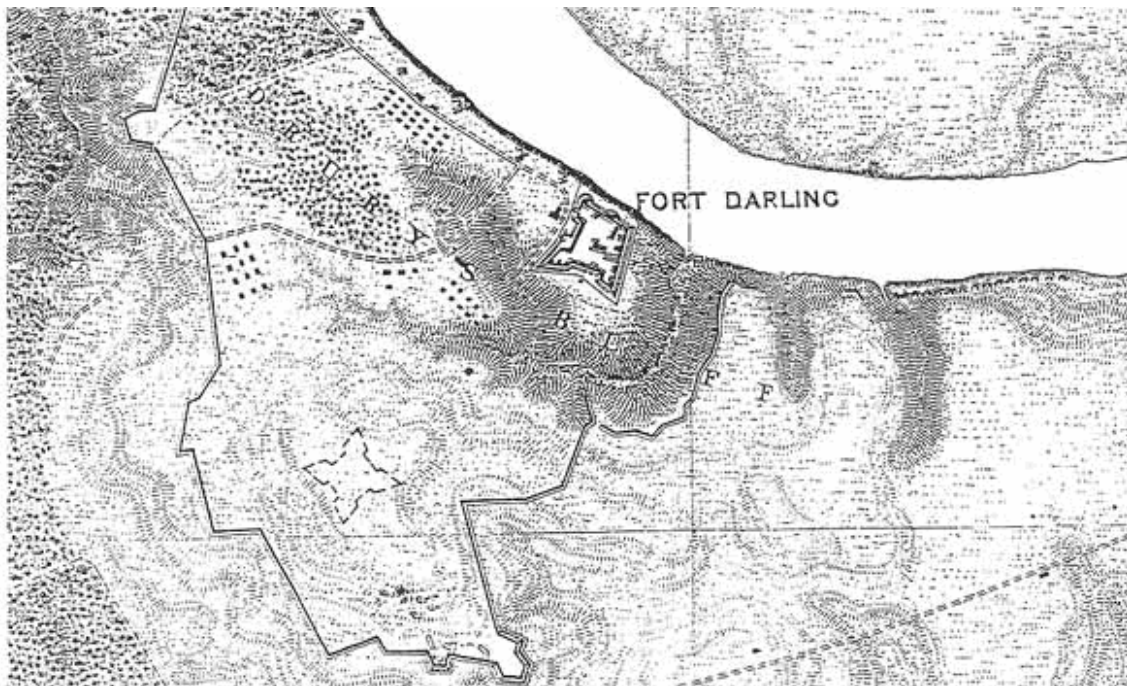
Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Parking area

Feature Identification Number: 93596

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



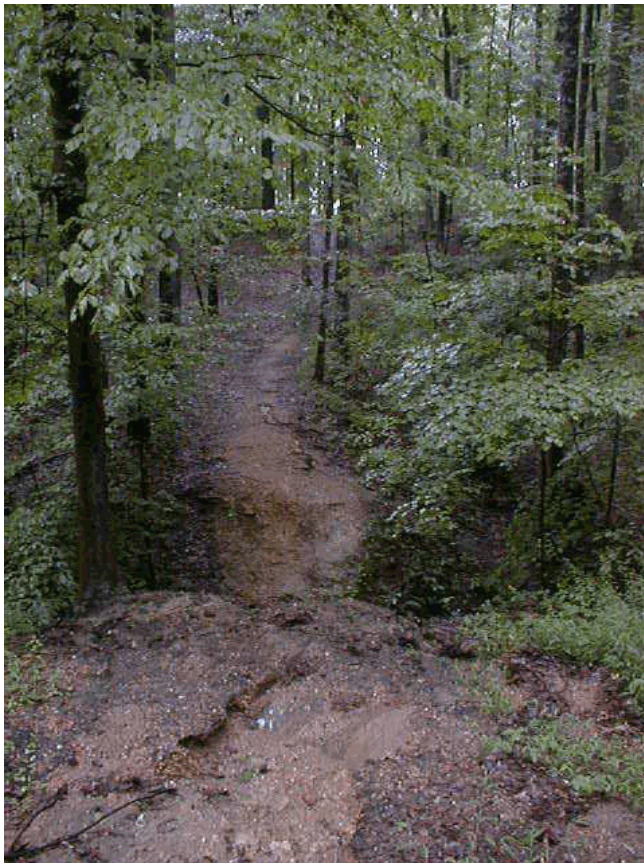
Fort Darling circulation pattern during war. (Michler 1867)



Current trail pattern at Drewry's Bluff (Wayside 2000).



*View of bridge over creek in 1963. Note signage that no longer exists in background.
(RICH Archives 1963)*



Current view of bridge location and now abandoned trail. (PHSO 2000)



Entry to interpretive trail. Note bulletin board and wayside. Center bollard has been removed for maintenance access in this photo. (PHSO 2000)

Buildings And Structures

The historic records indicated that there were many buildings and structures at Drewry's Bluff that are now part of the archeology record. Historic photos indicate that there were several guard shacks on the fort's parapets, a chapel in the fort's immediate proximity, doors and reinforcements on the bombproofs, several bridges within the fort and at the water's edge was a boardwalk/bridge to the water battery. Archeological investigations will be necessary to document the exact location of these features.

Today the Drewry's Bluff unit of Richmond National Battlefield Park has very few buildings or structures and none are historic. The four structures located on the site are the James River overlook, the bridge over the covered way remain, the culvert under the main trail, and the battery reconstruction.

The James River overlook is a wooden structure located northeast side of the fort on the bluff's edge. There is a 15-step stairway on both ends of the overlook. The 32x10-foot platform is constructed with 2x4 inch planks, and the platform is bound by galvanized steel guardrails. The overlook has a recycled plastic bench and two waysides.

The bridge over the covered way is located on the southwest side of the fort between the bastions. The 24.5-foot wooden structure has wooden guardrails and a wayside to interpret the covered way.

The culvert under the main trail is approximately 15 inches in diameter and has been set into concrete. The culvert allows the creek to run under the trail while supporting the asphalt and gravel with 4x4-inch ties.

The battery reconstruction contains an original 8-inch Columbia cannon resting on an olive-painted wooden carriage. The cannon has been mounted on a platform constructed of 4x4-inch planks. The walls of the battery have been supported with reinforced concrete poured to resemble sandbags. These sandbag wall structures measure 5 feet tall on the sides and 3 feet tall at the embrasure at the cannon's mouth. The concrete walls are showing signs of decay and the supportive rebar has been exposed in several spots.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Battery reconstruction

Feature Identification Number: 93589

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Covered way bridge

Feature Identification Number: 93590

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Culvert under interpretive trail

Feature Identification Number: 93591

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: River overlook

Feature Identification Number: 93592

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Battery reconstruction and river overlook. (PHSO 2000)



Close up of concrete sandbag replica. Note erosion and missing pieces. (PHSO 2000)



Battery reconstruction in 1963. Note that reinforced concrete sandbags are not in place at this time. (RICH Archives 1963)



Bridge interpreting covered way. (PHSO 2000)

Views And Vistas

The best view away from the Drewry's Bluff unit of Richmond National Battlefield Park is at the James River overlook on the northeast side of the fort. The views both upstream and downstream are contributing due to the integrity of the view shed. Whereas this view would have been much more open during the period of significance due to the fact that the land was agrarian, it still allows the visitor to understand the importance of the Confederate decision to site a fort at this location.

The interior view of the fort from this overlook is useful for the visitor to see the overall layout of the fort. From this elevation the complexity of in fort defenses can be appreciated.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: View of fort from river overlook

Feature Identification Number: 93616

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Views up and down James River

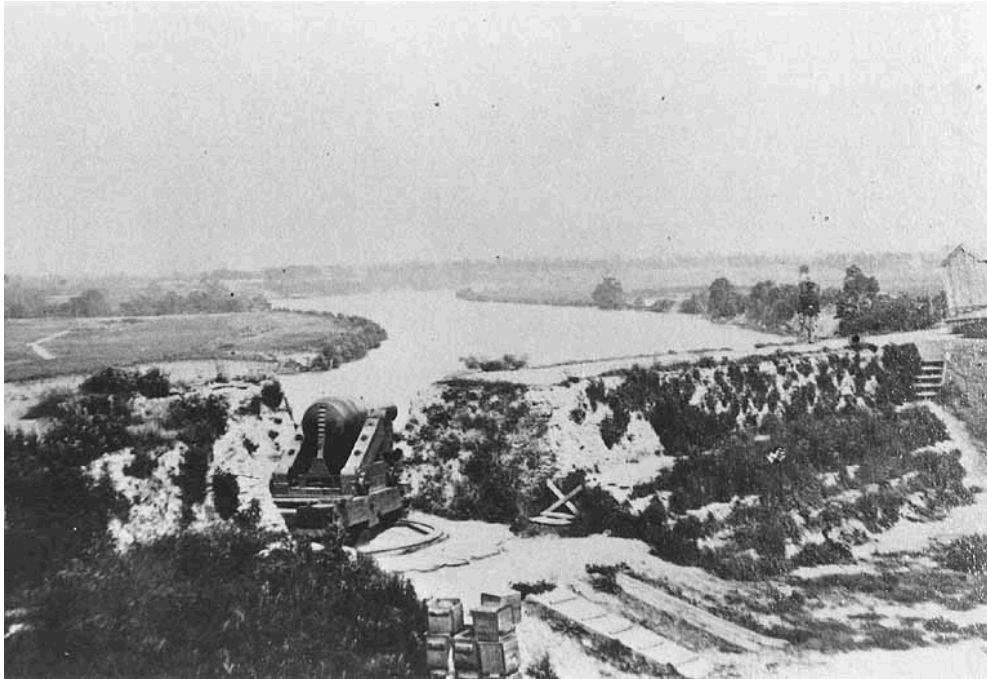
Feature Identification Number: 93617

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Current view looking down the James River. (PHSO 2000)



View downstream during the period of significance. (Rich Archives 2000)

Small Scale Features

The Fort Darling Freeman Marker is the only contributing small scale feature at the Drewry's Bluff site. There are many non-contributing features that are important to direct visitors and interpret the significance of the site.

Freeman Marker #59, commemorating Fort Darling, is located in the north corner of the property. The cast-iron inscription tablet is mounted on a slant on a concrete slab, which rests on a granite block base. The overall dimensions of the marker are 4 feet long by 3 feet wide by 4 feet 4 inches high. The marker faces upstream so that when reading the tablet the reader faces the fort. The Freeman Marker is set far back from the interpretive trail, beyond the chain link fence in dense vegetation. It is no longer available for public view.

The first small-scale features to come to the attention of the visitor are the Park Service entry signage. The first Park Service sign is a 6 by 3 foot wooden sign mounted on 2 posts naming the site as Drewry's Bluff. The second sign is a wooden Park Service arrowhead suspended from an inverted "U" frame. As the visitor drives along the entry drive, he will see a series of signs directing him to the parking lot, then to the interpretive trail. The trail is blocked to vehicles by three bollards. The center bollard can be removed to provide access to maintenance and emergency vehicles. There is a bulletin board and wayside at the entry and a series of waysides throughout the length of the trail. There are a few benches made from recycled plastic along the trail as well. A small wooden bench is located at the entrance to the fort. The

bluff's edge has been blocked to the visitor by a split rail fence. The boundary of the property is lined with a barbed wire topped chain link fence. The trail is bound by guardrails in certain locations to keep the visitor safely on the trail. There are wooden steps on steeper slopes and a series of water bars on lesser slopes. There is a well, which is possibly historic, (park to verify) located approximately 50 feet off the parking lot in the woods. It has a 4-foot square concrete cap with a metal pump top. Finally there is a small metal counter box along the entry drive to assess visitation rates.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Bench, wood

Feature Identification Number: 93599

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Benches, recycled plastic

Feature Identification Number: 93600

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Bollards

Feature Identification Number: 93601

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Chain link fencing

Feature Identification Number: 93602

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Counter box

Feature Identification Number: 93603

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Directional signs

Feature Identification Number: 93604

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Entry signs

Feature Identification Number: 93605

Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Feature: Freeman Marker #59

Feature Identification Number:	93606
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	81637
LCS Structure Name:	FREEMAN MARKER #59, FORT DARLING
LCS Structure Number:	1101
Feature:	Guard rails
Feature Identification Number:	93607
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-Contributing
Feature:	Split rail fencing
Feature Identification Number:	93608
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-Contributing
Feature:	Steps
Feature Identification Number:	93609
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-Contributing
Feature:	Water bars
Feature Identification Number:	93610
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-Contributing
Feature:	Waysides/bulletin boards
Feature Identification Number:	93611
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-Contributing
Feature:	Well
Feature Identification Number:	93612
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non-Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Freeman Marker #59, Fort Darling." (PHSO 2000)



Wooden bench, split rail fence and sign at fort's entry. (PHSO 2000)

Archeological Sites

This section identifies archeological resources that are part of the cultural landscape such as ruins, traces, or artifacts evidenced by the presence of surface and subsurface features. Those features listed below as contributing have been designated as such under the National Register

of Historic Places Criteria A, B, or C by the List of Classified Structures. These resources have not been evaluated under Criterion D and must be considered potentially contributing under Criterion D at this time. The list below contains resources identified during cultural landscape field investigation. This list will be updated upon completion of an Archeological Overview and Assessment.

The Drewry's Bluff history indicates that Fort Drewry was used as the Naval Academy and headquarters for the Marine Corps. There is documentation of a chapel, officer housing and a hotel located in the proximity of the fort, as well. All the physical remnants of these features are missing and more archeological work will be necessary to find their precise location. The CLI field study did discover some features in the landscape that might be clues to these archeological resources.

The Michler map indicates a chapel was located near the entrance to the fort. In this area were two adjacent depressions approximately 6-7 feet long and 3 feet wide. There were also several deep holes in the woods that might be related to the hotel or officer housing. The holes measured approximately 12 feet in diameter and 4 to 5 feet in depth. There were also three level plateaus on the slope outside the fort's southeast corner. These are also possible building locations.

The park currently interprets the site of a well and collapsed bombproof inside the fort, but further archeological investigation will be necessary at the site of the water battery down near the water's edge. The CLI field study did not uncover any features that might indicate the structure pictured in the historic photos. There is also a series of dock remnants in the water that need further investigation.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Dock remains
Feature Identification Number:	93447
Type of Feature Contribution:	Undetermined
Feature:	Fort Drewry bomproofs and well
Feature Identification Number:	93448
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Holes at chapel site
Feature Identification Number:	93449
Type of Feature Contribution:	Undetermined
Feature:	Holes in woods - possible officer's quarters
Feature Identification Number:	93586

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Possible structure sites outside fort's southeast corner

Feature Identification Number: 93587

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Water battery

Feature Identification Number: 93588

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



One of two holes in woods. Suspected site of hotel or officer's quarters. (PHSO 2000)



Location of probable chapel site. (PHSO 2000)



View of Chapel at Fort Drewry. (RICH Archives n.d.)



Site of well and bombproof today. (PHSO 2000)



Well and bombproof during period of significance. (RICH Archives n.d.)



Historic photo of water battery at Drewry's Bluff. (RICH Archives n.d.)

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 09/30/1999

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

A superintendant's signature for this fair condition was never obtained. The condition has been changed to poor.

Condition Assessment: Poor

Assessment Date: 04/08/2002

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Upon full understanding of the precarious situation of the bluff, the condition of the component landscape has been determined to be poor.

Condition Assessment: Poor

Assessment Date: 08/14/2008

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

This reassessment was made in consultation with the park superintendent. The bluff remains in unstable condition. A "Poor" assessment indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Erosion

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The primary cause for concern pertaining to erosion is the bluff face, which consists of large amounts of erosion, at least an inch per year with some catastrophic sloughs, from the fort's river face. The instability of the soils, slope, lack of vegetation, rainstorms, location of the bluff to the river and the river itself contribute to the erosion of Drewry's Bluff. The park management should revisit some of the earlier proposals to stabilize the bluff, receive new construction quotes and program the work into their work plan. The earthworks are showing natural erosion over time, but there are also erosion problems evident from several volunteer trails throughout the site. The new interpretive trail built in 1999 is demonstrating some erosion and

washout of the surface gravel on its down slopes during every heavy rain. In addition, the water runoff from the adjacent land is also causing a gorge in the unnamed creek at the culvert under the interpretive trail. The result of this erosion is that the culvert is now too high to accommodate the runoff, and it is affecting the interpretive trail.

Type of Impact:

Adjacent Lands

External or Internal:

External

Impact Description:

There are no zoning restrictions in the neighboring lands to protect the Drewry's Bluff viewshed, which is very important in understanding Fort Drewry's role in the Civil War.

Type of Impact:

Vegetation/Invasive Plants

External or Internal:

Internal

Impact Description:

The internal earthworks and much of the site are covered with successional deciduous tree growth. While the trees help maintain the earthworks by slowing erosion, they need to be monitored to assess tree health and stability to insure visitor safety and prevent damage to the resource. Trees that are dying need to be removed manually before they topple naturally or get knocked down by wind, where the root structure of the tree can do considerable damage to the earthworks.

Stabilization Costs

Landscape Stabilization Cost: 6,087,000.00

Cost Date: 08/01/2001

Level of Estimate: C - Similar Facilities

Cost Estimator: Park/FMSS

Landscape Stabilization Cost Explanatory Description:

Based on a 1997 estimate by Robbin B. Sotir & Associates, \$4,500,000 - \$5,750,000 would be the minimum cost for Drewry's Bluff stabilization. A current evaluation of damage and a proposal for stabilization methods are needed for an exact current stabilization cost, but the park should plan on spending at least \$6,000,000.

\$10,000/year for the next three years will be needed to establish a tree-monitoring procedure and to cover tree removal and pruning costs to protect visitors and the earthworks.

\$45,000 will be necessary to stabilize the interpretive trail. The asphalt base of the trail will need to be removed, the trail regraded, and then the gravel will be replaced. This procedure should alleviate the washout of the gravel from rain.

\$12,000 is needed to take care of the neighboring land runoff, which is causing a gorge along the unnamed creek under the interpretive trail. The erosion is causing the culvert under the trail to be too high to accommodate the runoff.

Treatment

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

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Source Name:	CRBIB
Citation Number:	002204
Citation Author:	Bearss, Edwin C
Citation Title:	Battle of Drewry's Bluff
Year of Publication:	1961
Source Name:	CRBIB
Citation Number:	002201
Citation Author:	Iris Williams, Peter
Citation Title:	Conserving Richmond's Battlefields
Year of Publication:	1990
Source Name:	CRBIB
Citation Number:	015546
Citation Author:	Staff
Citation Title:	General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement
Year of Publication:	1996
Source Name:	CRBIB
Citation Number:	017420
Citation Author:	Staff
Citation Title:	Resource Management Plan, Richmond National Battlefield Park
Year of Publication:	1994
Source Name:	CRBIB
Citation Number:	016567

Citation Author: Cullen, Joseph P

Citation Title: Richmond Battlefields

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Source Name: CRBIB

Citation Number: 016162

Citation Author: Staff

Citation Title: Sketches on the Battlefields Around Richmond, Virginia

Year of Publication: 1937

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Citation Number: 016977

Citation Author: Oculus et al.

Citation Title: Documenting Richmond's Civil War Battlefields

Year of Publication: 1996

Source Name: Other

Citation Author: Robbin B. Sotir & Associates

Citation Title: Bank Stability and Erosion Problems at Fort Darling/Drewry's
Bluff Field Report

Year of Publication: 1997

Source Name: Other

Citation Author: Baril, Peter E.

Citation Title: "They Found a Jungle and Made a Park" The Civilian
Conservation Corps at Richmond National Battlefield Park, ND,
PHSO Library.

Source Name: Other

Citation Type: Narrative

Citation Location: Draft copy from Park

Supplemental Information

Title: CIR USGS DOQQ

Description: 1993, Richard Easterbrook, Petersburg GIS

Title: Drewry's Bluff Unit Earthworks and Interpretive Trails

Description: 1999, David Lowe, Cultrual Resources GIS

Title: Fort Drewry Interpretive Wayside

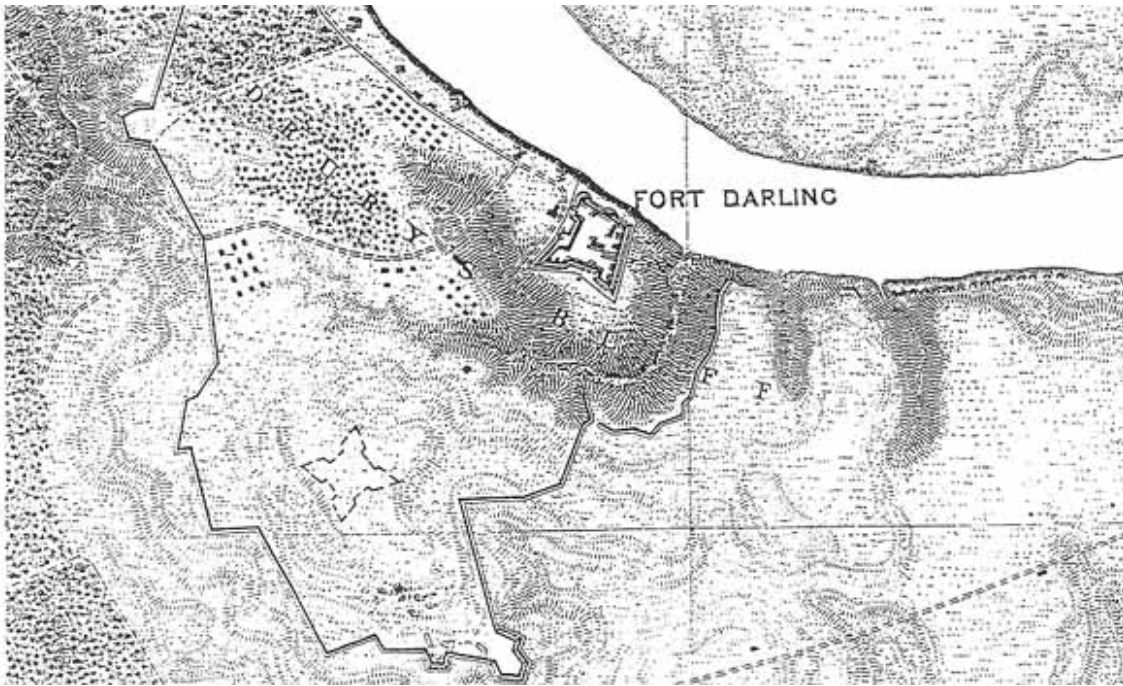
Description: 2000, Steve Stanley, Colonial Type and Graphics.



Fort Drewry Interpretive Wayside

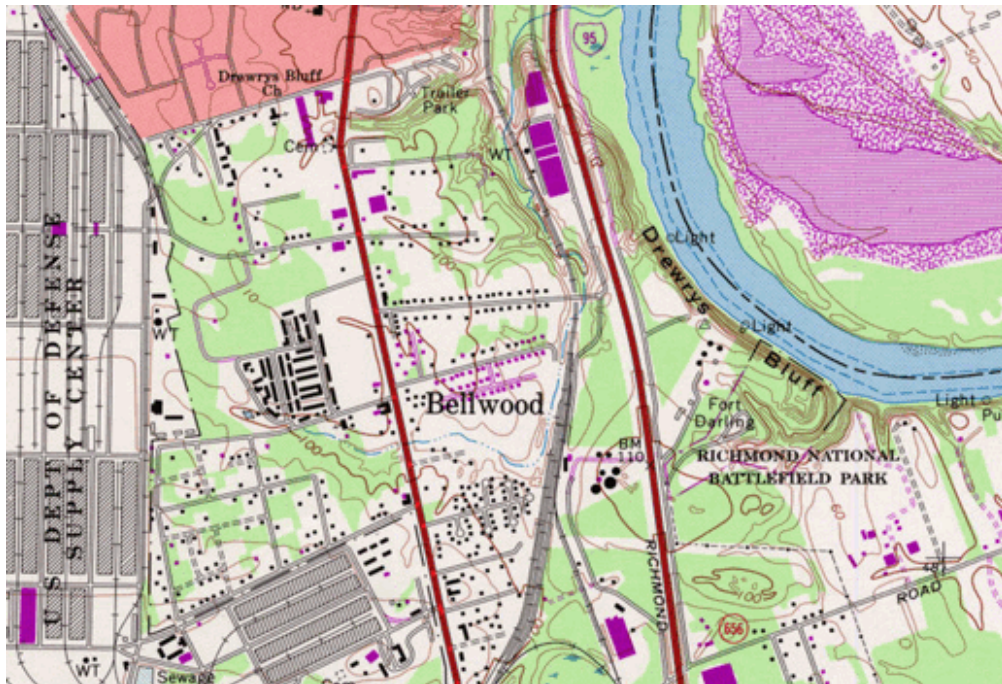
Title: Map of Chesterfield and Henrico Counties

Description: Nathaniel Michler, 1867



Map illustrating historic conditions at Fort Darling.

Title: USGS Quad: Drewry's Bluff
Description: 1969, Revised 1994, 1:24,000



USGS Drewry's Bluff Quad