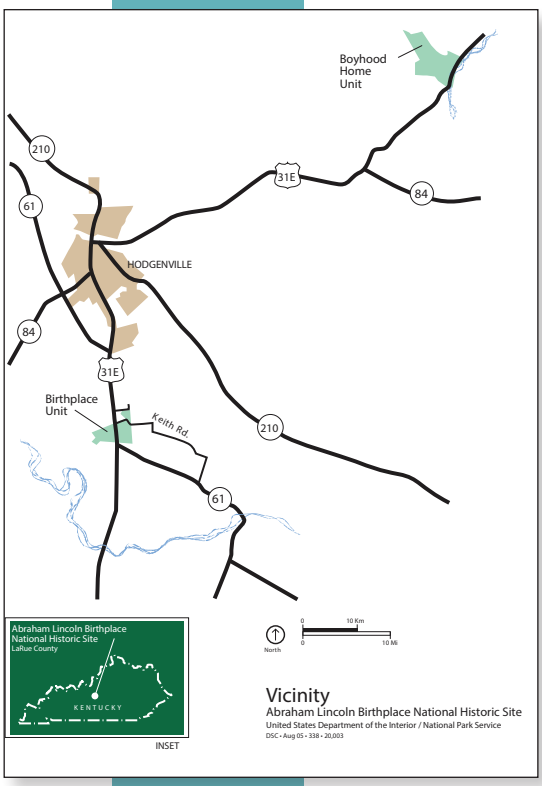
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE • U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Foundation Document

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park

Kentucky

November 2015


Boyhood
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Abraham Lincoln Birthplace
National Historic Site
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Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site
United States Department of the Interior / National Park Service
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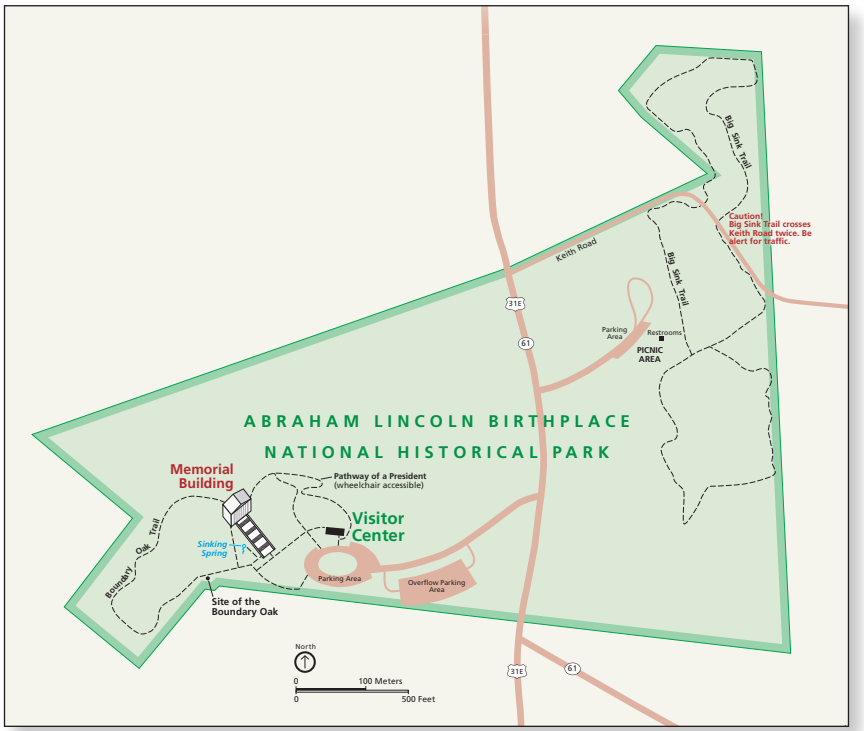
ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
Memorial
Building
Pathway of a President
(wheelchair accessible)
Visitor
Center
Sinking
Spring
Boundary Oak Trail
Site of the
Boundary Oak
Parking Area
Overflow Parking
Area
Keith Road
Big Sink Trail
Caution!
Big Sink Trail crosses
Keith Road twice. Be
alert for traffic.
Parking
Area
Restrooms
PICNIC
AREA
31E
61
North
0
100 Meters
0
500 Feet

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace
National Historical Park
Replica Cabin
Tavern
Parking Area
Knob Creek
31E
North
0
100 Meters
0
1,000 Feet

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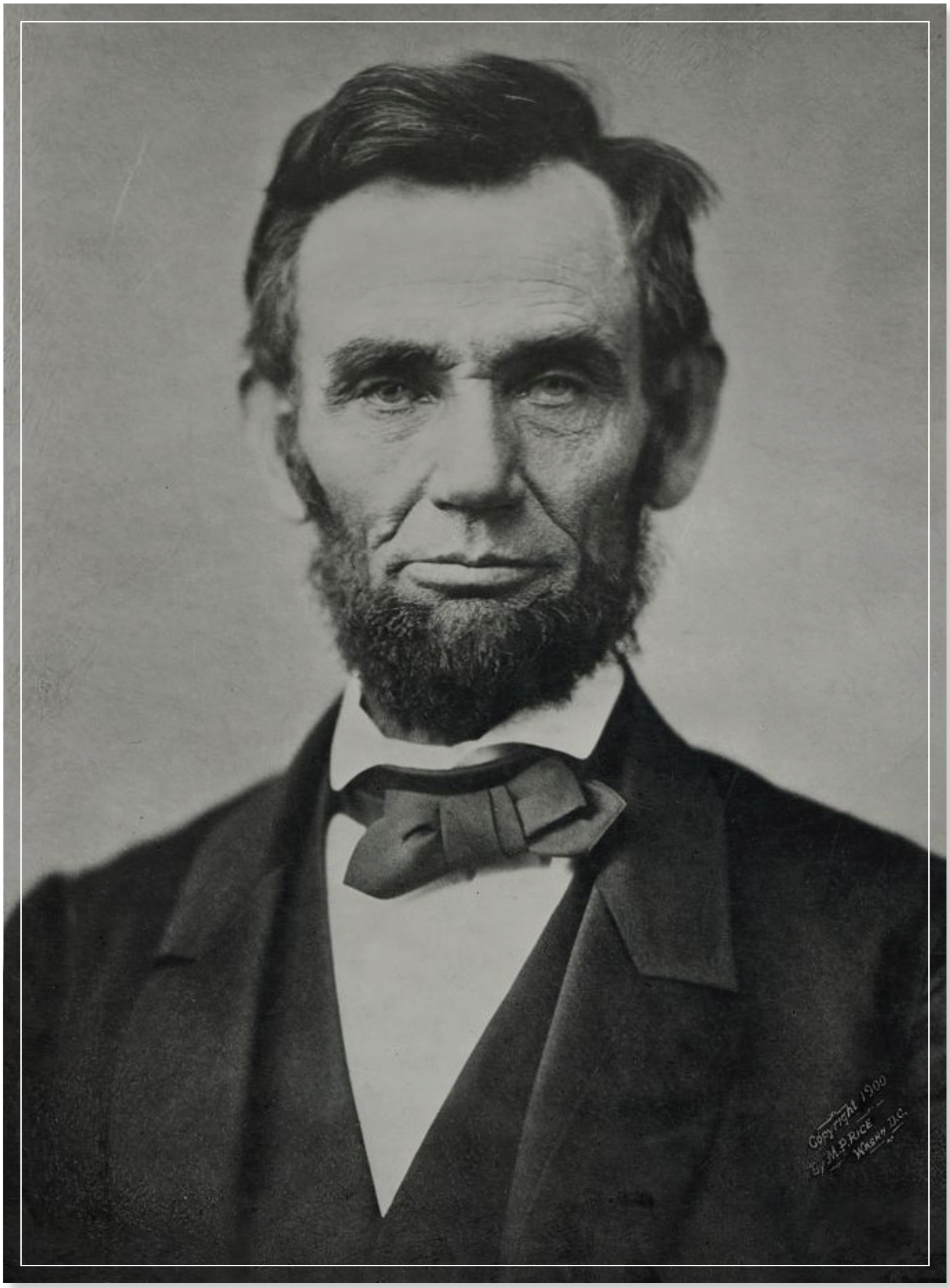
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by M. B. Rice
Washn D.C.

Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The NPS core values are a framework in which the National Park Service accomplishes its mission. They express the manner in which, both individually and collectively, the National Park Service pursues its mission. The NPS core values are:

- **Shared stewardship:** We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.
- **Excellence:** We strive continually to learn and improve so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.
- **Integrity:** We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.
- **Tradition:** We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.
- **Respect:** We embrace each other's differences so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.

The National Park Service is a bureau within the Department of the Interior. While numerous national park system units were created prior to 1916, it was not until August 25, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act formally establishing the National Park Service.

The national park system continues to grow and comprises mare than 400 park units covering more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These units include, but are not limited to, national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. The variety and diversity of park units throughout the nation require a strong commitment to resource stewardship and management to ensure both the protection and enjoyment of these resources for future generations.

The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.

Introduction

Every unit of the national park system will have a foundational document to provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions—a foundation for planning and management. The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park as well as the park's purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. The foundation document also includes special mandates and administrative commitments, an assessment of planning and data needs that identifies planning issues, planning products to be developed, and the associated studies and data required for park planning. Along with the core components, the assessment provides a focus for park planning activities and establishes a baseline from which planning documents are developed.

A primary benefit of developing a foundation document is the opportunity to integrate and coordinate all kinds and levels of planning from a single, shared understanding of what is most important about the park. The process of developing a foundation document begins with gathering and integrating information about the park. Next, this information is refined and focused to determine what the most important attributes of the park are. The process of preparing a foundation document aids park managers, staff, and the public in identifying and clearly stating in one document the essential information that is necessary for park management to consider when determining future planning efforts, outlining key planning issues, and protecting resources and values that are integral to park purpose and identity.

While not included in this document, a park atlas is also part of a foundation project. The atlas is a series of maps compiled from available geographic information system (GIS) data on natural and cultural resources, visitor use patterns, facilities, and other topics. It serves as a GIS-based support tool for planning and park operations. The atlas is published as a (hard copy) paper product and as geospatial data for use in a web mapping environment. The park atlas for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park can be accessed online at: http://insideparkatlas.nps.gov/.

Part 1: Core Components

The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park, park purpose, significance statements, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. These components are core because they typically do not change over time. Core components are expected to be used in future planning and management efforts.

Brief Description of the Park

President Abraham Lincoln was born February 12, 1809, on the Sinking Spring Farm near present-day Hodgenville, Kentucky. The farm site sits 3 miles south of Hodgenville and about 50 miles south of Louisville, on US Highway 31E in LaRue County. In 1811, due to an ongoing legal struggle regarding a prior land claim, the Lincoln family relocated to the Knob Creek Farm a few miles away. Abraham's father, Thomas Lincoln, leased and farmed 30 acres there. The family remained at Knob Creek until 1816. Frustrated by ongoing legal battles over Kentucky land titles, Thomas Lincoln moved the family to Indiana.

Although interest in Lincoln's origins increased after his assassination in 1865, it was not until the turn of the 20th century that a memorial of his birthplace was attempted. In February 1906, several prominent Americans formed the Lincoln Farm Association with the intention of creating a national memorial to Lincoln. Through private donations, the group raised funds to purchase a portion of the farm and a cabin containing logs that local residents had identified as coming from the original Lincoln cabin. It has since been determined that this is not the original cabin, but it is still protected as a symbol of the one in which Lincoln was born.

In 1907, the Lincoln Farm Association commissioned young architect John Russell Pope to design the memorial building. Due to a funding issue, Pope had to modify his original design; the memorial was made smaller than originally planned, but large enough to house the symbolic birth cabin.

The cornerstone of the building was laid by President Theodore Roosevelt on February 12, 1909, the centennial of Lincoln's birth. In 1911, President Taft presided over the dedication of the completed building.

In 1916, the Lincoln Farm Association donated the 110-acre site along with the memorial building and the symbolic birth cabin to the US government. Congress then established the site as the Abraham Lincoln National Park. The park was administered by the War Department until August 10, 1933, when it was transferred to the National Park Service. Designated as a national historical park on August 11, 1939, it was later named the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site on September 8, 1959. Subsequent legislation on March 30, 2009, renamed the site as the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park.

The current appearance of the memorial landscape partially reflects the original 1911 design, as well as later War Department alternations intended to improve visitor access and give the plaza a more finished appearance. Some historic materials have been replaced—notably the trees flanking the terraces and the flagstone pavers of the plaza—but the formal, ceremonial aspects of the approach to the memorial building are unchanged.

Beyond the immediate area of the memorial building, secondary-growth forest covers about half the site, with the rest consisting of expansive mowed lawns. The site also includes a 1959 Mission 66 architectural style visitor center, which contains a gift shop, theater, and interpretive exhibits on the Lincoln family. The site also contains two employee residences, two small stone maintenance buildings constructed by the War Department, and a maintenance garage. A picnic area with a restroom building and pavilion, forest trails, and an area for environmental study are east of US Highway 31E.

In 1998, Congress authorized the Secretary of the Interior to acquire, by donation, about 228 acres of land of the historic Knob Creek Farm. The property became a unit of the park in 2001 and includes a historic roadside tavern, a reconstructed pioneer cabin, Knob Creek, agricultural fields, and forested areas.

Park Purpose

The purpose statement identifies the specific reason(s) for establishment of a particular park. The purpose statement for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park was drafted through a careful analysis of its enabling legislation and the legislative history that influenced its development. The park was established when the enabling legislation adopted by Congress was signed into law on July 17, 1916 (see appendix A for enabling legislation and subsequent amendments). The purpose statement lays the foundation for understanding what is most important about the park.

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park in Kentucky preserves, protects, and interprets the significant cultural and natural resources associated with Abraham Lincoln's birth, early boyhood, and memorialization, including the symbolic birth cabin, memorial building, and Knob Creek Farm.

Park Significance

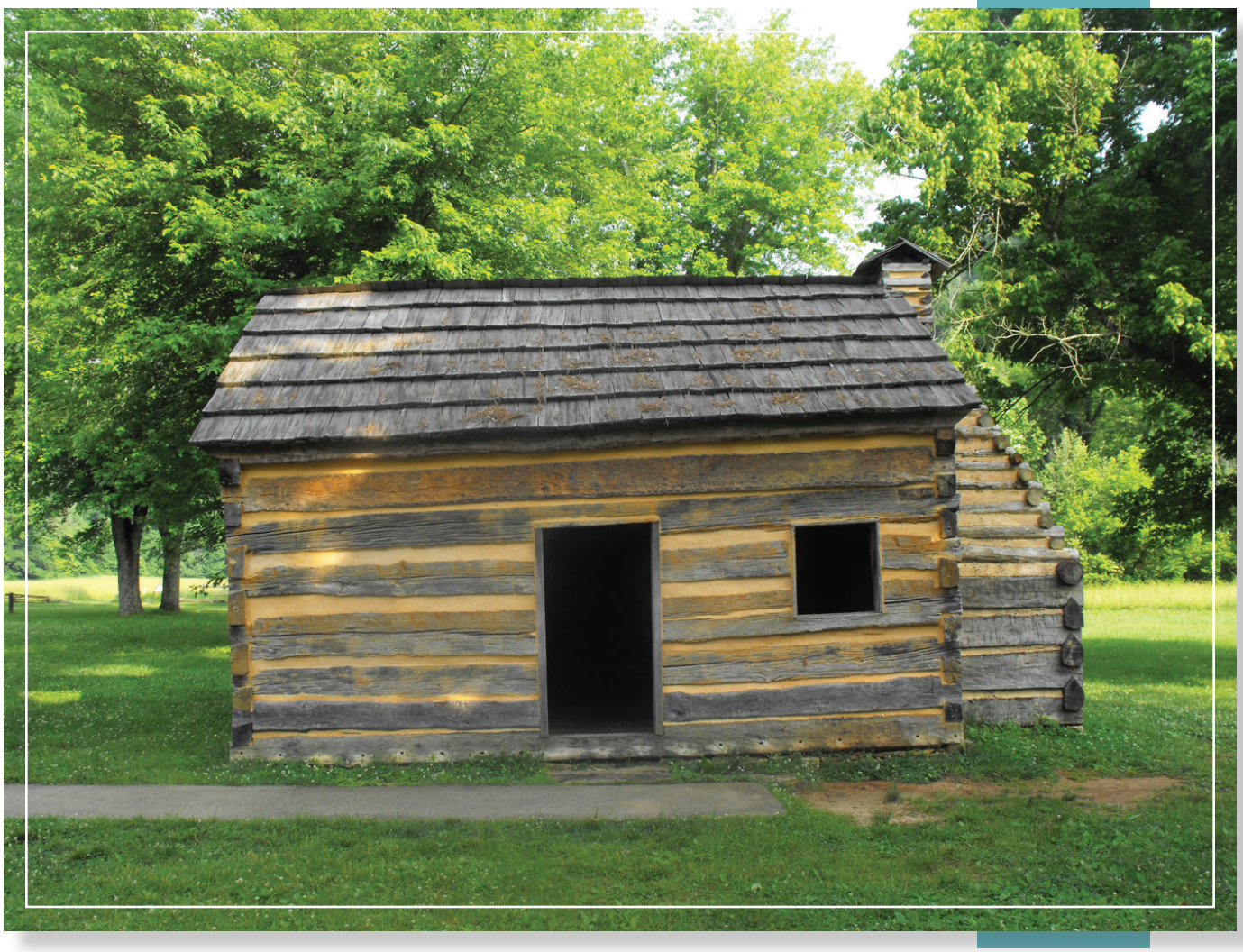
Significance statements express why a park's resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system. These statements are linked to the purpose of Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park, and are supported by data, research, and consensus. Statements of significance describe the distinctive nature of the park and why an area is important within a global, national, regional, and systemwide context. They focus on the most important resources and values that will assist in park planning and management.

The following significance statements have been identified for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park. (Please note that the sequence of the statements does not reflect the level of significance.)

1. The Sinking Spring Farm and Knob Creek Farm were the birthplace and early boyhood home of the 16th president of the United States.

2. The formal landscape and memorial building at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park were constructed by the Lincoln Farm Association in 1910, creating the first major memorial to honor the memory of Abraham Lincoln.

3. Lincoln's boyhood home at Knob Creek was the site of his formative years and earliest memories, influencing his beliefs and choices throughout his life and presidency.



Fundamental Resources and Values

Fundamental resources and values (FRVs) are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells, or other attributes determined to warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Fundamental resources and values are closely related to a park's legislative purpose and are more specific than significance statements.

Fundamental resources and values help focus planning and management efforts on what is truly significant about the park. One of the most important responsibilities of NPS managers is to ensure the conservation and public enjoyment of those qualities that are essential (fundamental) to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. If fundamental resources and values are allowed to deteriorate, the park purpose and/or significance could be jeopardized.

The following fundamental resources and values have been identified for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park:

- **Memorial Building.** The Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Memorial Building was designed by John Russell Pope in a neoclassical architectural style. It was constructed between 1909 and 1911 by the Lincoln Farm Association and, following its donation to the federal government in 1916, was managed by the War Department until 1933. Components that comprise this FRV include the marble and granite building itself, the 56 steps to the building, and the viewshed southeast across the landscape. The building is on the List of Classified Structures, and is also a contributing feature of the larger national register-listed historic district, which is described in further detail within the Birthplace Cultural Landscape FRV.

- **Symbolic Birth Cabin.** The symbolic birth cabin at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park is enclosed within and protected by the memorial building. The cabin was thought to have been constructed, in part, of logs from the original Lincoln cabin, but now the small, simple cabin stands as a symbol that represents the simplicity of Abraham's earliest years. The cabin is on the List of Classified Structures, and is also part of the museum collection.

- **The Sinking Spring.** The Sinking Spring at the Birthplace Unit is the namesake of the Lincolns' Sinking Spring Farm, and as a perennial source of water, was probably a deciding factor in selecting the location of the cabin site. The family depended on the spring for their daily water supply during their time there. Today the Sinking Spring lies south of the memorial building stairway, and is built up with stone retaining walls. Stairs lead down to the cool spring pool, which is surrounded by a platform with two stone benches. Geologically, the spring is a karst window, formed when a portion of the cave collapses exposing the underground stream directly on the surface. It connects to a network of subsurface streams in and near the park. This karst system typically supports a variety of fragile cave biota. The absence of soil means water is not filtered, making the cave particularly sensitive to pollutants from adjacent land use.

- **Birthplace Cultural Landscape.** The Birthplace Cultural Landscape is the memorial landscape that comprises the national register-listed historic district. It includes all of the land on the west side of the park that constitutes the original Lincoln Farm Association purchase, plus additional land that was purchased to protect the Boundary Oak. The landscape consists of the plaza, sidewalks, formal plantings, the steps off of the parking lot, and the wall at the back of the plaza. The viewshed from the plaza to the memorial building is also part of this cultural landscape; the building itself is described in further detail within the Memorial Building FRV.
- **Farm Landscape at Knob Creek.** The Farm Landscape at Knob Creek is one of the few areas of the park that is largely unchanged since the time of the Lincolns. This serene environment is the closest setting to that which the young Abraham Lincoln would remember of his time in Kentucky. It includes the viewshed; the fields, knobs, and other land formations; Knob Creek; and other natural features. This area of the park is also one of the best places to experience a quiet setting, natural sounds, and a dark night sky.

Other Important Resources and Values

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park contains other resources and values that are not fundamental to the purpose of the park and may be unrelated to its significance, but are important to consider in planning processes. These are referred to as "other important resources and values" (OIRV). These resources and values have been selected because they are important in the operation and management of the park and warrant special consideration in park planning.

The following other important resources and values have been identified for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park:

- **Lincoln Tavern.** The Lincoln Tavern at Knob Creek was part of the private memorial to Abraham Lincoln that was begun by Hattie and Chester Howard in 1931. The log building was constructed as a roadside tavern to serve the new and growing automobile tourist trade of the era. It became a popular dance hall and roadhouse, and was later converted to a restaurant and gift shop. The Lincoln Tavern is part of the historic district that comprises the cultural landscape at Knob Creek.

- **Knob Creek Cabin.** The replica pioneer cabin at Knob Creek was constructed by the Howard family soon after they purchased the property in 1931. Some of the logs are believed to have come from the nearby Gollaher family cabin, people who were family friends of the Lincolns. The reconstructed cabin was placed on what was believed to have been the site of the original Lincoln cabin home at Knob Creek. The Knob Creek Cabin is part of the historic district that comprises the cultural landscape at Knob Creek.

- **Cultural Landscape at Knob Creek.** The cultural landscape at Knob Creek is the national register-listed historic district that is significant as an artifact of the early days of automobile tourism and the memorialization of the boyhood home. Its period of significance is identified as 1925–1949, and it includes the area from the split-rail fence at the back of the Lincoln Tavern to the US Highway 31E. The landscape consists of the Lincoln Tavern, the Knob Creek Cabin, and the fenced pasture adjacent to Knob Creek.

- **Diversity and Abundance of Flora at Knob Creek.** The Knob Creek Farm protects the highest diversity of plant life within parks of the Cumberland Piedmont Network (CUPN). During the spring, several of the shrubs and smaller trees, such as flowering dogwood, eastern redbud, and Catawba rhododendron, provide splashes of color in the forest understory. There is also an abundance of berry- and nut-producing trees that attracts squirrels and white-tailed deer. This diversity of flora is enhanced by the limestone and talus slope glades and seeps in this area, which are important ecological features within this region.

- **Museum Collection.** The museum collection at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park includes more than 309,000 objects, including the Lincoln family Bible, the symbolic log cabin, the headstone of Thomas Lincoln, Jr., the remnants of the Boundary Oak, and approximately 200,000 donor cards from the Lincoln Farm Association, which indicate who provided donations to fund the construction of the memorial building. The collection also includes various other archival collections, historic and archeological artifacts, and biological specimens. Parts of the collection are housed in the visitor center, while others are stored at Mammoth Cave National Park and the NPS Southeast Archeological Center.

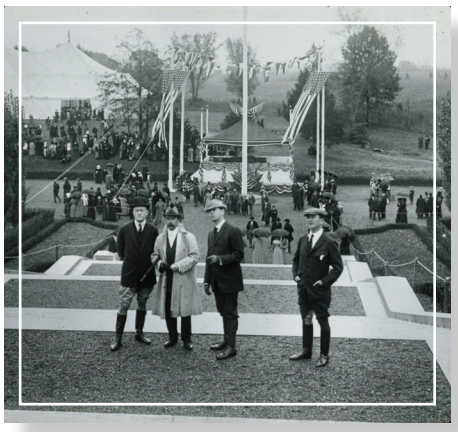
Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are often described as the key stories or concepts that visitors should understand after visiting a park—they define the most important ideas or concepts communicated to visitors about a park unit. Themes are derived from, and should reflect, park purpose, significance, resources, and values. The set of interpretive themes is complete when it provides the structure necessary for park staff to develop opportunities for visitors to explore and relate to all park significance statements and fundamental and other important resources and values.

Interpretive themes are an organizational tool that reveal and clarify meaning, concepts, contexts, and values represented by park resources. Sound themes are accurate and reflect current scholarship and science. They encourage exploration of the context in which events or natural processes occurred and the effects of those events and processes. Interpretive themes go beyond a mere description of the event or process to foster multiple opportunities to experience and consider the park and its resources. These themes help explain why a park story is relevant to people who may otherwise be unaware of connections they have to an event, time, or place associated with the park.

The following interpretive themes have been identified for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park:

- In a log cabin at this place known as the Sinking Spring Farm on February 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States was born.
- The pioneer life experienced in the first seven years at both the Sinking Spring Farm and the Knob Creek Farm shaped the fundamental character Abraham Lincoln would need to lead the nation successfully through the trials of the Civil War.
- The log cabin preserved at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park is a powerful symbol of America's devotion to the idea of an individual's right to rise to his/her fullest potential.
- Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park preserves the memorial building and log cabin that are significant manifestations of the American people's reverence for Abraham Lincoln. The national historic site represents one of the earliest nationwide efforts to commemorate his life and honor his place in the American culture.
- In 1909, as the country celebrated the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth, the significance of the region (central Kentucky, southern Indiana, and Springfield, Illinois) to his birth and early childhood was recognized. In the 1920s and 1930s, tourists were encouraged to visit the region by improved roads and amenities such as the statue in Hodgenville, and the landscaping and walkways at the birthplace. Businesses associating themselves with Lincoln, such as the Nancy Lincoln Inn and the replica cabin at Knob Creek, began to appear to take advantage of this tourism boom.



Part 2: Dynamic Components

The dynamic components of a foundation document include special mandates and administrative commitments and an assessment of planning and data needs. These components are dynamic because they will change over time. New special mandates can be established and new administrative commitments made. As conditions and trends of fundamental and other important resources and values change over time, the analysis of planning and data needs will need to be revisited and revised, along with key issues. Therefore, this part of the foundation document will be updated accordingly.

Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

Many management decisions for a park unit are directed or influenced by special mandates and administrative commitments with other federal agencies, state and local governments, utility companies, partnering organizations, and other entities. Special mandates are requirements specific to a park that must be fulfilled. Mandates can be expressed in enabling legislation, in separate legislation following the establishment of the park, or through a judicial process. They may expand on park purpose or introduce elements unrelated to the purpose of the park. Administrative commitments are, in general, agreements that have been reached through formal, documented processes, often through memorandums of agreement. Examples include easements, rights-of-way, arrangements for emergency service responses, etc. Special mandates and administrative commitments can support, in many cases, a network of partnerships that help fulfill the objectives of the park and facilitate working relationships with other organizations. They are an essential component of managing and planning for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park.

Special Mandates

- Several restrictions were included in the congressional Act of Acceptance that conveyed the property to the United States (16 USC 1 Sec. 211). Among these is the requirement that the property "shall be forever dedicated to the purposes of a national park or reservation, the United States of America agreeing to protect and preserve the said lands, buildings, and appurtenances, and especially the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born and the memorial hall inclosing the same. . . ." This act also declares, "there shall never be any charge or fee made to or asked from the public for admission to the said park or reservation."

Administrative Commitments

For existing administrative commitments for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park, please see appendix B.

Assessment of Planning and Data Needs

Once the core components of part 1 of the foundation document have been identified, it is important to gather and evaluate existing information about the park's fundamental and other important resources and values, and develop a full assessment of the park's planning and data needs. The assessment of planning and data needs section presents planning issues, the planning projects that will address these issues, and the associated information requirements for planning, such as resource inventories and data collection, including GIS data.

There are three sections in the assessment of planning and data needs:

1. analysis of fundamental and other important resources and values
2. identification of key issues and associated planning and data needs
3. identification of planning and data needs (including spatial mapping and activities or GIS maps)

The analysis of fundamental and other important resources and values and identification of key issues leads up to and supports the identification of planning and data collection needs.

Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resource or value analysis table includes current conditions, potential threats and opportunities, planning and data needs, and selected laws and NPS policies related to management of the identified resource or value.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Memorial Building
Related Significance Statements	• Statement 2: The formal landscape and memorial building at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park were constructed by the Lincoln Farm Association, creating the first major memorial to honor the memory of Abraham Lincoln.
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • The memorial building is Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible. • A high-tech heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) system and humidity controls have been installed that have greatly improved conditions within the building. This is managed through a computer system. • The building is in good condition according to the List of Classified Structures, and Facility Management Software System. • The interior underwent a restoration in 2008–2009, which included repainting, replastering, etc. • The park still has some funds from the Lincoln Farm Association that have been invested and draw interest over time. This interest is sometimes used to pay for preservation work on the building. • The glass doors have a protective film to screen direct sunlight and minimize light exposure on the symbolic birth cabin. • 3D scanning has been completed for the memorial building and symbolic birth cabin, which could be used for enhanced interpretation (e.g., electronic or online). **Trends** • Compliance with ADA standards is improving, including the expected future use of tactile exhibits and an assisted listening feature. • Park visitation overall has decreased since 2008.
Threats and Opportunities	**Threats** • There is a draining system underneath the stairs to the memorial building, which has led to settling. Projects scheduled for fiscal years 2015 and 2016 will repair this. • There is currently no fire suppression in the building, and a system would ensure that the building and cabin are protected in the event of a fire. There is an alarm system that notifies emergency services. • The park receives relatively high levels of sulfur from air pollution deposited by rain and snow, and may be contributing to damage to stone, painted, and metal monuments and memorials. **Opportunities** • The general management plan identified the need to reconfigure the parking lot area to address impacts on the views from the memorial building. The park could pursue a comprehensive planning effort to address these impacts. • The boardwalk is very slippery in certain weather scenarios such as snow and rain, and the park could improve traction. • The collections contain cards that list the donors that funded the memorial building. The park has learned a lot about their stories, and these could be interpreted and be made available digitally in a searchable database. The park could conduct additional research on the donors, and potentially seek to develop partnerships with their descendants. • Temporary exhibits could be displayed in the building (e.g., tactile exhibits of the cabin). • The park could pursue the use of audio tour technology or a mobile app for better access to interpretation and park information. • The park could improve park sustainability and environmental leadership by becoming a Climate Friendly Park.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Memorial Building
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	• Historic structure report for memorial building (2001). • General management plan and environmental impact statement (2006).
Data and/or GIS Needs	• No data needs were identified for this FRV.
Planning Needs	• Fire treatment and suppression plan. • Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV** • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • National Historic Preservation Act • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "National Register of Historic Places" (36 CFR 60) • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 7) "Interpretation and Education" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998)

Fundamental Resource or Value	Symbolic Birth Cabin
Related Significance Statements	• Statement 1: The Sinking Spring Farm and Knob Creek Farm were the birthplace and early boyhood home of the 16th president of the United States. • Statement 2: The formal landscape and memorial building at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park were constructed by the Lincoln Farm Association, creating the first major memorial to honor the memory of Abraham Lincoln.
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • The cabin is listed as in good condition in the List of Classified Structures. • Knowledge about the cabin's origins and history is incomplete. • The new HVAC and humidity-control system in the memorial building protects the cabin from deterioration and degradation related to temperature and humidity. • Regular preservation work is done as needed on the cabin chinking. • The cabin is protected against degradation due to sunlight exposure by a protective film on the windows of the memorial building. • 3D scanning has been completed for the memorial building and symbolic birth cabin, which could be used for enhanced interpretation (e.g., electronic or online). • A dendrochronology study was conducted that counted the rings of logs used to build the cabin, which helped the park identify a definite date of construction. **Trends** • The park has purchased an archival vacuum cleaner, and cleaning is being conducted more often by park staff and volunteers. • The number of ranger-led educational programs has decreased due to a lack of funding and adequate staff.
Threats and Opportunities	**Threats** • Visitors touch the cabin despite signs that warn of adverse impacts on the logs. Touching the cabin can cause degradation of the logs. • Flash photography is prohibited because intense light can degrade the historic materials of the cabin. Visitors will still sometimes use a flash. • There is a fire alarm system installed in the memorial building but there is no fire suppression system. **Opportunities** • The park could conduct further research into the history of the cabin. • Knowledge and appropriate training are needed for staff and volunteers to maintain and clean the cabin more consistently. • Cards are housed in the collections that list the donors that funded the memorial building. The park has learned a lot about their stories, and these could be interpreted. This could be done through an exhibit in the visitor center, or be made available digitally in a searchable database. • The park could seek to develop partnerships with descendants of those who made donations to the Lincoln Farm Association.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	• Dendrochronology study (2004). • Abraham Lincoln Memorial cultural landscape report (2004). • Cultural landscape inventory (2008).
Data and/or GIS Needs	• No data needs were identified for this FRV.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Symbolic Birth Cabin
Planning Needs	• Historic structure report for symbolic birth cabin. • Fire treatment and suppression plan. • Preservation plan for symbolic birth cabin. • Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV** • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • National Historic Preservation Act • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "National Register of Historic Places" (36 CFR 60) • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 7) "Interpretation and Education" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998)

Fundamental Resource or Value	The Sinking Spring
Related Significance Statements	• Statement 2: The formal landscape and memorial building at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park were constructed by the Lincoln Farm Association, creating the first major memorial to honor the memory of Abraham Lincoln.
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • Water quality monitoring from 2004–2014 found that 24% of samples exceeded the state standard for bacterial counts of E. coli. • Water quality monitoring from 2004–2014 found elevated nitrate concentrations, averaging 21 mg per liter. While well below the Environmental Protection Agency recommended limit of 90 mg per liter for freshwater aquatic life, the drinking water standard for nitrate is 45 mg per liter, which was exceeded once in January 2008. • The recharge area is relatively small, but almost entirely on private land outside of park boundaries. • The spring is both a natural and cultural resource at the park. • Geocaching and virtual geocaching activities have occurred at the spring. **Trends** • There has been an extended period of high E.coli counts and nitrate levels, but a trend analysis needs to be done. There is an indication that there is something causing the continuously high levels, but the source is unknown.
Threats and Opportunities	**Threats** • There are sometimes inappropriate visitor behaviors at the spring, including tossing pennies. Trash is also found in the spring periodically. • Climate change is projected to increase mean annual precipitation and storm frequency/ intensity (e.g., increase in erosion). • Flooding causes erosion to the structure surrounding the spring, which occurs approximately once per year. • The park does not officially know which species are present in the spring, which makes management of the wildlife resource difficult. Some species have been unofficially identified. • The parking lot is the largest nearby impermeable surface. Stormwater from the parking lot runs into the spring; the park is unsure of the impacts of this runoff. • The park receives relatively high levels of nitrogen from air pollution deposited by rain and snow, and may be contributing to the high levels of nitrate in the spring water. **Opportunities** • The park could redirect stormwater runoff from the spring into a catchment system. Parking lot redesign could also reduce impacts on spring water quality. • An education process for visitors and staff would be helpful to eliminate leaves, weeds, and coins from getting into the spring. • The park could proactively work with geocachers to modify behavior and encourage appropriate geocaching activities. An agreement could be created to formalize geocaching. • The CUPN Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) program plans to help the park better understand and protect natural resources, such as assisting with water quality issues and exploring cave aquatic biota. Park staff would benefit from presentations by the I&M program. • Interpretation of the natural history and natural resource related to the spring could be more robust.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	• Extensive water sampling and dye tracing. • Mieman 2014 report (water quality – see from the State of Parks report). • Abraham Lincoln Memorial cultural landscape report (2004). • Cultural landscape inventory (2008). • Resource stewardship strategy (2010).

Fundamental Resource or Value	The Sinking Spring
Data and/or GIS Needs	• Analysis of stormwater runoff and trends in bacteria and nitrate levels. • Survey of aquatic life and biota in the spring. • Archeological survey of spring. • Geologic and structural assessment of spring area.
Planning Needs	• Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV** • Clean Water Act • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • National Historic Preservation Act • Executive Order 11514, "Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality" • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • Executive Order 12088, "Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards" • "National Register of Historic Places" (36 CFR 60) • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (4.4) "Biological Resource Management," including (4.4.2.1) "NPS Actions that Remove Native Plants and Animals" and (4.4.2.4) "Management of Natural Landscapes" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (4.6.1) "Protection of Surface Waters and Groundwaters" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 7) "Interpretation and Education" • NPS *Natural Resource Management Reference Manual* #77 • Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998) • Director's Order 28A: *Archeology* (2004)

Fundamental Resource or Value	Birthplace Cultural Landscape
Related Significance Statements	• Statement 2: The formal landscape and memorial building at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park were constructed by the Lincoln Farm Association, creating the first major memorial to honor the memory of Abraham Lincoln.
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • The condition of the cultural landscape is currently fair. • Cedar trees that were planted to screen the Nancy Lincoln Inn have grown to the point that they no longer serve to protect the view. • The trees in the allées along the stairway to the memorial need to be replaced because of wind burns and weather-related damage. • The walkways are deteriorating and need to be replaced. This has been entered into the Project Management Information System. • The landscape is listed in the national register as a district. **Trends** • Work has been done to improve the cultural landscape, including limb removal from vegetation.
Threats and Opportunities	**Threats** • Deterioration of the wall, walkways, and vegetation has occurred due to weathering. • Ownership of the inn is uncertain in the future, and could be a threat to the cultural landscape if it is not obtained by the park service. • There is a safety hazard to visitors due to issues with weathering and pitting on the walkways and stairs. • Climate change is projected to increase mean annual temperature and precipitation, and increase in storm frequency/intensity could impact the cultural landscape (e.g., increase in invasives, erosion of cultural sites, northward species shifts, such as tree species [sugar maple, red maple, and white oak]). **Opportunities** • Work has been done to research replacements of the trees in the allées. These recommendations could be implemented in the future. • The landscape could be managed with additional, dedicated staff. • The cultural landscape is a sensitive resource, and enhanced knowledge and training is needed for all staff to better understand use and treatment. • The park could work to implement recommendations in the cultural landscape report to minimize impacts of the views of the Nancy Lincoln Inn from the plaza.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	• Cultural landscape report (2004). • Historic structure report for memorial building (2001). • Vegetation management plan. • Resource stewardship strategy (2010).
Data and/or GIS Needs	• National register nomination for Birthplace Cultural Landscape (update). • Administrative history (update). • Visual resource inventory.
Planning Needs	• Scenery conservation plan. • Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).

Fundamental Resource or Value	Birthplace Cultural Landscape
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV** • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" • Clean Air Act **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (5.1.3) "Identification and Evaluation of Resources," and (5.3.5.1) "Archeological Resources" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 7) "Interpretation and Education" • *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* • Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998) • Director's Order 28A: *Archeology* (2004)

Fundamental Resource or Value	Farm Landscape at Knob Creek
Related Significance Statements	• Statement 1: The Sinking Spring Farm and Knob Creek Farm were the birthplace and early boyhood home of the 16th president of the United States. • Statement 3: Lincoln's boyhood home at Knob Creek was the site of his formative years and earliest memories, influencing his beliefs and choices throughout his life and presidency.
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • While the natural setting of the Lincolns' farm has changed somewhat since the early 1800s, the landscape still maintains much of the form and feeling of the time when the Lincolns were here. The features that would still be recognizable include the knobs, the creek, the bottomland fields, and the views. • Natural sounds of birds and the creek, as well as quiet and still predominate in most of the unit. • Diverse plant communities exist at the Knob Creek farm. • The bottomland area is planted with grasses and is baled twice a year. The existing fire management plan calls for full fire suppression. Condition status of the night skies is of serious concern due to anthropogenic light sources and air pollution. • A high power line and tower is a modern intrusion on the viewshed looking northwest from the fields. • Knob Creek water quality is pristine according to state standards. • The NPS ranger station is staffed seasonally. **Trends** • The top of the knobs were formerly open areas created by the Howard family, and over time, a successional forest has moved in and continues to thrive. • Wetlands are disappearing due to a lack of management. They are small and seasonal. Reduced wetlands results in reduced amphibian habitat. The number of amphibian and reptile species detected during 17 sampling events during a 2003–2005 inventory was lower than expected. • Management of the fields will need to change once the septic system project is finished, which will not allow for heavy vehicles to drive and bale hay over the septic system.
Threats	• The trail up the knob is susceptible to erosion. • Remoteness of area and limited NPS presence creates opportunities for vandalism, dumping, poaching, logging, off-road vehicle use, creation of hunting tree stands, and other encroachment and inappropriate activities. • Nonnative plants encroaching on the area are a threat to the diverse plant communities. • The health of the forest is threatened by pests, including the emerald ash borer. • The proximity of the roadway and area development pose threats to the soundscape, and light encroachment and air pollution can cause impacts on the night sky. • Climate change is projected to increase mean annual temperature and precipitation, and increase in storm frequency/intensity could impact the cultural landscape (e.g., increase in invasives, erosion of cultural sites, northward species shifts, such as tree species [sugar maple, red maple, and white oak]).

Fundamental Resource or Value	Farm Landscape at Knob Creek
Opportunities	• Understand whether night skies are better viewed in this area due to being in a hollow. • Understand options for maintaining open fields, including whether native grasses and prescribed fire could be used. • Redesign the trail to be sustainable and resist erosion. • Review power line deed to understand the utility company's access and allowed management treatments for the foliage around the tower and power lines. • Work with the utility to share guidelines on right-of-way maintenance, and work toward mutually acceptable maintenance actions for the tower and power lines. Options could include eliminating spraying, planting shorter vegetation that requires less cutting, eliminating vehicle access for plant trimming, and moving power underground and out of the view. • The Kentucky Lincoln Trail from Hodgenville to Elizabethtown was created and used by the Boy Scouts. The park could partner with organizations to reestablish the trail, which traverses private and park lands. This is an outstanding opportunity for enhanced interpretation. • Consider formalizing agricultural leases for the fields. The goal is to maintain the appearance and the size and boundaries of the fields. Opportunities for additional interpretation of the creek, the natural elements, sounds, and wildlife. For the creek, there are opportunities to learn about water quality, turbidity, etc., as educational activities. • Expand interpretative and educational tools to communicate the connections between night sky, air quality/pollution, natural and cultural resource protection, human health, and other associated resources.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	• General management plan and environmental impact statement (2006). • Forest monitoring and water quality monitoring and Knob Creek (CUPN 2014). • Fire management plan (2009). • Resource stewardship strategy (2010).
Data and/or GIS Needs	• Natural resource studies on Knob Creek. • Paleontological survey of Knob Creek Farm. • Hazard tree assessment. • Visual resource inventory.
Planning Needs	• Fire management plan (amendment). • Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).

Fundamental Resource or Value	Farm Landscape at Knob Creek
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV** • Clean Air Act • Clean Water Act • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • Executive Order 11514, "Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality" • Executive Order 12088, "Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (4.4) "Biological Resource Management," including (4.4.2.1) "NPS Actions that Remove Native Plants and Animals" and (4.4.2.4) "Management of Natural Landscapes" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (4.6.1) "Protection of Surface Waters and Groundwaters" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (4.8.2.4) "Soil Resource Management" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • NPS *Natural Resource Management Reference Manual* #77

Analysis of Other Important Resources and Values

Other Important Resource or Value	Lincoln Tavern
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • The List of Classified Structures lists the tavern as poor, and Facility Management Software System lists it as serious (below poor). • There are some serious structural concerns due to log rot and lack of an appropriate support system. • The second floor cannot be occupied due to structural issues (even after rehabilitation). Regardless, the second floor is not ADA accessible. • Work is planned to restore the building, including installation of an HVAC system and utility lines. Existing water lines are of particular concern; the water is not potable. This work will be completed as part of phases II and III of the rehabilitation project. • There are some issues with pests, including rodents, brown recluses, and termites. • Lead-based paint and asbestos are also a problem in the current structure. **Trends** • Rehabilitation work is underway for the immediate area, and further work will be completed to restore the tavern. • The structure continues to deteriorate in its current state. Logs are rotting, plumbing has failed, wastewater continues to be an issue, and there is no climate control.
Threats and Opportunities	**Threats** • Continued deterioration is a threat to the structure and existing infrastructure. • The rehabilitation phases are planned, but funding is uncertain. If funding is not obtained, threats and building condition will continue to worsen. • Vandalism has occurred at the adjacent ranger station, and could become a problem at the tavern, particularly considering that the area is not gated. Potentially illegal activity has also been reported in the area. • Climate change is projected to increase mean annual temperature and precipitation, and increase in storm frequency/intensity (e.g., increase in erosion around the site and accelerated weathering of the tavern, increase in pests such as termites). **Opportunities** • With an improved structure, there are possible interpretive opportunities to tell the history of the tavern, the Howard family, and the tavern's development as an early place for Lincoln-related tourism in Kentucky. • The structure could be used as a visitor center, which would expand interpretive opportunities. • The park could work to establish a friends group and work to establish partnerships for help with interpretation and potentially funding.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the OIRV	• Finish analysis (2013). • Historic structure report (2006). • Resource stewardship strategy (2010).
Data and/or GIS Needs	• Ethnographic study (PMIS 84308). • Administrative history (update). • National register nomination for the Knob Creek District (update).
Planning Needs	• Preventative maintenance plan for the Lincoln Tavern. • Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).

Other Important Resource or Value	Lincoln Tavern
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV** • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • National Historic Preservation Act • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "National Register of Historic Places" (36 CFR 60) • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 7) "Interpretation and Education" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998)

Other Important Resource or Value	Knob Creek Cabin
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • The List of Classified Structures and the Facility Management Software System list the cabin in good condition. • The door strikes on the door jamb when opened/closed, which could be due to a variety of issues, including settling or the door hinge. • The cabin was recently restored from very poor condition. • The building is staffed seasonally and is the only building that is open at the Knob Creek site. • It is the only object related to Lincoln's time there and his era. • The cabin is regularly monitored for pests that could impact the structure. **Trends** • Maintenance staff continually perform restoration work; including pine needle removal, moisture and pest management, and perform preventative maintenance to reduce wear due to weather and seasonal changes.
Threats and Opportunities	**Threats** • Vandalism has occurred at the adjacent ranger station and could become a problem at the cabin, particularly considering that the area is not gated. Potentially illegal activity has also been reported in the area. • Weather and seasonal changes impact the condition of the cabin. • Pests have been an issue in the cabin, including mice and brown recluses. Because the building is exposed wood, termites could also be an issue. • Climate change is projected to increase mean annual temperature and precipitation, and increase in storm frequency/intensity (e.g., increase in erosion around the site and accelerated weathering of the cabin, increase in pests such as termites). **Opportunities** • The park could expand interpretation of the cabin. This is the only place in the park where visitors are able to enter a cabin and experience pioneer life. Staff could also interpret how the Knob Creek site has changed over time. • Staff could be trained in cabin maintenance techniques, which would assist with ongoing preservation and maintenance.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the OIRV	• Historic structure report (2005). • Resource stewardship strategy (2010).
Data and/or GIS Needs	• Ethnographic study (PMIS 84308). • Administrative history (update).
Planning Needs	• Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).

Other Important Resource or Value	Knob Creek Cabin
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV** • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • National Historic Preservation Act • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "National Register of Historic Places" (36 CFR 60) • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 7) "Interpretation and Education" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998)

Other Important Resource or Value	Cultural Landscape at Knob Creek
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • Facility Condition Index rating is poor for the cultural landscape. • Phase II of the construction project is not yet funded. • The picnic area is heavily used. • A right-of-way provides access across the creek for adjacent land owners and utility providers. • The area floods from time to time. **Trends** • Although there are not many requests for special events such as weddings and family reunions, these activities occur. The recent project at Knob Creek included removal of the picnic pavilion and concrete pads. A future smaller picnic area will include a concrete path and a limited number of accessible pads. • The construction project going on now will improve the condition of the landscape. Walkways are being added, the concrete pads are being removed, and the picnic tables are being dispersed. The landscape itself will improve due to these improvements. • Once the construction project is complete, visitor capacity will be increased through additional parking spaces, and it is likely that use will also increase. • The power line from the main line to the tavern will be moved underground. • New parking lot construction will reduce problems due to flooding. • The viewshed will be improved toward the fields due to the construction project.
Threats and Opportunities	**Threats** • Remoteness of the area makes the resources more susceptible to vandalism and other unwanted activities. • There is currently a lack of guidance on management of the lands and resources on the east side of US Highway 31E. • There are also opportunities for encroachment and inappropriate activities in the southeast parcel across the road. • Because the southeast parcel is a fairly narrow strip there is a high potential for invasive species to be introduced and take hold. • Climate change is projected to increase mean annual temperature and precipitation, and increase in storm frequency/intensity could impact the cultural landscape (e.g., increase in invasives, erosion of cultural sites, changes in species composition/density, northward species shifts, such as tree species [sugar maple, red maple, and white oak]). **Opportunities** • The park could provide in-depth interpretation of this area. • There is an opportunity through the ethnographic study to interview people who visited the tavern before it became dry. Interviews could provide information on the landscape during that time period. • The park could work with local law enforcement and the community around the site to help prevent illegal activities that may occur at the Knob Creek site.

Other Important Resource or Value	Cultural Landscape at Knob Creek
Existing Data and Plans Related to the OIRV	• Lincoln Boyhood Home cultural landscape report (2013). • Cultural landscapes inventory for Boyhood Home (2008). • General management plan and environmental impact statement (2006). • Resource stewardship strategy (2010).
Data and/or GIS Needs	• Visual resource inventory.
Planning Needs	• Treatment plan for the cultural landscape at Knob Creek. • Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV** • National Historic Preservation Act • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (5.1.3) "Identification and Evaluation of Resources," and (5.3.5.1) "Archeological Resources" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 7) "Interpretation and Education" • *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* • Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998) • Director's Order 28A: *Archeology* (2004)

Other Important Resource or Value	Diversity and Abundance of Flora at Knob Creek
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • The park has good baseline knowledge of plant communities. • Forest monitoring (CUPN 2011–2014) has documented a high diversity of species. Averaging more than 80 species per plot, this unit contains the highest diversity of species within the 14 parks in the network. Wildflowers are abundant. • No federally listed threatened and endangered species are known; however, there are state-listed species present. • Some species (ginseng) are probably poached, though nothing has been documented. • At least 13 plants species in the park are sensitive to foliar ozone injury. **Trends** • Vertebrates and vascular plants have been inventoried, but no population trends have been established. • Through forest monitoring by the CUPN I&M program, trends will be established for metrics associated with a healthy forest such as structure, composition, and nonnatives.
Threats and Opportunities	**Threats** • Poaching and trampling could increase with increased visitors and interpretation of the flora. • Pests such as the emerald ash borer could impact forest communities. • Because the area is remote yet close to a highly visited area, the area is susceptible to poaching and other undesirable activities. • While there is monitoring, lack of funding to plan for and enforce protection of the area is a threat. Changes in NPS law enforcement programs have made it difficult to have law enforcement support. • Climate change is projected increase in mean annual temperature and precipitation, and increase in storm frequency/intensity could impact the current composition and abundance of flora at Knob Creek (e.g., increase in invasive species [kudzu and privet], increase in nonnative species and native species shifts northward, including tree species such as sugar maple, red maple, and white oak). • Foliar injury from ozone could impact vegetation communities. **Opportunities** • Dedicate a person to manage and study. Currently the park has very minimal resource management time available. Another opportunity would be to partner with Mammoth Cave or other parks or networks for more dedicated resource management time. • Updates to the list of plant species will occur gradually through forest monitoring. The CUPN I&M program continues to find new species in the area. • Interpretive opportunities. One of the concerns is trampling of flora. The concept is to develop trails and interpretation. In devising the trails and creating interpretive opportunities, the park can better protect sensitive areas. • Hiring the Student Conservation Association to do some of the GIS work. • Coordinate with the Cumberland Piedmont Network and Kentucky State Nature Preserves for tracking where communities and species exist.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the OIRV	• Resource stewardship strategy (2010). • GIS layers of monitored plots, including foliar injury from ozone. • Cumberland Piedmont Network forest monitoring database and vital signs monitoring plan.

Other Important Resource or Value	Diversity and Abundance of Flora at Knob Creek
Data and/or GIS Needs	• GIS mapping of natural resources at Knob Creek Farm. • Condition assessment of glades and other special communities. • Continued monitoring of flora communities (ongoing). • Climate change vulnerability assessment of flora communities. • Resource stewardship strategy update (to include climate change).
Planning Needs	• Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV** • Clean Air Act • Clean Water Act • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • Executive Order 11514, "Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality" • Executive Order 12088, "Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (4.4) "Biological Resource Management," including (4.4.2.1) "NPS Actions that Remove Native Plants and Animals" and (4.4.2.4) "Management of Natural Landscapes" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (4.6.1) "Protection of Surface Waters and Groundwaters" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (4.8.2.4) "Soil Resource Management" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • NPS *Natural Resource Management Reference Manual* #77

Other Important Resource or Value	Museum Collection
Current Conditions and Trends	**Conditions** • The inventory is stable. Ninety-nine percent of museum collections are catalogued. The last archival survey was completed in 2001 and a backlog probably exists. Ninety percent of the collection is archives. The basement storage area is not ideal. • Part of the plant collection is missing. A plant survey was done in the 1990s, but the plants collected were never returned to the park. They were never accessioned, and their location is unknown. **Trends** • Additional items are added according to the scope of collections. • Maintained at a reasonable level. • Recently the park added exhibit cases for temporary exhibits. • For natural resources, a few plant species are added every year.
Threats and Opportunities	**Threats** • The future of storage capacity is uncertain. At some point the park will run out of space to store collections. Offsite collection storage availability may not continue. • Lack of curatorial support. • The Lincoln Family Bible is not in an independently controlled environment. • The visitor center does not have a fire suppression system; the exhibited collections are in this building. Other collections are in the basement. The local fire department is volunteer only. However, the fire department has been trained on responses to fire. • No alarm system exists for exhibits, and protection of the Lincoln Family Bible is a primary concern. There could be an opportunity for a camera system or alarm for the exhibits. **Opportunities** • Continue to add to the collection according to the scope of collections. • An opportunity to exhibit more of the collection. For example, the life masks and log core samples could be exhibited with proper environmental conditions. • Conservation work on objects. • The park could add the Boundary Oak to the museum collection. • The park could pursue an agreement for loans to the Lincoln Museum, other national parks, etc.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the OIRV	• Scope of collections statement (2010). • Integrated pest management plan (not for museum collections) (2012). • Collection storage report (1997). • Museum emergency operations plan (2011).
Data and/or GIS Needs	• Archival survey.
Planning Needs	• Integrated pest management plan for the museum collection. • Housekeeping plan. • Collection storage plan (update). • Fire treatment and suppression plan. • Long-range interpretive plan (PMIS 189098).

Other Important Resource or Value	Museum Collection
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	**Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV** • Museum Act (16 USC 18f through 18f-3) **NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)** • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (4.2) "Studies and Collections" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (5.1.3) "Identification and Evaluation of Resources," and (5.3.5.1) "Archeological Resources" • NPS *Management Policies 2006* (8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 24: *NPS Museum Collections Management* • Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management* (1998) • Director's Order 28A: *Archeology* (2004) • *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* • NPS *Museum Handbook*, parts I, II, and III

Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs

This section considers key issues to be addressed in planning and management and therefore takes a broader view over the primary focus of part 1. A key issue focuses on a question that is important for a park. Key issues often raise questions regarding park purpose and significance and fundamental and other important resources and values. For example, a key issue may pertain to the potential for a fundamental or other important resource or value in a park to be detrimentally affected by discretionary management decisions. A key issue may also address crucial questions that are not directly related to purpose and significance, but which still affect them indirectly. Usually, a key issue is one that a future planning effort or data collection needs to address and requires a decision by NPS managers.

The following are key issues for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park and the associated planning and data needs to address them:

Facility Condition at Boyhood Home Unit. The facilities at the Boyhood Home Unit have the poorest Facility Condition Index rating of any in the park, especially at the Lincoln Tavern. The condition of utilities and infrastructure at the site are generally in serious condition, and there are also structural issues with the building itself. The park has developed a plan to rehabilitate and improve Lincoln Tavern, and it is listed as a high priority for the service. Additionally, a bottomland field visible from the Boyhood Home Unit has a planned septic field, which will force a change to the mowing regimen because heavy equipment could damage septic field pipes. A solution is needed that retains the field's appearance while allowing for maintenance that uses appropriate equipment.

Phase I of the improvement project is currently underway, which will address many of these issues, but funding for phases II and III is still uncertain. Phase I includes activities related to the parking lot and restroom at the site. Phases II and III would deal with the issues at Lincoln Tavern.

The park needs to examine alternatives for maintenance in the bottomland fields. Maintenance work could be accomplished through prescribed burning or an agricultural lease for mowing.

Associated planning needs:

- Development concept plan for Knob Creek Farm

Associated data needs:

- Administrative history (update)

Birthplace Unit Viewshed, Adjacent Land Use and Development. Views within the cultural landscape are threatened by the Nancy Lincoln Inn—a private facility that can be seen from the memorial building. The cultural landscape report suggests treatments to protect the viewshed, which have helped preserve the view in the short term, but a long-term solution is needed. Additionally, development continues to expand south on US Highway 31E from the Hodgenville area. There is commercial zoning in this area, and large developments are possible within that zoning designation. A buffer would be helpful to prevent impacts, and this land may be available near the Lincoln General Store. Park staff continues to monitor development and work with local governments to prevent negative impacts on park resources.

If the inn is acquired by the park, it would be considered a historic structure. Several options exist, including removing the structure, controlling the appearance of the structure, or adaptive reuse of the building. The park could also acquire a scenic easement over the land to prevent intrusive development.

Associated planning needs:

- Scenery conservation plan

Climate Change. Average annual temperature for the region that includes Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park is projected to increase 4°–5°F by 2050, with a slight increase in mean annual precipitation (5%–8%) compared to 1971–2000. Increase in storm frequency and intensity is also projected to increase, along with an increase in extreme heat events (>95°F). The park protects the most diverse plant communities of any of the parks within the Cumberland Piedmont Network, as well as other significant natural resources. They reflect the natural condition of this part of Kentucky that existed when Abraham Lincoln was a child. The park already exhibits widespread occurrence of nonnative invasive plants, as well as forest pests such as the emerald ash borer. Such projected changes in climate favor further growth of invasive species such as kudzu and privet, along with shifts in native species northward, potentially reducing tree species such as sugar maple, red maple, and white oak. Increase in storm events could accelerate weathering and erosion of cultural structures and sites. Understanding the range of plausible climate futures and associated impacts is important in supporting informed management decisions at the park. Any development or maintenance of park facilities should be done in a manner that minimizes impacts, including introduction of nonnative species. Plant diversity should be promoted through restoration of native vegetation and prescribed fire.

Associated planning needs:

- Fire management plan amendment

Associated data needs:

- Climate change vulnerability assessment of flora communities
- Resource stewardship strategy update (to include climate change)
- Forest health assessment

Community Relations and Partnerships. The park has developed and maintained long-term partnerships with the Lincoln Museum, Lincoln Days Inc., LaRue County, the Town of Hodgenville, the Lincoln Scenic Byway board, and the Kentucky Lincoln Heritage Trail Alliance. The park works with such organizations to collaboratively market and raise visibility of the Kentucky Lincoln story. A feasibility study is underway for a Kentucky Lincoln National Heritage Area, and the approval of such an area could dramatically expand the partnership role of the park and park leadership.

Additional work is being done with the Kentucky Lincoln Heritage Trail Alliance, trying to build a larger partnership between all of the Lincoln states (Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois). The other two Lincoln parks are in a different region, posing challenges with communication and collaboration. The park has a continued need to be engaged with the community. An opportunity is to work toward establishing a friends group. Research into donors by Clemson University can help establish new donors or establish a friends group.

Associated planning needs:

- Partnership outreach plan

Visitor Wayfinding. Signage directing visitors to the site is unclear and sometimes incorrect. This includes the main highways and local streets. Sometimes several locations are referenced on one sign, which can be confusing, and there is no signage to direct visitors to the visitor center. NPS-specific signage and branding would also be helpful. The Lincoln Scenic Byway signage is along the same roadways, and definition between the park site and the byway needs to be established.

Associated planning needs:

- Sign plan

Associated data needs:

- Wayfinding study

Declining Visitation. Curriculum changes at schools have created challenges for the park in connecting with students and schools. There is generally less time available for field trips, integration with Common Core Curriculum standards has been a challenge, and there is generally less funding available for buses and substitute teachers. The park would like to seek new solutions to these challenges, including the use of technology to reach students and other visitors virtually.

Associated planning needs:

- Distance learning strategy
- Marketing plan

Park Accessibility. The park is overall highly accessible, but certain challenges remain, including access to the Sinking Spring and programmatic accessibility. There are several improvements planned, including the installation of non-slip surfaces on the boardwalk and the use of tactile displays in the memorial building and visitor center. Some information regarding accessibility is provided on the park website, but the breadth of accessible experiences at the park could be advertised more broadly.

Associated planning needs:

- Accessibility reevaluation

Planning and Data Needs

To maintain connection to the core elements of the foundation and the importance of these core foundation elements, the planning and data needs listed here are directly related to protecting fundamental resources and values, park significance, and park purpose, as well as addressing key issues. To successfully undertake a planning effort, information from sources such as inventories, studies, research activities, and analyses may be required to provide adequate knowledge of park resources and visitor information. Such information sources have been identified as data needs. Geospatial mapping tasks and products are included in data needs.

Items considered of the utmost importance were identified as high priority, and other items identified, but not rising to the level of high priority, were listed as either medium- or low-priority needs. These priorities inform park management efforts to secure funding and support for planning projects.

Planning Needs – Where A Decision-making Process Is Needed			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	**Planning Needs**	**Priority (H, M, L)**	**Notes**
All	Long-range interpretive plan	PMIS 189098	A plan is formulated, but not yet funded.
Symbolic Birth Cabin	Historic structure report for symbolic birth cabin	H	Recommended in State of the Park report as a standalone from building.
Museum Collection	Museum management plan	H	A museum management plan would combine aspects of an integrated pest management plan, housekeeping plan, and collection storage plan. An integrated pest management plan exists for the park, but not for the collection. Housekeeping plan includes cleaning schedule and materials. A 2001 collection storage plan exists, the museum management plan would update this plan's treatment strategies.
Birthplace Cultural Landscape; Key Issue: Birthplace Unit Viewshed	Scenery conservation plan	H	The cultural landscape inventory for the Birthplace Unit suggests the use of an alternative approach to managing the viewshed and screen visual impacts of the Nancy Lincoln Inn. This plan would offer specific recommendations for appropriate tools and techniques, including the use of specific types of vegetation. May not be as critical if the site is acquired and an alternate approach can be taken; can follow general recommendations from a cultural landscape report.
Symbolic Birth Cabin	Preservation plan for symbolic birth cabin	M	Would provide recommendation for appropriately preserving the cabin interior and exterior, including cleaning, pest management, etc. The cabin is on a five-year condition assessment. A treatment plan provides guidance for repairing dabbing and chinking every two years.
Cultural Landscape at Knob Creek	Treatment plan for the cultural landscape at Knob Creek	M	The park would like something similar to the treatment plan for the cultural landscape at the birthplace unit. The treatment plan would specify the long-term continued maintenance of the landscape, including planting and seasonal maintenance of landscape features. This is a priority because work is underway as part of phase I.
Key Issue: Community Relations and Partnerships	Partnership outreach plan	M	Work with region and others to identify partners and work toward establishing a friends group. This could include members of Preservation of Lincoln's Kentucky Heritage, Inc.
Key Issue: Declining Visitation	Distance learning strategy	M	This strategy could help the park work toward making interpretive opportunities available online, so that visitors do not necessarily need to be on-site. Interpretation could also be done virtually, in real time. It could also help with the development of a virtual tour, and effective use of social media (i.e., YouTube, webinars, etc.). This plan would also help improve ADA compliance.
Symbolic Birth Cabin; Memorial Building; Museum Collection	Fire treatment and suppression plan	M	To help determine appropriate fire suppression techniques that are sensitive to the historic nature of some of the park buildings, including the memorial building and symbolic birth cabin, the visitor center (to protect exhibits and artifacts particularly), and the maintenance facility. This plan could also provide guidance for best practices to be shared with local fire departments. This is more detailed than the existing structural fire management plan. Would help to annotate existing agreements with specifics for certain structures/objects.

Planning Needs – Where A Decision-making Process Is Needed			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	**Planning Needs**	**Priority (H, M, L)**	**Notes**
Farm Landscape at Knob Creek; Key Issue: Nonnative and Invasive Species	Fire management plan (amendment)	M	To help determine approach to prescribed burning. Other aspects have been covered well in the existing 2009 fire management plan.
Lincoln Tavern	Preventative maintenance plan	M	This report would help the park understand the best methods to maintain the tavern after the current project is complete. For example, how to care for the logs, when to do maintenance, etc. Informed by the existing historic structure report. Would only need to be completed upon completion of restoration/renovation work in phases II and III.
Key Issue: Facility Condition at Boyhood Home Unit	Development concept plan for Knob Creek Farm	M	This plan would examine management of the Knob Creek site, including future uses, trails, interpretation, and staffing. It would tier from the zone approach identified in the park's general management plan, and may function as a mini-GMP. The existing general management plan does not go into the detail needed for this area. In addition, a cultural landscape report was completed in 2013 for the area, but broader and detailed site recommendations are needed. Funding is still uncertain for certain aspects of restoration of the Knob Creek Farm, and this might not need to be completed until those other phases are finished.
Key Issue: Visitor Wayfinding	Sign plan	M	This plan would be development in coordination with the county and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. It would be informed by the wayfinding study. It would provide recommendations on the types and placement of signs as well as branding messages.
Key Issue: Declining Visitation	Marketing plan	M	To address declining visitation, the park could use a marketing strategy that could be developed in conjunction with partners and include innovative strategies for attracting and reaching visitors. Much of this would be driven by external entities; not so much a funding push, but doesn't pull off of radar.
Key Issue: Park Accessibility	Accessibility reevaluation	M	The park has done significant work to address accessibility issues, but additional information and recommendations are needed, particularly regarding programmatic accessibility. The park has accomplished or will soon accomplish everything identified for accessibility in the existing analysis. The next step will be to evaluate the status of accessibility in the park and identify any gaps that were not identified in the previous effort. The community should also provide input for this effort. For example, access to the sinking spring. Lots of work already happening in the next year or two, and would not necessarily want a reevaluation until that work has been completed. Could essentially serve as a pilot for ongoing work in the park service with moving forward in terms of accessibility (proactive approach).

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	**Data and GIS Needs**	**Priority (H, M, L)**	**Notes**
Knob Creek Cabin; Lincoln Tavern	Ethnographic study	PMIS 84308	Programmed for funding—will talk about the people that have occupied the place from American Indian history through modern times. This would include gathering oral histories.
Diversity and Abundance of Flora at Knob Creek	Continued monitoring of flora communities	Ongoing	Monitoring of flora communities is an ongoing process, and the data gathered can be used to verify trends.
The Sinking Spring	Sinking Spring analysis and survey	H	The sinking spring would benefit from the study of stormwater runoff (trends in bacteria and nitrate levels), a survey of aquatic life and biota, and a geologic and structural assessment of the shelf above the spring. This analysis and survey is needed to determine impacts on the spring and any needed mitigation measures, assess the impacts on wildlife occurring from nitrates and bacteria, and address visitor and employee safety issues on the shelf above the spring.
Key Issue: Facility Condition at Boyhood Home Unit; Birthplace Cultural Landscape; Knob Creek Cabin; Lincoln Tavern	Administrative history (update)	H	Current history dates from 1968, and an update is needed to include Knob Creek and other changes. Could gather information from some of the folks who have worked in the park since the previous history was completed. There may be changes that are associated with changes at the Knob Creek site.
Diversity and Abundance of Flora at Knob Creek	Condition assessment of glades and other special communities	H	Based on the vascular plant inventory and plant community classification completed by NatureServe in 2008, the most globally rare communities in the park are the Central Limestone Glade, and the Highland Rim Limestone Cliff/ Talus Seep. These areas warrant special attention due to their high global rank/rarity (G2G3 and G3 respectively), and the potential for species of special concern. Limestone slope glades are considered to be vulnerable to imperiled in the state of Kentucky (Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission, 2007). The Highland Rim Limestone Cliff/ Talus Seep (G3), is prime habitat for the threatened Kentucky state-listed fern, *Adiantum capillus*. Condition assessments of the special communities at Knob Creek will provide needed information for proper management and preservation.
Farm Landscape at Knob Creek	Natural resource studies on Knob Creek	M	To provide riparian zone information, water flow data, aquatic life in the creek, and to understand whether sediment occurring on the creek is part of a natural process or needs to managed. Fish survey has been done. These studies would help the park understand and meet standards. As the site is developed, this information will be needed even more.
Farm Landscape at Knob Creek	Hazard tree assessment	M	Determine where trees exist and how to appropriately handle the trees to avoid safety issues. Hazard trees are a challenge, and there are also implications for potential forest fires.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	**Data and GIS Needs**	**Priority (H, M, L)**	**Notes**
Key Issue: Visitor Wayfinding	Wayfinding study	M	This study would help the park determine where current issues exist regarding visitor wayfinding for both units of the park. The findings of this study would help inform where improvements could be made in the sign plan. Look into possibilities of working with GPS providers (i.e., Apple, Google, etc.) to correct inaccuracies.
Farm Landscape at Knob Creek	Paleontological survey of Knob Creek Farm	M	This would identify paleontological resources in the creek bed. The creek exposes the rocks that have fossils. The area is in limestone and probably has significant paleontological resources. A survey of paleontological resources at Knob Creek Farm would be valuable.
Birthplace Cultural Landscape	National register nomination for birthplace cultural landscape (update)	M	The current nomination does not document the landscapes adequately. The period of significance should be expanded and documentation added for War Department and NPS features.
Lincoln Tavern	National register nomination for the Knob Creek District (update)	M	A nomination exists but more information could change the nomination/significance. An archaeological assessment of the back field is needed to determine if the Knob Creek District can be expanded based on findings during the Knob Creek Improvement Project (2015).
Diversity and Abundance of Flora at Knob Creek	GIS mapping of natural resources at Knob Creek Farm	M	GIS mapping is needed to delineate significant communities, such as those with diverse flora, unique glades, and/or seep habitat. Much of this information is documented in reports from the CUPN I&M program, so this effort would focus on mapping known information.
Diversity and Abundance of Flora at Knob Creek	Climate change vulnerability assessment of flora communities	M	This analysis would help identify vulnerabilities to climate change, including impacts to the American chestnut, which the park is trying to reintroduce at Knob Creek. It would be helpful to better understand specific potential impacts on park resources due to changes due to climate change (for example increased storm events, precipitation changes, and temperature changes, etc.). This could include information being gathered at the region.
Diversity and Abundance of Flora at Knob Creek	Resource stewardship strategy update (to include climate change)	M	A 2010 resource stewardship strategy could use an update to specifically include climate change.
Key Issue: Nonnative and Invasive Species	Forest health assessment	M	Insects have taken advantage of damage from weather that has taken a toll on the health of the forest, and there are safety implications for visitors and employees. This study would incorporate information gathered regarding emerald ash borer. The climate change analysis could inform this plan.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	**Data and GIS Needs**	**Priority (H, M, L)**	**Notes**
The Sinking Spring	Archeological survey of spring	L	This would be a difficult undertaking because much of the area is hard to access, but it would probably provide a lot of information regarding earlier uses of the area.
Museum Collection	Archival survey	L	Gathering administrative records and including them in the collection. This is typically done every five years, and it has been more than five years since the last survey.
Birthplace Cultural Landscape	Visual resource inventory	L	The inventory will complement the cultural landscape inventory and the process will identify the Scenic Quality of important viewsheds of the park and also identify NPS and visitor values.

Part 3: Contributors

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park

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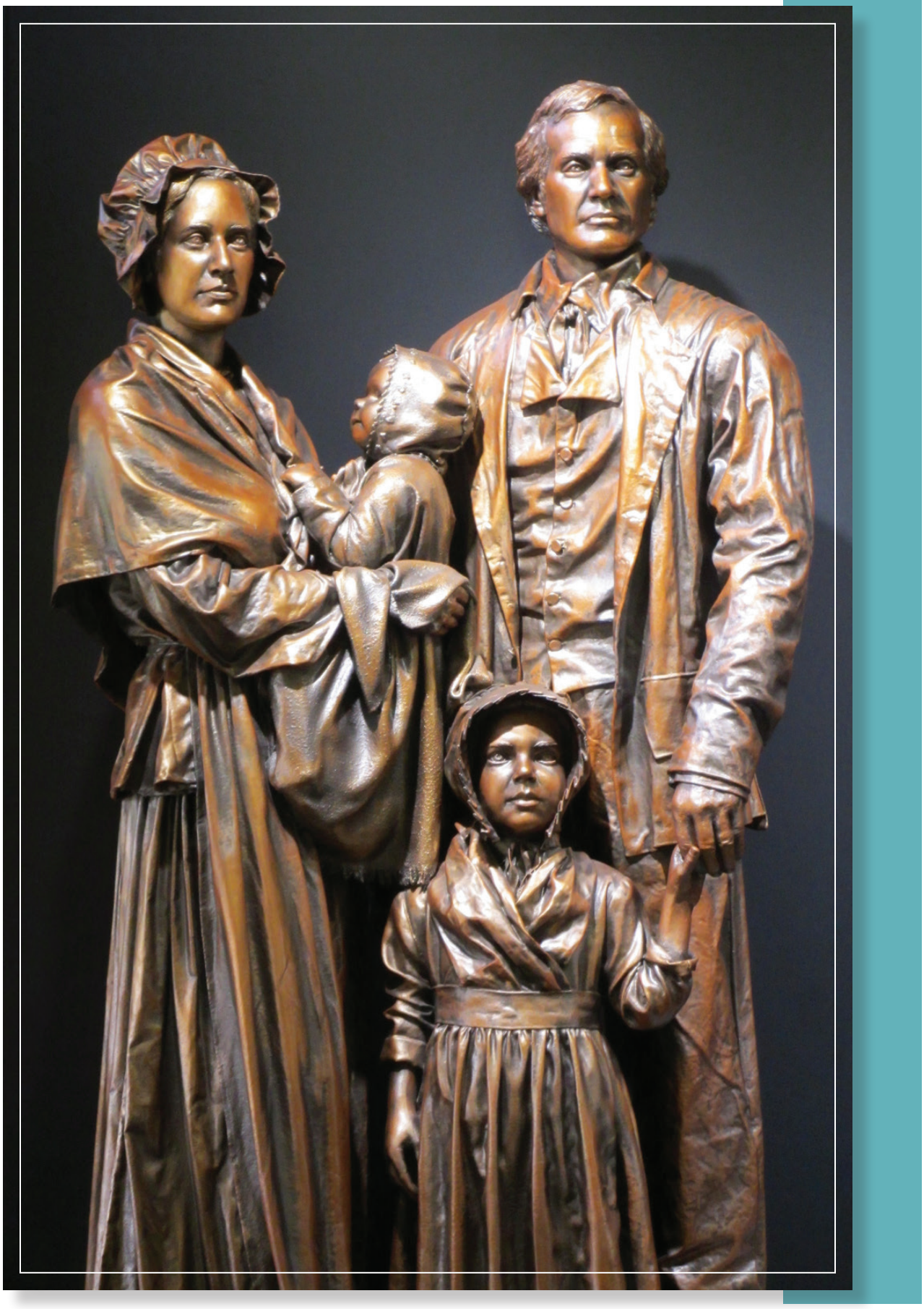

Appendixes

Appendix A: Enabling Legislation and Legislative Acts for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park

Enabling Legislation: Public Law 64-160, 39 Stat. 385 – July, 1916

July 17, 1916.
[H. R. 8351.]
[Public, No. 160.]

CHAP. 247.—An Act To accept a deed of gift or conveyance from the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America, of land near the town of Hodgenville, county of Larue, State of Kentucky, embracing the homestead of Abraham Lincoln and the log cabin in which he was born, together with the memorial hall inclosing the same; and further, to accept an assignment or transfer of an endowment fund of $50,000 in relation thereto.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the United States of America hereby accepts title to the lands mentioned in the deed of gift or conveyance now in possession of the Secretary of War, together with all the buildings and appurtenances thereon, especially the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born and the memorial hall inclosing the same, which deed of conveyance was executed on the eleventh day of April, nineteen hundred and sixteen, by the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America, describing certain lands situated near the town of Hodgenville, county of Larue, State of Kentucky, which lands are more particularly identified and described in said deed or conveyance. The title to such lands, buildings, and appurtenances is accepted upon the terms and conditions stated in said deed or conveyance, namely: That the land therein described, together with the buildings and appurtenances thereon, shall be forever dedicated to the purposes of a national park or reservation, the United States of America agreeing to protect and preserve the said lands, buildings, and appurtenances, and especially the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born and the memorial hall inclosing the same, from spoliation, destruction, and further disintegration, to the end that they may be preserved for all time, so far as may be; and further agreeing that there shall never be any charge or fee made to or asked from the public for admission to the said park or reservation.

Birthplace of Abraham Lincoln.
Acceptance of title to land, etc., Hodgenville, Ky.

To be a national park.

SEC. 2. That the United States of America hereby also accepts title to the endowment fund of $50,000 mentioned in the assignment and transfer, now in the possession of the Secretary of War, which assignment and transfer was executed on the eleventh day of April, nineteen hundred and sixteen, by the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America, transferring and turning over all its right, title, and interest in and to said endowment fund, heretofore invested in certain stocks, bonds, and securities held and owned by the Lincoln Farm Association, and more particularly identified and described in said assignment and transfer. The title to said endowment fund is accepted upon the terms and conditions stated in said assignment and transfer, namely, that the United States of America shall forever keep the said tract of land described in said deed, together with the buildings and appurtenances thereunto belonging, dedicated to the purpose of a national park or reservation, and that there shall never be any charge or fee made to or asked from the public for admission to the said park or reservation; and further, shall forever protect, preserve, and maintain said land, buildings, and appurtenances, and especially the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was

Endowment fund accepted.

Conditions.

91890°—VOL 39—PT 1——25

born and the memorial hall inclosing the same, from spoliation, destruction, and further disintegration, to the end that they may be preserved for all time, as far as may be, as a national park or reservation.

Execution of acceptance.

SEC. 3. That the President of the United States of America and the Secretary of War are hereby authorized to execute, in the name of the United States of America, such instrument or instruments as may be or may become necessary to comply with or carry out the terms and conditions of such gift or gifts and to secure the full benefit therefrom.

Control, etc., by Secretary of War.

SEC. 4. That upon the passage of this Act and the vesting of the title to the property accepted thereunder in the United States, it shall be under the control of the Secretary of War and administered under such regulations not inconsistent with law as he may from time to time prescribe.

Approved, July 17, 1916.

Authorization to Acquire Knob Creek Farm: Public Law 105-355, 112 Stat. 3265 – November, 1998

SEC. 510. ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, KENTUCKY. 16 USC 218a.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon acquisition of the land known as Knob Creek Farm pursuant to subsection (b), the boundary of the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site, established by the Act of July 17, 1916 (39 Stat. 385, chapter 247; 16 U.S.C. 211 et seq.), is revised to include such land. Lands acquired pursuant to this section shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior as part of the historic site.

(b) ACQUISITION OF KNOB CREEK FARM.—The Secretary of the Interior may acquire, by donation only, the approximately 228 acres of land known as Knob Creek Farm in Larue County, Kentucky, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Knob Creek Farm Unit, Abraham Lincoln National Historic Site", numbered 338/80,077, and dated October 1998. Such map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(c) STUDY AND REPORT.—The Secretary of the Interior shall study the Knob Creek Farm in Larue County, Kentucky, and not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit a report to the Congress containing the results of the study. The purpose of the study shall be to: Deadline.

(1) Identify significant resources associated with the Knob Creek Farm and the early boyhood of Abraham Lincoln.

(2) Evaluate the threats to the long-term protection of the Knob Creek Farm's cultural, recreational, and natural resources.

(3) Examine the incorporation of the Knob Creek Farm into the operations of the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site and establish a strategic management plan for implementing such incorporation. In developing the plan, the Secretary shall—

(A) determine infrastructure requirements and property improvements needed at Knob Creek Farm to meet National Park Service standards;

(B) identify current and potential uses of Knob Creek Farm for recreational, interpretive, and educational opportunities; and

(C) project costs and potential revenues associated with acquisition, development, and operation of Knob Creek Farm.

(d) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out subsection (c).

Landsnet Annotated Legislative Summary

AREA: ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, KENTUCKY

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*AUTHORIZATION
Act of July 17, 1916 (P.L. 64-160, 39 Stat. 385), designated area as a national park under jurisdiction of Secretary of War.

Executive Order No. 6166, June 10, 1933, ordered transfer of jurisdiction to Secretary of Interior, to be effective August 10, 1933.

Act of September 8, 1959 (P.L. 86-231, 73 Stat. 466) re-designated the park as a national historic site.

Act of March 30, 2009 (P.L. 111-11), re-designated the unit as a national historical park.

ACQUISITION AUTHORITY
Act of July 17, 1916, authorized acquisition of the site by deed of gift or conveyance from the Lincoln Farm Association.

Act of November 6, 1998 (P.L. 105-355, 112 Stat. 3265), authorized acquisition, by donation only, of 228 acres of land known as Knob Creek Farm, such land to be included in boundary upon acquisition.

ESTABLISHED
July 17, 1916

BOUNDARY REVISIONS
Act of May 27, 1949 (P.L. 81-77, 63 Stat. 140) revised boundary to include an additional 6 acres as described.

Act of November 6, 1998, authorized revision of boundary to include, upon acquisition, the 228-acre property known as Knob Creek Farm.

ACREAGE LIMITATIONS
None

STATUTORY CEILING FOR LAND ACQUISITION
None

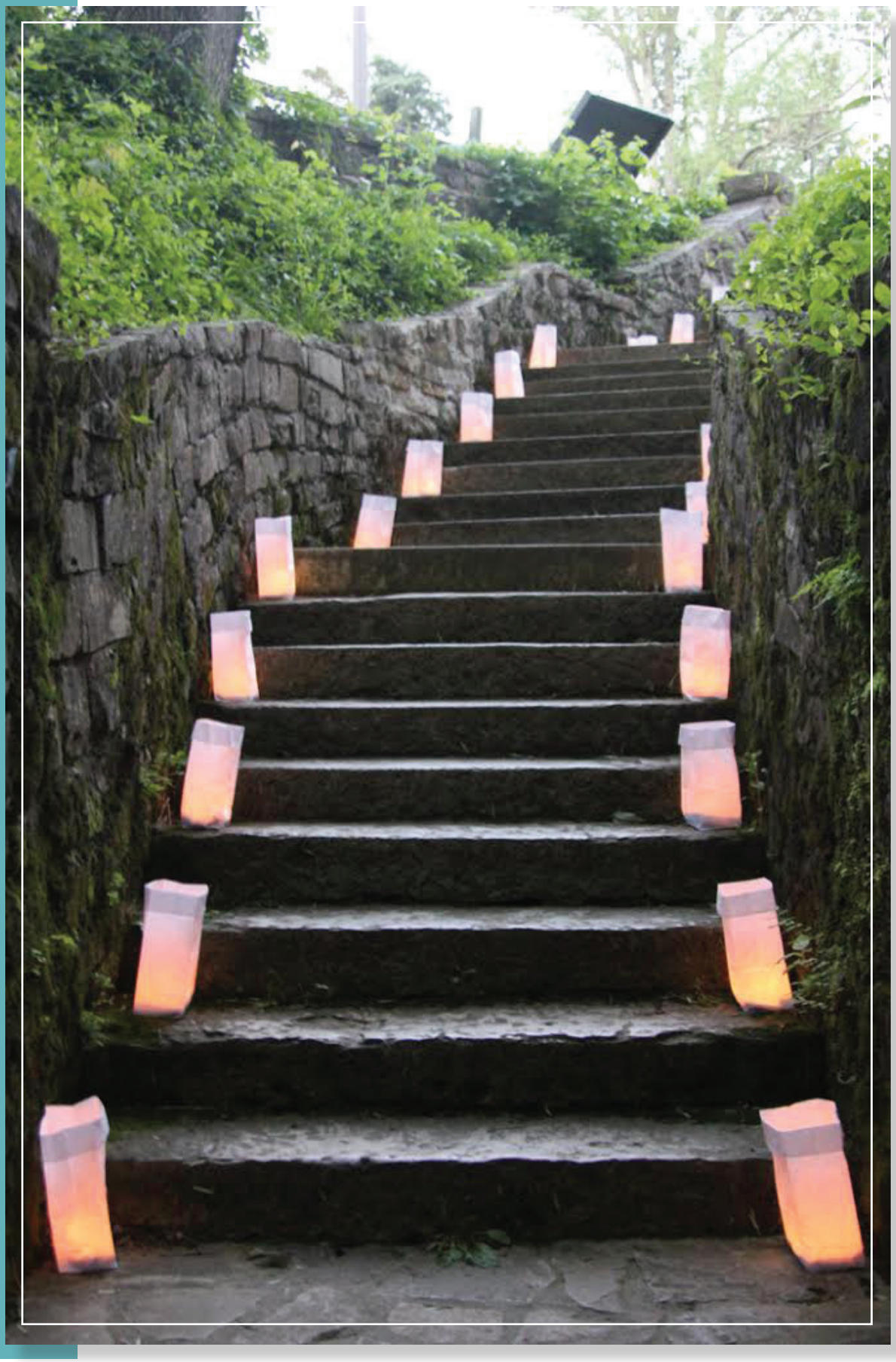
AREA NUMBERS
MIS -5540

*Denotes section revised Revised March 30, 2009

Appendix B:
Inventory of Administrative Commitments

Park Unit	Name	Agreement Type	Start/ Expiration Dates	Stakeholders	Purpose	Notes
General	Eastern National	Cooperating association		Eastern National ABLI NPS	Agreement defines the relationship between the National Park Service and Eastern National for retail services	Servicewide agreement
General	Fire departments	Memorandum of understanding	August 2012 / August 2017	Buffalo Fire Department Rolling Fork Fire Department ABLI	Memorandum of understanding defines relationship between National Park Service and fire agencies to provide fire protection services	
General	Sheriff's office	Memorandum of understanding	August 2012 / August 2017	LaRue County Sheriff's Office ABLI	Memorandum of understanding defines relationship between National Park Service and sheriff's office for law enforcement and emergency services	
General	Mammoth Cave law enforcement and administrative services	Memorandum of understanding	Internal agreement	MACA ABLI		In development
General	Relationship with Lincoln Museum (needs to be formalized through cooperative agreement)					Needs to be developed, not a current commitment
Boyhood Home Unit	Petroleum well (oil line / natural gas line)	Deeded easement		Ashland Oil		Unknown if this pipeline is still active
Boyhood Home Unit	Deeded right-of-way to access building beyond Knob Creek	Deeded easement			East side of US Highway 31E	

Park Unit	Name	Agreement Type	Start/ Expiration Dates	Stakeholders	Purpose	Notes
Birthplace Unit; Boyhood Home Unit	Telephone line	Rights-of-way		Windstream Communications	Rights-of-way allow for telephone services at the NPS visitor center, maintenance facilities, and park housing units, and other NPS facilities; also provide cable television services at housing units	Not formalized
Birthplace Unit; Birthplace Unit Picnic Area; Boyhood Home Unit	Electric power line	Rights-of-way		Kentucky Utilities	Rights-of-way provide power to the visitor center, maintenance shop, park housing units, the memorial building, restrooms at the picnic area, and other NPS facilities	Not formalized
Birthplace Unit; Birthplace Unit Picnic Area; Boyhood Home Unit	Water pipeline	Rights-of-way		LaRue County Water District	Rights-of-way provide water to the visitor center, maintenance facilities, park housing units, the restrooms at the picnic area, and the fire hydrant at the Boyhood Home Unit	Not formalized
Birthplace Unit; Birthplace Unit Picnic Area	Sewer pipeline	Rights-of-way		Hodgenville Water	Rights-of-way allow for sewer services at the visitor center, maintenance facilities, park housing units, and the restrooms at the picnic area	Not formalized
Birthplace Unit	Keith Road	Road right-of-way		Kentucky Transportation Cabinet	Road right-of-way	
Birthplace Unit	US Highway 31E	Road right-of-way		Kentucky Transportation Cabinet	Road right-of-way	
Birthplace Unit	Lincoln General Store	Special use permit	August 20, 2012 / August 20, 2017	Lincoln General Store (Gary McDowell, owner)	Permits access across park land for an entrance into the business off of Keith Road, permits location of water lines that were inadvertently placed on NPS property	



Southeast Region Foundation Document Recommendation
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park

October 2015

This Foundation Document has been prepared as a collaborative effort between park and regional staff and is recommended for approval by the Southeast Regional Director.

11/5/15

RECOMMENDED
David Wyrick, Acting Superintendent, Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park **Date**

11·10·15

APPROVED
Stan Austin, Regional Director, Southeast Region **Date**

As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

ALBI 338/128764
November 2015

Foundation Document • Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE • U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR