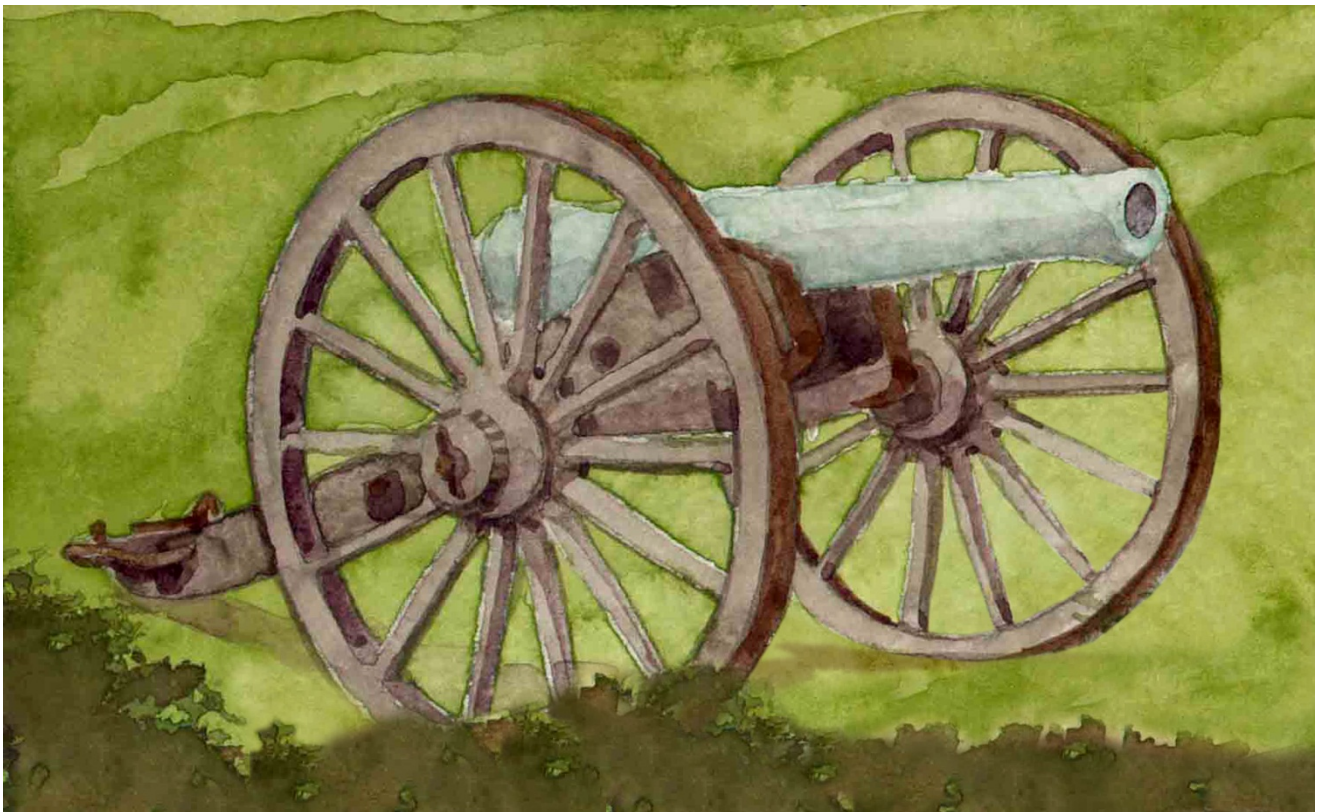




Shepherdstown Battlefield Special Resource Study

Public Scoping Summary Report, April 6, 2012



Prepared by:
National Park Service
Denver Service Center

April 6, 2012



Public Outreach

During the public scoping period, the National Park Service (NPS) solicited feedback from the public through a public scoping newsletter, the project website, and two public meetings, which were advertised as press releases in local and regional media and on park websites. Approximately 45 copies of the public scoping newsletter were distributed to stakeholders, including federal, state, and nongovernmental agencies and organizations, in early February 2012. The newsletter included a brief history of the Battle of Shepherdstown, a description of the study, the criteria used in special resource and boundary studies, the study time line, and an invitation to attend the public meetings. The newsletter also provided information on how to comment via the project website, or mailed correspondence. A letter describing the study process and potential implications for landowners, along with the newsletter, was sent to approximately 140 landowners in the vicinity of the battlefield in both West Virginia and Maryland.

The official public scoping comment period opened on February 13, 2012, and closed on March 13, 2012. Comments were received via the Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website (this is considered the project website), comment cards, and flip chart / comment stations set up at the public meetings, and through mailed correspondence. Two public meetings were held during the comment period—one in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, during the late afternoon and evening of Thursday, February 23, 2012, and the second during the morning and early afternoon of Saturday, February 25, 2012 in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

Public Interest

Approximately 136 people attended the public meetings. Many of these attendees provided comments at the various flip chart stations, or they completed a comment card. A total of 49 comments were received via the PEPC website, mailed-in comment cards, and mailed letters.

Comments were received from five different states (West Virginia, Maryland, Michigan, New York, Indiana), the District of Columbia, and eight unknown locations. While most of the respondents were unaffiliated individuals, several county and nongovernmental organizations submitted comments. These organizations included:

- Civil War Trust
- Friends of the Shepherdstown Riverfront, Inc.
- Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission
- Land Trust of Eastern Panhandle
- National Parks Conservation Association
- Rising Sun Historic Preservation Commission



- Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association
- Two Rivers Heritage Partnership

Public Opinions, Perceptions, and Values

The National Park Service sought feedback on the special resources study by asking the public to answer four questions. The questions were listed in the public scoping newsletter as well as at the comment stations at the public meetings. The questions were:

1. Do you have any ideas or concerns about preserving and interpreting the battlefield? What are they?
2. What lands should or should not be included in the study area? Why?
3. What are your thoughts about possible management options for Shepherdstown Battlefield and related sites?
4. Do you have any other ideas or comments you would like to share with us?

The following is a brief overview of the comments made by respondents, broken down by the four main topics covered in the scoping questions listed above. During the analysis process, most of these topics were further broken down into several subtopics. For a more detailed look at these comments, please scroll down to the section titled, “Full Substantive Comment Listing Sorted by Assigned Codes.” Please note that these comments have not been edited.

Preserving and Interpreting the Battlefield

Many comments included specific ideas on various ways to preserve and interpret the battlefield. One commonly expressed idea was for the battlefield to be interpreted from the Ferry Hill site, which is under existing NPS

management by Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (C & O Canal NHP). Many also felt that the battlefield should be interpreted with very minimal investment in

infrastructure or development. Walking trails, self-guided interpretive tours, scenic easements, and an off-site visitor center were just a few of the minimalist management tools that were suggested.

Many comments expressed a desire for the National Park Service to interpret the history of the Shepherdstown area beyond the battle. Places and events of historical significance that were specifically mentioned include the Cement Mill and its importance to the industrial

“While it would be appreciated to have a full scale visitor’s center, I do not believe that this would be necessary...without the involvement of rangers, visitor centers and such [the battlefield] could be more of an intimate experience for individuals wishing to take in the site.”

-Comment submitted via PEPC

“...The Shepherdstown Battlefield should interpret industrial, transportation, and domestic heritage as well as the Civil War.”

-Comment submitted via PEPC



revolution and construction of the C&O Canal, the role of “Pack Horse Ford” and Trough Road as the historic Philadelphia wagon road and during pre-colonial times, and the role of Shepherdstown’s civilian population in the aftermath of the battles of Shepherdstown and Antietam.

Study Area Boundary

Because the legislation authorizing this special resource study did not specify a study area boundary, the National Park Service sought public feedback on what lands should be included in the study area. While some individuals felt that the town of Shepherdstown, West Virginia should be included in the study area due to the role it played as a makeshift hospital after the battles of Antietam and Shepherdstown, the majority felt that the boundary should be limited to the core battlefield area.



In addition to soliciting boundary feedback on PEPC and the flip charts, a station was set up at the public meetings for participants to mark up digital or hard copy maps with their preferred study area boundary. The boundaries drawn by the public at this station, along with their comments reflecting the rationale

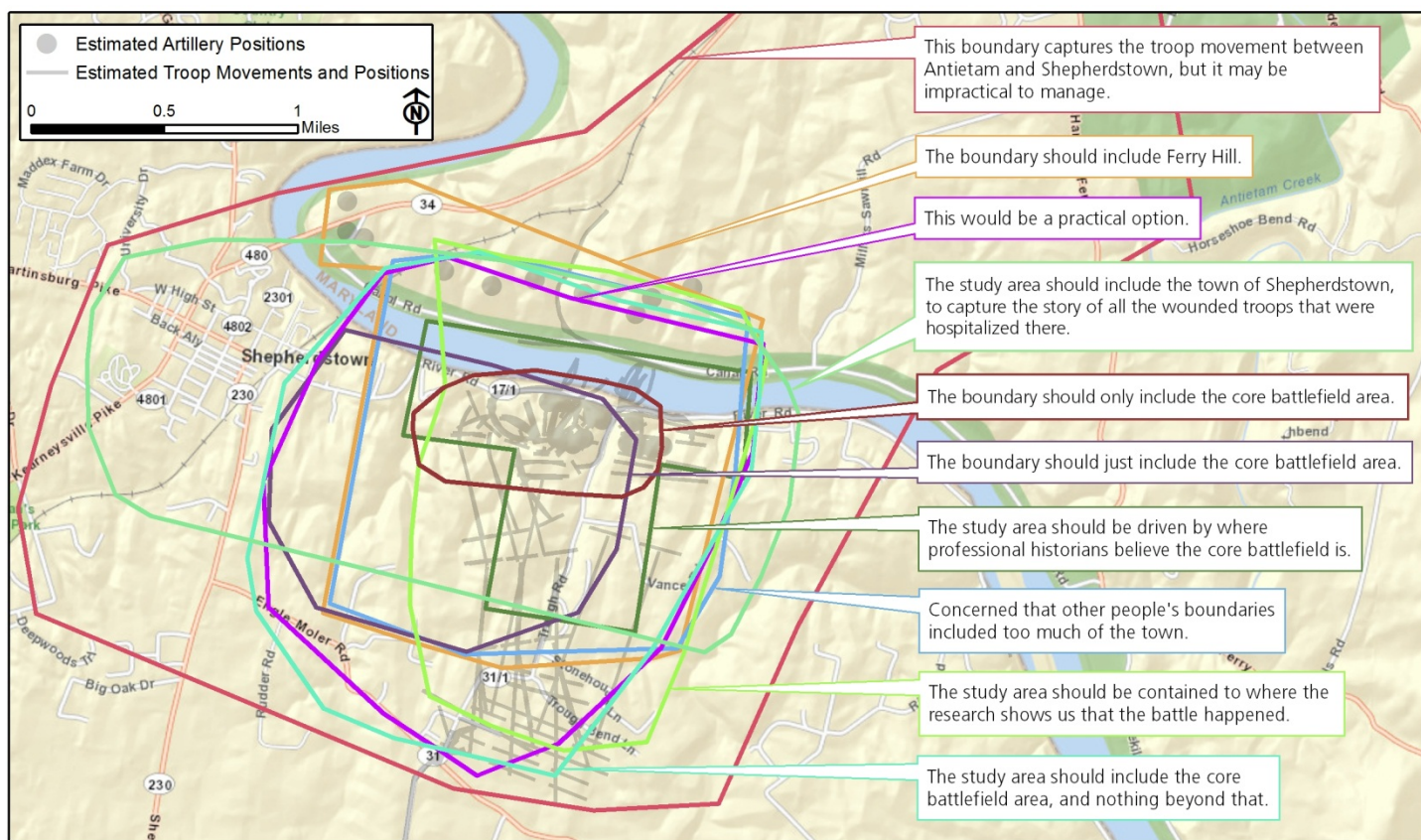


Figure 1: Study area boundaries drawn by attendees at the public meetings, along with their comments reflecting the rationale behind each boundary.



behind each boundary, are included in figure 1. The results from this exercise are fairly consistent with comments received on PEPC, which in general reflect a preference for a boundary that is limited to the core battlefield area.

Suggested Management Options

Many of the comments received from the public meetings and through the PEPC website included ideas on how the battlefield could be managed. The majority of commenters expressed a desire for the National Park Service to have some role in the management of the battlefield, although there were some who suggested the battlefield could best be managed by a state and/or local government, or a local battlefield preservation organization. A small number of commenters felt that the battle was not significant enough to warrant any protection at all.



Both the newsletter and the presentations at the public meetings made reference to the legislation authorizing the study, which directs the National Park Service to determine if the battlefield could best be managed by Harpers Ferry National Historical Park or Antietam National Battlefield. It was also explained at the public meetings that staff from C & O Canal NHP are included on the study team because part of the battle took place on lands within the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal NHP boundary. While the majority of commenters expressed support for management by Antietam National Battlefield, many expressed a desire for C&O Canal NHP to have a role because of perceived opportunities to view and interpret the battlefield from Ferry Hill, which is within the boundary of the national historic park. Some commenters also expressed a preference for management of the battlefield by Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, because of the thematic connections to the Bolivar Heights Battlefield. Some also saw an opportunity for the battlefield to be interpreted and managed by organizations other than the National Park Service such as the State of West Virginia, Jefferson County, or a nongovernmental battlefield preservation group.

"In our opinion, it is Antietam's story to continue, but the C&O NHP should also have a role in establishing Ferry Hill as the Visitor Center responsible for interpreting the Shepherdstown part of the story." -Comment submitted via PEPC



Other Ideas and Concerns

Other ideas expressed in the comments included utilizing licensed guides to help interpret the battlefield, developing an information station away from the battlefield, stationing battlefield ambassadors on the battlefield to help educate visitors, and making sure the river front generally stays clean and open to public access.

Some general concerns expressed by the comments included: the impact of park infrastructure, such as walking trails or parking areas, on the battlefield, the difficulty of accessing the area because of traffic and terrain, and the potential impacts to traffic and the local economy if the area were to be developed into a park.



Full Substantive Comment Listing Sorted by Assigned Codes

(Public Comment received through February 13-March 13, 2012)

CR3000 Cultural Resources: Study Area

Correspondence Id: 4 **Comment Id:** 259184

Comment Text: I believe that the history of the Cement Mill property should not be overlooked. It was the beginning of the Industrial Revolution in the Shenandoah Valley and was important in building the C&O Canal.

Correspondence Id: 49 **Comment Id:** 264083

Comment Text: Inclusion of these lands will provide visitors with a fuller understanding of Confederate Central Robert E, Lee's Maryland Campaign of 1862, and strengthen the Interpretive links between Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and Antietam National Battlefield.

Correspondence Id: 48 **Comment Id:** 264081

Comment Text: Why not save/promote all the history of this particular riverfront area, which is significant and unique, not only to West Virginia, the Lower Shenandoah Valley, but to the development of the United States, as we know it. Limiting the history to a one day battle is dismissing hundreds of years of history; Native Americans/the Warrior's Path, Packhorse Ford town and trail (the road name still exists in Berkeley County), the Philadelphia Wagon Road, the 1775 Beeline March(including men from Shepherdstown),and, the Boteler Cement Mill. None of those histories should be treated as footnotes or after thoughts.



Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 262783

Comment Text: Pack Horse Ford and Trough Road are part of the historic Philadelphia Wagon Road as it crossed the Potomac River from Maryland into Virginia. The Wagon Road was a colonial migration route into the Shenandoah Valley and points further south and west.

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 262779

Comment Text: : Deeper History - One of the oldest roads in the region / Potomac Company / Stone Dock

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 262776

Comment Text: Impact to civilian population use of civilian infrastructure part of the story...

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 262765

Comment Text: In order to properly tell the story of the Battle of Shepherdstown, you need to tell the related stories to set the broader context, including: 1 the C & O canal, and how it played into Union Defenses, 2. the cement mill, 3. Ferry Hill- the home of Henry Kyd Douglas, and the story of the burning of the Shepherdstown bridge at the beginning of the war, 4. How Shepherdstown was a hospital for 5000 to 8000 wounded confederates after Antietam and 5. Elmwood cemetery.

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 262757

Comment Text: One interpretive theme that is important is telling the story of the 118th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry & their baptism in fire.

Correspondence Id: 21 Comment Id: 262743

Comment Text: Remember that "Stonewall" slaughtered the 118th on a farmland called Far Away Farms, which is poised for development.

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 262723

Comment Text: The Battlefield should interpret many themes. Like Harpers Ferry NHP/NPS, the Shepherdstown Battlefield should interpret industrial, transportation, and domestic heritage as well as the Civil War.

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 262612

Comment Text: This site affords an opportunity to not only preserve and interpret the battlefield, but importance of the transportation system in use from pre-colonial times through the Industrial Revolution.

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 262551

Comment Text: These include, but are not limited to: 1. native American structures 2. Bee Line March across the Ford to Cambridge, MA during the revolutionary war [sic] 3. Old Cement Mill 4.



IC100 ISSUES - Cultural resource issues

Correspondence Id: 19 **Comment Id:** 262636

Comment Text: Could you please provide a fact sheet with a few (maybe 7-9) bullet points to state why this was actually considered a battle and not a skirmish.

IN100 ISSUES - Natural resource issues

Correspondence Id: 44 **Comment Id:** 262597

Comment Text: The most significant threat to the environment and character of this area will come from NPS interpretive structures: roads, fences, pathways, parking lots, and buildings, and from vehicle and pedestrian traffic and maintenance activities.

MT1000 Miscellaneous Topics: General Comments

Correspondence Id: 25 **Comment Id:** 262613

Comment Text: Anything and everything should be done to preserve this and all our nations' battlefields and historic properties.

Correspondence Id: 31 **Comment Id:** 262762

Comment Text: I understand that there is a current proposal to permit commercial as well as residential building along the river. That cannot be in our national park system interest.

Correspondence Id: 5 **Comment Id:** 262716

Comment Text: I would hope that the NPS and Partnership Battlefield Preservation Planners would think BIG ENOUGH to have long term as well as short term goals to incorporate sufficient acreage, distance river view sheds, related sites, and other important themes into the preservation zone.

Correspondence Id: 20 **Comment Id:** 262635

Comment Text: I would like to suggest you use GIS technology to display a breadth of data layers, which provide the public with a better view and understanding of the context of the issue.

SE5000 Socioeconomics: Cumulative Impacts



Correspondence Id: 36 Comment Id: 262784

Comment Text: Concerns for the economies of the business communities

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 264118

Comment Text: An overall concept of circuitous pedestrian hiker/biker involvement is more appropriate, needed now locally and within reach. It could be a major attraction to upgrade the economy.

SHBA2-45682 Recommended study area boundary

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 262615

Comment Text: I think the NPS should include as much ground as possible, including land on the Maryland side of the river, up to the Antietam battlefield, as well as major routes of troop advances and retreats, including Shepherdstown proper. I believe this is necessary to provide a proper perspective for the all the battle activities and a meaningful investigation of scope.

Correspondence Id: 43 Comment Id: 262807

Comment Text: The Town (Corporation) of Shepherdstown, and the immediate surrounding area should not be included in the study area.

Correspondence Id: 41 Comment Id: 262804

Comment Text: Additionally, nearby sites associated with the Maryland Campaign in western Virginia (modern day West Virginia) should be considered for inclusion in the study area

Correspondence Id: 41 Comment Id: 262803

Comment Text: Lands considered to be a part of the "core" and "study" of the battlefield, as defined by the American Battlefield Protection Program in the updated Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report (NPS) should be included in the study area of this Special Resource Study.

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 262795

Comment Text: The boundary should not include areas with concentrated living history.

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 262793

Comment Text: Make boundary as large as possible - include staging areas

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 262792

Comment Text: Expansion of the study area to the town is unwarranted

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 262788

Comment Text: Strongly support battlefield being ABPP area



Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 262787

Comment Text: should include area of battle, not larger movements, areas where troops fought and died and connecting to larger campaign

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 262786

Comment Text: Town will not be included in the battlefield! (Make this clear)

Correspondence Id: 36 Comment Id: 262785

Comment Text: 4500 ABPP acres scares me, please consider this needs to be protected

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 262781

Comment Text: The Commission feels strongly that both the cement mill, Pack Horse Ford, and the Philadelphia Wagon Road should be interpreted to provide context to the area in which the battle was fought.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 262766

Comment Text: The Osborn family farm needs to be included and protected, and not turned into a housing development!

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 262761

Comment Text: Given that the Maryland Campaign included troop movements and fighting from Harpers Ferry up to beyond present day Shepherdstown, the acreage of the 'battlefield' should include more than the area around Charlestown Road. It should include the Maryland Bluffs and all the Potomac crossings to at least the point across from the Antietam aqueduct.

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 262758

Comment Text: I feel only core battlefield acreage should be included in acreage that will be protected and/or included in a national park.

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 262754

Comment Text: Study Limits: lands already purchased by private SBP & HLC group (Jefferson County). 2,500 acres is too vast.

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 262752

Comment Text: The minimum to be saved should be the core area of 300 acres where the actual fighting took place. But, the most logical would be the 2,790 plus acres where troop were deployed before, during and after combat.

Correspondence Id: 26 Comment Id: 262750



Comment Text: The Town of Shepherdstown should be included in the study it is only 1 1/2 miles west from the site of the battle and served as a civil war open air hospital

Correspondence Id: 12 **Comment Id:** 262738

Comment Text: None of the lands should be used in a study. I think it's a complete waste of time and exploitation of tax payer money.

Correspondence Id: 4 **Comment Id:** 262728

Comment Text: The study area should include an area bordered on the north by the Potomac River about 3/8 of a mile both east and west of the Cement Mill and about 1 1/2 miles south of the river to Engel Molers Road. Including the Cement Mill property 102 acres have been preserved through Conservation Easements. There are approximately 200 acres west of Trough Road and south of the Potomac River that are almost pristine when compared to 1862.

Correspondence Id: 6 **Comment Id:** 262722

Comment Text: The entire path of the original River Road from Shepherdstown to past the cement mill, easy walk-way access up Trough Road, a place to park near the battlefield higher up on River Road, some clearing of the land of the battlefield there, etc.

Correspondence Id: 8 **Comment Id:** 262717

Comment Text: Lands directly affected by troop movement ... including routes travelled by any and all troops involved...

Correspondence Id: 5 **Comment Id:** 262715

Comment Text: The Battlefield should be established and preserved with sufficient surrounding acreage on both the Maryland and West Virginia sides of the Potomac River to protect the total view shed from 1 mile or more up and down the river valley and from hilltops where military positions were active.

Correspondence Id: 2 **Comment Id:** 262652

Comment Text: None of the areas dictated on the map. There is already land in the area that fulfills the same service as this land would - open fields are not that rare?

Correspondence Id: 22 **Comment Id:** 262639

Comment Text: All of the land and the features on the map should be included in the study area.

SHBA3-45682 Support Antietam Management

Correspondence Id: 16 **Comment Id:** 262632

Comment Text: Ideally it could be a satellite for Antietam N.B. or harpers Ferry [*sic*] or at least C & O



Canal. It would require little financial or human resources.

Correspondence Id: 41 **Comment Id:** 262805

Comment Text: The National Park Service is best qualified to manage this nationally significant landmark. Shepherdstown seems uniquely suited to be managed as a unit of a nearby, appropriate park that has experience in managing battlefield landscapes (either Antietam NB or Harpers Ferry NHP).

Correspondence Id: 38 **Comment Id:** 262791

Comment Text: Should be part of Antietam

Correspondence Id: 35 **Comment Id:** 262782

Comment Text: The Landmarks Commission believes a Shepherdstown Battlefield should be managed as part or extension of the Antietam National Battlefield.

Correspondence Id: 30 **Comment Id:** 262759

Comment Text: The Shepherdstown battlefield and related sites associated with the Sept. 19-20 battle should be assimilated into Antietam National Battlefield.

Correspondence Id: 24 **Comment Id:** 262747

Comment Text: It makes the most sense to me for the Shepherdstown Battlefield to be made a part of Antietam

Correspondence Id: 15 **Comment Id:** 262740

Comment Text: Recommend - Antietam be the partner park

Correspondence Id: 14 **Comment Id:** 262739

Comment Text: I believe the overriding significance of the land is its association with the battle of Antietam and would like to see it become part of Antietam National Battlefield.

Correspondence Id: 11 **Comment Id:** 262736

Comment Text: In our opinion, it is Antietam's story to continue, but the C&O NHP should also have a role in establishing Ferry Hill as the Visitor Center responsible for interpreting the Shepherdstown part of the story.

Correspondence Id: 4 **Comment Id:** 262729

Comment Text: It appears that it would be productive to have the Shepherdstown site included within an existing National Park, either Antietam or Harpers Ferry.

Correspondence Id: 10 **Comment Id:** 262721



Comment Text: Attaching the site with Antietam or Harpers Ferry would be ideal; however for the sake of the events that occurred during Lee's Maryland Campaign, chronically it would make sense to attach the site to Antietam.

Correspondence Id: 21 **Comment Id:** 262637

Comment Text: I think that Antietam should own the battlefield and be able to give tours of the Cement Mill. P.S.

SHBA4-45682 Support Harpers Ferry Management

Correspondence Id: 26 **Comment Id:** 261168

Comment Text: If the NPS along with the Dept. of the Interior and Congress do decide to add Shepherdstown Battlefield to the NHP service, I certainly hope that it is added to Harpers Ferry and managed in the same manner Bolivar Heights Battlefield is today.

Correspondence Id: 41 **Comment Id:** 262805

Comment Text: The National Park Service is best qualified to manage this nationally significant landmark. Shepherdstown seems uniquely suited to be managed as a unit of a nearby, appropriate park that has experience in managing battlefield landscapes (either Antietam NB or Harpers Ferry NHP).

Correspondence Id: 27 **Comment Id:** 262753

Comment Text: The Bolivar Heights Battlefield was also a part of the Maryland Campaign which is managed by the Harper's Ferry NHP which makes it logical for them to manage the Shepherdstown site.

Correspondence Id: 4 **Comment Id:** 262729

Comment Text: It appears that it would be productive to have the Shepherdstown site included within an existing National Park, either Antietam or Harpers Ferry.

Correspondence Id: 16 **Comment Id:** 262632

Comment Text: Ideally it could be a satellite for Antietam N.B. or harpers Ferry [*sic*] or at least C & O Canal. It would require little financial or human resources.

SHBA5-45682 Support C & O Canal Management

Correspondence Id: 16 **Comment Id:** 262632

Comment Text: Ideally it could be a satellite for Antietam N.B. or harpers Ferry [*sic*] or at least C & O Canal. It would require little financial or human resources.



Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 262736

Comment Text: In our opinion, it is Antietam's story to continue, but the C&O NHP should also have a role in establishing Ferry Hill as the Visitor Center responsible for interpreting the Shepherdstown part of the story.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 262768

Comment Text: Make the Battle of Shepherdstown part of the C & O national Park

Correspondence Id: 48 Comment Id: 264082

Comment Text: Since the Boteler Cement Mill had a long association with the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, wouldn't it be logical that the riverfront mill property come under the Chesapeake and Ohio National Historical Park's jurisdiction?

SHBA6-45682 Support Other Management

Correspondence Id: 25 Comment Id: 262748

Comment Text: West Virginia should manage the battlefield under NPS supervision as they would be the state to reap the profits from the tourist communities.

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 262755

Comment Text: WV can afford to make the battlefield a state park. Please do the math. * Exclude the town of Shepherdstown, not a battlefield*

Correspondence Id: 33 Comment Id: 262770

Comment Text: The National Park Service, of course, perhaps in conjunction with The WV Department of Commerce, Division of Tourism, The Jefferson Co. Convention and Visitors Bureau, and The City of Shepherdstown.

Correspondence Id: 43 Comment Id: 262808

Comment Text: If the Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Associates continue to press for this, perhaps the battlefield area could be managed by Jefferson County or the State of West Virginia.

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 263229

Comment Text: Make the battlefield a state park.

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 263236

Comment Text: Make the battlefield a state park.



SHBA7-45682 General Opposition for the Study

Correspondence Id: 17 **Comment Id:** 262633

Comment Text: The battle of Shepherdstown was not a major battle - the MD portion of Canal Rd is already under management by the C & O Canal group

Correspondence Id: 2 **Comment Id:** 262651

Comment Text: I do not believe it meets the criteria listed at the end of the document and therefore should not be included within the NPS. Waste of tax payer dollars.

Correspondence Id: 12 **Comment Id:** 262737

Comment Text: There was no "battle of Shepherdstown". Now they've drug you into it waiting [sic] a valuable resources and money.

Correspondence Id: 29 **Comment Id:** 262756

Comment Text: The battle was relatively small in relation to other civil war events and battles. It was not a decisive battle that lead to a more perfect union, nor to the emancipation proclamation.

SHBA8-45682 General Support for the Study

Correspondence Id: 40 **Comment Id:** 262253

Comment Text: We are encouraged know of the National Park Service's interest in the Cement Mill and Battle of Shepherdstown at Boteler's Ford.

Correspondence Id: 46 **Comment Id:** 264122

Comment Text: Inclusion is a 'no brainer' that is remarkable in that it is already 2012 and not included in existing public lands.

Correspondence Id: 49 **Comment Id:** 264084

Comment Text: Protecting Battle of Shepherdstown lands - thereby helping to complete the telling of the Maryland Campaign story - will only serve to enhance the visitor experience and bring more people to the parks and their neighboring communities.

Correspondence Id: 47 **Comment Id:** 264074

Comment Text: I think adding the battle of Shepherdstown would enhance the story of the Civil War and give the area its due In history.

Correspondence Id: 42 **Comment Id:** 262806

Comment Text: THE CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS HAVE A SIGNIFICANT PLACE IN THE HISTORY AND POLITICAL TRUTHS OF THIS COUNTRY AND SHOULD THEREFORE BE



PRESERVED.

Correspondence Id: 41 Comment Id: 262802

Comment Text: As such, we are very interested in the possibility of this nationally significant landscape becoming a unit of the National Park system and applaud the efforts of our partners, both public and private, at the national, state and local level for the work being done to protect this battlefield

Correspondence Id: 33 Comment Id: 262771

Comment Text: The Shepherdstown Battlefield project has many possibilities, and I encourage all with an interest to compliment this project with their energy and imagination.

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 262760

Comment Text: I believe that as beneficiaries of the Campaign, we owe it to those who fought in it, to recognize all their sacrifices, including the Shepherdstown events

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 262751

Comment Text: I would think it should be considered as hallowed ground.

Correspondence Id: 18 Comment Id: 262742

Comment Text: I think the battlefield should be preserved

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 262735

Comment Text: Two Rivers Heritage Partnership endorses this initiative as it will preserve and conserve the "rest of the story".

Correspondence Id: 9 Comment Id: 262719

Comment Text: I am very happy that the National Park Service is conducting this Special Resource Study. It is vitally important that the Shepherdstown battlefield be preserved for future generations.

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 262718

Comment Text: preferably the area should be managed by the NPS

SHBA9-45683 Management Issues and Opportunities

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 262549

Comment Text: This problem of access is a fairly serious objection to any significant development of the site as a national park. I suggest that a walking path with easy access to the recently cleared areas beside the river bank would go a long way to letting people see the importance and beauty of the site and the need to save it for future generation.



Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 264121

Comment Text: Once in Iowa, a hiker/bike path was photographed disappearing across the prairie with nary a user in sight. Here we have the population ready to use and appreciate connectivity now and lack the visionaries to make it happen.

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 264120

Comment Text: Keep the public land, public.

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 264118

Comment Text: An overall concept of circuitous pedestrian hiker/biker involvement is more appropriate, needed now locally and within reach. It could be a major attraction to upgrade the economy.

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 264087

Comment Text: The National Parks Conservation Association hopes that the study will consider the ecological and natural-In addition to the historic - importance of potential sites.

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 262796

Comment Text: Put a walking path down river road - "walking is dangerous & driving is pointless"

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 262794

Comment Text: Include horse & hiking trails

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 262790

Comment Text: Concerns about NPS over developing the area - leave as is / pick up trash

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 262789

Comment Text: Interp from Ferry Hill - Lookouts & points of interest would help visitors visualize the battle

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 262780

Comment Text: benches for contemplation of Frey Hill - Welcome public access

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 262778

Comment Text: Revived use of Ferry Hill - Cement Mill - Self Guided tours

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 262777

Comment Text: leverage partnerships with existing easement holders



Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 262775

Comment Text: Build upon what already exists - Minimize the foot print - facilities & Mngt.

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 262774

Comment Text: Parking - Access from Maryland side foot bridge

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 262773

Comment Text: Licensed Guides at Central Points

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 262772

Comment Text: Ferry Hill that portion of battle is under C&O. Museum interpretation-facilities available use of Ferry Hill.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 262769

Comment Text: Renovate and turn Ferry Hill into a Visitor's Center. Put exhibits in the different rooms of Ferry Hill that help tell the stories associated with the battle (above. Include museum artifacts to help tell the story. Have bus tours available to discuss the story on both sides of the Potomac, including a stop at the Osborn farm, and Elmwood cemetery.

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 262763

Comment Text: We on the Maryland side must abide by scenic easement rules. Why can't the same be done for the W Virginia side? Could not such a scenic easement be applied as part of a proposed Shepherdstown Battlefield area?

Correspondence Id: 24 Comment Id: 262746

Comment Text: Some of the areas should be preserved as they are now with interpretive signage to illustrate what it looked like during the battle. Other areas that might be grown over with vegetation and do not clearly represent what the area looked like during the battle should be restored back to it's previous state.

Correspondence Id: 23 Comment Id: 262745

Comment Text: Keeping the land & river front clean, maintained & open to public access.

Correspondence Id: 23 Comment Id: 262744

Comment Text: I think there should be a small visitor center (with exhibits & rest room) located on the battlefield.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 262741

Comment Text: It would require little financial or human resources. A few plaques, walking trails, law enforcement patrols.



Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 262734

Comment Text: If the river flood plain limits opportunities for commemoration and interpretation on the site of the battlefield consideration should be given to establishing an interpretive center within Shepherdstown.

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 262733

Comment Text: If easements are utilized, they need to incorporate a right of passage for trails necessary to view and commemorate the sites of major conflict during the battle, with views protected to enable observation and interpretation of the conflict.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 262720

Comment Text: If proper interpretive signs and markers were included on the location, it would certainly be sufficient. A smaller battlefield without the large involvement of rangers, visitor centers, and such could be more of an intimate experience for individuals wishing to take in the site.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 262640

Comment Text: Due to the unknown amount of visitors that the battlefield might receive and the difficulty of locating a visitor center near the core area of the battlefield, an information station about the battle should be located in Shepherdstown and keep docents or battlefield ambassadors on the field to interpret the battlefield for visitors.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 262638

Comment Text: For interpreting the battlefield, one concern is getting people to the core areas of the battlefield. Hiking trails on the battlefield would be the best way to do this due to the intensity of the terrain.

VE3000 Visitor Experience: Study Area

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 262549

Comment Text: This problem of access is a fairly serious objection to any significant development of the site as a national park. I suggest that a walking path with easy access to the recently cleared areas beside the river bank would go a long way to letting people see the importance and beauty of the site and the need to save it for future generation.

Correspondence Id: 13 Comment Id: 262626

Comment Text: What happened at Shepherdstown should be connected thematically to Antietam, Harpers Ferry, C& O.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 262638



Comment Text: For interpreting the battlefield, one concern is getting people to the core areas of the battlefield. Hiking trails on the battlefield would be the best way to do this due to the intensity of the terrain.

Correspondence Id: 10 **Comment Id:** 262720

Comment Text: If proper interpretive signs and markers were included on the location, it would certainly be sufficient. A smaller battlefield without the large involvement of rangers, visitor centers, and such could be more of an intimate experience for individuals wishing to take in the site.

Correspondence Id: 16 **Comment Id:** 262741

Comment Text: It would require little financial or human resources. A few plaques, walking trails, law enforcement patrols.

Correspondence Id: 32 **Comment Id:** 262769

Comment Text: Renovate and turn Ferry Hill into a Visitor's Center. Put exhibits in the different rooms of Ferry Hill that help tell the stories associated with the battle (above). Include museum artifacts to help tell the story. Have bus tours available to discuss the story on both sides of the Potomac, including a stop at the Osborn farm, and Elmwood cemetery.

Correspondence Id: 34 **Comment Id:** 262773

Comment Text: Licensed Guides at Central Points

Correspondence Id: 34 **Comment Id:** 262774

Comment Text: Parking - Access from Maryland side foot bridge

Correspondence Id: 34 **Comment Id:** 262778

Comment Text: Revived use of Ferry Hill - Cement Mill - Self Guided tours

Correspondence Id: 34 **Comment Id:** 262780

Comment Text: benches for contemplation of Frey Hill - Welcome public access

Correspondence Id: 38 **Comment Id:** 262789

Comment Text: Interp from Ferry Hill - Lookouts & points of interest would help visitors visualize the battle

Correspondence Id: 38 **Comment Id:** 262794

Comment Text: Include horse & hiking trails

VH100 VALUES - Value the history or cultural resources



Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 262549

Comment Text: This problem of access is a fairly serious objection to any significant development of the site as a national park. I suggest that a walking path with easy access to the recently cleared areas beside the river bank would go a long way to letting people see the importance and beauty of the site and the need to save it for future generation.

Correspondence Id: 25 Comment Id: 262613

Comment Text: Anything and everything should be done to preserve this and all our nations battlefields and historic properties.

