Chapter 2. Site History

Introduction

Pea Ridge National Military Park preserves the site of the battle between Union and Confederate troops that occurred on March 7th and 8th in 1862. During the first year of the Civil War, control of the state of Missouri was a prime objective of both sides. It was the reason for the Battle of Wilson's Creek fought near Springfield, Missouri, for the battle at nearby Dunagin's Farm in February 1862, that preceded the clash at Pea Ridge, and was the reason for the Battle of Pea Ridge.

The Battle of Pea Ridge marked the end of General Samuel R. Curtis' campaign that had begun on Christmas Day 1861. By mid-February 1862, General Curtis, who headed the Federal Southwestern District of Missouri, had chased his main adversaries, Major General Sterling Price and the Missouri State Guard into Arkansas. After a clash at Dunagin's Farm in mid-February, General Curtis moved north establishing his troops along the north ridge of Little Sugar Creek, where they dug long, linear shallow trenches in anticipation of a Confederate attack from the south.

Price had joined forces with Brigadier General Ben McCullouch's Confederates in the Boston Mountains south of Fayetteville with Major General Earl Van Dorn in command. On March 4th, Van Dorn led the 16,000 Confederates northward intending to strike into Missouri to capture St. Louis. Knowing a frontal assault would be suicidal, Van Dorn swung further north to approach Curtis' position from behind intending to strike at dawn. But after a three-day march, on March 7th, the troops were hungry, cold and weary, and hours behind schedule. With McCullough's troops far behind, Van Dorn divided his army, ordering McCullough to return to the west end of Elkhorn Mountain to rejoin him near Elkhorn Tavern.

The Confederate's delays gave Curtis time to face about, move northward and prepare to receive the assault. McCullough's troops encountered intensive fire from Union soldiers, resulting in the deaths of McCullough and General James McIntosh, and the capture of the ranking colonel. As the command structure was destroyed, McCullough's troops scattered from the field. Price's prong of the attack east of Elkhorn Mountain fared better. The Missourians slowly pushed the Union troops back, holding Elkhorn Tavern and the crucial Telegraph and Huntsville roads. On the morning of March 8th, Curtis counterattacked the Elkhorn Tavern area with massed artillery that severely damaged the Confederate line. Curtis's concerted infantry and cavalry attacks crumpled their defenses. By mid-morning Van Dorn ordered his troops to withdraw as ammunition was running low. The battle was over. Missouri was in Union control, and most troops moved east of the Mississippi to fight in other campaigns.

Prior to the Civil War, the area was home to farmers and small villages. Telegraph Road had been established as a major thoroughfare through northern Arkansas, and had been used in the 1830s as part of the northern route of the Trail of Tears, and later as a route for the Butterfield Overland Stage between St. Louis and San Francisco. Elkhorn Tavern had been one of the stops on the stage route. Leetown Hamlet was composed of twelve or so structures prior to the Civil War. It flanked Leetown Road and was surrounded by agricultural lands and forest.

After the end of the war in 1865, attempts to commemorate Civil War battlefields began nation-wide. The Daughters of the Confederate Veterans lobbied for commemoration of significant sites including

Gettysburg and Shiloh. The efforts at establishing a national military park at Pea Ridge began in 1887, following a twenty-five year reunion held by veterans of the battle. The veterans dedicated the 'Reunited Soldiers' monument on site, one of the first and few at a Civil War battlefield site, and began advocating for a military park.

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation establishing Pea Ridge National Military Park. The state of Arkansas purchased more than 4,000 acres of land and donated it to the federal government to be developed as a national military park under the management of the NPS. Master planning commenced in 1960 and on January 21, 1963, Pea Ridge National Military Park opened to the public.

The history of the two-day battle and the influence it had on the physical landscape is critical, as is the documentation of the site before and after the battle. The developmental history of the park provides an overview of the physical changes that have occurred from the earliest known occupation to the two-day Battle of Pea Ridge to the establishment of the national military park to present day.

Statement of Significance

Pea Ridge NMP encompasses nearly ninety percent of the combat sites of the Battle of Pea Ridge. The battle was one of the most decisive Civil War engagements fought west of the Mississippi River. The two-day engagement was a Union victory, despite Union forces being outnumbered and fighting in Confederate territory. Pea Ridge was the first major engagement outside Indian Territory in which troops from the Cherokee Nation fought for the Confederacy. The First Creek Regiment and the First Choctaw and Chickasaw Mounted Rifles also fought.

This Civil War battle completed Union Brigadier General Samuel R. Curtis's campaign to drive pro-Confederate forces out of Missouri, and saved Missouri for the Union. In addition, Curtis is the only American military commander known to have successfully redeployed his entrenched army after learning of an intended assault on the Union rear. His Union army, although outnumbered in troops and artillery, launched the longest and most intense field artillery assault. Approximately one-third of the Union troops were German and eastern European immigrants from Missouri.

The battle left the Confederate force weakened and scattered, and retarded General Van Dorn's progress towards other battles. The subsequent Union control of Missouri provided a secure base for the Union to embark upon campaigns to control the lower Mississippi River Valley. After the battle, there were later attempts to invade Missouri, but they were easily repulsed.

The period of significance for Pea Ridge NMP is 1862 to 1865. This timeframe includes preparations for the battle such as Curtis's construction of the Federal Trenches, the two-day battle, and extends through the end of the Civil War.^{2.1} Pea Ridge NMP is listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the American Civil War and with efforts to commemorate that period in our nation's history.

The park encompasses a portion of the northern route of the Trail of Tears, and campsites along the trail at Elkhorn Tavern and Ruddick's field. This segment of the trail

^{2.1} The List of Classified Structures (LCS) indicates a second potential period of significance of 1956 to 1963 that coincided with construction of the park facilities in association with the Mission 66 program. Only one structure, the east overlook, has potential as a contributing feature. The visitor center has been altered extensively and no longer retains integrity.

is one of the few segments of road traversed in Arkansas by eleven of the seventeen Cherokee Removal contingents in 1837 and 1839. The trail reflects the tragic experience of the Cherokee people, who were forcibly removed from their homelands in Tennessee by the U.S. government and made to march to new homes hundreds of miles to the west. Many who began the journey never made it to Indian Territory due to disease and exposure. All who traveled along the trail suffered hardship along with a heavy heart.

The Trail of Tears generally followed the route of Telegraph Road, which is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A with statewide significance as one of the few segments of road traversed in Arkansas by eleven of the seventeen Cherokee Removal contingents along the route.^{2,2} Telegraph Road is listed on the Arkansas Register of Historic Places (2009) with periods of significance from 1837 to 1839, 1854, and 1862 to include the Cherokee Trail of Tears and the Battle of Pea Ridge.

In addition to the timeframe of the Battle of Pea Ridge and the Civil War, this CLR/EA recognizes the significance of other events and their physical features that influenced the cultural landscape before the battle and in the years following. The features present in 1837 and those added in the 1880s contribute to the historic character of the cultural landscape, including the following.

 Telegraph Road served as a portion of the northern route of the Trail of Tears from 1837 to 1839, and in 1854 as the Cherokee Trail of Tears. Two monuments, built in the 1880s to commemorate both sides of the battle: Monument to the Brave Confederate Dead and Monument to the Reunited Soldiery, were built by veterans of the war.

Periods of Landscape Development

Eight periods of development describe the physical evolution of Pea Ridge NMP. These begin with prehistory and extend into present-day. The beginning and end of each period corresponds to major physical changes related to historical or cultural events.

One period of landscape development documents the period of significance of 1862 to 1865. This is identified in bold italics below.

Some elements built after the period of significance, namely the monuments, have gained importance due to their commemoration of the battle. All were built between 1865 and 1956 within the *After the Battle/ Reconstruction* period.

- Prehistory
- Early European American Settlement (1800 to 1840)
- Trail of Tears (1835 to 1839)
- Settlement (1830s to 1862)
- The Battle of Pea Ridge (1862 to 1865)
- After the Battle / Reconstruction (1865 to 1955)
- National Military Park (1956 to 1960s)
- Present-day (1967 to present-day)

^{2.2} Arkansas Register of Historic Places. Springfield to Fayetteville Road, Brightwater Segment. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.



Figure 2-2. The Archaic period is the longest known period of human habitation in the Ozark Highland, and saw continuation of hunting and gathering, but also a growth in population and population density within the Ozark Highland. Settlements appear to have shifted to the watered river valleys, and diets became more varied, with experimentation with domesticated crops taking place by the end of the period and indications of wider trade networks. (Photo Source: Archaic lifeways, by Dan Kerlin. Courtesy of the University of Arkansas Museum.)

Prehistory

This period documents the early human occupation of the Pea Ridge area. The park is located within the Ozark Plateau where archeological investigations in the region have dated human use and occupation to more than 10,000 years ago.

Prehistoric artifacts discovered during excavations at the park consist of several bifacial implements, scrapers and chipped stone points. According to archeologists, these sites appear to be temporary occupation sites of undetermined origin. They are likely Late Archaic or Woodland in age, and artifacts are made of locally available materials from Boone formation chert. This material suggests that the area was temporarily occupied for the purpose of local chert procurement and tool production. People occupied the area likely as part of hunting excursions and/or carcass processing and kitchen activities.^{2.3}

American Indian use and settlement continued in the Pea Ridge area into the 1830s when Euro-American settlement began to move westward.

Paleoindian: Within the Ozark Highland terrain, it is conceivable "but not demonstrated that pre-Clovis point manifestations" occur in the area.^{2,4} The known time frame in calendrical years is from roughly 13,000 to 10,000 years ago, or the late glacial and immediate post-glacial period. Hunting of big-game

Archaic: This is the longest known period of human habitation in the Ozark Highland, and is generally divided for reasons of food ecology and technological change into three sub-periods—Early (10,000 to 8,500 cal. B.P.), Middle (8,500 to 5,000 cal. B.P.), and Late (5,000 to 2,500 cal. B.P.). ^{2.6} It is entirely within the Holocene Epoch and lasted in calendar years from about 10,000 to 2,500 years before present. The Archaic saw continuation of hunting and gathering, but also a growth in population and population density within the Ozark Highland. Settlements appear to have shifted to the watered river valleys, and diets became more varied, with experimentation with domesticated crops taking place by the end of the period and indications of wider trade networks.^{2.7}

Woodland: This horticulture and hunting and gathering period lasted from about 2,500 calendar years ago to roughly 1,000 calendar years ago. In the Midwest, it is subdivided into an Early, Middle, and Late sub-periods by distinctive ceramics and mortuary features.^{2.8}

At this time, people were practicing horticulture in addition to hunting and gathering. Settlements were probably sedentary or semi-sedentary, located near rock escarpments and the occasional stream valley. People built conical burial mounds, but this did not reach the same heights as elsewhere in eastern North America. Populations were identifiable by territory and possibly larger kin groups, and groups were predominantly egalitarian.^{2.9}

mammals occurred (now extinct), but subsistence foraging within in small groups or communities was most likely. ^{2.5}

^{2.3} Kay, Marvin and Richard Allan. 2000 Research Design for Prehistoric Archaeology of Pea Ridge and Wilson's Creek National Historic Battlefields. National Park Service Cooperative Agreement No. CA611500047. Report from Department of Anthropology, Fayetteville, AR. In Proebsting, Cultural Resource Management Plan 2004, 8.

^{2.4} Kay, Marvin and Jason Herrman. Archeological Predictive Modeling of Land Use at Pea Ridge National Military Park, Arkansas and Wilson's Creek Historic Battlefield, Missouri. Department of Anthropology, Fayetteville, AR. Cooperative Agreement CA No. H6115040033, 61, 62.

^{2.5} Ibid, 61, 62.

^{2.6} Ibid, 62, 63.

^{2.7} Ibid, 62, 63.

^{2.8} Ibid, 63.

^{2.9} Ibid, 62, 63.

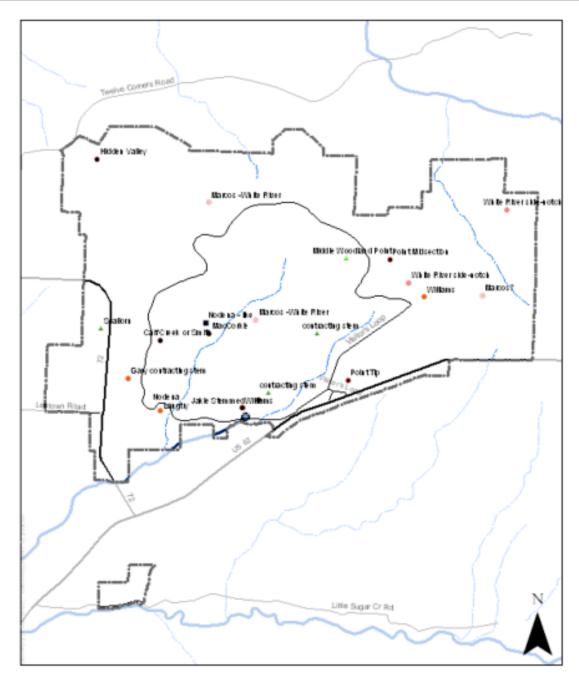


Figure 3-13. Time sensitive prehistoric artifacts of known location for Pea Ridge National Military Park.

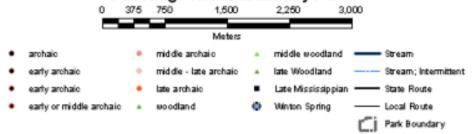


Figure 2-3. Dr. Kay and Jason Herrmann identified areas of pre-historic archeological interest (Herrmann report.pdf).

Mississippi Period: This period lasted until the 1500s in the western Ozark Highland. This was the western edge of Mississippian society and people here traded broadly, including goods and ideas. This is known archeologically as the northern Caddoan area, even though the connection to that tribe is uncertain. It is clear however, that society became more complex at this time, with ruling chief elites supported by a network of commoners. Settlements were usually located in alluvial plains with one or more mounds, or civic-ceremonial centers. Agriculture included maize as a staple crop.^{2.10}

Protohistoric: As contact occurred with Europeans, first with the Spanish in the mid-16th century and later with the French, people in the Ozark Highland continued to be agricultural. However, society was no longer based on the elite chiefdoms of the Mississippian Period. The people living around Pea Ridge were possibly the Caddo, who lived in simple villages and farmsteads, and occasionally caves or rockshelters.^{2.11} During the early contact period, Indian groups were not overtaken by the Europeans, but traded extensively with the newcomers, from food and furs to slaves.^{2.12}

Late 1700s: The Caddo vacated their territory north of the Red River in Arkansas. Their population had been struck hard by European diseases, and were thus more vulnerable in conflicts with the Osage.

The Osage predominated over northwestern Arkansas. The Osage had moved west from the Ohio River Valley into Missouri. The Osage were a seminomadic people who resided in Missouri and visited northwest Arkansas seasonally for hunting. They engaged in trade

with Euro-Americans and also came into conflict with the Caddo, Quapaw and other resident Indian groups.^{2.13}

The Eastern Cherokee Indians, originally from western North and South Carolina, northern Georgia and northeastern Tennessee, began moving west, due to Europeans moving into their homeland. Some moved to northeast Arkansas.

1700: Around this time, the Caddo people were moving out of the Ouachita valley.

1721: The Cherokee signed the first of several treaties that would result in them ceding over half their lands over the next seventy years.^{2.14}

1791, July 2: The Treaty of Holston placed the Cherokee under the protection of the U.S. government.^{2.15}

^{2.10} Kay and Herrman. Archeological Predictive Modeling of Land Use at Pea Ridge National Military Park, 62, 63. 2.11 Ibid. 64.

^{2.12} Ibid.

^{2.13} Ibid.

 $^{2.14\,}$ Pea Ridge National Military Park. GPO: 2012-372-849/80822 Reprint 2010

^{2.15} Ibid.

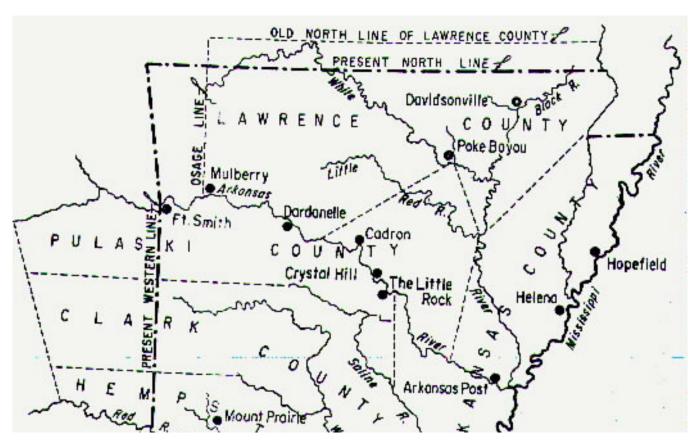


Figure 2-4. The Osage Treaty ceded all Osage lands east of Fort Clark in Missouri, and all lands north of the Arkansas River to the United States (1819_Map_Osage Line.jpg).

Early European American Settlement (1800 to 1840)

This period of development begins with the westward movement of Euro-American settlers in the early 1800s. In Pea Ridge, this migration resulted in land being divided for individual ownership. The once sparse woodlands developed into an agrarian landscape of cultivated fields and farms connected by a road system. The majority of the roads in the study area were built during this period. Many of the family farms that started in the early 1800s were still in operation in 1862 when the Battle of Pea Ridge was fought.

The 1830 Indian Removal Act was enacted during this period, resulting in government agents descending upon southeastern tribes, coercing them to sign treaties and beginning the ultimate removal of American Indians from their ancestral homes to Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma). This period ends in 1840 as most of the early development associated with Euro-Americans, particularly the roads, was complete.

1800

Osage hunters in northern Arkansas often attacked Cherokee farmsteads. The Cherokee would fight back, and complained to the government that they were not protected.

1808

The Treaty of Fork Clark (also known as the 1808 Treaty with the Osage) was the first treaty between the U.S. and the Osage Nation. The Osage ceded all the land east of Fort Clark in Missouri and Arkansas north of the Arkansas River to the United States; this included the land around Pea Ridge.

1812

After the War of 1812, Euro-American settlers moved westward to the rich farmland east of the Appalachian Mountains. ^{2.16} To resolve conflicts, Euro-American settlers advocated American Indian removal. Euro-Americans reasoned that by relocating American Indians, the Indians could continue to live their nomadic lifestyles and would not conflict with the settlers preference to establish farms. ^{2.17}

1816

The United States surveyed the ceded land from the Osage Nation and adjusted the boundary, moving it twenty-three miles westward to the mouth of the Kansas River, to create the Indian Boundary Line. This eventually became Indian Territory or Oklahoma, and to the west of this line is where virtually all tribes were to be relocated by the Indian Removal Act of 1830.

1817

The U.S. government established an official reservation for the Cherokee in northwest Arkansas where they were supposed to be able to live without threat from the Osage. The reservation was located between the Arkansas and White rivers, with no specified western boundary. After the treaty, conflicts between the Cherokee and Osage grew.

1819

In Tennessee, after having signed a number of treaties and ceding lands, the Cherokee council formally announced that no further land cessions would be considered.^{2.18} By this time, Cherokee lands had dwindled to just ten percent of their original territory.

1825

The U.S. Treaty with the Osage relinquished all tribal lands in the Territory of Arkansas.

 $^{2.16\} West, Elliott \, Dr., Trail \, of \, Tears: \, National \, Historic \, Trail. \, Western \, Parks \, Association, \, 1999, \, 4.$

^{2.17} Ibid, 4.

^{2.18} Ibid, 6.

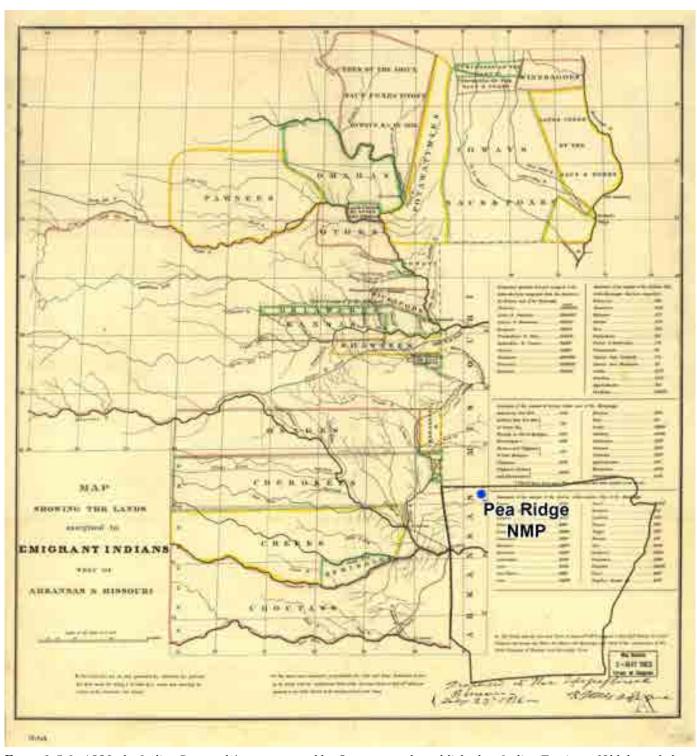


Figure 2-5. In 1830, the Indian Removal Act was passed by Congress and established an Indian Territory (Oklahoma) that was shared by the relocated tribes. Map source: Library of Congress (Map_of_Indian_territory.jpg).

1828

The discovery of gold in northern Georgia, led to the Georgia Gold Rush in 1829, most of which occurred on Cherokee lands.^{2.19}

Large-scale Euro-American settlement began in 1828 in the Ozarks.

Washington County, whose original borders included present-day Benton County, was established in 1828.

The Cherokee reservation in northwest Arkansas was dissolved due to pressure from white settlers who wanted the Indians to move further west. With the establishment of the Territory of Arkansas, more people wanted the land where the Cherokee were living. Since the Cherokee reservation had no specified boundary, the lands in Benton County were not formally surveyed until well after the 1820s.

1829

All residents of Dwight Mission on the Cherokee reservation moved 150 miles west into Indian Territory in 1829 and most of the Cherokee followed. The reservation was dissolved and the Ozarks were open for white settlement.

1830s

Euro-American settlers began to permanently repopulate the area around Pea Ridge.^{2,20}

1830, May 26

The Indian Removal Act was passed by Congress and signed by President Andrew Jackson. The Removal Act was to "provide for an exchange of lands with the Indians residing in any of the states or territories, and for their removal west of the river

Mississippi" (U.S. Government Removal Act of 1830, Chap. CXLVIII). In exchange for their lands, the government would pay for their property, assist with the move westward, help them establish a new settlement and protect them in their new homes.^{2,21}

1830

One by one American Indian tribes were removed from their lands. Choctaw chiefs were coerced into signing the first removal treaty in 1830 and the tribe was moved to Indian Territory.^{2,22}

1832

The Cherokee Nation challenged the U.S. government through Worcester v. Georgia, gaining a ruling acknowledging the Cherokee held sovereign rights. President Jackson dismissed the ruling.

1830 to 1840

Huntsville Road and Ford Road were built.^{2.23}

1830 to 1836

The Springfield to Fayetteville Road (that would later be named Telegraph or Wire Road) was built between 1830 and 1836 as a twenty-five foot wide track.^{2,24} The road extended from Springfield, Missouri, to Fort Smith, Arkansas. Telegraph Road would become important in the later years for its role as a segment of the Trail of Tears, as the route of the first telegraph lines between towns, and for its role in aiding in military transportation during the Civil War.

 $^{2.19\,}$ Pea Ridge National Military Park. GPO: 2012-372-849/80822 Reprint 2010.

^{2.20} National Park Service. Cultural Landscape Inventory. SHPO Review Copy. 2008. Pea Ridge National Military Park, 11.

^{2.21} West, Elliott. "Trail of Tears", Draft 1998, 6.

^{2.22} Pea Ridge National Military Park. GPO: 2012-372-849/80822 Reprint 2010.

 $^{2.23\,}$ Park Historic Structures Program. National Park Service. U.S. Department of the Interior

http://www.hscl.cr.nps.gov/insidenps/summary.asp?PARK=PERI&STATE=AR&STRUCTURE=&SORT=2.3.

^{2.24} Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. Springfield to Fayetteville Road. http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/historic-properties. Accessed 6/4/2013.

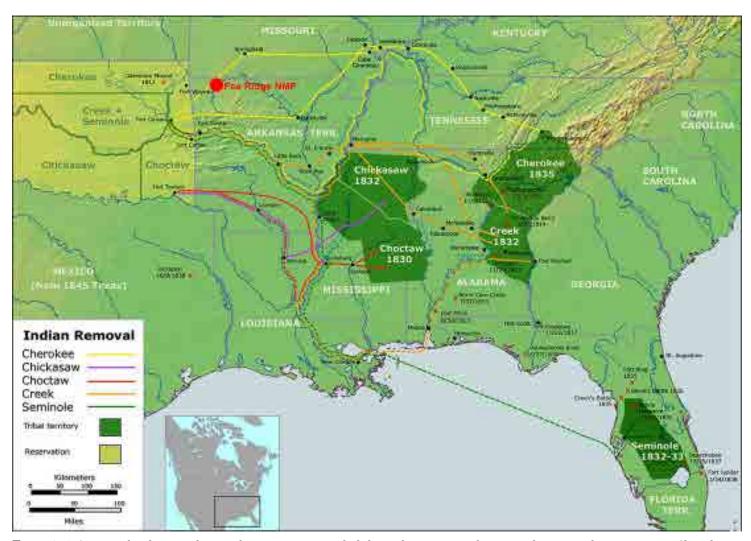


Figure 2-6. One overland route, the Northern Route, extended through a portion of present-day Pea Ridge NMP. Many Cherokee traveled along Telegraph Road and to camp sites including one at Ruddick's field. Map source: Washburn, Wilcomb E., ed. "Handbook of North American Indians, Volume 4: History of Indian-White Relations" Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press, 1989 (Trail_of_Tears-map.jpg).

Trail of Tears (1835 to 1839)

This period of development covers the forced removal and relocation of tens of thousands of southeastern American Indians between 1837 and 1839, and events of 1835 that led to the removal.

During this period, members of five great tribes were removed from their ancestral homes in Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi to Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma). Within the Pea Ridge area, several contingents travelled along Telegraph Road beginning in 1837, and camped on sites within present-day Pea Ridge NMP.

The removal followed the 1830 Indian Removal Act and the 1835 Treaty of New Echota, which most Cherokee refused to recognize.

The removal of American Indians followed several routes. Some were overland and others were via water. One overland route, the Northern Route, extended through a portion of present-day Pea Ridge NMP.

Many Cherokee traveled along Telegraph Road and to camp sites including one at Ruddick's field.^{2,25} As many as twelve removal contingents may have traveled through Pea Ridge NMP (however little documentation confirms this supposition).^{2,26} Written documentation from Richard Taylor and Peter Hilderbrand confirmed that two other contingents traveled Telegraph Road.

Some American Indians retreated somewhat voluntarily, preferring compliance to

2.25 Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. Springfield to Fayetteville Road. http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/historic-properties. Accessed 6/4/2013.

National Park Service. Cultural Landscapes Inventory. SHPO Review Copy. 2008. Pea Ridge National Military Park. 11.

2.26 2003 Sequoyah Research Center, Indian Removal through Arkansas; West, Elliott. "Trail of Tears". 1998.

Littlefield, Daniel F. Jr., The Pea Ridge National Military Park Site: Interpretive Contexts.

annihilation. Other tribes were removed by armed force. Most people walked, as wagons were reserved for the elderly and youngest children. Thousands died en-route. At virtually every camp some Cherokee were left in poorly marked graves as family and friends continued the march.^{2.27} Many Creek and Cherokee managed to break away during the journey and settled in Missouri, and Arkansas.^{2.28}

1835 to 1836

The Treaty of New Echota, signed December 29, 1835 (became law in 1836), forced the Cherokee to forfeit all remaining lands east of the Mississippi River to the United States Government. The treaty was repudiated by most Cherokee.^{2.29}

1837

The earliest contingent of Cherokee traveled Telegraph Road under the charge of B. B. Cannon. Later contingents followed this route, traveling into Arkansas from Missouri along the Springfield to Fayetteville Road (later named Telegraph Road).^{2,30} This first forced migration began with 365 Cherokee on October 15, 1837, and ended in Indian Territory on December 29, 1837. B.B. Cannon's journal entry on December 23, 1837, made reference to "Reddick," which provides the first evidence of the Trail of Tears having come through northwest Arkansas.^{2,31} It is estimated that 356 Cherokee camped at "Reddick's" field on December 23, 1837.^{2,32} The Reddick property was the current-day Ruddick's Field.

^{2.27} West, Elliott. "Trail of Tears". 1998. 22.

^{2.28} Ibid, 26.

^{2.29} Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. Springfield to Fayetteville Road. http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/historic-properties. Accessed 6/4/2013. v.

^{2.30} West, Elliott. "Trail of Tears". 1998. viii.

^{2.31} Ibid.

 $^{2.32~2003~{\}rm Sequoyah}$ Research Center, Indian Removal through Arkansas



Figure 2-7. Beginning in 1838, thousands of American Indians were evicted from their homelands and relocated to Indian Territory in present-day Oklahoma. Several overland routes were used including the Northern Route that traveled Telegraph Road. Of the groups that took this route, some camped in Ruddick's Field. Map Source: National Park Service, Trail of Tears National Historic Trail (NPS_Trail of Tears Map.jpg).

1838, March 18

Richard Taylor's contingent of nearly a thousand Cherokees travelled "through Washburns prairie and to Pratts eighteen miles – crossed the line of Arkansas and Missouri near Meeks on Sugar Creek seven miles North East of Pratts Monday night, hail, rain wind and thunder". The 'Pratt' referred to is Lewis Pratt as his property was a part of the greater Brightwater community. Taylor referenced Peter Hilderbrand whose contingent was following the same route and was a few days' journey behind.

Leader's Name	Date of arrival	No. in group
B.B. Cannon	December 23, 1837	356
Daniel Colston	January 10 or 11, 1839*	651
Situwakee	January 27 or 28, 1839*	1,250
Jesse Bushyhead	February 17 or 18, 1839*	898
Stephen Foreman	February 21 or 22, 1839*	921
Choowalooka	February 23 or 24, 1839*	970
Moses Daniel	February 24 or 25, 1839*	924
James Brown	February 27 or 28, 1839*	717
George Hicks	March 8 or 9, 1839*	1,039
Taylor	March 18 to 20, 1839**	944
Hilderbrand	March 20, 1839*	1,312

^{*} Approximate date, based on the known arrival in Indian Territory.

Figure 2-8. Arrival dates of Cherokee contingents at Ruddick's Field within present-day Pea Ridge NMP. Source: Littlefield, Daniel F. Jr., The Pea Ridge National Military Park: Interpretive Contexts Presented to the Arkansas Chapter of the National Trail of Tears Association Pea Ridge National Miliary Park January 19, 2002.

^{2.33} West, Elliott. "Trail of Tears". 1998. xiv. 2.34 Ibid, xv.

^{**} Stayed two days due to heavy rain.

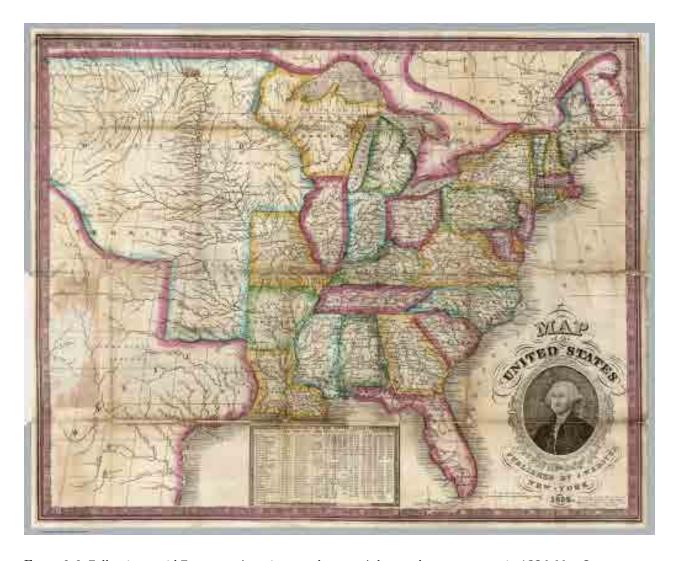


Figure 2-9. Following rapid European American settlement, Arkansas became a state in 1836. Map Source: Cartography Associates, CA (US in 1836.jpg).

Settlement (1830s to 1862)

This period covers the continued development of the Pea Ridge community including Leetown Hamlet, the tanyard and Elkhorn Tavern as a Euro-American agricultural settlement prior to the Civil War. The period ends in 1862 just prior to the Battle of Pea Ridge.

1833 to 1840

Elkhorn Tavern was built between 1833 and 1840, by William Ruddick and his son-in-law Samuel Burks as a single-family dwelling.^{2,35}

Late 1830s to early 1840s

The tanyard began in the late 1830s to early 1840s by either William Ruddick or Samuel Burks. ^{2.36} There are no descriptions of the physical appearance of the tanyard. Bearss' research in the 1950s/1960s noted that most 19th century tanyards in northwestern Arkansas had similar characteristics. They were surrounded with a rail fence to keep out hogs, vats were dug in a row, located along the edge of a stream. ^{2.37}

Oral histories conducted in the 1960s documented remembrances of a small building in the tanyard used by tanners to work the hides.^{2.38}

1840

Leetown Hamlet was founded by John W. Lee, a farmer from Tennessee.^{2,39} Historic maps record different numbers of structures, varying between six to fifteen but most agree on the alignment of Leetown Road that entered the town from the north before making a ninety degree turn to the east.^{2,40}

According to local historian Alvin Seamster, there was a little mill house located along Winton Spring Branch.^{2.41} The Mayfield house was located about 100 yards to the west of the other buildings.^{2.42} Some reports indicated that Leetown Hamlet had a general store, a blacksmith shop and a Masonic Lodge but little evidence exists to confirm the presence of these buildings.^{2.43}

1848

Sylvanus Blackburn built a sawmill on War Eagle Creek providing sawed lumber to people in the northeastern part of Benton County. The mill likely provided lumber used in the modifications of the Elkhorn Tavern.^{2.44}

1840 to 1860

A masonry structure and steps into the Spring Box (cistern) were built around a natural spring to the northwest of Elkhorn Tavern.^{2.45}

c. 1850

Elkhorn Tavern was weather-boarded and painted white.^{2.46}

1850 to 1870

Stone well was built at the tanyard. ^{2.47}

1854

Abedingo Shelton received a patent from the Fayetteville Land Office on November 5, 1854, for the NE ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 3 in Leetown Hamlet. Shelton sold a portion of this property to John W. Lee.^{2.48}

Maps drawn by Charles Squires of the 37th Illinois. Map drawn by Captain Comstock.

^{2.35} Bond, History of Elkhorn Tavern, 1.

^{2.36} Bearss, Leetown, Elkhorn Tavern Grounds, Federal Earthworks, and tanyard as of March 1862, 9.

^{2.37} Ibid, 10.

^{2.38} Ibid, 11.

^{2.39} Herrmann, 11.

^{2.40} Discussion of Osterhaus' map and report from the Official Records of the Civil War, and tax records and deeds. Bearss. "Leetown", 85-87.

^{2.41} Bearss. "Leetown", 86.

^{2.42} Ibid, 87.

^{2.43} Herrmann, 15.

^{2.44} Bond, John W. "The History of Elkhorn Tavern", 2.

^{2.45} List of Classified Structures, NPS, 3.

^{2.46} PERI NRHP, 2.

^{2.47} List of Classified Structures, NPS, 3.

^{2.48} Bearss. Leetown, 80.

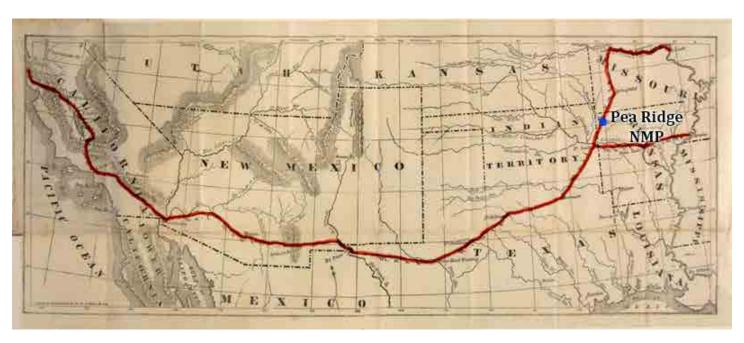


Figure 2-10. The Butterfield Overland Stage travelled along Telegraph Road with a stage stop at Elkhorn Tavern. Established in 1858, the route transported mail and passengers between St. Louis, Missouri and San Francisco, California until 1861. Map source: National Postal Museum (Butterfield-Overland Stage Route.tif).

1858

October 9, 1858: Jesse and Polly Cox purchased Elkhorn Tavern and 313 acres of land from Samuel Burks for \$3,600. The land purchase consisted of 4 tracts in Sections 35 and 36, Township 21 North Range 29 West.^{2,49} Jesse C. Cox and wife Polly were native Kentuckians.

Soon after, Cox added an exterior stairway to the building so that church goers could go upstairs to the northeast room for their worship services without disturbing guests downstairs.^{2.50}

1858 to 1861

John Butterfield of New York received a government contract to carry mail and passengers between St. Louis and San Francisco in 1857. The Butterfield Overland Stage began running along Telegraph Road in 1858 and served as a delivery service. Elkhorn Tavern became well known as a stop along the route.^{2.51}

Although short-lived, the Butterfield Overland Stage would run a distance of more than 2000 miles, starting at Tipton, Missouri through northwest Arkansas and other points, and on to its final destination in San Francisco.^{2.52}

1860 to 1870

The Leetown Cemetery was established during this time.^{2.53} At the tanyard, a structure/house was built.^{2.54}

1860

Telegraph wires were strung along the Butterfield Overland Stage route giving it the name Telegraph Road.^{2.55} The telegraph line

was cut a year later after Arkansas seceded from the Union.^{2.56}

The 1860 census shows Sugar Creek Township having a population of 122 persons in 21 families.^{2.57}

November: Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States.

December 20: South Carolina secedes from the Union.

1861

February 4: Confederate States of America formed in Montgomery, Alabama.

March 4: The Arkansas convention met and rejected secession.

April 14: Fort Sumter in South Carolina surrendered after Confederate bombardment.

May 6: Arkansas voted for secession.

June 21: First Battle of Bull Run, Virginia.

August 10: Battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri. A combined force of Missouri State Guard troops and Confederates led by Major General Sterling Price won the battle.

November: General Henry Halleck took command of the Union Department of Missouri, and instilled needed purpose and direction to the Union's campaign in Missouri. Namely, to evict the Confederacy from the state.

December: Brigadier General Samuel R. Curtis was appointed to head the Federal Southwestern District of Missouri. The Union controlled St. Louis, the Missouri River valley, and territory as far south as the railhead at Rolla.^{2.58} Curtis' Army of the Southwest began to drive General Price's Confederate force into Arkansas.^{2.59}

^{2.49} Bearss. Leetown, 46.

^{2.50} Bond. History of Elkhorn Tavern, 3.

^{2.51} Ibid.

^{2.52} Arkansas Register, Springfield to Fayetteville Road.

^{2.53} List of Classified Structures. NPS.

^{2.54} List of Classified Structures. NPS, 3.

^{2.55} CLI, 11.

^{2.56} Arkansas Register, Springfield to Fayetteville Road.

^{2.57} Herrmann, 18.

^{2.58} GMP. 7

^{2.59} GMP. 9

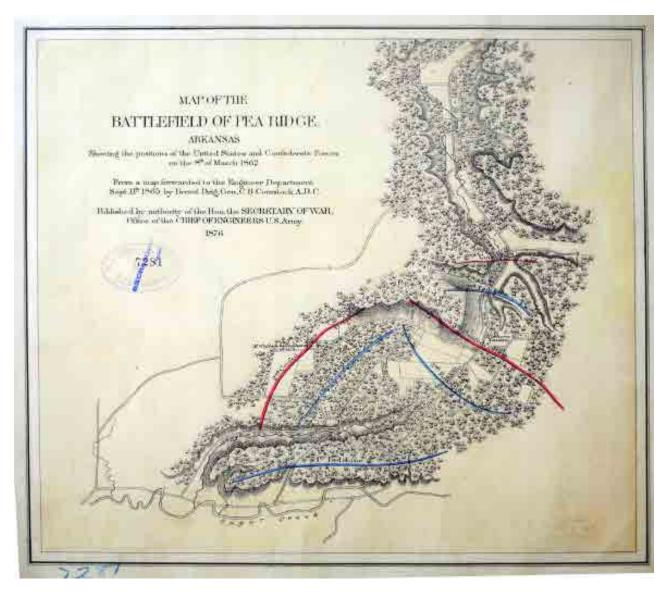


Figure 2-11. This 1876 map of the battlefield indicates Union and Confederate troop movements (1876_MapBatteofPeaRidge_Comstock.jpg).

The Battle of Pea Ridge (1862 to 1865)

This period of development documents the Civil War battle at Pea Ridge and the associated affects on the landscape. Preparations for the battle began in February 1862. These included the construction of the earthen trenches above Little Sugar Creek, the only features built specifically for the battle.

During the battle, both armies disrupted the ordinary life of area residents. They occupied private structures, and farmer's fields and woodlots. The presence of these vast armies upset the daily routine and the community's former agricultural properties were converted into a battlefield.

Available structures were used as hospitals for the wounded and agricultural fields were converted to battlefields as they provided clear fields of fire for artillery. Road systems were used for movement of cavalry, artillery and wagons full of ammunition. Fence lines became shelters for fighting soldiers. After the battle was fought, the landscape was abandoned, with some residents returning a few years later to reclaim their homes and lands. The battle disrupted the normal supply of goods and agricultural production in the area, and destroyed several buildings. This period ends in 1865, at the end of the Civil War, and the time when the residents of Pea Ridge began reconstruction of their homes.

1862, February 17

General Curtis' troops defeated a Confederate force at the Battle of Little Sugar Creek/Dunagin's Farm, a few miles south of Pea Ridge. This resulted in the Confederates withdrawing to the Boston Mountains, south of Fayetteville.

2.60 GMP, 9.

1862, early

The Coxes witnessed the gathering armies camped within seven miles of Elkhorn Tavern, on Little Sugar Creek. As the Coxes still owned property in Kansas, they removed their cattle there. ^{2.61} Jesse Cox's wife, seven children, and five slaves, remained in Arkansas. ^{2.62}

1862, February/early March

General Curtis' 10,500 Union soldiers built trenches on the bluffs above Little Sugar Creek (the Federal Trenches). The Elkhorn Tavern grounds were used by the Union troops to stockpile equipment and supplies. The large barn was used for the storage of a commissary and as a sutler's store.^{2.63}

1862, March 4

Major General Earl Van Dorn assumed command of General Price and McCulloch's armies. He marched north with the consolidated force of 16,000 troops, intending to take St. Louis, Missouri.

1862, March 5

The Federal Trenches were dug, artillery emplacements made, timber felled and breastworks erected by the Union soldiers. This required the removal of some buildings that were in the way.^{2.64}

According to one soldier, the "retreat to Little Sugar Creek occurred on the 5th of March, 1862. It was late in the afternoon when we reached the creek and went into camp a safe distance back from the brow of the hill north of the stream. The first order was to built earth works on this hillside and get the artillery into position as this slope faced the south and thus commanded the direct approach of the rebels coming from that direction. It was a most tedious and difficult

^{2.61} Bond. History of Elkhorn Tavern, 5.

^{2.62} Ibid.

^{2.63} Bearss. Leetown, 43.

^{2.64} Bearss. Leetown, 18.



Figure 2-12. In early March 1862, General Curtis of the Union ordered the construction of earthen trenches on the bluffs overlooking Little Sugar Creek. Vegetation on the hillside was cleared to provide a view of the valley to the south. From this position, Curtis planned to await the Confederate attack (Andy Thomas_DiggingIn.jpg).

work. Up through a heavy underbrush over the rough uneven surface the men pulled the heavy guns by means of long ropes."^{2.65}

1862, March 6

Van Dorn halted the Confederate army at Camp Stephens on Little Sugar Creek, about four miles west of the right flank of Curtis' position. Van Dorn's scouts told him about Curtis' fortified position on the bluffs above the creek. At this point, Van Dorn decided to take the Bentonville Detour, which required speed and secrecy to slip behind Curtis, to attack the Union rear.^{2.66}

1862, March 7

Van Dorn knew that a frontal assault against Curtis's troops would be suicidal, so he swung north to come in behind them. He planned to strike at dawn on March 7, but his troops, hungry, cold, and weary from a difficult three-day march, arrived hours behind schedule. McCulloch's troops fell so far behind that Van Dorn decided to temporarily divide his army. He ordered McCulloch around the west end of Elkhorn Mountain, then to turn east along Ford Road to rejoin Price's troops near Elkhorn Tavern. These delays gave Curtis time to face about and prepare for the attack.

Elkhorn Tavern: Attacking east of Elkhorn Mountain, Van Dorn and Price fared better. Price's troops slowly but steadily pushed the Union back until, at nightfall, they held Elkhorn Tavern and the crucial Telegraph and Huntsville roads. During the night the survivors of McCulloch's Leetown fight joined them. Mr. Cox, his wife, mother and slaves sought protection in the cellar of the Elkhorn Tavern, where they remained for two days, being under fire for thirteen hours.^{2.67} Elkhorn Tavern Grounds: In addition to Elkhorn Tavern, the grounds included a large

barn and stable to the southwest and a leanto immediately behind the building.

A blacksmith's shop was located across Telegraph Road from Elkhorn Tavern and in the same lot were some corn-cribs.^{2.68}

tanyard: Although evidence is inconclusive, it appears that Samuel Burks owned and operated the tanyard in March 1862.^{2.69} The tanyard was used as a hospital for Confederate soldiers who fought in Williams Hollow.

Leetown: As McCulloch's troops, including two regiments of Cherokee Indians under General Albert Pike, moved around the west end of Elkhorn Mountain, they ran into intensive fire near Leetown that killed McCulloch and Brigadier General James McIntosh and led to the capture of the ranking colonel. With their command structure practically destroyed, McCulloch's men scattered from the field.

Union surgeons, during the fight north of Leetown, took over the buildings in the hamlet as hospitals.^{2,70}

"Confederate efforts at Leetown failed, and the First Cherokee Mounted Rifles reinforced soldiers guarding Van Dorn's supply train. The second Cherokee Mounted Rifles, however, joined the Confederate left wing on Pea Ridge near Elkhorn Tavern...where it skirmished with Union troops on March 8...additional troops from the Indian Territory reached the battlefield March 8. The First Creek Regiment and the First Choctaw and Chickasaw Mounted Rifles joined the train guard.^{2.71}

^{2.65} Bearss. Leetown, 24.

^{2.66} Bearss. Leetown, 18-19.

^{2.67} Bearss. Leetown, 52.

^{2.68} Bearss. Leetown, 51.

^{2.69} Bearss, 1965.

Leetown, Elkhorn Tavern Grounds, Federal Earthworks, and tanyard as of March 1862, 10.

^{2.70} Bearss. Leetown, 76.

^{2.71} Clifford, Roy A.. The Indian Regiments in the Battle of Pea Ridge.

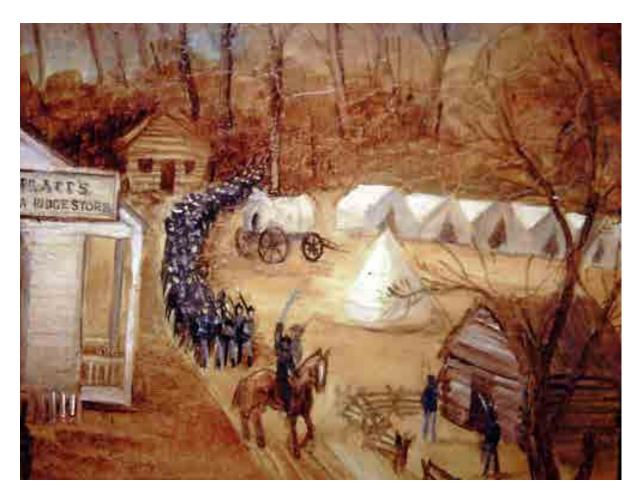


Figure 2-13. Pratt's Store served as headquarters for General Curtis during the Battle of Pea Ridge. The painting depicts the movement of the Union army towards the Confederates who were planning an attack on the army's rear (Pratts Store.jpg).

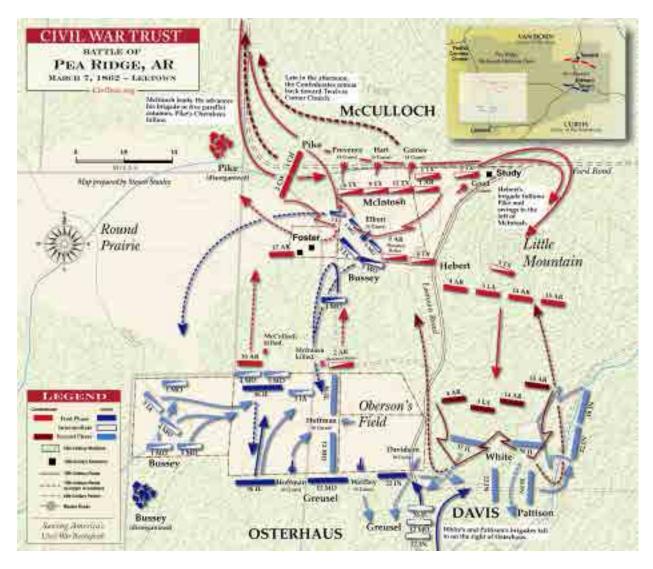


Figure 2-14. Diagram illustrates troop movements on March 7, 1862 at Leetown Battlefield, prepared by Steven Stanley for the Civil War Trust. Source: NPS and Civil War Trust (pea-ridge-leetown-march[1].pdf).



Figure 2-15. This painting depicts the battle at Elkhorn Tavern showing the Confederate advance from Cross Timber Hollow along Telegraph Road. At far left is the barn and carriage house. At the bottom right is the small blacksmith shop (Elkhorn_PaintingofBattle.jpg).

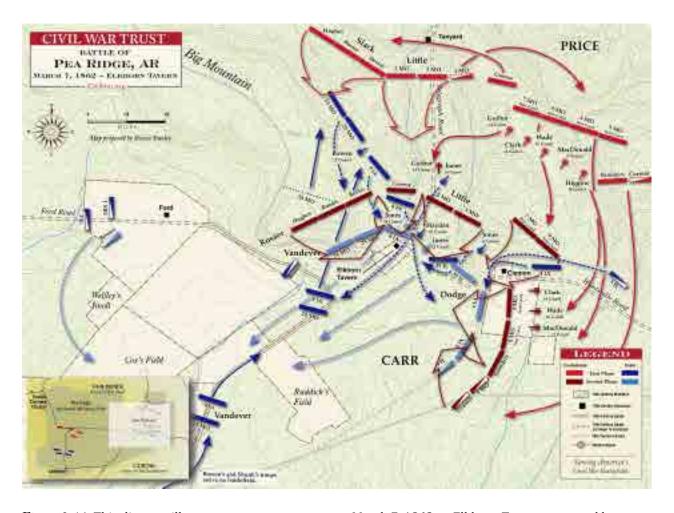


Figure 2-16. This diagram illustrates troop movements on March 7, 1862, at Elkhorn Tavern, prepared by Steven Stanley for the Civil War Trust. Source: NPS and Civil War Trust (pea-ridge-elkhorn-tavern[1].pdf).



Figure 2-17. This painting by Andy Thomas depicts the Confederate advance from Cross Timber Hollow in their attempt to take Elkhorn Tavern on March 7, 1862 (On the Battery.tif).

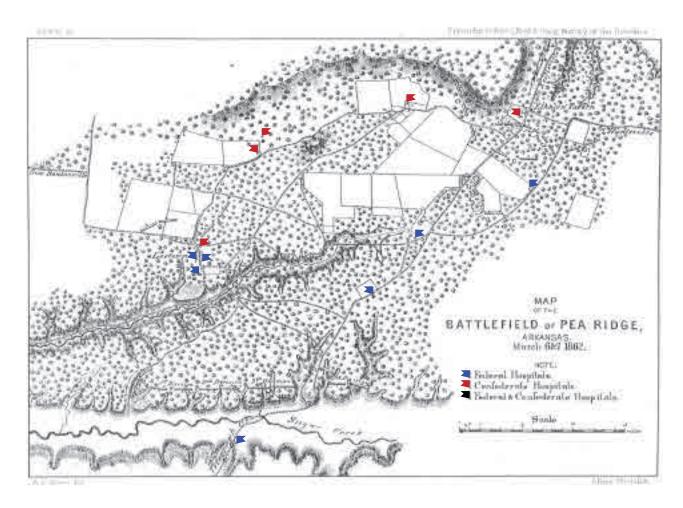


Figure 2-18. This 1862 map indicates field hospitals established by both armies, including Leetown Hamlet, Ford's Farm, near Round Top, Elkhorn Tavern, Pratt's House/Store and Ruddick's Field (1862 map showing hospital on battlefield.pdf with color annotation by MB).



Figure 2-19. This painting of the Battle of Pea Ridge, March 8, 1862, illustrates the battle in Ruddick's Field. Elkhorn Tavern and the entrance to Cross Timber Hollow are on the right (BattlePainting.jpg).

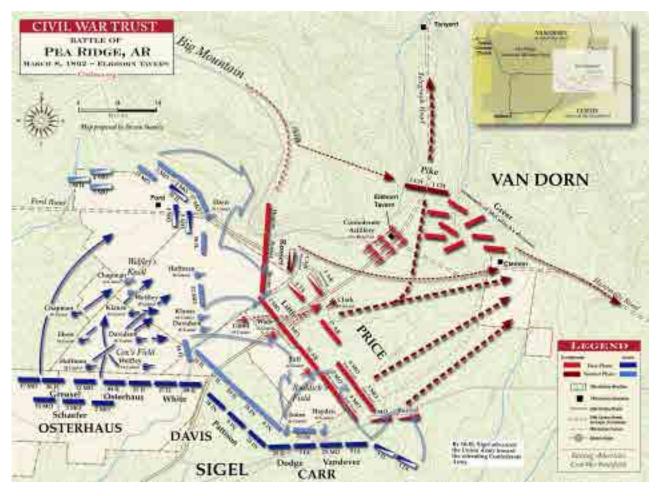


Figure 2-20. This diagram indicates troop movement on March 8, 1862, prepared by Steven Stanley for the Civil War Trust. Source: NPS and Civil War Trust (pea-ridge-elkhorn-tavern-1[1].pdf).

1862, March 8

On the morning of March 8, Curtis counterattacked Elkhorn Tavern. A two-hour artillery barrage crippled the Confederate line and a concerted infantry attack broke their defenses. Realizing that his ammunition was running low, Van Dorn ordered his troops to withdraw. The Battle of Pea Ridge was over.

Most Union and Confederate troops soon moved east of the Mississippi to fight in other campaigns. Missouri remained in the Union and was politically neutral throughout the war, although it provided men and supplies to both sides.

Post battle, 1862 March to April

Arkansas troops are moved out of the state to Tennessee.

Destruction, vandalism, and theft took place in northwest Arkansas while the armies were present, but far worse was the breakdown of law and order after the armies departed (until their return in the fall of 1862).^{2,72} Deserters and stragglers from both armies and local criminals unleashed a reign of terror, unchecked by military authorities, sheriffs or constables, who had lost their backing. Many rural people left their ravaged homes and farms and became refugees.^{2,73}

After the battle, Elkhorn Tavern became the headquarters of one of the Union commanders. Joseph Cox and his wife Lucinda moved to the home of Lewis Pratt, one mile southwest of Elkhorn Tavern, where they remained until the end of the war.^{2.74} It is likely that James and Polly Cox and their other children moved to Kansas (where they also owned land) until after the war.

The whereabouts of the slaves during the remainder of the war is unknown. According to family reports, the former slaves lived with the Jesse Cox family after the war ended.^{2.75}

1862, March 19

The last of Curtis' Union troops pulled out of Leetown Hamlet.

1862, April 6 to 7

Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee

1862 May 26

General Thomas Hindman of Helena, Arkansas, took command of the Confederate Department of the Trans-Mississippi and declared martial law in Arkansas.

1862, September

President Lincoln issued a preliminary draft of the Emancipation Proclamation.

1862, October

Elkhorn Tavern was used again as the headquarters of Brigadier General John M. Schofield, Union commander of the Southwestern District of Missouri, when he was in the battlefield area to prevent the Confederates to the south under Major-General Thomas C. Hindman from invading Missouri.^{2,76}

^{2.72} NPS, Teachers Packet, 21.

^{2.73} NPS, Teachers Packet, 21.

^{2.74} Bond. The History of Elkhorn Tavern, 11.

^{2.75} Bond. The History of Elkhorn Tavern, 11.

^{2.76} Bond. The History of Elkhorn Tavern, 11.

1862, November to December

Elkhorn Tavern was used as headquarters of LTC Albert W. Bishop, commander of the First Arkansas Cavalry Volunteers (Union). During the time of Bishop's occupation, it was the last station on the military telegraph line running from St Louis.^{2,77}

This enabled General Curtis to communicate with his commanders, when communications were being transmitted regarding the impending battle at Prairie Grove, Arkansas. The Union troops left for the battle of Prairie Grove in early December.^{2.78}

1862, December 7

Battle of Prairie Grove, Arkansas.

1863

Elkhorn Tavern was burned by guerrillas/bushwhackers after the Battle of Pea Ridge, leaving only the foundation and two chimneys sometime between April 26 and May 19, 1863.^{2.79}

1865, April 9

General Robert E Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

1865, April 15

President Lincoln was assassinated at Ford's Theater.

1865, May 26

Confederate armies located west of the Mississippi River surrendered.

1865

After the Civil War, Leetown Hamlet was likely abandoned. It is probable that abandoned buildings were dismantled and removed, materials salvaged for use in other construction projects."^{2.80}

"Pillaged or not, Leetown and similar small subsistence-based communities faced their end with the social and economic changes following the Civil War. While one can be certain that some of Leetown's residents left the settlement after the Civil War, we know that any semblance of a town was lost in 1881 when its residents probably left to work with the St. Louis and San Francisco railroad line being built twelve miles south of the site." 2.81

 $^{2.77\,}$ Bond. The History of Elkhorn Tavern, 12.

^{2.78} Bond. The History of Elkhorn Tavern, 12.

 $^{2.79\,}$ CLI, 11. PERI NRHP, 2. Alvin Seamster. Burning of Elkhorn Tavern.

^{2.80} Herrmann, 12-13.

^{2.81} Herrmann, 13. Doug Keller, personal communication.



Figure 2-21. The Cox family owned the Elkhorn Tavern at the time of the Battle of Pea Ridge. The family sought refuge in the basement during the battle. The building served as headquarters for both the Union and the Confederates prior to, during, and after the battle (Cox Family at Elkhorn Tavern_c1880_PRNMP.jpg).

After the Battle / Reconstruction (1865 to 1955)

This period begins with the end of the Civil War in 1865. The reconstruction period in the South was a long period of rebuilding and reestablishment of homes and farmland. At Pea Ridge, this included the reconstruction of Elkhorn Tavern and Winton Springs House, and reestablishment of barnyards, orchards, and farmland. Starting in the 1880s efforts began to commemorate the battle, and several reunions were held in honor of the event. This period ends in 1955, just prior to the establishment of Pea Ridge National Military Park.

1865 to 1866

Elkhorn Tavern was rebuilt on top of the original Joseph Cox foundation shortly after the end of the war.^{2.82} This building was a single-story wood-frame structure.^{2.83}

The Bart Green house was built after the Civil War on top of one of the tanyard vats. It was removed after the park was established in the 1960s.^{2.84}

1866

The Leetown Cemetery was established by this date. One engraved tombstone remains: Robert Braden, who was born Feb. 14, 1864, and died Feb. 5, 1866.

1870 to 1880

Ford Cemetery established.

2.82 CLI, 11. 2.83 NRHP, 2.

1880s

Elkhorn Tavern was modified with a second story.^{2,85}

Two cabins were built approximately fifty-feet north of Elkhorn Tavern. Wallace Scott recalled these buildings to have been built by people building the St Louis and San Francisco railroad. It is also possible that they were built earlier and had been slave quarters.^{2.86}

1887

Veterans of the Battle of Pea Ridge held a reunion on the site.

General Sigel, revisiting, noted that the house and barn at Elkhorn Tavern was still standing.^{2.87}

September 1: The monument to the Brave Confederate Dead was erected, bearing the names of three of the top Confederate commanders who were killed during the battle: McCulloch, McIntosh and Slack.^{2.88}

1888

By this date, the tanyard had been removed or destroyed, except "the old vats" that had filled in with grass and bushes.^{2.89}

Elkhorn Tavern Barn had been burned by 1888.^{2,90} New barns and stables had been built on the east side of Telegraph Road, north of Elkhorn Tavern. The new barn was in the area where the blacksmith shop had been during the Civil War.^{2,91}

^{2.84} Bearss. Leetown, 6.

^{2.85} NRHP, 2.

^{2.86} Bearss. Leetown, 66.

^{2.87} Bearss. Leetown, 51.

^{2.88} NRHP, 3.

^{2.89} Bearss, tanyard, 1965, 6.

^{2.90} Bearss. Leetown, 66.

^{2.91} Bearss. Leetown, 66.



Figure 2-22. In 1880, a Civil War Veteran's Reunion was held at Elkhorn Tavern. The original building had been destroyed c. 1863 after the Battle of Pea Ridge. The building was rebuilt c. 1865 to 1866 as a single-story structure on the foundation of the original building (Ceremony at Tavern_c1880_PRNMP.jpg).



Figure 2-23. In 1880, a joint Union-Confederate Civil War reunion was held near where the battle had occurred at Elkhorn Tavern. The monument to A Reunited Soldiery was erected in honor of both sides, rear left of photograph. (Ceremony at Monuments_1880_PRNMP.jpg).

September 3 to 9: a dual Union-Confederate reunion occurred. A monument entitled "A Reunited Soldiery" was erected near Elkhorn Tavern, in honor of both sides of the war.

1890

According to John A. Shepherd, three houses stood in Leetown Hamlet in 1890. One was Standwix "Wix" Mayfield home, located west of Spring Branch Hollow. It was a two story, dog-trot structure. A barn was located south by southwest of the house, overlooking the ridge to Spring Branch Hollow. The granary was about 100 yards north. There was also a cistern.^{2.92}

1903

A one-story addition of two rooms was attached to the rear and center of the main building of Elkhorn Tavern.^{2.93}

1904 to 1915

Winton Springs House constructed.

Historic photographs indicate a pair of small stone well houses, located downhill from the main house. It is unknown if there are remains of these structures.

1905 to 1917

Elkhorn Tavern was modified by the addition of a rear wing, extension of the wall of the main wing, and remodeling of the front porch.^{2.94}

1914

Arkansans made numerous efforts to establish a national military park; first in 1914, in 1924 to 1928, in 1936, and in 1939 to 1940.

1917

Elkhorn Tavern was lengthened to the north by six feet. The original rock chimney was removed and replaced by a brick chimney. The roof over the double porches was removed. The double porches were shortened and a high gable was extended over them.^{2.95}

1924 to 1927

The Pea Ridge National Park Association was founded.^{2.96}

1926

A veteran's reunion was held at Elkhorn Tayern.

1935

The U.S. Army Headquarters Monument was built near the park's boundary^{2.97}

1937

Clemens' House was still standing.

A museum building was located near the site of Pratt's House/Store.

1940

An historic photograph indicates "Pea Ridge Tower," which appeared to be a fire lookout tower on top of Elkhorn Mountain.

1950s

A visitor center and museum building for the Battle of Pea Ridge was located near Pratt's House/Store (tour stop 2).

^{2.92} Bearss. Leetown, 88.

^{2.93} Bond. Elkhorn Tavern, 13.

^{2.94} NRHP, 2.

^{2.95} Bond. Elkhorn Tavern, 13.

^{2.96} Huggard. Administrative History, 28.

^{2.97} LCS, NPS, 3.

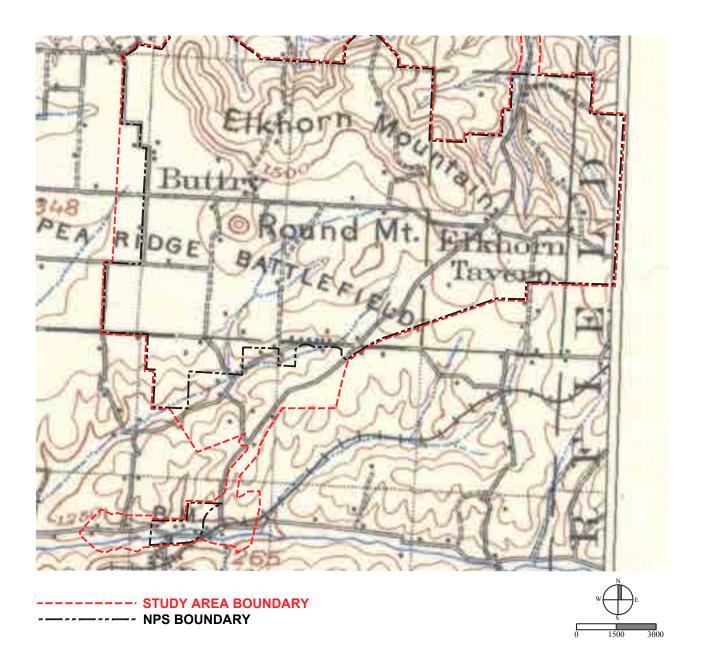


Figure 2-24. 1899 Fayetteville quadrangle. Source: USGS (MB-1899 FAYETTEVILLE QUAD.pdf).



Figure 2-25. A veteran's reunion took place in 1926 to commemorate the battle. Elkhorn Tavern had been modified again with the addition of a single-story kitchen behind (west) of the main building (Veterans Reunite_1926_PRNMP.jpg).



Figure 2-26. Museum near site of Pratt's store in 1940 (Museum near site of Pratt's store 1-1940. jpg).

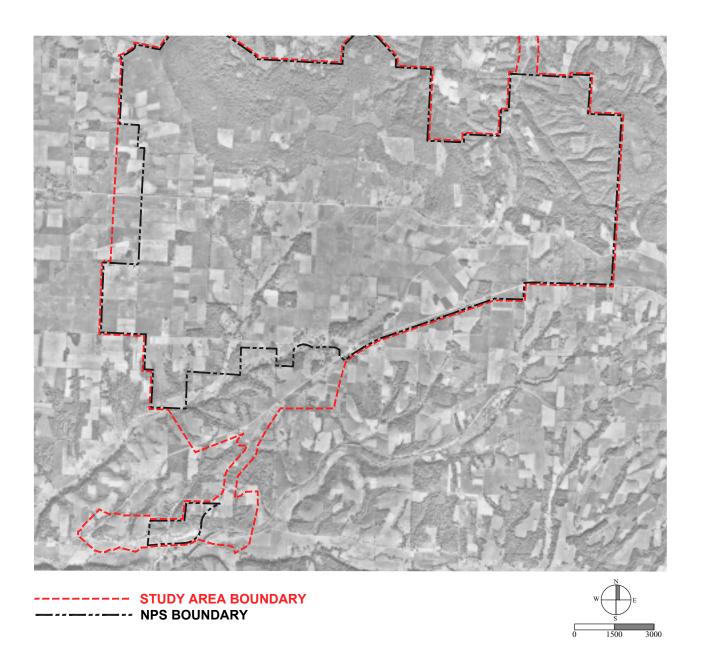


Figure 2-27. 1940s aerial (MB-1940 AERIAL.pdf).



Figure 2-28. This 1940 view, from the approximate location of the present-day east overlook, shows the county road built along the alignment of Ford Road that would become Highway 72. The house and barns of Ford Farm flank the road (Circa 1940_East_Overlook_W.jpg).

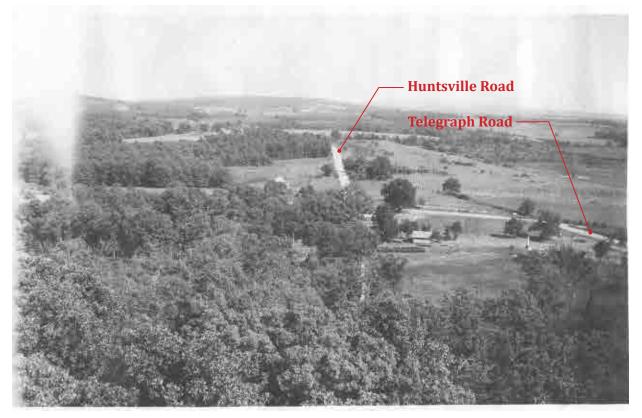


Figure 2-29. Looking southeast from Elkhorn tower in 1940, center of battle on the Union right. The small building in the foreground is the museum with the Elkhorn Tavern on left obscured by trees (Looking SW from Elkhorn Tavern. Small building is museum, Tavern obscured by trees-1940.jpg).



Figure 2-30. By the 1960s, when the park was established, Elkhorn Tavern had been modified several times (B&W Front view with snow, March 6, 1960.jpg).

Pea Ridge National Military Park (1956 to 1960s)

This period documents the establishment of the Pea Ridge battlefield as a national military park, and the planning and construction of the site as an area for visitor enjoyment. After years of lobbying and striving for national recognition, the park was established in 1956.

In 1960, the state of Arkansas purchased more than 4,000 acres of land and donated it to the federal government to be developed as a national military park. Between 1960 and 1965, the NPS developed and implemented a master plan to develop the area into a national park with a visitor center, Tour Road with interpretive stops, and preservation of the battlefield landscape. Buildings and structures that were deemed not to be a part of the battle story were removed. The park opened to the public in 1963. Construction of most park features was completed by 1965. This period ends in 1966 with the last of these improvements: the rehabilitation of Elkhorn Tavern to reflect its 1880s appearance.

1956

Pea Ridge National Military Park was established when President Eisenhower signed the resolution into law on July 20, 1956.^{2.98}

Several buildings from the Civil War were extant including a farmhouse at Clemens' farm, the Pierce Mayfield home in Leetown Hamlet, Elkhorn Tavern, and Winton Springs House amongst others. Several barns and outbuildings were extant.

Telegraph Road was a dirt-gravel road that followed its original alignment and retained the character it had during the Civil War for most of its length. U.S. Highway 62 followed the alignment of Telegraph Road for a few hundred feet south of the Pratt's House/ Store site. Huntsville Road was still in use, and served as a secondary dirt-gravel road.^{2.99}

A newly improved Arkansas Highway 72 traversed the boundary of the new national park. Talks ensued to re-route the state highway from within the park boundaries. ^{2.100}

Park staff recorded a well-marked woods trail or one-time road up the nose of the spur from Cross Timber Hollow just south of Williams Hollow and then southeast along the crest of the ridge to the old Huntsville Road east of the Clemens' Farm.^{2.101}

A stone archway and sign for the Butterfield Overland Stage was posted in front of Elkhorn Tavern.

1957, March 8

The Arkansas state legislature passed a law creating the Pea Ridge Battlefield Park Commission.^{2.102}

1950s

Winton Springs House was used as the superintendent's quarters.

1960

Winton Springs House was modified into two apartments to provide housing for park staff.

Elkhorn Tavern, and the associated land, was sold to the State of Arkansas by the Cox family, thereby becoming a part of the Pea Ridge National Military Park.^{2,103}

The State of Arkansas donated this property to the National Park Service. Three years later, in 1963, Pea Ridge National Military Park was opened to the public.^{2.104}

Appleman and Bearss, December 1956, 16.

^{2.100} Ibid, 17.

^{2.101} Boundary Report Authorized Historical Justification, Appleman and Bearss, December 1956, 17.

^{2.102} Huggard, Administrative History, 49.

^{2.103} CLI, 12.

^{2.104} Ibid.

^{2.98} CLI. 11.

^{2.99} Boundary Report Authorized Historical Justification,
Public Review Draft

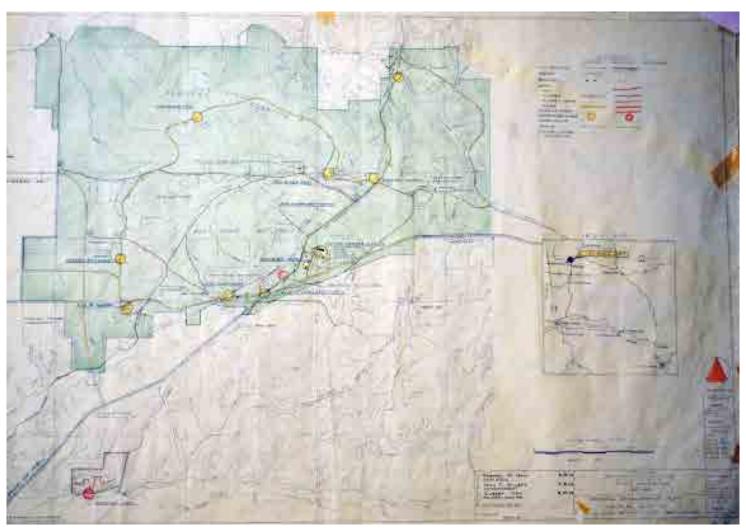


Figure 2-31. The General Development Plan for Pea Ridge National Military Park illustrates the extent of development envisioned by the NPS. The visitor center, tour road, and interpretive stops were built according to this plan. The only exception was the road into Cross Timber Hollow that was never built. (Mission66Plan.jpg).

1956 to 1966

The master plan for Pea Ridge NMP was completed during the Mission 66 program initiated in 1956 by the National Park Service with the intent that development would be completed by its 50th anniversary in 1966.

During this era, the "Mission 66 planners coined the term 'visitor center' to describe a new building type," sited and designed as a central facility for concentrated public use where visitors would park and access interpretation, restrooms, and administrative facilities. This trend facilitated "the vastly increased numbers of people (and their cars)" visiting our national parks following WWII as well as preventing potential destructive use.^{2.105}

Design of new NPS facilities "embodied a distinctive new architectural style. . .described as Park Service Modern" influenced by European modern architecture and by 1950s architecture in the United States. These designs took "advantage of free plans. . .flat roofs (as well as other roof types), and other established elements of modern design... to create spaces in which larger numbers of visitors could circulate easily." Materials included the "use of concrete construction and prefabricated components, and often featured windows of unusual size, shape, and location. Unusual fenestration. . .was often used with great effect in Mission 66 visitor centers to provide generous views of scenic or historic areas. Some buildings. . . were (sited) to provide important views from within the building."2.106

1960 to 1964

The master plan was completed in 1963 and provided guidance for interpretation, recre-

ation, visitor facilities, maintenance and staff facilities, and cultural and natural preservation strategies. The master plan consisted of drawings illustrating general development, utilities, road, trails, and buildings. Management plans for interpretation and vegetation treatment were also included.^{2.107} The implementation of the master plan included the visitor center, Tour Road with interpretive stops and overlooks, employee residences, parking areas, plantings, and various other features.^{2.108}

The vision for the visitor center was for the building to be visible to the arriving visitor and to offer a "panoramic view starting at Round Top, and traversing the full length of Pea Ridge to Elkhorn Tavern." The site would become "essentially wooded" to screen the building from the battlefield to the north.^{2,109}

State-of-the-art utilities were envisioned including water from wells stored in a reservoir on the ridge west of Elkhorn Tavern, septic systems, heating and air conditioning, and electric and telephone systems that were to be modified to "preserve the scenic and historic qualities of the area by removing or relocating overhead lines." 2.110

The Tour Road and interpretive stops were envisioned as an interior loop that would generally follow "historic traces and existing historic roads, with the exception of the road on Elkhorn Mountain that provided scenic overlooks with views of the battlefield." Historic roads not part of this interior loop were envisioned to be preserved as historic traces, and contemporary roads not essential to park operations were to be obliterated. Trails were envisioned for interpretation, including one to view the earthworks at Little Sugar Creek. 2.113

^{2.105} Sarah Allaback, Ph.D., Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 2000).

^{2.106} Allaback. Mission 66 Visitor Centers.

^{2.107} Huggard, Administrative History, 69.

^{2.108} CLI, 12.

^{2.109 1963} Master Plan, sheet G-4.

^{2.110} Ibid.

^{2.111 1963} Master Plan, sheet G-4.

^{2.112} Ibid.

^{2.113 1963} Master Plan, sheet G-8.



Figure 2-32. Laying out the Tour Road in 1961 on Elkhorn Mountain (1960s tour road.jpg).



Figure 2-33. The 1960s road at Elkhorn Mountain (1960s end at rt 72 to 105+00.jpg).

The master plan included a "Vegetative Treatment Plan" in which "grass lands or historic fields will be managed in accordance with good agricultural conservation practices. Management of wooded areas will follow good forestry practices."^{2.114}

A campground site was selected near the relocated Arkansas Highway 72 for a potential future campground.^{2.115} Other facilities were planned and never built, such as the shelters planned for tour stop 4.

The vision for the new national park included the removal of existing buildings and structures that the park considered unimportant and not directly related to the battle. The park removed the Pierce Mayfield house in Leetown Hamlet, a farmhouse at Clemens' Farm, a house and barn near the Federal Trenches, and likely several others.

1961

The Pea Ridge Memorial Association (PRMA) was founded. The group placed markers on historical sites connected with the battle but outside the area of the military park. These included Eagle Hotel in Bentonville, Potts Hill on old Telegraph Road, Dunagin's Farm, and Elm Springs.^{2.116}

The Interpretive Prospectus for the park was completed.

1962

A tree planting project installed 2,800 trees in the park. All trees were native species to the area. 2.117

1963, May

In Leetown Hamlet, the Standwix 'Wix' Mayfield house, the last remaining structure in Leetown, was razed with the approval of park superintendent John T. Willett.

1963

Pea Ridge National Military Park opened to the public for self-guided tours. Elkhorn Tavern was damaged by arson.^{2.118}

^{2.114 1963} Master Plan, sheet G-4.

^{2.115} Ibid.

^{2.116} Huggard, Administrative History, 60.

^{2.117} Huggard, Administrative History, 88.

^{2.118} Statement for Management, 1992.

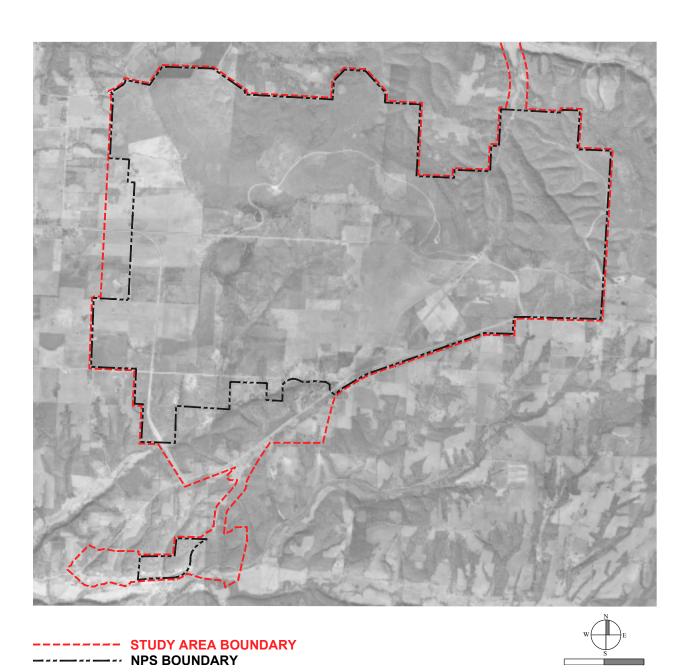


Figure 2-34. A 1960s aerial with the northern portion of the tour road visible (MB-1960 AERIAL.pdf).





Figure 2-35. The visitor center, built as part of the NPS Mission 66 program, included a museum, administrative areas and maintenance facilities at the time of its opening in 1965. The roofline of the building would be modified in the 1990s due to frequent drainage problems (PICT0022.jpg).

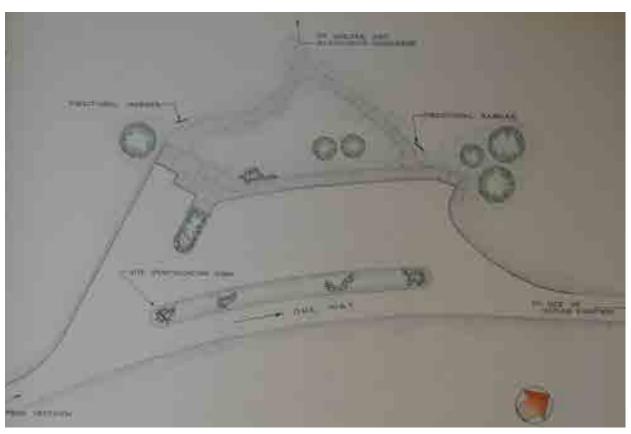


Figure 2-36. The interpretive stops along the Tour Road included Leetown Battlefield (MB: DSC_0534.jpg).



Figure 2-37. Stairs between the east overlook and Elkhorn Tavern (1960s close up view of stairs between east overlook to elkhorn tavern.jpg).



Figure 2-38. Improvements to Elkhorn Tavern as part of 1963 master plan and Mission 66 program included an interpretive stop (non-extant) and path (1960s Elkhorn Tavern.jpg).



Figure 2-39. A 1960s view from U.S. Highway 62 to the visitor center and two staff housing buildings, both built as part of the 1963 master plan and Mission 66 program (1960s view from HWY 62 VC.jpg).



Figure 2-40. In 1965, NPS archeologist Rex Wilson investigated Leetown Hamlet to locate extant remains of buildings or other features within the former village. Excavations consisted of a number of parallel trenches that covered the assumed location of the Masonic Lodge building but revealed no remains of structures (PICT0007.jpg).

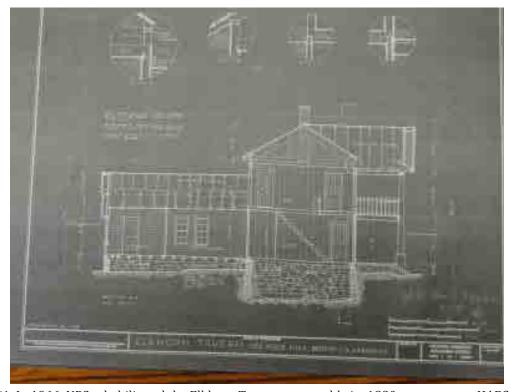


Figure 2-41. In 1966, NPS rehabilitated the Elkhorn Tavern to resemble its 1880s appearance. HABS work documented the building (MB: DSC_0393.jpg).

With the exception of the chimneys, the above-grade structure of Elkhorn Tavern was demolished due to its deteriorated condition and, according to NPS historians at the time, the historically inaccurate modifications.

The building was rebuilt to reflect its 1880s appearance using historic photographs. The two extant chimneys were repaired as was the 1865 stone foundation (thought to have been rebuilt by the Cox family in 1865 using original stone). The reconstruction took five years.^{2.119}

1965

The visitor center and administrative facilities were completed and opened to the public.

Sixty acres were added to the park to include the area of the Federal Trenches.

Archeologist Rex Wilson of the NPS investigated Leetown Hamlet, Elkhorn Tavern and the tanyard. Excavations consisted of a number of parallel trenches covering the assumed location of the Masonic Lodge building and Leetown Cemetery. Wilson found evidence of seventeen graves in the cemetery but no remains of structures in the town site.

The Winton Springs House was in disrepair. Problems with the well water led to recommendations for the building's removal.

1966

The NPS finished rehabilitating Elkhorn Tavern to reflect its 1880s appearance. ^{2.120}

^{2.119} Statement for Management, 1992.

^{2.120} GMP, 68.



Figure 2-42. Winton Springs House was used as staff housing in the 1960s and 1970s, but was in disrepair by the 1970s. The building was demolished in 1993 (PICT0043.jpg).



Figure 2-43. Winton Springs House during demolition in 1993 (PICT0064.jpg).

Present Day (1967 to present-day)

This period includes recent developments within the park including modifications to the visitor center, administrative and maintenance facilities and to the Tour Road and trails. Planning and design projects were developed to preserve cultural and natural resources. Modifications have included improving visitor access to resources, increasing biodiversity, and undertaking archeological investigations to reveal information about the battlefield landscape. During this period, additional planning documents were developed to guide park management. These include the General Management Plan, Fire Management Plan, Long-Range Interpretive Plan and Vegetation Management Plan.

1970, April 30

A tornado ripped through the park damaging the Winton Springs House, surrounding trees, grounds and the Tour Road.^{2.121}

1973

The horse trail was built.

March 1973

The Historic Structures Report for Winton Springs House revealed that the house may have been present during the Battle of Pea Ridge. The study concluded that the building, in a different form, was present during the battle. The building's stone foundation and perhaps the ten-inch logs that were mortised into hewn timber predated the present (1973) structure, which had been renovated in 1915. The study also noted the importance of the building to the region. The house is an example of a style and grandiose scale of rural residential

architecture which is in a class by itself in the Ozark Region. No other example of this type of structure are known to exist in the area."^{2.124}

Despite this, Superintendent Bienvenu recommended the removal of the Winton Springs House that had served as administrative facilities for the NPS and as employee housing.^{2.125}

1970

A new roof was installed on the visitor center.^{2,126}

1975

Native prairie was established in the northwest portion of the park, beginning with a one acre plot that was expanded in following years.^{2,127}

1976

Winton Springs House was ordered by the Regional Safety Officer and the Public Health Officer to no longer be used as housing until extensive modifications were accomplished.

1980s

Pedestrian paths and improvements were made to the area surrounding the two commemorative monuments near Elkhorn Tayern.^{2.128}

1984

A new boiler was added to the visitor center.

^{2.121} Huggard, Administrative History, 177.

^{2.122} Huggard, Administrative History, 175.

^{2.123} Huggard, Administrative History, 178.

^{2.124} Huggard, Administrative History, 178.

^{2.125} Huggard, Administrative History, 175.

^{2.126} Park archives.

^{2.127} Huggard, Administrative History, 172.

^{2.128} NPS PERI archives, historic photographs.



Figure 2-44. The concrete walkway around the monuments was built in the 1980s (Monument in Fall after construction of concrete walkway, circa 1980s.jpg).

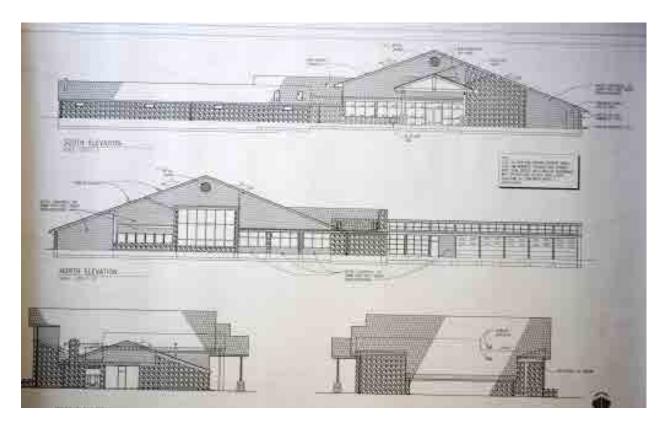


Figure 2-45. The roof construction in 2000 modified the appearance of the visitor center from its original Mission 66 progam (MB: DSC_0505 cropped.jpg).

New walls and improvements to interior spaces of the visitor center were made, and a new electric panel was added.

1988 to 1989

Repairs were made to the Tour Road.^{2.129}

1989

New walls and an electric panel were added to the visitor center.

1993

The cost to repair Winton Springs House was determined to be prohibitive based on a 1976 report. The building was razed in 1993.^{2.130} During demolition, materials and craftsmanship were revealed that may date the building to the Civil War. This discovery resulted in a halt to demolition, and a remnant of the building to be left in place.^{2.131}

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail was established. This included the portion of the trail within Pea Ridge NMP along Telegraph Road.

2000

Modifications were made to the visitor center that changed its original Mission 66 aesthetic. A new facade was added and the roofline was extensively modified. A pitched roof was placed over the main portion of the building, enclosing the original flat roofed portions and creating additional interior space. This new space extended the front of the building to the south, and included more exhibit and gift shop space. Fire protection was added to the building.

Power lines were placed underground.

2001 to 2003

Archeological investigations were undertaken of the battlefield by the NPS-MWAC.

In late March 2003, William Volf (2004) directed an electric resistance survey of an eighty by twenty meter area of Leetown Hamlet. Two possible building footprints were identified but they were not conclusive.^{2,132}

2004

Dr. Douglas Scott of the NPS-MWAC and Dr. Marvin Kay of the University of Arkansas directed archaeological surveys within the park.

Scott's investigations focused on distributions of artillery and other munitions left from the battles. This involved metal detector surveys over the battle and skirmish lines to test the historic accounts of troop positions.

2005

The Fire Management Plan was developed to cultural and natural resources from wildland fires, and to restore and maintain the forest community to its battle era appearance. The plan recommended reducing hazard fuels by prescribed fires, and non-fire mechanical treatments to remove excess fuel along the park-urban interface and near structures within the park.

2006

The GMP/EIS was developed to guide the management of the park. The plan outlined specific resource conditions and visitor experiences desirable for the park, and proposed management strategies for achieving those goals.

 $^{2.129\ \} Huggard, Administrative\ History,\ 222-223.$

^{2.130} Huggard, Administrative History, 181.

^{2.131} Interview with current Park Staff.

^{2.132} Herrmann, Interpreting Leetown, 7-8.

The LRIP outlined recommendations for future interpretive services, facilities and media.

The CLI recorded extant features that contribute to the cultural landscape and recommended these be preserved and maintained.

2013

The NPS-MWAC conducted an archeological inventory and evaluation of four proposed alternatives for the U.S. Highway 62 realignment project within the park in May 2013.^{2.133} Metal detection investigations focused on the four alternate routes and the five proposed parking areas, along with additional shovel tests in the locations of four proposed parking areas in the vicinity of Elkhorn Tavern and the horse trailer parking areas along U.S. Highway 62. The purpose of the investigations was to provide baseline database to evaluate the presence and preservation of buried archeological resources associated with the Battle of Pea Ridge and associated agricultural operations representative of the historic use of these areas.

The archeological investigations indicated the presence of battle-related and historic artifacts along all four alternatives, Tour Road, and in the vicinity of the proposed parking areas associated with the alternatives in front of the visitor center. Only the easternmost proposed horse trailer parking area (Horse Trailer Parking Area Alternative A) on the south side of U.S. Highway 62 yielded

battle-related and other historic artifacts. In the four alternative project areas where the rerouting of the Tour Road is proposed, no battle-related or subsequent historic features were identified. The possibility for such features is extremely low. The two proposed horse trailer parking areas lack significant information concerning the battle and historic farming activities. The proposed parking area associated with Alternative A and B also did not yield significant information concerning the battle or historic farming activities.

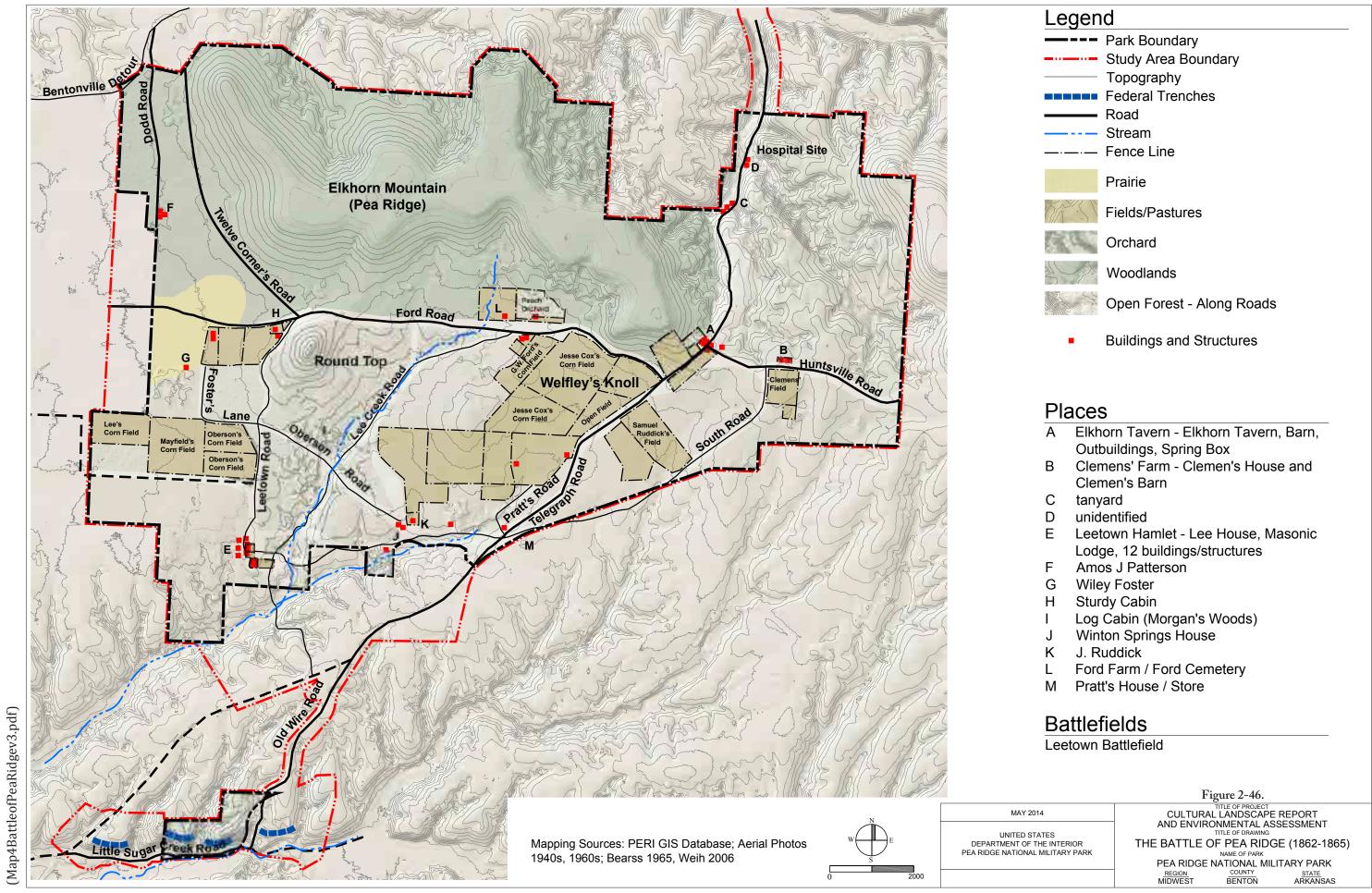
Only the proposed parking area associated with Alternatives C and D yield significant information concerning the Ruddick farm site. Features included stone foundation and a large depression.

The Cox farm site south of Ruddick's field yielded significant information concerning the battle and historic farming. Battle-related artifacts at the Cox farm site suggest the possible location of the Union cannon, and features associated with farming activities.

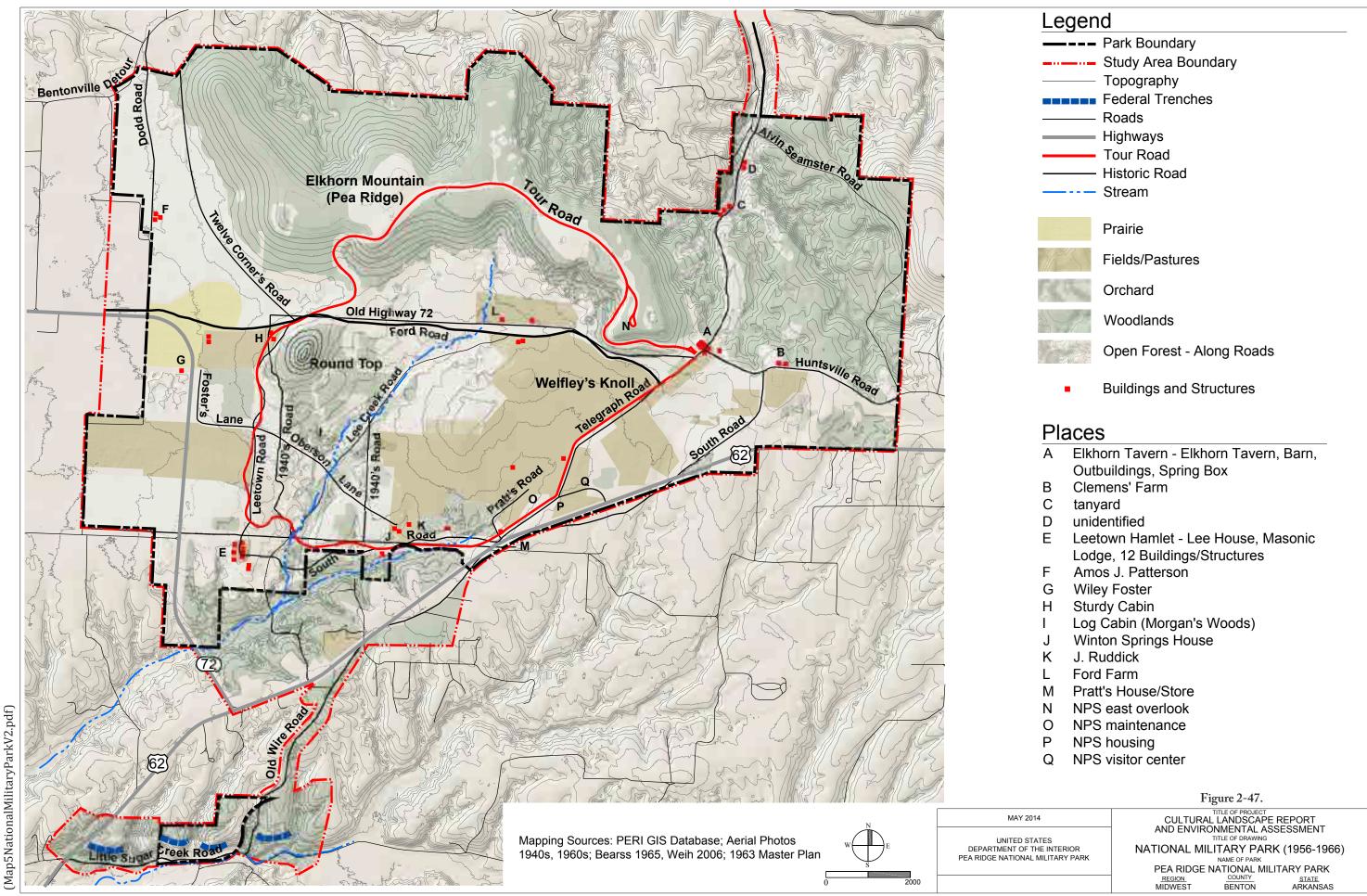
2014

The Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) is scheduled for completion in 2014.

^{2.133} De Vore, Steven L. "Intensive Archeological Inventory. with Metal Detectors and Shovel Testing of Four Alternative Actions for the Federal Highway Administration's Park Mitigation Actions Associated with the Proposed U.S. Highway 62 Rerouting Construction Project at Pea Ridge National Military Park, Arkansas: A Preliminary Summary of Results," National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, 2013, p. 5-6.



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