



- Within the battlefield district, enduring topographical features including the Potomac River, the steep and deeply dissected Virginia escarpment, the extensive Maryland flood plain, Harrison's Island, and an extant ferry crossing allow for an appreciation and understanding of the battle action and outcome.
- Surviving road corridors and traces in Virginia, together with extensive elements of the historic C & O Canal in Maryland, further illuminate the historic battlefield landscape.
- Extant earthworks in Virginia illustrate the Confederate defensive position and further elucidate the battle's main movements.
- Though little archeological work has been done within the boundaries of the nominated district, known archeological resources contribute to the integrity of the property by their association with aspects of terrain, landscape, and built environment present during the battle. While the relatively high degree of landscape integrity throughout the battlefield historic district strongly suggests that archeological deposits dating to the battle's period of significance may survive in these and other locations, given the relative paucity of sustained archeological research, revision of the Ball's Bluff Battlefield NHL nomination to include Criterion 6 is currently considered premature.

Owner of Property:

- Publicly owned land comprises 1,922 acres (58 percent) of the total property.
- In Montgomery County, Maryland, 436 acres (13 percent) of the property are owned by seven private land owners.
- In Loudoun County, Virginia, 943 acres (28 percent) of the property belongs to 57 private land owners.

Acreage of Property: 3,301 acres

Origins of Nomination: Loudoun County, Virginia, used an NPS American Battlefield Protection Program grant (#GA-2287-14-010) to hire a professional consulting firm to expand, update, and amend the original 1984 NHL nomination so that the property more fully incorporates the battlefield as defined by recent scholarship and the period of significance encompasses both the start and end of the four-day engagement.

Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:

- Designation of the expanded National Historic Landmark property will more fully incorporate a revised chronological and spatial understanding of the Battle of Ball's Bluff as updated and confirmed by new research.
- Designation of the expanded National Historic Landmark property will also more fully recognize the significant impact of the Federal defeat at the Battle of Ball's Bluff and bring greater awareness to the actions of the 37th Congress, the establishment of the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War, and its impact and influence on Union military strategy and actions throughout the remainder of the Civil War.
- Designation of the expanded National Historic Landmark property has the potential to increase visitation to, and appreciation of, Ball's Bluff Battlefield and to encourage

participation in its care and preservation, currently undertaken by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) and the affiliated Friends of Ball's Bluff Battlefield.

Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program: None is known.

Landmarks Committee Comments (Spring 2016): Mr. Mobaraki, a member of the public and an owner within the proposed boundary expansion, objected to the boundary change. He argued that there is no evidence indicating that the land abutting his property is of any significance to the Battle of Ball's Bluff. He requested that the portion along his property be removed from the boundary.

Dr. Stan Bond, Chief of the NPS Archeology Program (WASO), noted that while the site is an important cultural landscape it is primarily an archeological site and should therefore be considered under NHL Criterion 6. Ms. Patricia Henry, staff historian for the NHL Program, noted that Criterion 6 was not included because the significance of the battle is based on the political impact of the battle and not the battle itself. This does not preclude staff from considering and adding archeology to the nomination at a future date. NHL Committee member Dr. Barbara Mills noted that Mr. Mobaraki's parcel of land could be excluded from the proposed boundary without any material effect to the nomination, but that archeology should be considered for this nomination. Dr. Mills recommended that the nomination be tabled because of the request for clarification of the battlefield's archeological significance, not the land owner objection.

Landmarks Committee Recommendation (Spring 2016): Table. Dr. Mills moved to table the nomination, Dr. Allan seconded; unanimous approval.

Landmarks Committee Comments (Fall 2016):

Dr. Mills noted that archeology is not applicable at this time and that she is satisfied with the additional information on the archeology in the current version of the nomination.

Mr. Mobaraki once again presented an objection to including his parcel in the proposed NHL boundary. Dr. Allan asked whether the owner's objections had been addressed. Dr. Stevens noted that the committee's role was to review the technical issues with the nomination and whether the historic boundary is correct.

Dr. Carson noted that the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program guidance is that the setting of the battle is as important when considering boundaries, therefore National Park Service policy contradicts Mr. Mobaraki's claim that his parcel is not relevant to the significance of the battle. Ms. Hopkins also noted that activity is not a determining factor in including acreage within an NHL boundary.

Landmarks Committee Recommendation (Fall 2016): Designation. Dr. Carson moved, Ms. Hopkins seconded; 4 abstentions, 6 yeas.



Public Comments Favoring Designation (Spring 2016):

Howard Thomas and Joan Pursell Yolken (owners)
Paul Gilbert, Executive Director, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Fairfax Station, Virginia (owner)
James A. Morgan, Chairman, Friends of Ball's Bluff, Lovettsville, Virginia
Wendy Bebie, Chairman, Mosby Heritage Area Association, Middleburg, Virginia
Chris Miller, President, The Piedmont Environmental Council, Warrenton, Virginia
Kristie Kendall, Historic Preservation Manager, The Piedmont Environmental Council, Warrenton, Virginia
Julie Langan, Director & State Historic Preservation Officer, Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

Public Comments Favoring Designation (Fall 2016) (received as of 10/14/16):

Chris Miller, President, The Piedmont Environmental Council, Warrenton, Virginia
Kristie Kendall, Historic Preservation Manager, The Piedmont Environmental Council, Warrenton, Virginia
James A. Morgan, Co-Founder and Past Chairman, Friends of Ball's Bluff, Lovettsville, Virginia
The Honorable Barbara Comstock, Virginia 10th District, US House of Representatives, Washington, DC
O. James Lighthizer, President, Civil War Trust, Washington, DC
William W. Sellers, President/CEO, Journey through Hallowed Ground, Waterford, Virginia
Alfred P. Van Huyck, Chair, Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition, Round Hill, Virginia
Loudoun County Heritage Commission, Virginia
Paul Gilbert, Executive Director, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (owner)

Public Comments Opposing Designation (Spring 2016):

G. R. Mobaraki, Poolesville, Maryland (owner of two properties)
Henry J. H. Harris, Trustee and Beneficiary, McLean, Virginia (owner)
Susan V. H. Smith, Trustee and Beneficiary, McLean, Virginia (owner)
Joyce Z. Harris, Beneficiary, McLean, Virginia (owner)
Philip E. Smith, Beneficiary, McLean, Virginia (owner)

Public Comments Opposing Designation (Fall 2016) (received as of 10/14/16):

Henry J. H. Harris, Trustee and Beneficiary, Mary W. Harris Trust; Manager and Member, Cattail, LC, McLean, Virginia (owner)
Susan V. H. Smith, Trustee and Beneficiary, Mary W. Harris Trust; Manager and Member, Cattail, LC, McLean, Virginia (owner)
Joyce Z. Harris, Beneficiary, Mary W. Harris Trust; Member, Cattail, LC, McLean, Virginia (owner)
Philip E. Smith, Beneficiary, Mary W. Harris Trust; Member, Cattail, LC, McLean, Virginia (owner)
Valeria Z. Harris, Member, Cattail, LC, McLean, Virginia (owner)

Clare Z. Harris, Member, Cattail, LC, McLean, Virginia (owner)

G. R. Mobaraki, Poolesville, Maryland (owner)

Advisory Board Recommendation: