Harpers Ferry Center
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Monocacy National Battlefield
Long-Range Interpretive Plan

Monocacy National Battlefield
Long-Range Interpretive Plan

September 2009

Prepared by:
Monocacy National Battlefield
National Capitol Region
Harpers Ferry Center Interpretive Planning

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cover Photo: Worthington House
Photo Credits: All photo credits are NPS

The Planning Process

This Long-Range Interpretive Plan outlines recommendations for future interpretive services, facilities, and media. Park staff, historians, partners, and stakeholders worked together to develop this plan. Our goal is to promote Monocacy National Battlefield resource values through specially planned visitor experiences and excellence in interpretation.

This Long-Range Interpretive Plan (LRIP) recommends actions that should occur over the next seven to ten years. It identifies park themes, describes visitors experience goals, and recommends a wide variety of personal and non-personal interpretive services and outreach activities that will best communicate the park's purpose, significance and themes. In concert with the park's Annual Implementation Plan and Interpretive Database, it completes the park's Comprehensive Interpretive Plan, as established in DO-6. In addition, this planning process has been customized to meet Monocacy National Battlefield needs, conditions, and special circumstances. The ultimate product is a cost-effective, tightly focused, high quality park interpretive program that achieves management goals, provides appropriate visitor opportunities, and facilitates desired visitor experiences.

A scoping trip was conducted on June 17, 2008. The project agreement was signed on July 29, 2008. The Foundations Workshop was held August 19-20, 2008 at the Historic Preservation Training Center with 19 participants representing park staff, partners, local community members and other regional NPS staff in attendance. The Recommendations Workshop was held December 2-4, 2008 at the Historic Preservation Training Center with 14 participants representing park staff, partners, local community members, National Capital Region staff, and Harpers Ferry Center media specialists. The park management team met to determine the park priorities and implementation strategy in February 2009.

Barring legislative changes or major new revelations, the foundational elements expressed in this LRIP – purpose, significance, themes, and visitor experience goals – will remain constant over the life of the plan. Specific recommendations about media and programs may need to be updated as staffing, funding, technology, or resource conditions change. Further design documents must be produced to implement some of the goals and recommendations in this plan.

Plan Highlights

During the next 10 years Monocacy National Battlefield interpretive services will provide visitors with opportunities to increase their understanding and appreciation for the park and its resources; to engage in local and regional educational opportunities; and to participate in nationally significant events.

- Expand website to include more interactive components, education resources, and research as well as creating and posting lesson plans and more.
- Create a pavilion near the visitor center.
- Develop a visitor experience plan to include waysides, audio, video, tactile components, 3-D models, and clear etch panels.
- Increase interpretive opportunities with local, current and potential park partners, particularly in conjunction with the Civil War Sesquicentennial and the National Park Service Centennial.
- Create a trail from the visitor center to Monocacy Junction.
- Develop an historic furnishings plan and exhibit concept plan in order to open the first floor of the Worthington House to visitors.
- Develop and implement an exhibit concept plan for the Stone Tenant House on Thomas Farm.
- Create a picnic area.
- Improve Gambrill Mill boardwalk trail.
- Establish an educational outreach position.
- Realign Thomas Farm trail to increase opportunities to understand the battle better.
- Create and publish additional printed materials including brochures and Park Ranger Brett Spaulding's research.

Table of Contents

The Planning Process

Plan Highlights

Foundation for Planning
Site Background 1
Legislative Background 1
Park Purpose 3
Park Significance 3
Fundamental Resources and Values 4
Interpretive Themes 5
Management Goals 9
Desired Visitor Experiences 10
Visitation and Visitor Use 11
Issues and Influences Affecting Interpretation 12

Existing Conditions **15**
Information and Orientation 17
On-site Facilities 17
Interpretive Media 20
Interpretive Media Assets 27
Personal Services 28
Partnerships 32

Recommendations **34**
Information and Orientation 36
On-site Facilities 36
Interpretive Media 39
Personal Services 42
Partnerships 44
Research and Evaluation Needs 44
Staffing and Training Needs 45
Implementation Priorities 46

Appendices **52**
Appendix A: The Planning Team 53
Appendix B: Accessibility Guidelines 54
Appendix C: Interpretive Services Matrix by Theme 55

Foundation for Planning

"If the National Government is to notice this battlefield at all, surely it will do so in a way worthy of this great nation and appropriate to the vital importance of the sanguinary struggle that took place there at so critical a moment."

- Glenn Worthington, Eyewitness and author of *Fighting for Time*

Site Background

Monocacy National Battlefield is located just south of Frederick, Maryland, at a crossroads of history and transportation. Primarily recognized for the July 9, 1864 "Battle that saved Washington, D.C.," the park encompasses major rail and highway corridors, represents over 10,000 years of human history, and provides opportunities for a variety of visitor and recreational use.

The surviving historic agricultural landscape over which the Battle of Monocacy was fought is still largely intact despite significant modern encroachments. Six farmsteads comprising 1,647 acres have been purchased and essentially retain their Civil War-era landscape appearance.

The Monocacy River meanders approximately two miles through the battlefield. Access points provide visitors with opportunities to fish. Canoe access is more difficult and is encouraged at other points along the Monocacy.

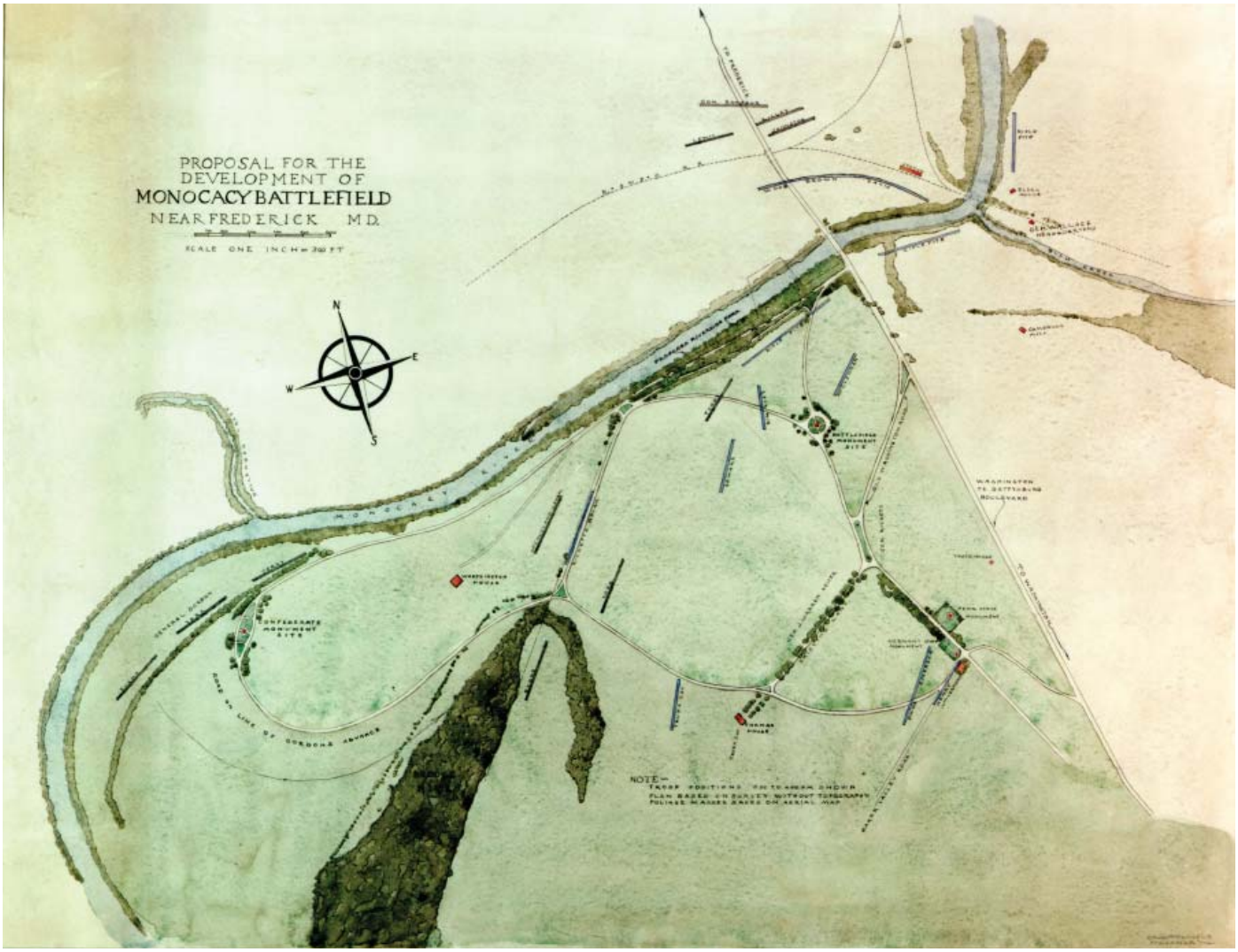
The CSX Railroad (Baltimore & Ohio during the Civil War) also extends through the national battlefield as does the historic Urbana Pike (formerly known as Georgetown Pike). I-270, a major commuter highway corridor, bisects the park. These transportation routes provide historical context as well as reminders of the changes that have increased and diversified the population of Frederick since the Civil War.

Organized commemoration of the Battle of Monocacy began in 1889 when veterans formed a national association to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the battle. In 1928 the Monocacy Battle Field Memorial Association, led by Glenn Worthington, lobbied Congress to create Monocacy National Military Park. The legislation was signed in 1934, but did not include park boundaries or funding for land acquisition. Subsequent legislation in 1976 established a park boundary, provided for land acquisition, and changed the name to Monocacy National Battlefield.

Legislative Background

March 1, 1929 – Public Law 70-898
H.R. 11722 – Authorization to purchase and maintain up to one acre of land to commemorate the Battle of Monocacy, Maryland.

An encampment is held annually to commemorate the Battle of Monocacy.



During the 1920s and 30s Glenn Worthington was one of the local leaders who helped to establish Monocacy National Military Park, later to become Monocacy National Battlefield.

June 21, 1934 – Public Law 73-443
H.R. 7982 – Establish Monocacy National Military Park to commemorate the Battle of Monocacy, Maryland and to preserve for historical purposes the breastworks, earthworks, walls, or other defenses or shelters used by the armies therein, the battlefield at Monocacy.

July 7, 1964 – Public Law 88-357
H.R. 9094 – Designate July 9, 1964 as "Monocacy Battle Centennial."

October 21, 1976 – Public Law 94-578
H.R. 3830 – Change "Monocacy National Military Park" to "Monocacy National Battlefield." Authorized boundary and funding for land acquisition.

December 10, 1991 – Public Law 102-202
H.R. 990 – Authorize $20,000,000 for land acquisition at Monocacy National Battlefield.

Mission, Purpose and Significance

National Park Service Mission

The National Park Service mission is to preserve unimpaired natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource

conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

Planning focuses first on why a park was established and what conditions should exist there before delving into details about specific actions.

Park Purpose

Park purpose statements describe why an area was set aside and what specific purposes exist for a park. Purpose statements are derived from legislation, legislative history, public participation, and public rule making. Purpose statements may reflect upon traditional purposes of preservation and enjoyment, the linkages between the management unit and its cultural and natural resources, connections with groups and areas external to the park, and language of the enabling legislation. Additional purposes may have emerged since this area was originally set aside.

The purpose of Monocacy National Battlefield, as described in the 2008 draft General Management Plan, is to preserve the breastworks, earthworks, walls, and other defenses and shelters used by the Confederate and Union armies on July 9, 1864, as well as the buildings, roads, and outlines of the battlefield; to commemorate the Battle of Monocacy: and to provide opportunities for visitors to understand and appreciate the significance of the Battle of Monocacy within the full context of the Civil War and American history.

Park Significance

Park significance statements describe the distinctiveness of the combined resources of a park. The statements can reflect upon natural, cultural, scientific, recreational, inspirational, and other resources. The statements embody the power of the place through a factual representation of what makes this place special. Usually stated as facts placed in relevant context, these statements summarize the essence of the importance of this park's resources to our natural and cultural heritage. Significances may evolve over time as a result of discoveries and updates to our knowledge about this place.

From the 2008 draft General Management Plan, Monocacy National Battlefield is significant for the following reasons:

- The July 9, 1864, battle where a small Union army successfully delayed a larger Confederate army's advance on Washington, D.C., thereby providing sufficient time for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant to send federal reinforcements to the U.S. capital and prevent its capture. This Confederate campaign, its third and final attempt to bring the war to the North, also was designed to divert pressure from Gen. Robert E. Lee's besieged army at Petersburg, Virginia, and to lessen President Abraham Lincoln's chances for reelection.
- Other important events associated with the Civil War, including the 1862 Maryland Campaign and finding of Gen. Robert E. Lee's Special Order 191 outlining his plan of attack, the 1863 Gettysburg Campaign, and the August 1864 meeting of Generals Grant and Sheridan at the Thomas House to plan the Shenandoah Valley Campaign.
- A national battlefield where visitors can experience a historic landscape, structures, and transportation corridors that have changed little since the Battle of Monocacy. As a result, it offers many opportunities for understanding the evolution of settlement in the region and the Civil War within the broader context of American history.

Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resources and values of Monocacy National Battlefield are specifically designated resources and values that provide the foundation for all planning and management at the park. The particular features, systems, processes, experiences, scenes, sounds, and smells that are keys to achieving the park's purpose and maintaining its significance constitute its fundamental resources and values. These are the resources and values that-if absent-would cause the historic site not to be a unit of the National Park System.

The fundamental resources and values for Monocacy National Battlefield were developed by park staff members in 2008 while drafting the Resource Stewardship Strategy. The park's fundamental resources and values include the following:

1. Natural resources related to the Battle of Monocacy.

2. Cultural resources related to the Battle of Monocacy.

3. Soundscape and viewshed: Monocacy National Battlefield provides an opportunity for visitors to experience a landscape that has changed little since the Battle of Monocacy. The ability of visitors to immerse themselves in this landscape is fundamental to their understanding of the events associated with the Battle of Monocacy.

The protected soundscape and viewshed means that visitors today might hear the cry of the red-tailed hawk and see a fox run across a field just as a soldier may have in 1864.

Interpretive Themes

Primary interpretive themes are those ideas or concepts about Monocacy National Battlefield that are key to helping visitors gain an understanding of the park's significance and resources. The themes, which are based on the park's purpose and significance, provide the foundation for interpretive programs and media in the park. The themes do not include everything that may be interpreted, but they do address the ideas that are critical to a visitor's understanding and appreciation of the park's significance. Effective interpretation is achieved when visitors are able to associate resources and their values and consequently derive something meaningful from their experiences.

The themes are listed in no priority order but have been numbered for easy reference. Stories and associated topics that can be the basis for interpretive services have been listed below each theme statement.

1. The defeat of federal forces at the Battle of Monocacy prevented a successful attack on the U.S. capital by the Confederate Army during its third and last offensive in the North.

    - Personal experiences of soldiers involved in the battle (personal stories, feelings, etc.)
    - From Union perspective (defeat)
    - From Confederate perspective (victory)
    - Battle tactics/actions
    - From Union perspective (defenders)
    - From Confederate perspective (attackers)
    - Battle aftermath/result/ramifications
    - Casualties; relief in Washington, D.C.; impact on local community
    - Strategy of the 3rd invasion of the North
    - Point Lookout
    - Washington, D.C.
    - Ransoming of Hagerstown, Middletown, & Frederick

2. By virtue of its crossroads location, Monocacy Junction was the site of many important events relevant to the Civil War.

    - Importance of the crossroads
        - Railroad: B&O President
        - Roads
        - Bridges
        - River
        - Telegraph
    - Site of important events
        - 1862 Maryland campaign and the presence of military hospitals in Frederick
        - Special Orders 191
        - Destruction of bridges in 1862
        - Monocacy Regiment (14th New Jersey)
        - Encampment area throughout the war
        - Recruitment site for African American soldiers in 1864-65 (1 of 2 in western Maryland)
        - Council of War in 1864
        - Battle of Monocacy
    - Crossroads represents ethnic, racial, gender, culture, national differences found here
        - Evolution of settlement

3. The events and issues relevant to the Civil War in Maryland are revealed in the natural, historical, and geographical elements that comprise the Monocacy Battlefield landscape.

    - Historic structures
        - How were they used (ice house, well house, privy, corn crib, field hospital, and hiding places)

    - Were they damaged? How were reparations made?
- Why did Early choose the Georgetown Pike to march to D.C.?
- How did the citizens of Frederick react to military troops repeatedly moving through the area?
- How did citizens make the transportation hub useful to them when dealing with Confederates coming to the area?
- How can we relate election year events and support for the Civil War to modern events?
- The location of the railroad and river affected strategy and defense.
- Why did some regiments protect and some regiments want to destroy this junction in the Civil War?
- What was the environmental impact of the war?
- What were the terrain and historical landscape features in 1864 and how did they affect the Battle of Monocacy? Compare/contrast with existing features.
- Why did battle happen here and not somewhere else?
    - Physical place
    - Convergence
    - Transportation hub
    - Narrow corridor
    - Easy access to Pennsylvania
    - Proximity to DC and Baltimore
    - Railroad junction
    - Fords on the Potomac

4. The Battle of Monocacy, fought in a border state, revealed the divided loyalties of Maryland citizens relevant to the Civil War.

    - Maryland and the Frederick area had a large free black population larger than slave population
    - Runaway slaves
    - Helping escaped slaves and refugees
    - Court cases
    - Free blacks sold back into slavery upon conviction for crimes
    - Story of relationships between civilians and army personnel
    - How slavery in Maryland created inherent contradictions in survival during the Civil War
    - Confederate sympathizers in a Union state
    - Union sympathizers who were slaveholders
    - Relationships between local populace
    - Civilian populations adapting to times of war
    - Worthington family
    - Thomas family
    - Armies camping on farms
    - Gambrill family
    - Best family
    - Successive Union and Confederate presence
    - People of Frederick were nice to Union as well as Confederate prisoners

5. Confederate General Jubal Early's tactical success at Monocacy ironically resulted in a strategic loss by failing to capture the U.S. capital and by enhancing President Lincoln's popularity, which had been declining, shortly before the presidential election.

    - Lincoln's involvement in the campaign/Fort Stevens
    - Politics of 1864 and how the military factors into decision making
    - Win battle but lose objective
    - Jubal Early's lack of popularity

6. After the Confederate victory at Monocacy, a Union campaign was initiated to bring total destruction upon the Shenandoah Valley, end the war by any means necessary, and

gradually force the Confederates back to Petersburg.

- Waging total war on civilian populations
- Why the Shenandoah Valley was significant in 1864
- Aftermath for civilians and veterans
- Strategic plan to destroy the Valley to prevent further invasions

7. The commemorative efforts of Civil War veterans in the early 1900s served as a focal point for memorializing those who fought in the Battle of Monocacy and also helped to foster reconciliation between North and South. Monocacy National Battlefield continues to commemorate and memorialize those events within the broader context of the Civil War.

- Veterans of Monocacy erected monuments to commemorate their participation and their comrades
- Held reunions
- Union and Confederate perspectives
- Aftermath/impact on G. Worthington
- How Civil War has been commemorated
- Civil War commemorations did not create national unity. Only the "white" north and south were unified.
- Civil War ended; segregation/ issues continued

8. As a unit of the National Park System and one of America's treasures, Monocacy National Battlefield preserves a natural landscape that provides opportunities for understanding, engaging in, and promoting environmental stewardship within and outside park boundaries.

- Historic and environmental stewardship
- Chesapeake Bay preservation issues
- Balancing preservation with current use
- Utilizing modern technology to maintain historic landscapes

Site Specific Stories and their connection to the Primary Themes

Best Farm:

- Military strategy (T-1).
- History of structures on the farm (T-3).
- Agricultural permitting and preservation (T-8).
- Transportation – B&O Railroad, Georgetown Pike (T-2).
- Special Order 191 (T-2).
- I-270 encroachment (T-8).
- Monuments (T-7).
- Pre-history (T-2).
- Early settlement by the Vincendieres (T-2).
- Slavery and the Underground Railroad (T-2 & 3).

Worthington Farm:

- Military strategy (T-1)
- History of structures on the farm (T-3).
- Agricultural permitting and preservation (T-8).
- The Worthington Family prior to battle, during, and after battle (T-4).
- McCausland's attacks (T-1).
- Use of Brooks Hill during attacks/natural history (T-3).
- Encroachment of I-270 and industry as seen across river (T-8).
- Changing landscape - trees/ encroachment - how it effects interpretation (T-3).
- Crossing at Worthington/ McKinney Ford - McCausland and Gordon (T-1).
- Glenn Worthington's experience during the battle and his involvement in the park's

preservation (T-4 & T-7).
- Slavery (T-4).
- General Breckinridge- his interaction with Mr. Worthington during the battle and setting up his headquarters on the Worthington Farm (T-1).

Thomas Farm:
- Military strategy (T-1)
- Agricultural permitting and preservation (T-8).
- The Thomas Family prior to battle, during, and after battle (T-4).
- Transportation - Georgetown Pike ran along the Thomas property, and prior to the covered wooden bridge, a ferry/ tavern site was located on the farm (T-2).
- Military strategy - both armies used natural and man-made features in their military strategy. Sharpshooters used the house, and infantry used the pike road as a natural breastwork (T-3).
- Architectural changes to the house in relation to the Battle of Monocacy (T-3).
- History of structures on the farm (T-3).
- I-270 encroachment (T-8).
- Gordon's attack on the Union soldiers (T-1).
- Vredenburg of the 14th NJ;

In 1864 Glenn Worthington was a young boy whose family farm was one of the primary battlegrounds. As an adult he wrote about his experience and became an advocate for battlefield protection.

protecting the family during the battle; knowing the family from when his unit was encamped at Camp Hooker earlier in the war (T-1 & T-4).
- Post battle - how the Thomas family, particularly Alice Thomas and Mamie Tyler, helped the soldiers (T-4).
- Council of War held by General Grant at the Thomas house in August 1864 (T-2).
- Monuments (T-7).

Gambrill Mill:
- Military strategy (T-1).
- History of structures on the farm (T-3).
- Agricultural permitting and preservation (T-8).
- The mill, built in 1830, was owned by James Gambrill at the time of the battle. Geographically it was close to the river and the railroad where General Lew Wallace would take a stand against the Confederate forces (T-2).
- The first artillery shots of the battle hit in the field between the mill and river killing several of the Union soldiers who had been camping there prior to the battle (T-3).
- Mr. Gambrill hid in the mill during the battle with three young men who had been impressed into the Union army and released (T-4).
- The farm was the site of the Union retreat at the end of the day (T-1).
- The mill was also used as a field hospital during the battle, although it was under fire most of the day (T-2).
- James Gambrill had divided loyalties. He was a Confederate sympathizer working and selling flour to the Union forces simply by virtue of the mill's location (T-4).

Management Goals

Park Priorities identified in the 2007 Core Operations Report:

1. Stabilize, preserve, protect, and maintain cultural resources, including historic structures, landscapes, archeological sites, and monuments that contribute to the significance of the national battlefield.
2. Manage, monitor, and protect natural resources to encourage biological diversity and avoid adverse impacts on the regional ecology, while protecting the quality and character of the national battlefield's cultural landscape.
3. Provide a full range of interpretive and educational programs to enhance public understanding and appreciation of the Battle of Monocacy.
4. Provide a safe and accessible environment for visitors, volunteers, and employees.
5. Maintain and expand partnerships to increase opportunities for learning about the Battle of Monocacy.
6. Maintain and foster a positive and productive work environment.

2008-2012 Strategic Plans:

In accordance with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993, Monocacy National Battlefield developed a strategic plan and management goals through 2012. The following goals address recreation, interpretation, and visitor experiences.

The outcomes or how well the park is achieving its visitor-related goals are measured annually at every unit of the National Park System through survey forms that are distributed to visitors at each NPS unit. Visitors send their completed survey forms to the University of Idaho where the data is collected and compiled for each

NPS unit. The survey results reflect visitor opinion about each park's facilities, services and recreational opportunities, as well as measures visitor understanding and appreciation of each NPS unit's significance.

Park management has set the GPRA long term goal that by September 30, 2012, 96% of visitors to Monocacy National Battlefield are satisfied with appropriate park facilities, services, and recreational opportunities.

The actual percentages for visitor satisfaction (2005 = 100%, 2006 = 94%, 2007 = 100%, and 2008 = 99%) reflect a consistency of service and satisfaction.

The long term goal that by September 30, 2012, 98% of Monocacy National Battlefield visitors understand the significance of the park was also set.

Park staff members believe that the visitor center exhibits contribute to the consistent scoring (2005 = 84%, 2006 = 100%, 2007 = 100%, and 2008 = 100%) for visitor understanding of the significance. The exhibits make a point about the park significance in a variety of ways so it is hard to miss.

Desired Visitor Experiences

Desired visitor experiences describe what physical, intellectual, and emotional experiences should be available for visitors to Monocacy National Battlefield. These experiences will be available to the degree possible to visitors of all abilities, including those with visual, auditory, mobility, or cognitive impairments.

Visitors to Monocacy National Battlefield will have opportunities to:

- Learn about the Battle of Monocacy, tactically and strategically, and its significance in the larger context of the Civil War.
- Learn about the leaders, the common soldiers, and the civilians involved with the Battle of Monocacy and how their personalities, decisions, and interactions affected the campaign of which Monocacy was a part.
- Seek the park as a place to enjoy the environment in a safe place.
- Be inspired by "higher ideals" invoked by Monocacy National Battlefield.

Participating in an infantry drill allows even very young visitors to experience the life of the common soldiers who fought at the Battle of Monocacy.

- Experience the beauty and solitude of Monocacy National Battlefield and to understand the importance of preserving our National Parks.
- Touch, feel, learn and appreciate Monocacy National Battlefield in ways that encourage them to become responsible stewards.
- Have accessible, clean, restroom facilities.
- Feel welcome by polite, well-informed staff willing and prepared to provide a brief orientation to the park, and to provide information to help them get the most from their visit.
- Have a choice of educational opportunities.
- Have information and maps available to orient and inform them when they are on the battlefield.
- Have designated access to the river and picnic areas.
- Access a quiet isolated area away from urban Frederick.
- Get a booklet of all hiking trails in park.
- Become immersed into the battlefield setting.
- Create a peaceful and contemplative setting where visitors can reflect upon the efforts of the soldiers who fought in the Battle of Monocacy.
- Experience a natural setting that is reminiscent of a typical agrarian landscape during the Civil War era.

Visitation and Visitor Use

Approximately 15,000 visitors came to Monocacy National Battlefield annually between 2002 and 2006; however the opening of the new visitor center led to a 41% increase in 2007. The impact of the new facility continued to boost visitation throughout 2008, in spite of rising fuel prices and a declining economy, and continues to climb well into 2009.

July is the peak visitation month. More than twice as many visitors are reported than June or August. Visitation appears to be consistent March - December. January and February report the lowest visitation - almost 85% less than the summer.

A 2006 NPS Visitor Services Project study conducted by the University of Idaho Park Studies Unit found that 34% of the visitors are from the local community; 51% come in family groups; 97% of visitors identified themselves as white; and almost all of the visitors were from the United States. Seventy-three percent of the visitors spent 1-2 hours in the park and 34% received information from the website before visiting. Eighty-four percent of visitors said they came to learn history. Park staff members interpret that to mean: general history, Civil War history, specific battles of the Civil War, battlefield strategy and tactics, military leadership, slavery and related issues, 19th century America, and even the Lincoln Era. The most visited sites were Gambrill Mill Visitor Center and the Gambrill Mill trail. The most used services were the visitor center exhibits and the park brochure, including the auto tour. The survey was conducted before the new visitor center opened in 2007 and prior to the substantial increase in visitation, so visitor patterns may have changed.

Current visitor use trends throughout the park indicate that the majority of visitors stop at the visitor center and about two-thirds of them drive out to the Worthington Farm. In addition, the one-half mile Gambrill Mill Trail is used by local people for exercise and for walking with small children and dogs.

Education and children's programs are provided by request only. Due to previously limited program space, there had been few requests. The most frequently requested children's program is a "Children's Introduction to Monocacy" that is presented to scout groups. There are no current statistics available on the numbers of children participating. In 2008 a Junior Ranger Day program was well attended and very successful.

Issues and Influences Affecting Interpretation

A small contact station with few exhibits was established when the national battlefield opened to the public in 1991. Since then, trails have been developed, waysides installed and a new visitor center with exhibits opened in June 2007. Barriers to visitor circulation — such as the Monocacy River, I-270, and CSX Railroad — were addressed in alternatives considered for the general management plan. Although they present a challenge, they do not significantly impact the ability to effectively interpret the battle.

A small, yet dedicated, group of volunteers supports the Monocacy National Battlefield interpretive program.

Other issues and influences identified during the 2008 Foundations Workshop include:

- The lack of adequate signage on the interstates and state highways has made it difficult for visitors to find the battlefield. The Maryland State Highway Administration has been involved in a protracted process to develop an attraction sign program in Frederick County that will include signs to the park, but it does not appear that this program will be implemented soon.

- The Sesquicentennial of the Civil War will be a significant factor guiding interpretive efforts at the battlefield. The park will be working with other Civil War-related national parks, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area and the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area to develop and coordinate interpretive events and media.

- The National Park Service Centennial commemoration in 2016 is a planning issue that will require adequate staffing, funding, and programming to showcase the best that the NPS can offer.

- The park feels a responsibility to utilize the annual battle anniversary as an opportunity - just as the veterans did - to commemorate the Battle of Monocacy, the sacrifices of those who fought and died here, and to remember the role that conflict played in the larger context of American history.

- As visitation increases and new interpretive opportunities develop, planning strategies must also include budget and staffing opportunities.

- Because Monocacy National Battlefield is located in a fast-growing, urbanized area, external threats will always require adequate planning and cooperation with local entities to ensure quality viewshed, air, soundscape, and visitor experience.

- Existing park partnerships provide opportunities to share resources and reach larger, more diverse audiences. The relationships are mutually beneficial to visitors and educators in addition to the partners.

- Changes in local population level will affect the ways the park interacts with the increasing numbers of Hispanics, retirees, and young professionals moving into the area. The community is a diverse urban metropolitan audience. The interpretive staff wants to learn how to best serve their interests within the parameters of resource education and visitor services.

- Because local youth are the park's future constituents, it will be important to develop meaningful curriculum-based educational programs that will inform students about the importance of this resource.

- Volunteers are seen as one of the park's greatest assets and provide opportunities to add facets to our interpretive operation. The volunteers should be included in planning and have access to training and development opportunities.

Monocacy National Battlefield

Existing Conditions

"Every drop of blood shed at Monocacy, every life lost, was sacrificed in a noble cause. Those fallen heroes…if they could only know that their lives saved our National Capital from destruction, would willingly exclaim: 'I die content, I gave my life to my country'."

- Sergeant Tirrell, 14th New Jersey

The existing conditions section describes the present visitor experience and establishes a baseline or foundation for developing and recommending future interpretive services.

Monocacy National Battlefield appeals primarily to visitors interested in history. Some fishermen visit along the Monocacy River, and many local visitors walk on the existing trails at the Gambrill Mill, Worthington Farm, and Thomas Farm for exercise. No designated picnic areas have been established, and there are no campgrounds in the national battlefield.

The park opened to the public in July 1991, with the establishment of a "temporary" contact station in the lower level of the Gambrill Mill that was open five days a week. Visitor services consisted of one ranger providing personal services/information to visitors, a site bulletin describing the Battle of Monocacy and one display case exhibiting a half-dozen borrowed objects. A volunteer program was quickly developed to provide opportunities for living history special events, historic weapons demonstrations, and off-site programs. A short loop trail behind the Gambrill Mill opened in 1994 to give visitors access to the Monocacy River and views of the bridge crossings; the remainder of the park remained closed to visitors. In 1996, the battlefield prepared an Interpretive Prospectus that focused on providing access to all key areas of the battlefield with interpretive choices at a variety of levels. A new visitor center and building community partnerships were also prescribed.

Trails opened on the Worthington Farm (1997) and the Thomas Farm (2002) as new areas of the park became publicly accessible. A wayside exhibit plan was developed/implemented, special events were expanded, and partnerships developed to include the Tourism Council of Frederick County and its related entities and the Maryland Office of Tourism and Development. In 1998, the park also became involved with the Catoctin Center for Regional Studies -- formed by the National Park Service and Frederick Community College to promote research and study of the history and culture of central Maryland and adjacent areas of neighboring states.

The construction and subsequent opening of the visitor center and Best Farm area in June 2007 completed implementation of the 1996 Interpretive Prospectus.

Currently the recommended visitor experience begins with an orientation at the information desk and exhibits on the second floor of the visitor center that provide stories about the Battle of Monocacy within the larger context of the Civil War and American History. The NPS Official Map and Guide for the park lays out a self-guided tour route utilizing public roads to access park resources in the most logical sequence to effectively comprehend troop movements.

Information and Orientation

Community Relations

The park informs the public of upcoming events and special programs through public service announcements posted on the park website as well as sent to area newspapers, radio stations and television stations.

Information requests are received on a daily basis via letters, phone calls and e-mail messages. Most requests are for basic information about the park and/or directions to the park. Brochure requests are decreasing, as the park website becomes more popular.

Signs

A wayfinding plan (PMIS #9283) was developed in July 2004. Existing signs were inventoried, deficiencies identified and recommendations proposed. Park staff began implementing the plan in FY2008.

NPS regulation signs throughout the park are posted in English and Spanish in response to the growing Hispanic population.

While the map and information sign at Gambrill Mill provides a general overview of the battle and information on park preservation and laws, orientation information on the rest of the park bulletin boards is printed in-house and can be revised as needed.

Website

The park's official website (www.nps.gov/mono) is a very popular way to gain information about the park. Virtual visitors access the website to learn about park history, interpretive programs, operating hours, and to find directions to the park. The park recognizes the importance of the website as a tool to reach "armchair" visitors, long distance researchers, and as a pre-visit information opportunity. Park cultural resources staff works with a multi-divisional web team to continually review and improve content.

The park offers a broad range of visitor information, photo galleries, and interpretive content to its virtual visitors. This includes general information, current park events, comprehensive park management information, cultural history (the Battle of Monocacy, historic structures, the railroad, and settlement of the area), natural history, and stewardship opportunities. The website is frequently updated and is responsive to visitor comments. Based upon visitor feedback (verbally and in writing), it appears to meet their needs and is highly appreciated.

On-site Facilities

Visitor Center

The visitor center serves as the primary facility for preparing visitors to understand and appreciate Monocacy National Battlefield. The building opened in June 2007 and includes an information desk, exhibits, and Western Maryland Interpretive Association sales area. There are also restrooms, staff offices, park library, staff breakroom, and curatorial storage. The visitor center is open 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily and is closed January 1, Thanksgiving and December 25.

Exhibits, information, and more are available at the visitor center.

Three interpretive rangers and visitor services volunteers orient visitors to the park, answer questions and provide research assistance.

In addition to the new exhibits on the second floor, the lobby area was designed for presenting changing exhibits and providing space for small indoor interpretive programs during inclement weather. The large information desk is shared with Western Maryland Interpretive Association as a sales counter as well as a place to provide personal services such as providing information and orienting visitors to the park.

Tour Route and Trails

There is a suggested auto tour route included in the Official Map and Guide. This section reflects the order in which most visitors experience Monocacy National Battlefield after leaving the visitor center. The six-mile self-guided tour begins at the Best Farm and follows a chronological description of the battle to five stops along Md. 355, Araby Church Road, and Baker Valley Road.

The battlefield officially opens at 8:30 a.m. and closes at dusk daily. There is a parking area outside the gate to the Worthington Farm lane and at the end of the Thomas Farm lane so that visitors can use these trails before hours.

Best Farm

The Best Farm is a well-preserved historic landscape that has changed little since the Battle of Monocacy. Historic buildings, including the house, a secondary dwelling, corn crib, log outbuilding, and the stone barn provide context. There is a small gravel parking lot with interpretive wayside exhibit panels located near the corn crib. Visitors are welcome to walk around the building exteriors; however, building interiors are not open to the public.

Monocacy Junction

A gravel driveway, small parking area and interpretive wayside exhibit panels are located near the 14th New Jersey Monument on the west side of Md. 355. Monocacy Junction, located across the highway, is now owned by CSX Railroad, and is closed to the public. No structures remain at the Junction, but the former Baltimore and Ohio Railroad line is an active railroad with tracks running through this area of the battlefield.

Both Union and Confederate military leaders recognized the strategic value of Monocacy Junction.

Worthington Farm

The exterior of the Worthington House has been rehabilitated; however, the interior is not open to the public, because it has not received any restoration treatment and is unsafe. Portable toilets are located on the grounds during the summer, due to increased visitor use of the trails and the distance from the visitor center. There is one small parking lot along Baker Valley Road and a second one approximately 0.7 mile down the lane to provide more convenient access to the house. Interpretive wayside exhibit panels along the lane and at the house provide human interest stories as well as battle-related information.

Two trails are located on the Worthington Farm: the 1.6 mile Worthington Farm McKinney Ford loop trail is a battle-related interpretive trail and the 1.9 mile Brooks Hill loop trail interprets natural history. A free nature trail site bulletin is available at the Brooks Hill trail head parking area.

Thomas Farm

The historic structures of the Thomas Farm are not open to the public. The outbuildings have been stabilized and the house rehabilitation is presently underway for use as park headquarters. Completion is expected in 2010/2011.

Two trails are located on the Thomas Farm: the 1.75 mile Thomas Farm loop trail is a battle-related interpretive trail which includes a great view of the Worthington Farm across I-270, and the 0.5 mile Middle Ford Ferry loop trail that interprets the settlement and transportation history of the Monocacy region. There is a small gravel parking area with wayside exhibit panels, beside the cinder block house along Baker Valley Road. A free site bulletin for the Middle Ford Ferry loop is available at the Thomas Farm parking area.

Gambrill Mill

A paved parking lot and 0.5 mile loop boardwalk trail is located adjacent to the mill. Wayside exhibit panels, along the trail, interpret the Gambrill Mill, the bridges over the Monocacy (the burning of the covered bridge and the retreat over the railroad bridge that led to George Davis's Medal of Honor), and the Union retreat across Bush Creek. The June 2008 Accessibility Workshop report stated that "the boardwalk in general is not wheelchair friendly at all." However, visitor feedback has been positive with many wheelchair users expressing gratitude for the opportunity to experience this part of the battlefield. The boardwalk extends to the Monocacy River and ends there. Wheelchair users and those with physical limitations are not able to complete the loop, as it extends through a grassy area, including an old wagon road.

The historic mill and post-war Gambrill House are not open to the public. The mill is headquarters for Monocacy National Battlefield and Gambrill House for the Historic Preservation Training Center (HPTC).

Baker Farm and Lewis Farm

The park does not interpret the Baker or Lewis farms and there is no public access. The Baker farmstead is under a life estate.

Monuments

The five monuments presently located within the park include: Maryland (that features a 1964 Centennial plaque), Pennsylvania, 10th Vermont, 14th New Jersey, and United Daughters of the Confederacy. The draft GMP addresses appropriate locations for any new monuments. A concern was mentioned during the Recommendations workshop that there is a lack of parking for visitors wishing to access the Pennsylvania or Vermont monuments. Presently, visitors must park in a nearby church parking lot and walk to the monuments or park in the grass.

Monuments and commemorations are interpreted in the visitor center exhibits, on the website, and addressed during living history events. All of the monuments are mentioned in the farm-site booklets.

Interpretive Media

Audiovisual presentation

Five audio information pieces, focused on pre-history, European settlement, precursors to the battle, the Battle of Monocacy, and the aftermath of the Civil War, were created by the park Cultural Resources staff and are available for download from the park's website.

A fiber optic map provides a brief synopsis of the battle and helps orient visitors to the battlefield terrain. It is positioned within the visitor center exhibits opposite a viewing area that overlooks the actual battlefield to encourage visitors to actually go out and experience the resource. Visitors regularly comment on its effectiveness in providing a basic understanding of the battle.

Publications

The Official Map and Guide (2007) is not listed on the Media Inventory Database System (MIDS). An auto tour is included on the back of the map and guide. The unigrid brochure does an excellent job of telling the story of the battle, and places the battle within the context of Jubal Early's 1864 campaign. The key park features, including the Best Farm, Monocacy Junction, Worthington Farm, Thomas Farm, and Gambrill Mill are clearly indicated and described on the park map and guide.

Monocacy Scenic River: Water Trail Map & Guide is a brochure produced by Community Commons and the Chesapeake Bay Gateway Network, a regional non-profit conservancy, to inform people about the importance of the Monocacy River as a Chesapeake Bay tributary.

A fiber optic map has proven to be an effective tool to help orient visitors to the Battle of Monocacy and the battlefield.

Site Bulletins

- Archeology at Monocacy (2005)
- Worthington Farm Brooks Hill Loop Trail – The Natural Landscape (2006)
- Middle Ford Ferry Loop Trail (2006)
- Flags of the Civil War (no date)
- Organization of Civil War Armies (no date)
- Suggested Readings (no date)
- Bivouac of the Dead (no date)
- Artillery (no date)
- Medal of Honor (no date)
- Commemoration (no date)
- The Stone (Jug) Bridge (no date)
- John Work Garrett: President, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (no date)
- Confederate Invasion Route to Washington June 12-July 12, 1864 (no date)
- The Battle of Monocacy (no date)
- Worthington Farm (no date)
- Thomas Farm (Araby) (no date)
- Best Farm (South Hermitage) (no date)
- Major General Stephen D. Ramseur, C.S.A. (no date)
- Major General Robert E. Rodes, C.S.A. (no date)
- Major General John C. Breckinridge, C.S.A. (no date)
- Major General John B. Gordon, C.S.A. (no date)
- Brigadier General James B. Ricketts, U.S.A. (no date)
- Commanding Generals (no date)
- Lieutenant General Jubal Early, C.S.A. (no date)
- Major General Lew Wallace, U.S.A. (no date)
- Union Order of Battle: The Battle of Monocacy, July 9, 1864 (no date)
- Confederate Order of Battle: The Battle of Monocacy, July 9, 1864 (2009)

The majority of these site bulletins are available at the visitor center desk. They have been updated numerous times. Some topics have been incorporated into the park handbook and other publications. If a visitor expresses interest in a particular topic, the appropriate site bulletin is offered. The same information is also available, although in a different format, on the park website.

Sales Items

- Battlefield Trails – Battle of Monocacy Walking Tours (2007)
- Best Farm (2007) – includes sections on Historic Buildings, History, Battle of Monocacy and Archeology/Preservation
- Thomas Farm (2008) - – includes sections on Historic Buildings, History, Battle of Monocacy and Archeology/Preservation
- A Photographic Guide to Monocacy National Battlefield (2008)
- The Battle of Monocacy July 9, 1864 by Judge Glenn H. Worthington (reprinted 1985)

Park staff have designed and produced several useful guides to the park. These include the "Best Farm," "Thomas Farm," and "Battlefield Trails" booklets published by Western Maryland Interpretive Association, and trail guides for the Worthington Farm Trails, Thomas Farm Trail, and Middle Ford Ferry Loop Trail. These four trail guides can be downloaded directly from the park's website.

Site specific publications are written by park staff and published by Western Maryland Interpretive Association.

Wayside Exhibits

There are sixteen fiberglass embedded wayside exhibit panels located throughout the park. Harpers Ferry Center produced and installed them in 2003 and the panels were mounted on traditional bases. As of May 2008 all but the Gambrill Mill Trail wayside exhibit was listed as acceptable. Some of the fiberglass panels, however, are worn or damaged and in need of replacement. The present wayside exhibits lack key elements of the National Park Service graphic identity program. This is a critical concern, because the park includes many public roads, and visitors may not understand that they are within an NPS site.

Many wayside exhibits are in grassy areas that are located off of the roadway and cannot be seen from pullouts or roadway. Mobility-challenged visitors may have a difficult time accessing wayside exhibits. All of the park waysides are visual. There are no audio or tactile elements to the wayside exhibits.

In general, the park wayside exhibits have become outdated and ineffective. They were created before much of the park became publically accessible and before the opening of the visitor center exhibits. Recent research has provided more accurate information and many of the tangential stories seem inappropriate with respect to expanded opportunities for context. Present waysides focus on a variety of topics, and many are repetitive.

This section reflects the order in which most visitors experience the wayside exhibits at Monocacy National Battlefield after leaving the visitor center. The interpretive staff conducted a critical review of the wayside exhibits during summer 2008. The primary stories told by the panels are listed and the critical analysis is in italics.

Visitor Center:

Maryland Civil War Trails recently installed two new waysides that focus on the 1862 Maryland Campaign. *A large percentage of visitors are immediately attracted to these panels upon arriving at the Visitor Center. This frequently confuses visitors as their first encounter with information refers to 1862. Perhaps these waysides should be relocated to the Best Farm.*

Best Farm:

1. Soldiers camping on the farm throughout the war.
2. Artillery placement during the Battle of Monocacy.
3. Sharpshooters in barn that is then set on fire by Union artillery.
4. Special Order No. 191: *The interpretation on this exhibit panel could be changed or incorporated into a wayside exhibit that concentration just on encampments in 1862 and 1864.*
5. John Best as a farmer; doing chores prior to battle; loss of tools, animals, and grain: *This panel might mention where family was during the battle.*

Confederates Invade Maryland (located at Best Farm):
This is a poor title as it suggests an overview explaining the purpose of the campaign rather than Early's position at the Best Farm.

1. General review of why Early stops at Best Farm and his response to the Union defense.
2. Map shows the early Confederate troop movements: *Union troops are mentioned in the text, but not represented on the map. Troop positions should be indicated on the map and the map oriented to the visitor's view.*
3. Ransom of Frederick and Hagerstown, but not Middletown, is covered: *This is out of place on this panel. While this and many other*

topics are covered in the both the visitor center and waysides, this is not an appropriate place for this story. It is most appropriate for the visitor center exhibits and not on a wayside.

4. Breckenridge as Vice-President: *This seemed like an odd and inappropriate place for this story. It would be more appropriate at Worthington Farm.*
5. Personal information about Ramseur, who led troops down Georgetown Pike: *It discusses the fact that he was a staunch supporter of slavery, and resigned from the Union army even before his home state of North Carolina seceded from the Union. The problem here is that while an interesting aside, it has no apparent connection to anything mentioned elsewhere in the exhibits.*

The Junction:

Federals Take a Stand (located near the parking area by the New Jersey monument)
This panel attempts to interpret far too many topics and, as a result, provides inadequate information.

1. Skirmishing west of Frederick on July 8. *Focus should be on July 7th skirmishing, not July 8th.*
2. 5,800 Union troops – many "raw and untried". *Research has indicated more accurate numbers to be 6,600.*
3. Critical intersection of river, road, and railroad.
4. Ricketts' veterans on south bank, 300 skirmishers on north bank and contingent to protect road to Baltimore, retreat route.
5. Picture of train station describing location.
6. Picture of Wallace and a description of how he and some of his men came from Baltimore by train.
7. Map of battlefield showing troop movements.
8. Train graphic

Worthington Farm:

The first three wayside exhibit panels are located near the Worthington House *and not readily accessible for someone in a wheelchair. The fourth wayside panel is located along the road to the Worthington House, but there is no pull-off to get out of the road to safely read the wayside exhibit.*

Worthington House

1. Background image is sketch from Glenn Worthington's book
2. The family's preparations for the battle.
3. John Worthington's cane shot from his hand while talking with Confederate General Breckinridge. *Should mention that Breckinridge had been Vice President of U.S. before the war.*
4. Eyewitness – 6 year-old Glenn watching battle and writing *Fighting for Time*.

Worthington- McKinney Ford

1. Background image is the crossing of the Worthington-McKinney ford.
2. The crossing of the Monocacy by the Confederate cavalry.
3. The crossing of the Confederate infantry. *There is no mention of the crossing of artillery, yet the use of it is referenced on other panels.*
4. The use of Brooks Hill to flank the Union line on the Thomas Farm. *Research indicates that McCausland's brigade strength is incorrect. In addition, this panel deals with Gordon's attack which is misplaced here.*

McCausland's Attack

1. The two Confederate cavalry attacks from the Worthington Farm to the Thomas Farm.
2. Worthington Quote – Concerning the 1st Confederate attack.

Gordon's Decisive Attack
A more appropriate location for this would be the Thomas Farm. The panel is

not presently in a good location and poses numerous safety hazards.

1. Background – Pictures of Generals Gordon & Ricketts.
2. The repulse of the Confederate cavalry.
3. Three-pronged Confederate attack.
4. Confederate infantry sweeping down from Brooks Hill to Thomas Farm.
5. Gordon Quote – Concerning stream red with blood.
6. The Union Retreat. *This information is covered in "Federal Retreat" panel on the Thomas Farm.*

Thomas Farm:

The three waysides are easy to get to, but are not surrounded by an accessible surface. They are located at the Thomas Farm parking area.

Thomas Farm
1. The Thomas family's purchase of the farm and move from Baltimore
2. Thomas' quote concerning damage to the farm during the war.
3. Troop use of the farm during the war.
4. Picture of Samuel Thomas, Julius Anderson, and Hugh Gatchell - their impressments and release from the Union Army. *This story is better suited for the Gambrill Mill.*
5. The family hiding in the cellar during the battle and the battle damage to the house.
6. Use as a meeting place – June 1863 Hancock's Headquarters, August 1864 Grant's Council of War.

Thick of the Battle
"Gordon's Attack" is more appropriate in this location.

1. Background – farms and the river.
2. Gordon's Infantry attack.
3. Soldiers lay dead and wounded. *This description is more appropriate at Gambrill Mill.*
4. Union Troops fall back to the Pike – Union retreat.
5. Confederate General Ramseur drives Union troops from the Junction across the railroad bridge. *This story is more appropriate for the Junction.*

Federal Retreat
1. Background – Picture from the cover of *Fighting for Time*.
2. The Thomas house changing hands. *The action described here is more appropriate for "Thick of the Battle."*
3. The Union order to retreat.
4. Confederates won battle, but Union force won one day delay.
5. The total number of casualties.
6. *The story of Alexander Scott's Medal of Honor would have balanced the Davis story and should have been told here.*

Gambrill Trail:

A changeable information sign and map at Gambrill Mill and Worthington Farm provides a general overview of the battle and information about park preservation and laws, in order to reach people who visit the park (1) and may not stop at the visitor center, (2) after hours, and (3) for recreational use of trails only. *There is also an upright sign with a battle map and general battle description that should be moved to the present visitor center site.*

There are three wayside exhibit panels along an accessible boardwalk trail. They are about one-quarter mile from the parking lot.

Gambrill Mill
1. This wayside exhibit includes a late 1860s photograph as the background image.
2. Includes story of Thomas and friends's impressment/release. *This story is also at the Thomas farm and therefore redundant. Also how they hid in the mill during the battle.*
3. Includes information about the mill including construction, type of

mill, production capacity, and the purpose of the curious metal square on the side of the building.

Burning of the Bridge
1. Confederates captured in blue uniforms.
2. Killing and wounding of Union skirmishers.
3. Wallace burns bridge at noon.
4. Alfred Roe's quote about burning of bridge

These stories are appropriate; however, it would be helpful to the visitor to mention where the historic bridge was in relation to the modern one. Should also mention how much of the historic bridge remains and that it is still a working railroad. The view of the bridges is somewhat obstructed by the trees, sometimes causing visitors to stray from the trail to get a better view. Clearing a view would alleviate this problem.

Fleeing For Their Lives
1. Federal skirmishers retreat across the railroad bridge.
2. Retreat at 5:00 p.m. across bridge.
3. George Davis, Medal of Honor recipient.
4. Davis' quote about retreat with Confederates in pursuit.

Union Retreat (located at Bush Creek Wagon Crossing)
This panel needs to be replaced as it is in poor condition

1. Map of Union retreat down old road bed and across Bush Creek.

Gambrill House
1. Mr. Gambrill as successful miller.
2. The style of house and date of construction.
3. What the house is used for today – Historic Preservation Training Center.

This wayside is in the grass behind the mill. One must maneuver a slow incline to access it. The purpose of this exhibit is to let people know how the house is currently being used. With the exception of this wayside exhibit panel, the park does not interpret the house or its history because it was constructed after the Civil War.

Exhibits

The temporary first floor exhibits frequently reflect new research, archaeology, special emphasis programs, including the presidential inauguration, holidays, and African American history month, temporary loans, and special events such as an art exhibit and National Park Week.

The new visitor center exhibits are not on MIDS. The exhibits incorporate a fiber-optic map, historic artifacts, and tactile reproductions into vignettes that utilize "object theater" to highlight stories and interpret events before, during, and after the Battle of Monocacy. They interpret these events within the broader context of the Civil War and American history.

According to the June 2008 Accessibility Workshop report the visitor center exhibits are not captioned for the hearing impaired. PMIS project #130881 requests funding for captioning and audio description of the visitor center exhibits.

Positive aspects of the exhibits:
- The fiber optic map does a fantastic job of telling the story of the battle. Visitors regularly comment on how effective it is in providing basic information as well as orienting them to the battlefield.
- The graphic elements of the exhibits are engaging and the hands-on, interactive nature of the exhibit gets people, particularly children, involved and excited.
- The exhibits offer an atmosphere of a discovery center rather than of a museum.
- The outdoor overlook allows

visitors to make a direct connection with the landscape while they are experiencing the exhibits.

- The audiovisual programs provide visitors with dynamic interpretive elements. In particular, the object theater brings the civilian story to life in a dramatic way. Also, the audio stations allow visitors to connect with primary historical sources.

Negative aspects of the exhibits:

- "The Race for Time" exhibit seems confusing to visitors because they do not know how to use the joystick to reset the program.
- Two exhibits in the newspaper office seem to provide the same experience. Using blocks visitors are encouraged to create two headlines, one that supports the Union and one that supports the Confederacy; however, there does not appear to be many options for a Confederacy headline.
- Sound "bleeds" from one exhibit to another.
- The overhead timeline panels, while presenting good information, are positioned very high, making it a challenge to view them (especially for a visitor in a wheelchair). To be accessible, text panels should not be above six feet. In other exhibit areas, some information is displayed quite low; accessibility guidelines establish the eye level zone for exhibits at approximately 40 to 60 inches above the floor.

Junior Ranger Program

According to the FY2008 Servicewide Interpretive Report there were 434 participants. A booklet is available in the visitor center or can be downloaded from the park website.

Historic Weapons Program

Historic weapons demonstrations such as musket firing demonstrations, cannon firing demonstrations, and military living history programs are offered as part of special event programs and are conducted by volunteers under the supervision of NPS certified historic weapons certified personnel according to NPS policies and guidelines.

Interpretive Media Assets

Media assets include other park resources available to interpretation that support the design of personal services programs or interpretive media.

Artifact Collection

The artifact collection is divided into two disciplines: historical and archeological. Artifacts in the collection are representative of the military and civilian activity in the area of Monocacy National Battlefield as interpreted by the park, and established through its mission statement and interpretive themes. The collection includes such items as weapons, accouterments, photographs, newspapers, maps, letters, uniforms, pins and badges, shoulder epaulettes, buttons, an army issued blanket, and a shoe. There are also commemorative items from regimental reunions and battle anniversaries. Several long-term loans include specific battle related items such as Lew Wallace's uniform, his trunk, and the 17th Virginia battle flag.

The collection includes long-term loans including General Lew Wallace's uniform and trunk.

Archaeological collections include a wide variety of object that have been recovered as a result of archaeological research and compliance projects, and represent the full range of human occupation of the area.

A natural history collection has not been developed, but will focus upon educational and outreach purposes. Specimens will be generated through outside researchers and/or collected through internal inventory and monitoring of park natural resources for specific management use. Examples include: flowers and/or fruiting bodies, animals' skeletal or related materials (skulls, antlers, shells, and hides), whole animal specimens, or habitat or animal constructed items (nests and hives).

Archives

Park archives are under development and include documents such as originals, reproductions, and microfilm of diaries, letters, and military records from other repositories; transcripts of diaries and letters donated by ancestors of people who either fought in the battle or who lived in the area; and documents relating to the park's administrative history.

Art Work

Modern artwork depicting the battle has been donated to the park and is displayed in the visitor center on a rotating basis.

Cultural Resources

The park includes 52 historic structures and 21 archeological sites.

Natural Resources

Witness trees - trees that existed at the time of the Battle of Monocacy – have been documented throughout the park.

Personal Services

Education

In 2007 and 2008 over 500 students participated in on-site, curriculum-based education programs.

PMIS project #109876 was submitted to create a Teacher-Ranger-Teacher Partnership; however, the park used the funds to contract a Frederick County, Maryland teacher to develop and produce six curriculum-based lesson plans, one PowerPoint presentation and a "Jeopardy" type of activity. These resources were designed for eighth-grade social studies teachers to use when teaching Civil War history. Compact disks were distributed to every eighth-grade social studies teacher in the Frederick County Public School system, because the Civil War is a part of their curriculum. There are no statistics available to determine how many teachers have used the program. The curricula are still available and are also distributed to homeschoolers upon request.

Additional curriculum-based education programs:

1. "Divided Maryland" is a one-hour program for fourth-grade students. The program is designed to help students understand Maryland's divided positions on the issues (slavery, economics, politics) that helped lead to the Civil War. Students participate in several hands-on activities, and then have to decide what side they would chose if their family had lived near Frederick at the time of the war.

2. "Slavery Debate - Did it cause the Civil War?" is a one-hour program for high school students. The program is designed to address the causes of the Civil War and to what degree slavery was an issue and why. Programs 1 and 2 were just developed in 2008 and have not been tested or evaluated.

3. "What Would You Do If You Were in His Shoes?" is a traveling trunk for fifth- through eighth-grade students and is designed for use over one-, three- or five-hours. The trunk must be transported by the person borrowing it; therefore, it is loaned locally. Some years it has not been used at all. Other years, it has been used frequently. There does not seem to be a specific reason for these levels of use.

Environmental Education ("Bridging the Watershed" programs)

1. "Battle Overview" is a 20-minute talk that emphasizes the important role the Monocacy River played as a defensive position and obstacle. How would the soldiers have used the river, and what impact the battle would have had upon the river are questions posed during the program.

2. Field Hospitals and Water Quality is a 45-minute program. Students use dilemma cards to discuss the impacts the battle might have had on the water quality of the river.

Personal Services Programs

During FY08, almost 7,000 visitors attended interpretive programs and demonstrations. Programs were presented at the visitor center, Worthington House, Best Farm, and the Gambrill Mill.

Challenges associated with presenting these programs include a lack of shade at the visitor center, and ensuring the security of equipment at the Gambrill Mill offices when using the lower level for programs.

Due to growth in visitation and new facilities, program schedules have been expanding. In 2008 formal interpretive programs of the rangers' choices were held three times on weekends from April through October and orientation programs, twice on weekdays from Memorial Day through September. Battlefield tours are scheduled for organized groups of twelve or more on a reservation only basis, and battlefield hikes are currently held biannually.

Ranger Talks:

1. "Battle Orientation" is a 20- to 25-minute overview of the Battle of Monocacy held on visitor center second floor deck or in front of the visitor center.

2. "War, Terrible War" is a 20- to 25-minute program presenting the experiences of the civilians of Monocacy Junction during the battle. The program can be done in NPS uniform or period clothes.

3. "Where there's a Mill" is a 20-minute talk that describes the history of Gambrill Mill and its role during the Battle of Monocacy.

4. "Antique Cart Show" is a 30-minute program where visitors get to see and touch artifacts in a controlled environment while learning how the park acquires artifacts. Visitors also have the opportunity to learn about how the stories those artifacts can tell enrich what we know about the civilian and military action in the area of Monocacy National Battlefield during the Civil War.

A Park Ranger presents guided tours of the battlefield.

Ranger-guided Tours

1. "To The Gates of Washington" is a 2-hour driving tour of the battlefield explaining the events of the battle in the different areas.

Ranger-guided Hikes

1. "The Junction" is a 2-hour walking tour of the Best Farm/Junction area exploring the battle action that took place around the Railroad Junction.

2. "Lunchtime Stroll" is a 20- to 30-minute walking tour of the Gambrill Mill trail. The program is very informal and geared to the visitors' interests and questions. This program was offered on weekdays during peak season in 2007, but was not widely attended. It was not offered again in 2008.

3. "Worthington Ford Trail" is a 2-hour walking tour of the ford loop trail discussing McCausland's attacks on the Union line.

4. "Thomas Farm" is a 2-hour walking tour along the Thomas Farm trail discussing the third and last attack of General Gordon and his troops.

Demonstrations

1. "Cannoneers, to Your Posts" is a 30- to 45-minute hands-on mock (non-firing) artillery demonstration presented at Gambrill Mill. Visitors perform the duties of a Civil War artillery crew and learn the step-by-step drill as well as the role of artillery during the Battle of Monocacy.

Children's Programs

1. "Life of a Soldier" is a 20-minute Junior Ranger program presented by a park ranger who uses a haversack and other props to talk about an average day in a Civil War soldier's life. The program also describes how the soldiers wanted a battlefield park established so that others could come and learn about

the battle, and how Junior Rangers can help preserve the parks.

2. "Ordinary People" is a 35- to 45-minute program designed for a history camp. Using photographs and quotes children take on the roles of some of soldiers and civilians at the Battle of Monocacy.

PowerPoint Programs

1. "A Challenging Career" is a 30-minute program that explores the history and mission of the NPS as well as the variety of career options that are available.

2. "Witnesses to War" is a 45-minute program about the families of Monocacy Junction.

3. "Battlefield Orientation/History of Monocacy National Battlefield"

4. "Misconceptions of a Missing Message" focuses on piecing together the story of Lee's Lost Order also known as Special Orders #191.

5. "Medal of Honor" focuses on the two recipients of this commendation from the Battle of Monocacy.

6. "John Garrett" is a program that introduces the public to Mr. Garrett, president of the B&O Railroad, his importance during the Civil War, and, more importantly, his actions before and after the Battle of Monocacy.

7. "Monocacy: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow" is a 45-minute program that provides a brief history of the battle, the development of the park, and highlights some current plans in progress. This program is primarily used for community off-site programs.

The Cultural Resources Manager presents PowerPoint programs as requested by community groups on topics including colonial transportation, colonial taverns, archaeology, and the history of the Best and Thomas Farms.

Special Events and Programs

1. Read Across America Day - Young readers join a park ranger for a reading of the children's environmental tale The Lorax by Dr. Seuss. Lectures and book signing are also provided.

2. Bell and History Days –Frederick County Historic Sites Consortium sites, including the park, participate in the event that is the official opening of the spring season. There are special programs and activities for visitors of all ages (including a model train display).

3. "Caring for the Wounded" is a medical living history event. A Civil War field hospital is re-enacted by the 88th Medical Unit. The Frederick Ladies Relief Society discusses the role of the U.S. Sanitary Commission.

4. Ladies' Tea Party - A formal tea was held in the Gambrill House with interpretive programs about the history of tea, the women of Frederick, Civil War quilts, and the women of Monocacy Battlefield presented by docents of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, volunteers, and park rangers.

During the annual battle anniversary costumed interpreters represent Union troops who fought in the Battle of Monocacy.

5. U.S. Signal Corps - In 2008 this program was offered on a monthly recurring basis during the peak season. Conducted by costumed volunteer interpreters, the focus is upon communication of military information throughout the Civil War using signal flags.

6. Founder's Day - Various park divisions come together to teach visitors about all aspects of the park.

7. Battle Anniversary - An annual program that utilizes costumed interpreters who depict Union and Confederate troops who fought in the Battle of Monocacy. Interpretive programs about specific units and their participation in the battle, as well as historic weapons firing demonstrations, are offered throughout the weekend.

8. 1862 Campaign – A program that utilizes costumed interpreters who encamp near Gambrill Mill and provide interpretive programs about various aspects of the 1862 Maryland Campaign as well as the movement of troops through Frederick. In particular, it provides opportunity to discuss the finding of Special Order #191 and its impact on the Battle of Antietam.

9. Camp of Instruction – This program has been held on an occasional basis and involves "enlisting" children in a Civil War period "boot camp" to provide them with an experience of a soldier's life. Wooden "dummy" gun forms are used to teach them the practice of marching and drill. They are usually rewarded with a Junior Ranger patch upon completion.

10. Art Exhibition - This is a program that was advertised in 2008 for completion in 2009. Local amateur artists are encouraged to paint, sketch, or photograph their favorite scene of Monocacy National Battlefield and submit it for exhibition during the winter months.

11. Museums by Candlelight - This is an annual program held each December in conjunction with the Historic Sites Consortium. Museums are encouraged to offer a half-day program with a holiday theme and some type of children's craft. The consortium advertises the event as a regional "Open House" for historic sites, encouraging people to visit as many locations as possible.

Staffing:

The Resource Education and Visitor Services staff includes the GS-025-12 Chief of Resource Education and Visitor Services and three GS-025-9 Park Rangers. One GS-025-5 Park Ranger (Centennial Seasonal) worked for 5 months during FY08, primarily staffing the information desk and presenting orientation programs. Having this additional position allowed the three permanent park rangers to provide more programs and conduct more informal roving. The statistics are staggering. There was a 300% increase in number of programs offered and a 564% increase in attendance. Because the informal roving was offered on an ongoing basis, the number of contacts increased 949% over the previous year.

The permanent staff members each have specific collateral duty assignments that take about 25% of their time.

2009 Resource Education & Visitor Services Staff: Cathy Beeler, Barbara Justice, Brian Dankmeyer, Tracy Shives, and Brett Spaulding.

Western Maryland Interpretive Association sells a variety of thematic interpretive products.

Partnerships

Western Maryland Interpretive Association (WMIA)

Western Maryland Interpretive Association is the official cooperating association for the Monocacy National Battlefield. WMIA also serves Antietam National Battlefield and is headquartered in Sharpsburg, Maryland. Annual sales for the Monocacy museum shop in 2008 were $54,000. The park does not receive a specific percentage of sales as a donation. Instead, the Association provides staffing at the shop on weekends in the summer and publishes many of the park-produced media. The Association also provides funding for some of the special events that require food purchases.

The Scope of Sales was reviewed in May 2008. The primary park themes covered are:

- Early's 1864 campaign to attack Washington, D.C.
- Presidential Election of 1864
- Civil War occupation of Frederick, MD
- Maryland as a border state in the Civil War
- Commemoration period of Monocacy National Battlefield

The crossroads and landscape themes are currently not included within the Scope of Sales primary themes.

Volunteer Program

During FY2008 volunteers provided 5,340 total hours of service including 4,108 hours for interpretation. Volunteers provide informal interpretation and assistance at the visitor center information desk, present costumed interpretation, and assist in filing, copying, and office support functions. The FY2009 volunteer program was funded at $2,700.

Partners

Underground Railroad Network to Freedom

The Underground Railroad Network to Freedom is a National Park Service program that coordinates and promotes preservation and education efforts nationwide associated with the Underground Railroad. In 2008 the Best Farm/L'Hermitage at Monocacy National Battlefield was nominated and accepted into the Network as a result of research documenting attempts by slave on that property to escape and secure their freedom.

Catoctin Center for Regional Studies

The Catoctin Center for Regional Studies is a formal partnership between the National Park Service and Frederick Community College to promote research and study of the history and culture of central Maryland and adjacent areas of neighboring states. The historian of Monocacy National Battlefield directs all activities of the center, seeks project funding through grants, and supervises interns associated with the center.

Tourism Council of Frederick County

The Tourism Council of Frederick County is a public-private partnership dedicated to enhancing the economic benefit of tourism for Frederick County's businesses, attractions, local governments, and residents. Monocacy National Battlefield actively engages with the Tourism Council and programs it administers. These programs include:

- The *Frederick Historic Sites Consortium*, whose mission is to support, promote and develop the historic sites and museums of Frederick County, and to increase community awareness of their value.

Monocacy National Battlefield collaborates with the Consortium on three special events annually:

- "Museums at the Mall" is an event highlighting all sites through special displays at a local shopping mall. The park provides a hands-on exhibit of reproduction items typically carried by a Civil War soldier and a park interpreter to explain how visitors might experience nearby park resources. Park brochures and a calendar of special events are available for distribution.

- "Bell and History Days" is an early springtime event to launch the opening of smaller museums utilizing a "bell" theme. The park participates by tying to the "crossroads" and "transportation" themes using a railroad bell and stories of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

- "Museums by Candlelight" is a weekend holiday event held early in December. The park usually provides some type of Victorian or nature-related children's craft as requested by the Consortium in order to participate. Prior to 2009, no extended hours of operation or effort were required. The Consortium is considering requesting sites outside of city limits to remain open an additional two hours beginning in 2009.

- The *Catoctin National Scenic Byway* encompasses the U.S. 15 corridor within the State of Maryland. The park works with the Byway coordinator and local tourism partners to promote marketing opportunities to attract people to visit sites along this corridor.

The *Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area* (HCWHA) is a certified Maryland Heritage Area that includes portions of Carroll, Frederick, and Washington counties. Operated under the auspices of the Tourism Council of Frederick County, HCWHA works in partnership with local governments, non-profit organizations and the National Park Service to develop and enhance heritage tourism products within the heritage area.

Designated in 2008 *The Journey Through Hallowed Ground* is a National Heritage Area that extends from Monticello in Charlottesville, Virginia, northward to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Similar to HCWHA, its mission is to develop and promote tourism, preservation, and educational opportunities within the national heritage area.

Additionally, the park has worked with the *Maryland Office of Tourism and Development and Maryland Civil War Trails* in developing a trail, brochure, and wayside exhibits for the 1862 Maryland (Antietam) campaign that includes losing and finding Special Orders #191 on the Best Farm. An 1864 trail to highlight the Monocacy Campaign has been designed, and cost-effective plans for implementation are being examined.

Recommendations

"These men died to save the National Capital and they did save it."

- General Lew Wallace

Interpretive planning supports the park's General Management Plan (GMP). It assesses current conditions and formulates recommendations that will provide direction and focus to achieve the desired future interpretive program as prescribed in the GMP. A long-range interpretive plan analyzes all needs and recommends a wide array of interpretive services, facilities, programs, and opportunities for partnerships to communicate in the most efficient and effective way the park's purpose, significance, and values.

The preferred alternative of the draft GMP prescribes that the story of Monocacy will be expanded beyond the battle of July 9, 1864. Emphasis will be placed on the national battlefield's role as a military and transportation crossroads throughout the Civil War. Even more broadly, it will focus on Monocacy National Battlefield's position as an important crossroads from prehistory to the present. The document maintains the existing circulation pattern (orientation at the visitor center, Best Farm, Monocacy Junction, Worthington Farm, Thomas Farm, and Gambrill Mill area) and disallows recreational uses such as horseback riding and bicycling. New wayside exhibit signs and personal services interpretation during peak season are also specified in this alternative. The Visitor Services Zone lists restrooms and exhibits in the Thomas stone tenant house; opening the first floor of Worthington House with exhibits; and using the first floor of Gambrill Mill.

The following is a description of programs and media proposals designed to realize these visions, objectives, themes, and visitor experiences previously described for Monocacy National Battlefield. These suggestions should not limit creativity in the development of personal services or media design.

The following principles will apply to all interpretation at Monocacy National Battlefield:

- All interpretation will address physical and programmatic accessibility.
- Where possible, interpretation will use reproduction objects and documented personal stories to bring the story alive for visitors.
- Where possible, the park will partner with neighboring institutions to develop programs, media, and share research.
- The park will follow the standards of the National Park Service Graphic Identity Program as signs and interpretive media are upgraded.
- Interpretation will include examples and perspectives from diverse points of view. It will respond to diverse audiences, varying levels of interest, and different lengths of time for a visit.
- Where possible, "virtual visitors" will have opportunities to view key park vistas and access to new research, studies, management plans, and historical information.

Information and Orientation

Signs

Before visitors can have a meaningful park experience, they need to find their way to the park, determine where the experience begins and take care of their basic necessities. These visitor experience issues such as agency identity and orientation must be addressed before interpretation can begin. Effective highway signs are needed to assist visitors in finding the park.

A wayfinding plan was created as part of the general management planning process and is being implemented in 2009 to enable visitors to find their way inside the battlefield boundary.

Website

An increasing percentage of people utilize websites like www.nps.gov/mono seeking information. Many of these "virtual visitors" never actually come to Monocacy National Battlefield, but have their needs met solely through the website.

The website should highlight opportunities and experiences that are available to on-site as well as virtual visitors.

The park should continue to use the new Content Management System (CMS) to post timely, informative, and engaging information about Monocacy National Battlefield. Up-to-date schedules for special programs, activities, and events should always be available on the park website.

A park priority is to expand the website to include more interactive components, education resources, free publications, and to expand thematic content to cover a range of identified themes. A park team has been established to plan and prioritize the future website content.

An interactive virtual map program, like that being developed for Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park (FRSP), could serve as the centerpiece of a Flash-based virtual tour of the entire park. The virtual map program, which is currently under development for FRSP, but whose underlying technology can be adopted for use by other Civil War parks, can expose many layers of information about park sites and resources through a map-oriented web interface.

Curriculum-based education lesson plans should also be made available through the park website. The current curriculum-based materials as well as any future programs could be developed and delivered in conjunction with the cell phone audio tours or virtual map program described above.

If cell phone tours are developed for the park (see the audiovisual recommendations section of this plan) these audio files should be available for download via the park website for use on personal computers and hand-held devices.

On-site Facilities

Visitor Center

The visitor center lobby area presents opportunities to provide visitors with orientation, information, and additional interpretation. An interactive computer located in the lobby would provide visitors the opportunity to access more detailed and updated information about the park, its many stories, and on-going research. Ideally, learning stations include seating for users and seating is suggested for any audiovisual experience lasting longer than three minutes.

A large-format flat screen monitor behind the information desk could

provide additional orientation and updated information. Since space in the 2007 visitor center lobby will limit the number of additional exhibits, a visitor experience plan will provide the best needs assessment.

Pavilion

A covered pavilion near the visitor center, designed in the vernacular of the visitor center architecture, would create an outdoor space that provides visitors with an opportunity to gather, to participate in interpretive talks, to rest and picnic, and to seek shade or shelter in inclement weather while waiting for others. In addition, having a covered area provides another important interpretive venue during those times when the visitor center is at capacity, for example, when several tour and/or school buses arrive simultaneously.

A compelling orientation exhibit would provide visitors with a useful tool and serve as a prop for staff to use as well. A digital elevation model (DEM) map of the park, dramatically enlarged, would make an engaging central element for this exhibit. Associated contemporary photographs tied to specific locations on the map would alert visitors to the rich variety of interpretive and recreational experiences available to them. Note that the data set from the DEM can then be repurposed in a variety of formats, including the park's website and in making three-dimensional topographical maps.

The pavilion would serve as a multi-purpose gathering place for a variety of audiences, and could include the following elements:

- DEM tactile relief map of the park.
- Reader rail to accompany the relief map with brief identification and orientation information.
- Interpretation related to the landscape, including the possibility of a trailhead for a new trail leading from the visitor center to the Junction.
- Bulletin board case with changeable information.
- Seating.

A draft Long-Range Interpretive Planning exhibit proposal for Catoctin Mountain Park, prepared in 2008, proposed a similar pavilion and could be used as a model for designing one for Monocacy National Battlefield.

Picnic Area

A universally accessible picnic area will be installed near Gambrill Mill.

Tour Route and Trails

Develop a park trail plan to create a trail network for visitors to walk the battle lines, as well as provide opportunities to better understand the troop movements and the outcome of the battle. Included within the plan will be the following actions:

- Create a trail from the visitor center to the Junction.
- Improve accessibility of the Gambrill Mill boardwalk trail.
- Realign Thomas Farm trail to increase opportunities for understanding the battle.

To increase opportunities for all visitors to experience the resource and in response to the park's 2008 accessibility review, a recommendation has been made to improve the Gambrill Mill boardwalk trail.

Best Farm

Create interpretive panels for the windows of the house.

Worthington Farm

Opening the Worthington House to the public will provide more opportunities for visitors to understand the civilian story, especially given the Worthington family's experiences during the battle. An historic furnishings plan and exhibit concept plan will layout the framework for potential interpretive services and emphasize themes 4 (Divided Loyalties) and 7 (Commemoration).

In addition to creating historic furnishing elements for the house, associated exhibits could be developed in a series of vignettes that directly work with the furnished settings to interpret related park stories. Each vignette could include historical graphics, touchable reproductions, and text for visitors to experience on their own, or to be used as props as part of interpretive talks.

Possible topics for these vignettes include:

- Civilian story, including what it was like for children during this time period (referencing Glen Worthington's experience).
- Glenn Worthington story about establishing the battlefield.
- Slavery (expand to include discussion of agricultural system).
- The battle, including the role of field hospitals.
- The process and importance of restoring the farm house.

Thomas Farm

The Stone Tenant House at the Thomas Farm has been identified as the site for interior exhibits that focus on theme 2 (Crossroads) and theme 3 (Landscape). Accessible walkways around the farmstead and an exhibit concept plan will need to be developed that could include the following elements:

- A tactile landscape model could serve as the framework for a series of surrounding exhibits placed in relationship to the landscape model.
- Accompanying reader rails would correspond to key features on the map model, and possibly be interactive to illustrate transportation routes and landscape uses, and how these have changed over time.
- An adjacent smaller scale regional map would allow visitors to see how the landscape model fits into the larger crossroads story.

A park ranger conducts an artillery demonstration at Gambrill Mill.

Since the structure has been described as a "servants" house, exhibits could be developed to interpret slavery. The LRIP workshop identified slavery as a key topic that needs further research. A key recommendation is to begin this research early in the planning and design process, so that it can fully inform the exhibit development process.

Because the Thomas House will not be open to the public, except for special tours, one exhibit area could provide visitors with a virtual tour, either electronically and/or with a large format cutaway illustration. Associated elements could then describe daily life and the chronological changes to the house in the context of the site's history.

Gambrill Mill

The draft General Management Plan prescribes that the first floor of the Gambrill Mill be used for educational groups and for lectures and special events. The space would also be conducive for small teacher workshops and use for Bridging the Watershed lessons. HPTC will use the mill offices when park headquarters is moved to the Thomas House.

Monuments

Create a parking lot at the Pennsylvania and 10th Vermont monuments.

Improve access to the 14th New Jersey monument.

Artillery pieces

Improve understanding of the role of artillery in the Battle of Monocacy by placing artillery pieces in appropriate locations and creating a trail to each with waysides or a publication describing how they were used.

Interpretive Media

A Seamless Visitor Experience

During the recommendations workshop the team discussed how to improve visitor experience and understanding of the events that occurred at Monocacy National Battlefield without adding significantly more signs or impacting the scenic vistas and sweeping battlefield/farm views. The conclusion was to develop a seamless visitor experience that could include wayside exhibits, audio, video, tactile components, 3-D models, and clear etch panels. The ultimate goal would be to create a visitor flow pattern, a cohesive message and a unified visitor experience that provides a seamless battlefield experience. The resource will be allowed to tell the stories along with the media. The visitor experience plan must address current themes, remove ineffective messages, and upgrade the wayside exhibits to meet NPS standards. All components need to be accessible, and include captioning and assistive listening for all audiovisual components with sound, and audio description for all video elements. Appendix B refers to the NPS Accessibility Guidelines.

Audiovisual Media

Audiovisual media are well suited to the presentation of chronological and sequential material. They can capture realism, provide emotional impact, and create a mood or atmosphere. Also they can reach many visitors at one time and be posted onto the website. Audiovisual elements may be included in exhibits or posted onto the park website, in addition to being shown in dedicated visitor center spaces.

The park should acquire or produce an introductory interpretive video. A well-done interpretive 10- to 20-minute video can effectively illustrate the grand sweep of history at Monocacy Battlefield, and help visitors form

emotional connections to the site. The video could also bring appropriate emphasis to the park's connections to other nearby Civil War sites, including Antietam National Battlefield, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, and the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District.

Once produced, the video can then be used as an educational outreach tool. The video can be distributed to other Frederick County Historic Sites Consortium organizations; offered to Frederick County Library System to reach the local community; distributed to local motels to reach tourists; and possibly featured in other formats such as a park website download.

New technologies such as high-definition video, 3-D computer animation and multi-channel surround sound have led to new interpretive possibilities and ever more immersive audiovisual experiences. Interpretive videos are also popular with visitors, ranking third (behind tours and park brochures) in a recent NPS Social Science survey of interpretive media. While good interpretive videos are not inexpensive, they provide a consistent message to large numbers of visitors with little or no staffing required.

Currently there is no venue at the park for showing a video. The suggestion from the recommendations workshop for an area within the visitor center lobby to show audiovisual programs should be carefully considered. There is a concern regarding having adequate space for seating, the impact on visitor flow in the space, and the possibility of sound spilling over.

Portable Audiovisual Opportunities

Park staff should discuss, research, and determine the best method to offer "individualized" audio and/or audiovisual opportunities utilizing the most current technologies. Portable audio programming can provide opportunities to connect to resource meanings while walking, running, or riding along the roads and the trails.

Because of its compact size, Monocacy National Battlefield would benefit from a well-produced cell phone tour. Cell phone reception in the park is excellent, and cell phone tours are especially well suited to members of the local community who bypass the park's visitor center and travel directly to park sites to walk, jog, or just enjoy the outdoors. By providing the appropriate signs, these visitors can be prompted to learn more about a particular site or story by quickly and easily dialing a number and selecting a site-specific prompt. Cell phone tours can provide practical/logistical information, safety information, dramatic reenactments, oral history interviews, in-depth site-specific interpretation, and more. Cell phone tours can also provide multi-lingual audio content, and can serve visitors who are blind or have low vision.

Similar tours have proven very popular elsewhere in the National Park System, most notably at Valley Forge National Historical Park. Ideally, the cell phone tour should be produced in conjunction with new park signs and other proposed media elements in order to assure seamless integration between the various types of media.

To take best advantage of the audio tour format, content should complement rather than duplicate information already presented on park signs and wayside exhibits. In fact, cell phone tours would be particularly appropriate in areas where a large number of wayside exhibits either are not feasible or would otherwise clutter the historic landscape, such as walking tours of the park's historic farms. Cell phone tours could also be combined with driving tours to other parts of Frederick County through the creation of theme-related partnerships.

In addition to delivery by cell phone, audio content could be delivered as online downloads via MP3 audio files from the park's website and brought to the park on personal hand-held devices such as MP3 players and iPods. A downloadable audio version of the park's auto tour will be produced. Western Maryland Interpretive Association will create and sell a compact disk version of the auto tour.

Full Accessibility for all Audiovisual Programs

In response to former National Park Service Director Mary Bomar's memo of October 20, 2006 on the "Audiovisual Accessibility Initiative for Visitors with Disabilities," the interpretive staff has initiated steps to assure that the park's current and future audiovisual programs are meeting accessibility requirements. For more information, see the website for *Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for National Park Service Interpretive Media* at www.nps.gov/hfc/accessibility/index.htm#. The park should consider the following improvements:

- An audio descriptive tour of the park would provide accessibility to visitors who are blind or who have low vision.
- An audio descriptive tour of the visitor center exhibits should be developed and produced to make the exhibits accessible to visitors who are blind or visually impaired.

Publications

Visitors typically use publications in two ways: for information and orientation during their visit, and for in-depth interpretation following their visit. The park's primary free publication is the NPS unigrid brochure; most history-oriented and traditional NPS visitors use it to guide them around the battlefield. However, the unigrid brochure is not able to tell all of the stories or provide visitors with a lot of detail about the Battle of Monocacy. To help provide these additional opportunities, the interpretive staff should take the following actions:

- Compile and publish Park Ranger Brett Spaulding's research into a full-length book using an Albright-Wirth grant.
- Develop site bulletins or brochures on Special Orders 191 and African-American stories.
- Create a Worthington Farm and Gambrill Farm/Mill booklet.
- Develop a new handbook that focuses on the military history associated with the Battle of Monocacy.

Wayside Exhibits

The park's present wayside exhibits are physically misplaced and contain a significant number of errors because they were created while much of the park was publicly inaccessible and before a great deal of research was conducted. The lack of uniformity in presentation and in factual information is confusing to visitors. A visitor experience plan should address this issue.

Exhibits

Duplicate the visitor center exhibit timeline information into an optional alternative format, such as an exhibit flipbook or a series of flipbooks appropriately placed within the chronological story. This would allow users to examine the information more easily. Another alternative is to incorporate this timeline information into a supplemental guide booklet that visitors can use as they experience the exhibits, including a version for younger audiences. Also, all quotations used in the exhibit could be included in the exhibit guide booklet. To address the sound spill, an exhibit designer or audiovisual consultant could possibly suggest ways to minimize this situation.

Personal Services

Education

An effective park education program requires adequate staff for planning, development, implementation, and assessment. The resources and themes of Monocacy National Battlefield offer great potential for the development of dynamic and popular education programs in partnership with Frederick County schools, neighboring parks, historic sites, and affiliated areas.

A well designed and run park education program generally depends on establishing an Education/Outreach Coordinator position. This role has been a collateral duty assignment for one of the GS-025-9 Park Rangers, but to be truly effective it needs to be a full-time position. The primary role of the coordinator will be to secure resources to facilitate the development and growth of a curriculum-based program based on national and state education standards.

Future growth of the park education program is primarily contingent upon hiring the Education/Outreach Coordinator. This would allow the park to:

- Work with schools to diversify curriculum-based programs offered and increase number of curriculum-based education programs presented. With a strong program and ties directly to local, state, and national curriculum standards, more schools will see the value of using the park to help meet their needs. This can be accomplished by holding workshops to involve educators from local area schools directly in the development of both general and specific activities and curriculum guides.
- Develop a "History Day" program in cooperation with Frederick County Schools.
- All curriculum-based materials should be available for download from the park's website. These lesson plans and materials will better connect key components of K-12 classroom curricula to park resources, and in turn spur more classroom and family visits to Monocacy National Battlefield.
- Develop a Teaching with Historic Places lesson plan on the battle that was fought at Monocacy.
- Create Elderhostel programs with specific thematic emphasis.
- Expand "Bridging the Watershed" program to address natural landscapes (Theme 8).

Personal Services Programs

Monocacy National Battlefield interpretive staff would like to improve interpretation and tell current interpretive stories more effectively. Some topics, for many years, have been considered sensitive, controversial, or difficult to explain to visitors. Presently, a variety of interpretive styles and interests, new scholarship, and newly found interest by new employees have opened a door to new interpretive focus, topics and/or projects.

Expanding the "Bridging the Watershed" program will provide students with an opportunity to learn about the natural landscapes.

Since personal services interpretive programs are relatively easy to change, the activities should be evaluated on a regular basis to discontinue those that are not effective, modify and improve those that require it, and validate those that are successful.

Developing a new primary theme that connects the battle and battlefield more closely to the natural resources of the park creates opportunities for new and different programming. A kayak program could be developed that includes a trail guide and access along the Monocacy River. Visitors not only would get to enjoy the river, they would also experience the battle from a new perspective.

Historic weapons demonstrations such as musket firing demonstrations, cannon firing demonstrations, and military living history programs may be offered on a regular basis, if appropriate training and supervision by NPS certified historic weapons personnel is provided. NPS policy and guidelines will be followed at all times.

Special Events and Programs

All special events must relate to the purpose, significance, and themes and provide interpretive opportunities. Park staff will take action to diversify the special events offered to more closely reflect the primary themes. Specific actions will include:

- Memorial Day Commemoration (Theme 7)
- African-American History Day (Theme 4)
- NPS Centennial

Monocacy National Battlefield reflects more than an isolated day in history. It represents a continuum of events associated with the Civil War. Park staff will participate in the Civil War Sesquicentennial commemoration and be consistent with national/regional efforts to help visitors remember and honor the men who fought by developing appropriate interpretive exhibits, programs, and events at the park as well as working with park partners to create interpretive opportunities beyond park boundaries.

During the 2009 Memorial Day commemoration event volunteer groups including the Girl Scouts of America placed flags around the visitor center.

Partnerships

Increase interpretive opportunities with local, current and potential park partners to combine resources and provide new as well as ongoing programs in order to provide a quality experience to Frederick or National Capital visitors. This may include -- but is not limited to -- joint seminars, combined tours, special events, grants to fund publications and media, etc. Special focus will include the Sesquicentennial and the National Park Service Centennial.

Present programs or provide changeable exhibits at Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area and Maryland Welcome Centers.

Possibly increase the number of programs offered at local public libraries and other venues.

Volunteer Program

More volunteers will be needed to fully implement this Long-Range Interpretive Plan. To open the Worthington House for visitors on a regular schedule, volunteer docents will need to be recruited and trained. Once an education/outreach specialist is hired, the collateral duty volunteer coordinator, and other interpretive staff, would have more time to plan, train volunteers, and implement a costumed interpretive program. The program would need to be evaluated for effectiveness as it grows.

As more visitors continue to use the park's trails, there are opportunities for increased vandalism and trash dumping. An adopt-a-trail program would allow local park users to take ownership of the trail(s) they frequent the most and help prevent or deter the vandalism as well as help decrease the amount of trash.

Research and Evaluation Needs

Research is important in the development of specific media and programs and will be planned as part of all substantial media projects and special programming. The park is planning many different types of media projects during the life of this plan that will each demand its own research and evaluation. Front-end evaluations would query potential visitors before products and activities are developed. This type of research is targeted so that practical use can be made of the results. Formative evaluations would be conducted during conceptual design and would test inexpensive mock-ups of interpretive media and programs before fully investing in final products. Summative evaluations are valuable in helping to determine the effectiveness of final media, facilities, and programs – i.e. whether the intended themes are being communicated, if people are actually make use of the information of if visitor behavior is affected.

The recommended media projects and interpretive programs will also benefit from the following research projects:

- Research on commemoration and establishment of the battlefield.
- Conduct study of a desired visitor experience.
- Evaluate effectiveness of interpretive services.

Encouraging local park users to get involved in clean up days and establishing an adopt-a-trail program promotes public stewardship.

Staffing and Training Needs

In order to fulfill the vision of this plan, additional funding will be required. Increased funds will enable the park to hire additional interpretive staff. Staff needed include an Education/Outreach Coordinator and SCAs. These additional positions will allow the Chief of Resource Education and Visitor Services to focus on management responsibilities and the three GS-025-9 Park Rangers to provide more in-depth interpretive services. Operations Formulation System (OFS) and Project Management Information System (PMIS) funding requests have been submitted to acquire these additional positions.

The following table shows the current and projected staffing plan required for full implementation of the recommendations in this Long-Range Interpretive Plan. Park management has an Operations Formulation System request (OFS #28719) to fund unfunded positions, programs and operational improvements needed to fully implement the recommendations of this plan.

Title	Grade	Type	Funded	FTE	Unfunded
Chief of Resource Education and Visitor Services	12	PFT	ONPS	1.0	
Park Ranger	9	PFT	ONPS	1.0	
Park Ranger	9	PFT	ONPS	1.0	
Park Ranger	9	PFT	ONPS	1.0	
Park Ranger	5	Centennial Seasonal-1040 hours	ONPS	0.5	
Education/Outreach	11	PFT	ONPS		1.0

Adding an Education/Outreach position will increase opportunities for staff to present education programs.

Implementation Priorities

1. Expand website to include more interactive components, education resources, Park Ranger Brett Spaulding's research, and free publications as well as creating and posting site bulletins, lesson plans, and more.
   - Develop website team to plan/implement expanded online media (2009).
   - Adapt selected PARTNERS lesson plans for inclusion on website (2009).
   - Complete downloadable audio auto tour (2009).
   - Create compact disk sales version of auto tour (2009).
   - Evaluate/refine auto tour (2010).

2. Create a pavilion near the visitor center (PMIS #151842).
   - Seek funding for pavilion (2009).
   - Plan accessible orientation map for pavilion (2010).
   - Construct pavilion near visitor center (2012).
   - Fabricate and install map (2012).

3. Develop a visitor experience plan to include waysides, audio, video, tactile components, 3-D models, and clear etch panels.
   - Conduct visitor experience plan study (2010).
   - Create a visitor experience plan (2010)
   - Seek funding sources to implement visitor experience plan (2011).
   - Implement visitor experience plan (2013-18).

4. Increase interpretive opportunities with local, current and potential park partners, particularly in conjunction with the Civil War Sesquicentennial.
   - Participate in Sesquicentennial planning with partners (2009-16).
   - Continue Sesquicentennial planning/implementation in cooperation with partners (2010-16).
   - Implement S.O. 191 exhibit/special programs to coincide with 1862 Maryland Campaign commemoration (2012).
   - Implement special exhibits/programs to commemorate 150th anniversary of Battle of Monocacy (2014)
   - Create a collaborative program that ties together ransoming of Hagerstown, Middletown and Frederick with the Battle of Monocacy and raid on Washington, D.C. (2014)
   - Begin evaluation component of Sesquicentennial programs including lessons learned and documentation for the next generation (2016).
   - Create program of CW commemorations and on reconstruction (2016).

5. Create a parkwide trail plan (2011).

6. Create a trail from the visitor center to Monocacy Junction (2011).

7. Realign Thomas Farm trail to increase opportunities to understand the battle better (2012).

8. Improve Gambrill Mill boardwalk trail (2012).

9. Develop an historic furnishings plan and exhibit concept plan in order to open the first floor of the Worthington House to visitors (PMIS #150346).
   - Seek funding for Worthington exhibit projects (2009).
   - Plan and create window displays for Best and Worthington Farms (2010).
   - Worthington exhibit concept plan (2013).
   - Worthington exhibit design (2014).
   - Worthington exhibit construction and installation (2015).

10. Develop and implement an exhibit concept plan for the Stone Tenant House on Thomas Farm (PMIS #150348).
    - Seek funding for Thomas exhibit projects (2009).
    - Thomas exhibit concept plan and design (2011).
    - Thomas exhibit construction and installation (2012).

11. Create a picnic area (2011).

12. Develop new publications on Special Orders 191. Research African-American stories and include in new publications.
    - Produce Special Orders 191 brochure (2010).

13. Establish educational outreach position. (OFS #28719)
    - Seek funding for Education Specialist (2009).
    - Seek funding for teacher workshops to expand education program. Recruit interns/volunteers to assist with workshops (2014).
    - Plan/implement teacher workshops to expand curriculum-based education program (2015).
    - Create Elderhostel programs with specific thematic emphasis (2017).

14. Enhance orientation media in visitor center lobby.
    - Install computer and monitor (2010).

15. Publish Park Ranger Brett Spaulding's research on the Battle of Monocacy in book format using an Albright-Wirth grant.
    - Seek Albright-Wirth Grant to publish research (2010).
    - Publish research (2011)

16. Expand Bridging the Watershed and other interpretive programs that address natural landscape (Theme 8).
    - Expand interpretive programming to include nature hikes (2010).
    - Expand BTW program to add the Alien Invaders module or other that may be appropriate (2011).
    - Expand BTW program to include agricultural practices and impacts on the Chesapeake Bay (2013).
    - Partner with local Audubon Society to present regular programs (2017).

17. Continue and expand existing interpretive programs/services, providing evaluation for effectiveness and relevancy, making adjustments as necessary.
    - Complete Comprehensive Interpretive Plan (2009).
    - Apply for NPS Visitor Services Project (VSP) study (2014).
    - Conduct VSP study to evaluate effectiveness of interpretive services (2015).

    - Produce park handbook (2009).
    - Continue research on slavery at Monocacy (2010).
    - Produce Worthington Farm booklet (2011).
    - Produce Gambrill Farm/Mill booklet (2012).
    - Develop supplemental guide to exhibits (2012).

    - Add Memorial Day Commemoration, African American history exhibits, and presentations at local libraries/other venues to special events (2009). This recommendation has already been implemented. A Memorial Day Commemoration and African American lecture series were conducted in 2009.

    - Continue to work with SHA on highway signs (on-going)

    - Use volunteers to staff historic buildings (2013).

    - Establish costumed interpretive program:
        - Outline talks (2016)
        - Seek volunteer funding for materials and training (2016)
        - Plan volunteer training (2016)
        - Implement training for costumed interpreters (2017).
        - Initiate and evaluate costumed interpretive program (2017).

    - Plan NPS Centennial exhibit/activities (2014).
    - Design NPS Centennial exhibit/activities (2015).
    - Implement NPS Centennial exhibit/activities (2016).

Implementation Plan 2009-2018

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Priority 1: Website				
Develop website team to plan/implement expanded online media				
Adapt selected PARTNERS lesson plans for inclusion on website				
Complete downloadable audio auto tour	Evaluate/refine auto tour			
Create compact disk sales version of auto tour				
Priority 2: Pavilion				
Seek funding for pavilion	Plan accessible orientation map for pavilion		Construct pavilion near visitor center. Fabricate and install map	
Priority 3: Visitor Experience Plan				
	Conduct visitor experience study and create a visitor experience plan	Seek funding sources to implement visitor experience plan		Implement visitor experience plan
Priority 4: Sesquicentennial Interpretation				
Participate in Sesquicentennial planning in cooperation with partners	Continue Sesquicentennial planning/implementation in cooperation with partners.			
Priority 5: Trail Plan				
		Create a parkwide trail plan		
Priority 6: New Trail				
		Create a trail from the visitor center to Monocacy Junction.		
Priority 7: Realign Trail				
			Realign Thomas Farm trail	
Priority 8: Boardwalk Trail				
			Improve Gambrill Mill boardwalk trail.	
Priority 9: Historic Furnishings Plan				
Seek funding for Worthington exhibit projects	Plan and create displays for Best and Worthington Farms.			Worthington exhibit concept plan.
Priority 10: Stone Tenant House Exhibits				
Seek funding for Thomas exhibit projects		Thomas exhibit concept plan and design	Thomas exhibit construction and installation	Use volunteers to staff historic buildings

Implementation Plan 2009-2018

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Priority 11: Picnic Area				
		Establish an accessible picnic area at Gambrill Mill		
Priority 12: Publications - Special Orders 191				
	Produce Special Orders 191 brochure.		Implement S.O. 191 exhibit/special programs to coincide with 1862 Maryland Campaign commemoration	
Priority 13: Educational Specialist				
Seek funding for Education Specialist.				
Priority 14: Orientation Media				
	Install computer and monitor in VC lobby.			
Priority 15: Publications - Spaulding's Research				
	Seek Albright-Wirth Grant to publish Brett's research.	Publish Brett's research.		
Priority 16: BTW Interpretive Programs				
	Expand interpretive programming to include nature hikes.	Expand BTW program to add the Alien Invaders module or other that may be appropriate.		Expand BTW program to include agricultural practices and impacts on the Chesapeake Bay.
Priority 17: Interpretive Programs & Evaluation				
Complete Comprehensive Interpretive Plan.	Continue research on slavery at Monocacy.	Produce Worthington booklet.	Produce Gambrill Farm/Mill booklet.	
Produce park handbook.			Develop supplemental guide to exhibits.	
Add Memorial Day Commemoration, African American history exhibits, and presentations at local libraries/other venues to special events				

Implementation Plan 2009-2018

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Priority 3: Visitor Experience Plan				
Implement visitor experience plan				
Priority 4: Sesquicentennial Interpretation				
Continue Sesquicentennial planning/implementation in cooperation with partners				
Implement special exhibits/programs to commemorate 150th anniversary of Battle of Monocacy		Begin evaluation component of Sesquicentennial programs including lessons learned and documentation for the next generation		
		Create program of CW commemorations and on reconstruction		
Priority 9: Historic Furnishings Plan				
Worthington exhibit design	Worthington exhibit construction and installation			
Priority 13: Educational Specialist				
Seek funding for teacher workshops to expand education program. Recruit interns/ volunteers to assist with workshops	Plan/implement teacher workshops to expand curriculum-based education program		Create Elderhostel programs with specific thematic emphasis	
Priority 16: BTW Interpretive Programs				
			Partner with local Audubon Society to present regular programs.	
Priority 17: Interpretive Programs & Evaluation				
Create a collaborative program that ties together ransoming of Hagerstown, Middletown and Frederick with the Battle of Monocacy and raid on Washington, D.C.		Establish costumed interpretive program: • Outline talks • Seek volunteer funding for materials and training • Plan volunteer training	Implement training for costumed interpreters. Initiate and evaluate costumed interpretive program.	
Apply for NPS Visitor Services Project (VSP) study.	Conduct VSP study.			
Plan NPS Centennial exhibit/activities	Design NPS Centennial exhibit/activities.	Implement NPS Centennial exhibit/activities.		

Appendices

"The Battle of Monocacy occupies much less space in history than it deserves. It was a stout and most creditable fight; and though a defeat in name and in fact, it accomplished as much as many a victory, for it delayed Early's march upon Washington two days."

- George C. Benedict, *Vermont in the Civil War*

Appendix A: The Planning Team

Monocacy National Battlefield
Susan Trail, Superintendent
Cathy Beeler, Chief, Resource Education and Visitor Services
Todd Stanton, Chief, Resource and Visitor Protection
Andrew Banasik, Natural Resources Program Manager
Alexandra Avila, Biological Science Technician
Barbara Justice, Park Ranger
Tracy Shives, Park Ranger
Brett Spaulding, Park Ranger
Joy Beasley, Cultural Resources Program Manager
Tina Cartwright, Facility Manager (transferred)
Philip Dean, Volunteer
Gail Stephens, Volunteer

National Park Service
Sarah Polzin, Exhibit Specialist, Historic Preservation Training Center
Polly Angelakis, Acting Interpretive Planner, National Capital Region (transferred)
Laura Illige, Education and Public Affairs Specialist, National Capital Region
Gordie Thorpe, Park Ranger, Antietam National Battlefield
Dean Herrin, NPS Coordinator, Catoctin Center for Regional Studies

Harpers Ferry Center
Toni Dufficy, Interpretive Planner, Team Captain
David Gilbert, Web Manager (transferred)
Neil Mackay, Senior Exhibit Planner
Michael Paskowsky, Project Manager

Park Partners
Bob Casey, Executive Director, Western Maryland Interpretative Association
Mary V. Harris, AARCH (African American Resources: Cultural Heritage) Society and Frederick County Historical Society
Elizabeth Shatto, Frederick Historic Sites Consortium and Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area

Appendix B: Accessibility Guidelines

Every attempt will be made to provide full access to interpretive media and programs to ensure people with physical and mental disabilities have access to the same information necessary for safe and meaningful visits to national parks. This is in compliance with the National Park Service policy:

" . . .To provide the highest level of accessibility possible and feasible for persons with visual, hearing, mobility, and mental impairments, consistent with the obligation to conserve park resources and preserve the qualities of the park experience for everyone."
NPS Special Directive 83-3, Accessibility for Disabled Persons

All interpretation will follow general standards for accessibility as described in the Harpers Ferry Center Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for Interpretive Media http://www.nps.gov/hfc/pdf/accessibility/access-guide-aug2009.pdf

The visitor center desk is designed to accommodate different visitors' needs, and to provide opportunities for new experiences including ringing a train bell.

Appendix C: Interpretive Services Matrix by Theme

Theme 1: The Battle	
Exhibits:	2nd floor Exhibits (VC)
	Worthington House (WF)
	Stone Tenant House (TF)
A-V:	Fiber Optic Map (VC)
	Pre-cursors to the Battle (W)
	Battle of Monocacy (W)
	Auto Tour (W & WM)
Personal Services:	Battle Orientation (VC)
	Cannoneers, to Your Posts (GM)
	Where There's A Mill (GM)
	Antique Cart Show (VC)
	To the Gates of Washington (TR)
	The Junction (J)
	Worthington Ford Trail (WF)
	Thomas Farm (TF)
	Ordinary People
	Medal of Honor (VC & W)
	John Garrett (VC & W)
	Monocacy: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (off-site)
	Costumed Interpretation of Soldiers
	Point Lookout (off-site)
Publications:	Official Map & Guide (VC)
	Auto Tour (VC & W)
	Battlefield Trails – Battle of Monocacy Walking Tours (WM)
	Battle of Monocacy (WM)
	A Photographic Guide to Monocacy National Battlefield (WM)
	Best Farm (WM)
	Junior Ranger Booklet (VC & W)
	Thomas Farm Loop Trail (VC & W)
	Worthington Farm Trails (VC & W)
	Park Handbook (WM)
	Worthington Farm (WM)
	Gambrill Farm/Mill (WM)
	Special Orders 191 (VC)
Waysides:	Federals Take a Stand (J)
	Confederates Invade Maryland(BF)
	Fleeing for Their Lives (GM)
	Gambrill Mill (GM)
	Worthington-McKinney Ford (WF)
	McCausland's Attack (WF)
	Gordon's Decisive Attack (WF)
	Thick of the Battle (TF)
	Burning of the Bridge (GM)
	Federal Retreat (TF)
	Monocacy National Battlefield
Education Materials:	What Would You Do If You Were in His Shoes? (TT)
Special Events:	Battle Anniversary Caring for the Wounded

Theme 2: Crossroads	
Exhibits:	2nd floor Exhibits (VC)
A-V:	Fiber Optic Map (VC)
Personal Services:	Battle Orientation (VC)
	Cannoneers, to Your Posts (GM)
	To the Gates of Washington (TR)
	The Junction (J)
	John Garrett (VC and off-site)
	Misconceptions of a Missing Message (VC and off-site)
	1862 Campaign
	History of Best Farm (off-site)
	History of Thomas Farm (off-site)
	Archaeology (off-site)
	Colonial Transportation (off-site)
	Colonial Taverns (off-site)
	Gambrill House (GM)
	Life of a Soldier
Publications:	Official Map & Guide (VC)
	Battlefield Trails – Battle of Monocacy Walking Tours (WM)
	A Photographic Guide to Monocacy National Battlefield (WM)
Waysides:	Federals Take a Stand (J)
Special Events:	Bell and History Days
	Museums by Candlelight
	U.S. Signal Corps
	Ladies Tea Party (GM)
	Camps of Instruction

Theme 3: Landscape	
A-V:	Pre-history (W)
	European Settlement (W)
	Civil War Aftermath (W)
Personal Services:	Battle Orientation (VC)
	Where There's a Mill
	To the Gates of Washington (TR)
	Worthington Ford (T)
	Thomas Farm (T)
	The Junction (T)
Publications:	Worthington Farm Brooks Hill Loop Trail – The Natural Landscape (VC)
	Best Farm (WM)
	Middle Ford Ferry Loop Trail (VC & W)
Waysides:	Best Family Farm (BF)
	Worthington-McKinney Ford (WF)
	Worthington House (WF)
Education Materials:	Battle Overview (VC)

Theme 4: Divided Loyalties	
Exhibits:	2nd floor Exhibits (VC)
	Worthington House (WF)
	Stone Tenant House (TF)
Personal Services:	War, Terrible War (VC)
	Witnesses to War (VC)
Publications:	Battlefield Trails – Battle of Monocacy Walking Tours (WM)
Waysides:	Best Family Farm (BF)
	Gambrill Mill (GM)
	Thomas Farm (TF)
Special Events:	African-American history
Education Materials:	Divided Maryland

Theme 5: Win Battle, But Lose Objective	
Exhibits:	2nd floor Exhibits (VC)
Personal Services:	Battle Orientation (VC)
	To the Gates of Washington (TR)
	Battle of Monocacy (off-site)
	Brett's Monocacy Campaign (off-site)
Publications:	Official Map & Guide (VC)
	Battlefield Trails – Battle of Monocacy Walking Tours (WM)
	A Photographic Guide to Monocacy National Battlefield (WM)
Waysides:	Federal Retreat (TF)
	Monocacy National Battlefield
Special Events:	Battle Anniversary

Theme 6: 1864 Valley Campaign	
Exhibits:	2nd floor Exhibits (VC)
Personal Services:	Jubal in the Valley (off-site)
Publications:	Official Map & Guide (VC)

Theme 7: Commemoration	
Exhibits:	2nd floor Exhibits (VC)
Personal Services:	Monocacy: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (off-site)
Publications:	Official Map & Guide (VC)
	Best Farm (WM)
	Junior Ranger Booklet (VC & W)
Waysides:	Monocacy National Battlefield
Special Events:	Battle Anniversary
	Sesquicentennial
	Memorial Day
Buildings/ Monuments:	Monuments

Theme 8: Environmental Stewardship	
Publications:	Monocacy Scenic River: Water Tail Map & Guide (VC)
	Junior Ranger Booklet (VC & W)
	Worthington Farm Brooks Hill Loop Trail – The Natural Landscape (VC)
Waysides:	Gambrill House (GM)
Education Materials:	Battle Overview (VC)
	Field Hospitals and Water Quality
	Water Canaries
	Wildland Fire (off-site)
	Alien Invaders
	Chesapeake Bay
Special Events:	Read Across America Day (VC)

Locations Key:

W = Website
VC = Visitor Center
WM = Western Maryland Interpretive Association
BF= Best Farm
TF = Thomas Farm
WF = Worthington Farm
GM = Gambrill Mill
TR= Tour Road
T = Trails
J = Junction
TT = Traveling Trunk
M = Monocacy River

Harpers Ferry Center
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Monocacy National Battlefield

4801 Urbana Pike
Frederick, Maryland 21704

301-662-3515

www.nps.gov/mono

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™