

## Monocacy Battlefield National Historic Landmark District Boundary Change Explainer

### *National Historic Landmarks Program*

National Historic Landmarks are places that hold exceptional importance in the nation's history and cultural heritage. This special recognition is honorary and aimed at encouraging the preservation and protection of these important places. Under federal law, designation as a National Historic Landmark **does not** prohibit any actions that may otherwise be taken by a property owner with respect to their property. Recognition as a National Historic Landmark **does not** mean a property will be acquired by the government and there is no requirement that landmarks be open to the public.

The National Historic Landmarks Program is managed by the National Park Service (NPS) for the Secretary of the Interior, and collaboration among many people, including State Historic Preservation Office professionals, is essential. Nominations are reviewed by the National Park System Advisory Board, which makes recommendations for designation to the Secretary of the Interior.

For more information about the National Historic Landmarks Program, see <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalhistoriclandmarks/faqs.htm>

### *Monocacy National Battlefield*

The Monocacy Battlefield, located near Frederick, Maryland, is a National Historic Landmark commemorating the Battle of Monocacy, which took place on July 9, 1864, during the US Civil War. The battlefield is significant as a pivotal engagement in the war's Eastern Theater. Often referred to as the "Battle that Saved Washington," it was here that US forces made a stand against Confederate troops, delaying the Confederates' attack on Washington, DC, and allowing the city to be reinforced. The battlefield was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1973. Today, **a portion of** the National Historic Landmark battlefield is managed by the National Park Service as Monocacy National Battlefield (<https://www.nps.gov/mono/index.htm>) where visitors can learn about Civil War history through interpretive exhibits, ranger-led tours, and preserved battlefield landscapes.

### *Proposed Changes to the Monocacy Battlefield National Historic Landmark District Boundary*

The Monocacy Battlefield was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1973, but little documentation was available then about the properties within the battlefield's boundary. The hand-drawn 1973 boundary map is difficult to follow. The current reexamination of the boundary seeks to more accurately reflect where and how the Battle of Monocacy unfolded in July 1864. The project also seeks to remove areas— designated in the 1973 boundary— where development has made the battlefield unrecognizable. The process of changing the boundary involves careful examination of historical records, program requirements, and public input to

ensure it accurately and appropriately reflects key events. For more information about the project, go to <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/MonocacyNHL>.

### ***Public Input and Questions***

To see what is proposed for the revised Monocacy Battlefield National Historic Landmark boundary, review the documents posted on the National Park Service Planning, Environment & Public Comment (PEPC) website <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/MonocacyNHL>. Once a National Historic Landmarks Committee meeting has been scheduled to review the revised nomination, we will post the date and time to the PEPC site, and the public will be invited to provide comments. Input will be reviewed by a committee of experts as they consider recommending approval of the updated boundary and other new documentation.

If you have specific questions, please send them to [ncr\\_nhl@nps.gov](mailto:ncr_nhl@nps.gov).