



*Update to the  
Civil War Sites Advisory Commission  
Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*

*State of Arkansas*

Washington, DC  
December 2010



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## *State of Arkansas*

U.S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
American Battlefield Protection Program

Washington, DC  
December 2010

## **Authority**

The American Battlefield Protection Program Act of 1996, as amended by the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-359, 111 Stat. 3016, 17 December 2002), directs the Secretary of the Interior to update the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) *Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*.

## **Acknowledgments**

**NPS Project Team** Paul Hawke, Project Leader; Kathleen Madigan, Survey Coordinator; Tanya Gossett and January Ruck, Reporting; Matthew Borders, Historian; Kristie Kendall, Program Assistant

**Respondents** William N. Black, Fort Smith National Historic Site; Paul Butler and Sarah Jones, Arkansas State Parks; Mark Christ, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program; Cathy Cunningham, Southern Bancorp Capital Partners; Thomas W. Dupree, Reed's Bridge Battlefield Preservation Society; Bill Gurley, Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas; Peggy S. Lloyd, Southwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail; Alan Thompson, Northwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail

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Cover: Pea Ridge National Military Park. The National Park Service manages 4,300 acres of the **Pea Ridge** battlefield, making it the largest permanently protected Civil War landscape in Arkansas. Photograph by the National Park Service, 2008.

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## Introduction

The information in this report fulfills, in part, the purposes of the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-359, 111 Stat. 3016). Those purposes are:

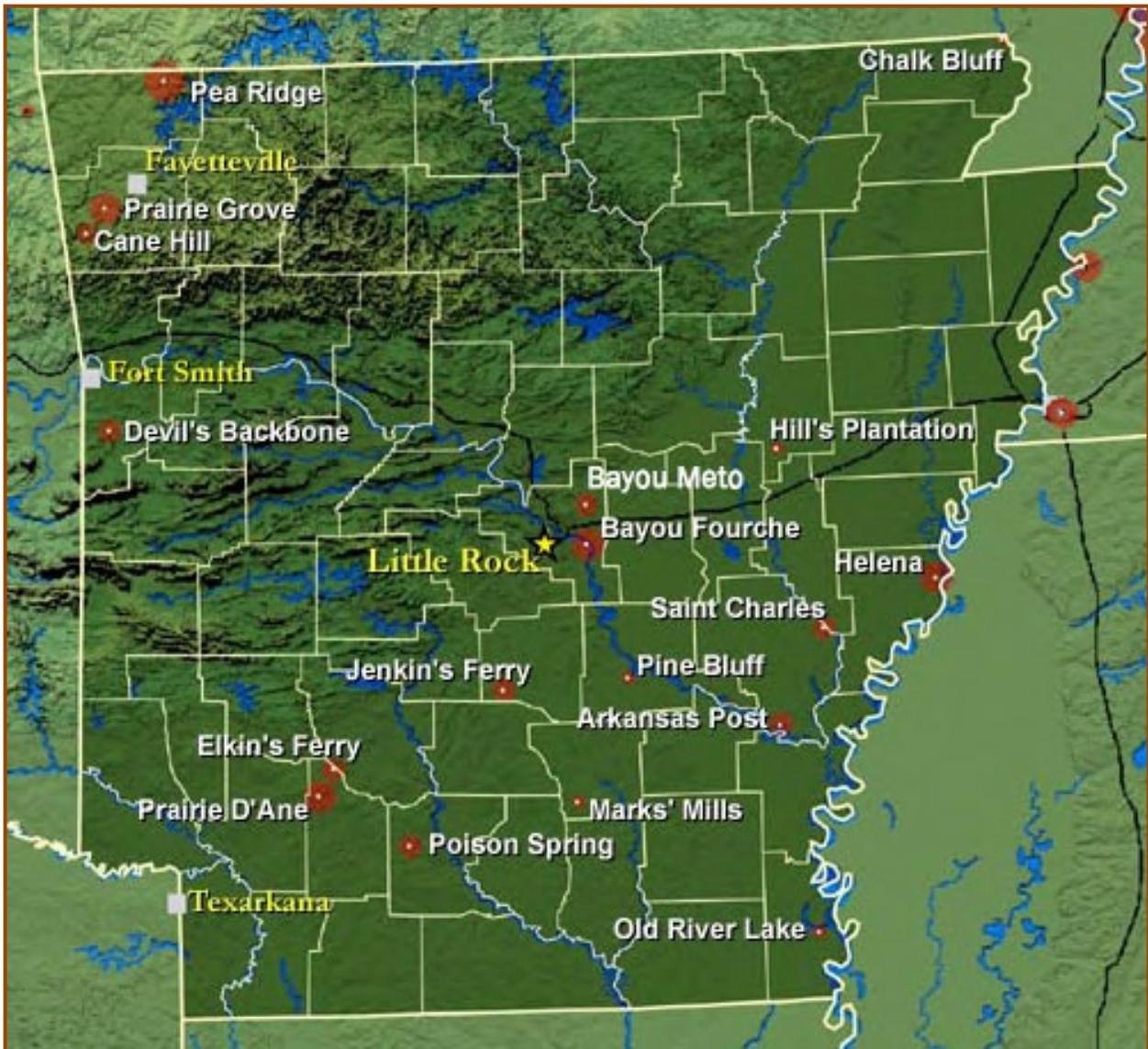
- 1) to act quickly and proactively to preserve and protect nationally significant Civil War battlefields through conservation easements and fee-simple purchases of those battlefields from willing sellers; and
- 2) to create partnerships among state and local governments, regional entities, and the private sector to preserve, conserve, and enhance nationally significant Civil War battlefields.

The Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002 directs the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) of the National Park Service, to update the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) *Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*. The CWSAC was established by Congress in 1991 and published its report in 1993. Congress provided funding for this update in FY 2005 and FY 2007. Congress asked that the updated report reflect the following:

- Preservation activities carried out at the 384 battlefields identified by the CWSAC during the period between 1993 and the update;
- Changes in the condition of the battlefields during that period; and
- Any other relevant developments relating to the battlefields during that period.

In accordance with the legislation, this report presents information about Civil War battlefields in Louisiana for use by Congress, federal, state, and local government agencies, landowners, and other interest groups. Other state reports will be issued as surveys and analyses are completed.

Figure 1. CWSAC battlefields in Arkansas. One additional battlefield, **Bayou Meto**, is included for the purposes of this report because it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a nationally significant battlefield in 2002.



## Synopsis

There are 17 CWSAC battlefields in the state of Arkansas. One other battlefield, **Bayou Meto** (also known as Reed's Bridge), will also be addressed in this report. Historically, these 18 battlefields encompassed more than 139,000 acres.<sup>1</sup> Today, about 89,800 acres, or 64 percent, retain sufficient significance and integrity to make them worthy of preservation.<sup>2</sup> More than 9,600 acres are permanently protected by governments and private nonprofit organizations (see Table 8).

While no battlefield remains completely unaltered since the Civil War, 12 of Arkansas's 18 battlefields have experienced relatively little or only moderate change to their terrain and aboveground battle features in nearly 150 years (see Table 6).<sup>3</sup> Despite this wealth of resources, protection of these landscapes has been uneven. While 82 percent of the **Saint Charles** battlefield is protected from development by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and 43 percent of the **Pea Ridge** battlefield is protected by the National Park Service, the other ten battlefields with good integrity have, on average, only seven percent of their land permanently protected. All 12 sites should continue to be the focus of national, state, and local preservation efforts during the next decade.

Nearly all of Arkansas' protected battlefield land has been purchased in fee and placed in public ownership. Many other states provide tax credits for private property owners who donate conservation easements that will permanently protect historic land. Further exploration of this powerful preservation tool is appropriate in Arkansas, where a strong network of local and state battlefield support already exists.

During its assessment, the CWSAC used a four-tiered system that combined historic significance, current condition, and level of threat to determine priorities for preservation among the battlefields. Nationwide, the CWSAC identified 50 top priority battlefields; one, **Prairie Grove**, is in Arkansas. The CWSAC viewed these battlefields as the most historically significant of the war, the most endangered in 1993, and having a "critical need for action."

The CWSAC assigned five more Arkansas battlefields to the second highest priority, those considered "opportunities for comprehensive preservation." These were battlefields "in relatively good condition," that faced few threats, and were "relatively unprotected."

The third priority included battlefields "that already have substantial historic land under protection and face limited threats," but that needed "some additional land protection." Seven were in Arkansas.

The CWSAC's fourth and lowest priority was for "fragmented" battlefields. The CWSAC explained, "While some lost battlefields are truly obliterated, important remnants of others still exist...." Although these sites "to varying degrees no longer convey an authentic sense of the sweep and setting of the battle, they often remain important areas suitable for interpretation, museums, and commemoration."<sup>4</sup> In 1993, the CWSAC

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<sup>1</sup>Using GIS software and accounting for overlapping areas, the ABPP calculated that the Study Areas for the 18 battlefields in Arkansas represent 139,003.66 acres. At **Chalk Bluff**, 554.45 more acres of the battlefield lie in Missouri's Dunklin County.

<sup>2</sup>Using GIS software and accounting for overlapping areas, the ABPP calculated that the Potential National Register Boundaries for the 18 battlefields in Arkansas represent 89,837.08 acres. At **Chalk Bluff**, 554.45 more potentially eligible acres lie in Missouri's Dunklin County.

<sup>3</sup>The condition of archeological resources within the battlefields was not assessed. Future studies are needed to determine the degree of archeological integrity associated with subsurface battle deposits.

<sup>4</sup>Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, *Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*, Washington, DC: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1993, 22-23.

determined that four Arkansas battlefields had been substantially compromised by post-war development.

<b>Table 1. CWSAC Preservation Priorities from 1993 – First Tier</b>		
<b>CWSAC Priority</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>	<b>County</b>
<b>I Critical Need</b> 1 Battlefield	Prairie Grove (AR005)	Washington

Arkansas’s only top priority from 1993, **Prairie Grove**, remains severely threatened. Although more than 800 acres of the surviving historic landscape are protected by the State at Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, another 3,600 acres of battlefield are privately owned and under increasing development pressure. Land protection efforts need to continue to save what remains of this nationally significant landscape.



Figure 2. The land in this view, located within the **Prairie Grove** Study Area, was purchased by the State of Arkansas in 1993 and is now managed as part of the Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park. Note the development at the edge of the parkland in the distance, which affects the viewshed of the battlefield. Photograph by Jessie Cox, Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, 2007.

**Table 2. CWSAC Preservation Priorities from 1993 – Second Tier**

<b>CWSAC Priority</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>	<b>County</b>
<b>II Comprehensive Preservation Possible</b> 5 Battlefields	Chalk Bluff (AR007)	Clay
	Devil’s Backbone (AR009)	Sebastian
	Elkin’s Ferry (AR012)	Nevada, Clark
	Marks’ Mills (AR015)	Cleveland
	Prairie D’Ane (AR013)	Nevada

All five battlefields noted as being “comprehensive preservation” opportunities in 1993 remain so today. The most endangered among the five is **Prairie D’Ane**, which faces a steady threat of development around the town of Prescott and Interstate 30. The continuing conversion of rural and agricultural land to residential and commercial uses makes **Prairie D’Ane** the most threatened battlefield in this group. **At Marks’ Mills**, large-scale timbering operations continue to damage the archeological resources and historic terrain. Protection and stewardship efforts at both **Marks’ Mills** and **Prairie D’Ane** need to be accelerated to avoid the loss of more battlefield land to uses that are incompatible with historic preservation. The other three battlefields are under limited development pressure, which makes them all excellent opportunities for planned and coordinated protection and management efforts over the long term.

**Table 3. CWSAC Preservation Priorities from 1993 – Third Tier**

<b>CWSAC Priority</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>	<b>County</b>
<b>III Additional Protection Needed</b> 7 Battlefields	Cane Hill (AR004)	Washington
	Hill’s Plantation (AR003)	Woodruff
	Jenkin’s Ferry (AR016)	Grant
	Old River Lake (AR017)	Chicot
	Pea Ridge (AR001)	Benton
	Poison Spring (AR014)	Ouachita
	Saint Charles (AR002)	Arkansas

The ABPP’s review of third tier battlefields in Arkansas found that all seven survive in excellent or good condition. The two best-protected battlefields in Arkansas, **Saint Charles** and **Pea Ridge**, are in this category. The White River National Wildlife Refuge and the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission protect more than 82 percent of the **Saint Charles** battlefield; however, an additional 10 percent of the battlefield needs further protection. Pea Ridge National Military Park protects 4,300 acres (43 percent) of the historic terrain associated with the March 1862 battle of **Pea Ridge**. Unlike at **Saint Charles**, protection efforts are far from complete at **Pea Ridge**. The ABPP found an additional 3,700 acres beyond the national military park’s boundary that could be targeted for permanent protection, whether in the form of public ownership or conservation easements.

**Cane Hill, Hill’s Plantation, Jenkins’ Ferry, and Poison Spring** also are protected to varying degrees by state or federal agencies, but at each, more than 89 percent of the surviving battlefield remains in private, unprotected hands. **Jenkin’s Ferry** and **Poison Spring** are threatened by large-scale timbering operations. All four of these battlefields should be viewed as higher priorities for protection than they were in 1993. Most of the

land within the Core Area of **Old River Lake** battlefield retains good integrity, but none of that land has been protected.

<b>Table 4. CWSAC Preservation Priorities from 1993 – Fourth Tier</b>		
<b>CWSAC Priority</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>	<b>County</b>
IV Fragmented/ Destroyed 4 Battlefields	Arkansas Post (AR006) Helena (AR008) Bayou Fourche (AR010) Pine Bluff (AR011)	Arkansas Phillips Pulaski Jefferson

Of the battlefields ranked as severely fragmented or “lost” by the CWSAC, the ABPP confirmed that one, **Pine Bluff**, is beyond hope of meaningful preservation. Three others, however, do retain integrity to varying degrees and are appropriate subjects for protection.

Changes in the course of the Arkansas River have altered significant portions of the **Arkansas Post** battlefield. Other rural land within the Study Area, however, has excellent integrity. The National Park Service protects 758 acres of the battlefield at the Arkansas Post National Memorial; however, more than 1,300 acres of historic land – 64 percent of the battlefield - lie outside the boundaries of the national park and are unprotected.

Surviving portions of the historic landscape at **Bayou Fourche** and **Helena** are threatened by development. At **Bayou Fourche**, the eastern engagement area where the Federal cavalry crossed the Arkansas River is being converted for lakeside residential uses. At **Helena**, the northern portion of the Study Area is protected within the St. Francis National Forest. The southern portion of the battlefield has been compromised to some degree by low-density residential development, but several sections of the Federal defensive works survive. The Archeological Conservancy owns Battery D, but three other identified earthworks, listed in the NRHP, and their hilly settings are unprotected. If the remaining unprotected portions of **Bayou Fourche** and **Helena** are to be preserved, immediate coordination is needed among local, state, and national advocates and heritage tourism proponents.

The landscape at **Pine Bluff** has changed dramatically since the Civil War. Growth of the City of Pine Bluff has destroyed the battlefield. Development of commemorative events and interpretive media within the city is the most appropriate treatment for this battlefield.

The CWSAC did not list **Bayou Meto** (Reed’s Bridge) as one of the principal battles of the Civil War. In 2002, however, the battlefield was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a nationally significant historic property. Given the high level of significance conferred by the NRHP listing, the ABPP decided, as part of the fieldwork undertaken for this update, to assess conditions at **Bayou Meto**. The battlefield has suffered greatly from the inexorable growth of Jacksonville, a bedroom community east of Little Rock.

See the Individual Battlefield Profiles for detailed condition assessments and preservation recommendations. The National Park Service will issue updated priorities after all CWSAC battlefields nationwide have been surveyed and all state reports have been completed.



Figure 3. While much of the landscape has been compromised by growth around the City of Little Rock, the eastern portion of the **Bayou Fourche** battlefield retains its integrity. Photograph courtesy of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

## Method Statement

Congress instructed the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP), to report on changes in the condition of the battlefields since 1993 and on “preservation activities” and “other relevant developments” carried out at each battlefield since 1993. To fulfill those assignments, the ABPP 1) conducted a site survey of each battlefield, and 2) prepared and sent out questionnaires to battlefield managers and advocacy organizations (see Appendix D).

The 1993 significance rankings for each battlefield stand. Significance was assigned by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission and the ABPP sustains the CWSAC’s opinions as to the relevant importance of each battle within the larger context of the war. In Arkansas, there is one exception. The CWSAC did not list **Bayou Meto** (Reed’s Bridge) as one of the principal battles of the Civil War in its 1993 *Report*. In 2002, however, that battlefield was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a nationally significant historic property. Given the high level of significance conferred by the NRHP listing, the ABPP decided to include **Bayou Meto** in this report.

## Research and Field Surveys

In 2009 and 2010, the ABPP worked with the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) to collect information about the 18 Civil War battlefields in Arkansas. The surveys entailed additional historical research, on-the-ground documentation and assessment of site conditions, identification of impending threats to each site, and site mapping. Surveyors used a Geographic Information System (GIS) program to draw site boundaries.

Based on recent site assessments made by Mark Christ of the AHPP and additional research conducted by ABPP staff, the ABPP was able to determine historic boundaries for the battlefields. Using commercially available satellite imagery, the ABPP was able to corroborate condition assessments provided by the AHPP. The ABPP retains all final research and mapping materials, including GIS generated spatial data for each battlefield. The surveys did not include archeological investigations for reasons of time and expense.

## Study Areas and Core Areas

The CWSAC identified a Study Area and a Core Area for each battlefield in Arkansas (see Figure 4 for definitions) except **Bayou Meto**. The CWSAC boundaries have proven invaluable as guides to local land and resource preservation efforts at Civil War battlefields. Since 1993, however, the National Park Service has refined its battlefield survey techniques, which include research, working with site stewards, identifying and documenting lines of approach and withdrawal used by opposing forces, and applying the concepts of military terrain analysis to all battlefield landscapes. The ABPP’s *Battlefield Survey Manual* explains the field methods employed during this study.<sup>5</sup> The surveys also incorporate the concepts recommended in the National Register of Historic Places’ *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America’s Historic Battlefields*, which was published in 1992 after the CWSAC completed its original assessments of the battlefields.<sup>6</sup>

Using its refined methodology, the ABPP was able to validate or adjust the CWSAC’s Study Area and Core Area boundaries to reflect more accurately the full nature and original resources of the battlefields (see Table 5). For **Bayou Meto**, the ABPP researched and delineated new boundaries based on the 2002 NRHP documentation. For the other Arkansas battlefields, the refined methodology resulted in significant increases in the size

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<sup>5</sup> American Battlefield Protection Program, “Battlefield Survey Manual,” (Washington, DC: National Park Service, revised 2007).

<sup>6</sup> National Register Bulletin 40, *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America’s Historic Battlefields*, 1992, Revised 1999 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division).

of Study Areas, Core Areas, or both. It is important to note however, that the Study Area and Core Area boundaries are simply historical boundaries that describe where the battle took place; neither indicates the current integrity of the battlefield landscape, so neither can be used on its own to identify surviving portions of battlefield land that may merit protection and preservation.

### **Potential National Register Boundaries**

To address the question of what part of the battlefield remains reasonably intact and warrants preservation, this study introduced a third boundary line that was not attempted by the CWSAC: the Potential National Register boundary (see Figure 4).

Looking at each Study Area, the surveyors assigned PotNR boundaries where they judged that the landscape retained enough integrity to convey the significance of the historic battle. In a few cases, the PotNR boundary encompasses the entire Study Area. In most cases, however, the PotNR boundary includes less land than identified in the full Study Area.

In assigning PotNR boundaries, the ABPP followed NRHP guidelines when identifying and mapping areas that retain integrity and cohesion within the Study Areas.<sup>7</sup> Because the ABPP focuses only on areas of battle, however, the Program did not evaluate lands adjacent to the Study Area that may contribute to a broader historical and chronological definition of “cultural landscape.” Lands outside of the Study Area associated with other historic events and cultural practices may need to be evaluated in preparation for a formal nomination of the cultural landscape.

Most importantly, the PotNR boundary **does not constitute a formal determination of eligibility by the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places.**<sup>8</sup> The PotNR

### **Figure 4: Boundary Definitions**

The **Study Area** represents the historic extent of the battle as it unfolded across the landscape. The Study Area contains resources known to relate to or contribute to the battle event: where troops maneuvered and deployed, immediately before, during, and after combat, and where they fought during combat. Historic accounts, terrain analysis, and feature identification inform the delineation of the Study Area boundary. The Study Area indicates the extent to which historic and archeological resources associated with the battle (areas of combat, command, communications, logistics, medical services, etc.) may be found. Surveyors delineated Study Area boundaries for every battle site that was positively identified through research and field survey, regardless of its present integrity.

The **Core Area** represents the areas of fighting on the battlefield. Positions that delivered or received fire, and the intervening space and terrain between them, fall within the Core Area. Frequently described as “hallowed ground,” land within the Core Area is often the first to be targeted for protection. There may be more than one Core Area on a battlefield, but all lie within the Study Area.

Unlike the Study and Core Areas, which are based only upon the interpretation of historic events, the **Potential National Register (PotNR) boundary** represents ABPP’s assessment of a Study Area’s current integrity (the surviving landscape and features that convey the site’s historic sense of place). The PotNR boundary may include all or some of the Study Area, and all or some of the Core Area. Lands within PotNR boundaries should be considered worthy of further attention, although future evaluations may reveal more or less integrity than indicated by the ABPP surveys.

<sup>7</sup> For general guidance about integrity issues and National Register of Historic Places properties, see National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, revised 1997). The survey evaluations described above do not meet the more stringent integrity standards for National Historic Landmark designation. See National Park Service, *How to Prepare National Historic Landmark Nominations* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, 1999), 36-37.

<sup>8</sup> See 36 CFR 60.1-14 for regulations about nominating a property to the National Register of Historic Places and 36 CFR 63 for regulations concerning Determinations of Eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

boundary is designed to be used as a planning tool for government agencies and the public. Like the Study and Core Area boundaries, the PotNR boundary places no restriction on private property use.

The term integrity, as defined by the NRHP, is “the ability of a property to convey its significance.”<sup>9</sup> While assessments of integrity are traditionally based on seven specific attributes – location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association – battlefields are unique cultural resources and require special evaluation.” Generally, the most important aspects of integrity for battlefields are location, setting, feeling and association,” and the most basic test for determining the integrity of any battlefield is to assess “whether a participant in the battle would recognize the property as it exists today.”<sup>10</sup>

Other conditions contribute to the *degree* of integrity a battlefield retains:

- the quantity and quality of surviving battle-period resources (e.g., buildings, roads, fence lines, military structures, and archeological features);
- the quantity and quality of the spatial relationships between and among those historic resources and the landscape that connects them;
- the extent to which current battlefield land use is similar to battle-period land use; and
- the extent to which a battlefield’s physical features and overall character visually communicate an authentic sense of the sweep and setting of the battle.

The degree to which post-war development has altered and fragmented the historic landscape or destroyed historic features and viewsheds is critical when assessing integrity.

Changes in traditional land use over time do not generally diminish a battlefield’s integrity. For example, landscapes that were farmland during the Civil War do not need to be in agricultural use today to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP so long as the land retains its historic rural character. Similarly, natural changes in vegetation – woods growing out of historic farm fields, for example – do not necessarily lessen the landscape’s integrity.

Some post-battle development is expected; slight or moderate change within the battlefield may not substantially diminish a battlefield’s integrity. A limited degree of residential, commercial, or industrial development is acceptable. These post-battle “non-contributing” elements are often included in the PotNR boundary in accordance with NRHP guidelines.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> National Park Service, National Register Bulletin 40, *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America’s Historic Battlefields*, 1992, Revised 1999 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division), <http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/pdfs/NRB40.pdf>. Archeological integrity was not examined during this study, but should be considered in future battlefield studies and formal nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.

<sup>10</sup> National Park Service, National Register Bulletin 40, *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America’s Historic Battlefields*, 1992, Revised 1999 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division).

<sup>11</sup> The ABPP looks only at the battle-related elements of a cultural landscape. Post-battle elements, while not contributing to the significance of the battlefield, may be eligible for separate listing in the National Register of Historic Places on their own merits.

Significant changes in land use since the Civil War do diminish the integrity of the battlefield landscape. Heavy residential, commercial, and industrial development; cellular tower and wind turbine installation; and large highway construction are common examples of such changes. Battlefield landscapes with these types of changes are generally considered as having little or no integrity.

The PotNR boundaries therefore indicate which battlefields are *likely* eligible for future listing in the NRHP and *likely* deserving of future preservation efforts. If a surveyor determined that a battlefield was entirely compromised by land use incompatible with the preservation of historic features (i.e., it has little or no integrity), the ABPP did not assign a PotNR boundary.<sup>12</sup>

In cases where a battlefield is already listed in the NRHP, surveyors reassessed the existing documentation based on current scholarship and resource integrity, and, when appropriate, provided new information and proposed new boundaries as part of the surveys. As a result, some PotNR boundaries will contain or share a boundary with lands already listed in the NRHP. In other cases, PotNR boundaries will exclude listed lands that have lost integrity (see Table 7 for boundary comparisons.)<sup>13</sup>

The data from which all three boundaries are drawn do not necessarily reflect the full research needed for a formal NRHP nomination. PotNR boundaries are based on an assessment of aboveground historic features associated with the cultural and natural landscape. The surveys did not include a professional archeological inventory or assessment of subsurface features or indications. In some cases, future archeological testing will help determine whether subsurface features remain, whether subsurface battle features convey important information about a battle or historic property, and whether that information may help to confirm, refine, or refute the boundaries previously determined by historic studies and terrain analysis.

The ABPP survey information should be reassessed during future compliance processes such as the Section 106 process required by the National Historic Preservation Act<sup>14</sup> and Environmental Impact Statements/Environmental Assessments required by the National Environmental Policy Act.<sup>15</sup> Likewise, more detailed research and assessments should take place when any battlefield is formally nominated to the NRHP or proposed for designation as a National Historic Landmark (NHL). New research and intensive-level surveys of these sites will enlighten future preservation and compliance work. Agencies should continue to consult local and state experts for up-to-date information about these battlefields.

Thirteen of Arkansas' battlefields are already listed in the NRHP or are designated as National Historic Landmarks (see Table 7). These battlefield listings total approximately 20,170 acres, more than in any other state except Virginia.<sup>16</sup> At each of the battlefields in

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<sup>12</sup> National Park Service, National Register Bulletin 40, *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America's Historic Battlefields*, 1992, Revised 1999 (<http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/pdfs/NRB40.pdf>), offers recommendations regarding "Selecting Defensible Boundaries." While this document indicates that "generally, boundaries should not be drawn to include the portion of the route taken to the battlefield where there were no encounters," the *Guidelines* also state that "a basic principle is to include within the boundary all of the locations where opposing forces, either before, during or after the battle, took actions based on their assumption of being in the presence of the enemy." The ABPP interprets this latter guidance to mean all military activities that influenced the battle. See the individual battlefield profiles for information about military actions taken along the routes included. In accordance with the methodology of this study, if routes included in the Study Area retain integrity, they are included within the Potential National Register boundary for the battlefield landscape.

<sup>13</sup> The ABPP's surveys and PotNR assessments do not constitute formal action on behalf of the office of the National Register of Historic Places. PotNR assessments are intended for planning purposes only; they do not carry the authority to add, change, or remove an official listing.

<sup>14</sup> 16 USC 470f.

<sup>15</sup> 42 USC 4331-4332.

<sup>16</sup> In Virginia, 34 battlefields are listed in the National Register. They encompass approximately 24,200 acres.

Arkansas, the ABPP recommends a PotNR boundary of greater size than the existing NRHP boundary. The PotNR, however, may not trace the existing boundary exactly if land previously listed in the NRHP has lost integrity or the ABPP Study Area limits the PotNR.

### Questionnaires

While the ABPP maintains data about its own program activities at Civil War battlefields, most preservation work occurs at the local level. Therefore, to answer Congress's directive for information about battlefield preservation activities, the ABPP sought input from local battlefield managers and advocacy organizations. The ABPP distributed questionnaires designed to gather information about the types of preservation activities that have taken place at the battlefields since 1993. The Questionnaire is reproduced in Appendix D.

In Arkansas, representatives of seven organizations completed and returned questionnaires. Their responses, combined with information from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, allowed the ABPP to create a profile of conditions and activities at Arkansas's Civil War battlefields.



Figure 5. View of the City of Helena, part of the **Helena** battlefield, from Union Battery C. Three historic batteries are protected in Helena: Batteries A and C are owned by the city; Battery D is owned by the Archeological Conservancy. Photograph by Joseph E. Brent, 2009.

# Summary of Conditions of Arkansas’s Civil War Battlefields

## Quantified Land Areas

Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software, the ABPP calculated the amount of land historically associated with the battle (Study Area), the amount of land where forces were engaged (Core Area), and the amount of land that may retain enough integrity to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and that remains to be protected (Potential National Register boundary).

As noted above, Study Areas and Core Areas have been revised in many cases. In particular, the original CWSAC surveys did not consistently include routes of approach and withdrawal or secondary actions that influenced the course or outcome of the battle. The revised boundaries take these movements and actions into account.<sup>17</sup> In some instances, new or additional research has sharpened historical understanding of battle events. Therefore, the ABPP determined that additional lands belong appropriately in the Study and Core Areas because they lend additional understanding to the battle story. The individual battlefield profiles at the end of this report provide additional information about the extent of and reasons for any revisions to the CWSAC Study Area and Core Area boundaries.

Table 5 lists the size of the three boundaries, as determined by the ABPP, for each battlefield. At **Cane Hill** and **Prairie Grove**, and at **Elkin’s Ferry** and **Prairie D’Ane**, the armies moved over the same ground on separate occasions. At **Chalk Bluff**, two-thirds of the battlefield lies in Missouri. For these reasons, the total number of battlefield acres in Arkansas is lower than a straight tally of the data in Table 5 would indicate. Calculating for overlapping lands and subtracting the Missouri acreage, there are 139,000 total Study Area acres, 40,200 total Core Area acres, and 89,800 total acres likely eligible for listing in the NRHP in Arkansas.

<b>Battlefield</b>	<b>Study Area</b>	<b>Core Area</b>	<b>PotNR Boundary</b>
Arkansas Post (AR006)	3,097.18	976.50	2,118.26
Bayou Fourche (AR010)	9,666.26	1,700.51	1,895.61
Bayou Meto (AR018)	3,220.59	833.58	715.17
Cane Hill (AR004)	9,007.96	3,254.99	6,929.53
Chalk Bluff (AR007)*	217.07	64.60	217.07
Devil's Backbone (AR009)	2,538.32	1,101.02	1,776.97
Elkin's Ferry (AR012)	9,221.77	2,120.90	9,209.94
Helena (AR008)	7,600.04	2,298.65	3,361.83
Hill's Plantation (AR003)	3,528.55	1,025.92	3,528.55
Jenkin's Ferry (AR016)	7,796.37	3,078.09	4,510.69

<sup>17</sup> National Register Bulletin 40, *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America’s Historic Battlefields* (<http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/pdfs/NRB40.pdf>), offers recommendations regarding “Selecting Defensible Boundaries.” While this document indicates that “generally, boundaries should not be drawn to include the portion of the route taken to the battlefield where there were no encounters,” the guidelines also state that “a basic principle is to include within the boundary all of the locations where opposing forces, either before, during or after the battle, took actions based on their assumption of being in the presence of the enemy.” The ABPP interprets this latter guidance to mean all military activities that influenced the battle. See the individual battlefield profiles for information about military actions taken along the routes included. In accordance with the methodology of this study, if routes included in the Study Area retain integrity, they are included within the Potential National Register boundary for the battlefield landscape.

Marks' Mills (AR015)	16,534.56	4,620.16	11,395.14
Old River Lake (AR017)	7,763.14	2,570.04	3,839.77
Pea Ridge (AR001)	9,834.22	2,078.97	8,063.74
Pine Bluff (AR011)	7,633.37	108.42	0.00
Poison Spring (AR014)	11,628.13	3,337.86	11,374.27
Prairie D'Ane (AR013)	17,318.69	7,671.57	14,201.03
Prairie Grove (AR005)	14,708.69	2,450.54	4,410.01
Saint Charles (AR002)	1,830.99	853.69	1,735.05

\*A significant portion of the Chalk Bluff battlefield extends into Missouri: Study Area = 554.45 acres, Core Area = 128.78 acres and PotNR Boundary = 554.45 acres.

## Condition Assessments

Using information provided by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program and commercially available satellite imagery, the ABPP assessed the overall condition of each battlefield's *Study Area*. While no battlefield remains completely unaltered since the Civil War, 12 of Arkansas's 18 battlefields have experienced relatively little or only moderate change to their terrain and aboveground battle features in nearly 150 years.<sup>18</sup>

Arkansas is fortunate to have lost so few of its Civil War battlefields to twentieth century urban development. The battlefields associated with the Union army's 1863 campaign to take Little Rock—**Bayou Fourche**, **Bayou Meto**, and **Pine Bluff**—have been destroyed or severely fragmented by growth around the capital city. Significant portions of the landscapes at **Helena** and **Prairie Grove** have been lost to urban development. Protection of the surviving terrain and features is an immediate concern.

Most of the state's other battlefields, including all five of the Camden Expedition sites, remain in rural, slowly developing areas. Ten of these more rural battlefields already enjoy some level of protection by federal, state, and local governments or nonprofit organizations. Battlefield lands outside of those public holdings, however, warrant continued preservation efforts. Principal threats to these rural battlefields are commercial timbering operations (which alter the terrain features and disturb or destroy archeological evidence of the battle) and aggressive relic hunting (which strips the battlefield of its archeological record artifact by artifact). Several of the nationally significant battlefields of the Camden Expedition are located in areas of intensive timber production. The Core Areas of the **Jenkin's Ferry**, **Marks' Mill**, and **Poison Spring** battlefields have been damaged by ongoing pine and hardwood forestry management techniques. Immediate efforts to develop and implement plans to minimize damage to battlefield terrain and archeological resources during forestry operations is needed.

At **Arkansas Post**, natural changes in the course of the Arkansas River and construction of the Arkansas Post Canal have altered portions of the battlefield's Core Area dramatically. About 360 acres of battlefield land are now under water. A levee extending from the canal down to Notrebes Bend and modernized roads further diminish the integrity of the historic landscape. Despite the presence of this infrastructure on the landscape, about 1,300 acres outside the boundaries of the Arkansas Post National Memorial remain rural and undeveloped, making the battlefield a good candidate for additional protection.

<sup>18</sup> The condition of archeological resources within the battlefields was not assessed. Future studies are needed to determine the degree of archeological integrity associated with subsurface battle deposits.

**Table 6: Battlefield Condition Summary**

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>
<b>Land use and terrain is little changed (4)</b>	Cane Hill, Chalk Bluff, Elkin’s Ferry, Hill’s Plantation
<b>Portions of landscape have been altered, but most essential features remain (8)</b>	Devil’s Backbone, Jenkin’s Ferry, Marks’ Mills, Old River Lake, Pea Ridge, Prairie D’Ane, Poison Spring, St. Charles
<b>Much of the landscape has been altered and fragmented, leaving some essential features (5)</b>	Arkansas Post, Bayou Fourche, Bayou Meto, Helena, Prairie Grove
<b>Landscape and terrain have been altered beyond recognition (1)</b>	Pine Bluff

### Registration

The nation’s official method for recognizing historic properties worthy of preservation is listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or designation as a National Historic Landmark (NHL). Sites and structures listed in the NRHP meet national standards for documentation, physical integrity, and demonstrable significance to the history of our nation. Federal, state, and local agencies use information from the NRHP as a planning tool to identify and make decisions about cultural resources. Federal and state laws, most notably Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, require agencies to account for the effects their projects (roads, wetland permits, quarrying, cell towers, etc.) may have on listed and eligible historic properties, such as battlefields. Listing allows project designers to quickly identify the battlefield and avoid or minimize impacts to the landscape.

As of September 2010, more than 20,160 acres at 13 Arkansas Civil War battlefields have been listed in the NRHP.<sup>19</sup> Most of the Arkansas listings recognize expansive battlefield landscapes (where physical integrity allows for a comprehensive approach). As a result, Arkansas listings average an impressive 1,150 acres per battlefield. By comparison, the 34 Civil War battlefields listed in the NRHP in Virginia average only 710 listed acres per battlefield. The largest NRHP battlefield listing in Arkansas is **Cane Hill**, with 5,750 acres.

Arkansas’ approach to NRHP listings, one that seeks to include the entire eligible landscape, is a model that the ABPP commends to others seeking the approval of the NRHP and recognition of a battlefield landscape in federal projects. Because the ABPP has revised many of the battlefield Study Areas in Arkansas, it encourages battlefield advocates in the state to revisit the existing documentation and boundaries and update them where appropriate. This study indicates that more than 56,700 acres of historic battlefield could be added to existing NRHP listings. The ABPP also found that portions of **Bayou Fourche, Devil’s Backbone, Hill’s Plantation, and Old River Lake**, encompassing some 11,000 acres, may also be eligible for listing as battlefield landscapes.

Properties listed in the NRHP may also be eligible for federal and state historic preservation grant programs. Recognition as an NRHP listed battlefield can advance public

<sup>19</sup> National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, Washington, DC. The exact sum of listed lands, based on National Register documentation, is 20,169.14 acres. Note that some lands listed in the National Register of Historic Places may have lost integrity since they were listed.

understanding of and appreciation for the battlefield, and may encourage advocacy for its preservation.<sup>20</sup>

Table 7 compares the number of acres already listed with the number of acres that are likely to meet the same criteria, but are not currently part of the existing NRHP boundary.

<b>Table 7. Acres Registered Compared with Acres Potentially Eligible to be Registered</b>				
<b>Battlefield</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>ABPP PotNR Acres</b>	<b>Existing Registered Acres</b>	<b>Acres Potentially Eligible to be Registered</b>
Arkansas Post (AR006)	NPS, NHL	2,118.26	758.00	1,360.26
Bayou Fourche (AR010)		1,895.61	0.00	1,895.61
Bayou Meto (AR018)	NRHP	715.17	412.00	303.17
Cane Hill (AR004)	NRHP	6,929.53	5,750.00	1,179.53
Chalk Bluff (AR007)*	NRHP	771.52	9.50	762.02
Devil's Backbone (AR009)		1,776.97	0.00	1,776.97
Elkin's Ferry (AR012)	NHL	9,209.94	575.00	8,634.94
Helena (AR008)	NRHP	3,361.83	84.80	3,277.03
Hill's Plantation (AR003)		3,528.55	0.00	3,528.55
Jenkin's Ferry (AR016)	NHL	4,510.69	1,900.00	2,610.69
Marks' Mills (AR015)	NHL	11,395.14	1,742.00	9,653.14
Old River Lake (AR017)		3,839.77	0.00	3,839.77
Pea Ridge (AR001)	NPS, NRHP	8,063.74	4,300.00	3,763.74
Pine Bluff (AR011)		0.00	0.00	0.00
Poison Spring (AR014)	NHL	11,374.27	1,120.00	10,254.27
Prairie D'Ane (AR013)	NHL	14,201.03	2,673.00	11,528.03
Prairie Grove (AR005)	NRHP	4,410.01	837.64	3,572.37
Saint Charles (AR002)	NRHP	1,735.05	9.00	1,726.05

*\*554.45 acres of the potentially eligible land in the Chalk Bluff battlefield lie in Missouri.*

## Stewardship

For the purposes of this update, “protected land” means battlefield land that is in public or private non-profit ownership, or is under permanent protective easement, and is managed specifically for 1) the purposes of maintaining the historic character of the landscape and for preventing future impairment or destruction of the landscape and historic features, or for 2) a conservation purpose and use compatible with the goals of historic landscape preservation.

The ABPP established this definition because, while public ownership of land often provides some level of protection for historic resources, it does not necessarily foreclose

<sup>20</sup> There are three levels of federal recognition for historic properties: Congressional designations such as national park units, National Historic Landmarks, and listings in the National Register of Historic Places. Congress creates national park units. The Secretary of the Interior designates National Historic Landmarks (NHL) – nationally significant historic sites – for their exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. The National Register of Historic Places is the nation’s official list of cultural sites significant at the national, state, or local level and worthy of preservation. Historic units of the National Park System and NHLs are also listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

the potential for damage. Federal, state, and municipal ownership may prevent private development, and public ownership may require compliance with state and federal environmental laws, but the primary uses (military readiness, timber production, recreation, mineral extraction, impoundment, etc.) of that public land may not be compatible with the perpetual protection and appropriate management of a battlefield landscape.

Most of the protected and managed land at Civil War battlefields in Arkansas falls under the auspices of the Federal and State governments. Very little land is controlled and managed by local governments or nonprofit organizations.

Three federal agencies help protect more than 8,400 acres of Civil War battlefield land in Arkansas. The National Park Service manages two units created with historic preservation and interpretation as their primary objectives – Arkansas Post National Memorial (758 acres) and Pea Ridge National Military Park (4,300 acres). Together, these National Park units make up 45 percent of all protected battlefield land in Arkansas.

Other federal holdings in Arkansas have been set aside for conservation purposes and uses compatible with the goals of historic landscape preservation. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) holds 376 acres at **Hill's Plantation** and 1,454 acres at **Saint Charles**, which permanently protects 82 percent of that battlefield's Study Area. The third major federal steward is the USDA Forest Service, which owns 760 acres at **Cane Hill** and 820 acres at **Helena**. While Forest Service lands are unavailable for private development, forestry activities can still damage the battlefield landscape. As federal land managers, both the USFWS and the USDA Forest Service need to inventory and document historic battlefield land within their holdings and plan for the preservation and appropriate treatment of that land in accordance with federal laws and policies, particularly the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended.



Figure 6. The Cane Hill Cemetery is located in **Cane Hill** battlefield's northern Core Area. The cemetery existed at the time of battle and is considered one of the battlefields' defining features. Photograph courtesy of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

The State of Arkansas has also been successful in acquiring and managing battlefield property. It owns almost 1,100 acres at seven battlefields. Those holdings include four state parks at **Jenkin’s Ferry, Marks’ Mills, Prairie Grove, and Poison Spring**, three natural areas at **Chalk Bluff, Poison Spring, and Saint Charles**, and the Black Swamp Wildlife Management Area at **Hill’s Plantation**. In addition, the Missouri Department of Conservation owns 84 acres of the **Chalk Bluff** battlefield on the east side of the Missouri River. All of these state agencies need to be aware of the battlefield resources in their care in order to make appropriate treatment and management decisions as land stewards.

Municipalities in Arkansas have historically played only a limited role in efforts to preserve battlefields; however, this appears to be changing. In the last decade, the City of Jacksonville has acquired 22 acres of the **Bayou Meto** battlefield in an effort to protect what remains of that landscape. The City of Helena, in partnership with the Downtown Helena Business Improvement District, owns the sites of two Federal batteries associated with the battle of **Helena**. The City is actively promoting and interpreting the sites and Helena’s Civil War history.<sup>21</sup> More local government involvement will be necessary if public-private partnerships are to succeed in protecting Civil War battlefields at the local level.

The ABPP found that only two nonprofit organizations—both national groups—hold and manage battlefield land in Arkansas. The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) purchased 10.17 acres at **Devil’s Backbone** in 2008, and the Archeological Conservancy purchased 10 acres to protect Union Battery D at **Helena** in 2003.

Table 8 compares total lands protected by federal, state, local, and nonprofit entities in Arkansas.

<b>Table 8: Summary of Battlefield Stewardship in Arkansas</b>		
<b>Steward</b>	<b>Battlefield at Which Land or Development Rights are Owned</b>	<b>Acres Protected</b>
Federal Government	Arkansas Post, Cane Hill, Helena, Hill’s Plantation, Pea Ridge, Saint Charles	8,470.20
State Government*	Chalk Bluff, Helena, Hill’s Plantation, Jenkin’s Ferry, Marks’ Mills, Poison Spring, Prairie Grove, Saint Charles	1,093.17
Local Governments	Bayou Fourche, Bayou Meto, Helena	44.10
Nonprofit Organizations	Devil’s Backbone, Helena	20.17
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,627.64</b>

*\*The Missouri Department of Conservation owns an additional 84.35 acres of the Chalk Bluff battlefield in Missouri.*

All of the battlefield land protected in Arkansas to date has been purchased in fee. With the current economy requiring both public and private organizations to limit their spending, conservation easements can be a more cost-effective way to protect historic battlefields. In 2005, the Arkansas General Assembly recognized the legality and purposes

<sup>21</sup> In July 2009, the city, the Helena-West Helena Advertising and Promotion Commission; the Delta Bridge Project (a countywide civic organization), Southern Bancorp Capital Partners, and the State’s Delta Cultural Center adopted and are implementing a Civil War interpretive plan for Helena.

of conservation easements when it passed the Conservation Easement Act to protect “natural, scenic, or open-space values of real property; assur[e] its availability for agricultural, forest, recreational, or open-space use; protect natural resources; maintain or enhance[e] air or water quality; or preserv[e] the historical, architectural, archeological, or cultural aspects of real property.”<sup>22</sup>

Used in conjunction with or instead of traditional fee simple purchase, conservation easements are becoming increasingly popular land protection tools across the country. Private property owners are allowed to keep their land and may receive tax credits for donating a permanent easement, but future development of the land is prohibited. In Arkansas, if a conservation easement is conveyed in a state-recognized riparian zone or wetland, owners may receive state tax credits.<sup>23</sup>

Preservation advocates need to work with land trusts, public entities, and willing sellers to design and apply these powerful tools at Civil War battlefields. In addition, federal funding is available for easement acquisition through the ABPP, the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program of the Department of Agriculture, and transportation enhancement grants administered by the Arkansas State Highways and Transportation Department.<sup>24</sup>

Through the development of collaborative partnerships among federal, state, and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private individuals, significant protective measures can continue to be effective in Arkansas. Such partnerships have worked well at **Prairie Grove** and **Bayou Meto**, where the State of Arkansas and the City of Jacksonville, respectively, have negotiated purchases for substantial portions of battlefield land with help from numerous interest groups. Opportunities for concerted action on the part of private landowners and land conservation groups are present at battlefields where most of the surviving land is privately owned and unprotected, such as at **Elkin’s Ferry**, **Marks’ Mills**, **Old River Lake**, and **Prairie D’Ane**.



Figure 7. **Elkin’s Ferry** is one of the most pristine Civil War battlefields in Arkansas. The landscape is still primarily rural and looks much the same as it did during the battle. Photograph courtesy of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

<sup>22</sup> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 15-20-401 to 15-20-410 (2005).

<sup>23</sup> Act 351 of the Regular Session, State of Arkansas, 87<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, 2009.

<sup>24</sup> Natural Resources Conservation Service, “Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program,” <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/frpp/>, updated July 2010.

For each battlefield, Table 9 compares the amount of land permanently protected from development with the total amount of land that remains intact but is not protected.<sup>25</sup> This information may serve planners as a tool for prioritizing future preservation initiatives.

**Table 9: Protective Stewardship of Intact Battlefield Land**

<b>Battlefield</b>	<b>Permanently Protected Acres</b>	<b>ABPP PotNR Acres</b>	<b>Unprotected, Intact Acres Remaining</b>
Arkansas Post (AR006)	758.00	2,118.26	1,360.26
Bayou Fourche (AR010)	2.00	1,895.61	1,893.61
Bayou Meto (AR018)	22.10	715.17	693.07
Cane Hill (AR004)	762.40	6,929.53	6,167.13
Chalk Bluff (AR007)*	139.28	771.52	632.24
Devil's Backbone (AR009)	10.17	1,776.97	1,766.80
Elkin's Ferry (AR012)	0.00	9,209.94	9,209.94
Helena (AR008)	849.86	3,361.83	2,511.97
Hill's Plantation (AR003)	381.47	3,528.55	3,147.08
Jenkin's Ferry (AR016)	31.60	4,510.69	4,479.09
Marks' Mills (AR015)	7.15	11,395.14	11,387.99
Old River Lake (AR017)	0.00	3,839.77	3,839.77
Pea Ridge (AR001)	4,300.00	8,063.74	3,763.74
Pine Bluff (AR011)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Poison Spring (AR014)	1,526.88	11,374.27	9,847.39
Prairie D'Ane (AR013)	0.00	14,201.03	14,201.03
Prairie Grove (AR005)	837.76	4,410.01	3,572.25
Saint Charles (AR002)	1,508.18	1,735.05	226.87

*\*Protected land at Chalk Bluff includes 84.35 acres in Missouri.*

### **Public Access and Interpretation**

In its questionnaire (see Appendix D), the ABPP asked battlefield stewards about the types of public access and interpretation available at the battlefield. The ABPP did not collect information about the purpose or intent of the interpretation and access, such as whether a wayside exhibit was developed for purely educational reasons, to promote heritage tourism, or to boost local economic development.

The ABPP asked respondents to indicate the type of interpretation available at or about the battlefield since 1993. The categories included brochures, driving tours, living history demonstrations, maintained historic features or areas, walking tours and trails, wayside exhibits, websites, and other specialized programs. The results, summarized in Table 10, indicate that 15 of Arkansas's 18 Civil War battlefields have provided some degree of public interpretation and educational opportunities since 1993.

These findings are especially important as the sesquicentennial of the Civil War nears in April 2011. Like many other states, Arkansas is heavily promoting the sesquicentennial for public education, community development, and heritage tourism. In 2007, the Arkansas

<sup>25</sup> The ABPP culled information about permanently protected lands from questionnaire respondents and numerous partner organizations, as well as spatial data provided by the State of Arkansas (1995). The data is not necessarily complete but provides an approximate idea of the amount of land protected at each battlefield as of 2010.

General Assembly created the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission. The purpose of the Commission is “to promote a suitable statewide observance of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War; cooperate and assist national, state and local organizations with programs and activities suitable for the sesquicentennial observance; ensure that any observance of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War is inclusive and appropriately recognizes the experiences and points of view of all people affected by the Civil War; and provide assistance for the development of programs, projects, and activities on the Civil War that have lasting educational value.”<sup>26</sup> As part of its mission, “the Commission has developed interpretive themes for each year of the observance of the 150th anniversary of the war to provide guidance to local governments, historical societies, museums and other organizations as they begin planning local events.” This structure, along with public interest in the Civil War, will likely lead to additional interpretive facilities and more inclusive interpretation at each of Arkansas’ battlefields.

**Table 10: Types of Interpretation at Arkansas Battlefields**

<b>On-site Interpretation Since 1993*</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>
<b>Battlefields with public interpretation, including visitors center (3)</b>	Arkansas Post, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove
<b>Battlefields with public interpretation, but no visitors center (12)</b>	Bayou Fourche, Bayou Meto, Cane Hill, Chalk Bluff, Elkin's Ferry, Helena, Jenkin's Ferry, Marks' Mills, Old River Lake, Poison Spring, Prairie D'Ane, Saint Charles
<b>Battlefields with no public interpretation (3)</b>	Devil’s Backbone, Hill’s Plantation, Pine Bluff

*\*For details, see each site's Individual Battlefield Profile*

### Advocacy

Nonprofit organizations play important roles in protecting historic battlefields. They step in to preserve historic sites when public funding and management for historic preservation are absent. When public funding is available, nonprofits serve as vital partners in public-private preservation efforts, acting as conduits for public funds, raising critical private matching funds, keeping history and preservation in the public eye, and working with landowners to find ways to protect battlefield parcels.

Battlefield proponents are well organized in Arkansas. First conceived in the early 1990s, “The Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail (ACWHT) is a network of regional private, nonprofit, volunteer organizations seeking to identify, protect, interpret, and promote Arkansas properties related to the state's Civil War experience. General guidance for the member groups is provided by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage.”<sup>27</sup> The ACWHT has six regional trail organizations designed to coordinate projects and events among local governments, nonprofit organizations, and the public.

<sup>26</sup> Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, “About Us,” <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/about/> [last accessed September 8, 2010].

<sup>27</sup> Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas, “Arkansas Civil War Trails,” <http://www.civilwarbuff.org/Links/CivilWarHeritageTrails.html> (created June 14, 2009).

In addition to the regional trail organizations, there are five nonprofit friends groups dedicated to the preservation, interpretation, and promotion of a specific battlefield or battlefields (see Table 11). Most of the battlefield friends groups in Arkansas came into being after the CWSAC issued its report in 1993. That same year, the Friends of Prairie Grove Battlefield helped the State of Arkansas acquire more than 170 acres of the **Prairie Grove** battlefield, which was added to the Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park. The Reed’s Bridge Battlefield Preservation Society plays a similar role at **Bayou Meto**. Since 1999, the Society has worked with the City of Jacksonville and the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program to save 22 acres of battlefield land in an area under constant development pressure. Creation of grassroots organizations at other Arkansas battlefields could facilitate land protection at those sites. Given the physical integrity of the five Camden Campaign battlefields, a single friends group established to work with willing sellers and negotiate conservation easements within those historic landscapes could have a lasting influence on battlefield preservation in the state. The newly formed Friends of Arkansas’ Battlefields appears poised to fill that role.

While other organizations with more general historical interests may also play important roles in preserving Arkansas’ Civil War battlefields, these five groups are the only known local organizations in Kansas dedicated *solely* to the goals of Civil War battlefield preservation.

**Table 11: Active Battlefield Friends Groups**

<b>Battlefield</b>	<b>Friends Group</b>	<b>Year Founded</b>
Arkansas Post (AR006)		
Bayou Fourche (AR010)		
Bayou Meto (AR018)	Reed’s Bridge Battlefield Preservation Society	1997
Cane Hill (AR004)		
Chalk Bluff (AR007)		
Devil's Backbone (AR009)	Friends of Devil’s Backbone Ridge Battlefield	2010
Elkin's Ferry (AR012)	Friends of Arkansas’ Battlefields	2010
Helena (AR008)		
Hill's Plantation (AR003)		
Jenkin's Ferry (AR016)	Friends of Arkansas’ Battlefields	2010
Marks' Mills (AR015)	Friends of Arkansas’ Battlefields	2010
Old River Lake (AR017)		
Pea Ridge (AR001)	Pea Ridge National Military Park Foundation	1994
Pine Bluff (AR011)		
Poison Spring (AR014)	Friends of Arkansas’ Battlefields	2010
Prairie D'Ane (AR013)	Friends of Arkansas’ Battlefields	2010
Prairie Grove (AR005)	Friends of Prairie Grove Battlefield	ca. 1991
Saint Charles (AR002)		



Figure 8. Except for utility lines running along County Road 223, this portion of the scenic **Prairie D'Ane** battlefield remains unimpaired by modern development. Photograph by Joseph E. Brent, 2009.

## Appendices

### Appendix A. Civil War Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants

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The Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002 (PL 107-359) amended the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 (16 USC 469k) to authorize a matching grant program to assist States and local communities in acquiring significant Civil War battlefield lands for permanent protection. Most recently, Congress showed its continued support for these grants through its reauthorization of this program within the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (PL 111-11).

Eligible battlefields are those listed in the 1993 Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields prepared by the Congressionally chartered Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC). Eligible acquisition projects may be for fee interest in land or for a protective interest such as a perpetual easement.

Since 1998, Congress has appropriated a total of \$38.9 million for this Civil War Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants (CWBLAG) Program. These grants have assisted in the permanent protection of more than 16,600 acres at 67 Civil War battlefields in 14 states. To date, only one Arkansas battlefield has received funding through this program. While all of the battlefields listed in this update are eligible for future CWBLAG funding, applications to protect land that retains integrity (within PotNR boundaries) will be the most competitive.

<b>Battlefield</b>	<b>CWSAC Priority</b>	<b>Total Acres Acquired</b>	<b>Total CWBLAG Funds</b>	<b>Total Non-Federal Leveraged Funds</b>	<b>Total Acquisition Costs</b>
Prairie Grove	I	261.77	\$724,300.00	\$724,300.00	\$1,448,600.00

## Appendix B. American Battlefield Protection Program Planning Grants

Since 1992, the ABPP has offered annual planning grants to nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, and local, regional, state, and tribal governments to help protect battlefields located on American soil. The ABPP encourages applicants to work with partner organizations and government agencies in order to integrate their efforts into a comprehensive landscape protection strategy. The ABPP has awarded more than \$350,000 in planning grants to organizations working to preserve, interpret, and manage Civil War battlefields in Arkansas.

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Award</b>
<b>Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism</b>	2010	Cultural Resource Studies for Prairie Grove Battlefield	\$82,000.00
	1999	Designs and Specifications for an Overlook at Prairie Grove	\$5,133.00
	1998	Land Appraisal at Prairie Grove for Acquisition/Easement Planning	\$16,300.00
	1997	Prairie Grove Battlefield Plans	\$10,000.00
	1993	Prairie Grove Enhanced Protection Plan	\$20,000.00
	1992	Land Appraisal at Prairie Grove Battlefield for Acquisition/Easement Planning	\$20,000.00
<b>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</b>	1994	Public Workshops at Prairie Grove Battlefield and Implementation of Heritage Trail Plan	\$10,000.00
	1993	Creation of Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail	\$20,000.00
	1998	Implement the Arkansas Heritage Trail Plan	
	1996	Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail Interpretation	\$10,000.00
<b>Center for Applied Special Technology</b>	1993	Viewshed Study for Prairie Grove Battlefield	\$39,840.00
	1992	New Approaches to Battlefield Protection Planning Video	\$15,000.00
<b>Nevada County Industrial Development Corporation</b>	2007	Elkins Ferry and Prairie D'Ane Battlefield Preservation Plan	\$28,097.00
<b>Reed's Bridge Battlefield Preservation Society</b>	2004	Bayou Meto (Reed's Bridge) Battlefield Preservation Plan	\$25,203.00
<b>Southern Bancorp Capital Partners</b>	2009	Earthworks Restoration, Archeology, and Preservation Project	\$54,707.00
<b>Total ABPP Planning Grants as of FY2010</b>			<b>\$356,280.00</b>

## Appendix C. Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002

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Public Law 107-359, 111 Stat. 3016, 17 December 2002

Amends the American Battlefield Protection Program Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 469k)

An Act

To amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002".

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) Findings.--Congress finds the following

(1) Civil War battlefields provide a means for the people of the United States to understand a tragic period in the history of the United States.

(2) According to the Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields, prepared by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, and dated July 1993, of the 384 principal Civil War battlefields--

(A) almost 20 percent are lost or fragmented;

(B) 17 percent are in poor condition; and

(C) 60 percent have been lost or are in imminent danger of being fragmented by development and lost as coherent historic sites.

(b) Purposes.--The purposes of this Act are--

(1) to act quickly and proactively to preserve and protect nationally significant Civil War battlefields through conservation easements and fee-simple purchases of those battlefields from willing sellers; and

(2) to create partnerships among State and local governments, regional entities, and the private sector to preserve, conserve, and enhance nationally significant Civil War battlefields.

### SEC. 3. BATTLEFIELD ACQUISITION GRANT PROGRAM.

The American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 469k) is amended--

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as paragraph (3) of subsection (c), and indenting appropriately;

(2) in paragraph (3) of subsection (c) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))--

(A) by striking "Appropriations" and inserting "appropriations"; and

(B) by striking "section" and inserting

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``subsection'';

(3) by inserting after subsection (c) the following

``(d) Battlefield Acquisition Grant Program.--

``(1) Definitions.--In this subsection

``(A) Battlefield report.--The term `Battlefield Report' means the document entitled `Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields', prepared by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, and dated July 1993.

``(B) Eligible entity.--The term `eligible entity' means a State or local government.

``(C) Eligible site.--The term `eligible site' means a site--

``(i) that is not within the exterior boundaries of a unit of the National Park System; and

``(ii) that is identified in the Battlefield Report.

``(D) Secretary.--The term `Secretary' means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the American Battlefield Protection Program.

``(2) Establishment.--The Secretary shall establish a battlefield acquisition grant program under which the Secretary may provide grants to eligible entities to pay the Federal share of the cost of acquiring interests in eligible sites for the preservation and protection of those eligible sites.

``(3) Nonprofit partners.--An eligible entity may acquire an interest in an eligible site using a grant under this subsection in partnership with a nonprofit organization.

``(4) Non-federal share.--The non-Federal share of the total cost of acquiring an interest in an eligible site under this subsection shall be not less than 50 percent.

``(5) Limitation on land use.--An interest in an eligible site acquired under this subsection shall be subject to section 6(f)(3) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-8(f)(3)).

``(6) Reports.--

``(A) In general.--Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the activities carried out under this subsection.

``(B) Update of battlefield report.--Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that updates the Battlefield Report to reflect--

``(i) preservation activities carried out at the 384 battlefields during the period between publication of the Battlefield Report and the update;

``(ii) changes in the condition of the battlefields during that period; and

``(iii) any other relevant developments relating to the battlefields during that period.

``(7) Authorization of appropriations.--

``(A) In general.--There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to provide grants under this subsection \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004

through 2008.

“(B) Update of battlefield report.--There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out paragraph (6)(B), \$500,000.”; and

(4) in subsection (e)--

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “as of” and all that follows through the period and inserting “on September 30, 2008.”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and provide battlefield acquisition grants” after “studies”.

-end-

## Appendix D. Battlefield Questionnaire

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**State**  
**Battlefield**

**Person Completing Form**  
**Date of completion**

**I. Protected Lands of the Battlefield** (“Protected lands” are those “owned” for historic preservation or conservation purposes. Please provide information on land protected since 1993.)

1) Identify protected lands by parcel since 1993. Then answer these questions about each parcel, following example in the chart below. What is the acreage of each parcel? Is parcel owned fee simple, by whom? Is there is an easement, if so name easement holder? Was the land purchased or the easement conveyed after 1993? What was cost of purchase or easement? What was source of funding and the amount that source contributed? Choose from these possible sources: Coin money, LWCF, Farm Bill, State Government, Local Government, Private Owner, Private Non-Profit (provide name), or Other (describe).

<b>Parcel</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Easement</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Source</b>
<i>Joe Smith Farm</i>	<i>194</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>SHPO</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>	<i>LWCF/\$250,000 Private/\$250,000</i>
<i>Sue Jones Tract</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Battlefield Friends, Inc.</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>\$41,000</i>	<i>State/\$20,000 BFI/\$21,000</i>

2) Other public or non-profit lands within the battlefield? (Y/N)

- If yes, describe
- Name of public or non-profit owner or easement holder
- Number of Acres owned/held

3) Is the information in a GIS? (Y/N)

If yes, may NPS obtain a copy of the data? (Y/N)

## **II. Preservation Groups**

1) Is there a formal interested entity (friends group, etc) associated with the battlefield? (Y/N)

If yes

Name

Address

Phone

Fax

E-mail

Web site? (Y/N)

- If yes, what is the URL?
- Does the web site have a preservation message? (Y/N)
- What year did the group form?

## **III. Public Access and Interpretation**

1) Does the site have designated Public Access? (Y/N) (Count public roads if there are designated interpretive signs or pull-offs)

If yes, what entity provides the public access (Access may occur on lands owned *in fee* or *under easement* to the above entities)

Federal government

State government

Local government

Private Nonprofit organization

Private owner

Other

Name of entity (if applicable)

Number of Acres Accessible to the Public (size of the area in which the public may physically visit without trespassing. Do not include viewsheds.)

2) Does the site have interpretation? (Y/N)

If yes, what type of interpretation is available?

Visitor Center

Brochure(s)

Wayside exhibits

Driving Tour

Walking Tour

Audio tour tapes

Maintained historic features/areas

Living History

Website

Other

## **IV. Registration**

Applies only to the battlefield landscape, not to individual contributing features of a battlefield (i.e., the individually listed Dunker Church property of .2 acres does not represent the Antietam *battlefield* for the purposes of this exercise)

1) Is the site a designated National Historic Landmark? (Y/N)

If yes, NHL and ID Number

2) Is the site listed in the National Register? (Y/N)

If yes, NRHP Name and ID Number

3) Is the site listed in the State Register? (Y/N)

If yes, State Register Name and ID Number

4) Is the site in the State Inventory? (Y/N)

If yes, State Inventory Name and ID Number

- 5) Is the site designated as a local landmark or historic site? (Y/N)  
Type of Designation/Listing

#### **V. Program Activities**

What types of preservation program activities have occurred at the battlefield? Provide final product name and date if applicable (e.g., *Phase I Archeological Survey Report on the Piper Farm, 1994* and *Antietam Preservation Plan, 2001*, etc.)

1) Research and Documentation

2) Cultural Resource surveys and inventories (building/structure and landscape inventories, archeological surveys, landscape surveys, etc.)

3) Planning Projects (preservation plans, site management plans, cultural landscape reports, etc.)

4) Interpretation Projects (also includes education)

5) Advocacy (any project meant to engage the public in a way that would benefit the preservation of the site, e.g. PR, lobbying, public outreach, petitioning for action, etc.)

6) Legislation (any local, state, or federal legislation designed to encourage preservation of the battlefield individually or together with other similar sites)

7) Fundraising

To support program activities?

To support land acquisition/easements?

8) Other