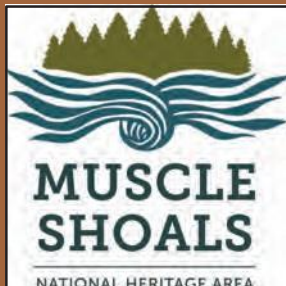


A Concept Plan

for the

Oakville Indian Mounds Park & Museum

Prepared as part of the
**Muscle Shoals National
Heritage Area
Management Plan**



June 2013



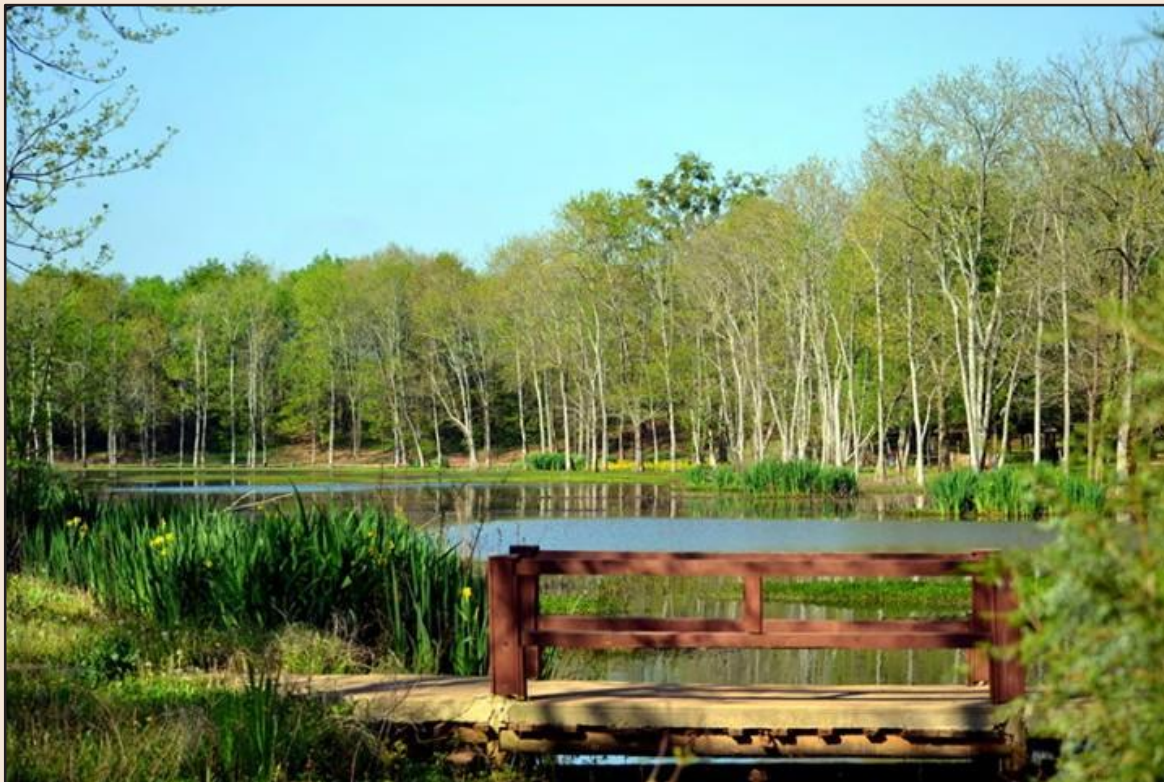
Contents

	Page
Background	1
Principles for Site Enhancements	2
Existing Conditions	3
Area Designations	6
Proposed Enhancements	8
Off-Site Issues	8
Primary Areas	9
Primary Expansion Areas	11
Secondary Areas	12

BACKGROUND

As noted throughout the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area Management Plan, one important way to improve the MSNHA will be to improve the many cultural sites and attractions that already exist and are in operation. Working with site operators on improvements will be one of the duties of the MSNHA's technical staff for preservation and interpretation. Likewise, the heritage area's proposed grant program will be targeted to sites needing assistance, including those designated as "emerging." While every site's needs will differ, a set of principles were developed within the plan that might be applied to sites in need of enhancement.

The purpose of this Concept Plan for the Oakville Indian Mounds Park & Museum is to illustrate how the Management Plan's principles for site enhancements might be applied to an actual site. Because this exercise is not actually part of the National Park Services' requirements for management planning, the resulting Concept Plan should be viewed as supplemental to the broader plan. It is critical that the reader understand that this plan is not intended to substitute for a detailed and expensive master plan. Rather it is more of a vision plan prepared as part of a four-day charrette process (intensive multi-day brainstorming session) that occurred while the same consultant team prepared a similar plan illustrating downtown revitalization principles for Downtown Elkmont. Consequently, this plan document is intentionally "long on ideas," but "short on details," particularly with respect to implementation steps necessary to make this vision come to fruition. However, this plan was based on background research, field work, and input from key stakeholders most directly involved with the site's operations. **This Concept Plan should be viewed as a starting point on which to build subsequent more detailed planning and implementation measures.**



PRINCIPLES FOR SITE ENHANCEMENTS

The following principles for site plan enhancements to be applied to historic sites throughout the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area (MSNHA) were first established as part of the MSNHA's Implementation Plan of the overall Management Plan:

- 1) **Sufficient wayfinding must be available so patrons can easily find the site:** Can the site be found solely via directional signage upon entering the community from one or more key corridors? Are there any gaps in signage that could cause the patron to get lost? Can the site also be readily found using printed maps and/or telecommunications (internet mapping, apps, etc.)? These are all questions that should be posed.
- 2) **Parking should be in sufficient amounts and convenient to the site for a broad range of transportation modes without detracting from the site itself:** At a minimum, there should be plenty of parking for conventional automobiles and trucks. For the most popular sites, bus parking should also be available. While parking should be within a comfortable walking distance from the key anchors of the site, they should not visually impact the site's overall character and integrity.
- 3) **Visitor comfort amenities should make for an enjoyable visit:** Every historic site or cultural attraction should have adequate public restrooms, water fountains and similar amenities within an indoor facility. Outdoor amenities should include paved pathways that are ADA accessible, benches, trash receptacles and lighting. Opportunities for picnicking should also be considered.
- 4) **Sites/attractions should have standard days and hours of operation:** Since weekends are the peak tourist days of the week, most sites should attempt to be open on weekends. Preferably, sites should also be open most days of the week. Many tourist-oriented businesses that are closed one day per week choose Mondays, and cultural sites should consider the same policy. However, some may also choose Sundays to be closed for religious purposes.
- 5) **Sites/attractions should be physically maintained at a high level:** Physical maintenance is important for two reasons in particular. First, maintenance is the best method for preserving cultural resources. Without cultural resources, heritage areas have difficulty succeeding. Secondly, well-maintained sites and attractions are more appealing to visitors and project a more positive image to help market the heritage area.
- 6) **Historic authenticity and integrity should be preserved and reinforced:** As experience has confirmed, a key aspect sought by most heritage tourists is authenticity. It is important that any improvements to historic sites and attractions be done with a high level of authenticity. There are various guidelines that can be utilized for this principle, such as the federal government's Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Historic Rehabilitation. Those particular standards are used to determine whether qualified historic building rehabilitation projects can earn the lucrative federal investment tax credits.
- 7) **Accurate and effective interpretation must be provided at historic sites and attractions:** It is important that the stories told are factual and of interest to patrons. An example of making interpretation interesting to a broader range of the tourist market is the recent trend for most Civil War sites. Rather than simply telling the story of names, dates and military strategy, interpretation now addresses issues such as the civilian experience, African-Americans in the war, the role of women, and similar topics aimed at a broader and more diverse audience. Interpretation should also include the use of creativity and interactive technology when possible.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Site Overview

Oakville Indian Mounds Park & Museum is an educational, archeological, genealogical and sociological legacy to Lawrence County and North Alabama. Spanning a timeline of human occupation of over 14,000 years and a diversity of races and cultures, the site preserves, protects, and presents artifacts dating as far back as 10,000 B.C., as well as ancient geological evidence of the settlement and evolution of the people of this region of Alabama. Creek (Muskogee), Yuchi (Uchean), Shawnee (Algonquin), Chickasaw (Muskogee), and Cherokee (Iroquoian) Indians were the five historic tribes that once lived in the Oakville area.

Park & Museum Development History

Initial Development

In 1991, the Oakville Indian Mounds Park & Museum began its existence with the initial purchase of 26.7 acres of land by the Lawrence County Commission and the Indian Youth Leadership Project in Lawrence County (sponsored by the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission) through a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). The Lawrence County Commission, with help from Lawrence County Schools Indian Education Program, sponsored and provided guidance to the project. Initial improvements to the property included clean-up, road construction, fencing, disking, and seeding. An entrance sign, picnic pavilion, fishing pier, steps to the ceremonial mound, and clean-up of the burial mound and cemetery were also completed. The park was formally dedicated on August 24, 1991. During the early days of the park's development, archeologists from Mound State Monument with the University of Alabama conducted an intensive study and identified some 100 archaeological sites at Oakville and surrounding areas.

Second Phase of Progress

In 1992, the park's five year development plan was completed, construction of the Indian village began, and the museum building plans and specifications were completed and accepted by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, which funded \$126,400 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the shell-in of the museum and office building. The Lawrence County Board of Education provided all additional funds for completion of the museum and office building. The project was completed in 1995.



The park's museum was completed in 1995 and contains hundreds of artifacts related to Native American culture.

More Recent Developments

Throughout the balance of the 1990s and even in recent years, additional adjacent lands have been acquired and phased into the expanded park. There are now approximately 120 acres, of which roughly 100 are owned by the Lawrence County Board of Education and the balance are owned by the County. In 2000, an Alabama Department of Transportation Enhancement Grant was awarded to the Lawrence County Board of Education to purchase 14 historical markers that were erected throughout the park, in addition to 18 markers that were placed at historic landmarks throughout the county. The Lawrence County Historical Commission provided matching funds for this grant to be secured. Of the numerous artifacts contained in the museum, approximately 90 percent of them are on loan, and most of them are owned by four or five key individuals. In addition to the cultural heritage aspects of the site, it is also the scene of numerous major high school cross country races, including state and national championships.

Existing Site Plan

Below is a graphic representation of the existing site provided by the site's managing entity. It features six numbers that identify six key features of the site, as follow:

1)Platform Mound - This mound is the largest on the site and one of the largest in the state. The base equals approximately 1 acre. It was originally more conical in shape, but years of farming have flattened it out.

2)Museum - Completed in 1995, this museum contains thousands of artifacts and is designed to represent a modern adaptation of a Cherokee lodge.

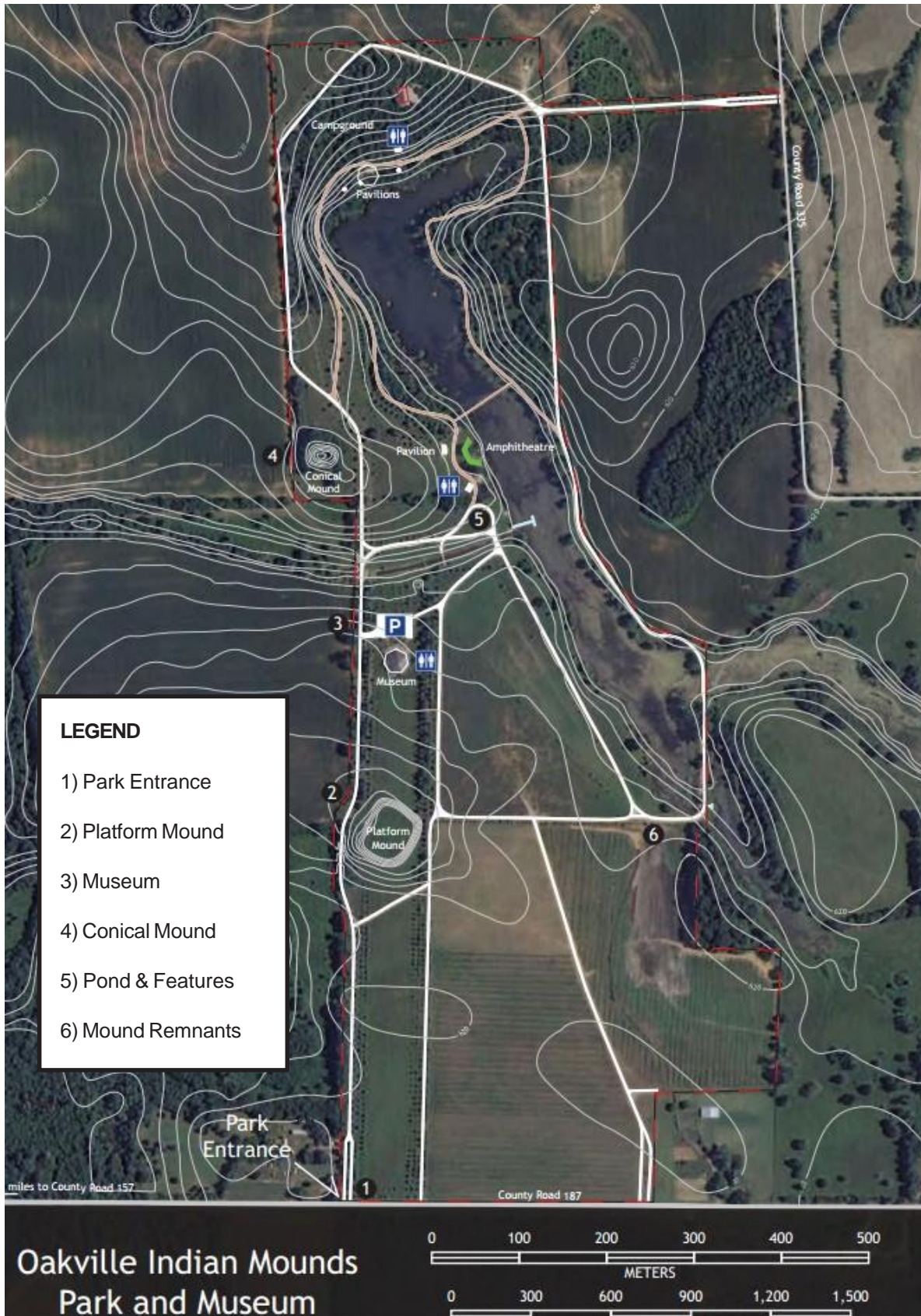
3)Conical Mound - This mound features a historic cemetery with the earliest grave dating to 1819. Because it was never farmed, it still retains its original conical shape.

4)Pond & Associated Features - The pond attracts a wide variety of aquatic species, birds, beavers, and other animals. Features include an amphitheater, docks for small water craft, and a boat ramp.

5)Picnic Area - This area includes bathrooms, pavilions for picnics and cleaning fish, and a structure with the potential for future conference center use.

6)Mound Remnants - It is believed that another mound existed here prior to 1978 but was later destroyed.





AREA DESIGNATIONS

For the purposes of planning, the Oakville Indian Mounds Park & Museum site has been split into three geographically-based areas that were determined by their purposes and activities, as well as how their purposes and activities relate to the overall mission of the site. A brief explanation of each is offered below and graphically illustrated by the Concept Plan map on the following page. The colored text boxes below are also linked to the same colors used on the map.

Primary Areas

These areas are concentrated within the southwest portion of the site and contain features most closely associated with the site's core mission of preserving and interpreting Native American cultural resources and their story. Key features include:

- Platform Mound
- Conical Mound
- Museum

This area also includes the site's entrance point, exit point, and primary road system that provides access to the features listed above.

Primary Expansion Areas

These areas include lands that are currently not programmed for cultural activities and/or are used occasionally for parking for major events, such as cross county meets. They should eventually become "Primary Areas" over time and can currently be viewed as transitional.

Unprogrammed Areas

This area consists of lands immediately north of the museum parking lot. It has tremendous potential for the expansion of cultural activities, including living history demonstrations.

Event Parking Areas

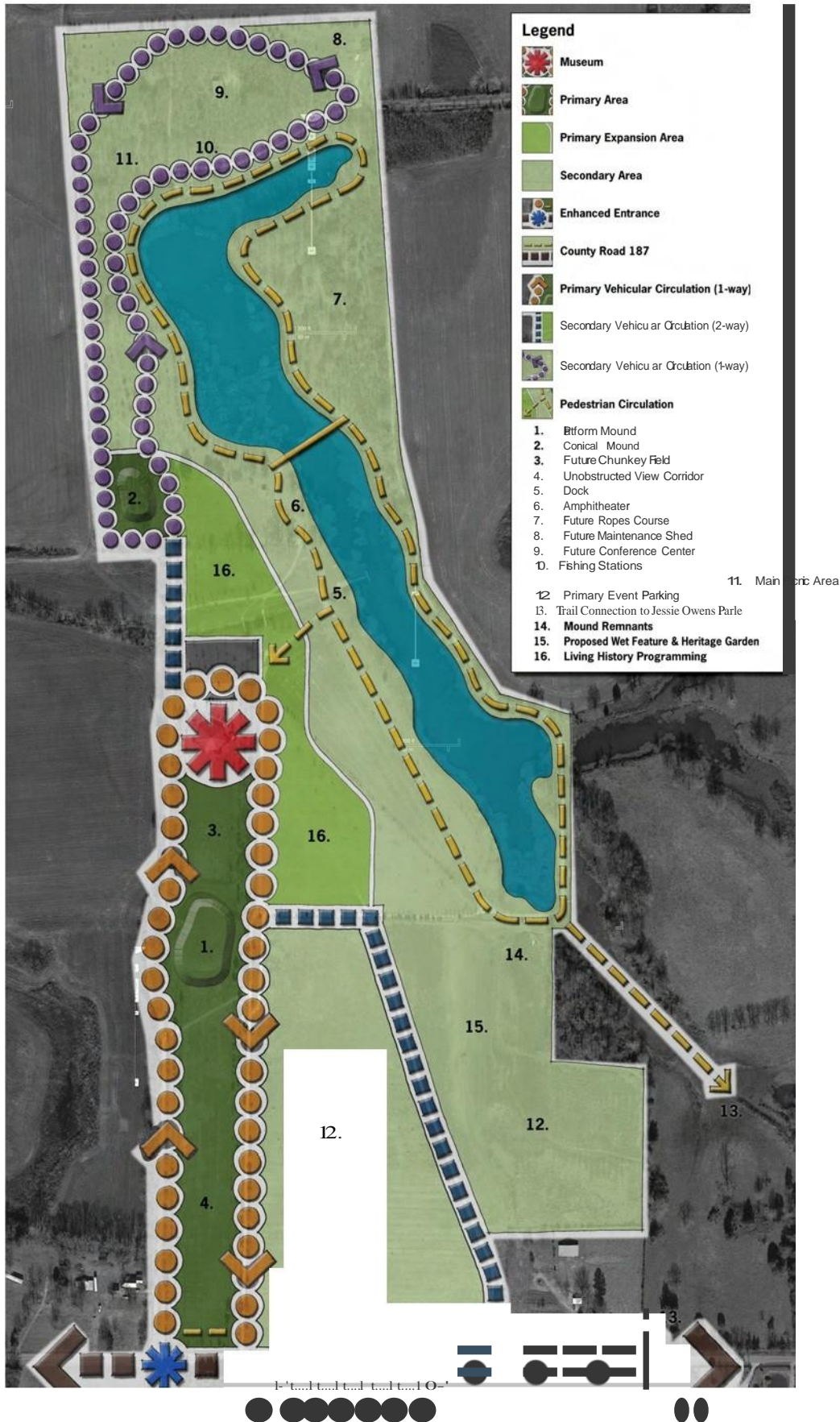
This is the northern most area of the site that is presently used for event parking. Because it is physically the closest of all event parking areas to the Primary Area, it is a natural candidate to be repurposed.

Secondary Areas

These areas constitute the balance of the site not designated as "Primary Areas" or "Primary Expansion Areas." They tend to be associated with either less significant cultural resources or, in most cases, activities that are peripheral to the core mission of the site. Such activities are tied primarily to outdoor recreational activities, although they are important revenue sources for the site's managing entity.

- Pond and associated features
- Picnic area
- Mound remnants

This area also includes the site's secondary road system that provides access to the features listed above.



PROPOSED ENHANCEMENTS

OFF-SITE ISSUES

The following ideas relate to issues that are not part of the actual subject site.

Make the Site Easier to Find

While the site can be found with a bit of effort, getting there needs to be more user-friendly for visitors. Areas of potential improvement include wayfinding and telecommunications measures.

Signage

Hwy. 157 is the primary road accessing this site. Although there are brown cultural signs on Hwy. 157 for both the Jesse Owens Memorial Park & Museum and the Oakville Indian Mounds Park & Museum, the signage connecting the visitor from the highway to the actual sites is more limited. It is recommended that additional directional signage be added to County Roads 81, 205, 203, and 187 to insure that these sites can be readily located.

Telecommunications

While the Oakville Indian Mounds Park & Museum has an excellent website, a check should be made on various other telecommunications tools to be sure that they are accurate in getting people to the site. As an example, Apple Maps currently has the wrong address for the site and instead leads visitors to a neighborhood in Moulton.

Link the Jesse Owens Park & Oakville

Enhance Pedestrian Connections

County Road 187, which connects the two sites, is not pedestrian-friendly. Making a stronger connection is difficult because of relatively narrow right-of-way widths and roadway widths. Because a sidewalk directly adjacent to the road would not provide enough space separation between pedestrians and vehicles, a separate parallel pathway would be the ideal solution, although not easily achieved. Another option is a greenway connection along the creek located north of the road. Such a connection would require land acquisition and/or easements. Both options are illustrated on the page 7 Concept Plan.

Expand the Site to the East

If new land to the immediate southeast of the Oakville property could be acquired, it could create a link with the Jesse Owens park. That connection would open up opportunities for many additional longer running events, including collegiate cross country.

It is important to note that federal funds through the MSNHA cannot be used for land acquisition.



Cross country race at Oakville



Jesse Owens Memorial Park & Museum

PRIMARY AREAS

These lands are illustrated in the boldest green color on the Concept Plan map on page 7 and they are considered the most critical to the overall site and its mission.

Improve the Site's Entrance

The main entrance to the site, located in the southwest corner, currently lacks a positive "first impression." It is recommended that the signage be recreated to be smaller, utilize higher quality materials and graphics, and perhaps be consolidated. Some naturalistic, but complimentary, landscaping would also help.



Existing signage at Oakville's main entrance.

Expand Access to Platform Mound

Because some visitors may not want to, or be able to, walk from the museum's parking lot to this mound, it is recommended that a very small parking area with a few angled parking spaces be provided on either side of the mound (east and west) off of the two main internal roads that enter and depart the park.

Enhance the Museum

Site & Building Improvements

The following enhancements are suggested:

Parking Lot Landscaping

Although this recommendation should be a low priority relative to most others, providing naturalistic evergreen hedges around the perimeter of the parking lot would minimize the visual impact of the parking lot and vehicles.

Building Entrance Definition

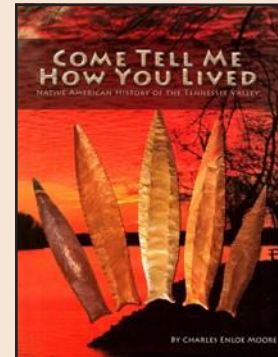
There are multiple doors to the museum visible from the parking lot. Because they are designed in an identical manner, it is unclear which door is the main public entrance. That issue should be resolved through the door's design and/or signage.

Museum Interpretation

More interpretation of artifacts and related stories needs to occur in both written form and using interactive and high-tech means. The latter is particularly important in light of today's tech-oriented younger generations.



Entry side of the museum with multiple doors.



Books such as the one by local expert Charles Moore provide good information that can assist with interpretation.

Expand & Enhance the Primary Area's Cultural Assets

There are at least two key opportunities to expand and enhance the Primary Area's cultural offerings, including the following:

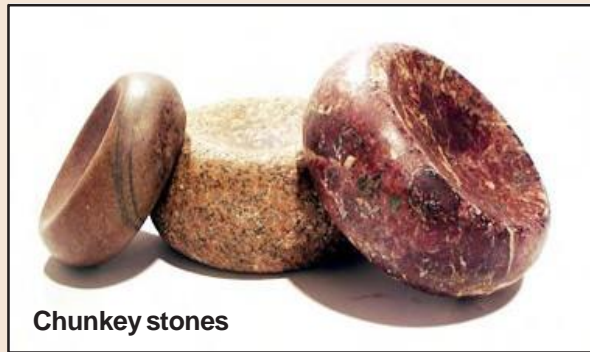
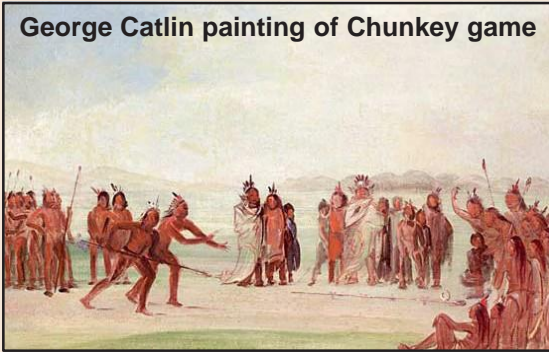
Develop a Chunkey Field

Chunkey (spelled various different ways) is a Native American game that was played throughout most of North America with regional variations. It involved moving a disk-like stone across a field with sticks. The largest playing fields were approximately 600 ft. by 300 ft. Given that room exists for a slightly smaller version, it is recommended that a Chunkey field be created within the field between the museum and the Platform Mound. This is an idea that the park's staff have had for quite a while.



Contemporary Chunkey game

George Catlin painting of Chunkey game



Chunkey stones

Enhance the Conical Mound

This mound is located slightly northwest of the museum and it features a nineteenth century cemetery on top of it consisting of stone vaults and headstones. The oldest grave dates to 1818, so it takes on a historic significance beyond just the Native American prehistory associated with the mound itself. This site is surrounded by a relatively attractive black metal fence that imitates a traditional wrought iron fence. It is accessible, although signs discourage people from walking on the site. It is recommended that this site be maintained and cleaned up in a manner that will enhance its appearance. It might be part of a scouting project for earning merit badges.



PRIMARY EXPANSION AREAS

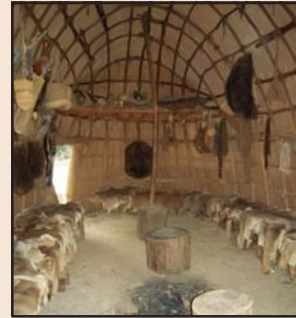
Within the Concept Plan map on page 7 of this document, the Primary Expansion Areas are colored with the intermediate shade of green and they are physically adjacent to the Primary Areas. The following recommendations are provided for such areas:

Create New Cultural Assets

This recommendation entails the expansion of the site's living history opportunities, as follows:

Create a Native American Village

It is recommended that, within the area directly north of the museum parking lot, a small Native American encampment or village be created. It could be limited to just a few recreated habitational structures and a fire pit area, but it would greatly help in bringing the site's stories to life. The area could also be programmed with living history demonstrations when time and money permit, particularly during peak visitation times and during events. Examples of demonstrations might include flint knapping, pottery making, food preparation, and similar crafts. There are numerous good models from across the country, including the one pictured here from Jamestown, Virginia.



Program the Site for Other Living History Events

While Native American living history demonstrations should be the primary activities here, this area north of the parking lot might also occasionally be used for other forms of living history, including that related to the Civil War. Between April 19 and May 3, 1863, Colonel Abel Streight's Union forces engaged in essentially a "running battle" between Moulton and Gadsden. Fighting occurred within proximity to the Oakville site, so that would be an obvious story to interpret.



Civil War reenactors

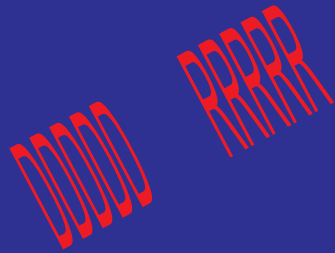


US Colonel Abel D. Streight

A Concept Plan

for

Downtown Elkmont



Prepared as part of the

**Muscle Shoals National
Heritage Area
Management Plan**

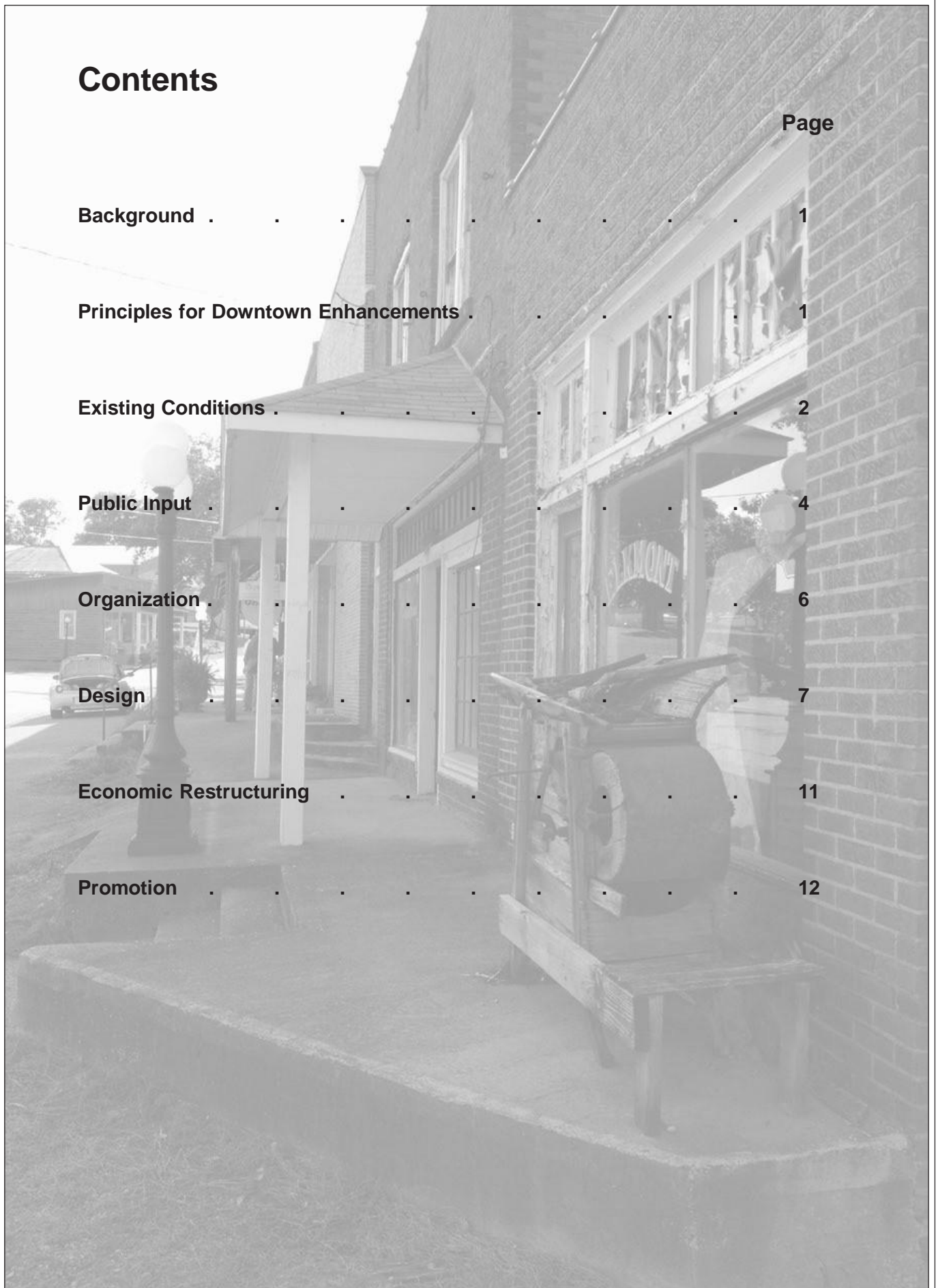


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Contents

	Page
Background	1
Principles for Downtown Enhancements	1
Existing Conditions	2
Public Input	4
Organization	6
Design	7
Economic Restructuring	11
Promotion	12



BACKGROUND

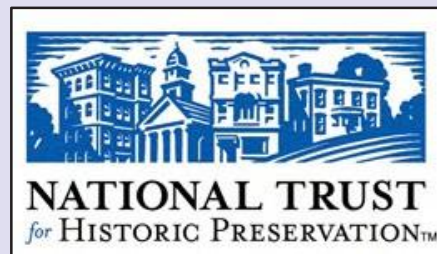
As noted throughout the Management Plan for the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area, the MSNHA needs to work with the three councils of government, municipal planning agencies, downtown revitalization entities, and others to enhance communities as a means of overall “product improvement” for the heritage area. The primary focus for most communities should be on enhancing the function and visual quality of their strip commercial corridors that serve as gateways to their communities, as well as downtown revitalization. In many respects, historic downtowns are the converse of strip commercial corridors. They are generally historic, authentic, unique and pedestrian-friendly. They also tend to have a much higher percentage of locally-owned unique businesses than do strip commercial corridors. They should serve as the heritage area’s “backbone” for visitor shopping, dining and – when possible – lodging. In many cases, the starting point for revitalization is a public input process and master plan, including a market analysis to determine which uses and business types are economically viable.

The purpose of this Concept Plan for Downtown Elkmont is to illustrate how the Management Plan’s principles for downtown revitalization might be applied to an actual downtown. Because this exercise is not actually part of the National Park Services’ requirements for management planning, the resulting Concept Plan should be viewed as supplemental to the broader plan. It is critical that the reader understand that this plan is not intended to substitute for a detailed and expensive master plan. Rather it is more of a vision plan prepared as part of a four-day charrette process (intensive multi-day brainstorming session) that occurred while the same consultant team prepared a similar plan illustrating historic site enhancement principles for the Oakville Mounds Park & Museum. Consequently, this plan document is intentionally “long on ideas,” but “short on details,” particularly with respect to implementation steps necessary to make this vision come to fruition. However, this plan was based on background research, field work, and input from key stakeholders, including municipal officials, property and business owners, and residents in general. **This Concept Plan should be viewed as a starting point on which to build more detailed planning and implementation measures.**

PRINCIPLES FOR DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

The following principles for downtown revitalization to be applied to downtowns throughout the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area (MSNHA) were first established as part of the MSNHA’s Implementation Plan of the overall Management Plan. It is recommended that the National Main Street Program’s “Four Point” Approach, which treats downtowns holistically, be applied:

- **Organization:** including some sort of entity, issue-based working committees, and paid staff
- **Design:** streetscape, building rehabilitations, infill development, signage, landscaping
- **Economic Restructuring:** market analysis, optimal tenant mix, incentives, business development
- **Promotion:** logo development, website, social media, special events, joint advertising



The National Main Street Center of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, based in Washington, DC, has a multi-decade track record of tremendous success in downtown revitalization. While not every community has the size or resources to become a formally designated “Main Street” downtown, nearly all can use the program’s Four Point Approach.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Located in Limestone County within Alabama's Huntsville-Decatur Combined Statistical Area, Elkmont has a population of approximately 470 people. That population translates to roughly 170 households, 135 families, and a density was 290 people per square mile.

Brief History

The first settlers began to occupy the area now comprising Elkmont around 1810. It was named after the numerous elk that populated the area, the Elk River, and the "mount" that is sat upon. It began to grow and flourish in 1859 with the completion of the Tennessee & Alabama Central Railroad. On September 25, 1864, Confederate cavalry under General Nathan Bedford Forrest attacked a Union fort guarding the Sulfur Creek railroad trestle, located approximately 1.5 miles south of the downtown. After a heavy bombardment of the fort, the Union forces surrendered. Because 200 of the 1,000 US soldiers died, the Battle of Sulphur Creek Trestle is considered the "bloodiest Civil War battle in Alabama." While the post office here was originally named "Fort Hampton," it was changed in 1866 to "Elkmont." By 1871 the Louisville & Nashville Railroad owned the rail line and in 1887 built the existing railroad depot. The town was incorporated as a municipality in 1873. Limestone County's first high school was established in Elkmont in 1912. In 1986, the rail line was abandoned and later converted into a trail for walking, jogging, and cycling.

Downtown Overview

Streets & Streetscapes

The downtown streets create a grid system of north-south and east-west streets. The streetscapes are only somewhat developed, and are most clearly delineated on the north side of Upper Fort Hampton Road and the west side of Railroad Street. They feature concrete sidewalks, a few Victorian-style streetlights, and on-street parking. The south side of Upper Fort Hampton Road features a continuous curb cut along the filling station property.

Buildings

While there are no distinct boundaries, Downtown Elkmont is quite small in size, consisting of approximately 20 buildings. These buildings are located along a couple of key streets - Upper Fort Hampton Road, Railroad Street, Sandlin Road, and Smith Street. The only real "critical mass" of historic structures consists of two cohesive clusters of buildings - one located on the north side of Upper Fort Hampton Road across from the intersection of Railroad Street, and one located on the west side of Railroad Street. While most of these buildings still retain their architectural integrity with only some inappropriate alterations over the years, some are relatively deteriorated and vacant. There are also a few vacant lots offering "infill development" opportunities.

Public Space

With the exception of the Richard Martin Trail, a "rails to trails" greenway running along a north-south axis just east of Railroad Street, there is little in the way of formal public space. There is a small park located on the east side of Smith Street that features some playground equipment for children and a gazebo, but it lacks good public visibility and surrounding uses that can help to activate the space and be leveraged for economic benefits.



Cluster of buildings on Upper Fort Hampton Road.

EXISTING CONDITIONS: AERIAL PHOTO MAP



KEY LANDMARKS

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1) Town Hall & Fire Hall | 4) Future Belle Chevre Facility |
| 2) Historic Train Station | 5) Richard Martin Trail |
| 3) Former Hospital | 6) Church Parking Lot |

PUBLIC INPUT

Because downtowns are essentially “owned” by all of a community’s citizens, it is critical to get meaningful public input as part of any planning process. A meeting was held on June 3, 2013 to solicit ideas from property owners, business owners, public officials, and citizens in general to determine their vision for the future of Downtown Elkmont. Below are some of the primary results:

Strengths

- Historic buildings
- Railroad history
- Red Caboose
- Belle Chevre
- Park
- Access to I-65
- Canoe/kayak trail
- Richard Martin trail
- Former hospital
- Motorcycle trail

Challenges

- Lack of funding
- No alcohol sales
- Burned building
- Event parking
- No building inspector
- Key property owner
- Buildings maintenance
- Too much asphalt



Stakeholders at the charrette kick-off meeting



Model Downtowns

While the goal is certainly not to duplicate another downtown, aspects of other downtowns that may have some future relevance to Downtown Elkmont were identified, as follow:

- Bell Buckle, Tennessee - interesting shops, dining
- Lynnville, Tennessee - railroad theme
- Leiper’s Fork, Tennessee - rustic, nice architecture

Bell Buckle has several popular businesses, great architecture and a few major events each year. However, unlike Elkmont, it lacks a key anchor like Belle Chevre and same proximity to I-65 as Elkmont enjoys.



Opportunities

Following questions regarding strengths and challenges, as well as a discussion of model downtowns, the stakeholders in attendance at the public input meeting were asked about their opinions on potential opportunities for Downtown Elkmont. The following ideas were provided:

- Museum created at the old hospital
- Outdoor outfitter to compliment Elk River recreational opportunities
- More events - a potential goat festival?
- Walking tour of historic sites
- Parks and recreation to compliment the trail
- Addressing future parking demands
- Closing streets for events
- Hydrangea Festival



ORGANIZATION

Because successful downtown revitalization is difficult to achieve without the concerted effort of a group of individuals, organization is typically the starting point within the Main Street “Four Point Approach” described previously on page 1. Ideally, a community can establish a separate entity just for downtown revitalization that includes a board of directors, several working committees, and paid staff. However, because of Elkmont’s small population and limited financial resources, that common model is not realistic. Consequently, the following recommendations are provided:

- **Utilize the Town government as a revitalization conduit**

Because Elkmont does not have its own Chamber of Commerce and because the Town government is involved with many issues directly impacting the downtown, it is recommended that the Town government become the default downtown revitalization entity. Among the downtown issues that the City already addresses are zoning and development, street maintenance.... (need to confirm this, as it could be Limestone County that deals with these issues).

- **Establish a Downtown Committee**

It is recommended that a downtown committee be established. This could be done either through the Town government or independently. Unless a relatively large group of people becomes active with the committee, the notion of breaking the committee down into multiple issue-based sub-committees is likely not viable. Thus, the committee will need to address all of the key areas of revitalization: organization, design, economic restructuring, and promotion.

- **Look toward the National Main Street Center and State Main Street program as resources.**

Elkmont is too small to become a formally designated “Main Street” community, as this program is generally intended for communities having a population between 5,000 and 50,000 people. However, that limitation does not mean that the Town and/or proposed committee cannot utilize resources of both the national and state programs. Any individual or organization can join the National Main Street network without being affiliated with a designated Main Street community. Committee members could receive Main Street newsletters, e-mailed information, purchase various books and digital teaching materials, and attend local, state and national conferences.

Certified Local Government (CLG) Program

The CLG Program is a partnership between local, state and national governments focused on promoting historic preservation at the grass roots level. Benefits of CLG designation for a community include expert technical advice and access to funding via the portion of federal funds set aside by each State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for CLGs. To become a CLG, a community must address the following minimum goals to demonstrate that they are committed to historic preservation.

- Establish a qualified historic preservation commission.
- Enforce appropriate State or local legislation for the designation and protection of historic properties. In most cases this is done in the form of a local ordinance.
- Maintain a system for the survey and inventory of local historic resources.
- Provide for public participation in the local historic preservation program, including participation in the National Register process.
- Follow any additional requirements as outlined in the State's Procedures for Certification.

Each state has Procedures for Certification that are approved by NPS, and often establish additional requirements for becoming a CLG in that state. CLG status may be worth looking into for Elkmont at some point in the future should sufficient interest develop for a formal preservation program.

DESIGN

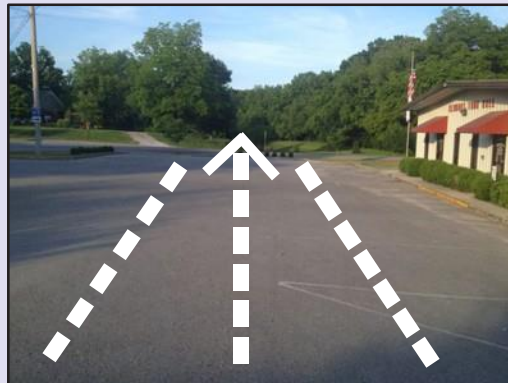
The physical planning concepts offered in this document and illustrated on the Concept Plan map on the following page are based upon a long-term view. Completion of all of this plan's ideas could easily take a decade, as it is meant to be phased in over time as funding and market support allow. For some recommended ideas, a short-term and less expensive alternative approach is offered. Below is a summary of the key physical planning ideas illustrated on the following page.

Redesign Upper Fort Hampton Road

This new alignment straightening the street as it approaches its intersection with Sandlin Road in front of the Town Hall achieves the following benefits:

- Creates a traffic-calming "T" intersection with a traffic controlled intersection (stop sign)
- Pulls the existing or new Town Hall building up to the street to fit the historic development patterns
- Creates new developable land and on-street parking on the north side of the street
- Provides new on-street parking in front of the Town Hall

This major improvement would realign the street to occupy land already owned by the Town (the existing Town Hall parking lot), so the acquisition of private land would not be required.



The proposed realignment of Upper Fort Hampton Road would extend directly across the current parking lot fronting Town Hall (at right) and connect to Sandlin Road.

Rebuild Town Hall & Fire Hall

The existing building - from an architectural and urban design perspective - leaves much to be desired. It is a metal building set back on an unlandscaped parking lot. The recommendation above to realign the street will replace the parking lot with a more urban treatment of angled on-street parking. It is recommended that the new "L" shaped building depicted on the page 7 Concept Plan map be constructed to achieve the following primary objectives:

- Introduce a higher quality architecture worthy of the downtown's primary civic building
- Frames the new public space to the immediate west
- A new building can likely be designed with a floor plan more user-friendly to the Town administration

It is recognized that this recommendation is very lofty one in light of the potential expenses for a community as small as Elkmont. Consequently, an option to consider - particularly in the near term - is to simply enhance the exterior facades (front and both sides) to offer a more appealing face and enhance the downtown.

Preserve & Rehabilitate Historic Buildings

Because historic buildings are the most fundamental "building block" and character-defining element of Downtown Elkmont, it is critical that existing buildings be maintained and rehabilitated in an architecturally appropriate manner. The following steps should be pursued to achieve this important goal:

- *Commission a National Register nomination* for downtown to qualify buildings for the lucrative 20% federal investment tax credit for historic rehabilitations. This credit is only for income-producing buildings that are rehabilitated according to federal preservation standards and that exceed their adjusted cost basis.



- *Secure the services of a building codes inspector.* This might involve either utilizing a County official or contracting with a private inspector. Any codes violations should be enforced with available penalties to encourage building repairs. Efforts should be made to avoid demolition as a property owner's option.
- *Adopt a set of design guidelines* to insure appropriate building rehabilitations. Such guidelines can cost anywhere from \$15,000 to \$25,000, but there may be preservation grant funding available to fund most of this expense.
- *Explore the adoption of incentives for building rehabilitation* as either an alternative to mandating the guidelines or to counter-balance regulatory controls. Assuming Alabama state enabling laws permit, an example of an incentive might be a property tax abatement in which the pre-rehabilitation assessed value is frozen for 5 to 10 years so as to not penalize an owner from rehabilitating their building and increasing its value.

SAMPLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES

These two end buildings on Upper Fort Hampton

Road offer some useful lessons:

Building A

- The shed canopy and supporting post are not historically accurate. Use standing-seam metal canopies on other buildings in downtown as a model.
- The right half of the storefront features relatively small window panes that have an inappropriate colonial era appearance.

Building B

- Retain the current storefront design, including the transom windows above the storefront and the large storefront windows as designed.



Develop New Infill Buildings

The Concept Plan map on page 7 indicates several new buildings to be located on vacant lots to “fill in the missing teeth” and to provide space for new businesses that will create a stronger draw for the downtown. It is important that they be designed in a manner that is architecturally compatible with the existing older buildings. The adoption of design guidelines, recommended earlier, would help to achieve this goal. In addition to the new City Hall building already discussed and the new filling station discussed later, new buildings are recommended for the following locations:

- North side of Upper Fort Hampton Road east of the greenway on land to be created by this plan's proposed realignment of the street. Because of limited space for parking, these should be one-story structures.
- West side of Railroad Street to fill in the gaps between historic buildings.
- North side of Upper Fort Hampton Road to the west of the existing historic buildings

A new building like this - with either clapboard or brick cladding - could fit well on the north side of Upper Fort Hampton Road.



Create Public Space & Enhance the Pedestrian Realm

Public Space

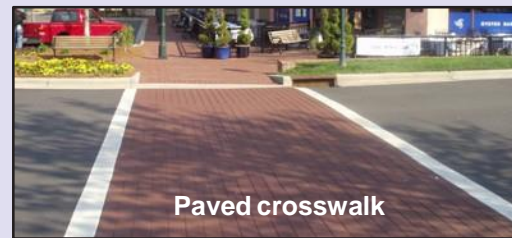
While an informal public space already exists between the greenway and Railroad Street, it is proposed that this space be physically expanded and formalized. The drainage ditch to the east of the greenway should be piped and filled in to create park space and the area to the west of the greenway should be designed as a passive formal park anchored at its northern end by the existing informational kiosk.

Pedestrian Realm

- Two crosswalks anchored by curbed “bulb outs” at either end and featuring brick pavers should be provided on Upper Fort Hampton Road - one at the greenway crossing and the other at the Smith Street intersection.
- Sidewalks, curbing and landscaping should be provided at locations where it is now missing, such as along parts of the filling station property to better distinguish driving and walking areas.



This space has the scale and character of the kind of space that can occur between Town Hall and the east side of Railroad Street.



Increase Parking Opportunities

As the downtown becomes more prosperous and new uses located there, parking will become a more significant issue. While parking management (limiting the duration of on-street parking, issuing tickets, etc.) is not needed at present or financially viable for the Town, it could be a future consideration if the need evolves.

On-Street Parking

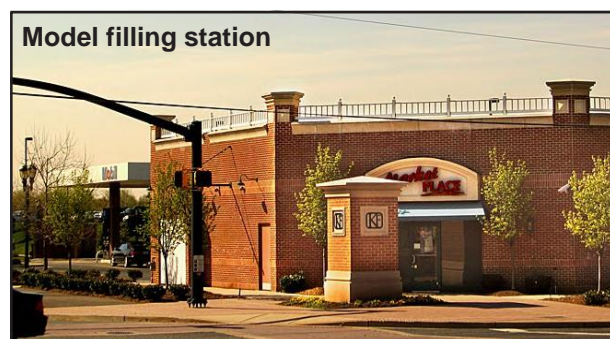
To provide convenient customer parking, to provide a buffer between moving vehicles and pedestrians, and to tighten the driving lane widths for traffic calming benefits, on-street parking should be provided along any street frontages possible. Where space permits, angled head-in parking is preferable over parallel parking because it provides more spaces. This plan proposes on-street parking in a few new location, including both sides of Upper Fort Hampton Road (block closest to Sandlin Road).

Off-Street Parking

Off-street parking lots are proposed behind the proposed new cluster of buildings at the corner of Sandlin and Upper Fort Hampton (north side), as well as in front of the new Belle Chevre production facility.

Redevelop Existing Filling Station

While the existing service station on the south side of Upper Fort Hampton Road provides a very useful service and products for the area, its physical form is incompatible with that of a historic downtown. While this recommendation is one that may never occur or would be many years out because of the costs to the property owner, a long-term goal is the site's redevelopment for a more appropriate design. Many such uses are now designed with the building fronting the street and the pumps located to the side.



ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING

PROMOTION

MSNHA Management Draft Plan Presentation

Date: January 28, 2013

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Place: Muscle Shoals City Hall;
Muscle Shoals



Date: January 29, 2013

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Place: Turner-Surles
Community Center; Decatur

PRESS RELEASE

Public Presentations for the Background Study of the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area Management Plan

On January 30th and 31st, 2012, the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area will hold meetings to present the key Background Study findings for the Heritage Area's Management Plan.

Background

The Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area (MSNHA) was established by Congress in 2009 to promote the preservation and interpretation of cultural resources within the six-county area of Northwest Alabama comprised of Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, and Morgan Counties. The three main themes for the MSNHA are Native American heritage, the Tennessee River, and Music. Another important facet of Heritage Areas is heritage tourism - the attraction of visitors to the Heritage Area to visit cultural sites and attend related events. This form of economic development creates jobs and generates tax revenues to benefit the many communities within the MSNHA.

Meeting Dates, Times & Locations

The two Background Study presentations will occur as follows:

- *January 30, 2012 - 4:00 PM:* 702 Sycamore Street, NW (Turner-Surles Community Resource Center) Decatur
- *January 31, 2012 - 4:00 PM:* 2010 East Avalon Avenue (Muscle Shoals City Hall) Muscle Shoals

Meeting Purpose & Topics

The purpose of the meetings is to present the key findings of the Background Study for the Management Plan for the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area (MSNHA). Topics to be addressed include:

- Background on the MSNHA
- Foundation Statement
- Environmental Resources
- Themes & Cultural Resources
- Economic & Market Assessment

Contact

For further information on this project and these meetings, please contact:

Judy Sizemore - Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area
Ph. - (256) 765-5028
E-mail -

PRERELEASE

Public Meetings for Planning to Create the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area Management Plan

On February 14th and 16th, 2012, the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area will hold meetings to conduct planning and present concept plans for the Heritage Area's Management Plan.

Background

The Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area (MSNHA) was established by Congress in 2009 to promote the preservation and interpretation of cultural resources within the six-county area of Northwest Alabama comprised of Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, and Morgan Counties. The three main themes for the MSNHA are Native American heritage, the Tennessee River, and Music. Another important facet of Heritage Areas is heritage tourism - the attraction of visitors to the Heritage Area to visit cultural sites and attend related events. This form of economic development creates jobs and generates tax revenues to benefit the many communities within the MSNHA.

Meeting Dates, Times & Locations

The two meetings will occur as follows:

- *February 14, 2012 - 1:00 - 4:00 PM:* Joe Wheeler State Park - Rogersville
- *February 16, 2012 - 4:00 - 6:00 PM:* University of North Alabama GSU Banquet Hall C - Florence

Meeting Purpose & Topics

The purpose of the meetings is to conduct planning and present the conceptual plans for the Management Plan for the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area (MSNHA). The February 14th meeting will feature a public workshop to develop key concepts for the plan, while the February 16th meeting will feature a presentation of the key concepts generated during the week of planning.

Contact

For further information on this project and these meetings, please contact:

Judy Sizemore - Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area
Ph. - (256) 765-5028
E-mail -

MSNHA public meetings

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 6:01 PM**To:** Nina McNatt (franklincountyhelp@charterintemet.com); treist@decaturcvb.org; Jeanette Dunnavant (jeanette@tourathens.com); debbie@visitflonenceal.com; Klm Hood (KimHood@lawrencealabama.com); Dana Lee Jennings (danalee@northalabama.org); lee.sentell@to1Urism.alabama.gov; susannahlin@comcast.net**Cc:** pr@northa

Our first round of public meetings will be held the week of April 25. Limestone County Event center will be the site of the first meeting on April 25 at 5:00 pm. April 28 at 5:00 pm the second meeting will be held in the Banquet Hall at the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.

I would appreciate you sending this to your distribution list, Face book, Twitter, etc.

Thank you

Judy

MSNHA public meetings

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 8:53 PM

To: pr@northalabama.org

Our first round of public meetings will be held the week of April 25. Limestone County Event Center will be the site of the first meeting on April 25 at 5:00 pm. April 28 at 5:00 pm the second meeting will be held in the Banquet Hall at the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.

I would appreciate you sending this to your distribution list, Face book, Twitter, etc.

Thank you

Judy

Please forward to your distribution list

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 8:06 PM

To: pr@northalabama.org

Please forward the information sent earlier regarding the public meetings for the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area to your distribution list.

I'll also be sending an announcement for a public workshop on Feb. 14, tomorrow or next Monday

Note- Public meeting regarding Physical Inventory, Assessment, Economic and Market Analysis

Jan. 30, 4 pm at Turner-Surles Building in Decatur

Jan. 31, 4 pm at Muscle Shoals City Hall in Muscle Shoals

Thank you for all your help!

Judy

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Public meetings

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 8:11 PM

To: millycaudle@pcnet.net

Milly, will you please forward any announcements to people you believe would be interested in attending the meetings? I've been building a distribution list, but know there are others who would like to be included.

I appreciate all your help and support!

Judy

Judy Sizemore

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area public meetings

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 8:22 PM

To: tom_mcknight@hotmail.com

Tom, will you please pass on the information to Colbert County Landmarks regarding the public meetings for the Heritage Area? I've been trying to build a distribution list, but know there are others interested that aren't on the list yet.

Thanks for your help and support!

Judy

Judy Sizemore

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area's public meetings

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 8:26 PM

To: vicki@alabamachickenandeggfestival.com

Vickie, will you please pass on the information regarding the MSNHA public meeting to the Arts Council and others you might be interested. We've been building a distribution list, but know there are others who are interested.

Thank you for all your help and support!

Judy

Judy Sizemore

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area public meetings

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 8:41 PM

To: steveh@shoalschamber.org

Steve, will you please pass on the information regarding the MSNHA public meetings with your distribution list? We've been working on building a distribution list, but know it's not complete.

Thanks for all your help and support!

Judy

Judy Sizemore

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

MSNHA public meetings

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 8:43 PM

To: jeanette@visi tathensal .com

Jeanette, can you get the information on the public meetings sent out to the members of the Athens Chamber? We've been working on a distribution list, but it's nowhere near complete.

Thanks for all your help and support!

Judy

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area public meetings

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2013 8:45 PM

To: steveh@shoalschamber.com

Steve, will you please pass on the information regarding public meetings for the MSNHA? We've been working on building a distribution list, but it's nowhere near complete.

Thanks for your help and support!

Judy

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area public meeting notices

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Friday, January 06, 2012 2:11PM

To: info@franklincountychamber.org

NEVI-CI,wt.LL ljOtA. -pLecise pciss.OV\ - tVie LV\,fovww..cittoll\, reg cirdl.VI-0 tVie MSNHA ptA.bLLc w..eetl.V1-0s to tVie
e-liiciVIA..ber w..ew..bers? weve beell\, worLVI-0 OV\ - btA.I.LG!!VI-0 ci dl.strLbtA.tl.olll, LI.st,btA.t i.t's Vi-Of e-ow..pLete!
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jtA./i(l;j

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

3rd Quarter Report, FY'12

The heritage area has been busy with several projects this quarter. The Management Planning team is working on Task 4 which is being done off-site. Discussions have begun with a contractor to start a quarterly newsletter. The plan is to publish the first one this fall. We have also begun discussions with people in the six counties about the interest of presenting a program in the fall of 2014 about Gen. Hood's march to the Battle of Franklin. The plan is to partner with Franklin, Tn. with the planning of these events. We hope to have the events in MSNHA the weekend prior to the Franklin event drawing interested people into the north Alabama and middle Tennessee area for the week.

The heritage area attended a workshop on branding and has now started the redesign of the logo. Steps are being taken regarding the branding of the MSNHA. Also included in this endeavor is the "Roots of American Music Trail". Discussions are ongoing with ALDOT to prepare the RFP for the second grant of this project. Since these discussions began in October, 2011, it is my sincere hope all the issues will be resolved soon.

Presentations about the heritage area have been made to Decatur Rotary, Lexington Lions Club, Tuscumbia Kiwanis and Civitan clubs. Presentations have also been made to the city councils of Killen, Athens, Moulton, St. Florian, Hartselle, Sheffield and Florence. Additional presentations have been scheduled. Huntsville's economic development and tourism departments have also been met with to discuss the mutual benefits of partnering on projects.

In addition, the Alliance of National Heritage Areas meeting was attended in Charlottesville, VA. in April. Several ideas and suggestions were brought back to the MSNHA as a result of attending this meeting.

Update on Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 12:34 PM

To: tony.stockton@lawrenceidb.com; Joann Maxwell (jmaxwell@nwscc.edu); Elrand Denson (edenson@fs.fed.us); Jason Harper (jgharper@tva.gov); Tim Haney (tim.haney@dnralabama.gov); Chris Osborne (archive@hiwaay.net); Barske, Carolyn M.; Morris, Barry K.; Maynard, Christopher A.; Blackstone, Tanja F.; Barbara Kelly [bkelly6769@gmail.com]; David Muhlenhof [dmuhlenhof@paperandchemical.com]; Gail King [gail-king@att.net]; louselinville@earthlink.net; mike.nave@limestonecounty-al.gov; Terry_Wildy@nps.gov; Pond Spring [wheplan@hiwaay.net]

Hello, I wanted to give you a quick update on the heritage area. We are currently gathering all the numbers for the past fiscal year which I will be presenting at our next steering committee meeting (at this time not scheduled)

We

will be having 2 management planning meetings in November. WE will have one in the Shoals area on Nov 13 at 4:00 in the Rayburn Hall Conference Room and a second meeting in Decatur at the Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce at 3:00. I certainly hope to see you at one of the meetings.

The 4th quarter of FY'12 the MSNHA went to 10 town and city councils and made presentation about the heritage area and how we could all work together. The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation held their summer Lyceum in the Shoals area which we helped to coordinate. Meetings were held in the area to discuss developing a program in Fall of 2014 regarding the march of Gen. Hood's army on the way to the Battle of Franklin. The exhibit "Lincoln and the Constitution" will be here sooner than we thought! Since the White House Visitor's Center is having reconstruction, we will receive the exhibit in late November. It will now be shown in Decatur as well as Florence during the time we have it in the heritage area!

Much has also been done to continue to find additional resources in the area. This summer I found a farm which houses 7 bands of mustangs that are open to educational tours.

A very good meeting was held with Emily Reynolds- VP of Governmental Relations with TVA regarding issues in the MSNHA.

We are also working with a tour bus operator in Middle Tennessee about developing tours in the area. He is excited about bringing folks down!

The next announcement is that the heritage area will be hosting the Alliance of National Heritage Areas meeting and field study April 24-25, 2012. The meeting will bring in about 40 of the existing heritage areas. WE will also be inviting some of the "emerging" areas as well, such as the Black Belt area in central Alabama and the Chattahoochee Valley in eastern Alabama.

I will be setting a Committee meeting soon for a general review of Fiscal Year 2012.

Judy

Draft Management Plan presentation

Sizemore, Judy S.

Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2013 11:58 AM

To: tony.stockton@lawrenceidb.com; Joann Maxwell (jmaxwell@nwsc.edu); Elrand Denson (edenson@fs.fed.us); Jason Harper (jgharper@tva.gov); Tim Haney (tln.haney@ldnra.alabama.gov); Chris Osborne (archive@hiwaay.net); Barske, Carolyn M.; Morris, Barry K.; Maynard, Christopher A.; Blackstone, Tanja F.; Barbara Kelly [bkelly6769@gmail.com]; David Muhlendorf [dmuhlendorf@paperandchemical.com]; buiselinville@earthlink.net; mike.nave@limestonecounty-al.gov; Terry_W ildy@nps.gov; Pond Spring [wheplan@hiwaay.net]

As we discussed at the steering committee meeting, I hope you are beginning to call key people and ask them to come to the presentation of the Draft Management Plan. Also please send emails to those you may feel need to be invited as well.

To refresh your memory, the meeting times and places are: Monday Jan 28 @ 6:00 at Muscle Shoals City Hall and Tuesday, Jan. 29 in Decatur at Turner-Surles Community Center.

Thanks for your help!

Judy

Judy Sizemore

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

Please Announce Public Meeting

msnha

Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 11:14 AM

To: Hartselle Enquirer [brent.maze@hartselleenquirer.com]; Decatur Daily [Brucem@decaturdaily.com]; Decatur Daily [Don.Hudson@decaturdaily.com]; Athens News Courier [ed@athensnews-courier.com]; Courier Journal [editor@courierjournal.net]; Moulton Advertiser [editor@moultonadvertiser.com]; East Lauderdale News [ELNewsRog@aol.com]; Athens Now [jalp53@yahoo.com]; Athens-Umestone County Tourism Association [jeanette@visitathensal.com]; Hartselle Enquirer [randy.garrison@hartselleenquirer.com]; Times Daily [Russ.corey@timesdaily.com]; Athens Plus [Teresa@athensplus.com]; Greater Limestone County Chamber of Commerce [terry@tourathens.com]; Ardmore Community Shopper [trish@yourcommutysshopper.com]

The Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area will hold public meetings to present and discuss the efforts being made with the development of the Management Plan. These meetings will discuss the Public inventories and assessments, and the economic and market analysis which has been gathered by the planning team.

Join us in Decatur on January 30, 2012 at the Turner -Surles Building, 107 702 Sycamore St. beginning at 4:00pm

Or, on December 31, 2012 at the Muscle Shoals City Hall, 2010 Avalon Ave. beginning at 4:00pm

Press Release for January and February msnha

Sent: Monday, January 23, 2012 143 PM

To: Hartselle Enquirer [b.rent.maze@hartselleenquire.r.com]; Decatur Daily [BruceM@decaturdaily.com]; Colbert County Reporter [colbertcountyreporter@earthlink.net]; Decatur Daily [Don.Hudson@decaturdaily.com]; Athens News Courier [ed@athensnews-courier.com]; Courier Journal [editor@courierjournal.net]; Moulton Advertiser [editor@moultonadvertiser.com]; East Lauderdale News [ELNewsRog@aol.com]; gdc:news@gmail.com; Athens Now [jalp53@yahoo.com]; Athens-Limestone County Tourism Association [jeanette@visitathensal.com]; Franklin County Times [jonathan.willis@franklincountytimes.com]; Morgan County News [mcnews@highland.net]; Hartselle Enquirer [randy.garrison@hartselleenquirer.a.com]; Red Bay News [rbnews@hiwaay.net]; Times Daily [Russ.Corey@timesdaily.com]; Athens Plus [Teresa@athensplus.com]; Greater Limestone County Chamber of Commerce [teny@tourathens.com]; Ardmore Community Shopper [trish@yourcommunityshopper.com]

Attachments: Press Release.zip (53 KB)

January Management Draft Plan Presentation

msnha

Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 10:03 AM

To:

abromsm@abroms.com; jallison@co.morgan.al.us; suzannebolton@yahoo.com; anginutt@comcast.net; Morris, Barry K.; Craig, Charles E.; Conlon, Cindy H.; Lyles, Carol S.; Tipps, Donna F.; Gaston, Greg G.; Flynn, Jason E.; Britten, Jeremy R.; Sizemore, Judy S.; Hodgson, Karen Q.; Robertson, Kristopher R.; Underwood, Phyllis Q.; Garfrerick, Robert A.; Lee, Reeda J.; Vandiver, Renee P.; Coates, Thomas E.; Blackstone, Tanja F.; Harsen, Vagn K.; Cale, William G.; a123thirf@yahoo.com; Alexis A. 195 [aasuggs@comcast.net]; Andy Bettenton [abettenton@sbselectric.com]; Abby Carpenter [acarpenter@flpl.org]; agstover@decatur-al.gov; Anita Hutchison [ahutchison@madison.k12.al.us]; Al Head [al.head@arts.alabama.gov]; Tim Kent [alabama26th@yahoo.com]; Allen Wall [allen.wall@wfadvisors.com]; Alma Huston [alsie5472@gmail.com]; amt>s93@bellsouth.net; Amy Furfori [amy.furfori@madisonal.gov]; Andra Marten [andra@thornasonandassociates.com]; annn.mningwater@comcast.net; aorr@cookspet.com; David and Judy Hood [aprilfolz@aol.com]; Chris Ozbm [alchive@hiwaay.net]; Kathy Archer [archkl@bellsouth.net]; Ardmore Chamber [ardchamber@ardmore.net]; Arthur Orr [arthur.orr@alasanate.gov]; arthur@arthurorr.com; Cayce Lee [athensvisitorscenter@gmail.com]; Jijlen Tomlinson [atomlinson@atsa-usa.com]; Allison Ray [awrinal@aol.com]; Betty D. Walker [B.D.WalkerOS@comcast.net]; bama1803@aol.com; Mike Randall [barnarealtor@comcast.net]; bandward@pdnet.net; banksantiques@bellsouth.net; Barry Beddingfield [barryk1945@yahoo.com]; Barbara Broach [bbroach@florenceal.org]; bearcreelcedctr@localnet.com; bhoward@hiwaay.net; Bill Daws [bill.daws@limestonecounty-al.gov]; Bill Latimer [blatirner@limestonecounty-al.gov]; Bill Gough [billgough@allstate.com]; Bill Matthews [billinflorence@aol.com]; Bobby Bruns [bruns@florenceal.org]; BJ Tully [bjtully38@aol.com]; bkelly3@chart.er.net; Barbara Kelly [bkelly6769@gmail.com]; Janet Blazer [blazerj@bellsouth.net]; Lee Parbery [blp@hiwaay.net]; bmsatty@aol.com; Paula Brentnall [bnall41@comcast.net]; bob.lowy@htimes.com; Bob Tiffin [bob.tiffin@tiffinmotorhomes.com]; bob Hill [bob@rmhilllawfirm.com]; Bobby Denton [bobby@bobbydenton.com]; bpb02i08@aol.com; Brad Bernard [brad@cr3ate.com]; Brent White [brentwhite@thr.alabama.gov]; Bill Roberts [broberts1229@cs.com]; bspring@comcast.net; Berdia Thompson [btthompson356@comcast.net]; Bobby Burch [burchagency@gnail.com]; calley@flpl.org; Carmen Anderson [canuskn@aol.com]; carmen andl(ai Erdmann [carmen.marcias.erdmann@gmail.com]; Nikki Lancaster [casacolbertcounty@gmail.com]; Cciithy Wood [cathy.tvaa@comcast.net]; calvin Durham [cdurham@bdarchitecture.com]; J. Charles Durham [cdurham@pdnet.net]; Janna Whitley [chamber@rogersvillealabama.com]; chrissy@alabarna-magazine.com; Christy Martin [christy@lifeonthewater.com]; Charles Rose [chuckrivers@comcast.net]; ckirby@decatur-al.gov; Red Bay [clerk@redbay-al.gov]; clinton.carter@finance.alabama.gov; Children's Museum of the Shoals [anos@shoalschildrensmuseum.org]; Chris Oberholster [coberholster@tnc.org]; Colberttourism@comcast.net; Shannon McKinney [contactus@bearcreelclakes.com]; Martha Freeman [cookie@bellsouth.net]; Shirley Cornett [cornetts@dot.state.al.us]; cpdriskell@gmail.com; Clyde Beaver [crbeaver@gmail.com]; creed@lawrenceal.org; C. 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D. 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Attachments: MSNHA Management Draft Plan.docx (159 KB)

Here is the dates and times for our Management Plan Presentation during the month of January! Hope you can make it!

Management plan presentation

msnha

Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 1:48 PM

To: townofstflorin@hotmail.com

Attachments: News Release.docx (1MB)

Attached is the news release with information about our upcoming meetings. Thank you so much for helping spread the word!

Cathy Wood, public relations
Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area
UNA Box 5231
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Florence, AL 35632-0001
256.765.5028



MUSCLE SHOALS

NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

News Release

Jan. 17, 2013

MUSCLE SHOALS NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
University of North Alabama
One University Plaza, HNA Box 5721

CC-BY-NC-SA

Public meetings set for MSNHA management plan

FLORENCE, Ala....After almost two years of compiling a management plan for the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area, organizers will present a draft of the plan and answer questions in public meetings set for 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28, at Muscle Shoals City Hall, Avalon Avenue; and 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, at Turner-Surles Community Center, 702 Sycamore St., Decatur.

"The management plan is a framework for us, a constitution that will govern how MSNHA operates," said Judy Sizemore, MSNHA executive director. "It includes an interpretative plan with comprehensive actions and strategies for telling the area's stories as well as a business plan and goals for the future."

Shortly after the two public meetings, there will be a period of time when MSNHA will accept comments on the plan before revising it and submitting the final draft to the National Park Service, which oversees the National Heritage Area program.

Congress has designated 49 National Heritage Areas across the country in recognition of historical and cultural significance and natural resources. Operating under the University of North Alabama, in Florence, the MSNHA preserves and promotes the history and culture of a six-county region in northwest Alabama. It is the only National Heritage Area in Alabama.

Sizemore and a planning team worked for 18 months to gather data and put the management plan together.

For more information, contact the MSNHA at 256.765.5028 or msnha@una.edu.

End

Management Plan Draft Meeting

msnha

Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2013 11:09 AM

To: Sizemore, Judy S.

Attachments: MSNHA Management Draft Pl.vi.docx (159KB)

Attached are the dates and times for the next Management Draft Planning Meeting. We hope you can attend and pass the word!

Thanks !

Draft Management Plan

msnha

Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 1:24 PM**To:** Sizemore, Judy S.

We have had a wonderful two nights with our Draft Management Plan Meetings! It was great seeing everyone who was able to make it! For those of you who were not able to make it or would like to take a second look at the Draft Management Plan, we have uploaded the Draft to our website! To view this document you will need to visit our website at msnha.una.edu and visit the "About" tab and from there you will see "Draft Management Plan on the left!

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