

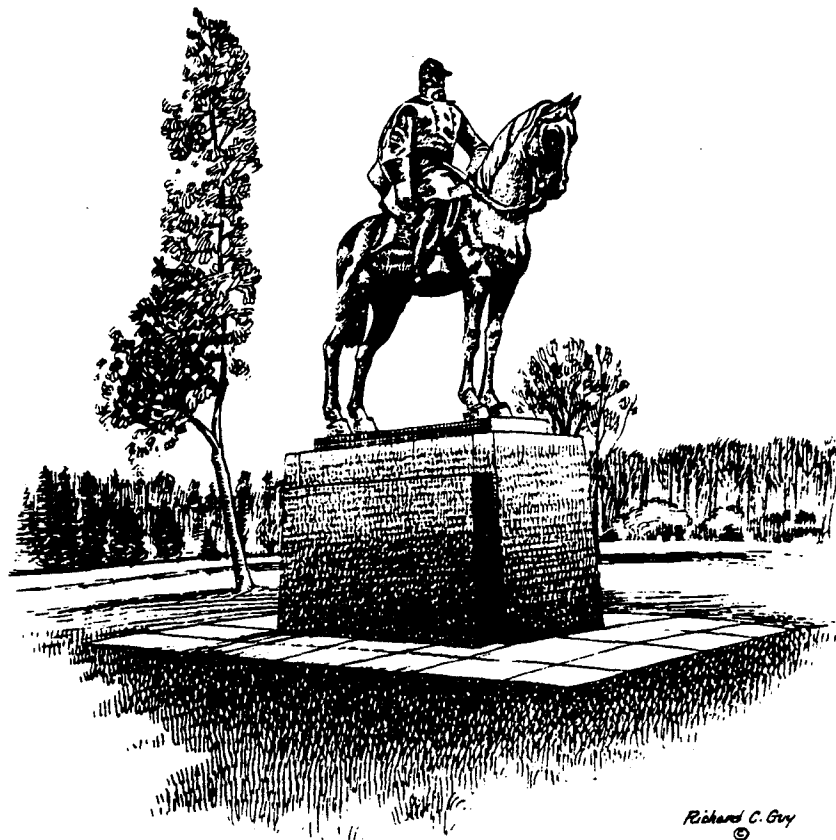
379/D-1A

Interpretive Prospectus

MANASSAS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

Virginia

1994



SCANNED

2/13/2002

PLEASE RETURN TO:
TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTER
LEADER SERVICE CENTER
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**A PLAN FOR
THE INTERPRETATION OF**

MANASSAS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

VIRGINIA

**prepared by the
Division of Interpretive Planning
Harpers Ferry Center
Harpers Ferry,
West Virginia**

**approved by
National Capital Region
Deputy Regional Director
Terry R. Carlstrom
December 9, 1994**

In July 1861, the armies of North and South had come to Bull Run full of boyish enthusiasm, naive misconceptions, and unabashed confidence. Thirteen months later, in late August 1862, they returned to Bull Run—their enthusiasm replaced by stoic determination, their misconceptions long ago obliterated by the blood and toil of many battlefields, and their confidence [or lack thereof] tightly intertwined with the condition of their cause and the quality of their leaders. They met for two days and two hours of brutal battle—bloodier than any the war had yet seen. The victory at Second Manassas brought the Confederacy to the crest of a northward-rushing wave of success. Defeat brought the Union war effort to its knees, plunging the North into a depression that would be remedied only by the quick mobilization needed to repel the Confederate invasion of Maryland.

*John J. Hennessy,
Return to Bull Run: The Campaign
and Battle of Second Manassas.
New York: Simon & Schuster,
1993*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS	3
Park Significance	3
Park Legislative Authorities	3
Park Environment	4
Management Zoning	7
Adjacent Land Uses and Trends	8
Public Use	12
The Planning Context, Including Recent Planning History	15
Existing Conditions	16
Summary of Media Problems and Needs	21
THEMES AND OBJECTIVES	24
Interpretive Themes	24
Management Goals and Objectives for Interpretive and Visitor Use	25
THE PLAN	27
DESIRED VISITOR EXPERIENCE	27
INTERPRETIVE MEDIA/FACILITY PRESCRIPTIONS	28
General Planning Considerations	28
Separate Interpretive Facilities: First Manassas and Second Manassas .	29
Proposals Similar for Both Interpretive Facilities	30
Proposals Applicable Only for First Manassas Interpretive Facility	33
Proposals Applicable Only for Second Manassas Interpretive Facility	35
Visitor Circulation Patterns: Walking and Driving Tours	36
First Manassas Battlefield	37
Second Manassas Battlefield	38
Additions to the Parkwide Wayside Exhibit System	42
Publications	45
SUMMARY OF INTERPRETIVE THEME TREATMENT IN INTERPRETIVE MEDIA .	48
ALTERNATIVE FUNDING STRATEGIES/2ND MANASSAS INTERPRETIVE FACILITY .	50
ADDITIONAL PLANS/STUDIES NEEDED TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THIS PROSPECTUS	52
SELECTED REFERENCES	55
PARTICIPANTS IN THE PLANNING PROCESS	58
APPENDIX "A": STATEMENT FOR INTERPRETATION & VISITOR SERVICES	60
APPENDIX "B": SPECIAL POPULATIONS ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR MEDIA	61
APPENDIX "C": SCOPE OF COLLECTION STATEMENT, 1989	72

LIST OF MAPS

Map 1: Management Zoning, Manassas National Battlefield Park 9

Map 2: Walking and Proposed Driving Tours for First Manassas Battlefield . . 39

Map 3: Walking and Proposed Driving Tours for Second Manassas Battlefield 43

INTRODUCTION

This interpretive prospectus has been prepared to set forth an interpretive vision for two separate Civil War battlefields within Manassas National Battlefield Park. The two separate battlefields, known as the First Battle of Manassas and the Second Battle of Manassas, share a common name and a common location. Each of these battles is separate from, but interpretively equivalent and complementary to, each other.

This prospectus projects interpretive media for each of the two battles of Manassas. It further shall initiate implementation of that vision through a process of systematic planning.

Visitors will be able to receive a comprehensive, quality experience by visiting either one of these battlefields. Visitors will not need to visit both battlefields in chronological order, nor in the same visit.

Even though the initial establishment of Manassas National Battlefield Park in May, 1940 specified the preservation and public use of the sites of both battles, the Second Battle of Manassas has languished in the shadow of the better known First Battle of Manassas--for a variety of understandable reasons. Consequently, as far as most park visitors are concerned, the Second Battle of Manassas suffers from a *major identity crisis*. This *identity crisis* constitutes an inability of the average visitor to fully grasp how to learn about and understand the events of these two **very different and complex battles**, thereby creating a lack of knowledge of and appreciation for **both** battles. Average visitors cannot effectively comprehend both battles in one location in one visit--*they are overwhelmed and confused*.

Among the primary reasons for the existing prominence of the first battle over the second battle are:

- ▶ Henry Hill has had dominance as the Manassas Battlefield prime focal point, from 1922 until the present--beginning with purchase of the historic Henry Hill by the Sons of Confederate Veterans to establish the Manassas Battlefield Confederate Park, and continuing as the nucleus of the new Manassas National Battlefield Park in 1940, as well as through three more subsequent boundary expansions;

- ▶ many years of lack of federal ownership of key lands over which the Second Battle of Manassas was fought, especially the initial phases of the battle; and
- ▶ a very confusing auto tour route, which discourages visitors--only 8% of all park visitors even attempt the Second Manassas Driving Tour, and less than 1% of park visitors complete the tour.

During the past two decades, the National Park Service has acquired most of the key lands over which the Second Battle of Manassas was fought. These acquisitions have now given the Service adequate opportunity to sensitively institute onsite visitor use and interpretive facilities to finally resolve the *identity crisis* which has long plagued the Second Battle of Manassas and the lands over which it was contested.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Park Significance

As the Civil War's first major battle, the First Battle of Manassas [July 18-21, 1861] had been eagerly awaited by raw recruits and inexperienced officers who rushed into service following the firing upon Fort Sumter. North and South, soldiers and civilians envisioned a short and easy war highlighted by shiny uniforms, brass bands, and heroic adventure. However, the reality of 10 hours of fighting on Matthews Hill, Henry Hill, and Chinn Ridge, put away all preconceived notions of a short war. The Union would call this field of battle Bull Run, while the Confederacy would name it Manassas. The 900 Americans killed on the battlefield that day were graphic proof that civil war would be a protracted bloody struggle if the divided American nation was to be reunited.

This lesson was reinforced 13 months later when the armies returned to fight a four-times larger, four-times bloodier battle on August 28-30, 1862. Second Manassas, a contest fought by seasoned veterans, took the Confederacy to the height of its power, and opened the way for General Robert E. Lee's first offensive campaign north of the Potomac River. Like First Manassas before, Second Manassas was the largest battle fought in the western hemisphere up to that time.

Park Legislative Authorities

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes designated Manassas National Battlefield Park by Secretarial Order on May 10, 1940, under the authority conferred by Section 2 of the Act of Congress approved August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666) [to "*preserve for the public use historic sites, building and objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States*"]. This order provided for a park of 1,604 acres.

Under provisions of the Act of 1935 authorizing the establishment of the park, the Advisory Board of National Parks and Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments, declared the park to be of national significance commemorating the First and Second Battles of Bull Run.

Amending legislation was enacted by the Congress (P.L. 338, 83rd Congress) on April 17, 1954, to establish satisfactory boundaries to contain important historic lands relating to the two battles of Manassas. The act limited the expansion of the park to 1,400 additional acres.

After many years of local controversy, on October 13, 1980, the Congress passed a new act, which again expanded the authorized park boundary and set a limit on the total acreage at 4,525 acres. This legislation also authorized \$8.7 million for the acquisition of 1,522 acres. Additionally, this act specifically prevented the Secretary of the Interior from:

- ▶ making any changes in the park boundaries;
- ▶ closing any state roads in the park without the consent of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and
- ▶ acquiring fee simple title to any of the properties within the 1954 boundary without consent of the owner so long as the lands continue to be devoted to the same use that was in effect on September 1, 1980.

Congress enacted the most recent boundary expansion for the Manassas National Battlefield Park on November 10, 1988, expanding the park to approximately 5,100 acres through a little-used "*legislative taking*." The Act also stated that the Secretary of the Interior shall:

- ▶ cooperate with the Commonwealth of Virginia and local governments in order to promote and achieve scenic preservation of views from within the park through zoning and other means determined feasible; and
- ▶ conduct a study, in consultation and consensus with the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Federal Highway Administration, and Prince William County, regarding the relocation of Routes 29 and 234 in, and in the vicinity of, the park.

Although the Act of 1988 authorized \$30 million to prepare the highway relocation study and to construct and improve alternative routes, no funds have been appropriated for such activities to date.

Park Environment

Manassas National Battlefield Park is located 25 miles southwest of Washington, DC, and 5 miles north of the City of Manassas in Prince William and Fairfax Counties.

Although the region was once considered a rural area, Manassas is rapidly becoming another congested suburb of the Nation's Capital.

A century ago farming constituted the primary occupation of the Manassas area, yet today it comprises but a fraction of the local economy. Although much of what was once farm land is now either developed or grown over with timber and vegetation, the park preserves, protects, and interprets approximately 5,100 acres of green space in an area of encroaching development.

The park is in Virginia's Piedmont Upland Region of gently rolling hills interspersed by small, relatively steep stream valleys. Bull Run flows just inside the park's eastern boundary and is bordered on either side by floodplain. Four small freshwater tributaries of Bull Run--Dogan, Chinn, Youngs, and Holkums Branches--drain the park.

Today the park consists of a patchwork of 60% open fields/grasslands and 40% second growth forests. Historically, the battlefield was much more open. In the ensuing years since the time of the battles, significant sections of open fields and grasslands have grown into forest, while a small portion of historically forested lands have been cleared for farming. Existing open areas are actively managed, either through mowing or by agricultural lease.

Of the park's 5,100 acres, approximately 85% is federally owned and the remaining 15% is privately owned.

Manassas National Battlefield Park is bordered by Interstate 66 on the south, by Pageland Lane (Virginia State Route 705) on the west, and Bull Run on the north and east. It is bisected by Sudley Road (Virginia Highway 234) and Lee Highway (U.S. Highway 29). These two highways, also known respectively by their historic names of the Manassas-Sudley Road and the Warrenton Turnpike, follow the basic historic road alignments used by Civil War troops. Today they provide the main access for visitors to the battle sites. In addition, they receive heavy use by area residents and trucks from nearby stone quarry operations. The truck traffic, in particular, is heavy and constant throughout the day and poses a significant hazard to visitors trying to tour the battlefields.

Cultural Resources. The park's most important cultural resources are the large tracts of land managed to represent the historic scene as it existed at the time of the battles. Included in this scene are two original houses--the Stone House and the Lucinda Dogan House, five historic structures on original house sites, the Groveton

Confederate Cemetery, the Stone Bridge, six miles of historic road traces, and numerous other historic and archeological resources including house sites, structures, ruins, cemeteries, trenches, and earthworks. However, much of the historic scene which was once open fields has become tree covered to the point that important segments of the battlefields are visually obscured. These current conditions make it most difficult for visitors to understand the nature and significance of several key battle actions within the park.

Additionally, the park contains approximately 20 monuments, two of which were erected by soldiers shortly after the close of the Civil War. Original cannon on replica carriages and historic fence lines mark the fields of battle throughout the park.

The park also includes the house site and family cemetery of *Pittsylvania*, the late Colonial plantation [ca. 1765] of the Landon Carter family [one of the founding families of Northern Virginia]. It further includes the sites of two other large plantation homes occupied by descendants of Robert "King" Carter--*Portici* and *Rosefield*.

The park's Resource Management Plan and other planning and reference documents provide details about its diverse cultural resources, including the List of Classified Structures.

Natural Resources. In addition to its cultural resources, the park also provides an environment with recognizable natural values. Diverse natural resources are preserved and managed both primarily for the preservation of the historic scene and the secondarily for the benefit of natural habitats of the area.

The forested areas, which constitute about 40% of the park, are composed of deciduous stands of the oak-hickory association (about 25%), pine stands dominated by the Virginia pine (about 15%), and mixed stands (about 9%).

Both open fields and forests support a rich variety of wildlife that find the park a refuge from the encroaching development and rapid urbanization of the surrounding area. Species which abound within the park include deer, fox, turkey, beaver, waterfowl, and fresh water aquatic species.

Concerning rare and endangered species, the bald eagle and the peregrine falcon may range over the park. However, there are no known species of plants or animals

found in the park which are listed on the federal endangered species list. Likewise, there are no known species of animals found in the park which are listed on the state rare or endangered species list. However, based on a preliminary field survey there are three state-listed rare plant species within Manassas National Battlefield Park: Hairy Beardtongue (*Penstemon hirsutus*), Northern Prickly-Ash (*Zanthoxylum americanum*), and a Hedge-nettle species (*Stachys* sp.). The latter is an unidentified species which is currently under study, and may be globally rare.

Visitors seeking opportunities for outdoor recreation and open space make considerable use of these natural resources. Hiking trails, bridle trails, a picnic area, bird study opportunities, and occasional fishing opportunities provide park visitors with limited passive recreational resources.

Management Zoning

Manassas National Battlefield Park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, it is zoned as historic with three management subzones. The following management subzones, based on the provisions of the 1983 General Management Plan, more specifically define the management of the park's resources [please see Map 1 on page 9]:

- ▶ **Restoration Subzone.** This subzone encompasses the core area of prime historic resources; those which are most important for the interpretation of the two battles of Manassas. Significant resources in this subzone include the historic battlefield landscape and several historic structures. Appropriate uses within this subzone would be interpretive facilities and media, including interpretive tour roads, trails and waysides; however, the importance of the historic resources shall always remain paramount. The size and character of this subzone is significantly affected by the location of visitor use and development areas. Within this subzone, all historic structures shall be preserved at levels commensurate with their significance and integrity, and those sections of landscape that have already been restored shall continue to be maintained. In addition, those fields that were historically forested will be allowed to regenerate through natural succession.

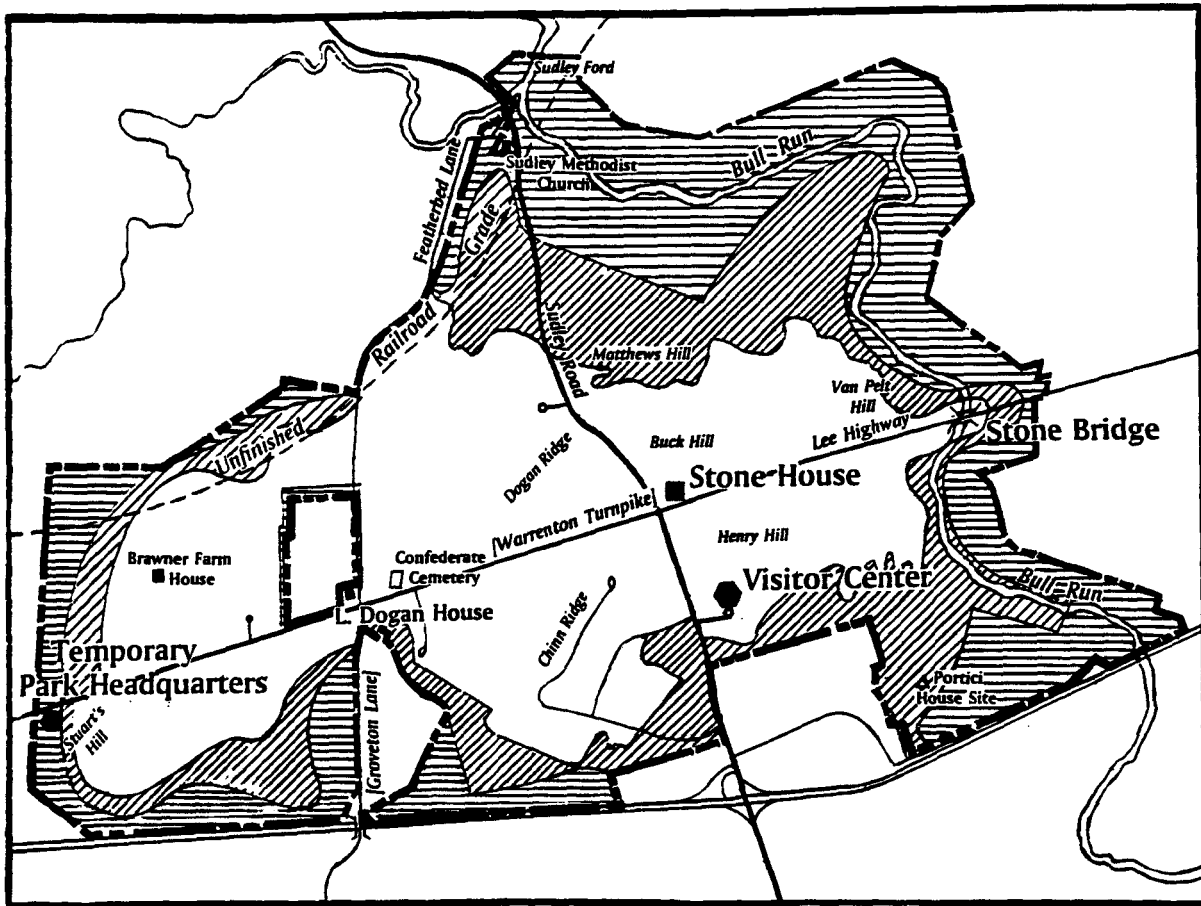
- ▶ **Preservation Subzone.** The landscape immediately surrounding the core [Restoration Subzone] is very important historically and contains several battle sites and structures. Within this subzone, all historic structures shall be preserved at levels commensurate with their significance and integrity, and those sections of landscape that have already been restored shall continue to be maintained. In addition, those fields that were historically forested will be allowed to regenerate through natural succession. Within this subzone, recreation, visitor use, and park operations facilities can be provided, but the importance of the historic resources shall still remain paramount in any considerations for development;

- ▶ **Protection Subzone.** This third subzone along the outer perimeter of the park is comprised primarily of those lands identified for less-than-fee acquisition (scenic easements) in the 1980 boundary expansion as well as some lands identified for fee acquisition. The subzone is critical for the protection of the quality of the visitors' experience and the existing integrity of the core historic resources from outside intrusions. Within this protection subzone, vegetation will be allowed to grow into a forest screen where lands within the two other subzones need special protection from visual or audible intrusions such as buildings and traffic. Otherwise, the landscape will be preserved in its existing condition. Historic structures shall be preserved at a level commensurate with their integrity and significance. Appropriate structures or facilities that enhance visitor appreciation of the historic nature of the battlefield can be constructed in this subzone as long as such development does not intrude on the historic scene viewed from the restoration or preservation subzone or degrade the park's natural resources.





Adjacent Land Uses and Trends

Prince William County is one of two Virginia counties leading Northern Virginia in growth. Over the past two decades its population has doubled from 111,102 in 1970 to 228,783 in 1993. Regional planners expect continued steady population growth for the foreseeable future. Due to the proximity of I-66, the area around the park is ideally suited for residential development for commuters into the Washington, DC area, and for retail facilities and commercial office buildings and complexes. Rock quarries flank the park to the north and east. These quarries can be expected to operate for the next 20 to 30 years.

Management Zoning, Manassas National Battlefield Park



KEY:

-  Authorized Park Boundary
-  Restoration Subzone
-  Preservation Subzone
-  Protection Subzone

379	1700
HFC	Apr 94

Several land-managing agencies operate a variety of parks and recreational facilities in the vicinity of Manassas National Battlefield Park to serve the various recreational needs for the expanding population of the Manassas area and Prince William County. These include:

- ▶ *Conway Robinson Memorial State Forest*, located just west of the battlefields along U.S. 29 and operated by the Division of Forestry, Virginia Department of Conservation and Economic Development, has a small roadside park development, hiking trails, and approximately 400 acres of relatively undeveloped, but recently harvested forest;
- ▶ *Sully Plantation*, located about 10 miles northeast of the park and operated by Fairfax County Parks and Recreation Department, offers living history demonstrations and tours of the restored Colonial plantation buildings;
- ▶ *Bull Run Regional Park*, located immediately to the east and southeast of the battlefields and operated by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, offers numerous developed recreational activities such as camping, swimming, target shooting, and hiking;
- ▶ Prince William County Park Authority operates a number of community recreation sites located throughout Prince William County; and
- ▶ *Prince William Forest Park*, located about 20 miles south of Manassas National Battlefield Park and administered by the National Park Service, offers picnicking, biking, hiking, camping, cabin camp facilities, and nature study on 17,410 acres of federal land [authorized acreage of 18,571 acres].

According to the Prince William County Park Authority Comprehensive Plan (1990-2000), the Gainesville District of the county [in which the park is located] currently contains recreational facilities which meet or exceed national standards for recreational needs. Thus, it is probable that no new park/recreational facilities will be developed by the county in the near future.

Manassas National Battlefield Park also plays a role in generally meeting some local recreational needs through its trail system and its many acres of open fields. Because of the mandates of its enabling legislation, the park generally provides resource-based recreation, which includes historic site visitation, hiking, photography, painting/sketching, walking, and nature study. To a lesser extent, some local and

regional visitors use the open space of the park for more active recreational pursuits, such as fishing, horseback riding, sledding, cross-country skiing, and picnicking.

The portion of the park straddling U.S. 29 in Fairfax County in the immediate vicinity of the Stone Bridge has an historic district--Protection Subzone--overlay which is designed by Fairfax County to protect the historic integrity of the Stone Bridge area. Commercial and residential zoning in this area has been reduced to a Resource Conservation classification, permitting one house per five acres.

In addition to the general development pressures upon the park caused by the expanding Washington, DC, metropolitan area, two specific development proposals for lands near the Manassas National Battlefield Park which have the potential of affecting the park, its resources and its visitor use are:

- ▶ a horse racing track, proposed to be located northwest of Gainesville; and
- ▶ a music/performing arts amphitheater, proposed for location near Gainesville.

Prince William County's revised Comprehensive Plan (1990) permits a variety of land uses adjacent to the park. These uses include: residential, corporate park, industrial, commercial, office and retail, research, and conservation zones.

The National Park Service continues to work with Prince William and Fairfax Counties in seeking out and implementing methods to reduce the loss of the rural agricultural scene that has surrounded the park for many years.

Public Use

During the past decade Manassas National Battlefield Park has averaged approximately 750,000 visitors a year, with annual totals ranging from 669,000 in 1982 to 931,000 in 1991. The general public use trend has been annual gradual increases with unusual peaks in 1983 [721,000], 1986 [805,000], and 1991 [931,000].

Of these 750,000 visitors who use the park annually in one way or another, about 140,000 choose to stop at the visitor center. Approximately 75% of the visitor center patrons will proceed to the historic Henry Hill portion of the battlefield and experience all or part of the Henry Hill interpretive walking tour for the First Battle of Manassas.

The interpretive division conducted an informal visitor survey during the summer of 1991 to determine how many visitors were experiencing the Second Manassas Battlefield Tour. The survey confirmed that only 8% of the park's clientele who stopped at the visitor center [approximately 11,000] even began the Second Manassas Driving Tour, and only one-half that number [approximately 5,500 or less than 1% of total park visitation] continued to follow that battlefield tour past Tour Stop 6. These visitor use figures graphically illustrate that the Second Manassas Battlefield certainly suffers from an *identity crisis*.

During the past three to five years, the seasonal distribution of visitation has been as follows:

- ▶ Spring [March-May] = 30%
- ▶ Summer [June-August] = 37%
- ▶ Fall [September-October] = 26%
- ▶ Winter [November-February] = 7%

The days of heaviest visitation occur on fall and spring weekends when local use increases dramatically. The following summaries better describe seasonal variations in public use:

- ▶ **Spring** - Increases in school groups and senior citizens; recreational use by local picnickers, joggers and hikers; heaviest use occurs on weekends and is usually concentrated around the visitor center and its immediate Henry Hill environs;
- ▶ **Summer** - Dominated by the various family units on extended vacation; peak daily visitor use occurs from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with heaviest visitation on weekends;
- ▶ **Fall** - Increase in senior citizens and organized tours, especially during October, with basic interpretive services continuing to be provided; use concentrated on weekends, with increased recreational use by area residents;
- ▶ **Winter** - Light visitation, mostly coming from local residents and business commuters; heaviest winter use comes during periods of snow with non-theme related activities such as sledding and cross-country skiing.

The 1983 General Management Plan identifies three general groups or categories of park visitors, as follows:

- ▶ **"General" Visitor Group** -- Visitors in this category usually have limited specific interest in, or knowledge of, the Manassas battles and visit to gain a general understanding of the park's significance. Individuals within this group typically spend less than two hours in the park, with most of that time spent in the Henry Hill Visitor Center area.
- ▶ **"Historical" Visitor Group** -- Visitors in this group have a good understanding of the overall significance of the Manassas battles and are seeking to examine and understand the specific battle details and actions that occurred. As a result, they spend about five hours hiking about the many battle sites throughout the park.
- ▶ **"Recreational" Visitor Group** -- These visitors are not seeking a historical resource related experience, rather they come to the park for recreational purposes on spring, summer and fall weekends, and holidays. Visitor recreational activities include kite flying, hiking, jogging, sledding, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, picnicking, fishing, and nature study/observation.

All park visits are classified as recreational visits. All categories of visitors considered, the average estimated visit is approximately three quarters of an hour.

While more accurate information about visitor demographics is needed, the current version of *Statement for Interpretation and Visitor Services: Manassas National Battlefield Park* profiles the nature of park visitors in greater detail in its *Analysis of Park Users and Use Patterns* section, and should be consulted. However, a few of the more dominant use characteristics and patterns are worthy of noting here:

- ▶ Considering visitation by age groups, the two adult groupings--adult (18-61 years) and senior citizens (62+ years)--comprise nearly 75% of all visitation;
- ▶ Family groups--including nuclear, partial, extended, and multiple families--constitute almost 60% of visitation;
- ▶ Fifty-six percent of all park visitors are home based day users; and

- ▶ At present, the park staff estimates special populations use to be limited with about two percent minorities, only about 1% of all visitors are non-English speaking with German and French apparently being the dominant non-English languages [at present, little else is known about the park's limited number of international visitors], and approximately 0.5% with accessibility limitations.

The Planning Context, Including Recent Planning History

General Park Planning. The current **General Management Plan [GMP]: Manassas National Battlefield Park** was approved in September, 1983. A series of recent management actions, land acquisitions, and proposed development activities has seriously compromised the timeliness and validity of the GMP. The following issues should also be considered and addressed in the GMP: the suitability/viability of the existing visitor center; elimination of through traffic from the park and possible establishment of an internal park tour road system; and modification of the number of accesses or entrances to the park. Therefore, it is very important that the park's GMP be updated as soon as possible.

The current **Statement for Management [1989]**, based upon the park's enabling legislation, is a key park document which sets the directions for overall management and operations.

The park's **Resource Management Plan [1987]** currently is being revised and updated, and should be completed this calendar year.

The current **Statement for Interpretation and Visitor Services [1994]** is an operations document which complements this **Interpretive Prospectus** by integrating its personal services directions into the media proposals of this prospectus (see Appendix "A", page 64).

The **Collection Preservation Guide [1985]**, the **Collection Management Plan [1989]**, and the **Scope of Collection Statement [1989]**--all of which provide guidance and direction for maintaining the park's museum collection--are current and adequate.

The 1986 **Land Protection Plan** needs updating to reflect recent changes in park boundaries and land status, such as the acquisition of the Stuart's Hill tract.

This **Interpretive Prospectus** is being developed concurrently with an **Amendment to General Management Plan/Environmental Assessment for Powerline Relocation**. Several persons from the park and the region concurrently serve on both planning teams.

Interpretive Planning. The existing **Interpretive Prospectus**, approved in August 1971, will be replaced by this document. It has been significantly outdated by important land acquisitions and the rapidly encroaching urbanization which nearly surrounds the park.

A parkwide **Wayside Exhibit Plan for Manassas National Battlefield Park** delineating about 30 wayside exhibits, 50 troop location markers, and 15 site markers was completed and approved in July, 1986. Planning, design, and production for this wayside system has been completed and installed. However, several waysides are not interpretively effective because the historic vegetation restoration, upon which they depend for historic scene visibility, has not been completed.

In June, 1990, the Division of Interpretive Planning, Harpers Ferry Center, prepared a major media rehabilitation plan for the "*Interim Rehabilitation of the Manassas Battle Map Program*" in the park visitor center. Planning, production and installation of this revised interim map program was completed in the spring of 1993.

Existing Conditions

A somewhat complex matrix of existing conditions, both within and surrounding the park's boundaries, significantly affects the interpretive planning for Manassas National Battlefield Park.

Overlapping Battlefields. The fact that Manassas Battlefield contains the sites of two separate battles covering some of the same ground makes clear interpretation of both battles very difficult. Traditionally, the park's interpretive program has emphasized First Manassas at the expense of the Second Battle of Manassas. The Interpretive Prospectus team, it seems quite evident that there is a need to try to alleviate the problem of Second Manassas' *identity crisis* by developing an improved tour route for Second Manassas with better maps and more clearly marked tour stops. Most park visitors drive the battlefield tour routes in their private vehicles. It further appears that any sort of National Park Service-supplied or -sponsored

transportation system would not be practical on a continuous basis. However, a ranger-conducted bus or van tour of Second Manassas has been provided in the past during the summer in the past with considerable success.

Through Traffic on Public Roads. Virginia Highway 234 [Sudley Road] running north/south and U.S. Highway 29 [Lee Highway] running east/west intersect in the middle of the park. This heavily used intersection is controlled by a traffic light. Traffic on these roads varies from moderately light to heavy, depending on weather, time of year, time of day, etc. These roads serve as major routes for local business and commuter travel, as well as a part of the park's driving tour route. Both of these routes are built to higher standards outside the park boundary, with four-lane roads on the west, south, and east sides of the park. Both Routes 234 and 29, historically known respectively as Sudley Road and the Warrenton Turnpike, follow historic road traces that were in use at the time of the battle.

Today both routes--US 29 and VA 234--remain basically on the historic alignments and the park would oppose any plan for major widening or straightening of these routes. The presence of these busy routes has a serious detrimental effect on a positive park visitor experience at Manassas Battlefield. Heavy truck traffic, including many heavily loaded gravel trucks coming from two adjacent quarries, generates distracting noise and the rapidly moving local traffic creates a hazard for the slow-moving visitor vehicles entering and leaving tour stops along these roads.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has proposed the Route 234 Bypass immediately west of the park. This bypass may alleviate some of the traffic through the park. However, the highway relocation study mandated in the 1988 boundary expansion will be needed to identify an alternative route for the through traffic now using Route 29. The proposed interchange for the Route 234 Bypass with Interstate 66 may have an impact on park land along Pageland Lane near Stuart's Hill. Additionally, the Route 234 Bypass has the distinct potential of impacting the western portions of the park--Brawner Farm and Stuart's Hill area--by creating another "gateway" to the park.

The possible future removal of all *through traffic* from Manassas National Battlefield Park would provide the potential for the development of an internal park tour road system which could substantially enhance and improve park visitor experiences. Interpretive vision for the battlefield park foresees main accesses to the park on the east and west sides, in the general vicinity of the existing Lee Highway corridor. The remaining approaches--Virginia Route 234 from both the north and south, Featherbed

Lane from the north, and Groveton Road from the south--need to be addressed and resolved during the transportation/through-traffic study.

Increasing Demand for Active Recreational Use. As previously noted, the population of Prince William County has nearly doubled over the past 20 years, and projections show a similar continued growth pattern for the foreseeable future. This continued urbanization of Prince William County, as well as for western Fairfax County, will probably result in greater pressure for the use of park land for recreational purposes, many of which can be incompatible with the park's purpose and significance. Organized groups and individuals frequently use the park under Special Use Permit for activities such as training and competition of tracking dogs, judged pleasure horse rides, model rocket events, and the flying of radio-controlled gliders. To date, at current use levels and within limited areas of use, these permitted recreational uses "push" the limits of compatibility with the historic scene. As recreational demands in the county increase, continued county development of recreational facilities in other appropriate locations is critical in order to ensure that local residents have adequate facilities outside the battlefield park boundaries to pursue active recreation.

The National Park Service will continue to work with adjacent park authorities to balance recreational demands and develop alternate facilities. Additionally, park staff will continue to monitor recreational and special park uses and try to manage them in such a way to prevent a negative impact on the primary purpose and resources of Manassas National Battlefield Park.

Interpretation/Visitor Use Facilities. The major facility/media components of a park visitor's interpretive experience at Manassas National Battlefield Park are:

- ▶ Henry Hill Visitor Center, with two major audiovisual presentations and exhibits;
- ▶ eight relatively short self-guiding interpretive walking trails including the prime facility for First Manassas field interpretation, the Henry Hill Loop Trail;
- ▶ two longer self-guiding interpretive walking trails;
- ▶ the Second Manassas Driving Tour (12 stops);
- ▶ the refurbished historic Stone House; and
- ▶ an extensive series of wayside exhibits located throughout the park.

The park's visitor center on Henry Hill is normally the initial stop for first-time visitors. It provides them with basic orientation, information, and interpretation

about both battles of Manassas and the park. Highlights of the visitor center experience are:

- ▶ a staffed information/orientation desk;
- ▶ a 13-minute slide/sound auditorium program introducing the American Civil War and the two battles fought at Manassas, with emphasis on human experiences;
- ▶ permanent exhibits interpreting aspects of both battles;
- ▶ a five-minute battle map program interpreting the major maneuvers of both the Union and the Confederate armies during both battles;
- ▶ a temporary exhibit case featuring current research and/or resource management concerns at the park; and
- ▶ a cooperating association sales facility offering publications and related interpretive materials pertaining specifically to both Battles of Manassas and generally to the Civil War.

This facility also provides the starting point for both the First Manassas Henry Hill Loop Walking Tour and the Second Manassas Driving Tour.

The park's 55-mile trail system includes approximately 35 miles of walking trails and about 20 miles of bridle trails. At present, many of these trails have no planned interpretive purpose. This extensive matrix of trails provides more than ample access to various battle event sites for the park visitor with intense historical interest who wishes to explore and understand specific aspects of both battles. However, the complex matrix of walking/hiking trails contains so many trail intersections that it is nearly impossible to provide clear directions for parkwide walking trail use.

The walking trails system includes eight self-guiding interpretive trail loops or trails, and two longer self-guiding trails.

The short trails or loops [each about 0.75 to 1.5 miles long] are interpreted with interpretive wayside exhibits and troop location markers. The eight shorter walking trails or trail loops, with troop position markers using direct quotations, are as follows:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| ▶ Henry Hill Loop Trail | -- 1st Manassas |
| ▶ Matthews Hill Loop Trail | -- 1st Manassas |
| ▶ Stone Bridge-Van Pelt Trail | -- 1st Manassas |
| ▶ Sudley-Bull Run Trail | -- 1st Manassas |
| ▶ Brawner Farm Loop Trail | -- 2nd Manassas |
| ▶ Gregg/Grover Loop/Unfinished Railroad Grade Trail | -- 2nd Manassas |

- ▶ Deep Cut Loop Trail -- 2nd Manassas
- ▶ Chinn Ridge Trail -- 2nd Manassas

The two longer self-guiding trails included in the walking trail system are interpreted by a printed brochure. One longer trail has been developed for each battle. One or the other of these trails incorporates almost all of the above shorter trails and trail loops. Specifically, these two longer trails are:

- ▶ the Stone Bridge Trail for First Manassas, with its Henry Hill Loop Trail option, is six miles long and takes about 3.25 hours to complete; and
- ▶ the Deep Cut Trail for Second Manassas, with its two spurs--the Brawner Farm Trail and the Unfinished Railroad Grade Trail to Sudley Church and return, is about 10.75 miles long and takes about 5.5 hours to complete.

The 12-mile Second Manassas Driving Tour covers 12 sites which figured prominently in that battle and usually takes about 1.5 hours to complete. As previously discussed, only a minimal percentage of park visitors attempt and complete this driving tour [see page 13]. Those that do are faced with the frustrating problem of inadequate signs and advanced alert time for tour stops, as well as the need to make several left turns off of or onto busy through-traffic roads. They are also faced with an inordinate amount of backtracking along the driving tour route. To illustrate this point, to complete the tour, visitors must pass through the Stone House intersection (intersection of US 29 and VA 234) four different times!

Several interpretive waysides were planned, produced, and installed with the understanding that the historic scene would be restored through completion and implementation of a parkwide cultural landscape restoration plan. Much of the cultural landscape restoration project remains incomplete. This renders at least four waysides ineffective [such as on Van Pelt Hill and at the Brawner Farm Site greatly compromises the interpretive effectiveness of at least a like number of waysides [such as some on Chinn Ridge].

Currently, the park's picnicking facility is located near the north end of Dogan Ridge on land over which significant parts of both battles were fought. The park's 1983 General Management Plan calls for its relocation in the Wheeler tract [Portici house site] vicinity. Relocation of the picnic area to the Wheeler tract would remove this visitor convenience facility from an important segment of the park's historic scene. Other possible picnicking facility relocation sites should be sought out and considered through future planning.

A variety of visitor activities have been identified that adversely affect both the park's resources and a satisfactory visitor experience. Such adverse effect visitor activities include:

- ▶ heavy use of trails resulting in significant soil erosion;
- ▶ destruction (vandalism) of signs/markers/monuments;
- ▶ looting and vandalism of archeological resources;
- ▶ landscape degradation and pollution by everything from indiscriminate littering to debris and refuse dumping;
- ▶ recreational activities inconsistent with and/or distracting from the historic scene; and
- ▶ personal misconduct resulting in activities offensive to other visitors.

Summary of Media Problems and Needs

Although the interpretive media and general layout of the park's visitor center is outdated and needs major rehabilitation, these needs are subordinate to the larger need to give both battles of Manassas adequate, equal, compatible, and separate identity and profile. All interpretive problems and needs are summarized in this section with emphasis on a major interpretive planning premise--that both battles need to be presented with equal identity and profile. Under current conditions, average visitors are left with an inability to fully grasp how to learn and understand the events and significance of each of the two battles--thereby causing a lack of knowledge about and an appreciation for both battles. Park visitors are overwhelmed, because of an inability sort out the events of two different battles of Manassas on overlapping battlefields.

The existing exhibits and audiovisual programs in the park visitor center interpreting both battles of Manassas are outdated and need to be redesigned and replaced with media specifically interpreting the First Battle of Manassas, including a battle map, exhibits, and a major audiovisual production. This major media rehabilitation also needs to address the need to provide visitors with adequate, effective information to make informed decisions about what to see and do in the visitor center and at points of interest throughout the park.

The existing layout of the visitor center lobby communicates a nonverbal message that the most important activity in the lobby is publications display and sales rather than information and orientation. The remodelled lobby will present a restructured emphasis on the direct, immediate accessibility of the information desk and the

availability of orientation/information services. The cooperating association sales facility should be directly available but relegated to its proper secondary perspective. Also at issue concerning the existing visitor center are questions of structural suitability, and health/safety/accessibility for visitors and staff alike.

A new facility to specifically interpret the Second Battle of Manassas needs to be located in the western part of the park near the location of the opening actions of that battle. In addition to orientation/information and interpretive media, this facility needs to be fully accessible, to have adequate visitor use and staff support facilities, and have adequate operational staff.

The new driving tour for each battle needs to be designed and presented as a safe, visitor-friendly experience that "*makes interpretive sense.*" Clear, useful directional signage for the existing Second Manassas Driving Tour is unfortunately lacking!

The park's rather extensive wayside exhibit system will require a few selected additions, such as some trailhead exhibits, interpretive panels, and system-compatible bulletin board cases.

The park's unigrid folder needs major revision, and also needs foreign language folders.

The park's publications sales outlet, operated by the Eastern National Park and Monument Association, offers a rather extensive range of theme-related titles. However, still lacking are a significant number of site-specific publications, including replacement of its outdated, out-of-print official handbook, and a site-specific guidebook, a publication for preschoolers and lower primary grade children.

Considering the concept of accessibility in a very broad and inclusive sense, several different aspects of accessibility need to be considered and addressed in this plan. In addition to the physical and programmatic accessibility for visitors with various disabilities, the following alternate types of accessibility need attention:

- ▶ driving tour stop access;
- ▶ trailheads; and
- ▶ historic viewsheds, which are currently negatively impacted by significant stands of nonhistoric vegetation and the lack of restoration of the historic battlefield landscape.

This prospectus should also deal with developing opportunities for school children to experience the park resource at their own level of understanding and ability. The plan further needs to consider the role of interpretive media addressing the following visitor and public use situations: educational/outreach programs; and visitor safety concerns.

This prospectus must address the need to solve the Second Battle of Manassas' *identity crisis* by providing separate, balanced and compatible interpretation for each battle. The solution must address the need to develop an easily identifiable and accessible "*focal point*" to begin the interpretation of Second Manassas. This balanced, compatible approach needs to include:

- ▶ separate driving tours for each battle;
- ▶ treating the need to clearly distinguish between the two battles in all aspects, including interpretive facilities, wayside exhibits, tours, exhibits, written materials, trails, etc.,
- ▶ visitor orientation to each battle at separate locations that is conducive to the understanding and interpretation of those battles; and
- ▶ a short walk experience from each interpretive facility that gives physical or visual access to a provocative historic landscape for each battle, preferably physical access.

Interpretive Themes

These interpretive themes were specifically developed by the planning team during onsite visits in February and March, 1993, and represent refinements upon statements contained in the *1994 Statement for Interpretation and Visitor Services for Manassas National Battlefield Park*.

It is appropriate to note that the park's resources are rich enough to interpret a broad spectrum of *cultural diversity* within the context of the events that so dramatically convey the essence of the interpretive themes stated below.

Interpretive Themes:

- ▶ **The First Battle of Manassas and the Second Battle of Manassas were two major battles of the American Civil War—each unique in strategy, tactics, and consequences for the outcome of the war.**

- ▶ **The devastating impact of the battles on the social and economic fabric of the community, and the history of local families is important for an understanding of the tragic dimensions of the Civil War.**

- ▶ **The First and Second Battles of Manassas illustrate the application and advancement of 19th century military science and technology.**

- ▶ **The experiences of soldiers of all ranks from both sides of the conflict provide meaningful insights into the two battles of Manassas.**

- ▶ The Manassas Battlefields and related features represent local, state, and national efforts to preserve and commemorate our nation's Civil War heritage.

Management Goals and Objectives for Interpretation & Visitor Use

These goals and objectives for interpretation and visitor use were compiled from the park's newly revised *Statement for Management: Manassas National Battlefield Park [1994]*.

The goal of Manassas National Battlefield Park is to preserve the sites of the battles of First and Second Manassas and to preserve, protect, and interpret the resources associated with those battles.

This will be accomplished through the following interpretation and visitor use objectives:

- ▶ To restore the historic landscape to reflect as closely as possible the agricultural and forested landscape existing in 1861 and 1862 to provide accurate interpretation and understanding of the two battles;
- ▶ To provide information, education, and interpretation to promote an understanding by the visitor of how the battles of First and Second Manassas played a critical role in the Civil War, and to further promote an understanding of the human and social costs of that war;
- ▶ To manage the amount, type, and location of recreational, nontraditional, and special park uses to ensure they are consistent with the park's purpose;
- ▶ To ensure a safe and enjoyable visit for all visitors, especially through the alleviation of traffic congestion, and reduction or elimination of traffic which is unrelated to the park's purpose;

- ▶ To ensure the park is functional and meaningful for all visitors including accessibility of resources and facilities for special populations and enhanced interpretation of the role women, minorities, and children played in the battles of Manassas and in the history of the park;
- ▶ To monitor the height of commercial and residential development surrounding the park to ensure it does not compromise the integrity and quality of the historic scene as seen from key interpretive areas from within the battlefield;
- ▶ To collaborate with the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Federal Highway Administration, Prince William County, and Fairfax County in conducting a highway relocation study regarding the relocation of Routes 234 and 29 within, and in the vicinity of, the park;
- ▶ To seek support and assistance from county and state officials, citizens, organizations, and adjacent landowners in preserving and improving the rural, agricultural character within and immediately surrounding the battlefield; and
- ▶ To maintain and improve community relations by seeking consensus support for management objectives, increasing participation and assistance in resolving major issues, and enhancing appreciation for park resources.

DESIRED VISITOR EXPERIENCE

In the process of generating a comprehensive planning strategy to guide the media prescriptions of this plan, the following *Desired Visitor Experience* objectives were developed:

- ▶ Visitors shall be oriented to each battle at separate locations that are conducive to the understanding and interpretation of those battles;
- ▶ At each visitor facility, visitors will have the opportunity to gain an awareness, a desire, and an ability to effectively use the other visitor facility;
- ▶ The visitor's focal point experience for the First Battle of Manassas will continue to be located at the existing visitor center on Henry Hill;
- ▶ The visitor's focal point experience for the Second Battle of Manassas will occur at a new visitor facility to be located near the western boundary of the park, preferably adjacent to U.S. 29 [Lee Highway];
- ▶ To help visitors make informed choices upon first entering the park, each of the major park interpretive facilities [the existing visitor center, and a proposed facility for the Second Manassas experience] needs either to be redesigned or designed to emphasize interpretive activities and services, and to provide the understandable context for each battlefield experience;
- ▶ A short walk from each facility will allow visitors an opportunity to have provocative experiences that illuminate and enlighten ... both intellectually and emotionally;
- ▶ The restoration and preservation of the historic landscape is imperative to the visitor's understanding of both battles and for a quality visitor experience at the park;
- ▶ Opportunities will be developed and made available for school age children to experience the park resource at their own level of understanding and ability;

- ▶ To enhance the visitor experience while recognizing that active recreational use of the park may conflict with existing legislative mandates for the core historic areas of the park;
- ▶ Visitors will experience driving tour routes that are safe, visitor friendly, and make interpretive sense;
- ▶ Visitors will be able to make informed choices concerning interpretive trail accessibility through the use of trailhead wayside exhibits;
- ▶ To further assure a quality experience, visitors will be provided with adequate personal services at all staffed locations; and
- ▶ Visitors shall have the opportunity to gain an appreciation of the park's cultural landscape environment, the devastation caused by the battles and campaigns, and the recovery process.

INTERPRETIVE MEDIA/FACILITY PRESCRIPTIONS

This plan proposes interpretation, orientation, and informational media treatments for the following areas, facilities and needs for Manassas National Battlefield Park:

- ▶ Separate Interpretive Facilities for First Manassas and Second Manassas Battlefields;
- ▶ Separate Walking and Driving Tours for First and Second Manassas Battlefields;
- ▶ Additions to the Parkwide Wayside Exhibit System; and
- ▶ Publications.

General Planning Considerations

Media planners and designers shall keep the following considerations in mind throughout the media planning and production process:

- ▶ the target audience for this prospectus consists of those visitors who are seeking interpretation of the historic scene, as well as those who will be likely to encounter any of the park's interpretive media and/or services;
- ▶ each prescribed media is only a tool or aid to help visitors understand and experience the park; more importantly, the climax of any park experience shall be some type of interaction with the historic resource;
- ▶ media shall be planned and designed to allow visitors to experience that historic resource without damaging that resource;
- ▶ media also shall be planned and designed to assure visitor safety, and to further encourage visitors to act safely and reasonably while in the park, and while visiting its historic resources and interpretive facilities;
- ▶ every effort should be made to plan and design media to help visitors experience a contemplative environment during their park visit; and
- ▶ media needs to meet the needs of both general visitors who have limited knowledge of and/or interest in the Civil War as well as Civil War enthusiasts who desire detailed presentations of historical events and strategies.

*All new and renovated structures, as well as all media prescribed by this prospectus, shall meet all mandated Federal accessibility requirements. All media shall conform with the September 1991 [Version 2.1] **Special Populations: Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for Interpretive Media**, developed and issued by Harpers Ferry Center [See Appendix "B", pages 61-71]. All media and facility designers and planners must incorporate the above requirements and provisions as they develop the action plans for structures, furnishings, fixtures, and media prescribed in this prospectus.*

Separate Interpretive Facilities: First Manassas and Second Manassas

*As this segment of the plan prescribing media for interpretive facilities for each of the battles of Manassas is begun, the following needs to be understood. The possibility of a single visitor facility located away from the activity core of each of the two battlefields was considered; perhaps in a structure with two separate wings with each wing interpreting one of the battles. *It was concluded that such a situation would tend to separate visitors from directly experiencing the prime resource. In addition, visitors more than likely would attempt to learn about both battles in a single visit to that visitor center. The average visitor cannot learn about two major battles at one time with sufficient retention to meaningfully experience each battle through interaction with the historic resource. There must be closure on one battlefield before beginning to experience the other battlefield.**

However, even though each of the two battles of Manassas requires its own interpretive facility, many of the features proposed for each facility are similar to the other, if not identical. Media and features common to both interpretive facilities will be discussed first, followed by proposals unique to each facility.

It must be clearly understood that although the initial treatment description may sound the same for both facilities, the planning and development of the media content will need to be battle-specific for each. Therefore, *although media presentation forms and techniques may be similar, the message to be communicated must stand alone.*

Proposals Similar For Both Interpretive Facilities

General Concerns and Considerations. The purpose of each of the two facilities shall be to interpret one of the battles of Manassas specifically and separately from the other. Specifically, the First Battle of Manassas at its specific interpretive facility and likewise for the Second Battle of Manassas. However, where and when appropriate, special effort will be exercised to compare and contrast these two battles.

The media planning and design for each facility shall incorporate all applicable, useful considerations for total accessibility. In addition to visual and physical access, it should include tactile experience opportunities, such as an orientation map; and color contrast considerations [i.e., avoiding color combinations in exhibits and audiovisuals which would confuse and stymie colorblind and partially blind visitors].

The planning, designing and development of content, text, and graphics for media within each facility must meaningfully address the range of the cultural diversity existent at the time of the two battles.

An improved, fully accessible pair of public restrooms also is definitely needed in each visitor facility. The women's restroom in each also needs to have adequate space and facilities for women who are nursing.

An outside bulletin board for after hours information/orientation use shall be retained. The existing bulletin board should be replaced with a new bulletin board case from existing Harpers Ferry Center wayside exhibit standard hardware

specifications, and should be supplemented with an audio message for visually impaired visitors.

Lobby. Orientation and information services for visitors will be the primary function for the lobby in each facility, with cooperating association publications display/sales assuming a secondary role.

Therefore, the lobby in each facility will need to be designed--or redesigned in the case of the First Manassas Interpretive Facility--to create an obvious initial "focal point" for visitor orientation/information. This may be either a high profile, staffed information/orientation desk or perhaps a tactile orientation exhibit/map. If the orientation map is the initial "focal point," the information/orientation desk should be prominently visible and directly accessible. Additionally, the information desk needs to continue to accommodate a park fee collection operation.

The orientation exhibits for each of the facilities shall specifically include orientation to the other major battlefield and visitor facility.

It would be most desirable to physically separate the Eastern National Park and Monument Association's [ENP&MA] operation, both display and sales, from the NPS information/orientation/fee collection functions.

Audiovisual Program. A new 20-25 minute, or less, audiovisual program will need to be planned and developed for each battle; one to be shown in the First Manassas facility auditorium and the other to be shown in a Second Manassas facility audiovisual room. Each generally should address the following two interpretive themes:

- ▶ *The First Battle of Manassas and the Second Battle of Manassas were two major battles of the American Civil War – each unique in strategy, tactics, and consequences for the outcome of the war; and*
- ▶ *The devastating impact of the battles on the social and economic fabric of the community, and the history of local families is important for an understanding of the tragic dimensions of the Civil War;*

Each program should be compelling and evocative, and particularly treat:

- ▶ the "macro strategy" of that battle;
- ▶ the context of that battle within the Civil War;

- ▶ the consequences of that battle relating to the outcome of the war; and
- ▶ the devastating impact of that battle upon the lifeways and history of local families and the community, and upon the soldiers.

The particular format for each audiovisual program needs to be decided by the audiovisual producer/planner, and could be either something with motion, such as a large screen video or perhaps a movie, and/or a slide/sound program.

To assist visitors with special needs, the following sound track versions will need to be planned and produced for each of the audiovisual programs:

- ▶ foreign language sound tracks in German, Spanish and French;
- ▶ an audio enhancement sound track, for hard of hearing visitors;
- ▶ an audio description track, both for blind and learning disabled visitors; and
- ▶ captioning for deaf visitors.

Interpretive Exhibits. Some form of a three-dimensional battle map with five- to six-minute audiovisual program enhancement would continue to occupy a key place in the interpretive exhibits section for each facility. However, it will be one among many exhibits and will not be located in its own "dedicated theater" space, as currently exists. This battle map exhibit shall be the specific media to interpret the sequence of events, both the strategy and the tactics, of each battle of Manassas {the following interpretive theme addresses this interpretive topic: *The First Battle of Manassas and the Second Battle of Manassas were two major battles of the American Civil War – each unique in strategy, tactics, and consequences for the outcome of the war*}.

As far as exhibitable artifacts and objects will permit, other interpretive exhibits shall address the following interpretive themes: *The First and Second Battles of Manassas illustrate the application and advancement of 19th century military science and technology; and the experiences of soldiers of all ranks from both sides of the conflict provide meaningful insights into the two battles of Manassas; and some of the following interpretive theme: The devastating impact of the battles on the social and economic fabric of the community and the history of local families is important for an understanding of the tragic dimensions of the Civil War.*

Conservation services, provided by the Harpers Ferry Center Division of Conservation, will most likely be needed for some, or perhaps all, exhibited artifacts.

Some short audiovisual "clips" should be considered to enhance these exhibits for each facility. Their format would most likely vary--from a full audiovisual, to a silent video or an audio track only. For purposes of cost estimation, three to four such "clips" should be considered for each facility's exhibit area. The content and the exact format of each is yet to be determined. However, caution should be exercised while selecting the precise format. "Competing sounds" are not desirable in these exhibit spaces. As related above, these exhibits shall specifically include tactile opportunities, especially for visitors with sight impairment.

An audio description of these exhibits also should be developed to assist sight impaired visitors. Additionally, interpretive exhibits designed for children should be considered for at least a portion of these exhibit areas.

Where appropriate in each exhibit area, that particular battle should be succinctly compared and contrasted with the other battle.

Proposals Applicable Only For First Manassas Interpretive Facility

General Concerns and Considerations. This plan eliminates the public use of the basement exhibit area for several reasons, including but not limited to: accessibility; marginal environmental health conditions during extended busy periods of use; and security of displayed objects.

It is strongly suggested that the possibility of an alternate restroom location at ground level within the existing building *footprint* be explored. If such provision is not possible or feasible, an acceptable solution would be to provide an accessible "family" or "unisex" restroom on the main floor.

Lobby. The Eastern National Park and Monument Association sales area for this interpretive facility should focus on works treating the First Battle of Manassas, general works about both battles, the campaigns leading up to each of the battles, other military operations generally related to the two battles of Manassas, the Eastern campaigns of the Civil War, and general works about the Civil War.

The Sidney King painting of the Second Manassas battle shall be moved to the new Second Manassas interpretive facility, in proper context with its new interpretive exhibits.

The existing "temporary exhibit" case in the lobby is definitely a "nice to have" option. If it cannot be gracefully incorporated in the new lobby design, consideration should be given to its relocation elsewhere in the building.

Audiovisual Program. Mounting large photos and/or historic prints on the back walls of the auditorium would enhance the visitor's interpretive experience as they enter and exit the auditorium, as well as brighten up the auditorium decor. The outdated, uncomfortable seating should also be replaced.

Interpretive Exhibits. The main floor exhibit area will be replanned, redesigned, and new exhibits installed.

Provision for temporary exhibit space for rotating current interpretive topics should be worked into the planning and design of this space, if these temporarily exhibits are moved from the lobby area. However, it would have a lesser priority than exhibits proposed for this facility.

Structural/Environmental Assessment of Existing Visitor Center. Because of legitimate concerns about the structural and environmental--health, safety, and accessibility--suitability and integrity of this existing Henry Hill Visitor Center, it is recommended that a structural assessment of this visitor center be conducted.

Such a study should establish critical element criteria for determining if and when the *useful life* of this visitor center has been exceeded. The application of these criteria, in turn, would aid in the determination and documentation of the possible end of the useful life of this visitor center and its subsequent need for replacement/relocation.

Since this visitor center is located in the middle of the land over which the climax of the First Battle of Manassas was fought, it is recommended that a new location for the First Manassas Interpretive Facility be determined if and when the useful life of the visitor center has expired. If the First Manassas Interpretive Facility needs relocation, the existing visitor center structure should be removed and the cultural landscape restored. At that time, consideration should be given to a site just east of the historic Stone Bridge and Bull Run. This site would balance the locations of

park interpretive facilities along the Lee Highway corridor, locating the First Manassas facility at the east end of the park and the Second Manassas facility at the west end of the park.

Proposals Applicable Only For Second Manassas Interpretive Facility

General Concerns and Considerations. This facility will be located near the western boundary of the park, preferably adjacent to U.S. 29 [Lee Highway]. The location further needs to have a significant feature or a view of the Battlefield of Second Manassas immediately accessible via a short interpretive trail.

The facility shall have adequate space and facilities for the following:

- ▶ lobby, with information/orientation media and services;
- ▶ an interpretive publications sales facility;
- ▶ exhibit room, including the Sidney King painting of Second Manassas (currently displayed in the park visitor center);
- ▶ AV room;
- ▶ an education/multipurpose room;
- ▶ public restrooms;
- ▶ staff working/support space;
- ▶ two interpretive staff offices;
- ▶ one of the above offices shall contain a *small* reference library of 30 to 50 battle-specific volumes--mostly for the Second Battle of Manassas, in a single bookcase; and
- ▶ staff restroom(s).

Future interpretive staffing for the park needs to include increases adequate to staff this important new interpretive facility full time on a seven days a week basis.

There will be no need to duplicate provision for such functional space as the park library, the collections storage and management space, and much of the office space, as these services/facilities are already located in the First Manassas facility.

An infant changing/nursing area should be provided in the women's restroom and an infant changing station should be provided in the men's restroom.

Adequate parking, including provision for buses and recreational vehicles will be needed to properly serve this facility.

Lobby. The Eastern National Park and Monument Association sales area for this interpretive facility should focus on works treating the Second Battle of Manassas, plus a small offering of general works about both battles, the campaigns leading up to each of the battles, other military operations generally related to the two battles of Manassas, the eastern campaigns of the Civil War, and general works about the Civil War.

Interpretive Exhibits. The Sidney King painting that currently hangs in the lobby of the Henry Hill Visitor Center shall be moved to this interpretive facility and incorporated in context with these exhibits interpreting the Second Battle of Manassas.

Visitor Circulation Patterns: Walking and Driving Tours

Because the two interpretive tour circulation systems proposed here are viable *only* with the existence of two major interpretive facilities, the prescription of this facet of the plan assumes that both of those two interpretation/visitor use facilities will be developed.

The interpretive tour circulation patterns for each battlefield will include:

- ▶ a driving tour;
- ▶ a primary walking tour beginning at the interpretive facility, designed to give park visitors a worthwhile interactive capsule experience with the historic resource and also seek to provoke or stimulate enough further interest in that battle to want to take the driving tour, too;
- ▶ two or more short interpretive trails or loop trails located along the driving tour route; and
- ▶ retaining the two existing longer self-guiding trails--the Stone Bridge Trail for First Manassas and the Deep Cut Trail for Second Manassas--as described on page 20.

It is imperative that a new park signage system be developed for each of the two driving tours. Each of these driving tour sign systems *must* include all necessary directional signs including new tour logo(s) and new tour stop markers. Each sign system must also have visitor "alert" provisions that assure adequate "lead time" for visitors to make a safe turn into each of the tour stops. Further, the new sign

system needs to include adequate informational signs from interstate exits and major intersections of all significant approach routes to the park.

Consideration also needs to be given to alleviating the inadequate parking situations, especially for buses and recreational vehicles, at many points of interest throughout the park.

First Manassas Battlefield

The existing Henry Hill Walking Trail will be retained as the primary provocative walking tour experience for the First Manassas Battlefield. However, it would be desirable to revisit some of the interpretive waysides along the trail for possible changes to clarify orientation directions.

The new First Manassas Battlefield Driving Tour will be designed to help visitors experience the battle events leading up to the climax of that battle on Henry Hill and Chinn Ridge, as well as direct park visitors to the site of *Portici*.

The specific tour route and tour stops will be as follows [please see Map 2 on page 39]:

- ▶ From Park VC to STOP ONE at east parking lot for Stone Bridge;
{Note: Vista clearing between Van Pelt Hill and the Stone Bridge is essential}
- ▶ Stone Bridge to STOP TWO at Sudley Church [via Stone House intersection];
{Note: Will need a larger parking area with safe, adequate access to it [i.e., ingress/egress]; will possibly need an additional wayside exhibit to interpret opening Union flank movement}
- ▶ Then to STOP THREE at Matthews Hill;
{Note: Will need a new parking area, of adequate size, on the east side of Sudley Road with safe access [ingress/egress]}
- ▶ Then to STOP FOUR at Henry Hill [via Stone House intersection];
{Note: It is recommended that visitors take the Henry Hill Walking Tour at this point; although it is acknowledged that many may take the walking tour first}
- ▶ Possibly STOP FIVE would be somewhere in the Chinn Ridge area;
{Note: Such a stop probably would be predicated upon an alternate access to Chinn Ridge for the Second Manassas Driving Tour, and would need a new or revised wayside exhibit presenting the First Manassas Battle perspective}
- ▶ Proceed to STOP SIX at the site of *Portici* [via Sudley Road and Battlevue Parkway].
{Note: Improvements will need to be made to both the existing access road and the parking area}

The First Manassas Driving Tour will also include three short self-guiding walking trails or trail loops with wayside troop location markers, as follows:

- ▶ the Stone Bridge-Van Pelt Trail from the Stone Bridge trailhead;
- ▶ the Sudley-Bull Run Trail from a trailhead opposite the Unfinished Railroad Grade Parking Area on Sudley Road [near the historic Sudley Church]; and
- ▶ the Matthews Hill Loop Trail from the Matthews Hill trailhead.

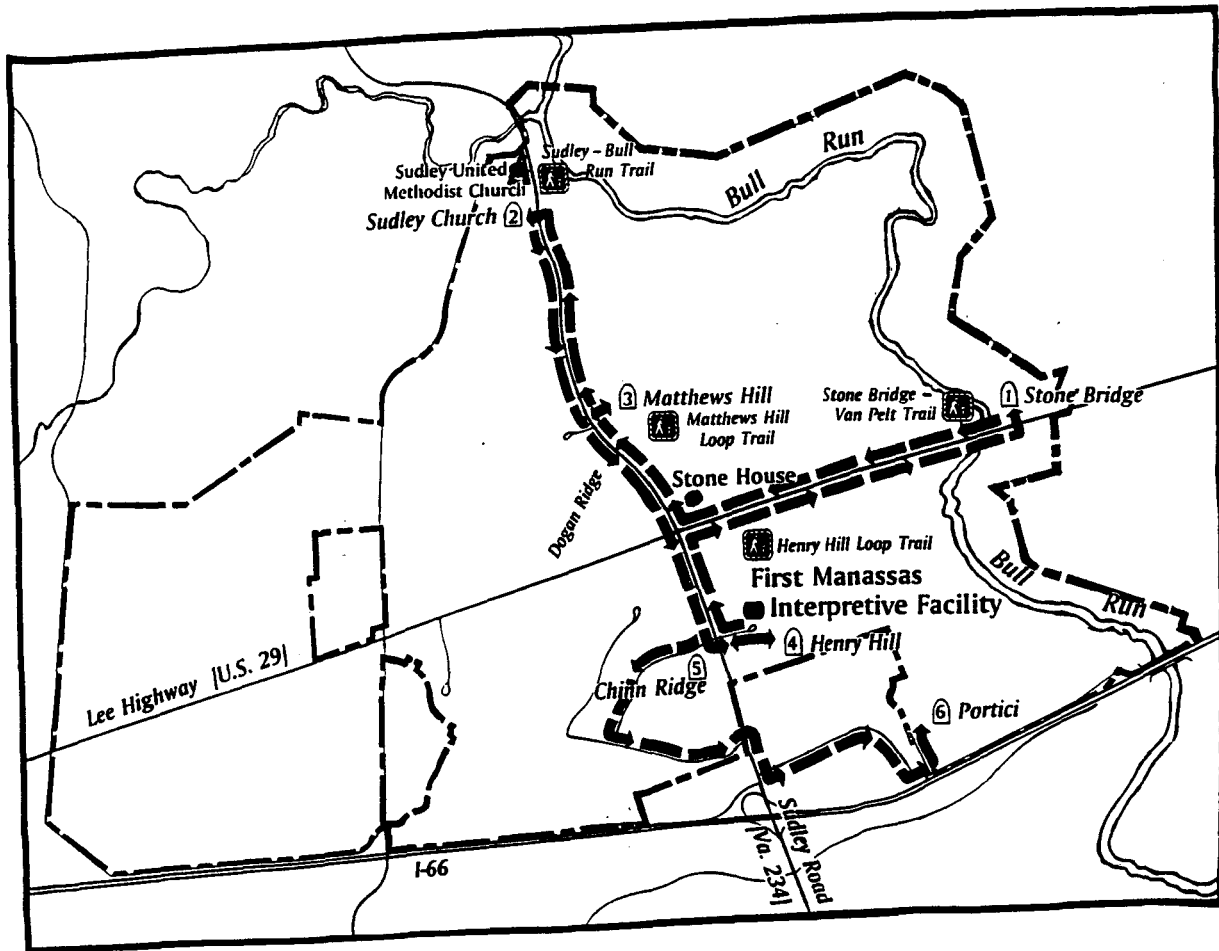
The primary media for this self-guiding driving tour shall be a written guide in the revised park Unigrd folder. The basic driving tour should be designed to be completed in approximately 1.5 hours. As a "rule of thumb" the writer of the tour route text should selectively include as much as possible while still restricting the length of the tour.

For those visitors with more time and interest and/or additional needs, supplemental driving tour media should be provided. An audio tape tour, perhaps two hours long, enhanced with relevant ambient soundscapes would be offered to those with more interest and time. An audio description tape version of this tour should be developed and produced. Although this version would be initially prepared for visually impaired visitors, many other visitors will likely find it appropriate and useful. It may be best to produce a single tape which includes the audio descriptions for both battlefield driving tours [see also page 43], and also include a segment for the Stone House, which is relevant to both battles.







Second Manassas Battlefield

Location of the Second Manassas Visitor Facility in or near the northwest corner of the Stuart's Hill tract is suggested--preferably on the northwest slope of Stuart's Hill, just below its crest. A trail from that visitor facility to an interpretive overlook on Stuart's Hill will provide the primary provocative walking tour experience for the Second Manassas Battlefield. Wayside exhibits, perhaps including some type of exhibit shelter or kiosk at the crest, will be the primary interpretive media for the trail.

Walking and Proposed Driving Tours for First Manassas Battlefield



KEY:

-  Authorized Park Boundary
-  Proposed Driving Tour Route
-  Driving Tour Stop
-  Self-Guiding Walking Trail
-  Sudley Church
-  Henry Hill Loop Trail

379	1701
HFC	Apr 94

The Second Manassas Battlefield Driving Tour will be redesigned to simplify the tour route, and begin at the new Second Manassas Interpretive Facility. The new route will pass through the "Stone House" intersection only twice, compared with passing through that intersection four times on the existing driving tour.

The specific tour route and tour stops will be as follows [please see Map 3 on page 43]:

- ▶ From Second Manassas Interpretive Facility to STOP ONE at Brawner Farm;

{Note: Visitors will visit the crest of Stuart's Hill before beginning the driving tour, continued vista clearing toward the Brawner Farm/Unfinished Railroad Grade and toward Chinn Ridge is essential; Vista clearing between Brawner Farm area and the viewshed to the east is essential}
- ▶ Brawner Farm to STOP TWO at the Gregg/Grover Loop/Unfinished Railroad Grade Trailhead [via Lee Highway and Featherbed Lane];
- ▶ Unfinished Railroad Grade to STOP THREE at the Deep Cut Trailhead [via Lee Highway and Featherbed Lane];
{Note: Vista clearing between trailhead wayside and the Deep Cut is essential}
- ▶ Deep Cut Trailhead to STOP FOUR at the Groveton Confederate Cemetery [via Featherbed Lane and Lee Highway];
- ▶ Groveton Confederate Cemetery to STOP FIVE at New York Avenue Monuments;
{Note: Vista clearing toward Chinn Ridge is essential}
- ▶ New York Monuments to STOP SIX on Chinn Ridge;
- ▶ Chinn Ridge to STOP SEVEN at the Stone Bridge [use east parking area].

The Second Manassas Driving Tour will also include at least four short self-guiding walking trails or trail loops with wayside troop location markers, as follows:

- ▶ the Brawner Farm Loop Trail from the Brawner House site trailhead;
- ▶ the Gregg/Grover Loop/Unfinished Railroad Grade Trail from the Unfinished Railroad Grade parking lot and trailhead located along Featherbed Lane [historic Groveton Road];
- ▶ the Deep Cut Loop Trail from the Deep Cut trailhead along Featherbed Lane [historic Groveton Road];
- ▶ the Chinn Ridge Trail from a trailhead on Chinn Ridge Road opposite the Chinn House ruin.

The primary media for this self-guiding driving tour shall be a revised written guide in the revised park Unigrd folder. The basic driving tour should be designed to be completed in approximately 1.5 to 2 hours. As a "rule of thumb" the writer of the

tour route text should selectively include as much as possible while still restricting the length of the tour.

For those visitors with more time and interest and/or additional needs, supplemental driving tour media should be provided. An audio tape tour, perhaps two hours long, enhanced with relevant ambient soundscapes would be offered to those with more interest and time. An audio description tape version of this tour should be developed and produced. Although this version would be initially prepared for visually impaired visitors, many other visitors will likely find it appropriate and useful. As previously stated in the *First Manassas Driving Tour* section above [see page 39], it may be best to produce a single tape which includes the audio descriptions for both battlefield driving tours, and also include a segment for the Stone House, which is relevant to both battles.

Additions to the Parkwide Wayside Exhibit System

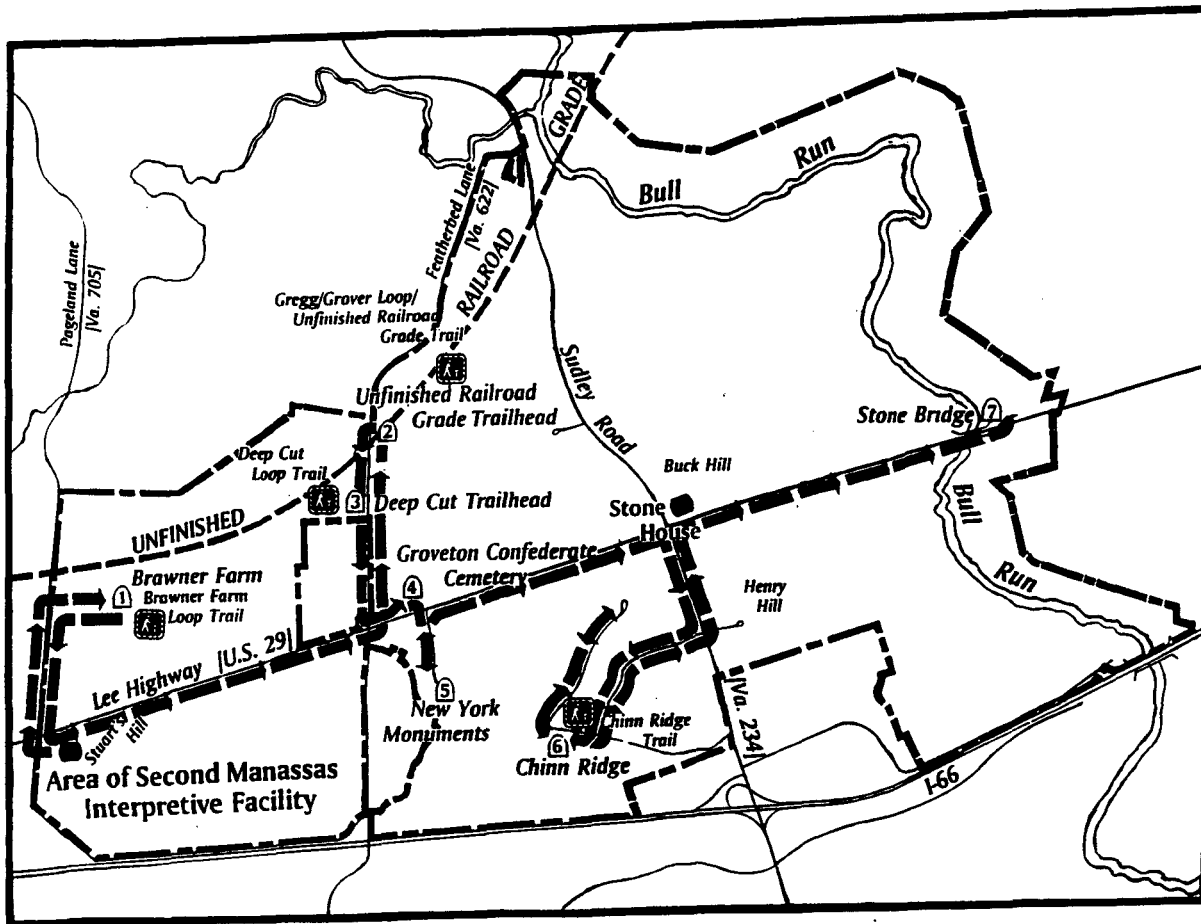
As previously described above in the *Planning Considerations* segment of this plan [see pages 16 and 22], an extensive parkwide system of waysides has been developed and installed within the past five years. However, selected additions to the system and a few revisions will be necessary to satisfactorily interpret the park resource and its stories. Quite possibly additions might arise from the planning and development of the two parkwide driving tours and in association with the development of a parkwide Trail Management Plan.

The following additional interpretive wayside exhibits, which are generally related to the development and implementation of the two new driving tours, may be needed:


- ▶ new wayside exhibit at Sudley Church [on the church property], to interpret the First Manassas Union Flank Movement via Sudley Ford;
{Note: it may require some vista clearing in the direction of Sudley Ford}
- ▶ revise, or perhaps, develop a new Chinn Ridge area wayside exhibit to interpret the late phases of the First Battle of Manassas; and
- ▶ interpretive wayside exhibit panels for Stuart's Hill, perhaps in an exhibit shelter or kiosk.

{Note: the nature, number, and location of such wayside exhibits will need further study and planning}

Walking and Proposed Driving
Tours for Second Manassas Battlefield



KEY:

-  Authorized Park Boundary
-  Proposed Driving Tour Route
-  Brawner Farm
-  Deep Cut Loop Trail
-  Driving Tour Stop
-  Self-Guiding Walking Trail

379	1702
HFC	Apr 94

The designation and development of these two new battlefield driving tours may well open further opportunities for wayside exhibits. The completion and implementation of a parkwide cultural landscape report [which would include a historic vegetation management strategy and plan] may also create opportunities, if not imperative needs, for new wayside exhibits.

Several supplementary waysides to the parkwide system, which may be dependent upon or at least associated with the Trail Management Plan, may be in order as follows:

- ▶ possible new trailhead waysides for the Stone Bridge Loop Trail, the First Manassas Long Loop Trail, and the Second Manassas Long Loop Trail;
- ▶ potentially consider assisting visually impaired visitors by providing some type of tactile orientation trailhead maps at most or all major trailheads; and
- ▶ revisit the First Manassas/Henry Hill Walking Tour waysides to clarify orientation directions presented on the waysides {this item most likely would be low priority}.

To provide visitors with after hours information outside each of the park's two major interpretive facilities, new "*Harpers Ferry Center system*" bulletin board cases need to be specified, developed, and installed.

Publications

Although the cooperating association sales facility in the visitor center lobby currently offers a wide variety of publications related to both battles of Manassas, the Eastern Theater Campaign of the Civil War, and the Civil War in general, the park still lacks a significant number of desirable site specific publications. This section will enumerate and briefly describe those publication needs.

The imperative need to develop and implement separate interpretive driving tours for each of the battles of Manassas becomes the *driving force* dictating the need for a **major revision of the park's Unigrd folder**. The revision shall include separate texts for these two tours, perhaps one on each side. Since the historic Stone House figures prominently in both battles, it should be treated separately from the two self-guiding tours in this folder. Perhaps it could be treated and presented in some type of a side-bar topic.

The park's outdated handbook, originally authored by Francis F. Wilshin and published more than 35 years ago, has been out-of-print for at least six years. It needs to be replaced with a **new official park handbook** conforming to the new National Park Service handbook series in design, layout and content. Like all other NPS park handbooks, this will be a sales publication.

In addition to the park handbook, or perhaps included as part of the new official park handbook, it would be most desirable to develop a **new site-specific parkwide guidebook**. It should be developed and produced for general park visitor audiences, perhaps as an interim measure pending the development and publishing of the **official park handbook**. The book should be designed as a quality, somewhat in-depth guidebook with high quality souvenir value. Such a book would fill an identified need of a quality souvenir "take home" publication. If developed separately, this book would most likely be developed by Eastern National Park and Monument Association as a sales publication. It needs to contain a site-related narrative, excellent maps, and quality photographs and other graphics.

The park's interpretive staff has also identified a need for **three to four additional brief individual site publications** designed and produced for free distribution. Some, but not all, of these brochures would be trail oriented.

The park's cooperating association sales facilities also should give serious consideration to adding more African-American titles which relate to the Civil War and the Manassas region to their sales inventory. Perhaps site-specific African-American history publications may need to be specifically developed and published.

Site-specific sales publications about Manassas are available for elementary children and teenagers; however, no such **publication for preschoolers**, ages three to five, exists. Such a sales publication will be needed to fulfill this unmet need. Most likely, this would probably be a creative combination of relevant pre-reader activities with very brief texts. *A word of caution is in order--mere coloring books will not satisfy this unmet need.*

It seems appropriate to note that members of the park's interpretive staff have begun to work closely with Prince William County Schools personnel to try to develop a resource-based curriculum using historic sites as "site-specific classrooms"--particularly using the battlefield park as one of the resource bases. The park's interpretive themes would be specifically related to and integrated into the school curriculum. We believe that it would be appropriate to add any published product

developed by this effort to the park's sales publications. Future continued interpretive staff involvement in such cooperative efforts with local schools may punctuate the desirability, if not the need, to add an Education Specialist to the park staff.

To better respond to the needs of organized educational classes who are visiting the park in greater numbers annually, it would be quite desirable to develop and distribute some form of a **"pre-site educational visit" package**. It probably would be based on the Harpers Ferry Center pilot program/package for Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, which would include: the park handbook; videotapes of major interpretive facility audiovisuals; and some type of teacher/student educational use guidelines and plans.

As Manassas National Battlefield Park becomes more and more included in the expanding Washington metropolitan area, it receives increasing numbers of foreign-speaking visitors. **Brief, summary-treatment park folders or brochures in the German, French, and Spanish languages** will be required to satisfy basic needs of these foreign-speaking visitors.

It is imperative that the park staff develop, produce, and distribute a **park sites and services accessibility folder** for the park. This publication simply would be a guide to the level and nature of accessibility for all park sites and services. It needs to be printed in a large type point size, to assist those who may have sight impairments. An audio version of the brochure also should be considered for those with significant sight loss.

Two additional sales publications which fall into a "it would be valuable to have, but are of lesser priority" category would be a **creative administrative history** and an **in-depth publication about the civilians of the Manassas Battlefields**.

The **administrative history** which is now in process should be designed and published as a sales publication written for general park visitor and park neighbor audiences. It would highlight the park's own rich history, with particular emphasis devoted to critical issues in the development of the park which have direct bearing on the national Civil War battlefield preservation movement.

The **"Civilians of the Manassas Battlefields" publication** would focus not only on who these civilian residents were at the onset of the First Battle of Manassas, but on how the Civil War in this geographic area specifically affected them. It should include,

but not be limited to, the following families: Henrys, Carters, Van Pelts, Bensons, Matthews, Robinsons, Lewises, Dogans, Wheelers, Hooes, Chinns, Comptons, Cundiffs, Monroes, Brawners, Douglasses, Weirs, and perhaps Wilmer McLean.

SUMMARY OF INTERPRETIVE THEME TREATMENT IN INTERPRETIVE MEDIA

In this section, each of the park's five interpretive themes will be restated, and followed with an outline of the specific proposed media treatment which will be used to interpret that particular theme.

The First Battle of Manassas and the Second Battle of Manassas were two major battles of the American Civil War--each unique in strategy, tactics, and consequences for the outcome of the war;

Treatment via:

- ▶ First and Second Manassas Walking and Driving Tours;
- ▶ publications: especially--Unigrid folder revision, new NPS Handbook, new site-specific parkwide guidebook [cooperating association developed sales item];
- ▶ auditorium-type AV programs at both First and Second Manassas Interpretive Facilities;
- ▶ battle map exhibits at both First and Second Manassas Interpretive Facilities; and
- ▶ many interpretive wayside exhibits.

The devastating impact of the battles on the lifeways of the community and the history of local families is important for an understanding of the tragic dimensions of the Civil War;

Treatment via:

- ▶ auditorium-type AV programs at both First and Second Manassas Interpretive Facilities;
- ▶ some interpretive wayside exhibits;
- ▶ publications: especially--new site-specific parkwide guidebook [cooperating association developed sales item]; in-depth publications on civilians of the Manassas Battlefields; children's publication; and

- ▶ in part, interpretive exhibits in both First and Second Manassas Interpretive Facility.

The First and Second Battles of Manassas illustrate the application and advancement of 19th century military science and technology;

Treatment via:

- ▶ interpretive exhibits in both First and Second Manassas Interpretive Facility;
- ▶ publications--several; and
- ▶ some interpretive wayside exhibits.

The experiences of soldiers of all ranks from both sides of the conflict provide meaningful insights into the two battles of Manassas;

Treatment via:

- ▶ interpretive exhibits in both First and Second Manassas Interpretive Facility;
- ▶ publications--several;
- ▶ some interpretive wayside exhibits; and
- ▶ in part, auditorium-type AV programs at both First and Second Manassas Interpretive Facilities.

The Manassas Battlefields and related features represent local, state, and national efforts to preserve and commemorate our nation's Civil War heritage.

Treatment via:

- ▶ some wayside exhibits;
- ▶ sales publications--several;
- ▶ possibly temporary exhibits in First Manassas Interpretive Facility; and
- ▶ personal services {scheduled and unscheduled}.

ALTERNATIVE FUNDING STRATEGIES FOR SECOND MANASSAS INTERPRETIVE FACILITY

The possible alternatives for construction funding and the development and installation of interpretive media for the new Second Manassas Interpretive Facility includes a full spectrum as follows:

- donations from outside sources for the entire facility;
- a combination of a variety of sources such as private funding, public funding, and donated services;
- complete funding through the National Park Service line-item process.

Possible sources for **donations** might be:

- interested individuals;
- family foundations;
- commercial/industrial/other foundations;
- professional and commercial firms and businesses;
- organizations with particular interest in the Manassas battlefields, such as Civil War Round Tables.

The **combination of sources** strategy, if selected, should seriously consider separating the project into three facets concerning viable sources--design, building materials and labor--while still simultaneously managing the three facets to achieve a completed, integral whole.

- Design could be achieved either through:
 - (1) donation--either by using donated funds, or accepting the donated services of an architectural design firm,
 - (2) design by the regional professional services staff.
- Provision of materials might come through:
 - (1) purchase using donated funds,
 - (2) direct donation of building materials,
 - (3) a combination of direct donated materials and materials purchased with donated funds,
 - (4) purchase using ONPS funding, such as "Cyclic Maintenance" funds for a one or a two fiscal year period.
- The most viable source of day-labor for construction would be through the Job Corps program.

Consideration of the realities of current congressional funding patterns concerning new visitor centers and/or interpretive facilities makes the possibility of **line-item funding** for this facility to be extremely unlikely. The success of obtaining donations or using the alternative funding strategies will depend upon the commitment, dedication, and participation of park management in conjunction with others, such as the National Park Foundation and the Harpers Ferry Job Corps for example. Particularly, the Park Superintendent will need to work with interested potential partners--individuals, organizations, foundations, other offices and agencies, etc.:

- to seek out, identify, cultivate, nurture and develop "compelling partnerships" which will be successful in "selling" the total project;
- to bring this new Second Manassas Interpretive Facility to fruition.

Additionally, the park should continue to be considered within the priorities for Harpers Ferry Center major media rehab.

- When its priority comes to the fore, exhibits and audiovisual media should be designed, produced and installed with the caveat that it would include specific and separate media treatments for each of the two battlefields--First Manassas and Second Manassas.
- The media for Second Manassas would be installed in the existing park visitor center until such time that the Second Manassas Interpretive Facility becomes a reality.

ADDITIONAL PLANS AND STUDIES NEEDED TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THIS PROSPECTUS

As previously pointed out in this document, an **Amendment to General Management Plan/Environmental Assessment for Powerline Relocation** is being prepared concurrently with this Interpretive Prospectus.

Several other studies identified below, will be needed to realize a full and complete implementation of this prospectus.

Parkwide Cultural Landscape Report

Although the *Cultural Resource Survey and Inventory of a War-Torn Landscape: The Stuart's Hill Tract, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Virginia* was completed in 1992, a parkwide cultural landscape report does not exist for Manassas National Battlefield Park, and needs to be undertaken and completed as soon as possible.

As has been previously explained, several interpretive wayside exhibits have been planned/produced/installed with the understanding that historic scene restoration would follow. To date, this historic scene restoration has not occurred, leaving several waysides whose effectiveness is seriously compromised, if not totally negated. The completion and implementation of such a parkwide study will provide the documentation of the park's cultural landscape, especially including the nature and extent of historic vegetation, necessary to restore the historic vegetation and historic scene so necessary for the proper understanding of significant battle actions.

Parkwide Trail Management Plan

It is recommended that a *Parkwide Trail Management Plan* be developed and implemented to remove unneeded, unwarranted trails and trail segments, the use of which significantly contributes to the damage and destruction of some of the park's important cultural resources. As previously related, this proliferation of trails, many of which are non-interpretive, has yielded a matrix of trails that tends to leave trail users quite confused at many of the trail intersections.

The plan shall include, or be preceded by, an evaluation of each trail to determine its worthiness to remain in the system. If not, it needs to be obliterated and the cultural landscape restored as appropriate. The two most important criteria upon which to base the evaluation are:

- ▶ has an interpretive purpose been established for each trail, and do the cultural values served by the trail or trail segment adequately support that purpose?
- ▶ does the trail, or will its obliteration, serve a valuable role in the protection and interpretation of the park's primary and significant cultural resources?

The plan shall also contain a comprehensive system of user-friendly directional signs and markers. It shall also contain provisions to assure that all bridle trails remain in the perimeter areas of the park, as specified in the park's 1983 General Management Plan [GMP]. These provisions were delineated in the 1983 GMP because of the need to minimize adverse impacts on park resources and visitor experiences, and thereby protect the park's cultural resources and enhance the interpretation of the historic scene.

Adverse Impacts Due to External Threats Study

Quality visitor experiences in the future will likely be impacted by several possible *external threats*--particularly *historic viewsheds* [i.e., tall structures on the viewshed horizons]. These type of conditions may already exist and thus may already negatively impact visitor experiences. Comprehensive studies are needed to:

- ▶ identify conditions beyond which the visitor experience in the park will be significantly impacted;
- ▶ develop a comprehensive strategy to work with community leaders, park neighbors, and local and county officials to identify and implement adequate mitigation procedures and actions; and
- ▶ develop a strategy and plan to mitigate the impacting heavy non-park traffic patterns crossing the park both from the east/west direction and from the north/south direction.

Restricted Active Recreational Use Plan

To further assure quality visitor experiences and the protection/conservation of the park's irreplaceable cultural resources, recommendations need to be developed to assure that active recreational uses of Manassas National Battlefield Park are restricted to only those perimeter areas which are outside the primary tour areas and outside the restoration zone. Such a plan also needs to specify that youth camping (i.e., Boy and Girl Scout troops, etc.) shall also be limited to transitional subzones and then only occur when integrally needed to carry out specific service project contributions.

SELECTED REFERENCES

- Allan, William. *The Army of Northern Virginia in 1862*. Boston and New York, 1892.
- Bearss, Edwin C. *Troop Movement Maps: Battle of First Manassas and Engagement at Blackburn's Ford, July 18 and 21, 1861*. Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1981.
- Blackford, William W. *War Years with Jeb Stuart*. New York: 1945.
- Carter, Robert G. *Four Brothers in Blue*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1978.
- Casler, John. *Four Years in the Stonewall Brigade*. Guthrie, OK: 1893.
- Cunningham, Horace H. *Field Medical Services at the Battles of Manassas (Bull Run)*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1968.
- Davis, William C. *Battle at Bull Run: A History of the First Major Campaign of the Civil War*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1977.
- Early, Jubal A. *General Jubal A. Early: Autobiographical Sketch and Narrative of the War Between the States*. Philadelphia: 1912.
- Ely, Alfred. *The Journal of Alfred Ely*. New York: 1862.
- Freeman, Douglas S. *Lee's Lieutenants: A Study in Command*. 3 Vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1944.
- Gaff, Alan. *Brave Men's Tears: The Iron Brigade at the Brawner Farm*. Dayton: 1955
- Galke, Laura J. *Cultural Resource Survey and Inventory of a War-Torn Landscape: The Stuart's Hill Tract, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Virginia. Occasional Report #7, Regional Archeology Program*. Washington, DC: National Park Service, National Capital Region, 1992.
- Gibbon, John. *Personal Recollections of the Civil War*. New York: 1928.

- Gordon, George H. *History of the Campaign of the Army of Virginia, under John Pope... from Cedar Mountain to Alexandria, 1862.* Boston: 1880.
- Gordon, John B. *Reminiscences of the Civil War.* New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1904.
- Hanson, Joseph Mills. *Bull Run Remembers ... The History, Traditions and Landmarks of the Manassas (Bull Run) Campaigns Before Washington, 1861-1862.* Manassas, VA: National Capitol Publishers, Inc., 1953.
- Hennessy, John J. *The First Battle of Manassas: An End to Innocence, July 18-21, 1861.* Lynchburg, VA: H.E. Howard, Inc., 1989.
- _____. *Historical Report on the Troop Movements for the Second Battle of Manassas, August 28 through August 30, 1862.* Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, October, 1985.
- _____. *Return to Bull Run: The Campaign and Battle of Second Manassas.* New York: Simon & Schuster, 1993.
- Hill, John M. *Douglas Hall: Historic Structures Report.* Manassas, VA: National Park Service, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Summer, 1985.
- Hoffman, Richard B. *Manassas National Battlefield Park: Wayside Exhibit Plan.* Harpers Ferry, WV: National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center, July, 1986.
- Hood, John Bell. *Advance and Retreat: Personal Experiences in the United States and Confederate States Armies.* New Orleans: 1880.
- Johnson, Robert U., and Clarence C. Buel, eds. *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War.* Vols. 1 & 2. New York: 1956.
- Johnston, Joseph E. *Narrative of Military Operations.* New York: 1874.
- Kelly, Dennis P. *Second Manassas: The Campaign and Battle.* Philadelphia: Eastern Acorn Press, 1983.

Longstreet, James. *From Manassas to Appomattox: Memoirs of the Civil War in America*. (James I. Robertson, Jr., ed.) Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1960.

Naisawald, L. VanLoan. *Manassas Junction and the Doctor*. Manassas, VA: Lake Lithograph, Inc., 1981.

National Park Service. *General Management Plan, Manassas National Battlefield Park*. Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, September, 1983.

_____. *Amendment to General Management Plan/ Environmental Assessment for Powerline Relocation*, Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, May, 1994.

_____. *Land Protection Plan, Manassas National Battlefield Park*. Washington, DC: National Park Service, National Capital Region, November, 1986.

_____. *Resources Management Plan, Manassas National Battlefield Park*. Washington, DC: National Park Service, National Capital Region, August, 1988.

_____. *Statement for Management, Manassas National Battlefield Park*. Manassas, VA: National Park Service, Manassas National Battlefield Park, October, 1989.

Owen, William M. *In Camp and Battle with the Washington Artillery*. Boston: 1885.

Raus, Edmund. "Voices of Portici," *Civil War*, Volume 14, 1989.

Ropes, John C. *The Army Under Pope*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1881.

Warder, T.B., and James M. Catlett. *Battle of Young's Branch or Manassas Plain*. Richmond, 1862.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE PLANNING PROCESS

Core Team:

Ray Brown	<i>Cultural Resources Management Specialist, Manassas NBP</i>
Karen Cucurullo	<i>Management Assistant, Manassas NBP</i>
Joanne Hanley	<i>Interpretive Planner, National Capital Regional Office</i>
John Hennessy	<i>Wayside Exhibit Planner, Harpers Ferry Center</i>
David Larsen	<i>Interpretive Historian, National Capital Regional Office</i>
Mike Litterst	<i>Interpretive Specialist, Manassas NBP</i>
Ben Miller	<i>Exhibit Planner, Harpers Ferry Center</i>
Ed Raus	<i>Chief, Interpretation & Cultural Resource Management, Manassas NBP</i>
Walton "Kip" Stowell	<i>Interpretive Planner, Harpers Ferry Center</i>
Tom White	<i>Interpretive Planner, Harpers Ferry Center – Team Captain</i>
Shirley Wilt	<i>Former Audiovisual Production Officer, Harpers Ferry Center</i>

Other Participants and Consultants:

Ken Apschnikat *Superintendent, Manassas NBP*

Jim Burgess *Museum Technician, Manassas NBP*

Glenn DeMarr *Land Use Coordinator, National Capital Regional Office*

Patrick Gregerson *Chief, Regional Planning Coordination, National Capital Regional
Office*

APPENDIX "A"

STATEMENT FOR INTERPRETATION & VISITOR SERVICES

The annual *Statement for Interpretation and Visitor Services* [SFI] is included here by reference.

The currently approved document should be consulted for guidance in the development of personal services programs. As an operations document, the *Statement for Interpretation* complements this *Interpretive Prospectus* by integrating its personal service directions, especially its "*Individual Service Plans*", into the media development proposals of this prospectus.

APPENDIX "B"

SPECIAL POPULATIONS PROGRAMMATIC ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES
FOR INTERPRETIVE MEDIA

All new interpretive media shall conform with the September 1991 *Special Populations: Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for Interpretive Media*, which is as follows:

**Special Populations:
Programmatic Accessibility
Guidelines for Interpretive Media**

National Park Service
Harpers Ferry Center

September 1991
[Version 2.1]

Prepared by
Harpers Ferry Center Accessibility Task Force

Contents

Statement of Purpose	61
Audiovisual Programs	62
Exhibits	64
Historic Furnishings	67
Publications	68
Wayside Exhibits	69

Statement of Purpose

This document is a guide for promoting full access to interpretive media to ensure that people with physical and mental disabilities have access to the same information necessary for safe and meaningful visits to national parks. Just as the needs and abilities of individuals cannot be reduced to simple statements, it is impossible to construct guidelines for interpretive media that can apply to every situation in the National Park System.

These guidelines define a high level of programmatic access which can be met in most situations. They articulate key areas of concern and note generally accepted solutions. Due to the diversity of park resources and the variety of interpretive situations, flexibility and versatility are important.

Each interpretive medium contributes to the total park program. All media have inherent strengths and weaknesses, and it is our intent to capitalize on their strengths and provide alternatives where they are deficient. It should also be understood that any interpretive medium is just one component of the overall park experience. In some instances, especially with regard to learning disabilities, personal services, that is one-on-one interaction, may be the most appropriate and versatile interpretive approach.

In the final analysis, interpretive design is subjective and dependent on both aesthetic considerations, as well as the particular characteristics and resources available for a specific program. Success or failure should be evaluated by examining all interpretive offerings of a park. Due to the unique characteristics of each situation, parks should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Nonetheless, the goal is to fully comply with NPS 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 quality of the park experience for everyone."

NPS Special Directive 83-3, Accessibility for Disabled Persons

Audiovisual Programs

Audiovisual programs include motion pictures, sound/slide programs, video programs, and oral history programs. As a matter of policy, all audiovisual programs produced by the Harpers Ferry Center will include some method of captioning. The approach used will vary according to the conditions of the installation area and the media format used, and will be selected in consultation with the parks and regions.

The captioning method will be identified as early as possible in the planning process and will be presented in an integrated setting where possible. To the extent possible, visitors will be offered a choice in viewing captioned or uncaptioned versions, but in situations where a choice is not possible or feasible, a captioned

version of all programs will be made available. Park management will decide on the most appropriate operational approach for the particular site.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. The theater, auditorium, or viewing area shall be accessible and free of architectural barriers, or alternative accommodations will be provided. UFAS 4.1.
2. Wheelchair locations will be provided according to ratios outlined in UFAS 4.1.2(18a).
3. Viewing heights and angles will be favorable for those in designated wheelchair locations.
4. In designing video or interactive components, control mechanisms will be placed in an accessible location, usually between 9" and 48" from the ground and no more than 24" deep.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Simultaneous audio description will be considered for installations where the equipment can be properly installed and maintained.

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. All audiovisual programs will be produced with appropriate captions.
2. Copies of scripts will be provided to the parks as a standard procedure.
3. Audio amplification and listening systems will be provided in accordance with UFAS 4.1.2(18b).

Guidelines Affecting Learning Impaired Visitors

1. Unnecessarily complex and confusing concepts will be avoided.
2. Graphic elements will be chosen to communicate without reliance on the verbal component.
3. Narration will be concise and free of unnecessary jargon and technical information.

Exhibits

Numerous factors affect the design of exhibits, reflecting the unique circumstances of the specific space and the nature of the materials to be interpreted. It is clear that thoughtful, sensitive design can go a long way in producing exhibits that can be enjoyed by a broad range of people. Yet, due to the diversity of situations encountered, it is impossible to articulate guidelines that can be applied universally.

In some situations, the exhibit designer has little or no control over the space. Often exhibits are placed in areas ill-suited for that purpose, they may incorporate large or unyielding specimens, may incorporate sensitive artifacts which require special environmental controls, and room decor or architectural features may dictate certain solutions. All in all, exhibit design is an art which defies simple description. However, one central concern is to communicate the message to the largest audience possible. Every reasonable effort will be made to eliminate any factors limiting communication through physical modification or by providing an alternate means of communication.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibit space will be free of physical barriers or a method of alternate accommodation will be provided.
2. All pathways, aisles, and clearances will meet standards set forth in UFAS 4.3. Generally a minimum width of 36" will be provided.
3. Ramps will be as gradual as possible and will not exceed a slope of 1" rise in 12" run, and otherwise conform with UFAS 4.8.
4. Important artifacts, labels, and graphics, will be placed at a comfortable viewing level relative to their size. Important text will be viewable to all visitors. Display cases will allow short or seated people to view the contents and the labels. Video monitors associated with exhibits will be positioned to be comfortably viewed by all visitors.
5. Lighting will be designed to reduce glare or reflections, especially when viewed from a wheelchair.
6. Ground and floor surfaces near the exhibit area will be stable, level, firm, and slip-resistant. (UFAS 4.5).

7. Operating controls or objects to be handled by visitors will be located in an area between 9" and 48" from the ground and no more than 24" deep. (UFAS 4.3)
8. Horizontal exhibits (e.g., terrain model) will be located at a comfortable viewing height.
9. Information desks and sales counters will be designed for use by visitors and employees using wheelchairs, and will include a section with a desk height no greater than 32" to 34", with at least a 30-inch clearance underneath. The width should be a minimum of 32" vertical, with additional space provided for cash registers or other equipment, as applicable.
10. Accessibility information about the specific park should be available at the information desk and the International Symbol of Access will be displayed where access information is disseminated.
11. Railings and barriers will be positioned in such a way as to provide unobstructed viewing by persons in wheelchairs.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibit typography will be selected with readability and legibility in mind.
2. Characters and symbols shall contrast with their backgrounds, either light characters on a dark background or dark characters on a light background. (UFAS 4.30.3)
3. Tactile and participatory elements will be included where possible.
4. Audio description will be provided where applicable.
5. Signage will be provided to indicate accessible restrooms, telephones, and elevators. (UFAS 4.30)

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. Information presented via audio formats will be duplicated in a visual medium, either in the exhibit copy or by printed material.

2. Amplification systems and volume controls will be incorporated to make programs accessible to the hard of hearing.
3. Written text of all audio narrations will be provided.
4. All narrated AV programs will be captioned.
5. Allowance for Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) will be included into information desk designs.

Guidelines Affecting Learning Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibits will avoid unnecessarily complex and confusing topics.
2. Graphic elements will be developed to communicate nonverbally.
3. Unfamiliar expressions and technical terms will be avoided and pronunciation aids will be provided where appropriate.
4. To the extent possible, information will be provided in a manner suitable to a diversity of abilities and interests.
5. Where possible, exhibits will be multisensory. Techniques to maximize the number of senses utilized in an exhibit will be encouraged.
6. Exhibit design will be cognizant of directional handicaps and will utilize color and other creative approaches to facilitate comprehension of maps.

Historic Furnishings

Historically refurnished rooms offer the public a unique interpretive experience by placing visitors within historic spaces. Surrounded by historic artifacts visitors can feel the spaces "come alive" and relate more directly to the historic events or personalities commemorated by the park.

Accessibility is problematical in many NPS furnished sites because of the very nature of historic architecture. Buildings were erected with a functional point of view that is many times at odds with our modern views of accessibility.

The approach used to convey the experience of historically furnished spaces will vary from site to site. The goals, however, will remain the same, to give the public as rich an interpretive experience as possible given the nature of the structure.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. The exhibit space shall be free of architectural barriers or a method of alternate accommodation shall be provided, such as slide programs, videotaped tours, visual aids, dioramas, etc.
2. All pathways, aisles, and clearances shall (when possible) meet standards set forth in UFAS 4.3 to provide adequate clearance for wheelchair routes.
3. Ramps shall be as gradual as possible and not exceed a 1" rise in 12" run, and conform with UFAS 4.8.
4. Railings and room barriers will be constructed in such a way as to provide unobstructed viewing by persons in wheelchairs.
5. In the planning and design process, furnishing inaccessible areas, such as up floors of historic buildings, will be discouraged unless essential for interpretation.
6. Lighting will be designed to reduce glare or reflections when viewed from a wheelchair.
7. Alternative methods of interpretation, such as audiovisual programs, audio description, photo albums, and personal services will be used in areas which present difficulty for the physically impaired.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibit typefaces will be selected for readability and legibility, and conform with good industry practice.
2. Audio description will be used to describe furnished rooms, where appropriate.
3. Windows will be treated with film to provide balanced light levels and minimize glare.

4. Where appropriate, visitor-controlled rheostat-type lighting will be provided to augment general room lighting.
5. Where appropriate and when proper clearance has been approved, surplus artifacts or reproductions will be utilized as "hands-on" tactile interpretive devices.

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. Information about room interiors will be presented in a visual medium such as exhibit copy, text, pamphlets, etc.
2. Captions will be provided for all AV programs relating to historic furnishings.

Guidelines Affecting the Learning Impaired

1. Where appropriate, hands-on participatory elements geared to the level of visitor capabilities will be used.
2. Living history activities and demonstrations which utilize the physical space as a method of providing multisensory experiences will be encouraged.

Publications

A variety of publications are offered to visitors, ranging from park folders which provide an overview and orientation to a park to more comprehensive handbooks. Each park folder should give a brief description of services available to the disabled, list significant barriers, and note the existence of TDD phone numbers, if available.

In addition, informal site bulletins are often produced to provide more specialized information about a specific site or topic. It is recommended that each park produce an easily updatable "Accessibility Site Bulletin" which could include detailed information about the specific programs, services, and opportunities available for the disabled and to describe barriers which are present in the park. These bulletins should be in reasonably large type, 18 points or larger.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. Park folders, site bulletins, and sales literature will be distributed from accessible locations and heights.

2. Park folders and Accessibility Site Bulletins should endeavor to carry information on the accessibility of buildings, trails, and programs by the disabled.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Publications will be designed with the largest type size appropriate for the format.
2. Special publications designed for use by the visually impaired should be printed in 18-point type.
3. The information contained in the park folder should also be available on audio cassette. Handbooks, accessibility guides, and other publications should be similarly recorded where possible.

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. Park site bulletins will note the availability of such special services as sign language interpretation and captioned programs.

Guidelines Affecting Learning Impaired Visitors

1. The park site bulletin should list any special services available to this group.

Wayside Exhibits

Wayside exhibits, which include outdoor interpretive exhibits and signs, orientation shelter exhibits, trailhead exhibits, and bulletin boards, offer special advantages to disabled visitors. The liberal use of photographs, artwork, diagrams, and maps, combined with highly readable type, make wayside exhibits an excellent medium for visitors with hearing and learning impairments. For visitors with sight impairments, waysides offer large type and high legibility.

Although a limited number of NPS wayside exhibits will always be inaccessible to visitors with mobility impairments, the great majority are placed at accessible pullouts, viewpoints, parking areas, and trailheads.

The NPS accessibility guidelines for wayside exhibits help ensure a standard of quality that will be appreciated by all visitors. Nearly everyone benefits from high quality

graphics, readable type, comfortable base designs, accessible locations, hard-surfaced exhibit pads, and well-designed exhibit sites.

While waysides are valuable on-site "interpreters," it should be remembered that the park resources themselves are the primary things visitors come to experience. Good waysides focus attention on the features they interpret, and not on themselves. A wayside exhibit is only one of the many interpretive tools which visitors can use to enhance their appreciation of a park.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. Wayside exhibits will be installed at accessible locations whenever possible.
2. Wayside exhibits will be installed at heights and angles favorable for viewing by most visitors including those in wheelchairs. For standard NPS low-profile units the recommended height is 34" from the bottom edge of the exhibit panel to the finished grade; for vertical exhibits the height of 24" to 28", depending on panel size.
3. Trailhead exhibits will include an accessibility advisory.
4. Wayside exhibits sites will have level, hard-surfaced exhibit pads.
5. Exhibit sites will offer clear, unrestricted views of park features described in exhibits.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibit type will be as legible and readable as possible.
2. Panel colors will be selected to reduce eye strain and glare, and to provide excellent readability under field conditions. White should not be used as a background color.
3. Selected wayside exhibits may incorporate audiostations or tactile elements such as models, texture blocks, and relief maps.
4. For all major features interpreted by graphic wayside exhibits, the park should offer nonvisual interpretation covering the same subject matter. Examples include cassette tape tours, radio messages, and ranger talks.

5. Appropriate tactile cues should be provided to help visually impaired visitors locate exhibits.

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. Wayside exhibits will communicate visually, and will rely heavily on graphics to interpret park resources.
2. Essential information included in audiostation messages will be duplicated in written form, either as part of the exhibit text or with printed material.

Guidelines Affecting Learning Impaired Visitors

1. Topics for wayside exhibits will be specific and of general interest. Unnecessary complexity will be avoided.
2. Whenever possible, easy to understand graphics will be used to convey ideas, rather than text alone.
3. Unfamiliar expressions, technical terms, and jargon will be avoided. Pronunciation aids and definitions will be provided where needed.
4. Text will be concise and free of long paragraphs and wordy language.

APPENDIX "C"
SCOPE OF COLLECTION STATEMENT, 1989

Introduction

Manassas National Battlefield Park was established by Executive Order on May 10, 1940, under the authority of an Act of Congress approved on August 21, 1935. Section 2, paragraph F of this legislation authorized the National Park Service to "restore, reconstruct, rehabilitate, preserve and maintain historic or prehistoric sites, buildings, objects and properties of national historical or archeological significance and where deemed desirable establish and maintain museums in connection therewith." The historic sites, structures and objects associated with the First and Second Battles of Manassas were thus declared to be of national significance and worthy of preservation for the inspiration and benefit to the public.

The primary interpretive themes of the park have been identified as follows: *[Please note: The Interpretive Prospectus team revised the interpretive themes for the park, see pages 24-25 for these revised themes which replace both the primary and secondary themes listed here.]*

- ▶ The significance of the two Manassas campaigns in terms of immediate consequences and their relationship to the Civil War as a whole;
- ▶ The objectives of the opposing leaders in the Manassas campaigns and the strategy employed by these men in attempting to achieve these goals;
- ▶ The sequence of events leading up to each battle and the specific maneuvers of opposing forces on the battlefield;
- ▶ The major contrasts between the two battles, one fought by inexperienced soldiers, the other by seasoned veterans;
- ▶ The topography of the battlefield and its effect in the two battles;
- ▶ The courage and sacrifice of individual officers and men of both armies and the tragic effect of the battles on the local civilian populations; and
- ▶ The elements of military science *[especially army organization, weapons, tactics, communications, logistics, medicine and surgery]*, as they were applied to the battles at Manassas.

It would be difficult and inappropriate to isolate the historical events of the park story from their border context. The interpretive themes of the park must take into account and reflect events which may have transpired beyond the physical boundaries of the park but still relate, directly or indirectly, to the park story. In order to

promote a better, more complete understanding of the park story and its relationship to other historical events, the scope of interpretation is supplemented with the following secondary interpretive themes:

- ▶ The significance of Manassas Junction in terms of military strategy;
- ▶ The effect of turnpikes and railroads on the social and economic development of the Manassas area in the antebellum period;
- ▶ The way of life for inhabitants of the Manassas area before, during, and after the Civil War;
- ▶ Military operations or activities in the Manassas-Centreville area not directly related to the battles fought in 1861 and 1862; and
- ▶ Day to day living conditions experienced by common soldiers of both northern and southern armies.

The collection at Manassas National Battlefield Park will be maintained in a manner consistent with the intent of the enabling legislation, and it should reflect and support the interpretive themes of the park.

Acquisition

All additions to the park collection will be at the discretion of the Park Superintendent who will have sole authority for accepting new acquisitions and providing donors with appropriate recognition. The Scope of Collection Statement should be reviewed by the Superintendent in order to determine whether a potential acquisition is appropriate to the collection. The Park Curator and Regional Curator, National Capital Region, should also be consulted prior to accepting new acquisitions to ensure that adequate storage facilities are available, that objects to be acquired are evaluated for conservation or stabilization needs, and that the transaction is consistent with regional and servicewide policies. Upon receipt, all newly acquired objects and related documentation should be turned over to the Park Curator for accessioning and cataloging which should be done as soon as possible.

All acquisitions by the park must meet the requirements outlined in the section headed, "Types of Collection". The means of acquisition will be subject to the following conditions:

- ▶ *Donations (Gifts):* Only unconditional, unrestricted donations should be accepted. Donations valued over \$10,000 must be referred to the Regional Director, National Capital Region, for approval;

- ▶ *Bequests (Wills):* Only if the terms of the will do not place any restrictions on the park;
- ▶ *Loans:* Objects loaned to the park should provide a significant contribution to the park story under conditions favorable to the park; Duration of loan agreements should not exceed five years (subject to renewal);
- ▶ *Transfers:* May be made from other parks or government agencies only;
- ▶ *Exchanges:* Trades may be made only with other public institutions and only if an upgrading of the park collection results. Objects exchanged should be of a similar nature and relative value;
- ▶ *Purchase:* Objects may be purchased only if they are essential to the park, if they cannot be acquired any other way, and if funds are available; and
- ▶ *Field Collection:* Historic and/or prehistoric objects found within the physical boundaries of the park either by formal archeological efforts or casual finds by the park staff or the public should be accessioned into the collection with information detailing the exact location of the find.

Types of Collection

A. *Exhibit Series:* Objects in the collection which are on permanent or temporary exhibit can be subdivided into the following categories based on the manner in which they are displayed:

- ▶ **Museum Exhibits:** Objects in display cases within the visitor center;
- ▶ **Artillery:** Gun tubes and carriages displayed outdoors to represent various battery positions on the battlefield; and
- ▶ **Stone House Furnishings:** Objects on display in an historic structure.

B. *Study Series:* A park study collection is maintained in order to provide a greater depth of materials for reference and research purposes. Access to the study collection is generally limited to the Superintendent, Chief Historian, Park Curator, and to other members of the park staff whom they may authorize. However, specific objects from the study collection can be made available to the staff and qualified researchers for detailed examination. The study collection also provides a reserve for future exhibits. A special exhibit case in the lobby of the visitor center was designed specifically to allow the rotation of artifacts from the study collection.

C. *Objects Appropriate to the Collection:* Manassas National Battlefield Park will collect, preserve, and exhibit only the following types of objects:

- ▶ Historic and prehistoric (aboriginal) artifacts recovered from lands under the jurisdiction of Manassas National Battlefield Park;
- ▶ Military artifacts (*weapons, munitions, uniforms, equipment, etc.*), directly related to the battles fought at Manassas, or of a type used at Manassas, or related to persons who served at Manassas, only as necessary to complete the park story;
- ▶ Documentary materials (*books, papers, maps, photographs, fine arts, etc.*), directly related to the military campaigns or operations and participants associated with the battles at Manassas;
- ▶ Artifacts and documentary materials related to the military activities and associated sites (*camps, defensive works, signal stations, hospitals, fords, bridges, railroads, etc.*), in the vicinity of the battlefield, only as necessary to complete the park story;
- ▶ Artifacts and documentary materials directly related to the house sites and families residing on or near the battlefield during the war, only as necessary to complete the park story;
- ▶ Artifacts or furnishings typical of a tavern/farmhouse, circa 1860, only as necessary to complete the park story;
- ▶ Civil War medical and surgical equipment of a type commonly used at a temporary field hospital, only as necessary to complete or upgrade the park collection;
- ▶ Military manuals and other rare books predating or dating to the Civil War period and used in the training of military personnel or have other historical significance in relation to the battles at Manassas;
- ▶ personal items (*Bibles, eating, smoking, writing, and camp equipment, etc.*) carried or used by soldiers who fought at Manassas, or representative samples, only as necessary to complete the park story; and
- ▶ Artifacts and documentary materials associated with post-war veteran activities at Manassas and events related to or resulting from the battles at Manassas (*Court-martial of Fitz John Porter, establishment of Groveton Cemetery, reunions, reenactments and other commemorative activities, establishment of the park, etc.*).

Use of the Collection

Objects in the collection, unless exempt under the provisions of NPS-6, will not be used in a consumptive manner which would subject them to wear, deterioration,

breakage, or theft. The legitimate, nonconsumptive uses of the collection are listed below with guidelines to protect the integrity of the collection.

A. *Documentation of Park Resources:* Objects found within the boundaries of the park offer definitive proof of use at Manassas and constitute a part of the historic fabric of the battlefield, which the National Park Service is obligated to preserve for future generations. These objects should be maintained to provide, both individually and collectively, a source of information for future study.

B. *Exhibit:* Objects displayed for the public should reflect or support the park interpretive themes whether exhibited in the museum, Stone House, or on the field. All objects on exhibit should be in a stable condition or should be treated by museum conservators prior to exhibit for long-term protection. Any objects which cannot be adequately secured or are too fragile to withstand the environmental conditions of the exhibit without adverse effects should not be placed on exhibit.

C. *Scholarly Research:* Researchers and other specialists may examine objects from the park study collection under the following conditions:

- ▶ All researchers wishing to use the study collection should make an appointment, contacting the Superintendent, Chief Historian, or Park Curator in advance;
- ▶ Only authorized members of the park staff will be permitted in the study collection storage room. No exceptions. Needed objects will be brought out to an appropriate work area in the Interpretive Division office;
- ▶ The curator or authorized park employee with access to the collection will be present at all times while objects are being studied;
- ▶ Handling of objects by researchers will be at the discretion of the curator. Fragile items may be viewed but not handled. White cotton gloves, provided by the park, must be worn at all times while handling objects;
- ▶ Only one object at a time should be examined unless there is a need for a comparison;
- ▶ No eating, drinking, or smoking will be permitted while objects are being studied;
- ▶ Researchers should not have any cases, bags, purses, or heavy clothing (coats, etc.), in the designated work area. Only paper, pencils (*no pens*), measuring instruments, and photographic equipment will be permitted in the work area;
- ▶ Photographing of objects will be at the discretion of the curator. Objects should not be exposed to floodlight more than the minimum time necessary to take the picture;

- ▶ At the discretion of the curator and on a limited basis only, documentary materials may be photocopied (Xeroxed), at the park. Materials found to be too fragile for photocopying must be transcribed by the researcher; and
- ▶ A researchers' log book will be maintained by the curator. The researcher's name, address, telephone, subject of research, and catalog numbers of objects studied should be recorded along with the date.

D. *Reference for Park Staff:* The park interpretive staff needs to have a working knowledge of the artifacts and documentary materials associated with the battles fought at Manassas. Members of the park staff (including VIPs), should strictly adhere to the guidelines established for researchers while examining objects from the study collection.

E. *Interpretive Programs:* At the discretion of the curator, certain artifacts may be exhibited as visual aids in talks or other interpretive programs only if adequate precautions are taken to ensure safe handling (with white cotton gloves), and a stable and secure environment. A justification/impact statement must be submitted to the Regional Curator, NCRO, in order to obtain an exemption to allow the consumptive use of an object in any interpretive demonstration.

F. *Loans:* At the discretion of the Superintendent, objects in the collection may be loaned to other public institutions which have demonstrated an ability to provide adequate protection to the objects. Loans should be for exhibit purposes only to ensure that objects will not be used in a consumptive manner. Long-term loans should not exceed five years. However, the loan agreement can be renewed for five-year periods indefinitely if it is to the benefit of the park. Objects of primary significance to the park story should not be loaned out nor should fragile, rare or extremely valuable objects.

Restrictions

Objects in the collection will not be removed from the park for any reason other than the following:

- ▶ Transfer to Harpers Ferry Center for conservation/exhibit preparation;
- ▶ Transfer to National Capital Region Museum and Archeological Regional Storage Facility [MARS], for short-term or long-term storage;
- ▶ Transfer of surplus, deaccessioned objects to the Museum Clearinghouse; and
- ▶ Loans to qualified public institutions.

All such transactions will be executed with the approval of the Park Superintendent. The Park Curator will be responsible for ensuring that objects being moved are adequately prepared for safe transit. The curator will also be responsible for documenting all objects moved on the appropriate forms.

Conclusions

Any exemption to the Scope of Collection Statement must be approved by the Regional Director, National Capital Region. Any objects in the collection which are found to be nonessential, do not reflect or support the stated interpretive themes of the park, or are surplus to the needs of the park will be culled from the collection. The Museum Clearinghouse will be provided with an inventory of all such items to be disposed of, and all such objects will be properly deaccessioned upon transfer.