



The Gettysburg Quarterly

Economic Stimulus Funds Benefit Gettysburg

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is funding four major projects at Gettysburg National Military Park. The Recovery Act is helping create jobs and generating economic activity in the Gettysburg area and accomplishing projects of lasting value – for the American people and the preservation of the Gettysburg battlefield.

In November, the park completed its first Recovery Act project which replaced the waterline that serves the McMillan Woods Youth Campground along West Confederate Avenue. The project's cost was \$281,247 and Classic Site Solutions of Springfield, Massachusetts, was the general contractor. This was one of the first Recovery Act projects contracted, underway, and completed in the National Park Service Northeast Region.

The Recovery Act is providing \$344,880 for a major rehabilitation of the historic Klingel house on the battlefield. Archeology is underway now and a historic structures report is being prepared to guide the park during the rehabilitation project. The Klingel house's location on the Emmitsburg Road Ridge north of the Peach Orchard placed it in contested territory during the battle of Gettysburg.

On July 2, men of Carr's Union brigade fortified themselves within the house during Confederate attacks, knocking out the chinking in the exposed log walls in order to fire against enemy infantry. On July 3, the building was used to shield and screen Confederate artillery in the



The Klingel House, along Emmitsburg Road, will benefit from Recovery Act funds.

field just west of the house preparatory to and during the cannonade prior to the Pickett-Pettigrew Charge.

The Baltimore Street restrooms at the Soldiers' National Cemetery will be renovated through Recovery Act funding and ten boilers in historic structures on the battlefield will be replaced with newer, more energy-efficient models. The energy-efficient boilers will improve environmental sustainability in the park and set an example for how visitors can adopt these "best practices" at home. The park is preparing to release bids for the cemetery restrooms and boiler replacement projects in the spring of 2010.

The park's projects are part of a \$750 million investment in the National Park Service and a \$3 billion total investment

in all Department of the Interior agencies. All the projects are long-standing priorities of the National Park Service and meet the criteria put forth in the Recovery Act – that a project address the Department's highest priority mission-based needs; generate the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time; and create lasting value for the American public.

"Thanks to Recovery Act funding, Gettysburg's visitors will have access to improved facilities, and improved preservation of historic houses," said J. Mel Poole, Interim Superintendent at Gettysburg NMP.

National parks and their visitors generate \$11 billion annually in economic benefits nationwide.

Mel Poole, Interim Superintendent



NPS Northeast Regional Director Dennis R. Reidenbach named Mel Poole (pictured above) interim superintendent of Gettysburg NMP in November. Poole, who is currently superintendent of Catoctin Mountain Park in Thurmont, Maryland, assumed his duties on November 23, 2009.

He is a graduate of Virginia Tech in landscape horticulture and has also completed post-graduate studies in environmental planning at Tech.

Previous NPS assignments include Acting Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway, (VA-MD), White House Liaison (DC), National Capital Parks-East (eastern DC and southern MD), National Capital Regional Office (DC, MD, VA, WV) and President's Park (DC), where he directed the opening of the White House Visitor Center.

Reidenbach also named Gettysburg Chief Ranger Brion FitzGerald as acting deputy superintendent.

The selection of the new park superintendent is expected in early 2010.

Updates on Gettysburg Community Initiatives

The Lincoln Train Station

Acquisition of the historic Gettysburg Train Station is still pending. Congressman Todd Platts has introduced legislation to add the property to the park boundary. Discussions are continuing with the CSX Corporation, which owns all the land between the railroad track and the edge of the station.

David Wills House

Main Street Gettysburg is doing an excellent job of operating the David Wills House, under a Memorandum of Understanding with the park. They welcomed more than 33,000 visitors in 2008. Main Street's first year of operations of the museum was financially successful and numerous special events and programs are planned for the museum for 2010. In November, a newly restored portrait of David Wills' father was hung over the fireplace in the law office and other missing historic details filled in, such as books and curtains, to give the law office and Lincoln bedroom a "lived in" look. To learn more go to www.davidwillshouse.org.

Freedom Transit

Adams County Transit Authority is just completing its first six months of operations for "Freedom Transit," a new shuttle service that started in July 2009 connecting the park and the town of Gettysburg. To date, ridership has been low, but we have three years to work together to build up patronage in order to continue to qualify for Pennsylvania Rural Transit subsidy funds. Next time you're visiting Gettysburg, consider using the Freedom Transit shuttle. For more information go to www.ridethetrolley.com.

Directional Signs

New wayfinding signs for downtown Gettysburg are in the final stages of approval at PennDOT. The Borough of Gettysburg will be installing the signs as soon as the review is complete and they are fabricated. Our hope is that by next spring the visitor experience in the town of Gettysburg will be improved by the new systems of signs for both vehicles and pedestrians.



Freedom Transit, the new shuttle connecting the park Museum and Visitor Center with downtown Gettysburg and the David Wills House. Photo courtesy of ACTA.

Educational Broadcast Launching February 12

“Big Deal at Gettysburg: The Value of Historical Places”

Gettysburg National Military Park and the Gettysburg Foundation are producing an educational broadcast, entitled “Big Deal at Gettysburg: The Value of Historical Places,” to be shown on February 12, 2010 – Abraham Lincoln’s birthday.

The broadcast will follow the story of business executive Elizabeth Grayburn as she visits Gettysburg to finalize a valuable land development deal. Will she succeed in securing key Gettysburg properties for her firm and earning a promotion, or will she leave Gettysburg understanding that historic value sometimes trumps property value? Students will follow her journey with her teenage son from the historic Spangler farm, to the David Wills House, to the Soldiers’ National Cemetery as she rediscovers a battle and a speech that shaped a nation.



The broadcast has an expected audience of 10 million school children nationwide and is the latest in a series that has been awarded two Tellys for excellence in children’s television programming.

This year’s broadcast is made possible through a generous gift to the Gettys-

burg Foundation from Bob and Marion Wilson and the Winnick Family Foundation, and is a program of the Ford Motor Company Fund Education Center.

For information about viewing the educational broadcast in schools go to the website www.gettysburgfoundation.org and register.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Gettysburg National Military Park, established in 1895, is the site of the great Civil War battle that repulsed the second Confederate invasion of the North. The mission of the National Park Service at Gettysburg is to preserve and protect the resources associated with the battle of Gettysburg and the Soldiers’ National Cemetery and provide an understanding of the events that occurred there within the context of American history.

Gettysburg National Military Park

1195 Baltimore Pike, Suite 100
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325

Phone

(717) 334-1124

E-mail

gett_superintendent@nps.gov

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Gettysburg Foundation Names New President

The Gettysburg Foundation welcomed Rear Adm. Richard A. Buchanan USN (ret.) as president in October.

Buchanan previously served as president and CEO of the United States Navy Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C. Before that, he was vice president of naval systems at Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems and has also worked at Electronic Data Systems as the deputy for strategic operations on the Navy Marine Corps Intranet Program. Following his retirement from military duty, Buchanan was the vice president of corporate services for First National Bank of Omaha and the president of the Midlands Venture Forum in Nebraska and Iowa.

“Rear Adm. Buchanan’s experience in the military, in finance, and with nonprofit organizations represents the perfect leadership mix for the Gettysburg Foundation,” said Foundation Chairman Robert A. Kinsley. “His skill set is a perfect complement to our unique and important partnership with the National Park Service.”

“I am honored to be part of the Gettysburg Foundation’s partnership with the National Park Service. The mere mention of the word ‘Gettysburg’ strikes a chord with people all over the world, and our mission here is so important to Gettysburg’s ongoing message and preservation,” said Buchanan. “As a veteran of our armed forces, it is an amazing experience to work in a place that has such military and historic significance to our nation and that reflects the bravery and sacrifice of so many as they fought for their beliefs and for our country.”

Buchanan succeeded Robert C. Wilburn, who retired from the Foundation this summer. For more information about the Gettysburg Foundation go to www.gettysburgfoundation.org.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Gettysburg National Military Park
1195 Baltimore Pike, Ste. 100
Gettysburg, PA 17325

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Gettysburg Offers Special Winter Lecture Series - “Gettysburg: Perspectives on the Battle and Campaign”

Weapons of the battle, Lee’s retreat and Meade’s pursuit from Gettysburg, and the experience of battle on July 2 are among the topics of the 2010 National Park Service series of free winter lectures, “Gettysburg: Perspectives on the Battle and Campaign” at Gettysburg National Military Park.

National Park Rangers will offer the programs on weekends beginning Sunday, January 10 and running through Sunday, February 28. They are free of charge and will be held at the new Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center, in the Ford Motor Company Fund Education Center. Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. and last approximately one hour.

JANUARY 10 - COLONEL SHARPE AND THE BUREAU OF MILITARY INFORMATION – Angie Atkinson

JANUARY 16 - THINKING BIGGER – Gettysburg in Space and Time - Troy Harman

JANUARY 23 - CIVIL WAR MALADIES – The Cases of Robert E. Lee, A. P. Hill and Richard Ewell - Matt Atkinson

JANUARY 24 - E. P. ALEXANDER AND RESOLVING CONFLICTING ACCOUNTS OF THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG - Karlton Smith

JANUARY 30 - THE WEAPONS OF GETTYSBURG – Tom Holbrook

FEBRUARY 6 - THE VETERANS AND THE BATTLE-FIELD: How Veterans Shaped the Gettysburg Battlefield Park- John Heiser

FEBRUARY 7 - “TO JUDGE AND ACT FOR MYSELF” – The Experiences of Colonel Charles Wainwright, Soldier & Democrat – Bert Barnett

FEBRUARY 13 - “UNWILLING WITNESS TO THE RAGE OF GETTYSBURG” – The Experience of Battle on July 2 – D. Scott Hartwig

FEBRUARY 14 - THE FEDERAL FIGHT WHEN IT WASN’T – The 24 Hours Between July 1 Collapse and July 2 Battle - Chuck Teague

FEBRUARY 20 - LEE’S RETREAT AND MEADE’S PURSUIT - Troy Harman

FEBRUARY 21 - GETTYSBURG, THE TURNING POINT . . . BUT NOT AS YOU THINK – Bill Hewitt

FEBRUARY 27 - “MORE MAY HAVE BEEN REQUIRED OF THEM THAN THEY WERE ABLE TO PERFORM” – Pickett’s Charge – Matt Atkinson

FEBRUARY 28 - PETTIGREW AND TRIMBLE: New Insights Into the Other Half of Pickett’s Charge – Karlton Smith