Where Do We Go From Here?

We eagerly anticipate the next step of the planning process! Once we have received your input from this newsletter, we will develop the agency’s preferred alternative and begin the analysis of environmental impacts for each alternative. The result of this effort will be published in the form of a Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement, which will be made available to you for your evaluation and input. We expect to reach this planning milestone during the early summer of 2004. We also will schedule a series of public meetings during that time to offer an alternative forum for your input.

We invite you to use this form to express your views on the preliminary draft alternatives for the Monocacy National Battlefield. Your comments are welcome at any time; however, they will be particularly helpful if we receive them by August 1, 2003. If you prefer to use the internet, comments may also be posted to: http://planning.nps.gov.

Dear Friends and Neighbors of Monocacy National Battlefield:

We are pleased to share this second newsletter with you and ask for your continued assistance in our planning effort to develop a draft general management plan for Monocacy National Battlefield. This plan will provide guidance for the battlefield’s overall management. It will determine how the battlefield will address resource management, visitor use, and park operation issues over the next 15 to 20 years.

First, we would like to thank all of you who provided feedback on the first newsletter, which presented our first draft of the battlefield’s purpose and significance statements and an outline of planning issues facing the battlefield. The ideas, issues, and concerns that you shared have been informative and helpful as we continue with the next phase of planning.

During the past few months we have developed a description of interpretive themes, potential management zones, and a range of conceptual alternative management strategies for the battlefield. These alternatives, which are anchored by the battlefield’s purpose and significance statements, explore a range of options for resolving battlefield management issues. There is one “no-action” alternative that would continue current management practices, and there are three “action” alternatives. The no-action alternative, which is required by law, will serve as a baseline for comparing the value of the other alternatives.

We emphasize that the alternatives are “works in progress” that require your input. Similar to the previous newsletter, inside you will find a stamped, addressed comment response form that you can use to send us your feedback. If you prefer to respond by computer, my e-mail address is <susan_trail@nps.gov>, or if you prefer you may also post your comments to the NPS planning website at http://planning.nps.gov. Your comments and suggestions will help us refine a preferred alternative that will be published in a Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement, which will be made available for your review and comment later.

We value your input regarding the future of Monocacy National Battlefield. Thank you for your time and effort.

Susan Trail
Superintendent, Monocacy National Battlefield
What Have We Heard?

We appreciate the comments and thoughts we received from you in response to our first GMP newsletter, which was distributed last December. In that newsletter, we asked for your input on the battlefield’s draft purpose and significance statements. We also requested your review and comments on the list of issues facing the battlefield that were previously expressed by the public, the state of Maryland, Frederick County, and members of the battlefield staff during our scoping efforts last August and December. On the basis of that input, we have made refinements to the purpose and significance statements and have further consolidated the list of planning issues. These revisions are presented below:

The Purpose of Monocacy National Battlefield is to:

• Preserve the breastworks, earthworks, walls, and other defenses and shelters used by the Confederate and Union armies on July 9, 1864.
• Commemorate the Battle of Monocacy.
• Provide opportunities for visitors to understand and appreciate the significance of the Battle of Monocacy within its specific and broader historical context.

The Significance of Monocacy National Battlefield is:

• As the site of the July 9, 1864, battle where a small Union army successfully delayed a larger Confederate army’s attempt to capture Washington, D.C., during the Confederacy’s third and final attempt to bring the war to the north, a campaign designed to divert pressure from Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s army at Petersburg, and potentially lessen President Abraham Lincoln’s chances for reelection.
• Its location at Monocacy Junction, where river, roads, and railroads converged near Frederick, Maryland, about 50 miles northwest of Washington, D.C., which offered an ideal position to defend or advance upon the nation’s capital during the Civil War.
• As the site of other important events associated with the Civil War, including the 1862 Maryland Campaign and Lee’s Lost Order, the 1863 Gettysburg Campaign, and the 1864 Grant-Sheridan meeting outlining the Shenandoah Valley Campaign.
• As a site that provides opportunities for understanding the evolution of settlement in the region and the Civil War in its broader context of American history.
• As a battlefield where visitors can experience many historic landscapes, structures, and transportation corridors that have changed little since the Battle of Monocacy was fought on July 9, 1864.

Planning Issues

Resource Management

• Preserve the rural character of the mid-19th century battlefield landscape.
• Restore historic structures, remove modern intrusions, and improve views of battlefield features.
• Mitigate current and avoid future impacts to the battlefield from I-270 transportation corridor.
• Address conflict between increasing deer and geese populations while maintaining a viable agricultural leasing program.
• Manage federally listed and state-listed threatened and endangered plant and animal species on the battlefield according to laws and policies.
• Monitor rare plants and manage invasive nonnative species.
• Restore and revegetate eroded riverbanks, plant riparian buffer, and control river access.
• Maintain the two large blocks of forest within the battlefield.
• Manage woodlots to perpetuate native species.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative 1: No Action</th>
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<th>Alternative 3 The Local Story</th>
<th>Alternative 4 Crossroads: A Border State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commemorative Area along Araby Church Road</strong></td>
<td>Maintained as at present; cinderblock house removed and site landscaped upon tenant vacating (ca. 2006-2007); no policy on monument placement within battlefield.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 2.</td>
<td>All new monuments placed in a formal commemorative area designed behind new visitor center; design guidelines for new monuments developed; all existing monuments maintained as at present.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lewis Farm</strong></td>
<td>House, barn, and corn crib preserved as part of cultural landscape; no public access; interpretation at visitor center.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Worthington Farm</strong></td>
<td>Exterior of house preserved, front porch reconstructed; no visitor access into house; significance of interior finishes determined and preservation done accordingly; parking remains at area near Baker Valley Road; visitors walk up lane to house; interpretation at visitor center and via wayides.</td>
<td>Exterior of house preserved, front porch reconstructed; two first floor rooms and hall restored to allow possible guided public access through hall; vehicle parking area designed; lane from Baker Valley Road widened to two lanes; vehicle parking area designed; interpretation by ranger stationed at house and via wayides.</td>
<td>Exterior of house preserved, front porch reconstructed; no visitor access into house; significance of interior finishes determined and preservation done accordingly; present entry from Baker Valley Road made into a one-way lane in, with exit across I-270 deck for all vehicles on reconstructed farm lane between Worthington and Thomas Farms; vehicle parking area designed near house; interpretation mainly at visitor center and via wayides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baker Farm</strong></td>
<td>Retain in life estate</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I-270 Corridor</strong></td>
<td>A section of deck constructed over I-270 to reconnect farm lane between Thomas and Worthington Farms and visually replace I-270 with continuous farmscapes; fence rows across I-270 also reconstructed; NPS would continue to work with MD State Highway Administration to reduce noise and visual impacts when possible.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 2.</td>
</tr>
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**Commemoration**
- Consider options for the placement of additional monuments within the national battlefield.

**Visitor Use**
- Highway noise makes it difficult to hear interpreters and is above the limit set for outdoor parkland. Changes to I-270 could increase the noise further.
- Provide public access into historic structures.
- Determine how many more trails would be needed to accommodate public access to historic features.
- Determine the extent of additional roads, if any, that are needed to accommodate public access to historic features.
- Consider what compatible recreational uses, if any, could be accommodated within the historic battlefield.
- Address visitor safety related to the existing road and railroad transportation corridors.
- Provide better directional signs to the battlefield.

**Interpretation and Education**
- Enhance/expand existing educational and interpretive programs.
- Interpret Monocacy National Battlefield within the broader context of the Civil War.
- Provide interpretation of local history.
- Improve wayside exhibits.
- Consider restoring lost features of the battlefield to help facilitate interpretation.

**Operations**
- Determine what administrative and/or maintenance support facilities could be accommodated on the site without compromising the preservation of the battlefield landscape.
- Explore partnership potential with other historic preservation groups, other interest groups, local businesses, local and state governments, scholars, and volunteers.
- Anticipate funding constraints with implementation visions.

**Boundary Adjustments**
- Consider additional land acquisition to protect battle-related landscape features and natural resources.

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The Planning Process - Where Are We?

We are nearing the completion of the second step of the planning process, “develop planning alternatives.” With your help, we can finalize this step and move on to the third step, “prepare a draft general management plan/environmental impact statement.” Since last summer the planning team has taken several steps toward building a solid foundation for developing a range of management alternatives for Monocacy National Battlefield. In addition to considering and integrating your input, the planning team developed a list of interpretive theme statements for the battlefield. This effort is intended to help illuminate interpretive opportunities for enhancing the visitor experience. The following six interpretive theme statements were developed:

**Interpretive Themes Statements**

1. The Union defeat at the Battle of Monocacy, ironically, determined the fate of the nation’s capital in July 1864 by delaying the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia’s third and last offensive campaign in the North.
2. By virtue of its crossroads location, Monocacy Junction was the site of many important events of the Civil War.
3. The landscape upon which the Battle of Monocacy was fought represents a complex mosaic of historical and geographic elements that serve as a rich backdrop for events and issues relating to the Civil War in Maryland.
5) Confederate General Jubal Early’s failure to capture the nation’s capital in July 1864, mainly because of his delay to fight the Battle of Monocacy, boosted President Lincoln’s declining popularity and helped ensure his reelection. It also forced Early’s Confederate army back to the Petersburg defenses, resulting in a Union campaign devoted to total destruction of the Shenandoah Valley and bringing the war to an end by any means necessary.

6) Civil War veterans began to commemorate Monocacy Battlefield in the early 1900s, and since its designation as a unit of the national park system in 1934, Monocacy National Battlefield has served as a focal point for memorializing the actions of the soldiers who fought here on July 9, 1864. Depending on the focus of each alternative management concept, some of these themes would be emphasized more than others and become the anchor by which the visitor experience would be choreographed throughout the battlefield.

Management Prescriptions/Management Zones

Another initiative included the development of management prescriptions and management zones for the national battlefield. Management prescriptions are descriptions of the resource conditions and desired visitor experiences to be achieved in various management zones. Management zones are the distinct mapped areas within which the management prescription goals are to be achieved.

Five different zones were identified for Monocacy National Battlefield: preservation, natural resource, commemorative, maintenance/administrative, and visitor facility. For each zone, a management prescription was developed to help guide the preservation of the resources, their interpretation to the public, and what types of facilities might be appropriate within the zone. Brief descriptions of each zone follow:

The preservation zone would encompass most of the national battlefield’s cultural landscape and historic structures. This would be the zone in which the preservation of the battlefield resources would be most strictly carried out. This is the essentially the resource being interpreted to the public.

The natural resource zone would be the areas of the park that contain significant natural resources requiring special management.

The commemorative zone would be the areas of the park set aside for monuments commemorating the soldiers who fought the battle of Monocacy. These areas would consist of more formal landscapes maintained to create a peaceful, contemplative experience.

The maintenance/administrative zone would consist of areas set aside for the facilities necessary to manage the national battlefield. To the extent possible, these would be in areas not frequented by the public, although some administrative activities could be housed in adaptively rehabilitated historic structures.

The visitor facilities zone would consist of areas of the national battlefield that would help visitors to experience the various resources such as parking areas, visitor center, or restrooms. A high degree of design would be required to fit these facilities into the landscape.

Management Prescriptions/Management Zones

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Would continue to be maintained as at present.</td>
<td>Entrance moved south for better sight distances; NPS would continue to work with state to lower speed limit on MD 355 and with New Jersey to evaluate parking.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 2.</td>
<td>Entrance moved south for better sight distances; NPS would continue to work with state to lower speed limit on MD 355 and with New Jersey to formalize parking and make all-weather.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambrill Mill Tract</td>
<td>Gambrill Mill remains for exhibits and classroom space; Gambrill Mansion continues under agreement with Historic Preservation Training Center for office space; maintenance remains in metal building; exterior of Gambrill Mill preserved “as is” with classroom space in basement and seasonal housing on second floor; Gambrill Mansion continues under agreement with Historic Preservation Training Center for office space; maintenance removed from metal building; exterior preserved and used for agriculture; becomes part of Historic Preservation Training Center; interpretation mainly at visitor center.</td>
<td>Exterior of Gambrill Mill preserved; basement of mill used for classrooms; second floor for storage; Gambrill Mansion continues under agreement with Historic Preservation Training Center for office space; maintenance remains in expanded metal building; interpretation mainly via way-sides and exhibits.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exterior of Gambrill Mill preserved; basement of mill used for classrooms; second floor for storage; Gambrill Mansion continues under agreement with Historic Preservation Training Center for office space; maintenance remains in expanded metal building; interpretation mainly via way-sides and exhibits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toll House</td>
<td>Structure stabilized; no interpretation.</td>
<td>Structure removed; no interpretation.</td>
<td>Structure made available for removal by group agreeing to relocate and preserve it, or otherwise removed; interpretation at visitor center, waysides.</td>
<td>Structure made available for removal by group agreeing to relocate and preserve it, or otherwise removed; interpretation at visitor center, waysides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Farm</td>
<td>Property preserved in present condition; when life estate is up, main house mothballed and interpreted from outside; pool filled in; existing parking south of house continued; barn stabilized, then preserved and used for agriculture; interpretation at visitor center.</td>
<td>Property preserved in present condition; when life estate is up, leased under Historic Leasing Program; no public access to main house; rooms and exhibits placed in stone house; pool, pond, tennis courts, cinderblock house, and cinderblock milking building removed; parking near barn; barn stabilized and preserved for agriculture; fields continued in agricultural special use permits; trail system over battlefield added; interpretation mainly in stone house and via way-sides.</td>
<td>Property preserved in present condition; when life estate is up, national battlefield administration moved into main house; rooms and exhibits in stone house; pool, pond, tennis courts, cinderblock house, and cinderblock milking building removed; parking near barn; barn stabilized and preserved for agriculture; fields continued in agricultural special use permits; interpretation mainly in stone house and via way-sides.</td>
<td>Property preserved in present condition; when life estate is up, main floor for exhibits, second floor for storage or an interpretive office; restrooms in stone house; pool, pond, tennis courts, and cinderblock milking building removed; cinderblock house kept for seasonal housing; barn stabilized and preserved for agriculture; fields continued in agricultural special use permits; trail system over battlefield added; interpretation in main house and waysides.</td>
</tr>
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The Battle of Monocacy, fought in a border state, revealed the divided loyalties of Maryland citizens during the Civil War.
<table>
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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internal Circulation</td>
<td>Access to sites by personal vehicles over existing roads; one-way circulation system between Worthington and Thomas Farms over I-270 deck; trail system around center of battlefield on Thomas Farm with connection to Worthington Lane pedestrian trail from Gambrill Mill parking area; self-guided interpretation.</td>
<td>Access to sites by personal vehicles over existing roads; created with mandatory visitor use when operating same route as alt. 3; ranger interpreter on transportation system.</td>
<td>Personal vehicles provide access to sites over existing roads; I-270 deck with pedestrian access only; Worthington Lane would become two way; vehicles reach Thomas House from front entrance; trail system around center of battlefield on Thomas Farm; self-guided interpretation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Center</td>
<td>In new structure along MD 355 near north approach to national battlefield; overall battlefield orientation and interpretation available.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
<td>In new structure along MD 355 near north approach to national battlefield; new trail to junction area; overall park orientation and interpretation available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Still in Gambrill Mill and in metal building on Gambrill Tract.</td>
<td>In rental space outside national battlefield.</td>
<td>In Thomas House.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>Moved to a location outside national battlefield.</td>
<td>Remains in metal building on Gambrill tract; enlarged for offices, vehicle storage, and work area.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Farm</td>
<td>Extent of historic structures restored; Settlement House interior preserved, main house interior rehabilitated under historic leasing program; nonhistoric structures removed; occasional guided tours; agricultural use continued; interpretation at visitor center; occasional guided tours.</td>
<td>Main house exterior restored, first floor interior rehabilitated for exhibits; interior tours permitted; settlement period house preserved and visitors allowed to look inside; barn and corn crib preserved; nonhistoric structures removed; first stop on transportation system; agricultural use continued; interpretation by way-sides and exhibits.</td>
<td>Extent of historic structures restored; interior of main house rehabilitated under historic leasing program; nonhistoric structures removed; no visitors in house or settlement period house; may be accessed via new trail from visitor center; grove of trees planted in field where Lee was camped; interpretation mainly by way-sides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junction</td>
<td>Remains off-limits to visitors; interpretation handled at visitor center.</td>
<td>No access from visitor center.</td>
<td>Access from Reich's Ford Road or possibly via a pedestrian bridge attached to railroad bridge; railroad right-of-way fenced to protect visitors; interpretation primarily via way-sides.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Alternative Management Concepts**

The last initiative entailed the development of alternative concepts. These concepts are brief statements that provide a unifying vision around which an alternative is developed. Each concept must take into account the national battlefield's legislative purpose and its significance. It is intended that all of the interpretive themes would be covered, but with different emphasis in each alternative.

Please review the following four alternative management concepts and tell us whether they reflect an appropriate range for further development. Keep in mind that in a general management plan the level of detail will remain fairly broad. It is possible that you may like some but not all the elements of one alternative or that you may like a concept but disagree with the way we have translated it. Maybe you have an entirely different vision that would address Monocacy National Battlefield issues. We need to know the reasons for your likes and dislikes. With your comments, we can reevaluate the alternatives and modify them as necessary. This is the kind of feedback that will help us formulate the best possible future for Monocacy National Battlefield.

**Elements Common to All Alternatives**

There are actions that will not be significantly different in all alternatives. These are generally elements required by law or policy, such as the preservation of significant natural and cultural resources. They may be fundamental to an understanding of the national battlefield's resources, such as continued data collection and study of archeological resources, or they may include actions that have already been approved in prior plans that are still valid. There may also be actions that are clearly necessary in all alternatives, such as noise or visual intrusion abatement or employee and visitor safety, which would be required in all alternatives.

Additional examples of some of these actions would be continuing agricultural use of national battlefield lands, preserving threatened and endangered species, continued preservation of historic structures on the landscape, and continued discussion with local and state entities to increase the safety of the road system and to mitigate impacts of the I-270 corridor through the national battlefield.

Through a parallel and previously approved effort, design work is underway for the construction of a new visitor center with interpretive exhibits on the east side of MD 355, at the extreme northern end of the national battlefield. Once the facility is constructed, the current visitor center will be relocated from the lower level of the Gambrill Mill, which then will be made available for hosting school groups and/or classroom space. This will eliminate the current problem of housing the visitor center function in the flood-prone Gambrill Mill. An environmental assessment was completed this past winter with a finding of no significant impact. The construction of this new facility is programmed for fiscal year 2005, pending congressional appropriations of construction funds. With the completion of this programmed effort, major enhancements in battlefield information and interpretation will be available for visitors.

Beyond these common elements, the following planning alternatives explore a range of possibilities for managing resources, shaping the visitor experience, and providing facilities. While each alternative has an explicit vision for the next 15–20 years, it should be recognized that these alternatives are not mutually exclusive. Many of the ideas will more than likely be repackaged as the preferred alternative in the next stage of the planning process. As you review the alternatives below, you might track the ideas and concepts that most closely represent your view of the future of Monocacy National Battlefield and forward those opinions on the accompanying comment response form. If you think we are overlooking possibilities, please forward those ideas as well.
Alternative 1:
Continue Present Management Practices

This no-action alternative documents the existing management of the national battlefield and provides a means of comparing the current management with the “action” alternatives. The visitor experience at Monocacy would be tied primarily to the new visitor center, where most interpretation would be offered. Existing trails would continue to be maintained and some additional segments developed as needed, but no comprehensive trail system would be devised. No new park roads would be developed. Maintenance and park administration would remain in their current locations. Historic structures would be preserved, and nonhistoric structures not required for some park function would be removed. Access to those historic structures would be restricted for visitor safety and to protect resources. Interpretation would be available at the visitor center or at wayside exhibits.

Alternative 2:
The Battle

Alternative 2 would focus on giving visitors an in-depth understanding of the specific strategies and tactics surrounding the July 9, 1864, battle. Emphasis would be placed on providing access to significant battlefield features and offering onsite interpretation. The visitor center would be the site of a general, overall interpretive experience, after which visitors would be encouraged to drive to important battlefield locations, where rangers or interpretive waysides would explain the battle as it unfolded. Important to this concept would be the restoration to a semblance of the 1864 landscape, its sight lines, hedgerows, the exteriors of the structures there during the battle, and the removal of nonhistoric structures. A deck would be constructed over part of I-270 to visually and physically connect the Thomas and Worthington farms. The railroad junction, so important to an understanding of the battle, would be accessed by new trails.

Alternative 3:
The Local Story

In alternative 3, the focus would be on the larger regional, social, and geographic conditions that existed in Maryland during the Civil War. The visitor center would display background on life in a border state and site history, and more in-depth interpretation would be available on a multipassenger transportation system. At each stop, a more personal story associated with specific site features would unfold.

As with alternative 2, emphasis would be placed on recreating a semblance of the historic landscape. A deck over I-270 would also be constructed in this alternative. Guided access into several of the historic structures could be made available to help personalize the story of the families caught up in the conflict.

National battlefield headquarters would move into the Thomas House. Maintenance would remain in its present location.

The following matrix has been developed to display more detail:
Alternative 1: Continue Present Management Practices

This no-action alternative documents the existing management of the national battlefield and provides a means of comparing the current management with the “action” alternatives. The visitor experience at Monocacy would be tied primarily to the new visitor center, where most interpretation would be offered. Existing trails would continue to be maintained and some additional segments developed as needed, but no comprehensive trail system would be devised. No new park roads would be developed. Maintenance and park administration would remain in their current locations. Historic structures would be preserved, and nonhistoric structures not required for some park function would be removed. Access to those historic structures would be restricted for visitor safety and to protect resources. Interpretation would be available at the visitor center or at wayside exhibits.

Alternative 2: The Battle

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As with alternative 2, emphasis would be placed on recreating a semblance of the historic landscape. A deck over I-270 would also be constructed in this alternative. Guided access into several of the historic structures could be made available to help personalize the story of the families caught up in the conflict.

National battlefield headquarters would move into the Thomas House. Maintenance would remain in its present location.

Alternative 4: Crossroads: A Border State

Alternative 4 would focus on Monocacy as a military and transportation crossroads throughout the Civil War. The confluence of the river, rail, and road systems focused military events in this small area many times throughout the war years. Visitors would be able to gain an initial understanding of the site and its history at the visitor center, then they would be directed to go by car to various sites that help to reinforce the “crossroads” concept. As with the other two action alternatives, re-creating a semblance of the historic landscape is important. This alternative also would include the I-270 deck to assist circulation and to reconnect the two historic farmsteads.

Functions that could be accommodated outside the boundaries, such as maintenance and administration, would be removed.

The following matrix has been developed to display more detail:
### Alternative Management Concepts

The last initiative entailed the development of alternative concepts. These concepts are brief statements that provide a unifying vision around which an alternative is developed. Each concept must take into account the national battlefield’s legislated purpose and its significance. It is intended that all of the interpretive themes would be covered, but with different emphasis in each alternative.

Please review the following four alternative management concepts and tell us whether they reflect an appropriate range for further development. Keep in mind that in a general management plan the level of detailed action is clearly necessary in all alternatives, such as noise or visual intrusion abatement or employee and visitor safety, which would be required in all alternatives.

Additional examples of some of these actions would be continuing agricultural use of national battlefield lands, preserving threatened and endangered species, continued preservation of historic structures on the landscape, and continued discussion with local and state entities to increase the safety of the road system and to mitigate impacts of the I-270 corridor through the national battlefield.

Through a parallel and previously approved effort, design work is underway for the construction of a new visitor center with interpretive exhibits on the east side of MD 355, at the extreme northern end of the national battlefield. Once the facility is constructed, the current visitor center will be relocated from the lower level of the Gambrill Mill, which then will be made available for hosting school groups and/or classroom space. This will eliminate the current problem of housing the visitor center function in the flood-prone Gambrill Mill. An environmental assessment was completed this past winter with a finding of no significant impact. The construction of this new facility is programmed for fiscal year 2005, pending congressional appropriations of construction funds. With the completion of this programmed effort, major elements in battlefield information and interpretation will be available for visitors.

Beyond these common elements, the following planning alternatives explore a range of possibilities for managing resources, shaping the visitor experience, and providing facilities. While each alternative has an explicit vision for the next 15–20 years, it should be recognized that these alternatives are not mutually exclusive. Many of the ideas will more than likely be repackaged as the preferred alternative in the next stage of the planning process. As you review the alternatives below, you might track the ideas and concepts that most closely represent your view of the future of Monocacy National Battlefield.

#### Elements Common to All Alternatives

There are actions that will not be significantly different in all alternatives. These are generally elements required by law or policy, such as the preservation of significant natural and cultural resources. They may be fundamental to an understanding of the national battlefield’s resources, such as continued data collection and study of archeological resources, or they may include actions that have already been approved in prior plans that are still valid. There may also be actions that are clearly necessary in all alternatives, such as noise or visual intrusion abatement or employee and visitor safety, which would be required in all alternatives.

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### Table: Alternative 1-4

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Access to sites by personal vehicles over existing roads; one-way circulation system between Worthington and Thomas Farms over I-270; trail system around center of battlefield on Thomas Farm with connection to Worthington Lane pedestrian trail from Gambrill Mill parking area; self-guided interpretation.</td>
<td>Access to sites by personal vehicles over existing roads; created with mandatory visitor use when operating same route as alt. 3; ranger interpreter on transportation system.</td>
<td>Personal vehicles provide access to sites over existing roads; I-270 deck with pedestrian access only; Worthington Lane would become two way; vehicles reach Thomas House from front entrance; trail system around center of battlefield on Thomas Farm; self-guided interpretation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visitor Center</strong></td>
<td>In new structure along MD 355 near north approach to national battlefield; overall battlefield orientation and interpretation available.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
<td>In new structure along MD 355 near north approach to national battlefield; new trail to junction area; overall park orientation and interpretation available, and more site specific information on properties not generally open (such as the Best Farm).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administration</strong></td>
<td>Still in Gambrill Mill and in metal building on Gambrill tract.</td>
<td>In Gambrill House.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maintenance</strong></td>
<td>Moved to a location outside national battlefield.</td>
<td>Remains in metal building on Gambrill tract; enlarged for offices, vehicle storage, and work area.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Best Farm</strong></td>
<td>Structures preserved; interpreted mainly at visitor center.</td>
<td>Exterior of historic structures restored; Settlement House interior preserved, main house interior rehabilitated under historic leasing program; nonhistoric structures removed; occasional guided tours; agricultural use continued; interpretation mainly at visitor center; occasional guided tours.</td>
<td>Exterior of historic structures restored; interior of main house rehabilitated under historic leasing program; nonhistoric structures removed; no visitors in house or settlement period house; may be accessed via new trail from visitor center; grove of trees planted in field where Lee was camped; interpretation mainly by way-sides and exhibits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Junction</strong></td>
<td>Remains off-limits to visitors; interpretation handled at visitor center.</td>
<td>No access from visitor center; may be viewed from Gambrill Mill trail, which would be extended to the railroad crossing; vista clear to see junction; interpretation primarily via way-sides.</td>
<td>Access from Reich’s Ford Road or possibly via a pedestrian bridge attached to railroad bridge; railroad right-of-way fenced to protect visitors; interpretation primarily via way-sides.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4) The Battle of Monocacy, fought in a border state, revealed the divided loyalties of Maryland citizens during the Civil War.

5) Confederate General Jubal Early's failure to capture the nation's capital in July 1864, mainly because of his delay to fight the Battle of Monocacy, boosted President Lincoln's declining popularity and helped ensure his reelection. It also forced Early's Confederate army back to the Petersburg defenses, resulting in a Union campaign devoted to total destruction of the Shenandoah Valley and bringing the war to an end by any means necessary.

6) Civil War veterans began to commemorate Monocacy Battlefield in the early 1900s, and since its designation as a unit of the national park system in 1934, Monocacy National Battlefield has served as a focal point for memorializing the actions of the soldiers who fought here on July 9, 1864.

Depending on the focus of each alternative management concept, some of these themes would be emphasized more than others and become the anchor by which the visitor experience would be choreographed throughout the battlefield.

**Management Prescriptions/Management Zones**

Another initiative included the development of management prescriptions and management zones for the national battlefield. Management prescriptions are descriptions of the resource conditions and desired visitor experiences to be achieved in various management zones. Management zones are the distinct mapped areas within which the management prescription goals are to be achieved.

Five different zones were identified for Monocacy National Battlefield: preservation, natural resource, commemorative, maintenance/administrative, and visitor facility. For each zone, a management prescription was developed to help guide the preservation of resources, their interpretation to the public, and what types of facilities might be appropriate within the zone. Brief descriptions of each zone follow:

The **preservation zone** would encompass most of the national battlefield's cultural landscape and historic structures. This would be the zone in which the preservation of the battlefield resources would be most strictly carried out. This is the essentially the resource being interpreted to the public.

The **natural resource zone** would be the areas of the park that contain significant natural resources requiring special management.

The **commemorative zone** would be the areas of the park set aside for monuments commemorating the soldiers who fought the battle of Monocacy. These areas would consist of more formal landscapes maintained to create a peaceful, contemplative experience.

The **maintenance/administrative zone** would consist of areas set aside for the facilities necessary to manage the national battlefield. To the extent possible, these would be in areas not frequented by the public, although some administrative activities could be housed in adaptively rehabilitated historic structures.

The **visitor facilities zone** would consist of areas of the national battlefield that would help visitors to experience the various resources such as parking areas, visitor center, or restrooms. A high degree of design would be required to fit these facilities into the landscape.

### Management Prescriptions/Management Zones

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Would continue to be maintained at present.</td>
<td>Entrance moved south for better sight distances; NPS would continue to work with state to lower speed limit on MD 355 and with New Jersey to evaluate parking.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 2.</td>
<td>Entrance moved south for better sight distances; NPS would continue to work with state to lower speed limit on MD 355 and with New Jersey to formalize parking and make all-weather.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambrill Mill Tract</td>
<td>Gambrill Mill preserved “as is” with classroom space in basement and seasonal housing on second floor; Gambrill Mansion continues under agreement with Historic Preservation Training Center for office space; maintenance remains in expanded metal building; interpretation mainly at visitor center.</td>
<td>Exterior of Gambrill Mill preserved; basement of mill used for classrooms, second floor for storage; Gambrill Mansion continues under agreement with Historic Preservation Training Center for office space; maintenance remains in expanded metal building; interpretation mainly via waysides and exhibits.</td>
<td>Gambrill Mill preserved as is with classroom space in basement and seasonal housing on the second floor; Gambrill Mansion continues under agreement with Historic Preservation Training Center for office space; administration and maintenance co-located outside the national battlefield and metal building removed; interpretation mainly at visitor center but some at waysides.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toll House</td>
<td>Structure stabilized; no interpretation.</td>
<td>Structure removed; no interpretation.</td>
<td>Structure made available for removal by group agreeing to relocate and preserve it, or otherwise removed; no interpretation.</td>
<td>Structure made available for removal by group agreeing to relocate and preserve it, or otherwise removed; interpretation at visitor center, waysides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Farm</td>
<td>Property preserved in present condition; when life estate is up, main house mothballed and interpreted from outside; pool filled in; existing parking south of house continued; barn stabilized and preserved for agriculture; interpretation at visitor center.</td>
<td>Property preserved in present condition; when life estate is up, leased under Historic Leasing Program; no public access to main house; restrooms and exhibits placed in stone house; pool, pond, tennis courts, cinderblock house, and cinderblock milking building removed; parking near barn; barn stabilized and preserved for agriculture.</td>
<td>Property preserved in present condition; when life estate is up, national battlefield administration moved into main house; restrooms and exhibits in stone house; pool, pond, tennis courts, cinderblock house, and cinderblock milking building removed; parking near barn; barn stabilized and preserved for agriculture.</td>
<td>Property preserved in present condition; when life estate is up, main floor for exhibits, second floor for storage or an interpretive office; restrooms in stone house; pool, pond, tennis courts, and cinderblock milking building removed; cinderblock house kept for seasonal housing; barn stabilized and preserved for agriculture; fields continued in agricultural special use permits; trail system over battlefield added; interpretation in main house and via waysides.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- **New Jersey Monument:** Would continue to be maintained as at present.
- **Gambrill Mill Tract:** Gambrill Mill preserved “as is” with classroom space in basement and seasonal housing on second floor; Gambrill Mansion continues under agreement with Historic Preservation Training Center for office space; maintenance remains in expanded metal building; interpretation mainly at visitor center.
- **Toll House:** Structure stabilized; no interpretation.
- **Thomas Farm:** Property preserved in present condition; when life estate is up, main house mothballed and interpreted from outside; pool filled in; existing parking south of house continued; barn stabilized and preserved for agriculture; interpretation at visitor center.
### 1. No Action
- Maintained as at present; cinderblock house removed and site landscaped upon tenant vacating (ca. 2006-2007); no policy on monument placement within battlefield.

### The Battle
- Cinderclock house removed and site landscaped upon tenant vacating (ca. 2006-2007); all new monuments would be placed within designated zone along Araby Road; design guidelines for new monuments developed; all existing monuments maintained as at present.

### The Local Story
- Same as alternative 2.

### Crossroads: A Border State
- All new monuments placed in formal commemorative area designed behind new visitor center; design guidelines for new monuments developed; all existing monuments maintained as at present.

### Commemorative Area along Araby Church Road

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative 1</th>
<th>Alternative 2</th>
<th>Alternative 3</th>
<th>Alternative 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Farm</td>
<td>House, barn, and corn crib preserved as part of cultural landscape; no public access; interpretation at visitor center.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worthington Farm</td>
<td>Exterior of house preserved, front porch reconstructed; no visitor access into house; significance of interior finishes determined and preservation done accordingly; parking remains at area near Baker Valley Road; visitors walk up lane to house; interpretation at visitor center and via waysides.</td>
<td>Exterior of house preserved, front porch reconstructed; no visitor access into house; significance of interior finishes determined and preservation done accordingly; parking remains at area near Baker Valley Road; visitors walk up lane to house; interpretation at visitor center and via waysides.</td>
<td>Exterior of house preserved, front porch reconstructed; no visitor access into house; significance of interior finishes determined and preservation done accordingly; parking remains at area near Baker Valley Road; visitors walk up lane to house; interpretation at visitor center and via waysides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker Farm</td>
<td>Retain in life estate</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-270 Corridor</td>
<td>A section of deck constructed over I-270 to reconnect farm lane between Thomas and Worthington Farms and visually replace I-270 with continuous farmscape; fence rows across I-270 also reconstructed; NPS would continue to work with MD State Highway Administration to reduce noise and visual impacts when possible.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 2.</td>
<td>Same as alternative 2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Interpretive Themes Statements

1. **Commemoration**
   - Consider options for the placement of additional monuments within the national battlefield.

2. **Visitor Use**
   - Highway noise makes it difficult to hear interpreters and is above the limit set for outdoor parkland. Changes to I-270 could increase the noise further.
   - Provide public access into historic structures.
   - Determine how many more trails would be needed to accommodate public access to historic features.
   - Determine the extent of additional roads, if any, that are needed to accommodate public access to historic features.
   - Consider what compatible recreational uses, if any, could be accommodated within the historic battlefield.
   - Address visitor safety related to the existing road and railroad transportation corridors.
   - Provide better directional signs to the battlefield.

### Interpretation and Education

- Enhance/expand existing educational and interpretive programs.
- Interpret Monocacy National Battlefield within the broader context of the Civil War.
- Provide interpretation of local history.
- Improve waysides exhibits.
- Consider restoring lost features of the battlefield to help facilitate interpretation.

### Operations

- Determine what administrative and/or maintenance support facilities could be accommodated on the site without compromising the preservation of the battlefield landscape.
- Explore partnership potential with other historic preservation groups, other interest groups, local businesses, local and state governments, scholars, and volunteers.
- Anticipate funding constraints with implementation visions.

### Boundary Adjustments

- Consider additional land acquisition to protect battle-related landscape features and natural resources.

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**The Planning Process - Where Are We?**

We are nearing the completion of the second step of the planning process, “develop planning alternatives.” With your help, we can finalize this step and move on to the third step, “prepare a draft general management plan / environmental impact statement.” Since last summer the planning team has taken several steps toward building a solid foundation for developing a range of management alternatives for Monocacy National Battlefield. In addition to considering and integrating your input, the planning team developed a list of interpretive theme statements for the battlefield. This effort is intended to help illuminate interpretive opportunities for enhancing the visitor experience. The following six interpretive theme statements were developed:

### Interpretive Themes Statements

1. **The Local Story**
   - The Union defeat at the Battle of Monocacy, ironically, determined the fate of the nation’s capital in July 1864 by delaying the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia’s third and last offensive campaign in the North.

2. **The Battle**
   - By virtue of its crossroads location, Monocacy Junction was the site of many important events of the Civil War.

3. **The Landscape**
   - The landscape upon which the Battle of Monocacy was fought represents a complex mosaic of historical and geographic elements that serve as a rich backdrop for events and issues relating to the Civil War in Maryland.
What Have We Heard?

We appreciate the comments and thoughts we received from you in response to our first GMP newsletter, which was distributed last December. In that newsletter, we asked for your input on the battlefield’s draft purpose and significance statements. We also requested your review and comments on the list of issues facing the battlefield that were previously expressed by the public, the state of Maryland, Frederick County, and members of the battlefield staff during our scoping efforts last August and December. On the basis of that input, we have made refinements to the purpose and significance statements and have further consolidated the list of planning issues. These revisions are presented below:

The Purpose of Monocacy National Battlefield is to:

• Preserve the breastworks, earthworks, walls, and other defenses and shelters used by the Confederate and Union armies on July 9, 1864.
• Commemorate the Battle of Monocacy.
• Provide opportunities for visitors to understand and appreciate the significance of the Battle of Monocacy within its specific and broader historical context.

The Significance of Monocacy National Battlefield is:

• As the site of the July 9, 1864, battle where a small Union army successfully delayed a larger Confederate army’s attempt to capture Washington, D.C., during the Confederacy’s third and final attempt to bring the war to the north, a campaign designed to divert pressure from Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s army at Petersburg, and potentially lessen President Abraham Lincoln’s chances for reelection.
• Its location at Monocacy Junction, where river, roads, and railroads converged near Frederick, Maryland, about 50 miles northwest of Washington, D.C., which offered an ideal position to defend or advance upon the nation’s capital during the Civil War.
• As the site of other important events associated with the Civil War, including the 1862 Maryland Campaign and Lee’s Lost Order, the 1863 Gettysburg Campaign, and the 1864 Grant-Sheridan meeting outlining the Shenandoah Valley Campaign.
• As a site that provides opportunities for understanding the evolution of settlement in the region and the Civil War in its broader context of American history.
• As a battlefield where visitors can experience many historic landscapes, structures, and transportation corridors that have changed little since the Battle of Monocacy was fought on July 9, 1864.

Planning Issues

Resource Management

• Preserve the rural character of the mid-19th century battlefield landscape.
• Restore historic structures, remove modern intrusions, and improve views of battlefield features.
• Mitigate current and avoid future impacts to the battlefield from I-270 transportation corridor.
• Address conflict between increasing deer and geese populations while maintaining a viable agricultural leasing program.
• Manage federally listed and state-listed threatened and endangered plant and animal species on the battlefield according to laws and policies.
• Monitor rare plants and manage invasive nonnative species.
• Restore and revegetate eroded riverbanks, plant riparian buffer, and control river access.
• Maintain the two large blocks of forest within the battlefield.
• Manage woodlots to perpetuate native species.
Dear Friends and Neighbors of Monocacy National Battlefield:

We eagerly anticipate the next step of the planning process! Once we have received your input from this newsletter, we will develop the agency’s preferred alternative and begin the analysis of environmental impacts for each alternative. The result of this effort will be published in the form of a Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement, which will be made available to you for your evaluation and input. We expect to reach this planning milestone during the early summer of 2004. We also will schedule a series of public meetings during that time to offer an alternative forum for your input.

We invite you to use this form to express your views on the preliminary draft alternatives for the Monocacy National Battlefield. Your comments are welcome at any time; however, they will be particularly helpful if we receive them by August 1, 2003. If you prefer to use the internet, comments may also be posted to: http://planning.nps.gov.

First, we would like to thank all of you who provided feedback on the first newsletter, which presented our first draft of the battlefield’s purpose and significance statements and an outline of planning issues facing the battlefield. The ideas, issues, and concerns that you shared have been informative and helpful as we continue with the next phase of planning.

During the past few months we have developed a description of interpretive themes, potential management zones, and a range of conceptual alternative management strategies for the battlefield. These alternatives, which are anchored by the battlefield’s purpose and significance statements, explore a range of options for resolving battlefield management issues. There is one “no-action” alternative that would continue current management practices, and there are three “action” alternatives. The no-action alternative, which is required by law, will serve as a baseline for comparing the value of the other alternatives.

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We emphasize that the alternatives are “works in progress” that require your input. Similar to the previous newsletter, inside you will find a stamped, addressed comment response form that you can use to send us your feedback. If you prefer to respond by computer, my e-mail address is <susan_trail@nps.gov>, or if you prefer you may also post your comments to the NPS planning website at <http://planning.nps.gov>. Your comments and suggestions will help us refine a preferred alternative that will be published in a Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement, which will be made available for your review and comment later.

We value your input regarding the future of Monocacy National Battlefield. Thank you for your time and effort.

Susan Trail
Superintendent, Monocacy National Battlefield

Where Do We Go From Here?

We eagerly anticipate the next step of the planning process! Once we have received your input from this newsletter, we will develop the agency’s preferred alternative and begin the analysis of environmental impacts for each alternative. The result of this effort will be published in the form of a Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement, which will be made available to you for your evaluation and input. We expect to reach this planning milestone during the early summer of 2004. We also will schedule a series of public meetings during that time to offer an alternative forum for your input.

We value your input regarding the future of Monocacy National Battlefield. Thank you for your time and effort.

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Superintendent, Monocacy National Battlefield
We invite you to use this form to express your views on the preliminary draft alternatives for the Monocacy National Battlefield. Your comments are welcome at any time; however, they will be particularly helpful if we receive them by August 1, 2003. If you prefer to use the internet, comments may also be posted to: [http://planning.nps.gov](http://planning.nps.gov).

1) If you were to choose an alternative, which one reflects your desires for the future of Monocacy National Battlefield and why?

2) Are there modifications to the alternatives you would prefer to make?

3) Are there things we have missed or overlooked that are important for the future of Monocacy National Battlefield?

4) Do you have any additional comments or concerns not addressed by the questions above?
Please fold this comment form so that the return address shows and tape closed. No postage necessary.

Do you want to remain on the mailing list?
We will keep your name on the list unless you check the box below and include your name and address. Also, if the mailing label is incorrect, please indicate the corrections below.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list
☐ The name and address you have is incorrect. Please change it to the following:

(Please print)
NAME:________________________________________________________

ADDRESS:___________________________________________________

CITY:_________________________STATE:_________________ZIP CODE:___________

Thank you for your interest in Monocacy National Battlefield.