



Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park

**General Management Plan Amendment for Lookout Mountain Battlefield
Georgia / Tennessee | Newsletter | February 2013**

Dear Friends,

I would like to introduce you to a change in the general management planning project for the national military park. When you last heard from us, the National Park Service was preparing a general management plan (GMP) for the entire Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. Since then, we have changed our focus to specific areas that have the greatest need for management guidance. These areas are Lookout Mountain Battlefield and Moccasin Bend National Archeological District.

We are first embarking upon planning for Lookout Mountain Battlefield, including the Cravens House. The resulting GMP amendment will help guide our decision-making for the battlefield for the next 20 years.

In 2009, we asked for your suggestions for improving Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park and planning for its future. Taking your feedback into account, the planning team has developed two preliminary alternative concepts for the battlefield. We again need your advice, suggestions, and comments on these alternatives or the elements that make up each alternative. Sharing your ideas and concerns for management of the battlefield will strengthen the planning process and help us make the best decisions for the park.

On February 28, 2013, the National Park Service will host an open house in the Chattanooga/North Georgia area. We hope you will join us at the open house to learn more about the GMP amendment; meet the planning team; and share your ideas, concerns, and thoughts about this special place.

We also encourage you to submit comments electronically, through our website www.parkplanning.nps.gov/chch.

Thank you for your interest in Lookout Mountain Battlefield. We look forward to hearing from you.



Sincerely,

Cathleen Cook
Superintendent, Chickamauga and Chattanooga
National Military Park

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THE PLAN'S PURPOSE

General management plans represent the broadest level of planning conducted by the National Park Service and provide guidance for making informed decisions about the future of park resource conditions and visitor experiences.

The purpose of the GMP amendment is to present a plan for managing Lookout Mountain Battlefield for the next 20 years. This plan amends the GMP completed for the national military park in 1988. At the time, portions of Lookout Mountain Battlefield were not part of the park and therefore were not included in the GMP. This GMP amendment solely looks to guide management of the Lookout Mountain Battlefield, and will address the management of newly acquired lands, as well as some of the issues identified early in the planning process that affect the battlefield as a whole.

WHAT HAS CHANGED IN OUR PROCESS?

In 2008, we began a general management planning process for the entire national military park. Since then, we have changed our approach to focus only on two areas—Lookout Mountain Battlefield and Moccasin Bend National Archeological District. The reasons for focusing on these two areas include:

- These areas have the greatest need for broad guidance for resource protection and visitor use. In contrast, management of other areas, such as Chickamauga Battlefield, continues to be effective under the existing GMP.
- The National Park Service desires to simplify the process to complete the plan.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN BATTLEFIELD MANAGEMENT ZONES, 2013

MANAGEMENT ZONES

Management zones are the heart of the alternatives developed for the general management plan. Each zone defines a set of desired conditions for cultural and natural resources, visitor experiences, and appropriate activities and facilities. These desired conditions are different in each management zone and reflect the overall focus of that particular zone. Four management zones have been developed for Lookout Mountain Battlefield.

Actions would be guided by NPS Management Policies 2006, The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, and the recommended landscape treatments described in the "Cravens House Cultural Landscape Report" (NPS 2012).

Battlefield Preservation Zone

Management in this zone would focus on retaining and enhancing the general historic character of the battlefield landscape. This would provide visitors with an insight into the general conditions that the combatants encountered during November of 1863, and would help facilitate the visitor's understanding of the battle. Commemorative features planned and put in place by Civil War veterans would be preserved. Visitors would have the opportunity to learn about the efforts made by veterans to memorialize the battles and soldiers on both sides.

Visitor Experience

Visitors in this zone would experience evidence of the physical environment and ambience of the battlefield as it was in 1863. Guided and self-guided tours would allow visitors to experience the battlefield for themselves, while learning about the national military park's important resources. Visitors would find opportunities for quiet contemplation of the meaning of the battle, the sacrifices of the men who fought there, and the impact on civilians whose homes were occupied during the battle.

Resource Condition

NPS management would work to return the battlefield landscape to its 1863 appearance to as great a degree as feasible, while preserving the monuments, markers, tablets and plaques planned and placed by Civil War veterans. Cultural and natural resources would be rehabilitated to conditions representative of the Civil War time period to support visitor understanding and in-depth interpretation of the battle. Resource protection and preservation would be the primary focus. Whenever possible, all non-contributing structures would be removed from the cultural landscape. Nonhistoric outside intrusions could be screened.

Appropriate Activities or Facilities

Minimal impact and contemplative recreational activities such as walking, administrative roads, viewing resources, and attending interpretive tours would be appropriate within this zone. Cultural resources such as historic buildings, monuments, markers, tablets, artillery, and the remains of Civil War fortifications would be present. Other facilities, as necessary to support visitors, may include driveways, parking, wayside exhibits, interpretive media, informational kiosks, way-finding signs, trailheads, and trails.





Interpretive Zone

This zone would provide support for carrying out the park’s interpretive objectives, such as orientation, education, and interpretive programs. Management in this zone would focus on retaining or enhancing the historic character of the battlefield landscape. This would help provide visitors with an insight into the conditions that the combatants and civilians encountered during November 1863 and would help facilitate the visitor’s understanding of the battle. Commemorative features planned and put in place by Civil War veterans would be preserved. Visitors would have the opportunity to learn about the efforts made by veterans to memorialize the battles and soldiers on both sides.

Visitor Experience

Visitors would receive information and orientation about the park and the Civil War Campaign for Chattanooga. The main focus of these locations would be to provide information to visitors. A picnicking area could be provided.

Resource Condition

Some cultural or natural resources may be found in this zone. Any existing cultural and natural resources in the zone would be managed according to NPS policies with some tolerance for disturbance. Important cultural resources in this zone would be protected. For example, resources could be contained within a museum collection, curatorial archive, research library, or within exhibits that provide greater visitor understanding of the events of the Chattanooga Civil War Campaign, or they could be left in place. If previously unknown significant resources, such as archeological sites, were discovered in these areas, appropriate management actions would be implemented.

Appropriate Activities or Facilities

The main activity occurring in these zones would be education and learning. Passive recreational activities such as walking could occur in these interpretive areas.

Facilities could include parking areas, trails, wayside exhibits, visitor center or contact station, research library, staff offices, and administrative roads.





Natural Resource Protection Zone

Management of this zone would primarily focus on protecting natural resources.

Visitor Experience

Visitors would have greater opportunities to experience solitude and quiet through trail use in this area. Interpretive media might be developed to inform visitors of the special and fragile nature of this area and the need to tread lightly. Natural resource preservation would take precedence over visitor use in this zone.

Resource Condition

This zone would include natural areas that contain no cultural resources associated with the core Lookout Mountain Battlefield. Any existing cultural resources in the zone would be managed according to NPS policies with some tolerance for disturbance. Natural resource preservation would be the highest priority for NPS management in this zone. Resource protection measures consistent with NPS policy would be applied. Management in this zone would focus on protecting threatened or endangered species and encouraging the reestablishment of natural processes.

Appropriate Activities or Facilities

Appropriate activities in this zone would be limited to research and passive recreational uses such as hiking and wildlife watching, but could include resource stewardship activities. Additional recreational uses would be appropriate on multi-use trails and unpaved roads, such as horseback riding, hiking, and mountain biking. Habitat restoration for threatened and endangered species would be a priority. Interpretive programs and exhibits may provide information about natural resource issues or ongoing research activities. No other facility development would occur in this zone.

Recreation Zone

This zone would be designated for several different types of recreational activities.

Visitor Experience

Visitors could pursue recreational activities with some interpretive opportunities present. Natural and cultural resources would provide the visual backdrop within these settings. Space would be designated for passive recreational activities, such as picnicking, as well as for some very specialized recreation activities, such as rock climbing and rappelling.

Resource Condition

Any existing cultural and natural resources in the zone would be managed according to NPS policies with some tolerance for disturbance. Wayside exhibits would provide greater visitor understanding of park resources and the Civil War events that occurred in this area. If a previously unknown resource, such as an archeological site, was discovered within this area, appropriate management actions would be implemented.

Appropriate Activities or Facilities

Activities would include picnicking, hiking, and biking, as well as specialized recreational activities such as rock climbing, and rappelling. Caving would not be permitted. Facilities may include administrative roads, parking, restrooms, picnic tables, informational kiosks, wayside exhibits, way-finding signs, trails, and trailheads.

Alternative A – No Action

Concept and general actions

The Lookout Mountain Battlefield would continue to be managed by the National Park Service as it is currently.

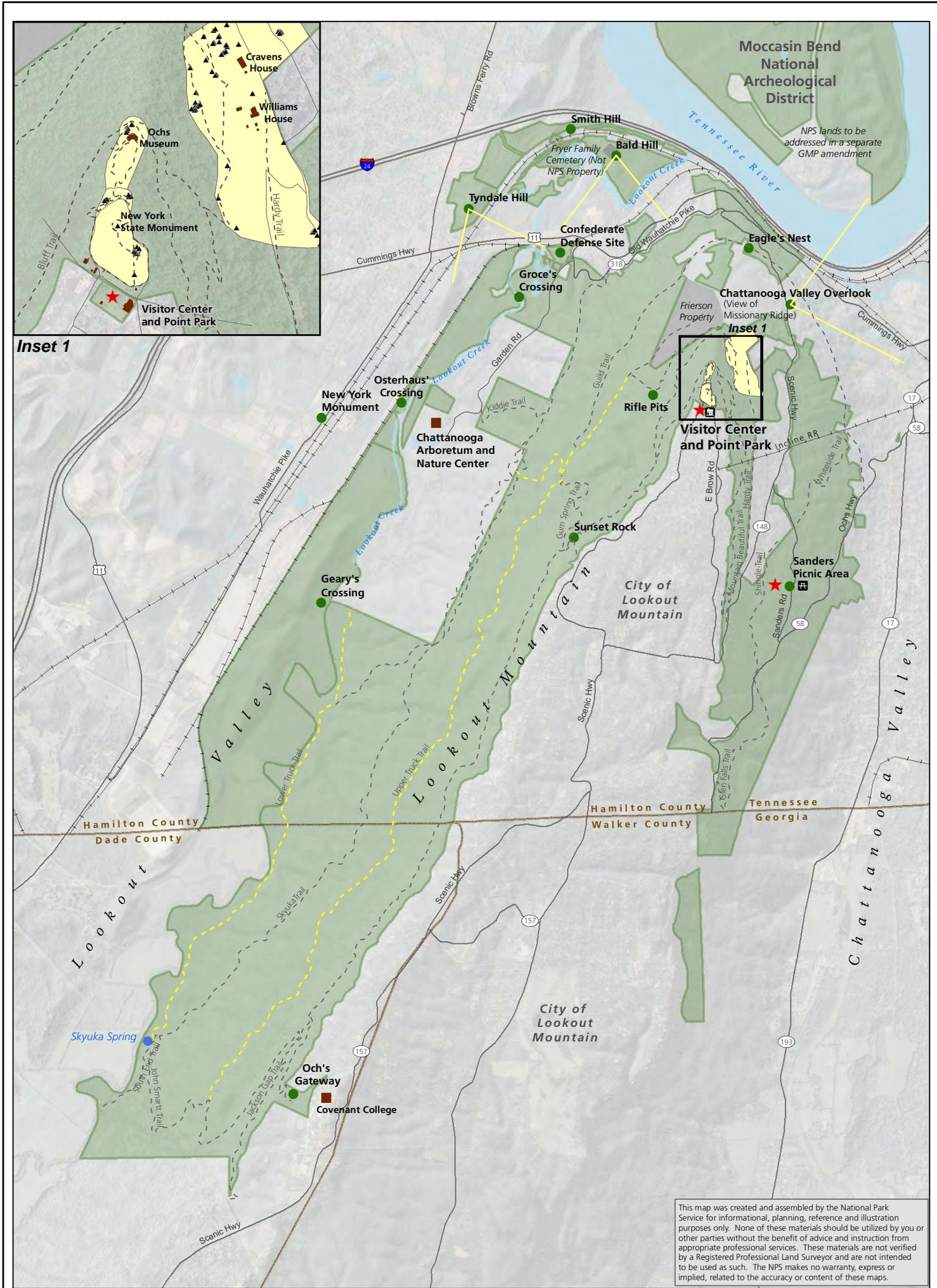
Under the 1988 general management plan, there are three zones for this part of the park: 1) natural zone, which is similar to the natural resource preservation zone; 2) historic zone, which is similar to the battlefield preservation zone; and 3) development zone, which contains elements of the interpretive and recreation zones.

Point Park, Lookout Mountain Battlefield Visitor Center, Cravens House, Sunset Rock, and several trails and trailheads would remain the primary visitor attractions and access points to the battlefield. No visitor access (or very limited access) would be available at areas recently preserved and added to the battlefield.

Recreational activities (hiking, biking, and horseback riding) would continue on existing trails where allowed.

Recommended actions by area

Cravens House	No changes to existing structures or uses in this area. Under current GMP this area is classified as an Historic Zone and it is currently managed similarly to Battlefield Preservation Zone.
Point Park	No changes to existing structures or uses in this area. Under current GMP this area is classified as an Historic Zone and it is currently managed similarly to Battlefield Preservation Zone.
Lookout Mountain Battlefield Visitor Center	No changes to existing structures or uses in this area. Under current GMP this area is classified as a Development Zone and it is currently managed similarly to Interpretive Zone.
Sanders Road Picnic Area	No changes to existing structures or uses in this area. Under current GMP this area is classified as a Development Zone and is currently managed similarly to a Recreation Zone.
New Lookout Valley Lands: Including Tyndale Hill, Bald Hill, and Geary’s Crossing (formerly Wauhatchie Site 4)	Area is not currently zoned. Under the current GMP this area would be most similar to a Natural Zone.
Wauhatchie Sites 1, 3	Area is not currently zoned. Under the current GMP this area would be most similar to a Natural Zone. These sites have become incorporated into the Lookout Mountain Battlefield. Wauhatchie Site 3 should be called Smith Hill. Wauhatchie Site 1 is no longer separately named.
Wauhatchie Site 2	Area is not currently zoned. Existing management is most similar to a Battlefield Preservation Zone. Rename Wauhatchie Site 2 as New York Monument.
Chattanooga Valley Overlook (Former Pan-O-Ram Club Site)	Area is currently not zoned. Under current GMP this area would fall into the boundaries of the Natural Zone. This site was purchased by the park to protect the viewsheds and provide interpretive opportunities. Existing management is most similar to a Battlefield Protection Zone.
Sunset Rock	No changes to existing structures or uses in this area. Under current GMP this area is classified as a Natural Zone and is currently managed similarly to a Recreation Zone.
Eagles Nest	No changes to existing structures or uses in this area. Under current GMP this area is classified as a Natural Zone and is currently managed similar to a Recreation Zone.
Ochs Gateway	No changes to existing structures or uses in this area. Under current GMP this area is classified as a Natural Zone.



**Lookout Mountain
Zoning Alternative A**
Chickamauga and Chattanooga
National Military Park

Date: January 2013
Produced by: DSC Planning Division

Alternative B

Concept and general actions

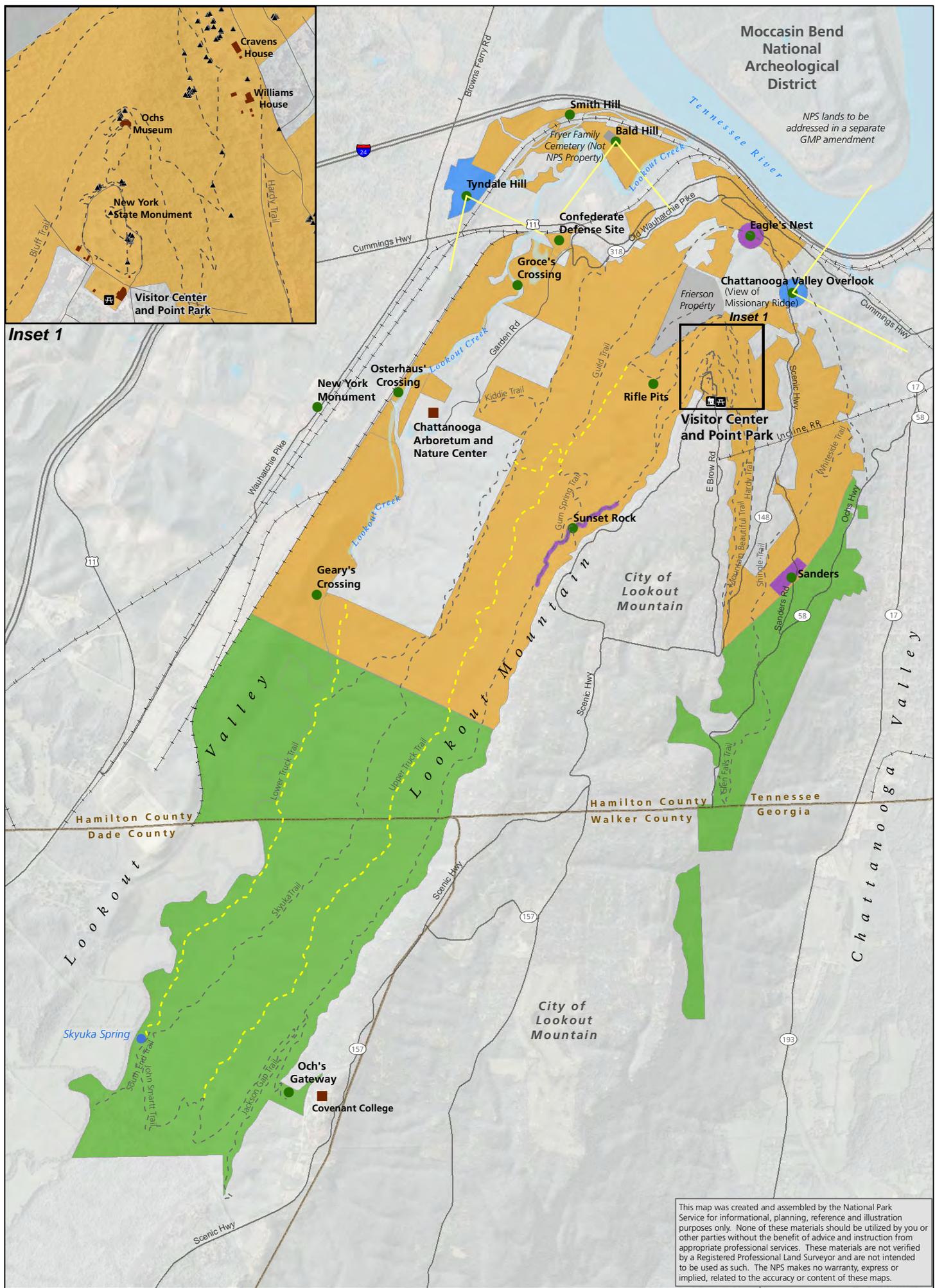
Under this alternative, there would be some improvements on newly acquired lands to enhance public access and better tell the stories of the battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge.

Key vantage points would be developed as visitor interpretive sites. Landscape improvements would be completed to allow visitors opportunities to experience a landscape similar to that existing at the time of the Civil War.

Opportunities to expand recreational activities beyond the park boundaries would include connecting existing park trails with regional trail systems.

Recommended actions by area

Cravens House	<p>Cravens House and the Dairy building would be preserved and stabilized. Interior would be closed to the public.</p> <p>All noncontributing structures would be removed including: Williams House, Garage, Caretaker’s Cabin, and storage sheds.</p> <p>Power lines would be relocated or put underground.</p> <p>Viewshed enhancement and cultural landscape rehabilitation would occur.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Battlefield Preservation Zone.</p>
Point Park	<p>Removal of noncontributing buildings including the Ranger Residence, nonfunctioning restrooms, and storage sheds.</p> <p>Permanent exhibits at the Ochs Museum would be developed.</p> <p>Park would maintain and enhance viewsheds.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Battlefield Preservation Zone.</p>
Lookout Mountain Battlefield Visitor Center	<p>Park would maintain visitor center, restrooms, parking, picnic tables, and storage shed.</p> <p>Area would be classified as an Interpretive Zone.</p>
Sanders Road Picnic Area	<p>Park would maintain this area as a designated picnic area at a reduced capacity.</p> <p>Park would replace the first restroom with a vault toilet. The nonfunctioning restrooms would be converted into storage or removed.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Recreation Zone.</p>
New Lookout Valley Lands: Including Tyndale Hill, Bald Hill, and Geary’s Crossing (formerly Wauhatchie Site 4)	<p>Visitor interpretive sites may be developed at Tyndale Hill.</p> <p>Specific site plans would be developed to enhance visitor experience at these sites and could include improved access and interpretive wayside exhibits.</p> <p>Area would be classified as an Interpretive Zone.</p>
Wauhatchie Sites 1, 3	<p>These sites have become incorporated into the Lookout Mountain Battlefield. Wauhatchie Site 3 should be called Smith Hill. Wauhatchie Site 1 is no longer separately named.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Battlefield Preservation Zone.</p>
Wauhatchie Site 2	<p>Rename Wauhatchie Site 2 as New York Monument.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Battlefield Preservation Zone.</p>
Chattanooga Valley Overlook (Former Pan-O-Ram Club Site)	<p>A plan would be developed to make this site into a formal overlook and could include a driveway, small parking lot, viewing area with exhibits, etc.</p> <p>Selective removal of vegetation to enhance view of Missionary Ridge.</p> <p>Area would be classified as an Interpretive Zone.</p>
Sunset Rock	<p>No changes. Park would continue to allow rock climbing activities in this area.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Recreation Zone.</p>
Eagles Nest	<p>No changes. Park would continue to allow rappelling in this area.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Recreation Zone.</p>
Ochs Gateway	<p>No changes. Truck Trails would continue to be multiuse trails. John Smartt Trail maintained as a hiking trail.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Natural Resource Protection Zone.</p>



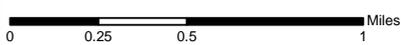
Inset 1

Inset 1

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Legend

- Building
- Picnic Area
- Point of Interest
- Spring
- Monuments
- Visitor Center
- Pedestrian Trail
- Multi-Use Trail
- Railroad
- Viewshed
- Rivers
- State Boundary
- Battlefield Preservation Zone
- Interpretive Zone
- Natural Resource Protection Zone
- Recreation Zone



**Lookout Mountain
Zoning Alternative B**
*Chickamauga and Chattanooga
National Military Park*

Date: January 2013
Produced by: DSC Planning Division

Alternative C

Concept and general actions

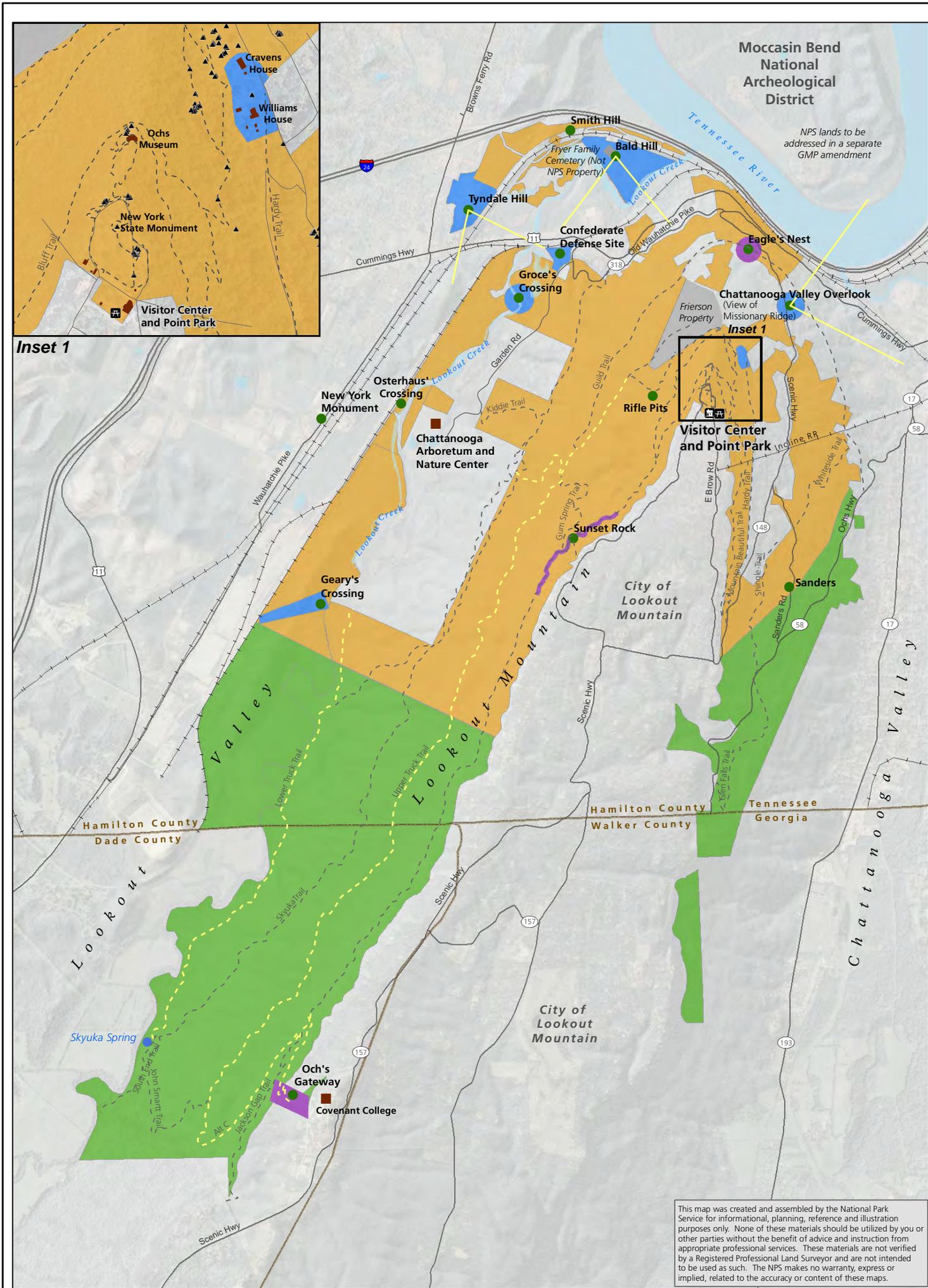
Similar to alternative B, there would be enhanced interpretation and public access to better tell the stories of the battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge from multiple vantage points. However, this alternative includes some additional development and access to more sites by vehicle. Key elements contributing to this approach include new public access and interpretation north of Lookout Mountain, and an extended auto tour of the battlefield.

Viewsheds would be enhanced from multiple points and landscapes would be improved to allow visitors to see a landscape similar to what existed during the Civil War. The park would pursue partnership opportunities to protect land outside park boundaries where there are key battlefield areas.

Unless otherwise noted, alternative C is in addition to actions in alternative B.

Recommended actions by area

Cravens House	<p>Cravens House would be made into a visitor contact station with exhibits inside.</p> <p>All noncontributing structures would be removed including: Williams House, Garage, Caretaker’s Cabin, and storage sheds.</p> <p>Power lines would be relocated or put underground.</p> <p>Viewshed enhancement and cultural landscape rehabilitation would occur.</p> <p>Parking lot would be relocated to the Williams property. Restrooms may be added.</p> <p>Area would be classified as an Interpretive Zone.</p>
Point Park	<p>Removal of noncontributing buildings including the Ranger Residence, nonfunctioning restrooms, and storage sheds.</p> <p>Permanent exhibits at the Ochs Museum would be developed.</p> <p>Park would maintain and enhance viewsheds.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Battlefield Preservation Zone.</p>
Lookout Mountain Battlefield Visitor Center	<p>Park would maintain visitor center, restrooms, parking, picnic tables, and storage shed.</p> <p>Area would be classified as an Interpretive Zone.</p>
Sanders Road Picnic Area	<p>Park would remove all restrooms and picnic facilities. Parking would be maintained to offer access to trails.</p> <p>Park would remove all the nonfunctioning restrooms.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Battlefield Preservation Zone.</p>
New Lookout Valley Lands: Including Tyndale Hill, Bald Hill, and Geary’s Crossing (formerly Wauhatchie Site 4)	<p>Visitor interpretive sites may be developed at Tyndale Hill, Bald Hill, Geary’s Crossing, and the Confederate Defense Site.</p> <p>Specific site plans would be developed to enhance visitor experience at these sites and could include improved access and interpretive wayside exhibits.</p> <p>Area would be classified as an Interpretive Zone.</p>
Wauhatchie Sites 1, 3	<p>These sites have become incorporated into the Lookout Mountain Battlefield. Wauhatchie Site 3 should be called Smith Hill. Wauhatchie Site 1 is no longer separately named.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Battlefield Preservation Zone.</p>
Wauhatchie Site 2	<p>Rename Wauhatchie Site 2 as New York Monument.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Battlefield Preservation Zone.</p>
Chattanooga Valley Overlook (Former Pan-O-Ram Club Site)	<p>A plan would be developed to make this site into a formal overlook and could include a driveway, parking lot, viewing area with exhibits, etc.</p> <p>Restrooms may be added.</p> <p>Selective removal of vegetation to enhance view of Missionary Ridge.</p> <p>A trailhead would be developed to connect this site to the Guild Trail.</p> <p>Area would be classified as an Interpretive Zone.</p>
Sunset Rock	<p>No changes. Park would continue to allow rock climbing activities in this area.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Recreation Zone.</p>
Eagles Nest	<p>No changes. Park would continue to allow rappelling in this area.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Recreation Zone.</p>
Ochs Gateway	<p>Consider connecting regional multiuse trails with Jackson Gap Trail.</p> <p>Consider designating a section of John Smartt Trail as multiuse to allow mountain bikes.</p> <p>Area would be classified as a Recreation Zone.</p>

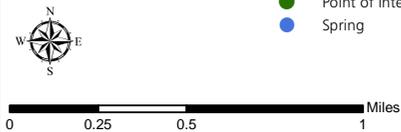


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- Legend**
- Building
 - ▲ Monuments
 - +— Railroad
 - Battlefield Preservation Zone
 - 🏠 Picnic Area
 - 🏛️ Visitor Center
 - Viewshed
 - Interpretive Zone
 - Point of Interest
 - - - Pedestrian Trail
 - 🌊 Rivers
 - Natural Resource Protection Zone
 - Spring
 - - - Multi-Use Trail
 - ▭ State Boundary
 - Recreation Zone

**Lookout Mountain
Zoning Alternative C**
Chickamauga and Chattanooga
National Military Park

Date: January 2013
Produced by: DSC Planning Division



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Denver Service Center
12795 West Alameda Parkway
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Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park
Georgia / Tennessee

National Park Service
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Please join us

for an open house on
the GMP amendment
for Lookout Mountain
Battlefield on
February 28, 2013,
3:30-7:00 PM, with
presentations at
4 PM and 6 PM.



The purpose of the open house is for the NPS to describe the general management plan amendment for Lookout Mountain Battlefield and hear your ideas, concerns, and thoughts about this special place.

The open house will be held at the St. Elmo Fire Hall.

**St. Elmo Fire Hall: 4501 St. Elmo Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37409**

From downtown Chattanooga:

Head south on Broad St. Turn left at the light onto Tennessee Ave., which merges with St. Elmo Ave. Go through the tunnel into St. Elmo, remaining on St. Elmo Ave. Drive through historic St. Elmo and the St. Elmo Fire Hall will be on your right, at the corner of 45th and St. Elmo Ave.

From Georgia:

Head north on St. Elmo Ave. Drive through historic St. Elmo and the St. Elmo Fire Hall will be on your left, at the corner of 45th and St. Elmo Ave.

Parking for attendees will be on 45th street and in the back of the Fire Hall.