

CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST

HISTORY *under* SIEGE

CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST
Saving America's Hallowed Ground

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A Guide to America's Most Endangered Civil War Battlefields

*What is the value of land
that thousands of men
paid for with their lives?*



*Late 1800s view of the Stone House at Manassas National Battlefield Park.
(Image courtesy of the Library of Congress.)*

We believe it to be priceless!

HISTORY UNDER SIEGE

A Guide to America's Most Endangered Civil War Battlefields

In your hands you hold the 2008 edition of *History Under Siege*, the Civil War Preservation Trust's (CWPT) annual report on endangered Civil War battlefields. This report is more than a list of threatened historic sites — it is also a plan for saving the last remaining links to a moment in history that defined us as a nation.

Although many battlefields are in danger of being lost forever, CWPT is making significant progress. In 2007 CWPT rescued more than 1,600 acres of hallowed ground at legendary battlefields like Champion Hill, Miss., Shiloh, Tenn., and Petersburg, Va. Since our creation two decades ago, CWPT has protected more than 25,000 acres at 99 sites in 18 states.

Despite such successes, our work is far from done. We hope this report energizes both long-time supporters and new allies to continue the fight to protect and preserve these priceless treasures.

History Under Siege has two distinct components: the first section identifies the 10 most endangered battlefields in the nation, and the second section lists 15 additional “at risk” sites, rounding out the 25 battlefields we believe need the most immediate attention. **No attempt is made to rank the sites within these two tiers — instead, the battlefields are listed in alphabetical order.**

The selection process is lengthy and difficult. Sites are nominated by our membership, and final decisions are made with help and input from historians, preservationists and CWPT's board of trustees. The sites included in the report are determined based on geographic location, military significance and preservation status.

In analyzing each site, CWPT consulted a 1993 study by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) that prioritized sites according to their historical significance and state of preservation. Whenever possible, CWPT has cited the CWSAC rating system throughout this report. Battlefields are ranked from Priority I (sites considered the most threatened) to Priority IV (sites considered all but lost). CWSAC also ranks battlefields from A (the most historically significant sites) to D (sites of local importance).

ANTIETAM, MD

September 17, 1862

The bloodiest single day in American history, the Battle of Antietam ended the Confederacy's first attempt to invade the North in a resounding fashion. Though the battle itself was tactically inconclusive in its outcome, the 23,000 casualties left behind by the fighting shocked the nation. Moreover, Antietam's proximity to major northern population centers and their emerging photography industries allowed Americans to see for the first time the true horror of war through images of the aftermath of battle.



Buoyed by a decisive victory at Second Manassas in late August, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee decided to press his advantage and bring the war into the North. At stake, if he was victorious, was the potential recognition of the Confederacy by European powers and their aid in the war effort. The fighting that resulted was among the war's fiercest, forever immortalizing battlefield landmarks like the Dunker Church, Burnside Bridge and Bloody Lane.

THREAT: Outstanding conservation work undertaken by Antietam National Battlefield and private groups, including CWPT, has earned Antietam a well-deserved reputation as one of the nation's best preserved Civil War battlefields. Few visual intrusions mar its bucolic landscape, letting visitors experience the site nearly as it was in 1862.

Now, however, this jewel among preserved battlefields is faced with the possibility of a cellular communications tower placed so prominently that it would be visible from nearly all of the site's most famous vantage points — including Lee's headquarters and the Bell, Piper and Reel farms. If built, the tower would rise 30 feet above the tree line across much of the field's breadth, marring this once pristine site and negating millions of dollars in preservation work undertaken by the federal government,

the state of Maryland, the local community and private groups.

CWSAC classified Antietam as a Priority I, Class A battlefield — its highest designation.

CEDAR CREEK, VA

October 19, 1864

By the fall of 1864, the Confederate hold on Virginia's fertile Shenandoah Valley was slipping, thanks to a string of devastating blows dealt by Maj. Gen. Philip Sheridan's Union army. But rather than let the region's barns, fields and mills be put to the torch, a Union total war tactic known in the Valley simply as "the Burning," Confederate commander Lt. Gen. Jubal Early planned one last stand.

On the morning of October 19, Early's forces attacked unprepared elements of Sheridan's army at Cedar Creek, nearly driving them from the field. However, a timely Northern counterattack turned the tide and sealed the fate of the Shenandoah Valley.

THREAT: Local activists in Frederick County, Va., are fighting a proposal to expand a limestone mining operation onto 639 acres immediately adjacent to Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park — property that, according to the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, is at least 60 percent core battlefield.

Although the county planning commission voted by an 8-4 margin against the mining proposal in June 2006, it has yet to go before the Board of Supervisors for an ultimate decision. In the interim, preservationists in the group Preserve Frederick have crafted their own compromise plan, which CWPT supports. "Plan B," as it has become known, would protect the northerly, more historically significant portion of the land up for rezoning, while allowing mining to expand to the south of the current plant, buffered from the park. Though only 158 acres, the site espoused by Plan B contains a limestone vein rich enough to keep the plant in business for three decades.

In addition, Cedar Creek faces two additional threats: the proposed widening of I-81, including a flyover interchange on the battlefield at the junction of I-81 and I-66; and inclusion within the proposed National

Interest Electric Transmission Corridor, a plan that threatens several battlefields in Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

CWSAC classified Cedar Creek as a Priority I, Class A battlefield — its highest designation.



COLD HARBOR, VA

May 31 - June 12, 1864



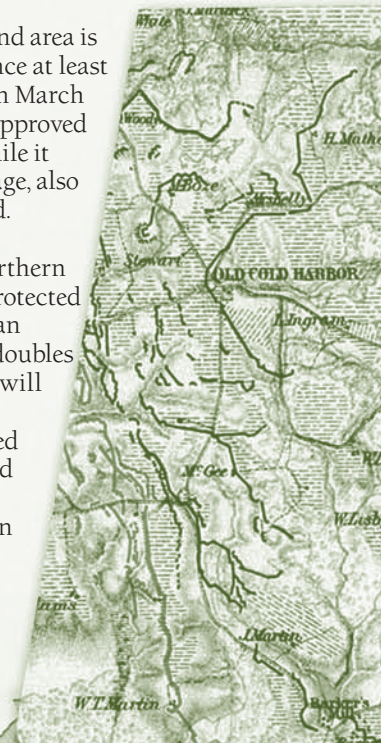
The final infantry battle of the 1864 Overland Campaign saw a heavily entrenched Confederate force repulse repeated attacks from a Union army nearly twice its size in one of the war's most lopsided victories. Fought on ground that partially overlapped the 1862 Gaines' Mill battlefield, Cold Harbor afforded soldiers the unique horror of uncovering skeletal remains from the earlier engagement while constructing their fortifications.

Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, commanding Union forces, later remarked that he regretted the final assault at Cold Harbor as no gains resulted from the wholesale slaughter of his men — who suffered a casualty rate more than four times greater than the far smaller Confederate force. Worse, many of the Federal soldiers assaulting the Southern defenses were from heavy artillery regiments with little or no infantry training and just recently reassigned from their previous posts defending Washington and Baltimore.

THREAT: Development pressure in the Richmond area is so great that only about 300 acres of what was once at least a 7,500-acre battlefield are currently preserved. In March 2007 the Hanover County Board of Supervisors approved a new edition of its Comprehensive Plan that, while it does contain innovative pro-conservation language, also increases the threat to the Cold Harbor Battlefield.

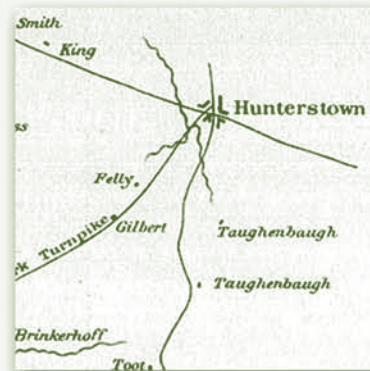
Specifically, the plan redesignates land on the northern portion of the battlefield, where little has been protected to date, from "Suburban Transitional" to "Suburban General." Though seemingly minor, this change doubles the housing density allowable in the area, which will further encourage development and increase the cost of preserving land. Some of the land impacted lies within the authorized boundary of Richmond National Battlefield, demonstrating its historical significance and making it eligible for inclusion in the National Park System.

CWSAC classified Cold Harbor as a Priority I, Class A battlefield — its highest designation.



HUNTERSTOWN, PA

July 2, 1863



Often called "North Cavalry Field," the fighting at Hunterstown was one portion of the largest battle ever fought in the Western Hemisphere — the three-day struggle in and around Gettysburg.

Late on the afternoon of July 2, Union cavaliers under the command of Brig. Gen. George Armstrong Custer dismounted and took positions under cover around the Felty Farm. Custer then personally led a small but daring raid on Brig. Gen. Wade Hampton's Confederates, positioned further south on the Hunterstown Road. The Rebels took the bait and gave chase back up the narrow, enclosed road toward the unseen Federal force. When the trap was sprung,

the Confederates were caught in a deadly cross fire, their lead elements mowed down by artillery concealed inside the Felty's barn. Thus engaged, Hampton's force was prevented from fulfilling its original purpose in the area: supporting Lt. Gen. Richard S. Ewell's assault on strategic Culp's Hill.

THREAT: In the fall of 2006, Hunterstown was officially recognized by the National Park Service as part of the Gettysburg Battlefield, an important step for kick-starting preservation efforts. Located roughly five miles northeast of downtown Gettysburg in Straban Township, Hunterstown is experiencing the rapid growth endemic throughout Adams County.

Though fewer than 400 new building permits were issued for Adams County in 2007, down from about 700 in 2005, the very nature of development in the region has changed. The housing developments now sought are typically in excess of 200 houses, larger than they once were, and set against rural backdrops removed from U.S. Route 15, in areas like Hunterstown. Development in Adams County is expected to get another boost in the near future with the redevelopment of Fort Ritchie in neighboring Frederick County, Md.

Additionally, the entire Gettysburg area lies within the National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor. This potentially allows power companies to trump state and local ordinances and put power lines across preserved land.

CWSAC classified Gettysburg as a Priority I, Class A battlefield — its highest designation.



MONOCACY, MD

July 9, 1864

In the summer of 1864, with the Union army closing on Richmond and laying siege to nearby Petersburg, Confederate leaders devised a daring plan to threaten Washington while the majority of the capital's defenders were deployed elsewhere. After crossing the Potomac at Shepherdstown, a small but well-led Confederate army moved on Washington from the north.

On the morning of July 9, a hastily assembled Union force under the command of Maj. Gen. Lew Wallace, famous as the author of *Ben Hur* after the war, encountered elements of Lt. Gen. Jubal Early's force on its trek to Washington. Badly outnumbered, the Federal force had little chance of defeating the Confederates; instead, their strategic goal was merely to hinder the invading enemy's advance long enough for reinforcements to be rushed to Washington by rail. Delayed by a day, Early arrived outside the capital on July 11, to find it defended by veterans freshly arrived from the siege of Petersburg. After losing the Battle of Fort Stevens and failing to capture the city, Early retraced his steps back into Virginia.

THREAT: Popular mythology has termed Monocacy the "battle that saved Washington," but today the battlefield itself is in need of rescue. Interstate 270, which bisects the field, is choked with commuters, and officials are investigating options to widen it through the heart of Monocacy National Battlefield. Additionally, the site is one of 16 Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland battlefields that lie within the National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor. This could allow high-voltage towers standing up to 15 stories to mar preserved landscapes.

Most urgent, however, is a proposal currently under consideration by Frederick County, Md., to construct a waste-to-energy facility just outside the boundary of Monocacy National Battlefield. The incinerator on the facility would have a 150-foot-tall smokestack, making it visible from much of the battlefield, and its footprint would be within the battlefield's boundary according to the National Register of Historic Places.

CWSAC classified Monocacy as a Priority I, Class B battlefield.



NATURAL BRIDGE, FL

March 6, 1865

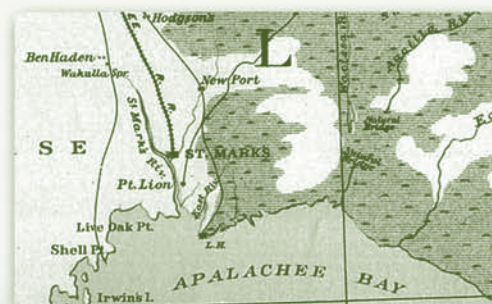
The Battle of Natural Bridge, fought in the final weeks of the war, was one of the conflict's last Confederate victories. By preventing Union troops from crossing the St. Mark's River, a Confederate force under Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones was able to keep the nearby state capital of Tallahassee out of Northern hands. It was one of only two Confederate capitals never to be occupied by a federal army.

In early March 1865, a federal flotilla arrived at the mouth of the St. Mark's River, along the Florida panhandle, planning to use the waterway to gain the interior. Shallow waters hampered the attempt and gave a Confederate scout enough time to arrive in Tallahassee and warn of the threat. Soon every able-bodied man in the capital, including wounded soldiers home on leave and university cadets as young as 14, were dispatched to defend the approaches to the city. Only about 700 men were mustered, but in a day-long engagement they repulsed three major attacks near the crossing at Natural Bridge and forced the Union expedition to return to its fleet.

THREAT: Today, Natural Bridge is in the suburbs of rapidly growing Tallahassee, which places serious pressure on the battlefield and its unique natural resources. Currently, only seven acres of the site are protected within Natural Bridge Battlefield Historic State Park — the rest of the battlefield is in private hands and, in many cases, slated for development.

A 55-acre property that saw much of the battle's most serious fighting is currently being offered for sale, openly advertised as battlefield. The State of Florida has been negotiating with the landowner for some time, seeking to add the acreage to the immediately adjacent state park, but no agreement has yet been reached. The state also sought to acquire a large amount of ecologically sensitive property in the area, including the northern portion of the battlefield, but budgetary constraints have stalled the effort. Meanwhile, developers are actively selling nearly 150 estate homes at the Tallahassee Ranch Club nearby.

CWSAC classified Natural Bridge as a Priority III, Class C.



PERRYVILLE, KY

October 8, 1862

In the summer of 1862, Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg launched an invasion of the key border state of Kentucky, hoping to divert Union attention from the Southern strongholds at Vicksburg and Chattanooga, as well as to encourage Bluegrass State volunteers to join the Rebel army. Though unsuccessful in the last regard, the Kentucky Campaign did draw Federal forces out of northern Alabama and Middle Tennessee, ground it would take the Union almost a year to regain.

The largest engagement fought in Kentucky, the Battle of Perryville was a Confederate tactical victory, though the heavy fighting and bloodshed forced Bragg to retreat into Tennessee. During the battle, the Confederates held an early advantage that they were able to exploit due to lack of communication among various elements of the Union force. Eventually reinforced on the left of their line, the Federal troops held their ground and pushed some of their attackers back into the town of Perryville itself. Confronted by a larger force and running low on supplies, Bragg withdrew toward the Cumberland Gap. His army would never return to Kentucky.



THREAT: Perryville is one of the most pristine Civil War battlefields in the country. Although more than 650 acres of the Perryville battlefield have already been preserved (including 385 by CWPT), the site remains vulnerable to development. In the Comprehensive Plan adopted in late 2007, Boyle County stresses the importance of historic preservation at the battlefield and elsewhere, but also recognizes that agricultural land is being lost to residential development along the U.S. Route 150 corridor between Perryville and Danville — the area of the county containing the battlefield.

One current rezoning proposal targets the northwestern portion of the battlefield, along U.S. Route 150. Although willing to make some concessions for the region's historic significance, including interpreting an antebellum road trace, the developer is asking for the last agriculturally zoned land within Perryville city limits to be rezoned for highway commercial and high-density residential uses. Persistent cell tower proposals also threaten to mar the battlefield's viewshed.

CWSAC classified Perryville as a Priority I, Class A battlefield — its highest designation.

PRAIRIE GROVE, AR

December 7, 1862

By late 1862, the situation in northern Arkansas and southwest Missouri looked promising for Union fortunes. Federal forces had been victorious at Pea Ridge that spring and had moved north to drive their Confederate counterparts from Missouri. The Northern army, however, was precariously divided as a result of these efforts, a situation new Confederate commander Maj. Gen. Thomas C. Hindman sought to exploit.

Hindman intended to engage the Federal column under Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt while it was isolated. The remainder of the Army of the Frontier foiled this plan when Union Brig. Gen. Francis J. Herron led it on an impressive forced march out of Springfield, Mo., covering 114 miles in three days. Now evenly matched, the two sides engaged in a fierce day-long fight with heavy casualties. Although it ended in a tactical stalemate on the field, the Battle of Prairie Grove proved a strategic success for the Union, as the demoralized and poorly supplied Confederates withdrew under cover of darkness. Federal forces maintained control of northwest Arkansas for the remainder of the war.

THREAT: Traditionally, Prairie Grove has been considered one of the better preserved Civil War battlefields, thanks to preservation efforts dating back to 1908. Today Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park encompasses approximately 838 acres of battlefield and draws roughly 200,000 visitors annually. Such continued success will depend on how the region reacts to the development pressures beginning to encroach on what had been a largely rural area.

Located about 10 minutes from Fayetteville, Prairie Grove is part of the third fastest growing county in Arkansas. From 2000 to 2006 the region experienced population growth of more than 18 percent, further solidifying Washington County's status as the third most populous county in the state. To cope with the growth, U.S. Route 62 is being widened to four lanes, right up to the border of the battlefield park.



CWSAC classified Prairie Grove as a Priority I, Class B battlefield.



SAVANNAH, GA

December 10-22, 1864



The surrender of Fort Pulaski in April 1862 rendered Savannah's main port useless to the Confederacy, but smaller earthen forts defended the city's seaward approaches, allowing blockade runners to hide in nearby rivers and estuaries for the next two and a half years. In 1864, Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee, faced with Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's 60,000 Union soldiers seeking to complete their March to the Sea, desperately moved many of the guns from these forts to a

defensive line west of the city. Confederate engineers dammed creeks to augment natural barriers and used the redistributed artillery to create an eight-mile-long line manned by only 10,000 troops.

The Federals reached this defensive line on December 10, 1864. After three days of probing assaults, Sherman decided to lay siege to the city. The fall of Fort McAllister on the Ogeechee River on December 13 opened Sherman's supply lines and brought heavier guns to bear on the city. Deciding that her defenders were a more valuable commodity than Savannah itself, the Confederates began evacuating on the night of December 20.

THREAT: As new houses, commercial establishments and roads are built, the 1864 defenses are in danger of being lost. Isolated earthworks remain on the grounds of the Savannah Christian Preparatory School and along the southern portion of the Confederate Line between Ogeechee Road (U.S. Route 17) and Louisville Road (U.S. Route 80), but most of these fragments are overgrown and unprotected. Tom Triplett County Park contains the remains of Federal fortifications and camps.

Forts Jackson and Pulaski, two pre-war masonry fortifications guarding the city's seaward approaches, are protected by the Coastal Heritage Society and the National Park Service, respectively, and are in good condition. Earthen forts built during the war are in more precarious condition. Fort McAllister is protected as a state park, but some earthen forts and batteries have already been lost and others are eroding.

CWSAC classified the battles around Savannah ranging from Priority III, Class B to Priority IV, Class C.



SPRING HILL, TN

November 29, 1864

The engagement at Spring Hill came as Confederate Gen. John Bell Hood tried to prevent an isolated Union column from retreating to a stronger defensive position at nearby Franklin. Fighting began late in the day as the Federals stopped disorganized Confederate attacks. Hood's troops finally gained a strategic position, cutting off the Union retreat as darkness fell, but his subordinates received no further orders and failed to press their advantage.



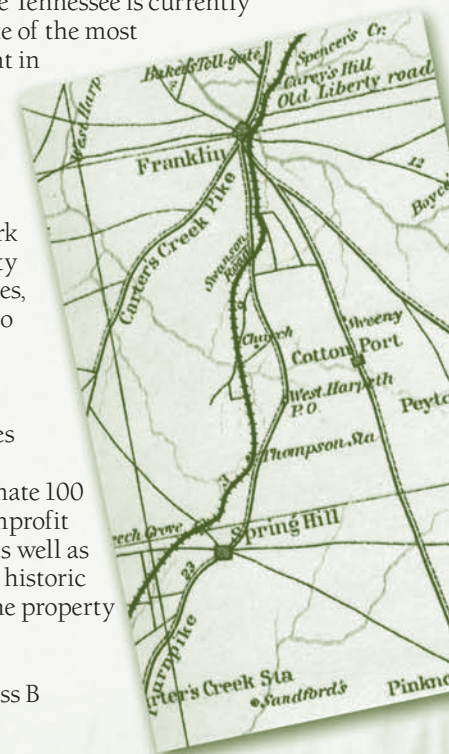
The Confederates bivouacked for the night, leaving the road north to Franklin open and allowing the Union army to slip by. The next day the belligerents met again at Franklin in an unmitigated disaster for the Confederacy, which lost 6,200 soldiers, including six general officers, in one day.

THREAT: Middle Tennessee is currently experiencing some of the most rapid development in the nation. The same expansion pressures from the Nashville suburbs that so

damaged the Franklin battlefield are now at work in Spring Hill. By partnering with Maury County a decade ago, CWPT was able to preserve 110 acres, but decisive action and cooperation are needed to protect additional land before it is lost.

Throughout 2007, controversy swirled around General Motors' plan to sell several hundred acres of land surrounding the antebellum Rippavilla Plantation as surplus. GM has volunteered to donate 100 of the more than 500 acres in question to the nonprofit foundation responsible for running Rippavilla, as well as contributing \$1 million over 10 years toward the historic home's upkeep. The ultimate fate of the rest of the property remains in question.

CWSAC classified Spring Hill as a Priority I, Class B battlefield.



AT RISK SITES

Fifteen Additional Sites

BRANDY STATION, VA – June 9, 1863

Although recent plans for a major housing development near the site of the war's largest cavalry battle appear to be off the table following significant local opposition, Culpeper County remains one of Virginia's fastest growing counties. Culpeper Regional Airport, immediately adjacent to the battlefield, may undergo significant expansion.

FORT MONROE, VA – 1861–1865

Once an important Union base and a refuge for freed slaves, and still an active army base, Fort Monroe faces an uncertain future thanks to a 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision. National and local preservation groups are working with government officials to preserve this historic treasure.

FORT MORGAN, AL – August 5–23, 1864

Maintenance and infrastructure problems continue to plague this fort which once guarded the mouth of Mobile Bay, but with a new site management plan and executive director for the Alabama Historical Commission mean things are looking up. A full repair bill for the site could top \$20 million.



FORT STEVENS, DC – July 11–12, 1864

A push to create a unified presence and interpretation for the Defenses of Washington is gaining steam but may still be years from adoption. Preservationists are wary of what the upcoming closure of Walter Reed Army Medical Center could mean for the battlefield.

GLORIETA, NM – March 26–28, 1862

Although portions of the battlefield are within Pecos National Historic Park, others remain vulnerable to development. The

presence of State Highway 50 makes some historic landmarks unsafe for visitors, although the Glorieta Battlefield Coalition has done much work to improve accessibility and interpret the site.

HOKE'S RUN, WV – July 2, 1861

With a new Wal-Mart coming to town and residential development now within a stone's throw of a monument to Stonewall Jackson's participation in the fight, preservationists worry that time may be running out for the Shenandoah Valley's first battleground.

HONEY SPRINGS, OK – July 17, 1863

Only about one-third of the land associated with the largest battle fought in Indian Territory (as Oklahoma was known during the war) is currently protected. Long-standing disputes continue between park advocates and local residents over traffic and visitor access.

KENNESAW MOUNTAIN, GA – June 27, 1864

If you count the 160,000 Atlanta-area commuters who pass through Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park each workday, it becomes the second-most visited unit of the National Park Service. Park roads are currently operating at 160 percent capacity, and such vehicular traffic severely restricts pedestrian access.

LOVEJOY'S STATION, GA – August 20, 1864

A 204-acre section of the battlefield in Henry County has been preserved as the Nash Farm Battlefield, but 75 acres in adjoining Clayton County have been proposed for a 287-home residential development.

MANSFIELD, LA – April 8, 1864

Lignite mining operations appear to be moving away from the core battlefield area, giving Mansfield State Historic Site a reprieve. Environmental problems stemming from excavations remain a concern.

PETERSBURG, VA – June 1864 – April 1865

Although the U.S. Army has been exceedingly sensitive to the presence of Petersburg National Battlefield during the expansion of nearby Fort Lee, rapid community development could impact future preservation efforts outside the park.



RICHMOND, KY – August 29–30, 1862

A new highway interchange at Duncannon Road off of Interstate 75 will only increase the already intense development pressure created by Richmond's location 25 miles southeast of Lexington.

SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV – September 19 – 20, 1863

Developers seeking to build a 144-home subdivision on the battlefield face a March 2008 hearing before the West Virginia Supreme Court. The Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals and the Circuit Court have already denied their rezoning request for this portion of designated rural district. The county recently pledged \$100,000 toward preservation efforts.

SOUTH MOUNTAIN, MD – September 14, 1862

Dominion Transmission Inc. is seeking to build a \$55 million natural gas compression station in Middletown, Md., near Turner's Gap. The area is zoned for agriculture and borders significant amounts of preserved battlefield and scenic landscape. A public comment period closed in February. Plus, the proposed National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor power lines are expected to cross through one of the battlefield gaps.

YADKIN RIVER BRIDGE, NC – April 12, 1865

In August developers seeking to build a racetrack near the site of the last Confederate victory in the Carolinas began excavations and grading activities without county permits, repeatedly ignoring stop-work orders from government officials. Although a court eventually issued a restraining order against the developers, they still predict a summer 2008 opening.

PROGRESS REPORT

Preservation Successes

In partnership with several national and local preservation groups, CWPT has been working tirelessly to save historic properties at endangered sites identified in previous editions of *History Under Siege*. Listed below are a few of the successes achieved by CWPT and its partners in the past year.

CHAMPION HILL

Unique preservation strategies allowed CWPT to protect 144 acres at the very heart of the Champion Hill battlefield in 2007. This key portion of the field is still owned by the Champion family, for whom the area and the battle were named, but now is also under conservation easement. This means that the Champions maintain ownership of the historic land of which they have been careful stewards for generations, while ensuring that their intentions of seeing it protected are realized in perpetuity.



CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER LINE

Cobb County officials, working with the Georgia Battlefields Association, have made considerable progress toward protecting the embattled fortifications of Johnson's River Line. By working creatively with a developer, they ensured that two of the remaining Confederate fortifications (unique structures known as Shoupades) and the land connecting them are preserved as a county park. Interpretive signs and a walking trail were installed in September 2007. Meanwhile, in July the county approved nearly \$2.5 million for the purchase of 15.45 acres containing remnants of the opposing Federal line for a second county park.



GLENDAL

While the Richmond, Va., suburbs remain a hotbed for development, CWPT has made remarkable strides at Glendale, preserving 319 acres in just one year and 566 acres overall. Once visitors could scarcely find a roadside pulloff to contemplate the fighting, but now fully 75 percent of the battlefield is preserved. When combined with previous efforts at nearby Malvern Hill, CWPT has now created a three-mile-long continuous corridor of protected battlefield.

HARPERS FERRY

In August 2006 a group of unscrupulous developers bulldozed a portion of battlefield at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park and, without authorization or permit, laid 1,900 feet of water and sewer pipe to feed their planned development nearby. Over the next year, their plans for rezoning were stymied at every turn by local government officials, supported by national and local preservation groups. In the fall of 2007, local officials and preservationists engaged a new development firm, which is committed to using the land to improve the visitor experience at the park and preserve viewshed.



NEW ORLEANS

Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans with a vengeance in August 2005, doing immense damage to the region's historic resources, including the Civil War-era forts that defended the city. Following extensive repair and rehabilitation, Fort Pike State Historic Site reopened to the public in February 2008. Forts Jackson and St. Philip in Plaquemines Parish, however, remain shuttered.



WILDERNESS

Activists looking to protect this Orange County, Va., battlefield had much to celebrate in 2007. In January, the County Board of Supervisors added language to its Comprehensive Plan that quashed developers' hopes of widening State Route 20 to four lanes through the heart of the battlefield. Then both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors voted unanimously against a rezoning proposal that would have allowed 443,500 gross square feet of commercial space within the boundary of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. The banner year culminated in December, with the Park Service purchasing a 63-acre tract of battlefield that had once been slated for construction.



ABOUT CWPT

The Civil War was the most tragic conflict in American history. For four long years, North and South clashed in hundreds of battles and skirmishes that sounded the death knell for slavery and defined us as a nation. More than 625,000 soldiers and 50,000 civilians perished as a result of the war.



CWPT is committed to protecting the last tangible links to this tumultuous period in American history – the fields where the conflict was decided. We strive to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields through outright purchases, conservation easements and partnerships with federal, state and local governments. With 65,000 members, CWPT is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States.

CWPT celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2007, simultaneously crossing the important milestone of 25,000 acres of hallowed ground saved in 18 states. Among the sites rescued by CWPT in recent months are key parcels at Perryville in Kentucky, Champion Hill in Mississippi and Glendale in Virginia.

To support our battlefield preservation efforts and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds, CWPT maintains numerous outreach programs. In addition to the report you hold in your hands, CWPT produces *Hallowed Ground*, our award-winning quarterly magazine; oversees the Civil War Discovery Trail, a National Millennium Trail linking more than 600 sites in 32 states and three foreign countries; and offers numerous education programs to classrooms, including school curricula and our online Civil War Explorer program.

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE

at the Civil War Preservation Trust's Website
www.civilwar.org

*Thirty acres of Civil War
battlefield land are
destroyed every day.*



*Modern view of the Stone House at Manassas National Battlefield Park.
(Image courtesy of Michael Melford.)*



Special thanks to The History Channel for its continued support of *History Under Siege* and the Civil War Preservation Trust.