

Harry S Truman National Historic Site Truman Farm



Cultural Landscape Report Historic Structure Report & Environmental Assessment

Public Review Draft

January 2, 2012

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2 The Cultural Landscape Report, Historic
3 Structures Report, and Environmental
4 Assessment (CLR/HSR/EA) presents
5 a comprehensive planning document
6 for the historic Truman Farm, located
7 within the Harry S Truman National
8 Historic Site (HSTR) in Grandview,
9 Missouri. The CLR/HSR/EA identifies
10 characteristics and features that convey
11 the historic significance and character
12 of the Truman Farm, and provides a
13 holistic and integrated plan for the long-
14 term preservation and stewardship of the
15 historic built and landscape features.

16 The intent of this combined CLR/
17 HSR/EA is to document the history of
18 and recommend treatment for extant
19 cultural resources at the property. The
20 report provides park managers with
21 a comprehensive understanding of
22 the physical evolution of the cultural
23 resources as well as guidance for their
24 management. The resources include
25 archeological remnants, historic
26 landscape features, and three historic
27 buildings: the Farm Home, the Garage,
28 and the Poultry House. Documentation
29 of historic significance and evaluation
30 of integrity of the cultural landscape
31 and associated buildings provides the
32 framework upon which treatment
33 recommendations are based. An
34 investigation and evaluation has been
35 conducted using National Register
36 of Historic Places (NRHP or national
37 register) guidelines and forms the body of
38 this report.

38 The Harry S Truman Farm was conveyed
39 from Jackson County, Missouri to the
40 National Park Service on April 15,
41 1994. The 5.26 acre site had previously
42 been maintained jointly by the Harry S
43 Truman Farm Foundation and Jackson
44 County. When the foundation and the
45 county purchased the Truman Farm from
46

1 the Truman family in 1983, a restoration
2 project was begun on the Farm Home to
3 return it to its appearance during Harry
4 S Truman's time of residence from 1906
5 to 1917. In 1978, the Farm Home was
6 listed on the National Register of Historic
7 Places, and in 1985 the property became
8 a National Historic Landmark (NHL). In
9 December of 1993, Public Law 103-184
10 enacted by the United States Congress
11 added the Truman Farm to the Harry S
12 Truman National Historic Site, which
13 includes properties in Independence,
14 Missouri.

15 The Truman Farm's contributing
16 features are in need of varying levels
17 of repair to mitigate the conditions
18 and deterioration that threaten their
19 longevity. Limited visitor access to the
20 structures is also a current issue. If an
21 informed, comprehensive plan for the
22 cultural landscape and historic buildings
23 and structures is not developed and
24 implemented, the growing list of deferred
25 maintenance may compromise the historic
26 integrity of the resources over time,
27 diminishing the resources' interpretive
28 value and the visitor experience.

28 The CLR/HSR/EA will be used to support
29 the park's General Management Plan
30 Amendment, Long Range Interpretive
31 Plan, and associated compliance as
32 required by the National Historic
33 Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966,
34 as amended, and by the National
35 Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969,
36 as amended. It will also be used to guide
37 any additional future landscape and
38 structural treatments beyond the initial
39 treatments discussed in the CLR/HSR/
40 EA. Used in concert, the three documents
41 will guide future management of the
42 property's resources.

43 During the Value Analysis/Choosing By

1 Advantages (VA/CBA) work session held
2 in July 2012, Alternative 2: Farm, City,
3 Nation, was chosen as the preferred
4 alternative.

5
6 The preferred alternative proposes to
7 convey the broad story of Harry S Truman
8 including his character and the influence
9 he had on agriculture, commerce, and
10 politics from his early years through
11 his presidency and after he left office. It
12 proposes telling this story through the
13 rehabilitation of the family farm, and
14 the interpretation of the setting and
15 surroundings that influenced and formed
16 the character of Harry Truman.

17
18 The preferred alternative follows a
19 rehabilitation approach. Treatment
20 recommendations propose rehabilitating
21 the cultural landscape, buildings and
22 structures by allowing compatible uses,
23 and by recommending repairs, alterations,
24 or additions to the property. At the same
25 time, treatment recommendations include
26 preserving those features that convey
27 the historical, cultural, and architectural
28 values of the Truman Farm.

29
30 The preferred alternative allows for
31 the greatest interpretation to tell the
32 story of how the community and farm
33 influenced the future president and later
34 how President Truman influenced the
35 community, the farm, and on the nation
36 after his presidency. It also allows the
37 property to be relevant to today's visitor
38 through the development of authentic
39 tactile, sensory, and kinetic experiences.
40
41
42
43

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** Not included in Public Review Draft*

PROJECT TEAM

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Facilities Operation Specialist	Greg Wolcott
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Woodcrafter	Lewis McKarnin

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Materials Sample Testing Analysis of Paint, Plaster and Mortar Samples

Conservator	David Arbogast
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Location of Truman Farm, Harry S Truman National Historic Site, Grandview Unit, Grandview, MO. Dashed line represents the National Historic Landmark (NHL) boundary, solid line represents the Truman Farm National Historic Site (NHS) boundary. (Source: Google Earth Image and MBD, 8/17/2012)

