National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2021



# Initial Assaults

## Petersburg National Battlefield

## Table of Contents

Introduction

General Information

Concurrence Information

Geographic Information and Location Map

Management Information

National Register Information

Chronology & Physical History

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Uses

Condition

Treatment

Bibliography & Supplemental Information

# Introduction

## The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

### Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

### The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

### Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

### Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

# General Information

## Property Level and CLI Numbers

**Inventory Unit Name:** Initial Assaults

**Resource Classification:** Component Landscape

**CLI Identification Number:** 300200

**Parent Landscape:** 300197

**Inventory Status:** Complete

**Park Information**

**Park Name:** Petersburg National Battlefield

**Alpha Code:** PETE

**Park Organization Code:** 4770

**Park District:** PETE

**Region:** Northeast

**Restricted:** Yes

### Landscape Description:

The Initial Assaults battlefield landscape is part of Petersburg National Battlefield (NB), a unit of the National Park Service (NPS) located in south-central Virginia, in the City of Petersburg and in Prince George County. The 2,659-acre park was established in 1926 to commemorate the campaign, siege, and defense of Petersburg in 1864 and 1865, and to preserve the breastworks, earthworks, walls, and other defenses or shelters used by the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War. Petersburg NB comprises separate geographical areas or units that form a semicircle to the east, south, and west of Petersburg, including Grant's Headquarters at City Point, the Eastern Front, the Western Front, and the Five Forks Battlefield. The 968-acre Initial Assaults battlefield is located within the park's Eastern Front unit.

The Initial Assaults battlefield landscape was the site of numerous skirmishes on June 15-17, 1864, as part of the four-day Second Battle of Petersburg (the last day of the battle, June 18, occurred mainly on the landscape area that would become Fort Stedman, and is addressed in the Fort Stedman CLI). During the Initial Assaults the Union forces drove the Confederates from their positions on the eastern half of the Dimmock Line. The Confederates fell back across Harrison Creek, digging in along the western bank. The Confederate troops then held their hastily constructed Hagood Line (also known as the Second Confederate Line) for just two days. They then fell back again to the Confederate Defensive Siege Line (also known as the Harris Line), which they held for the remaining ten months of the campaign. Portions of these defensive earthworks of the Dimmock Line and Hagood Line remain in the Initial Assaults battlefield and contribute to the significance and integrity of the cultural landscape. While important to the Initial Assaults, the Harris Line is located within the Fort Stedman area, to the west of the Initial Assaults battlefield.

Most visitors enter the Initial Assaults battlefield via State Route 36 and proceed on the paved one-way Tour Road (also called Siege Road), beginning at the Eastern Front Visitor Center. The Initial Assaults battlefield includes remnants of the Confederate Dimmock Line, including the earthen defensive structures of Batteries 5 through 13 and the site of the Dictator cannon at Battery 5. Earthen defensive structures, including parapets, trenches, and bombproofs, are covered with vegetation ranging from managed turf to non-historic woodlands. During the Initial Assaults battles and the subsequent siege of Petersburg, the Harrison Creek basin, which bisects the battlefield north to south, created an obstacle, troop cover, and concealment. The battlefield also includes the longest historic road

trace in Petersburg NB, the nearly two-mile-long Prince George Courthouse Road, which is partially incorporated into the Tour Road. Additional historic road traces include the Shand House Road Trace and the Jordan Road Trace. There are also visible remains of a cellar hole and stair ruin from the Friend House, part of the former White Hill plantation. Commemorative features installed between 1912 and 1993 form a layer of development over the 1864-1865 battlefield landscape, including the Soldier's Spring Monument. In addition to the Tour Road, parking and pull-off areas, paved walks, and earthen trails provide access through the site. Maintenance and administration buildings for the park are located in both the northern and southern areas of the battlefield.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The 2,760-acre Petersburg National Battlefield is nationally significant for its association with the ten-month-long Petersburg Campaign (June 15, 1864 to April 2, 1865), culminating in the abandonment of Petersburg and Richmond by General Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. The abandonment led directly to the Confederate surrender to Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant and the Union Army of the Potomac at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. The Eastern Front Unit of the park encompasses extensive systems of preserved Confederate and Federal earthworks associated with the Petersburg Campaign and the sites associated with several important battles, including the initial assaults on Petersburg in June 1864; the Battle of the Crater on July 30, 1864; and the Battle of Fort Stedman on March 25, 1865.

The battlefield landscape associated with the Initial Assaults is nationally significant under National Register of Historic Places Criterion A in the area of Military as the site of the initial assaults on Petersburg (also called the Second Battle of Petersburg) between June 15 and June 17, 1864. It is also significant under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage-Black for the role of United States Colored Troops during the battle. Late nineteenth and early twentieth-century efforts to commemorate and preserve the Petersburg Battlefield are related to national trends in the veneration and protection of Civil War battlefields and lend the battlefield national significance under Criterion A in the areas of Commemoration and Conservation. The Initial Assaults battlefield is also nationally significant under Criterion B for its military association with General Robert E. Lee, Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, and General Pierre G.T. Beauregard. Lastly, Initial Assaults is nationally significant under Criterion C in the area of Engineering for the remains of the earthen Civil War fortifications. Initial Assaults Battlefield may also be significant under Criterion D in the area of Archeology, but evaluation of archeological significance is beyond the scope of this CLI.

The period of significance for the battlefield of the Initial Assaults is 1864 to 1942. It begins with the construction of Union and Confederate defenses and the initial assaults by Federal forces on Petersburg. It ends when the NPS completed projects associated with commemorating, preserving, and developing the park landscape as directed by master planning documents.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The physical integrity of the Initial Assaults battlefield is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance, 1864 to 1942, with the existing conditions as assessed in 2021. Many landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain today. These include buildings and structures (the earthworks and batteries associated with the Dimmock and Hagood Lines, Fort Friend, the World War I trenches, and the Civilian Conservation Corps era-Utility Building 1); circulation features (the Jordan Road Trace, Prince George Courthouse Road Trace, and the Shand House Road Trace); natural systems (Harrison Creek); vegetation (fields and meadows, and the wooded corridor of Harrison Creek); views between the Initial Assaults battlefield and Fort Stedman; and small-scale features (the Soldiers' Spring Monument). At least two farms or estates dating to the eighteenth century were present during the Initial Assaults near Battery Five – the Clermont/Jordan House and the White Hall/Friend House – but are no longer extant. Two nineteenth-century properties owned at the time of the siege by the Dunn and the Gibbons families are also no longer extant. The remnants of these sites are documented in archaeological investigations and overviews of Petersburg NB and are beyond the scope of this cultural landscape inventory.

The Initial Assaults battlefield retains integrity to the period of significance, with six out of the seven aspects of integrity evidenced on the grounds. Abundant successional woody vegetation and the loss of historic structures diminish the integrity of design and feeling. The cultural landscape lacks integrity of setting due to successional woody vegetation and residential and light commercial development immediately adjacent to the park.

The overall condition of the Initial Assaults battlefield landscape is evaluated as "Fair." Non-historic successional

woody vegetation continues to obscure the open landscape and tactical viewsheds that were present during the 1864 battle. Several battle-era earthworks, defensive features, and circulation features have non-historic woody vegetation growing directly on them. These features are at risk for damage due to the trees being thrown or toppled in a storm event.

**Landscape Hierarchy Description:**

Five landscapes (and three component landscapes) comprise Petersburg National Battlefield. These include Five Forks Battlefield, Grant's Headquarters at City Point, the Western Front, Poplar Grove National Cemetery, and the Eastern Front. Three component landscapes, including the Initial Assaults, Fort Stedman, and the Crater Battlefield, comprise the Eastern Front Landscape.

**Landscape Type:**

Historic Site

**Other Names:**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Other Name:** | Initial Assault Battlefield | **Other Name Type:** | Both Current And Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Initial Assaults Battlefield | **Other Name Type:** | Current |
| **Other Name:** | Second Battle of Petersburg | **Other Name Type:** | Both Current And Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Petersburg Assault | **Other Name Type:** | Both Current And Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Eastern Front | **Other Name Type:** | Both Current And Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Clermont | **Other Name Type:** | Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Friend House | **Other Name Type:** | Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Jordan House | **Other Name Type:** | Historic |
| **Other Name:** | White Hill | **Other Name Type:** | Historic |
| **Other Name:** | White Hall | **Other Name Type:** | Historic |

## Site Plan




*Site map for the Initial Assaults battlefield, 2021.*

# Concurrence Information

## Concurrence Status:

**Park Superintendent Concurrence:** Yes

**Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:** 09/28/2021

**Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:**

Jennifer Hanna, Historical Landscape Architect with the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, conducted research and produced this Cultural Landscape Inventory in 2021. Site photographic documentation was completed in 2021 by Stuart Hayden, Associate, and Tim Layton, Historical Landscape Architect, both with the Olmsted Center. Jeff Killion, Regional Cultural Landscape Inventories Coordinator, reviewed, edited, and provided comments on the report. The cultural resource contact for the park is Emmanuel Dabney, Museum Curator, who may be reached at Emmanuel_Dabney@nps.gov or 804-732-3571 ext. 305.

## Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Initial Assaults
Petersburg National Battlefield

Petersburg National Battlefield concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Initial Assaults, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair

**Good:** indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

**Fair:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

**Poor:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Initial Assaults is hereby approved and accepted.

LEWIS ROGERS

Digitally signed by LEWIS ROGERS
Date: 2021.09.28 17:47:13 -04'00'

Superintendent, Petersburg National Battlefield Date

*Park Concurrence Form for the Initial Assaults, 2021.*

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Interior Region 1
North Atlantic-Appalachian
1234 Market Street, 20th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

1.A.2.(IR1-RSS)

Julie Langan
Director & State Historic Preservation Officer
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
Commonwealth of Virginia
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221

Dear Ms. Langan:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) for the Initial Assault Battlefield at Petersburg National Battlefield. We seek to reconfirm our agreement on previously evaluated resources and your concurrence on the status of previously unevaluated resources identified in this CLI for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The report has been prepared by a team of historical landscape architects with the National Park Service (NPS) Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The CLI program and the enclosed report continue the NPS efforts to update our cultural resource inventories.

Through the CLI program, the NPS is currently in the midst of a nationwide effort to inventory its cultural landscapes. The CLI is conducted in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). It is an inventory of baseline information for all historically significant cultural landscapes within the national park system, and it examines multiple landscape features that contribute to the significance of historic properties. The CLI process includes gathering information from existing secondary sources and conducting on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the property's overall significance. For landscapes found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the evaluation describes their character-defining features and assesses the landscape's overall historical integrity. It also raises questions about the landscape that need further study.

It is important to note that the CLI reports are not intended as comprehensive inventory reports for any one property, although for some properties they provide fuller documentation than for others. For example, the reports do not include a full architectural description of structures, but document structures as elements of the overall landscape, and similarly documents other characteristics such as vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. The CLI is one component of the NPS inventory effort that also includes cultural resource inventories for historic structures, archeological sites, ethnographic resources, and museum objects. For

*NPS letter to Virginia SHPO, page 1 of 8.*

example, the NPS List of Classified Structures inventory includes structural features of cultural landscapes, but the CLI takes a more encompassing approach to the properties, inventorying all above-ground features in each park in which the NPS has a legal or mandated interest.

**Previous Historic Property Evaluation:**

Petersburg National Battlefield (NB) was established on July 3, 1926 as a National Military Park under jurisdiction of the War Department, and then transferred to the National Park Service (NPS) on August 10, 1933. The land tracts that comprise the Initial Assault component landscape, also known as the Second Battle of Petersburg, were acquired beginning in the late 1920s. The park was redesignated as a National Battlefield on August 24, 1962.

Petersburg NB was administratively listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966, with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. Although your office has not formally approved National Register documentation for the entire park to date, several sites in the park are listed individually with documentation in the National Register. The Five Forks Battlefield was designated a National Historic Landmark on December 19, 1960 and listed on July 2, 1975. The Appomattox Manor complex at City Point was listed on October 1, 1969. Grant's Headquarters at City Point, a park management unit, is also located within the boundaries of the City Point National Register Historic District, listed on October 15, 1979. There are currently no individual listings for the Eastern Front unit or for the Initial Assault Battlefield.

On February 18, 2000, the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) "The Civil War in Virginia, 1861-1865: Historic and Archeological Resources" was accepted by the Keeper of the National Register. The MPDF identified property types and historic contexts with which to evaluate historic and archeological resources related to the Civil War. The six property types were battlefields, earthworks, campsites, military hospitals, military headquarters, and military prisons. Petersburg National Battlefield was identified under the battlefields and earthworks property types under Criteria A for its association with the Civil War history in Virginia. The MPDF organized historic contexts by the Civil War campaigns in Virginia, most of which were conducted along principal transportation routes. The Initial Assault area (June 15-18, 1864) was described as part of the Richmond and Petersburg Campaign of 1864-1865.

There have been several consultations with your office regarding the eligibility of resources in the park. On April 6, 2004, your office concurred with the NPS that the Mission 66 development program at Petersburg NB was not eligible for listing in the National Register. Mission 66 resources within the Initial Assault Battlefield include a segment of the Auto Tour Road incorporating a bridge over Route 36 and a new park entrance road, the Eastern Front Visitor Center, the maintenance building compound, the ten-stop auto tour between Battery 5 and the Crater, the small picnic area between stops three and four, and the living history interpretative area.

In March 2014, the Public Archeology Lab prepared a draft National Register documentation for the entirety of the Petersburg NB. The documentation has not been submitted to your office for review. The documentation identified significance under Criteria A, C, and D in the areas of

*NPS letter to Virginia SHPO, page 2 of 8.*

military, politics/government, conservation, ethnic heritage-black, landscape architecture, engineering, other (commemoration), architecture, and archeology. Significance was also noted under Criterion B for Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant. The periods of significance were listed as 11,000 BCE–1600 CE, c.1650–1750, and 1763–present. In the documentation, contributing resources in the Initial Assault area included the Dimmock Line - Confederate Batteries 5-13, Hagood Line, Seacoast Mortar and Powder Magazine at Dictator Site, World War I Training Trenches, Eastern Front Civil War Road Network (Shand House Road Segment, Prince George Courthouse Road Trace, Jordan Point Road Trace, Utility Building No. 1, and the Soldiers' Spring Monument. Non-contributing resources included the Jordan Family Cemetery, Powder Magazine and Revetment, Eastern Front Visitor Center, 1835 Hickory Hill Road (Resource Management), Resource Management Storage Building, 1429 Hickory Hill Road (Quarters #29 and Garage), 1431 Hickory Hill Road (Quarters #77), 1445 Hickory Hill Road (Quarters #34 and Garage), 1505 Hickory Hill Road (Ranger Station), Ranger Station Storage Building, 1539 Hickory Hill Road (Headquarters Building), Park Entrance Station, Maintenance Shed, Carpenter Shop, Equipment Parking Sheds 1 and 2, Vehicle Repair Building, Pump House Tack Room, Eastern Front Tour Road, Living History Site, USCT Monument, Mather Monument, and Confederate Unknown Monument.

**Current Findings:**

The enclosed CLI for the Initial Assault Battlefield fully evaluates the cultural landscape, particularly the associated landscape characteristics and features, and finds that the site's landscape retains integrity to the areas of Conservation, Engineering, Ethnic Heritage-Black, Military, and Other (Commemoration). As noted previously, none of the property's features compiled on the attached list have been described in the National Register. The CLI identifies twenty-three features related to buildings and structures, circulation, natural systems and features, vegetation, views and vistas, and small-scale features that contribute to the significance and historic character of the property's landscape. Sixty-two features have been evaluated as noncontributing because they are not historically significant, and two features have been evaluated as undetermined because additional research is needed.

We call your particular attention to the Landscape Description, Boundary Description, National Register Information and the Statement of Significance, and Analysis and Evaluation Summary in the enclosed CLI.

Based on the CLI, we seek your concurrence on the status of resources and features identified in this CLI:

- The battlefield associated with the Initial Assault is nationally significant under National Register of Historic Places Criterion A in the area of Military as the site of the initial assault on Petersburg (also called the Second Battle of Petersburg) between June 15 and June 18, 1864. It is also significant under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage-Black for the role of United States Colored Troops during the battle. Late nineteenth and early twentieth-century efforts to commemorate and preserve Petersburg Battlefield are related to national trends in the veneration and protection of Civil War battlefields and lend the battlefield national significance under Criterion A in the areas of Commemoration and Conservation.

*NPS letter to Virginia SHPO, page 3 of 8.*

- The Initial Assault Battlefield, as part of the Petersburg NB, is nationally significant under Criterion B for its military association with General Robert E. Lee and Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant.
- The Initial Assault Battlefield is nationally significant under Criterion C in the area of Engineering for the remains of the earthen Civil War fortifications.
- The Initial Assault Battlefield may also be significant under Criterion D in the area of Archeology, but evaluation of archeological significance is beyond the scope of this CLI.
- The period of significance for the battlefield of the Initial Assault is 1864 to 1942. It begins with the construction of Union and Confederate defenses and the initial assault by Federal forces on Petersburg. It ends when the NPS completed projects associated with commemorating, preserving, and developing the park landscape as directed by master planning documents.
- The categorization of contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined landscape characteristics and features (see attached list).

If you concur with these findings, we ask that you please sign on the space provided and return this letter to Jeff Killion, CLI Coordinator (Address: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 15 State Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02109). We would appreciate your response in **45 days**, if possible. Thank you for your attention to this inventory. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Killion at 508-455-8540 (cell).

Sincerely,

JONATHAN MEADE

Digitally signed by JONATHAN MEADE
Date: 2021.07.28 10:27:56 -04'00'

Jonathan Meade
Associate Regional Director
Resource Stewardship and Science

Enclosure

cc:
Superintendent, Petersburg National Battlefield

I concur with the National Park Service categorizations of the landscape resources and features for the Initial Assault Battlefield, as contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined.

_____ _____
Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer Date

*NPS letter to Virginia SHPO, page 4 of 8.*

**NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory – Initial Assault Battlefield**
Petersburg National Battlefield
List of Contributing, Non-Contributing, and Undetermined Landscape Features
July 2021

**Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features**

The following landscape characteristics and associated features contribute to the property's historic character, though not all are considered countable resources according to the National Register of Historic Places. Features marked with a (*) were determined ineligible resources by in consultation with your office on April 6, 2004

*Buildings and Structures*
- Seacoast Mortar Gun Emplacement
- Powder Magazine at Dictator Site
- Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 5 / Federal Battery IV
- Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 6
- Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 7
- Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 8 / Union Fort Friend
- Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 9
- Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 10
- Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 11
- Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 12
- Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 13
- Hagood Line / Second Confederate Line
- Utility Building No. 1
- World War I Training Trenches

*Circulation*
- Eastern Front Civil War Road Network - Prince George Courthouse Road Trace (portion)
- Eastern Front Civil War Road Network - Jordan Point Road Trace
- Boundary Lane Trace
- Eastern Front Civil War Road Network - Shand House Road Segment

*Natural Systems and Features*
- Harrison Creek

*Vegetation*
- Fields and Meadows
- Woodlands within Stream Corridor

*Views and Vistas*
- Tactical views west to Fort Stedman from the Initial Assault Battlefield

*NPS letter to Virginia SHPO, page 5 of 8.*

*Small-Scale Features*
Soldiers' Spring Monument

**Non-Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features**

*Building and Structures*
Park Entrance Station
* Eastern Front Visitor Center
* Maintenance Shed
* Carpenter Shop
* Equipment Parking Shed - 1
* Equipment Parking Shed - 2
* Vehicle Repair Building
1429 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #29]
Quarters #29 Garage
1431 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #77]
1445 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #34]
Quarters #34 Garage
1505 Hickory Hill Road [Ranger Station]
Ranger Station Storage Building
Pump House Tack Room
1539 Hickory Hill Road [Headquarters Building]
1835 Hickory Hill Road [Resource Management]
Resource Management Storage Building
Comfort Station
* Living History Site Replica Structures

*Circulation*
* Eastern Front Tour Road
Park Administration Access Roads from Hickory Hill Road

*Vegetation*
Successional Woodland

*Small-Scale Features*
Confederate Unknown Monument
USCT Monument
Jordan Family Cemetery
Revetment
Mather Monument
Fixed Artillery, Artillery Tube, Bronze, 12 pdr. Napoleon, visitor center
Fixed Artillery, Carriage, Steel, Type 1., 5.72 FT, 7.25 FT, Visitor Center
Fixed Artillery, Carriage, Steel, Type 1., 5.72 FT, 7.25 FT, Battery 5
Fixed Artillery, Carriage, Steel, Type 1., 5.72 FT, 7.25 FT, Battery 8
Fixed Artillery, Carriage, Steel, Type 2., 5.58 FT, 8.16 FT, Battery 5

*NPS letter to Virginia SHPO, page 6 of 8.*

Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 (14)
Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Med. Cannon Block, 3.33 FT, 4.25 FT, Battery 5 (4)
Reproduction Fencing near batteries and along Paths
Wayside, Upright, Aluminum, Laminate Plastic, "Siege of Petersburg Grant's Offensive"
Wayside, Low Profile, Aluminum, Fiberglass, "Battery 5 Trail"
Wayside, Low Profile, Aluminum, Fiberglass, "Uprooted by War"
Wayside, Low Profile, Aluminum, Fiberglass, "Battery 5 of the Dimmock Line"
Wayside, Other, Aluminum, Porcelain Enamel, "Opportunity Lost (Battery 5)"
Wayside, Upright, Aluminum, Laminate Plastic, "A Prelude to Petersburg"
Sign, Identification, Other, Aluminum, ADA Restroom Signage, Visitor Center
Sign, Metal, Earthworks, Battery 5 Interpretive Trail
Sign, Aluminum, Wheelchair Pic, Visitor Center
Additional Interpretive and Directional Signage

**Undetermined Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features**

*Buildings and Structures*
World War I Concrete Reservoir and Building

*Circulation*
Pedestrian Trails

*NPS letter to Virginia SHPO, page 7 of 8.*

bcc:
Susan Hollister, Region 1 Historic Architecture Program
Dennis Montagna, Region 1 History Program
Robert Page, Director, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation

*NPS letter to Virginia SHPO, page 8 of 8.*

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Matt Strickler
*Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources*

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September 21, 2021

Mr. Jeff Killion
National Park Service
15 State Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02109

Re: Cultural Landscapes Inventory for the Initial Assault Battlefield at Petersburg National Battlefield
Petersburg, VA
DHR File No. 2021 – 0256

Dear Mr. Killion:

The Department of Historic Resources (DHR) has received your request for review of the document referenced above. The following comments are meant to aid the NPS in meeting its responsibilities under Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA).

Petersburg National Battlefield was administratively listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966, with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. There are currently no individual listings for the Initial Assault battlefield. Based on the documentation provided, we offer the following comments:

1. We agree with national significance for the areas listed on pp. 23-26, and with the 1864-1942 period of significance. As "Commemoration" is an "Other" area of significance, it may be appropriate to mention that the park meets Criteria Consideration F for commemorative properties as its early preservation and development (mid-1860s to 1920s) appears to have been largely for commemorative purposes (especially as relates to postwar reconciliation between Union and Confederate veterans).
2. Has local significance for the CCC work been considered? These features may lack integrity to convey their significance for association with the CCC. We also acknowledge consideration of levels of significance other than national may be beyond the scope of work for the CLI.
3. We suggest the Eastern Front Visitor Center and the maintenance buildings be re-examined to see if they meet Registration Requirements set forth in the nationwide Mission 66 Multiple Property Documentation (MPD), which was completed about a decade after the 2004 evaluation when DHR concurred with NPS that the Visitor Center is not eligible for the NRHP. As the park unit's POS ends in 1942, Mission 66 resources may not contribute to the park's significance in the areas that end in 1942, but the buildings still could meet the Mission 66 MPD Registration Requirements. It's not unusual for a national park to have multiple periods of significance.
4. We also suggest the Eastern Front Tour Road through this area could similarly be re-examined as pp. 51-52 explains the Mission 66 period was when the 1930s vision for a chronological park tour finally was created.

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*Virginia SHPO letter to NPS, page 1 of 2.*

5. The CLI mentions 1960s anti-military sentiment and that NPS's response with living history displays to better engage the public, including reconstructed elements. There may be an opportunity for future research in terms of social history.
6. There is some inconsistency throughout the CLI with the spelling of "Appamattuck" and 'Appamatoc."
7. There are contradictory sentences in the "Analysis and Evaluation Summary and Condition" section, first saying that the park unit in question has six of the seven aspects of integrity, but in the next 2 sentences saying the unit in question lacks integrity of design, feeling, and setting.
8. PP. 36-40, in the discussion of land use, there's a missed opportunity to explain the transition from indentured to enslaved labor on plantations and how that influenced land use, settlement patterns, and economics. As slavery was the main cause of the Civil War, this topic might warrant some discussion. On pp. 40-41the emphasis on how transportation routes influenced antebellum land use, settlement patterns, and economics is good, and feeds nicely into the landscape discussion on pp. 41-43.
9. Given the length of Euro-American occupation from the colonial period to the Civil War, there almost certainly were at least a few cemeteries for enslaved people on the plantations. We didn't find any mention of whether the landscapes had ever been tested for human burials. This may have been done by other means; if so, it may be appropriate to include a mention in the landscape analysis that starts on p. 57. Antebellum, Civil War, and subsequent maps rarely show locations of slave cemeteries and slave dwellings, and it is remarkable several antebellum maps include likely slave dwellings (figures 3, 6-7). We suggest mentioning where and why slave dwellings typically were placed where they were, and whether any of their locations have been found since NPS acquired the properties.
10. There is brief mention of enslaved and free Black people building some of the trenches and earthworks on p. 43. This may add another dimension to the significance of the surviving earthworks.
11. The Ethnographic Narrative referenced on p. 20 was written in 2006, a decade before the Pamunkey tribe received federal recognition. A year later, the Chickahominy, Eastern Chickahominy, Rappahannock, Upper Mattaponi, Nansemon, and Monacan all received federal recognition. The tribes should all be consulted about their cultural ties to the Petersburg NB area. We recommend that state-recognized-tribes (Cheroenhaka [Nottoway], Nottoway, and Patawomeck) be consulted as well.
12. Also regarding Virginia Indians, it's important not to imply that Virginia Indians disappeared, vanished, faded away, or otherwise don't exist anymore. For instance, this can be done by adding a sentence: "Virginia Indians persisted in the area of Petersburg thereafter, such as at the Pocahontas Island community" at the end of the first paragraph on p. 36 after the Layton 2017:58 citation. Or more substantial information can be added, such as mention of the antebellum community in Petersburg at Pocahontas Island where Virginia Indians were present starting from at least the early national period.
13. We have some questions regarding the "Post Historic and Existing Conditions" section starting on p. 58. It appears that the Seacoast Mortar Gun Emplacement is in a conjectural location and the similar mortar was not put in place until 1969, after the national period of significance. Both of those factors would ordinarily make a resource non-contributing. Also, although built during the national period of significance, the WWI training trenches is contributing and the reservoir is "undetermined," (p. 60) but neither is associated with the battle. Again, ordinarily this would make a resource non-contributing. Are these resources considered contributing due to an association with Conservation? In addition, the Mission 66 and later resources are listed after this without a distinction made that these resources are non-contributing (pp.60-62).

Thank you for allowing our office the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 804-482-8097 or email chelsea.jeffries@dhr.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Jeffries

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*Virginia SHPO letter to NPS, page 2 of 2.*

# Geographic Information

**State and County:**

| State | County |
|---|---|
| Virginia | Petersburg City |

**Size (Acres):** 968.04

**Land Tract Number(s)**

01-101 (D-17, 64.13 acres); 01-102 (D-63, 6.70); 01-103 (D-69. 0.11); 01-104 (D-56, 49.68); 01-105 (D-63, 3.40); 01-106 (D-63, 1.49); 01-107 (D-14, 344.78); 01-123 (D-89, 18.13); 01-124 (D-85, 5.71); 01-125 (D-84, 12.11); 01-126 (D-95, 14.18); 01-127 (D-96, 3.00); 01-134 (D-92, 24.96); 01-137 (D-no#, 4.14); 01-138 (D-no#, 0.52); 01-139 (D-88, 7.73); 01-141 (D-no#, 1.17); 01-142 (D-86, 0.92); 01-143 (D-87, 53.27); 01-144, D-98. 3.50); 01-145 (D-90, 5.17); 01-146 (D-91, 4.79); and 01-147 (D-14, 333.31).

**Boundary Description:**

Petersburg National Battlefield (NB) comprises 2,659 acres that lay in separate management units in a semi-circle to the east, south, and west of the City of Petersburg. In 2016, Congress expanded the boundary of the park to enable the NPS to acquire another 7,238 acres. The current geographical management units include Grant's Headquarters at City Point, the Eastern Front, the Western Front, and the Five Forks Battlefield.

The 968-acre Initial Assaults CLI project area is located in the eastern half of the Eastern Front Unit. This landscape was the site of numerous skirmishes on June 15-17, 1864, as part of the four day Second Battle of Petersburg. The last day of the battle, June 18, occurred mainly on the landscape area that would become Fort Stedman, and is addressed in the Fort Stedman CLI.

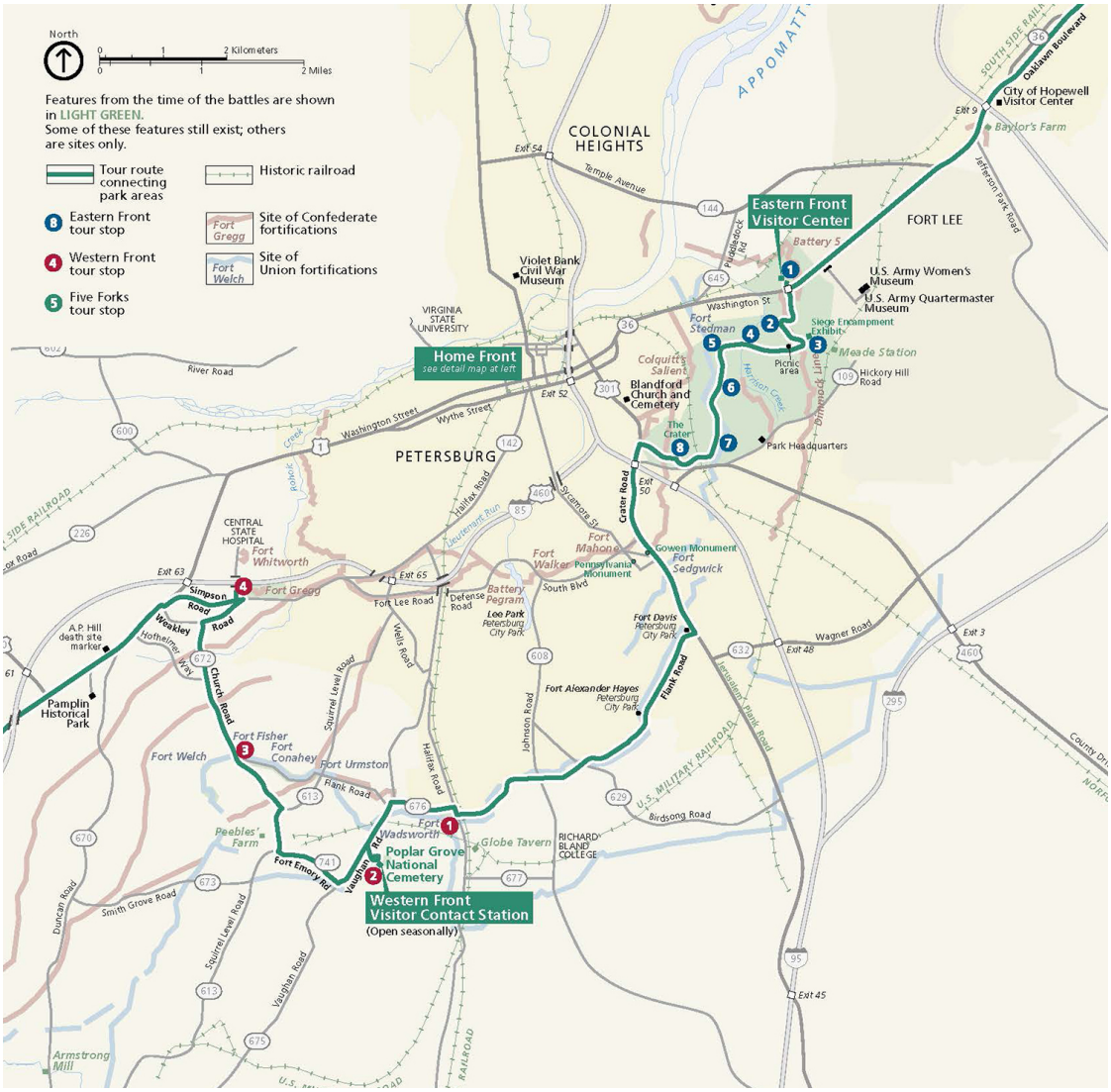
The Initial Assaults CLI project area includes portions of land owned by the Friend family and the Jordan family at the time of the battle. Route 109/Hickory Hill Road forms the southern boundary of the project area and corresponds to the park boundary. The project area is bounded on the east by Avenue A, on the north by the Norfolk Southern Railroad Line, and on the northwest by a housing subdivision adjacent to Whitehill Drive. The western boundary is shared with the Fort Stedman and the Crater Battlefield CLI project areas. The boundary between these three CLIs corresponds to the western boundary of 333-acre Parcel 01-147, which the NPS acquired from the War Department in the first half of the twentieth century, as well as two smaller parcels, 01-139 and 01-134, acquired from private landholders at a later date.

**Boundary Coordinates**

| Source | Type of Point | Latitude | Longitude | Narrative |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.239863 | -77.333583 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.244555 | -77.351024 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.240684 | -77.357202 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.239855 | -77.364306 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.224134 | -77.366017 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.241996 | -77.357919 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.243967 | -77.351013 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.241423 | -77.348216 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.235624 | -77.349283 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.232418 | -77.347721 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.230094 | -77.344916 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.222259 | -77.3535 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.221566 | -77.358233 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.21955 | -77.36021 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.216914 | -77.36487 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.226058 | -77.363764 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.230746 | -77.369737 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.233163 | -77.369228 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.23608 | -77.371191 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.236993 | -77.361161 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.237962 | -77.360783 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.239754 | -77.36292 | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.240797 | -77.355988 | |
| Aerial Photograph | Area | 37.243869 | -77.350726 | |

**Location Map:**




*Detail map of Petersburg National Battlefield. The Initial Assault Battlefield is in the eastern and northern section of the park's Eastern Front area. (National Park Service)*

**Regional Landscape Contexts:**

**Type of Context:** Physiographic

**Description:**

The Initial Assaults landscape occupies the western portion of the Inner Coastal Plain of southeastern Virginia. This area, centered on a Fall Line marking the western limits of navigation, is a twenty-mile-wide transitional zone between the Piedmont Plateau and the Coastal Plain. The CLI project area is on high ground, characterized by upland elevations of approximately 100 feet above sea level, occupying an area serving as the practical easternmost boundary between the Chesapeake Bay and the Chowan River/Albemarle Sound watersheds. Drainage patterns deeply dissect the underlying stratum of the ancient "Sunderland" marine terrace via Harrison Creek and Poor Creeks, tributaries that drain into the Appomattox River. The project area is located within the Eastern woodland zone, where if land managers do not mow meadows regularly, the grassland will quickly revert to shrubs and small trees. Loblolly and shortleaf pine evergreen trees and, to a lesser extent, oak, hickory, and gum trees dominate forested areas. (Opperman and Hanson 1985: np).

Acidic and relatively infertile red and yellow podzols soils characterize the region. The Initial Assaults battlefield is near the Fall Line, the boundary zone between softer sedimentary soils in the Tidewater Region and the harder bedrock underlying the Piedmont Region. Soil profiles in the study area extend more than 80 inches deep and consist of sandy loams, then loams, followed by clay loams. Soil classifications include Uchee loamy sand, Emporia sandy loam, and Mattaponi sandy loam. Both the Uchee and Emporia types are identified as prime farmland soils by the US Department of Agriculture, with the Mattaponi class categorized as a farmland soil of statewide importance (Layton 2017: 32).

The entire Eastern Front lies in the humid subtropical climate zone (Köppen climate classification Cfa), with hot, humid summers and mild to cool winters moderated by the Chesapeake Bay. It is also located within the US Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zone 7b, where vegetation is hardy to between five- and ten- degrees Fahrenheit.

**Type of Context:** Cultural

**Description:**

The City of Petersburg is bordered on the north by the Appomattox River and marks the furthest navigable point on the river before the Fall Line. First navigable rivers, then railroads, and most recently, the interstate highway system facilitated transportation and trade. The junction of I-85 and I-95 lies south of the city's historic core—the section of the city closest to the Appomattox River—and both CSX Transportation and Norfolk Southern Railway Company provide freight rail services. Blandford Cemetery, just west of the Petersburg NB, has been used as a burial ground since the early eighteenth century. Thirty thousand Confederates who died during the Petersburg Campaign or from wounds received on other battlefields or diseases are buried in the cemetery. South of Blandford Cemetery, People's Memorial Cemetery began in 1840 as a cemetery for Petersburg's free African Americans. Nineteenth-century names for the cemetery include Providence Cemetery and Scott Cemetery, and in 1986 trustees of the cemetery deeded the land to the City of Petersburg.

The park's Eastern Front unit is bounded on the east by Fort Lee, begun in 1917 as Camp Lee. The US Army complex, approximately eight square miles in size, is home to the US Army Combined Arms Support Command and the Army Logistics University, Army Ordnance School, Army Quartermaster School, and Army Transportation School. The facility regularly hosts 26,000 people a day, consisting of military service members, their families, and government civilians and contractors.

**Type of Context:** Political

**Description:**

The western half of the Initial Assaults CLI project area lies with the City of Petersburg, which consists of 23.1 square miles and is located in south-central Virginia, roughly twenty-three miles south of Richmond, 125 miles south of Washington, D.C., and 78 miles northwest of Norfolk. Census information from 2020 report the City of Petersburg's population to be 33,458. The eastern half of the Initial Assaults battlefield is located outside of the city boundaries, in Prince George County. Zoning around the battlefield is primarily residential with a business zone (B-2) along Hickory Hill Road and mixed-use zones (M-1, MXD-1, MXD-2) north of the battlefield. (https://data.progress-index.com/census/total-population/total-population-change/petersburg-city-virginia/050-51730/)

# Management Information

**General Management Information**

**Management Category:** Must be Preserved and Maintained

**Management Category Date:** 09/28/2021

**Management Category Explanatory Narrative:**

The Initial Assaults battlefield meets the “Must Be Preserved and Maintained” management category because the property is related to the legislated significance of the Petersburg National Battlefield. On July 3, 1926, President Coolidge signed Public Law 69-467, establishing Petersburg National Military Park. In drafting the legislation, Congress specifically established the park “…in order to commemorate the campaign and siege and defense of Petersburg, Virginia, in 1864 and 1865 and to preserve for historical purposes the breastworks, earthworks, walls, or other defenses or shelters used by the armies therein….” (Public Law 69-467).

On February 25, 1929, Congress passed an act “to authorize appropriations for construction at military posts, and for other purposes.” (45 Stat 1301,1305: Sec.4). The act stated that “the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to transfer to the Petersburg National Military Park such portion of the Camp Lee Military Reservation, Virginia, as in his discretion may be required in connection with the establishment of the Petersburg National Military Park, as authorized in the Act of Congress approved July 3, 1926. This act authorized the transfer of most of the land that comprises the Initial Assaults battlefield.

**Management Agreements:**

**Type of Agreement:** None

**Management Agreement Expiration Date:**

**Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:**

**Legal Interests:**

**Type of Interest:** Fee Simple

**Narrative:** The property within the Initial Assaults battlefield is owned in Fee Simple by the NPS. (http://landsnet.National Park Service.gov/tractsnet/documents/PETE/Segment_Maps/petesm01.pdf. Accessed April 2021)

**Located in managed wilderness?:** No

## Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** Yes

**Adjacent Lands Narrative:**

Adjacent lands are lands outside the cultural landscape boundary, including lands inside or outside the park. Lands to the west of the Initial Assaults CLI project area are within the boundaries of Petersburg NB and are addressed in the Crater Battlefield CLI and Fort Stedman CLI. Fort Lee, which post-dates the primary period of significance (1864), is located to the east of the Initial Assaults battlefield, while non-contributing suburban and commercial development is located to the north and south.

# National Register Information

## National Register of Historic Places

**Documentation Status:** SHPO Inadequately Documented

**Documentation Narrative Description:**

Petersburg National Battlefield (NB) was established on July 3, 1926 as a National Military Park under jurisdiction of the War Department, and then transferred to the National Park Service (NPS) on August 10, 1933. The land tracts that comprise the Initial Assaults component landscape, also known as the Second Battle of Petersburg, were acquired beginning in the late 1920s. The park was redesignated as a National Battlefield on August 24, 1962.

Petersburg NB was administratively listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966, with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. Although the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has not formally approved National Register documentation for the entire park to date, several sites in the park are listed individually with documentation in the National Register. The Five Forks Battlefield was designated a National Historic Landmark on December 19, 1960 and listed on July 2, 1975. The Appomattox Manor complex at City Point was listed on October 1, 1969. Grant's Headquarters at City Point, a park management unit, is also located within the boundaries of the City Point National Register Historic District, listed on October 15, 1979. There are currently no individual listings for the Eastern Front unit or for the Initial Assaults battlefield.

On February 18, 2000, the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) "The Civil War in Virginia, 1861-1865: Historic and Archeological Resources" was accepted by the Keeper of the National Register. The MPDF identified property types and historic contexts with which to evaluate historic and archeological resources related to the Civil War. The six property types were battlefields, earthworks, campsites, military hospitals, military headquarters, and military prisons. Petersburg NB was identified under the battlefields and earthworks property types under Criteria A for its association with the Civil War history in Virginia. The MPDF organized historic contexts by the Civil War campaigns in Virginia, most of which were conducted along principal transportation routes. The Initial Assaults area (June 15-18, 1864) was described as part of the Richmond and Petersburg Campaign of 1864-1865.

There have been several consultations with the Virginia SHPO regarding the eligibility of resources in the park. On April 6, 2004, the SHPO concurred with the NPS that the Mission 66 development program at Petersburg NB was not eligible for listing in the National Register. Mission 66 resources within the Initial Assaults battlefield include a segment of the Auto Tour Road incorporating a bridge over Route 36 and a new park entrance road, the Eastern Front Visitor Center, the maintenance building compound, the ten-stop auto tour between Battery 5 and the Crater, the small picnic area between stops three and four, and the living history interpretative area.

In March 2014, the Public Archeology Lab prepared a draft National Register documentation for the entirety of the Petersburg NB. The documentation has not been submitted to the Virginia SHPO for review. The documentation identified significance under Criteria A, C, and D in the areas of military, politics/government, conservation, ethnic heritage-black, landscape architecture, engineering, other (commemoration), architecture, and archeology. Significance was also noted under Criterion B for Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant. The periods of significance were listed as 11,000 BCE–1600 CE, c.1650–1750, and 1763–present. In the documentation, contributing resources in the Initial Assaults area included the Dimmock Line - Confederate Batteries 5-13, Hagood Line, Seacoast Mortar and Powder Magazine at Dictator Site, World War I Training Trenches, Eastern Front Civil War Road Network (Shand House Road Segment, Prince George Courthouse Road Trace, Jordan Point Road Trace, Utility Building No. 1, and the Soldiers' Spring Monument. Non-contributing resources included the Jordan Family Cemetery, Powder Magazine and Revetment, Eastern Front Visitor Center, 1835 Hickory Hill Road (Resource Management), Resource Management Storage Building, 1429 Hickory Hill Road (Quarters #29 and Garage), 1431 Hickory Hill Road (Quarters #77), 1445 Hickory Hill Road (Quarters #34 and Garage), 1505 Hickory Hill Road (Ranger Station), Ranger Station Storage Building, 1539 Hickory Hill Road (Headquarters Building), Park Entrance Station, Maintenance Shed, Carpenter Shop, Equipment Parking Sheds 1 and 2, Vehicle Repair Building, Pump House Tack Room, Eastern Front Tour Road, Living History Site, USCT Monument, Mather Monument, and Confederate Unknown Monument.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the major resources that contribute to the significance of Initial Assaults battlefield have not been listed in the National Register, or determined eligible for listing through consultations with the Virginia SHPO. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, the Initial Assaults battlefield is considered "SHPO-Inadequately Documented."

**Eligibility:** Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

**Concurrence Eligibility Date:** 09/21/2021

**Concurrence Narrative:**

The Virginia SHPO provided review comments on the draft Fort Stedman CLI. Comment #s 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, and part of 13 will be addressed in a future revision of the CLI, pending completion and approval of the park-wide National Register documentation project. Comment #s 6, 7, 10, and part of 13 have been addressed in this version of the CLI. The SHPO had no direct comments regarding the CLI's areas and periods of significance, or the evaluation of landscape features. The exceptions were the Eastern Front Visitor Center, the maintenance buildings, and Eastern Front Tour Road, which remain evaluated in the CLI as a non-contributing features until the significance of the Mission 66 period is researched in the National Register project. The WWI training trenches are evaluated as contributing resources due to their association with conservation of battlefield lands.

**Significance Level:** National

**Contributing:** Contributing

**Classification:** District

**Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:**

Petersburg National Battlefield is significant for its association with the ten-month long Petersburg Campaign, which culminated in the abandonment of Petersburg and Richmond by the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia by April 3, 1865, and led directly to the Army's surrender to Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant and the Union Army of the Potomac at Appomattox Court House one week later. The 2,760-acre park consists of four management units that include Grant's Headquarters at City Point, the Five Forks Battlefield, the Western Front, and the Eastern Front (containing the Initial Assaults battlefield). The Eastern Front unit encompasses extensive systems of preserved Confederate and Federal earthworks associated with the Petersburg Campaign and the sites associated with several important battles, including the Initial Assaults on Petersburg in June 1864, the Battle of the Crater on July 30, 1864; and the Battle of Fort Stedman on March 25, 1865.

The Initial Assaults Battlefield is significant under National Register Criteria A, B, and C in the areas of Military History, Ethnic Heritage-Black, Other (Commemoration), Conservation, Engineering, and association with General Robert E. Lee, Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, and General Pierre G.T. Beauregard. The site may be significant under Criterion D in the area of Archeology for its potential to yield information about the organization, operation, and experiences of both the Union and Confederate armies, as well as pre-contact settlement. However, evaluation of archeological significance is beyond the scope of this CLI.

The period of significance for the Initial Assaults battlefield is 1864 to 1942. The period begins with the construction of Union and Confederate defenses and the battle of the Initial Assaults on Petersburg and ends when the NPS completed master planning projects associated with the commemoration, preservation, and development of the park landscape.

CRITERION A

Military History:
The battlefield of the Initial Assaults is nationally significant in the area of Military History as the site of the military action that took place between June 15 through 17, 1864, in association with the ten-month long Petersburg Campaign (June 9, 1864 – April 2, 1865). During the Initial Assaults (also called the Second

Battle of Petersburg), the Confederates were driven from their positions on the eastern half of the Dimmock Line and fell back across Harrison Creek, digging in along the western bank. The Confederate troops held this hastily constructed Hagood Line (also known as the Second Confederate Line) for only two days before falling back again to the Confederate Defensive Siege Line (also known as the Harris Line), which they thereafter held for the remaining ten months of the campaign (NR draft 2014, Sec.8: 65).

On June 17 the Union high command realized the folly of further direct assaults. During each of the battle's four days, the Federals had the opportunity to break the thinly held Confederate lines (Union forces outnumbered Confederate 4 to 1) but failed to bring their overwhelming superiority in numbers to bear through coordinated attacks. Tactically, the battle was a Union defeat because Confederate General Beauregard could claim victory for preventing Union General Meade from seizing Petersburg. The total casualties numbered about 10,000 on the Union side and 4,000 for the Confederates. Strategically, however, the battle had the significant effect of forcing Lee to move the bulk of his army to the Petersburg defenses, where it was effectively pinned down with limited ability to resume the operational initiative. Grant determined to keep up the pressure by building his own system of opposing fortifications to fix Lee in place. In addition, Grant focused Union operations on cutting the Confederate supply lines so that Lee's army would have to emerge from their defenses. (NR draft 2014, Sec.8: 73, citing Hess 2009: 37 and Trudeau 1995: n.p.).

Ethnic Heritage – Black
The battlefield of the Initial Assaults has national significance under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage-Black as part of the landscape of the Siege of Petersburg, the location of the most extensive deployment of United States Colored Troops (USCT) in battle during the Civil War. The most significant USCT combat events occurred during the initial assaults on Petersburg and the Battle of the Crater. The 3rd Division of the XVIII Corps played a major role in the Second Battle of Petersburg, attacking and seizing control of a large section of the Confederate Dimmock Line during the action on June 15, 1864 (NR draft 2014, Sec.8: 106).

On the morning of June 15, 1864, the Eighteenth Corps of the Army of the James moved against Petersburg. At 7:15 p.m. that evening, white U.S. troops launched an attack against Confederate Battery 5 while United States Colored Troops, opposite Batteries 6 through 10 of the Dimmock Line attacked. successfully attacked the Confederate positions and captured Battery 6. The 1st and 22nd USCT took Batteries 7 and 8. The 4th USCT and a small portion of the 1st USCT pushed on to take Batteries 9 through 11. The attack by Hinks' division was one of the most successful executed by USCTs during the Civil War. The Eighteenth Corps commander, William F. Smith was reinforced about 9pm when Winfield Hancock's Second Corps arrived. Smith opted to end conflict in the darkness and with numerous troops exhausted of ammunition. This decision allowed for Confederate reinforcements to arrive and dig in a new line of defense ending the chance for a quick Federal assault that would take Petersburg from Confederate control. (NR draft 2014, Sec.8: 109-111, citing US War Department 1892: 721-722; Bearss and Suderow 2012: 71-73, 78; NPS c. 2010; and Smith 2002: 173-175)

Additionally, the Confederate government used enslaved and free Black men to construct the Dimmock Line 1862-1864. The Dimmock Line was a ten-mile arc of Confederate artillery batteries and connected infantry earthworks at Petersburg. (Review comments: Dabney, 29 August 2021)

Commemoration:
The battlefield of the Initial Assaults is nationally significant in the area of Commemoration for association with the origin and evolution of the Civil War battlefield memorialization movement. The battlefield contains the Soldiers' Spring Monument marking the spring used by the 209th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry during the siege. Consistent with national developments at other battlefields, veterans' groups from the North and the South initiated commemorative activities and installed the monuments at Petersburg NB (NR draft 2014, Sec.8: 115-116).

Conservation:
As a component of Petersburg National Battlefield, the battlefield of the Initial Assaults is nationally significant in the area of Conservation as one of several national military parks created during the period of increased nationalism and prosperity between the two World Wars. The establishment of the park in 1926 and development under the War Department, and later by the NPS, contributed to the evolution of

nationwide standards for battlefield preservation and interpretation. Between 1933, when all the country's national military parks were transferred from the War Department to the NPS, and 1942, the government completed much of the park development initially envisioned by the War Department, including the acquisition of substantial portions of the historic fortifications and the construction of several major roadways connecting the battle sites (NR draft 2014: Sec.8: 119-120).

CRITERION B

Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, and Pierre G. T. Beauregard:
The battlefield of the Initial Assaults, in association with the Siege of Petersburg, is nationally significant under Criterion B for its association with the culmination of the military careers of the principal commanders of the opposing forces, the Union's Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant (1822–1885), Confederate General Robert E. Lee (1807–1870), and General Pierre G.T. Beauregard (1818–1893). Beginning with the battle of the Initial Assaults, Lee was able to hold back the Union forces, despite being outgunned and outmanned. Eventually, however, Grant's tactics and the Union's overwhelming superiority in troops and materials forced Lee to abandon the entrenchment lines around Petersburg. Grant's successful command of the Union Army contributed directly to his election as President of the United States three years later. (NR draft 2014; Sec.8: 113).

Beauregard was in charge of the Confederate military forces defended Petersburg June 15-18, 1864. On June 15, his undermanned force resisted an assault by the Federals, which delayed the eventual fall of the confederate capital of Richmond until. April 1865.

CRITERION C

Engineering:
The Initial Assaults Battlefield is nationally significant in the area of Engineering for the remains of the earthen fortifications. The earthworks were part of what was the most extensive network of opposing field fortifications constructed during the Civil War. Laid out by trained military engineers, they represent the most discernible feature of the battlefield and convey through their location, design, and setting the pivotal role that engineering played in determining battlefield strategy and, ultimately, the outcome of the Petersburg Campaign. The Confederate side was laid out by an engineer, while the advanced Union line was the position gained on June 18 and an example of "combat trenching." The lines that existed at the end of the siege were the result of Federal engineers redesigning the line after the Union's failure of the Crater offensive. The lines also incorporated fields of fire that engineers and artillerists of both sides designed to cover battle and siege contingencies (Layton 2017: 42).

**National Register Significance Criteria:**

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past

C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

**National Register Criteria Consideration:**

**National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):**

**Time Period:** CE 1864 - CE 1942

| Historic Context Theme | Subtheme | Facet | Other Facet |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shaping the Political Landscape | The Civil War | Battles In The North And South | |
| Expanding Science and Technology | Technology (Engineering and Invention) | Military (Fortifications, Weapons, And War Vehicles) | |
| Transforming the Environment | Historic Preservation | The Federal Government Enters The Movement | |

**Area of Significance:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Conservation

**Area of Significance Subcategory:**

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Engineering

**Area of Significance Subcategory:**

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Ethnic Heritage

**Area of Significance Subcategory:** Black

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Military

**Area of Significance Subcategory:**

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Other

**Area of Significance Subcategory:**

**Explanatory Narrative:** Commemoration

**NRIS Information:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **NRIS Name:** | Petersburg National Battlefield |
| **NRIS ID:** | 66000831 |
| **Primary Certification Date:** | 10/15/1966 |

**State Register Documentation:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Identification Number:** | DHR #123-0071 |
| **Name:** | Petersburg National Battlefield |
| **Listed Date:** | 10/18/1983 |

**National Historic Landmarks:**

**Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:**

**World Heritage Site:**

**Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape:** No

# Chronology and Physical History

**Chronology:**

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1607 | Settled | English settlers establish Jamestown on the northeast bank of the James River about two and a half miles southwest of modern Williamsburg, Virginia. |
| CE 1634 | Established | Charles City County, one of Virginia's eight original "Shires" is established out of the former Bermuda Hundred "Incorporation." |
| CE 1645 | Established | The Virginia Colony constructs Fort Henry near the geographic fall-line on the south bank of the Appomattox River. |
| CE 1671 | Established | Peter Jones, son-in-law of Fort Henry's commander, receives command of the fort and opens a station that becomes a fur trade center and threshold to western exploration. |
| CE 1702 | Established | The Virginia General Assembly establishes Prince George County, named for Prince Consort of Queen Anne of England, George of Denmark, from land in Charles City County. Prince George County includes all land south of the James River between Chippoke's Creek to the confluence of the James and Appomattox Rivers. |
| CE 1748 | Established | The city of Petersburg is laid out and becomes the market center of the local agricultural economy. |
| CE 1752 | Established | Dinwiddie County is created from lands formerly belonging to Prince George County to the east. |
| CE 1778 | Built | Around 1778, White Hill (Friend House) is built near the future site of Battery 8. |
| CE 1778 | Built | Around 1778, Clermont (Jordan House) is built about 700 feet north of White Hill (Friend House). |
| CE 1780 | Established | By the end of the Revolutionary War, the area surrounding the falls of the Appomattox River is host to five separate settlements. |
| CE 1782 - 1825 | Built | A house originally known as "New Market," later known as Hare House, is likely built by Richard Bates, who owned the property from 1782 to at least 1825. The plantation includes Hare Hill, near the Newmarket Racecourse (near present day Fort Stedman) just west of the future Initial Assaults Battlefield. |
| CE 1791 | Established | Petersburg population is nearly 3,000 with early growth attributed to the tobacco trade and its position at the head of navigable waters on the Appomattox River. |
| CE 1836 | Built | The Virginia House of Delegates approves a charter for the City Point Railroad and construction begins. It is acquired by the South Side Railroad in 1854. It is the first of several lines built over the next 22 years. |
| CE 1837 | Land Transfer | Otway P. Hare purchases the New Market property that includes the house and outbuildings along with approximately 150 acres of land. |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1853 | Built | The Petersburg and Jerusalem Plank Road Company begins construction on an improved route between Petersburg and Jerusalem (presently Courtland) located roughly 45 miles southeast in Southampton County. |
| CE 1858 | Established | By this time four railroads and six major roads converge on Petersburg from all directions, including the Norfolk and Petersburg (later Norfolk and Western and today Norfolk South) to the west of the Eastern Front Battlefield and the City Point Railroad to the north of the battlefield. |
| CE 1860 | Established | Petersburg's population is over 18,000, making it the second largest city in Virginia and seventh largest in the South. |
| CE 1861 | Military Operation | On April 17, the Virginia Convention passes the ordinance to secede from the Union. |
| CE 1862 | Built | By late summer, a system of fortifications named the Dimmock Line is established in a 10-mile arc south of Petersburg. Captain Charles H. Dimmock supervises construction. Nearly all timber within half mile of line is removed to provide clear observation/fields of fire and to construct abates in front of line. |
| CE 1864 | Military Operation | On June 9, the First Battle of Petersburg occurs, five days before the Army of the Potomac crossed the James. |
| CE 1864 | Military Operation | June 15-18, 1864, Battle of Initial Assaults. Most of the action from June 15-17 takes place on what is now called the Initial Assaults landscape. Most of the action on June 18 takes place on what is now called Fort Stedman. |
| CE 1864 | Military Operation | Union Lt. General Grant's force of 18,000 arrives east of Petersburg on June 15, attacking Captain Dimmock's defensive works and overtaking nearly two miles of trenches and gun positions that evening. However, Confederate defenders ultimately keep them from taking the city. |
| CE 1864 | Military Operation | June 21-24, 1864, Battle of Jerusalem Plank Road. |
| CE 1864 | Military Operation | July 30, 1864, Battle of Crater. |
| CE 1864 | Destroyed | Alfred Waud draws the Hare House, near Fort Stedman, around July 1,1864. The drawing shows two outbuildings, one a stable, and a house. The property, which is too close to front lines to be used as a military headquarters, is pillaged for lumber and other building supplies, and is gone by end of July. |
| CE 1864 | Altered | Confederate Battery 5, located immediately south of the City Point Railroad, becomes Federal Battery IV. Soldiers used "The Dictator," a massive 13-inch seacoast mortar mounted on a rail car near this battery, to lob 200-pound shells into the city of Petersburg. |
| CE 1864 | Built | Union batteries along the Union Siege Line are strengthened and modified, in particular, Confederate batteries 8 and 11 on the Dimmock Line, at the Friend and Dunn houses respectively, became important Union batteries and played a role in the Battle of Fort Stedman |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1865 | Military Operation | March 25, 1865, Battle of Fort Stedman. |
| CE 1865 | Military Operation | April 1, 1865, Battle of Five Forks. |
| CE 1865 | Military Operation | Confederate General Lee and his army surrender at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9. |
| CE 1866 | Established | James H. Platt, Union veteran of the siege, creates and publishes a guide booklet entitled “A Guide to the Fortifications and Battlefields Around Petersburg,” an early form of memorialization. |
| CE 1866 | Purchased/Sold | Josiah Jordan’s heirs sell Clermont to Peter Batte. Jordan family retains rights to the burying ground where Josiah Jordan, his wife, and four of their children are buried. |
| CE 1879 | Destroyed | In c.1879 the second Jordan House, which was built by the Jordan family 300 feet from the 18th century Jordan House (Clermont), burns down. |
| CE 1880 - 1889 | Built | In the 1880s the third Jordan House is built on the foundations of the original 18th century Jordan House (Clermont). Remains of the first Jordan house are still visible a short distance east of the visitor center at Battery Five. |
| CE 1898 | Established | The first local movement towards a national battlefield park in Petersburg is made with the formation of the Petersburg National Battlefield Association. |
| CE 1917 | Established | The development of Camp Lee begins 24 April 1917, only 16 days after war was declared on Germany. The Petersburg Chamber of Commerce leases 450 acres for the camp area and an additional 15,000 acres for maneuvers. Acreage includes the former Clermont property [Jordan House]. |
| CE 1920 | Demolished | The third house on the former Clermont/Jordan House site is demolished. |
| CE 1923 | Demolished | White Hall/Whitehill/Friend House is demolished by the War Department. Remnants remain visible in the park. |
| CE 1925 | Platted | Virginia Congressman Patrick Dewery commissions Confederate veteran Captain Carter Bishop, Union veteran Colonel James Anderson, and Lieutenant Colonel Francis Pope of the Army Corps of Engineers, to survey the battlefield lands as part of a new strategy for establishing the park. |
| CE 1925 | Established | An Act to provide for the inspection of the battle fields of the siege of Petersburg Virginia is approved February 11, 1925 (43 Stat. 866). |
| CE 1926 | Established | On July 3, 1926, President Calvin Coolidge signs a bill authorizing the creation of Petersburg National Military Park. At this time the park is managed by the US War Department. Starting at Battery V, north of Hopewell Road, the park boundary is intended to take in the battlefields near the Crater and continue down Jerusalem Plank Road to fortifications south of the city. The initial acreage does not include the privately-owned Five Forks property. |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1926 - 1928 | Planned | In 1926, the Commission recommends the construction of a hard-surfaced road along the lines of both armies, and the acquisition of land that included Union Forts Stedman, Haskell, Rice, Sedgwick, Davis, Wadsworth and Fisher, as well as Confederate Forts Walker and Gregg, Battery Pegram, and the Crater. |
| CE 1928 | Planned | In 1928, the Commission recommends the acquisition of all forts, trenches, and earthworks contiguous to park roads, the Crater, portions of Camp Lee, and additional lands of Battery Five and the site of the opening battle for Petersburg (the Initial Assault). |
| CE 1929 | Established | An Act “to authorize appropriations for construction at military posts, and for other purposes,” approved February 25, 1929 (45 Stat 1301,1305: Sec.4). That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to transfer to the Petersburg National Military Park such portion of the Camp Lee Military Reservation, Virginia, as in his discretion may be required in connection with the establishment of the Petersburg National Military Park, as authorized in the Act of Congress approved July 3, 1926. |
| CE 1929 | Purchased/Sold | Around 131 acres of land near Battery 5 (64 acres) and Fort Stedman (67 acres) are transferred from the War Department to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-101, D-17; 01-117, D-17). |
| CE 1929 | Altered | A force of 32 laborers open and maintain a temporary road in Battery Five area, the first section to be cleared. By March, Forts Walker, Haskell and Stedman, and Confederate Batteries Four, Five and Six have been cleared. |
| CE 1933 | Established | The park begins construction of the first segments of the park tour road. |
| CE 1933 | Established | Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) us established on March 31, 1933. Most of the work of clearing underbrush and the development of roads and trails in the park is done by ECW, through the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). |
| CE 1933 | Established | On August 10, 1933, stewardship of the park is transferred from the War Department to the National Park Service (NPS). At this time, Petersburg National Military Park encompasses 346 acres. Monuments, military parks, and the National Capital Parks administered by other Federal agencies are transferred to the NPS by the terms of Executive Order 6166 of June 10, 1933. |
| CE 1933 - 1942 | Established | A camp for CCC Company 1364 is established near Fort Stedman, just west of Initial Assault. Around 173 enrollees arrive from Camp Meade, Maryland, early on the morning of July 13, 1933. Named Camp MP-2, it includes a mess hall and about 50 tents. |
| CE 1933 - 1942 | Altered | From 1933-1942, the CCC clears underbrush, assists with road construction, plants trees, leads tours, and constructs minor buildings in the park. |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1934 | Land Transfer | War Department transfers 146 acres between Highway 36 and Highway 109 west to Fort Stedman, in both Prince George County and the City of Petersburg, to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-107, D-14; 01-108, D-11; 01-147, D-14). |
| CE 1935 - 1940 | Built | The Virginia Department of Highways builds US Route 460, which was planned in 1931, south of the park. |
| CE 1937 | Built | On July 28, 1937, the CCC constructs a field museum and guide station near Battery 5. A parking area is constructed adjacent to the building. |
| CE 1937 | Built | The CCC constructs the park tour road from Confederate Battery 9 north to State Route 36 (Hopewell Road). The base surface is made of crushed concrete obtained from the demolition of World War I era building foundations in the Camp Lee section of the park. |
| CE 1937 | Built | The CCC reconstructs historic Prince George Courthouse Road connecting Siege Road east to Confederate Battery 9. |
| CE 1938 | Built | Mortar Road, encircling Battery Five and the site of the “Dictator,” is constructed between March and September 1938 with CCC funds and labor |
| CE 1938 | Built | The CCC Park Foreman’s quarters is built on a knoll on the south side of Prince George County Courthouse Road. The new building is of frame construction, clad in tar paper and used as a park employees’ residence after the disbandment of the CCC. |
| CE 1939 | Land Transfer | The War Department transfers the “WhiteHill Tract” of 49.68 acres, near Confederate Battery 5, to the NPS on May 9, 1939 (Landsnet: 01-104, D-56). The property includes both the site of the 18th century White Hall (Friend House) and Clermont (Jordan House). Deed states 56 acres is transferred. |
| CE 1939 | Built | The NPS constructs a new entrance to the park and bridge access from U.S. Route 36. |
| CE 1942 | Abandoned | With the country entering World War II in December 1941, the CCC program is ended. The CCC camp is soon thereafter closed. |
| CE 1943 | Land Transfer | The NPS transfers 739 acres, east of Lee Avenue, back to the War Department for use by Camp Lee. |
| CE 1948 | Moved | The c.1937 CCC-constructed field museum and guide station is moved to the utility area to serve as a storage building. |
| CE 1949 | Land Transfer | An Act to add certain surplus land to Petersburg National Military Park, Virginia, to define the boundaries thereof, and for other purposes, is approved September 7, 1949 (63 Stat 691). The Act authorizes the transfer of two tracts of land, comprising two hundred six acres, more or less, situated on either side of Siege Road adjacent to the park from the Department of Army to the NPS. |
| CE 1950 | Established | Camp Lee becomes Fort Lee when the land is designated as a permanent military installation. |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1950 | Land Transfer | Petersburg-Hopewell Transportation Company transfers 11.7 acres, in three parcels near Battery 5 to the NPS for acquisition into the park (Landsnet: 01-102, D-63). |
| CE 1950 | Built | The 300-unit Lakemont housing development is constructed just north of Highway 36 along the northern boundary of the Initial Assaults Battlefield. |
| CE 1955 | Altered | The CCC-era Park Foreman's quarters undergoes extensive renovation to serve as a residence for the Park Superintendent. |
| CE 1955 | Built | A 30-pounder Parrott rifle is emplaced at Battery 5, where a battery of these guns was served by the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery after the position had been rebuilt as Union Battery IV. A new platform of pressurized and creosoted oak boards is built to support the rifle. |
| CE 1955 | Built | A new platform of pressurized and creosoted oak boards is built to support the 13-inch seacoast gun known as the "Dictator." |
| CE 1955 | Altered | The Hopewell Road (State Route 36) entrance to Siege Road is closed. |
| CE 1955 | Demolished | The sections of hard surface of Hopewell Road at Union Battery Nine and on Hare Hill (west of Initial Assaults battlefield) are demolished. |
| CE 1962 | Established | An Act to change the name of the Petersburg National Military Park, to provide for acquisition of a portion of the Five Forks Battlefield. and for other purposes, is approved August 24, 1962 (76 Stat 403). |
| CE 1962 - 1964 | Altered | Twelve, 12-pounder, cast-iron field carriages, received from the Department of Correction at Lorton, Virginia, are mounted with Civil War-period guns and emplaced throughout the battlefield to mark battery positions at Forts Haskell, Stedman and Friend, Batteries 5 and 6, and Colquitt's Salient. Those at Colquitt's Salient are later relocated to Battery 5. |
| CE 1966 | Established | As a historic area within the National Park System, Petersburg NB is administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15. |
| CE 1967 | Built | Highway 36 entrance and exit roads and overpass are constructed by Malpass Construction Company of Norfolk, Virginia in July. |
| CE 1967 | Built | A 10-stop battlefield auto tour from Battery 5 to the Crater is developed following the construction of the Highway 36 overpass. |
| CE 1967 | Built | As part of Mission 66 park initiatives, the Eastern Front Visitor Center is constructed as an octagonal 69-foot-wide brick structure to suggest the appearance of a fortification. |
| CE 1967 | Planted | Waynesboro Nurseries of Waynesboro, Virginia landscapes the new Eastern Front Visitor Center. In subsequent years, junipers, red maples, poplars and white pine are planted around the visitor center and to screen Highway 36. |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1967 | Built | Maintenance buildings, designed by the NPS Eastern Office of Design and Construction, are constructed as two brick buildings facing each other 35 feet apart, one 105 feet by 36 feet and the second 78 feet by 30 feet. |
| CE 1969 - 1972 | Built | A trail for the blind is developed at Tour Stop 3, Confederate Battery 9, using braille interpretive markers. |
| CE 1969 - 1972 | Built | A reconstructed soldier's hut and onsite interpretation of a soldier's life is installed near Confederate Battery 9. |
| CE 1969 - 1972 | Altered | The concrete model of the "Dictator" is replaced with a Civil War period 13-inch seacoast mortar near Confederate Battery 5. |
| CE 1969 - 1972 | Built | A small picnic area is developed on land used earlier by the park as a dump between Auto Tour stops 3 and 4, along the Tour Road. |
| CE 1969 - 1972 | Expanded | The artillery display located midway between the Eastern Front Visitor Center and Battery 5 is expanded. |
| CE 1970 - 2021 | Land Transfer | Several parcels added between 1970 and 2021, additional research needed (Landsnet: 01-103, D-69. 0.11 acres; 01-105, D-63, 3.40 acres; 01-106, D-63, 1.49 acres; 01-137, D-no#, 4.14 acres; 01-141, D-no#, 1.17 acres) |
| CE 1973 | Land Transfer | Mary Webb Hall transfers 14.18 acres along Hickory Hill Road to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-126, D-95). |
| CE 1974 | Land Transfer | Charles J. and Eleanor Thomson transfer 12.11 acres near Hickory Hill Road on December 29, 1974 to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-125, D-84). |
| CE 1974 | Moved | Trail for the Blind is relocated from near Battery 9 to near the Eastern Front Visitor Center |
| CE 1975 | Land Transfer | On November 5, 1975, E.C. Coleman et.ux. transfers 12.11 acres to the NPS at the southern end of the battlefield along Hickory Hill Drive (Landsnet: 01-123, D-89). |
| CE 1975 | Land Transfer | On April 28, 1975, Stanley G. Ellingwood transfers 5.71 acres to the NPS at the southern end of the battlefield along Hickory Hill Drive (Landsnet: 01-124, D-85). |
| CE 1975 | Land Transfer | On January 19, 1975, Gertrude Price Sykes transfers 0.92 acres along Hickory Hill Road (with survey) to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-142, D-86). |
| CE 1975 | Land Transfer | On November 5, 1975, William and Vivian Snyder transfer 5.17 acres adjacent to Hickory Hill Road to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-145, D-90). |
| CE 1975 | Land Transfer | On November 5, 1975, Jordan and Mary Wood transfer 4.79 acres adjacent to Hickory Hill Road to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-146, D-91). |
| CE 1975 | Land Transfer | On July 18, 1975 Lillian Deanne Radcliffe Brown transfers 7.73 acres adjacent to Hickory Hill Road to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-139, D-88). |
| CE 1976 | Land Transfer | On August 6, 1976, Clifton and Wanda Land transfer 53.27 acres to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-143, D-87). |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1976 | Land Transfer | On February 17, 1976, Joseph and Alice Sturt transfer 24.96 acres near Hickory Hill Road to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-134, D-92). |
| CE 1977 | Built | The trail near Battery 5 is redesigned, and steps and landing platforms are built overlooking the Dictator site. |
| CE 1978 | Land Transfer | Dama Elizabeth Rice transfers 3 acres near Hickory Hill Road to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-127, D-96). |
| CE 1979 | Land Transfer | On January 19, 1979, a Warrantee Deed is filed transferring 3.5 acres, former lands of Gertrude Price Sykes, along Hickory Hill Road to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-144, D-98). |
| CE 2001 | Land Transfer | On August 27, 2001 John and Alice Lee transfer a 0.52-acre parcel at 1431 Hickory Hill Road to the NPS (Landsnet: 01-138, D-no #). |
| CE 2003 | Damaged | On September 18, Hurricane Isabel strikes Petersburg National Battlefield and more than 1,847 trees are blown down, blocking roads, trails, and landing on sensitive resources including earthworks. |
| CE 2003 | Removed | In the spring, the park begins Phase 1 of work clearing trees off earthworks. |
| CE 2016 | Established | Congressional legislation authorizes expansion of Petersburg National Battlefield by 7,238 acres. |

**Physical History:**

**INTRODUCTION**

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the site, organized by time periods.

**PROLOGUE: THE LANDSCAPE PRIOR TO 1864**

Before the arrival of European explorers and settlers in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, historians classify human habitation according to discrete periods, the Paleoindian, the Archaic, and the Woodland periods. During these periods, the changing climate within Virginia's coast plain or Tidewater region influenced Native American population levels and group distribution. In the Paleoindian period, coastal locations proved rich in resources. As the glacial ice melted and retreated during the Archaic Period, the coasts became inundated, and groups moved inland, settling uplands. The Woodland period (ca. 1200 BCE–ca. 1600 CE) is traditionally differentiated from the Archaic by the development of ceramic and pottery craft and growing reliance on rudimentary "slash and burn" cultivation of staple crops. The practice of ceramic crafts and agricultural cultivation required a corresponding reduction in cultural groups' mobility. Populations during this time thus began coalescing into sedentary villages located near rivers and floodplains where there was fertile soil, favorable terrain, and plentiful game. Crop cultivation during this period led to more stationary lifeways. Cultivation of crops favored settlement sites in the fertile inland floodplains within major rivers estuaries such as the James and Appomattox Rivers. (Layton 2017: 55)

At the time of European contact, the Algonkian-speaking "Appomattoc" tribe inhabited the area surrounding what would become the Initial Assaults battlefield. Its principal towns were located at Bermuda Hundred Point (at the confluence of the James and Appomattox Rivers), on Swift Creek, and on Rohoic Run. The Appomattoc lived near the Weanoc tribe. The Weanoc group shared the Algonkian dialect with the Appomattoc tribe. The Weanoc group occupied both sides of the James River, beginning near the mouth of the Appomattox River and extending down to eastern Prince George County. (Layton 2017: 55)

Contact between English settlers and Native American populations increased markedly following the settlement of Jamestown in 1607 by English settlers. Jamestown was located on the northeast bank of the James River, about two and a half miles southwest of present-day Williamsburg. Early Virginia Colony narratives document increasingly violent encounters between the colonists and the Appomattoc, including the destruction of the Appomattoc's principal town, Bermuda Hundred Point, at the order of Sir Thomas Dale during the First Powhatan War (1609–1614). Charles City County, one of Virginia's eight original "Shires," was established out of the former Bermuda Hundred "Incorporation." The newly designated Charles City County spanned the Appomattox River and was bounded on the north by Henrico County and James City County to the south. (Layton 2017: 56)

In response to continuing hostilities between the English settlers and allied forces of Chief Necotowance of the Powhatan Confederacy, the Virginia Company constructed a frontier fortress in 1645 named "Fort Henry" on the fall-line on the south bank of the Appomattox River. In time, Fort Henry became a western gateway, where settlers and members of indigenous tribes received passes to allow them to pass across the boundaries between the two territories. In 1671, Governor Berkley directed Major General Wood to commission Captain Thomas Batte, Robert Fallows, and a guide (unnamed) of the Appomattoc tribe to explore Virginia's western frontier. The same year, Major General Wood's son-in-law, Peter Jones, received command of Fort Henry. He opened a trading station nearby that became known as Peter's Point. At the threshold to the west, Fort Henry and Peter's Point grew into a fur trading center and later became known as Petersburg. Members of the local indigenous tribe established a village just west of Fort Henry. English settlers called the indigenous village Indian Town Creek and later Old Town Creek or Rohoic Creek. It came to mark the approximate western limits of present-day Petersburg. (Layton 2017: 58)

In 1702-1703, the Virginia General Assembly established Prince George County, named for Prince Consort of Queen Anne of England, George of Denmark, from the land of Charles City County. Prince George County included all land south of the James River between Chippoke's Creek to the confluence of the James and Appomattox Rivers. Petersburg and other Tidewater Virginia settlements during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries resulted from their location on the navigable rivers linking to the Chesapeake Bay. Road and turnpike construction expanded the transportation network and thus the commercial viability of agriculture through enslaved labor. Though the city of Petersburg began as a military outpost similar to many Virginia settlements, the

city would ultimately coalesce out a complex group of five independent proprietary towns separated from one another by the Appomattox River and its many tributaries. By the end of the Revolutionary War, the only unclaimed parcels in the area featured challenging topography and/or wet, marshy soil. (Worsham 2014: n.p., as paraphrased in Layton 2017: 57)

Lands obtained earlier through royal patent, or subsequent purchase, became acreage for the children of those early landowners, former indentured servants, or tenants of the early land patent holders. (Kelly 1979: 190-191, 198). By the second half of the eighteenth century, the landscape features associated with these various forms of land occupancy had appeared on lands within what would become the park's Eastern Front Unit landscape. By the late eighteenth century, a string of plantation manors lay on seventeenth-century land tracts overlooking the bottomlands of the Appomattox River. Building clusters associated with "Clermont" and "White Hall" (both near present-day Fort Friend/Confederate Battery 8, within Initial Assaults CLI project area), "New Market" (within Fort Stedman CLI project area), and the Taylor plantation (within Crater Battlefield CLI project area) were all located on the Eastern Front battlefield in 1864. The land that formed these estates was first platted into large parcels by distant land speculators in the seventeenth century. Later in the eighteenth century, the families that owned White Hall (later Whitehill), Clermont, the Taylor plantation, and the New Market plantation were related through birth and marriage.

One such large tract was "Spring Garden," a vast swath of land more than two miles square. It was first recorded in 1654 in the Charles City Order Book. (Boddie 1966: 25). There, William Batte (1632–1673) documented his extension of entailed rights to his brothers Thomas (1630–1690) and Henry (1635–1690) to what elder brother William referred to as his "Spring Garden" plantation. After the part of Charles City County south of the Appomattox River was subdivided, creating Virginia's Prince George County in 1701, rent rolls indicate 1,200 acres in possession of the "orphans of Mr. Henry Batte." In 1721, Henry Batte's five surviving daughters received a portion of the Prince George County Spring Garden tract. By the late eighteenth century, the five former "Spring Garden" tracts had been subdivided again into many fee-simple properties held by members of the extended Batte, Peterson, Bland, Harrison, Taylor, and Thweatt families. (Smith, Jr., vol.8: 34) Note: Please see the "Cultural Landscape Report for the Crater Battlefield" for information about the Taylor farm and plantation. For information about the New Market plantation and nearby New Market Racecourse, please see the "Cultural Landscape Inventory for Fort Stedman." The plantations of White Hall/Whitehill/Friend House and Clermont/Jordan House are addressed below.

White Hall/Friend House:
In the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, "White Hall," located near Confederate Battery 8, was the estate of the Munford [Mumford] family. Early seventeenth-century history of the Munford family, including Thomas Munford's involvement in the establishment of Jamestown in 1607, can found in the sources: Montford-Munford, Family of Virginia and Georgia and Allied Families by Lyon and Vesley 1978 and in the Records of the Virginia Company of London, Volume III. In 1689, James Munford patented 504-acres in "Westopher" Parish in Charles City County, within the area that became Prince George County, near the homes of the Byrd, Harrison, and Bland families. In 1701 Robert Munford I, son of James Munford, married Martha Kennon. (Lyon and Vesley 1981: 739, 748-49). By 1704, Robert Munford I had inherited the 504-acres in Prince George County from his father. Later "White Hall" [later White Hill] is referenced in a 1720 deed, through which Elizabeth Munford, daughter of Robert and Martha Kennon Munford, transferred the home plantation, "White Hall" to her brother, Theodorick Munford. (Lyon and Vesley 1981: 748-749). By 1727, Robert Munford owned more than 9,000 acres in Prince George County, second only to Robert Bolling, who owned 13,199 acres. (Opperman and Hanson 1985: 2-21). In 1733, Captain Robert Munford Jr., son of Robert Munford I, married Maire Anne Bland, daughter of Richard Bland and Elizabeth (Randolph) Bland of "Jordan's Point," approximately ten miles east of Petersburg. By this point, the Bland family also owned portions of the "Spring Garden" tract. Robert and Marie Anne [Anne] Bland Munford had four children Richard Munford III (b. unknown), Elizabeth (b. 1734), William (b. 1734), and Theodore (b. 1741). Following the early death of Theodorick [sic] Munford, owner of "White Hall," Elizabeth Munford, his sister, again inherited the White Hall property. In 1755 Elizabeth Munford married Colonel John Banister. They had one son, John Banister Jr. (b. 1767). (Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. XXXVI-No. 1, January 1937, 27 & Vol. L-No. April 2, 1942, 179; and Lyon and Vesley 1981: 742, 746)

Following Elizabeth's death soon after the birth of their son, Colonel John Banister married Elizabeth Munford Banister's cousin, Elizabeth Bland, about 1771. Around 1778, the house at White Hill (Friend House) was built near the future site of Battery 8. In 1781, when British troops stopped at the White Hill plantation to rest (and confiscate crops and goods), the plantation was owned by Colonel Bannister IV and Elizabeth (Bland) Bannister. At the time of the Revolutionary War, Banister owned an industrial complex of flour and sawmills on the south bank of the Appomattox River. In addition to the Whitehall plantation, he owned agricultural property and "Battersea," his home plantation in Dinwiddie County. In 1784 he served as the first Mayor of Petersburg and enslaved eighty-three people who worked in his mills and agricultural enterprises. (PETE White Hill Plantation Panel Discussion, Facebook Post, 18 October 2020; Review comments, Dabney, 29 August 2021)

By 1797 according to a tax survey, Robert Turnball owned the 456- acre "White Hall" plantation, which shared a common boundary with "Clermont" to the north (Figure 1). By 1805 John Gilliam owned the White Hall plantation, in addition to other properties in the area. In 1817, Gilliam conveyed 460 acres of the White Hall property to Nathaniel Friend, who changed the name of White Hall to White Hill/Whitehill. By 1830 the plantation had increased to 538 acres. The 1837 A Map and Profile of City Point by John Couty indicates at least three structures surrounded by trees on the "Nat Friend" property (Figure 2). (Blades et.al. 2001: 4b). In 1842, Charles Friend inherited the land through Nathaniel Friend's will. Charles Friend was a planter and writer for agricultural journals. By this point, the White Hill house was a large white symmetrically styled frame building with two gable-end chimneys and dormers punctuating the roofline. (Blades et.al. 2001: 4b). By the Civil War, the plantation had grown to 802 acres. In 1857, Friend, the owner of Whitehill, drafted a list of 31 enslaved men and boys and 32 women and girls. (PETE White Hill Plantation Panel Discussion, Facebook Post, 18 October 2020). According to tax records for 1860, Charles Friend enslaved thirty-six people on the Whitehill plantation. (Blades et.al. 2001: 4c)

By the Civil War, according to the diaries of Charles Friend, the plantation included the main house, as well as numerous outbuildings and features, including three field quarters. Charles Friend's daughter described each field quarter as having a hen-roost, a pigsty, and a personal garden, with barns nearby. Charles Friend's diary also references a blacksmith shop on the plantation. The current archaeological investigation will further illuminate the agricultural landscape of enslavement within the Whitehill plantation.

According to the Archaeological Overview and Assessment (2001) of the main unit of Petersburg, the building cluster labeled "Gibben" [to be differentiated from Gibbons- see below] on the 1864-1865 Michler map may have been associated with the Friend plantation, as the location of the quarters of enslaved people who worked in the fields (Figure 3). The 1837 map by John Couty shows four structures labeled "Quarter"—probably indicative of the quarters for those enslaved on the plantation —at this location between Harrison Creek and the newly-constructed Petersburg and City Point Railroad. A farm road leading from the boundary lane between the Jordan and Friend houses down the bluff to the City Point Road links the "Gibben" buildings with the Friend house. Furthering this theory, the Map of the Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Engineers Department, dated June 18, 1864, labels a detailed drawing of the former White Hill property with the words "Gibben."

The 1865 land tax records indicated that $2,000 of a total building value of $3,240 had been deducted for the destruction of buildings during the siege of Petersburg, indicating that structures other than the Friend house (which remained following the battle) were on the plantation. (Blades et.al. 2001: 5b). On March 25, 1865, the day of the Battle of Fort Stedman, the Friend House was illustrated by in a sketch entitled "Rebel Soldiers being brought to HD QTRS [Headquarters] 1st Division 9th A Corps" (Figure 4).

Clermont/Jordan Plantation:
It is likely the Clermont plantation, which was located slightly northeast of White Hall/Whitehill, was owned and developed concurrently with White Hall by the Munford family in the mid-eighteenth century. Further research is necessary to document the connections accurately. Around 1778, the house at Clermont (Jordan House) was built. By 1787, the Clermont estate was 350 acres and owned by William Cole. By 1805, the elder William Cole had died, and a younger William Cole had

inherited the property. In 1832, William Weeks obtained 482 acres from the estate of the younger William Cole. The following year, Josiah Jones purchased 525 acres, including the former lands belonging to the Cole family, from George Ruffin. In 1835 Rebecca Jordan, who had inherited the land from her husband, Josiah Jones, had remarried Christopher Roane. In 1853 ownership of the property was transferred to her son, Josiah Jordan. In 1860, Josiah Jordan enslaved sixteen people on the Clermont or Jordan House plantation. (Blades et.al. 2001: 4b; Review comments: Dabney, 29 August 2021)

The 1864-1865 Siege of Petersburg Michler Map shows three small outbuildings in this location. Two outbuildings also appear to abut the entrenchment line between Batteries 5 and 6. Two additional support structures or outbuildings stand to the east of the entrenchments along the drive leading to the main house. A copse of deciduous trees grows north of the house on hillock while fields spread beyond the orchard. The map Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Engineers Department, June 18, 1864, provides a detailed drawing of the layout of the Jordan property (Figure 5). In addition, on the first day of the battle, July 15, 1864, Edwin Forbes captured the Jordan House and what appear to the quarters of the enslaved people, small log houses, across the treeless battlefield (Figures 6 and 7).

Dunn House:
The Dunn house stood south of the Prince George Court House and Jordan's Point roads intersection, near Confederate Dimmock Battery 11. The 1864-1865 Siege of Petersburg Michler Map shows a single building just west of Battery 11, as does the 1863 Map of the Vicinity of Petersburg by Captain A.H. Campbell. A Civil War-era photograph of the Dunn House, taken with entrenchments in the foreground, reveals a white frame house with a hipped roof and two interior chimneys (Figures 8 and 9). A fruit orchard grows around the house, and the unpainted gable end of an outbuilding is visible to the east of the house. According to the Archaeological Overview and Assessment, J. Dunn was not included in the land tax records, possibly indicating that the Dunn family leased the property. The personal property tax records from 1860 indicate that Dunn enslaved nine adults. The 1860 Census data record that Dunn resided in dwelling no. 555 as a farmer with real estate valued at $8000 but no personal estate. This real estate value may be compared with that of the Hare ($20,000) or Taylor ($12,000) plantations to suggest that the Dunn farm was smaller or comprised of less valuable land. (Blades et.al. 2001: 4b)

Gibbons Property:
The Gibbons property on the south side of Prince George Courthouse Road near Harrison Creek was once part of a large tract. In 1848 Francis Rives purchased 36-acres from John Tatum, and in 1855 William Gibbons purchased the parcel from Rives. According to research conducted by the Petersburg Project, William H. Gibbons was the “wealthy scion of a family with deep roots in American racing.” (The Petersburg Project, accessed 21 May 2021). Gibbon’s properties were likely associated with the Newmarket Racecourse to the west (located on the landscape of the Fort Stedman CLI). An assessment of $1,008 for buildings in 1856 suggests that Gibbons had structures built between 1855 and 1856. The 1863 Map of the Approaches to Petersburg and their Defenses shows a cluster of three small buildings, as does the 1864-1865 Michler Map. In 1864, A.D. Waud captured the buildings and landscape of the 9-acre parcel in a drawing (Figure 10). After the Civil War, Gibbons was assessed tax for the 36-acre tract and a 9-acre tract nearby, but his buildings were destroyed during the siege. (Blades et.al. 2001: 5b)

Transportation and Growth:
Concurrent with the development of these properties in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, road and turnpike construction, followed by railroads, expanded the earlier river transportation network and thus the commercial reach of Petersburg. The first railroad to reach Petersburg was the sixty-five-mile-long Petersburg & Weldon Railroad in 1833, connecting the city with Weldon, North Carolina, and agricultural markets further south. In 1836 the City Point Railroad was established, running from City Point to Petersburg. It was acquired by the City of Petersburg in 1847 and reorganized as the Appomattox Railroad. In 1849 the South Side Railroad was established, stretching from City Point to farm country south and west of Petersburg to Lynchburg, and completed in 1858. In 1851 the Norfolk & Petersburg Railroad was established, connecting Petersburg with the deep-water harbor on Virginia’s coast, completed in 1858. In 1854 the South Side Railroad acquired Appomattox Railroad

(City Point Railroad). Thus, by 1860, four railroads and six major roads converged on Petersburg from all directions, and the population in the city reached 18,000, making it the second-largest in Virginia and seventh largest in the South. (Review comments: Dabney, 29 August 2021)

By the late 1850s, plantations strung along the river bluffs, and agricultural fields spread through the bottomlands of land that would become the Initial Assaults battlefield. Harrison Creek's ravines and valleys, which cut through its rolling hills, remained wooded for steep slopes were challenging to cultivate. However, much of the land was cleared for crops or growing fallow with soils exhausted from tobacco culture. Frederick Law Olmsted, a young correspondent for the New York Daily Times, described the landscape surrounding Petersburg when he passed through in 1853:
"Old fields…of a course and yellow sandy soil bearing scare anything but pine trees and broom sedge. In some places, for acres the pines would not be above five feet high—that was land that had been in cultivation, used up and 'turned out' not more than six or eight years before. Then there were patches of every age, sometimes the trees were a hundred feet high. At long intervals, there were fields with pines just beginning to spring in beautiful green plumes from the ground, hardly noticeable from the dead brown grass and sassafras bushes and blackberry-vines, which nature sends to hide the nakedness of the impoverished earth." (Olmsted 1863: 65)

Farm lanes connected plantation building clusters, White Hill (Friend House) and Clermont (Jordan House), agricultural support structures, and farm fields to each other and the county roads. Prince George Courthouse Road (also called the Old Petersburg and Norfolk Stage Road) formed the primary east-west route through the future Initial Assaults battlefield. In the eighteenth century, Prince George Courthouse Road connected the City Point Road east of Petersburg and the small hamlet of legal offices and the county court, known as Prince George Court House. The road split near present-day Confederate Dimmock Battery 9. The south fork led to the circa 1702 courthouse, while the north fork—called Jordan's Point Road—led to Jordan's Point on the James River. The 1864-1865 Michler Map indicates an allee of trees growing along the Prince George Courthouse Road between Harrison Creek and Confederate Dimmock Battery 9 (Figure 11).

According to the 1797 boundary Survey Map, a boundary lane ran between the two properties, "Clermont" and "White Hill." This farm road is indicated again on the 1837 Couty Map and the 1863 Map of the Siege of Petersburg. The Shand House Road connected the Shand property, just south of the Initial Assaults battlefield boundary, to Baxter Road and Prince George Courthouse Road. The Shand's plantation was located on the 100-foot plateau above Harrison Creek, west of and behind Dimmock Battery 14, and beyond the current boundary of Petersburg National Battlefield. The dwelling on the 220-acre plantation was likely constructed between 1837 and 1842. The 1860 census recorded Sarah Shands as a farmer with two children and real estate valued at $7,000. (U.S. Census, P.G. Co: p. 62). The 1860 personal property tax indicated that Sarah Shand enslaved ten adults. The property is on the 1863 Gilmer map (O.R. Atlas 1863) indicated by the name "Webb." By the Civil War, the plantation had grown to more than 308 acres, but the buildings were destroyed during the siege of Petersburg. (Blades et.al. 2001: 4b)

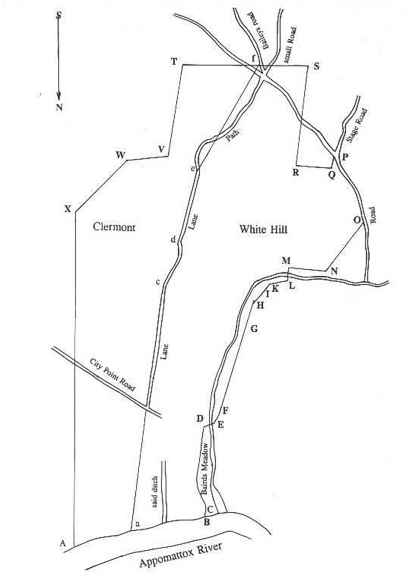



*Figure 1. 1797 Survey Plat Tax Map of Clermont and White Hill, from Prince George County Surveyor's Record, as published in An Archaeological Overview and Assessment of the Main Unit, Petersburg National Battlefield, Virginia, 2001.*

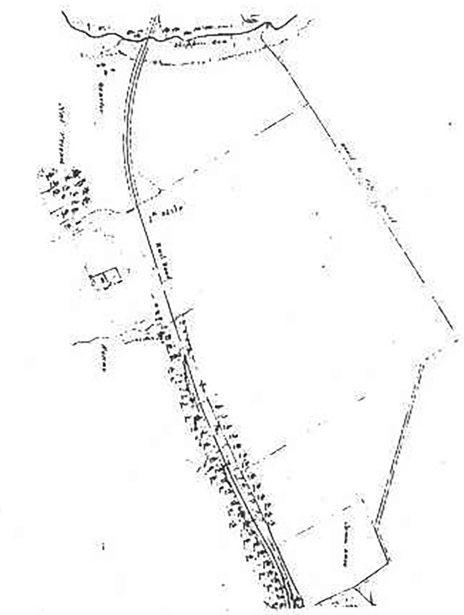


*Figure 2. 1837 A Map and Profile of City Point by John Couty as cited indicating structures on the "Nat Friend" property. (State Library of Virginia)*

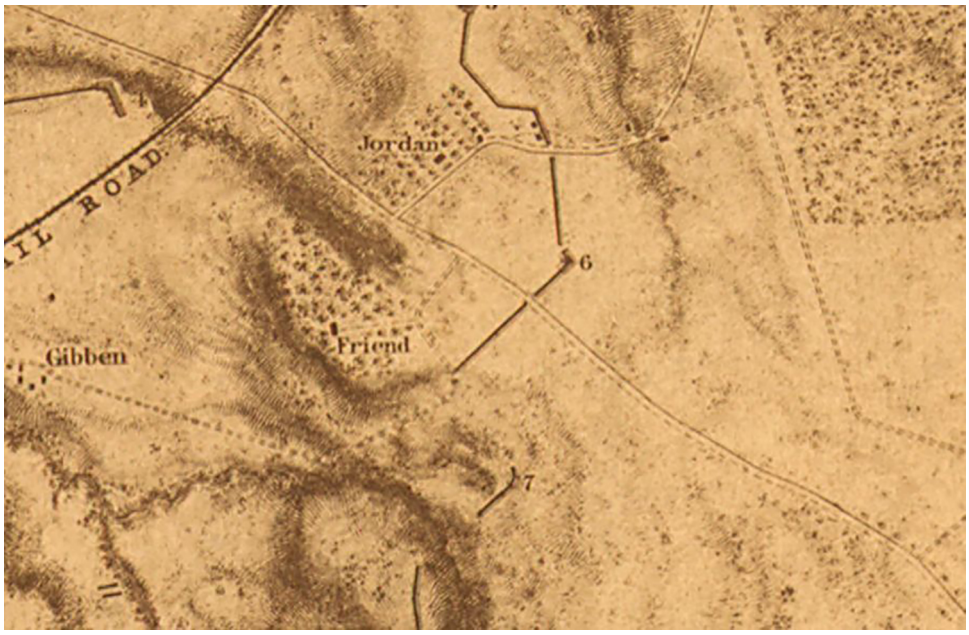



*Figure 3. The 1864-1865 Siege of Petersburg Michler Map detail, showing White Hall/White Hill/Friend Plantation as well as the Clermont or Jordan Plantation. (Library of Congress)*




*Figure 4. "Rebel prisoners being brought to Hd. Qtrs. 1st Div. 9th A. Corps at the Friend House, March 25th, 1865." (Francis W. Knowles Papers, #164, East Carolina Manuscript Collection)*

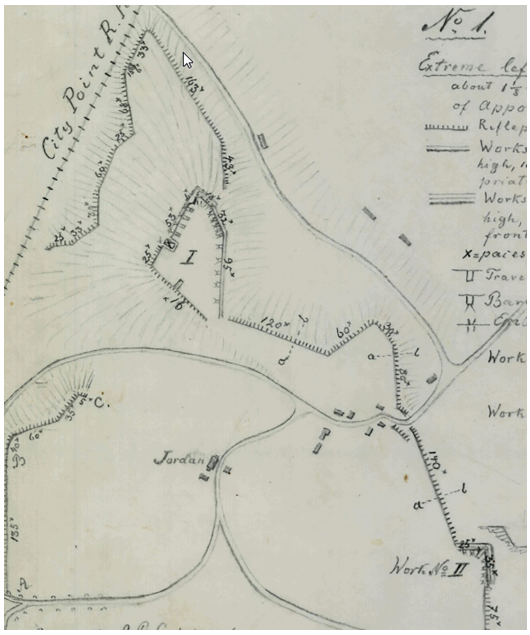



*Figure 5. Map of the Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Engineers Department, June 18, 1864 provides a detailed layout of the Jordan property (Clermont). (National Archives RG 77, 150-49A)*



*Figure 6. The Jordan House/Clermont can be seen in the detail of the "Sketch of the forts and breastworks near Petersburg" by Edwin Forbes, June 15, 1864. (Library of Congress)*



*Figure 7. "Battery 11 of the Confederate Dimmock Line" with the Dunn House and outbuildings shown in the background, photographed June 15th, 1864, the first day of the battle. (Library of Congress)*



*Figure 8. Dunn House near Battery 11, by Alfred Waud. (Library of Congress)*

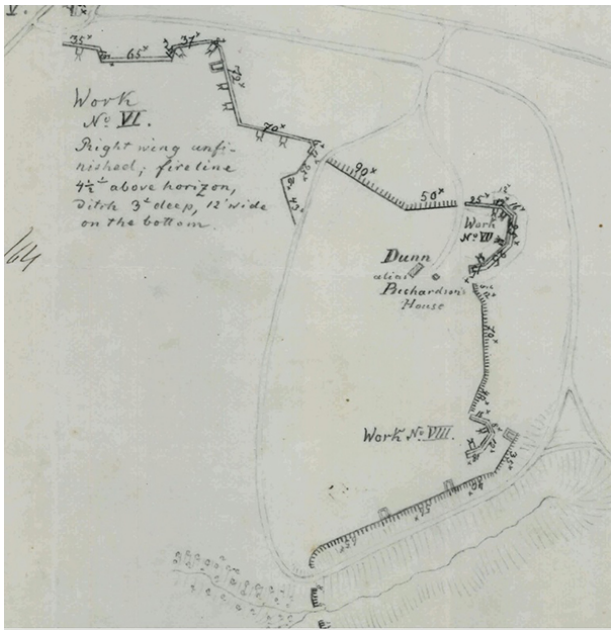



*Figure 9. Dunn House, labeled as "Richardson's House," is shown on Federal map dated July 1, 1864. The earthwork to the east of the house is Confederate Battery 11. (National Archives RG 77. 150-49-B)*

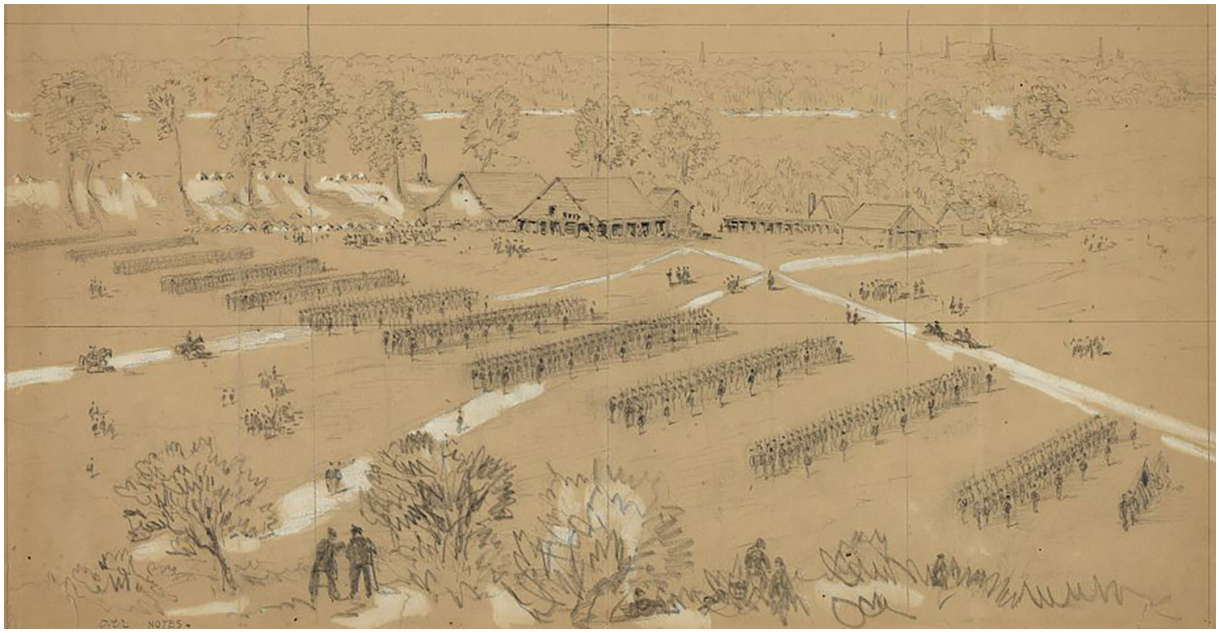


*Figure 10. The Gibbon's property from the Friend House, Headquarters of the 18th Corps, sketched by Alfred Waud, corresponds to an engraving published in Harper's Weekly August 13, 1864. (History of the Second Pennsylvania ..., by George W. Ward, 1904 rev. ed., p.86)*



*Figure 11. Detail from the Michler Map of the Siege of Petersburg, 1864-1865, showing the allee or hedge row of trees along Prince George County Road. (Library of Congress)*

**THE LANDSCAPE AT THE TIME OF THE CIVIL WAR**

Petersburg became one of the South's leading industrial and commercial centers during the antebellum period because of the strength of its transportation network. Tobacco, cotton, and grist mills were established along the Appomattox River to process agricultural products shipped to Petersburg. The city was also home to several iron and lead works that later proved valuable to the Confederate war effort. Commercial pursuits included more than two hundred retail operations, four banks, and a healthy merchant trade in commodities. (Greene 2006: 6–8)

When the Civil War began, the area surrounding the flourishing industrial and commercial city of Petersburg was primarily rural and agricultural, with a mixture of large eighteenth-century plantations and smaller farms developed in the 1840s and 1850s. Petersburg's settlement patterns created landscape characteristics that influenced the strategic development of battles during the Civil War. Small farms, such as the Gibbon and Dunn properties, typically consisted of dwellings, open cultivated fields, fields lying fallow, orchards, and woodlots. More significant plantation properties, such as the Whitehill/Friend House and Clermont/Jordan House, had large homes and more support structures. Still, the land-use patterns were consistent with smaller properties. The fields associated with the complexes were either cultivated with crops, including cotton or tobacco, or lay fallow for pasture after more intense cultivation. Woodlots, hedgerows, and orchards provided fencing, firewood, food, housing, and other items. Farm lanes connected these areas with larger county byways, including Prince George Courthouse and Jordan Point Roads. The county roads followed the ridges, avoiding the damp, brushy ravines when possible. In contrast, some farm boundary lanes sunk into the stream swales, unable to avoid the many intermittent streams that spilled out from Harrison and Poor Creeks.

During the Initial Assaults and the subsequent siege, the houses and outbuildings associated with the five dwelling complexes became both obstacles and opportunities for concealment. If the buildings became too close to entrenchment lines, the warring armies demolished them to clear the fields of fire. For instance, in 1878, Mr. Jordan told a former soldier from the New Hampshire's 13th regiment that he lost seventeen structures near Battery 5 during the battle. (NH 13th Regiment Accounts, 1878: 378). The armies also deforested much of the land for fuel and military support structures, and by the end of the siege, few trees remained beyond the swampy bottomlands of stream valleys. (NR draft 2014, Sec.7: 9). In June 1864, county roads and farm lanes became key transportation corridors during the Initial Assaults and throughout the Petersburg Campaign. For instance, Federal troops attacked along Prince George Courthouse Road during the battle. They also used it to travel between the front lines and General Meade's Headquarters. (Map of the Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Engineers Department, June 18, 1864). Both Confederate and Federal armies moved troops and supplies along Shand House Road. The boundary lane between the Friend and Jordan properties and the ravine through which it ran also provided an important access route for invading Union troops during the Initial Assaults battles. (Blades et.al. 2001: 5b)

The landscape topography, including the stream valleys of Harrison and Poor Creeks, influenced the military campaign associated with the First Assault battle. Topographic elevations in the Eastern Front range from about 140 feet above sea level near Hickory Hill Road along the southern boundary to 35 feet above sea level on the low terrace adjacent to Harrison Creek. These riparian corridors strongly influenced the layout and design of the 1862 Confederate Dimmock Line and later Union fortifications. (NR draft 2014, Sec.7: 9). The Confederate troops used Harrison Creek to slow the Union advance on June 16–17, 1864. Later, when the Confederates drove the Union out of their lines on the March 25, 1865, attack on the Union stronghold of Fort Stedman, the Federal forces used Harrison Creek as a temporary fortification to rally behind and stop the Confederate advance. They then used the protection afforded by the creek ravine to launch their counterattack (Figure 12).




*Figure 12. Map of the Siege of Petersburg, Engineers Department, June 18, 1964, showing the Dimmock Line on the landscape of the Initial Assault. (Library of Congress)*

**THE INITIAL ASSAULTS, JUNE 15-18, 1864**

The following description of the Initial Assaults battle is brief and borrows from the 2014 draft National Register Nomination for Petersburg National Battlefield. For further elaboration of the battle movements, causes, and effects of the military engagement of June 15-18, 1864, please see, The Petersburg Campaign. Volume 1: The Eastern Front Battles, June - August 1864 by Edwin C. Bearss or A Campaign of Giants--The Battle for Petersburg: Volume 1: From the Crossing of the James to the Crater by A. Wilson Greene and Gary W. Gallagher, among many others.

In the summer of 1862, the Confederate Army recognized the strategic importance of Petersburg as a transportation and industrial hub and established a system of fortifications around the city for protection from attack by Union forces during the Peninsula Campaign. The system was named the Dimmock Line after Captain Charles H. Dimmock, an engineer in Petersburg first assigned to create obstructions in the Appomattox River that would prevent Union gunboat assault on the city. Captain Dimmock supervised the construction of the fortifications. Initially, three brigades of men and 1,200 enslaved people were forced to work on the fortifications. Though later that summer, General McClellan was ordered to abandon the protection of the peninsula, Captain Dimmock and Major General Samuel G. French continued construction on the fortifications through the work of enslaved and free blacks for the next two years. By 1864, when Union forces threatened Petersburg again, the now deteriorated fortifications were under-manned and neglected. (NR draft 2014, Sec.8: 69, citing Greene 2006: 96–98 and Hess 2009: 11)

The Dimmock fortification line was anchored on the Appomattox River east and west of Petersburg and inscribed a 10-mile arc to the south of the city. The whole line contained 55 numbered batteries, or artillery emplacements, connected by parapets and ditches. Confederate Batteries 5 through 13 are located within the Initial Assaults battlefield (as defined by the CLI) between City Point Railroad and Hickory Hill Road (see Figure 12). At the time of construction, the earthen parapets measured about twenty feet thick at the base and six feet wide at the top, while the ditches measured fifteen feet wide and six feet deep. Skirmish shelters (commonly known as “rifle pits”) were constructed in

front of some parts of the line, including on the Initial Assaults battlefield. Those building the entrenchments cut down trees within a half-mile of the line to provide clear fields of fire. They used the timber to construct abatis in front of some line sections. (NR draft 2014, Sec.8: 69)

By June 1864, the war had raged for more than three years with a heavy death toll, and the public was growing tired of the tragic loss of life. President Lincoln appointed General Grant Commander of all Union armies, and Grant devised a plan he thought would end the war. The Union army would launch a major offensive targeting Richmond and Confederate General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Following heavy Federal losses in May at the Battle of Wilderness and again in the region of Spotsylvania Court House, on June 3, 1864, General Grant was defeated by the Confederates at Cold Harbor. Following this defeat, he altered his military strategy. Rather than attacking Richmond directly, he would attack and capture Petersburg, twenty-three miles south of Richmond. If the Union Army could control Petersburg, they would sever all but one of the railroads to Richmond and block the supply chain to the Confederate army. Grant's force of 18,000 men arrived east of Petersburg on June 15. Leading elements of Butler's Army of the James crossed the Appomattox River near Point of Rocks, about ten miles north of the Initial Assaults battlefield, and attacked the Confederate Dimmock Line. The evening of the first day, Federal soldiers overtook nearly two miles of trenches and gun positions. As a young soldier from the 13th New Hampshire battalion remembered it, June 15 began as a "warm and very pleasant sunny day," near Mr. Friend's House [Whitehill] as Battery 5 descended into battle.
"As the skirmish line is strengthened by the additions named, our Reg. closes, and narrows its front, until we form a rather close skirmish line . . . through a thick wood, and out of that into a slashing of heavy timber, among the stumps and fallen trees, almost directly in the rear, but somewhat to the right, of Mr. Friend's house ; and in full view of a five-gun battery — Battery Five — with very high parapets and perched on the top of a high hill, to the right, north, of Mr. Friend's house…."

"Away to our left, near to Mr. Friend's house [about ¼ mile south of Battery 5), is a long and strong line of skirmishers — colored troops — working forward over dusty, plowed land, among numerous apple or peach trees. They find themselves at the bottom of a deep ravine, now dry but forming a natural moat or ditch for Battery Five, the walls of which loom up above them some thirty or forty feet to the top of the parapet. Capt. Goss and the few men of the Thirteenth with them in the ravine — the whole party not above a dozen persons —instantly rush for the Battery; some straight up over the front walls, others up the north side, our bayonets stuck in the sand, grasping grass and weeds to assist in climbing, striking their boots into the gravel." (Thomas 1888: 384)

On the first day of the Initial Assaults battle, Union forces drove the Confederate troops west from their first line of entrenchment back to Harrison Creek. There the Confederate troops dug in along the creek's western bank. The following day three more Union divisions arrived in Petersburg, more than one hundred thousand men. On June 16, Union forces captured additional sections of the Confederate Dimmock Line. Confederate positions along Harrison Creek became more vulnerable when the Union forces gained control of a battery on an adjacent promontory. The Confederate troops held their hastily constructed Hagood Line (also known as the Second Confederate Line) for only two days before succumbing to the Union forces. On the night of the 17th, the Confederates withdrew again to the Harris Line (also known as the Confederate Defensive Siege Line), which they held for the remaining ten months of the campaign. The Harris Line included several powerful battery positions, including Colquitt's salient and Gracie's salient (see the Fort Stedman CLI), and Elliott's salient (see Crater Battlefield CLI), all of which the soldiers filled with dugouts and traverses. On June 18, when Union forces attacked the Confederate positions on Harrison Creek, they found that they had been vacated. (NR draft 2014, Sec.7: 12)

Confederate forces constantly worked on their earthworks throughout the siege, adapting them to Union military pressure and field strategies. Beginning in June 1864, Union forces adapted segments of the captured Dimmock Line—and even portions of the Hagood Line—to face the Confederate earthworks. The Federal troops also built new sections of the defensive line to form the Union Siege Line, which eventually became a continuous system of trenches and batteries or redoubts in opposition to the Confederate Harris Line. In addition, after the devastating losses of the Battle of the Crater on July 30, 1864, when it became clear that the Union forces would not break through to Petersburg quickly, Union engineers shortened, connected, and worked to strengthen their siege line.

The forward Union positions became the Union Picket Line.

For the remaining nine months of the siege of Petersburg, the Union and Confederate troops endured filth, sickness, and boredom. Occasional skirmishes and battles, including a picket line assault in November, punctuated their tedium with intense fear. Both Union and Confederate armies constantly refined their defensive lines and earthen fortifications, improving their army's strategic advantage and their chances of survival.

Following the battle of Fort Stedman on March 25, 1865, on land west of the Initial Assaults battlefield, the siege of Petersburg entered its last days. On April 2, 1865, Federal forces began a rampant drive towards the city, destroying railroad tracks and telephone lines as they went. Union forces broke the Confederate line, and soldiers streamed into Petersburg on April 3. Meanwhile, General Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia fought their way west towards Appomattox Courthouse and surrendered there on April 9, 1865.

**POST WAR DEVELOPMENT AND BATTLEFIELD COMMEMORATION**

As early as July 4, 1865, Napoleon Hawes, a paroled Confederate soldier, advertised his “retreat” in the Petersburg Daily Index, offering lemonade to tourists visiting Petersburg’s Battlefields. Even before Lee’s surrender, James H. Platt, a Union veteran of the siege, purchased Jarratt’s Hotel in Petersburg. Over time it became a popular lodging for Union veterans, Freedmen's Bureau officials, and northern tourists. In 1866, Platt published the first version of “A Guide to the Fortifications and Battlefields Around Petersburg,” a twenty-seven-page booklet, “believed to be the first published guide to a Civil War Battlefield.” (Layton 2017: 25, f.n. 69,70; Wallace and Conway 1983: 17-18). Platt’s guidebook included a brief account of the siege of Petersburg, outlining an itinerary for a two-day battlefield tour. The guide pointed out the most interesting places to see, including the Confederate Fort Gregg, the 50th New York Engineers’ log church at Poplar Grove, the signal tower at Peebles Farm, Fort Wadsworth, Fort Sedgwick, the Crater, and Fort Stedman. Though the guide did not highlight the Dimmock Line of Confederate Batteries in the fields and woods of the Initial Assaults battlefield, tourists could see these earthworks clearly within the remains of farms and plantations. (Layton 2017: 25, f.n. 69,70; Wallace and Conway 1983: 17-18)

The armies destroyed the eighteenth-century Jordan House (Clermont) and its associated outbuildings and support structures during the siege. The heirs of Josiah Jordan sold a portion of the Clermont property to Peter Batte in 1866, though they retained the rights to the burying ground containing Josiah Jordan, his wife, and four of their children. Soon after, the Jordan family built another house three hundred feet from the location of the eighteenth-century home. About 1879, the second Jordan House was destroyed in a fire. The Jordan family then built a third home on the foundations of the original eighteenth-century house, just east of Battery Five. (Wallace and Conway 1983: 25-28)

The development of the Dunn house property following the war is not clear. Armies may have destroyed the property’s structures during the siege. Regardless, there are no structures mapped in the area on the 1894 USGS map. The Gibbon’s property was labeled “Ruins” on the 1864 Union Engineers Map, so it too was likely destroyed during the war. The Friend House (White Hill/Hall) was not destroyed during the Civil War though it sustained damage, as did its outbuildings. Further research is necessary to understand land ownership and use patterns of the former Friend property between the Civil War and acquisition by the War Department in the early twentieth century.

In the 1880s, Union and Confederate veterans held join reunions at many former battlefields, including the battlefields surrounding Petersburg. Local public interest groups and officials pushed for a park to preserve and commemorate the war in Petersburg. By the 1890s, the War Department was stewarding the preservation of prominent battlefields, including Gettysburg and Shiloh, as historical parks. In the Jim Crow era that followed Reconstruction, aging white Civil War veterans grew more accommodating toward their former battle foes, a sentiment echoed generally by the white public. Locally, the formation of the Petersburg National Battlefield Association was the first movement towards a national battlefield park in Petersburg. General Stith Bolling, a Confederate veteran cavalry officer who presided over the organization’s efforts to create a park, organized reenactments as a popular fundraising tool. In 1898, Bolling and the Petersburg National Battlefield Association supported a bill introduced by Congressman Sydney P. Epes to establish “Petersburg National Park,” but the bill languished in committee. Congressman Epes tried again in 1900, introducing a new bill to establish a national park in Petersburg, but it too did not pass. In 1906 a joint resolution passed Congress authorizing a commission to visit Petersburg to determine the advisability of establishing a battlefield park. But this effort, and others, failed too. (Layton 2017: 28). A few years later, in 1910, the Virginia House of Delegates member Patrick Drewry, after reviewing the many previous failed attempts, took on the mission of creating the park; over the next ten years, he would promote the park effort.

In the meantime, veterans and patriotic groups continued to place monuments upon the hallowed ground of the battlefields to recognize the contributions of soldiers and officers during individual battles and the campaign. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, veterans erected fifteen monuments to honor the war’s fallen soldiers on the landscape of what is now Petersburg

National Battlefield. They placed just one within the boundaries of the Initial Assaults battlefield. In October 1912, three veterans of the IX Corps regiment erected a monument to honor a spring in the woods near Hickory Hill Road used by the 209th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry during the siege. Two flights of curving concrete steps were set into the hillside to provide access to a three-foot square concrete spring box embellished with a brass plaque.

In 1923 Confederate veteran Captain Carter Bishop and Union veteran Colonel James Anderson approached Congressman Drewry with an idea. They told Drewry that he might find Congress more receptive to establishing a battlefield park in Petersburg battlefield if the land was surveyed in advance and Northern and Southern Congressmen presented the accompanying bill together. Drewry agreed, and Anderson and Bishop, along with Lieutenant Colonel Francis Pope of the Army Corps of Engineers, were commissioned in 1925 to survey battlefield lands under consideration for acquisition. The Commission based its report on firsthand knowledge of the landscape and detailed measurements. Congressman Drewry submitted a copy of the report with his bill to Congress in early 1926. Finally, after passing the House and Senate, on July 3, 1926, President Calvin Coolidge signed the bill authorizing Petersburg National Military Park. (Layton 2017: 29)

As was typical, Congress tasked the War Department with managing the new Petersburg National Military Park. The War Department's first objective was to acquire and assemble the parkland out of dozens of privately held parcels. The size of the proposed park was initially fixed at 185 acres but grew to 480 acres with the addition of more than 200 acres of Camp Lee owned by the Army, as well as lands elsewhere. (45 Stat 1301,1305: Sec.4). Starting at Battery 5, north of Hopewell Road, the park boundary was to include battlefields as far south and west as the Crater Battlefield before continuing down Jerusalem Plank Road to the fortifications south of the city. Over the next couple of years, the Commission completed preliminary surveys and land acquisitions, including numerous parcels from private citizens. However, the majority of the initial acreage came from the military post, Camp Lee.

**CAMP LEE**

The development of Camp Lee began on April 24, 1917, only sixteen days after the United States Congress declared war on Germany. The Petersburg Chamber of Commerce leased 450 acres, including land that would become Petersburg National Battlefield, for the camp area and an additional 15,000 acres for maneuvers between Petersburg and Hopewell. The military cantonment, or camp, was named for Confederate general Robert E. Lee and was soon designated a division training center. Construction happened quickly, and within the next few months, the facility had more than 1,500 buildings and began receiving members of the 80th Division for training. More than sixty thousand soldiers passed through the facility on their way to fight in World War I. The young soldiers prepared for warfare on the Western Front by building trenches through the fields and forests of the Initial Assaults battlefield. They dug more than 1.5 miles of training trenches in 1917 and 1918. The running lines of traversing trenches with squared U-shaped offsets remain visible in the woods to the east of the Tour Road between the Rote 36 entrance and Battery 9. After the war ended, the camp closed. In 1920, the War Department demolished the circa 1880s Jordan House and the eighteenth-century Clermont or Friend House in 1923. (Wallace and Conway 1983: 28,130). Then the War Department turned over land management to the Commonwealth of Virginia. At the time, zig-zag trenches crisscrossed the eastern side of the park, brick and concrete magazines dotted the landscape, and service roads stretched through much of the eastern section of the Initial Assaults battlefield. (NPS 1935 Topographic Map). After the war, the former camp land was used as a wildlife preserve until the War Department re-established the camp in the build-up to World War II. (Radcliffe, accessed 12 May 2021)

## ESTABLISHMENT AND EARLY DESIGN OF PETERSBURG NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

During 1927 and 1928, the Petersburg National Military Park Commission, led by Virginia Congressman Patrick Drewry, commissioned Confederate veteran Captain Carter Bishop, Union veteran Colonel James Anderson, and Lieutenant Colonel Francis Pope of the Army Corps of Engineers to survey the battlefield lands as part of the new strategy for establishing the park. In 1928 the Commission recommended acquiring all forts, trenches, and earthworks contiguous to park roads and the Crater battlefield, portions of Camp Lee and lands at Battery Five, and the site of the opening battle for Petersburg. In 1929 an act to "authorize appropriations for construction at military posts, and for other purposes" was approved February 25, 1929. (45 Stat 1301,1305: Sec.4). Further, "the Secretary of War be, and he is, hereby, authorized to transfer to the Petersburg National Military Park such portion of the Camp Lee Military Reservation, Virginia, as in his discretion may be required in connection with the establishment of the Petersburg National Military Park." The Commission was also authorized to receive gifts of land from individuals, groups, or the state. The government could not acquire land through condemnation, nor were they authorized to purchase land. Following the act, the War Department transferred 131 acres of land near Battery 5 (64 acres) and Fort Stedman (67 acres) for use as parkland. (Landsnet: 01-101, D-17; 01-111, D-17)

The private Commission was also responsible for creating or repairing necessary roads, clearing lands, and marking all points of historical interest. In January 1929, thirty-two laborers cleared vegetation and maintained a temporary road near Battery Five. By March, the men had removed the trees and shrubs from Forts Walker, Haskell, and Stedman, as well as Confederate Batteries 4, 5, and 6. As Louise Aaron, a reporter in for the local Petersburg Progress-Index, pointed out, "Building the park was not merely a matter of erecting monuments and tablets, of constructing fine roads, and publicity. One would hardly have guessed that great stretches of breastworks and other fortifications lay within the tangled undergrowth and dense trees that cover the greater part of the park area." (Conway and Wallace 1983: 83). In 1929, local concerned citizens formed the Petersburg Battlefield Park Association through which they contributed money, supplied publicity, and assisted in obtaining land through third-party transactions. (Layton 2017: 30). The Commission executed field surveys and identified the desired tracts. The Association then acquired the land and facilitated the transfer of the parcels to the federal government.

On August 10, 1933, responsibility for Petersburg National Military Park was transferred from the War Department to the National Park Service (NPS), along with other monuments, military parks, and the National Capital Parks through Executive Order 6166. (Wallace and Conway 1983: 81). At the time of the transfer, Petersburg National Military Park encompassed 346 acres, which included the 131-acre transfer from Camp Lee and land acquired through private donations.

After the NPS assumed management of the park, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) cleared underbrush and developed roads and trails. The CCC was created by the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Act of 1933, and was instrumental in developing visitor services and managing resources at most national parks, including Petersburg. The NPS employed the CCC, composed mainly of unskilled laborers, to perform clearing, grading, and other activities at many of the historical parks where planning was underway. Most of the funding for CCC construction projects came through the Public Works Administration (PWA). (NR draft 2014, Sec.8: 131, citing McClelland 1993 and Unrau and Williss 1983). About 173 enrollees of CCC Company 1364 arrived from Camp Meade, Maryland, early on July 13, 1933. They established a camp, Camp MP-2, in the Fort Stedman area of the park just west of the Initial Assaults battlefield. The CCC camp included a mess hall and about fifty tents for its enrollees. Between 1933 and 1942, the CCC cleared underbrush, assisted with road construction, planted trees, led tours, and constructed minor buildings.

In 1934, the War Department transferred the western portion of Camp Lee, 1,128 acres between Highway 36 and 109 west to Fort Stedman, to the NPS for inclusion into Petersburg National Battlefield. (Wallace and Conway 1983: 42). During the summer of 1937, the CCC constructed a small colonial revival style building near Crater Battlefield for use as a field museum and guide station. CCC crews also completed fieldwork for a topographic survey of the former Griffith and Taylor farm properties, part of the Crater Battlefield. The same year, park management opened a

road from Confederate Battery 9 to the Hopewell Road (State Route 36). CCC labor and funds supported the construction of the road, which used crushed concrete obtained from the demolition of foundations of World War I buildings in the Camp Lee section of the park as a road base. The portion of the eighteenth-century Prince George Courthouse Road was reconstructed from Siege Road to Confederate Battery 9 in 1937 by the CCC as a segment of the park's tour road. In March 1938, CCC funds and labor supported the construction of Mortar Road, encircling Battery 5 and the site of "The Dictator," and a public opening was held in September 1938. (Wallace and Conway 1983: 93-117). The same year, the CCC built the Foremen's Quarters on a knoll near the CCC camp on the southern side of the former Prince George Courthouse Road. The new simple frame building had tar paper covering and provided accommodations for the CCC foremen on patrol duty and official visitors. After the disbandment of the CCC, park management used the building for an employee's residence. It was later renovated as a residence for the park superintendent. (Wallace and Conway 1983: 82)

In 1939 the War Department transferred the "Whitehill Tract" of 49.68 acres, near Confederate Battery 5, to the NPS. (Landsnet: 01-104, D-56). The property included the eighteenth-century White Hall (Friend House) and Clermont (Jordan House). In October 1940, War Department officials announced that the military would construct three training centers capable of accommodating more than 20,000 troops at Camp Lee in the event of compulsory service in World War II. All of the WWI wooden barracks and other buildings had been removed by this time, and only the concrete foundations and roadways remained. (Richmond Times-Dispatch, 12 October 1940)

Meanwhile, in 1941 with war raging in Europe and the military busy again at Camp Lee, the NPS engaged in master planning to establish a cohesive approach to the development in the park. The Master Plan for Petersburg National Battlefield, developed by the NPS Branch of Plans and Design, focused on improving circulation in the park and on restoring vegetation to suggest its condition during the siege (Figure 13). The plans included two proposed automobile overpasses, one at the northern end of the park over Route 36 and one at the southern end. Plans also proposed restoring a pond behind Gracie's Dam and Colquitt's Salient, removing hundreds of trees to recreate historic views highlighted through new roadside overlooks, and constructing new roads through the park. The plans also identified historic roads, including Jordan Point Road and Prince George Courthouse Road, proposed bridle trails on other historic road cuts, and documented several private properties identified for future acquisition (Figure 14).

One of the road overpasses was proposed near Battery 5, allowing "Attack Road" to pass over Virginia Route 36, providing a grade separation between the two roads. A road extension then linked two existing road segments, Mortar Road and Attack Road. The former road bypass from Route 36 was then removed (see Figure 14).

In 1942, the CCC disbanded and left the park. Shortly thereafter, the NPS transferred 739 acres east of Lee Avenue back to Camp Lee for military use. Following World War II, Congress passed an act that, "the Department of the Army is hereby authorized and directed to transfer to the Department of the Interior, without reimbursement, two tracts of land, comprising two hundred six acres, more or less, situated on either side of Siege Road adjacent to Petersburg National Military Park, Virginia." (63 Stat 691). The land included Fort Haskell and Fort Morton. In 1950, the same year Camp Lee was made a permanent military installation and renamed Fort Lee, the Petersburg-Hopewell Transportation Company transferred 11.7 acres, in three small parcels near Battery 5, to the United States for Petersburg NB. (Landsnet: 01-102, D-63)

In the building boom following World War II, developers constructed a large housing development with approximately three hundred, two-bedroom, houses along a half-mile length of the park's northern boundary. A few years later, the impact of this adjacent development and others would influence planning initiatives undertaken during Mission 66. Throughout the 1950s, NPS management continued to make additions and alterations to the park. In 1954, the park mounted a thirty-pounder Parrott rifle at Battery Five and built new platforms of pressurized and creosoted oak boards for the rifle, as well as for the newly constructed weapon, the "The Dictator." (Wallace and Conway 1983: 94). In 1955, the NPS altered the park road system by closing the Hopewell Road entrance (State Route 36) to Siege Road and removing the hard road surface at Union Battery Nine.

(Wallace and Conway 1983: 94)

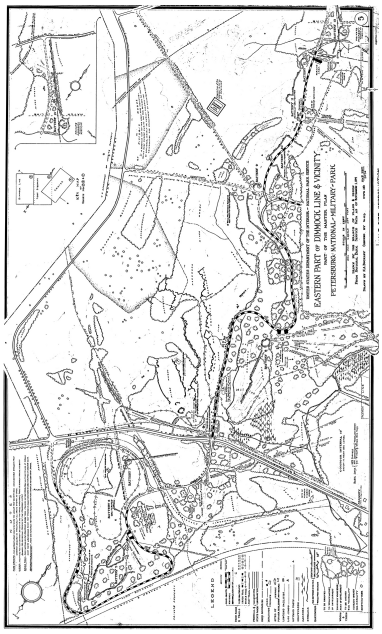


*Figure 13. 1942 Master Plan for Petersburg National Battlefield developed by the National Park Service. (National Park Service, eTIC)*

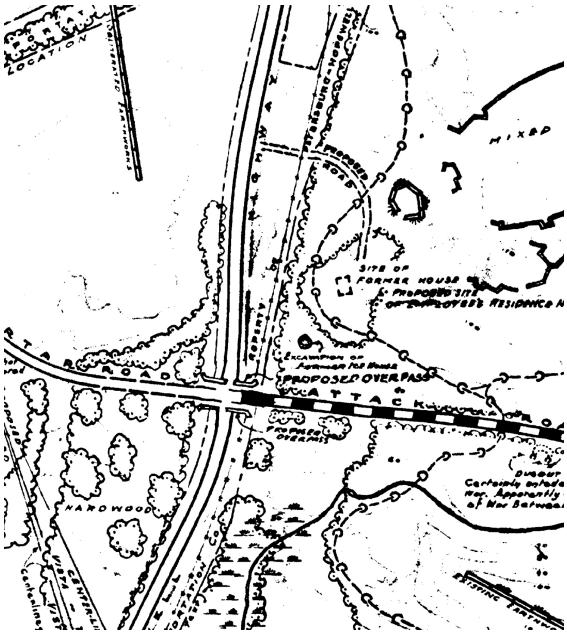



*Figure 14. 1942 Master Plan for Petersburg National Battlefield developed by the National Park Service, detail of the overpass at Route 36. (National Park Service, eTIC)*

**MISSION 66**

The NPS embarked on a decade-long program known as Mission 66, which had the ambitious goal to develop and improve every park in the system by the agency's 50th anniversary in 1966. For battlefield parks, this program nearly coincided with the centennial anniversary of the Civil War. During this period, the public was generally positive about the significant physical changes at Petersburg NB. Former Superintendent Martin R. Conway believed that without Mission 66, the NPS would have likely developed Petersburg piecemeal "… perhaps nowhere as boldly conceived nor as grand as under this program." (Wallace and Conway 1983: 1)

When Mission 66 began in the mid-1950s, Petersburg NB's visitor center was in a former golf course clubhouse at the Crater Battlefield property. A small public contact station, built by CCC workers in 1937, was located at Battery 5. The park had been planning since the early 1940s to begin the battlefield tour sequence at Battery 5, where the initial confrontation between Union and Confederate forces began. Doing so would fulfill the interpretive goal first established in the early 1930s to aid the visitors' physical understanding of the history by presenting visitors with a chronological sequence of events. (Layton 2017: 40)

In the Development Plan of 1960, NPS planners designed a new tour route, using much of the existing park road corridor. After adding two strategically placed automobile overpasses (one over Route 36 and one over the Norfolk and Western Railroad), the new road design allowed visitors to remain inside the boundaries of the central park unit throughout their visit and thus experience a more seamless tour. The location of a new visitor center at Battery 5 meant the interpretive sequence would begin at the scene of the opening June 15, 1864 battle, the Initial Assault. The Development Plan also outlined the park's need for a new maintenance area and additional employee housing. During this period, major projects completed at Petersburg NB included the new visitor center at Battery 5, the interpretive tour route from the visitor center southwest to the Crater, new overpasses at Highway 36 and the Norfolk & Western railroad, and finally, a new maintenance facility near Highway 36. However, the NPS did not construct any new employee housing.

The Eastern Front Visitor Center featured an octagonal 69-foot-wide brick structure designed to resemble a fortification with a new landscape by Waynesboro Nurseries. In subsequent years, junipers, red maples, poplars, and white pine were planted around the visitor center to screen Highway 36 and suburban development beyond the park boundaries. In later years, Superintendent Conway ordered hundreds of junipers and red maples, poplars, and white pine for additional visitor center landscaping and screening of Highway 36. (Wallace and Conway 1983: 6). The NPS's Eastern Office of Design and Construction designed the maintenance area, which included two brick buildings facing each other 35 feet apart, one 105 feet x 36 feet and the second 78 feet x 30 feet. As part of the Mission 66 improvement efforts, between 1962 and 1964, twelve 12-pounder cast-iron field carriages ordered earlier by the NPS for $11,500 were received from the Department of Correction at Lorton, Virginia. They were mounted with Civil War-period guns and emplaced throughout the battlefield to mark battery positions at Forts Haskell, Stedman and Friend, Batteries 5 and 6, and Colquitt's Salient. The NPS later relocated the guns and emplacements at Colquitt's Salient to Battery 5. (Wallace and Conway 1983: 13)

Petersburg National Military Park was redesignated as Petersburg National Battlefield on August 24, 1962. With major visitor infrastructure projects complete, underway, or proposed, the NPS also focused on improving battlefield interpretation to deepen visitor understanding of the complex military engagement at Petersburg. Developments included artillery exhibits, the reconstruction of a portion of the US Military Railroad at Meade Station, soldier's huts and a sutler's store, as well as a self-guided tour tracing Lee's retreat from Petersburg to Appomattox. The Civil Rights movement of the 1960s encouraged the agency to emphasize the roles African American troops played in the siege. (Layton 2017: 70, citing Wallace and Conway 1983: 4)

The largest project was the development of a ten-stop tour route completed in 1967. Following World War II, the US Army expanded Fort Lee. As a result, the park Tour Road carried an increased volume of vehicular rush hour traffic. Park planning during the early 1960s converted the remaining segments of the former two-way Tour Road to a one-way road with a multi-use second lane. The revised route resulted in a fifty-percent reduction of local non-visitor through traffic. In addition, visitors could now experience the battlefield chronologically. Finally, the non-vehicular lane was

available to bicyclists, pedestrians, and for short-term parking. The NPS also installed interpretative signage at all ten stops (Figure 15). (Layton 2017: 70)

By the late 1960s, park administrators noticed changes in the way visitors were using the park landscape. Public interest in Civil War history was down following the fervor of the Civil War centennial. Many young adults held anti-military views due to the unpopular Vietnam War. More visitors were playing ball and picnicking in the park's open fields instead of engaging in the interpretation of the battle itself. Indeed, some visitors even used the park tour road as a place to regularly make car repairs. (Layton 2017: 78). To better engage the public, park management developed a series of living history interpretative displays in the late 1960s and early 1970s, including a reconstructed soldier's hut and a permanent interpretation of a soldier's life near Confederate Battery 9. Park management installed a trail for the blind near Confederate Battery 9, using braille interpretive markers, and later relocated it near the visitor center. They also replaced a concrete model of the "Dictator" with a Civil War-period, 13-inch seacoast mortar near Confederate Battery 5 and expanded the artillery display near the Visitor Center. Along Siege Drive between tour stops 3 and 4, park management developed a small picnic area on land formerly used as a dump. (Wallace and Conway 1983: 6-7,16). In 1977, the Battery 5 trail was redesigned, with steps and landing platforms overlooking the Dictator site. Also, during the 1970s, park management acquired numerous land parcels in the southern area of the park along Hickory Hill Road, driven in part by the threat of external development (see Chronology table).

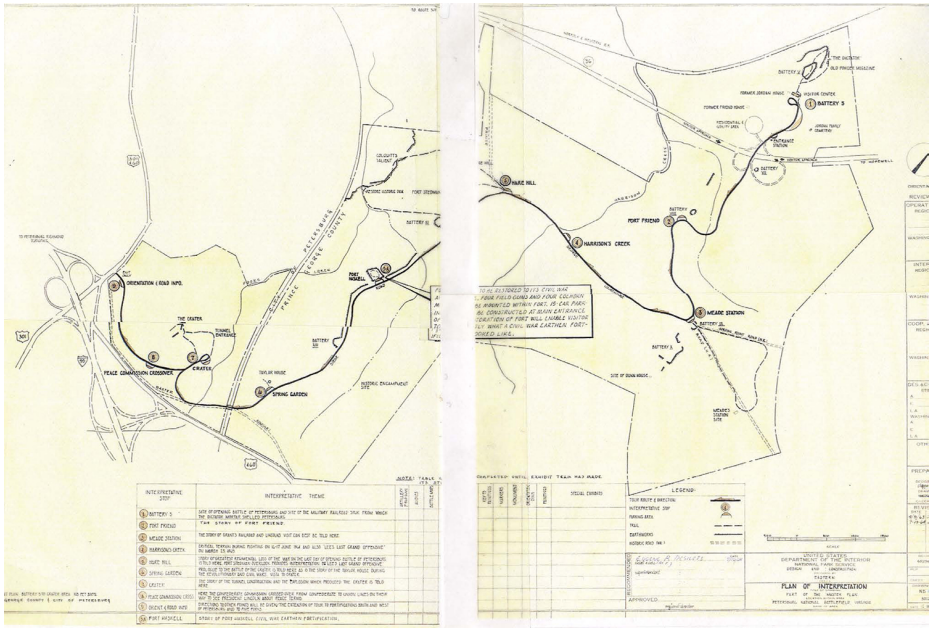



*Figure 15. Plan of Interpretation, 1961. (National Park Service, eTIC)*

**RECENT PARK DEVELOPMENTS**

In the 1990s, the park began offering public walking tours at Crater Battlefield and Fort Stedman. Park management placed markers with audio interpretation at the tour stops to further enhance the self-guided tour. Also, in the 1990s, the NPS acquired 1,116 additional acres leading to the establishment of the Five Forks Unit. More recently, management has updated waysides to better reflect the experiences of all participants on the battlefield; men and women, Union, Confederate, white, Black, and Native American. In 2004 the NPS approved a General Management Plan for Petersburg NB, identifying the cultural landscape of the battlefield as the mechanism by which Civil War stories are told, and recommended a boundary expansion to preserve additional historic landscapes and resources. In 2016, Congressional legislation authorized the expansion of Petersburg NB by 7,238 acres. Ongoing archaeological investigation within the Initial Assaults battlefield is also contributing additional knowledge and understanding of this nationally-significant cultural landscape.

# Uses

### Functions and Uses:

| Major Category | Category | Use/Function | Historic | Current | Primary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Defense | Battle Site | Battle Site | Yes | No | Yes |
| Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | Outdoor Recreation-Other | No | Yes | Yes |
| Defense | Fortification | Battery (Defense) | Yes | No | No |
| Recreation/Culture | Monument (Marker, Plaque) | Monument (Marker, Plaque) | Yes | Yes | No |
| Agriculture/Subsistence | Agricultural Field | Agricultural Field | Yes | No | No |
| Agriculture/Subsistence | Agricultural Outbuilding | Agricultural Outbuilding | Yes | No | No |
| Domestic (Residential) | Single Family Dwelling | Single Family House | Yes | No | No |
| Funerary | Cemetery | Cemetery | Yes | Yes | No |
| Agriculture/Subsistence | Farm (Plantation) | Farm (Plantation) | Yes | No | No |

### Public Access:

**Public Access:** Unrestricted

**Public Access Narrative:**

The Initial Assaults battlefield is open year-round to the public, with the Tour Road and parking areas open from 9 a.m. to dusk. The park contains a 16-stop driving tour that takes visitors through all four units: Grant's Headquarters at City Point, the Eastern Front, the Western Front, and the Five Forks Battlefield. Tour stops within the Initial Assaults battlefield include stops one through three. There are also interpretive and multi-use trails, part of a ten-mile trail system in the Eastern Front unit. Throughout the year, park staff presents various talks, tours, living history demonstrations, and special events. Visitors may explore the battlefield learning from waysides, cell phone tours, and podcasts at some locations.

## Associated Ethnographic Group

**Ethnographic Study Status:** Yes-Unrestricted Information

**Ethnographic Narrative:**

The report, Native American Associations with Petersburg National Battlefield, Virginia, was written in 2006 by Neal L. Trubowitz, PhD, RPA, Anthropologist with the NPS Region 1 Ethnography Program. The objective of the study was to identify Federally-recognized Indian tribes that may attach cultural or religious significance to historic properties within Petersburg NB. According to the study, the archeological record indicated that since at least 6000 BCE. there had been an in-situ development of Virginia Indian cultures that led to the tribes of the Powhatan paramount chiefdom in the Virginia Tidewater at the beginning of the seventeenth century. There were no cultural intrusions from outside the region into Appamatuck (Appomattoc) tribal territory in the Petersburg area until the arrival of the English in 1607. The Appamatuck (Appomattoc) tribe lived in the vicinity of Petersburg NB through the early 18th century, after which they disappeared as a tribal group. (Trubowitz 2006: 5)

In 2016 the Pamunkey tribe gained Federal recognition. In 2018, six additional tribes in Virginia were Federally recognized and the park's superintendent is currently working on initial consultation with the Pamunkey, Chickahominy, Eastern Chickahominy. Additionally, there may be historical connections with the park and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Catawba, and Delaware Nation, and initial consultation letters have also been sent to them. These tribes will determine the degree to which they wish to be involved with consultation regarding NPS management of resources. (Review comments: Schreiner, Dabney, and Morris, 29 August 2021)

# Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

**Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:**

Landscape characteristics identified for the Initial Assaults battlefield include buildings and structures, circulation, natural systems and features, vegetation, views and vistas, and small-scale features. Many of these characteristics have associated features that contribute to the site's overall historic significance and character. The features that contribute were present during the period of significance and retain integrity.

Overall, the Initial Assaults battlefield retains integrity of location, materials, workmanship, and association. Integrity of design and feeling is also retained but diminished by the growth and abundant presence of successional woody vegetation. The cultural landscape lacks integrity of setting due to successional woody vegetation and residential and light commercial development immediately adjacent to the park. The cultural landscape retains sufficient integrity to convey its historic association with the Civil War and the commemoration, preservation, and development of the park landscape.

INTEGRITY

The National Register of Historic Places defines integrity as the ability of a property to convey its significance through physical resources. There are seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Retention of these qualities is necessary for a property to convey its significance; however, not all seven aspects must be present to retain integrity. The following evaluation is based on the primary dates of significance for the Civil War landscape (1864-1865) and the years that followed when the park landscape was established, commemorated, and developed (through 1942). (Layton 2017: 115)

Location:
Location is the place where the cultural landscape was constructed or the landscape where the historic event occurred. The Initial Assaults battlefield contains the core of this Civil War battle but does not encompass all land historically associated with the 1864 battle and subsequent siege. The battlefield retains land acquired through 1942 during the period of commemoration, preservation, and establishment of the park. The initial land acquired for the park in 1929 included 64 acres near Battery 5. In the 1930s, the NPS obtained most of the land included in the Initial Assaults battlefield, including the White Hill parcel. The park in the late 1940s acquired additional land around Siege Road (Park Tour Road). Finally, land parcels at the park's southern end, near Hickory Hill Road, were acquired in the 1970s. All of these parcels contribute to the park's integrity of location.

Design:
Design is the combination of elements that create form, plan, space, structure, and style of a cultural landscape. Primarily in agricultural production before the battle, the battlefield of the Initial Assaults on Petersburg was an open and expansive area with scattered woodlots. The placement of defensive lines and batteries, including the Dimmock Line, was determined by the proximity of the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad to the west (Norfolk Southern Railroad), Harrison Creek bifurcating the battlefield north to south, and what was then the major route of Prince George Courthouse Road crossing the battlefield east to west. Integrity of design has been diminished by the growth of successional woody vegetation that has resulted in a pattern of forest and open space not present at the time of the battle nor the end of the park establishment period. Complete components and partial remnants of earthworks and batteries from the battle era remain and convey the defensive purpose of their design. The design of the historic park landscape, evidenced by the Eastern Front Tour Road between the park entrance station near the Seacoast Mortar at the Dictator Site and Fort Stedman, was constructed so that visitors would follow the Union defensive line.

Setting:
Setting is the physical environment of the cultural landscape. The setting of the Initial Assaults battlefield within park boundaries has changed from the Civil War and park establishment periods due to the growth of successional woody vegetation and the addition of structures to support the administration, interpretation, and maintenance of the park. Residential and light commercial development outside the park, the mid-century military structures associated with Fort Lee, and generally heavy traffic along adjacent roads have also altered the larger cultural landscape setting. (Layton 2017: 106)

Materials:
Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period(s) of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form the cultural landscape. Extant above-ground built materials from the Civil War include earthen defensive lines and batteries. Although wood reinforcements and bracing documented in historic photographs are missing, the earthen structures still convey their military purpose. New materials added since the end of the historic period are limited to interpretive and directional signage, exposed aggregate concrete paving, and composite wood decking at the Powder Magazine at Dictator Site and on bridges along pedestrian trails. These non-historic materials are generally inconspicuous within the overall landscape.

Workmanship:
Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. The Initial Assaults battlefield retains Civil War-era workmanship in the surviving earthen defensive lines and batteries. These earthen structures illustrate the military-technical skills and design used by soldiers in the Initial Assaults battles. The battlefield retains commemorative-era workmanship in the construction of nineteenth-century weapons and early-twentieth-century monuments.

Feeling:
Feeling is a cultural landscape's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. The feeling of a Civil War battlefield remains through the open fields, earthen defensive lines, and batteries. The feeling of a commemorative and national park landscape remains through preservation of the early-twentieth-century Soldiers Spring Monument. However, the Initial Assaults battlefield and adjacent lands are no longer primarily open, agricultural landscapes, resulting in a diminished historic feeling.

Association:
Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a cultural landscape. The Initial Assaults battlefield remains associated with the Civil War through the earthen defensive lines and batteries within its boundaries. The landscape's present management as a National Battlefield in the NPS preserves and strengthens the association with the June 1864 battle and subsequent siege. The landscape also retains its association with the commemoration, preservation, and establishment of the park through the retention of the Soldier's Spring Monument.

The next section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding List of Classified Structures (LCS) and Facility Maintenance Software System (FMSS) names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (1864-1942); is noncontributing "compatible" (visually congruent with the historic character of the landscape) or "incompatible" (visually incongruent with the historic character of the landscape); is undetermined; or is managed as a cultural resource.

**Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures**

Historic Condition (to 1942):
Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape, while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity. Colonists settled major river valleys, including the James and Appomattox Rivers, first. By the late eighteenth century, a string of plantation manors stood on the plateau overlooking the Appomattox River: “Clermont” (Mumford/Munford, Cole, Jordan) and “White Hill” (Mumford/Munford, Turnbull, Gilliam, Friend) were both located on land that would become the battlefield of the Initial Assaults on Petersburg. In addition, the Dunn farm and the Gibbon property, two smaller tracts developed in the mid-nineteenth century, were located on the future battlefield. None of the buildings present at the 1864 battle remain. (Blades et.al. 2001: 4b)

During the Civil War, defensive earthworks and fortifications for both the Union and Confederates dominated the Initial Assaults battlefield landscape. The configuration of these opposing defensive lines was dynamic during the nine-month-long siege, and some were destroyed completely or partially during July 1864. The remnants or sites of Batteries 5 through 9 are within the Initial Assaults battlefield. After the Civil War, many of the earthworks and fortifications, including Battery 10 and Battery 12, were partially obliterated by agricultural plows or from military training uses during the world wars. During World War I, the military built temporary structures on concrete foundations throughout the eastern section of the battlefield and constructed training trenches between Batteries 7 and 8. In 1937, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) built a small building as a museum and guide station near Battery 5. In 1941 the CCC built what us now called Utility Building No. 1 for maintenance uses. (Review comments: Dabney, 29 August 2021)

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Following the end of the period of significance in 1942, the park underwent a period of development associated with the NPS’s Mission 66 program and added a visitor center and a cluster of maintenance buildings. In the 1970s, the park acquired several buildings constructed between the 1950s and the 1970s at the battlefield’s southern end. The following features contribute to the cultural landscape of the Initial Assaults battlefield, and include descriptions from the National Register Nomination for Petersburg National Battlefield, draft 2014 by the Public Archaeology Lab.

Seacoast Mortar at Dictator Site.
The 13-inch Seacoast Mortar is the largest gun used during the Siege of Petersburg. Known as the “Dictator,” it was fired on the city repeatedly during July, August, and September 1864. The present location of the original Dictator is unknown. However, the NPS installed a similar 13-inch seacoast mortar used in the Civil War on the Dictator site in 1969, replacing a concrete replica on the site since 1936 (Figure 16).

Powder Magazine at Dictator Site.
The restored Powder Magazine at the Dictator Site consists of log side walls flanking a vertical board door built into the hillside slightly south of the mortar.

Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 5 / Federal Battery IV.
Confederate Battery 5, later Federal Battery IV, is located on the Eastern Front site near the Norfolk and Southern Front Railroad line, originally the City Point Railroad. The earthen structure has an irregular configuration and measures 350 feet by 200 feet with gun platforms, a magazine, moat, and embankment still evident (Figure 17). The original V-shaped Confederate works, which had 16-gun positions was expanded south of the western magazine as Union troops occupied the position during the siege. (Blades et.al. 2001: 5b). The area to the south of the battery is an open field, while the areas to the east and west are forested. The area to the north of the battery is open to the picket line, which is covered with trees and underbrush, and several large pine trees dot the slope of the hill. The rail line is visible to the north. Although the adjacent land to the north is zoned for industry, the area is well screened with trees, and a 400-foot easement exists between the park boundary and the industrial zone. A paved trail leads through the battery, down the north side of the hill. (NR draft 2014, Sec.7: 14). The original V-shaped Confederate works, which had 16-gun positions was expanded south of the western magazine as Union troops occupied the position

during the siege. (Blades et.al. 2001: 5b)

Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 6.
Continuing along the Dimmock Line to the south, the remains of the former earthen parapet and ditch structure associated with Confederate Battery 6 are located to the east of the Visitor Center parking lot and marked by one cannon (Figure 18). Some very slight traces of Battery 6 are visible near the historic cemetery associated with the Jordan house. The site of the 6-gun battery faced eastward across the ravine of a stream flowing toward the Appomattox River. (Blades et.al. 2001: 5b)

Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 7.
The tour road encircles Confederate Battery 7, which survives as a semicircular mound with a frontal moat and an approximate radius of 50 feet. Remains of a six-gun artillery emplacement also survive (Figure 19). The battery is currently encircled by the park entrance road from the eastbound lane of Route 36. The original 1-gun position, in concert with Battery 6, defended the ravine and lane between the Jordan and Friend houses. (Blades et.al. 2001: 5b)

Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 8 / Union Fort Friend.
Confederate Battery 8, later Union Fort Friend, is located along the park tour road and is surrounded by forest, sited on a bluff spur above a tributary of Harrison Creek. The extant structure reflects the Union occupation (Figure 20). The semi-circular fort, open to the rear, measures 170 feet by 140 feet and originally included a magazine and platforms to accommodate five guns. (Blades et.al. 2001: 5b)

Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 9.
A small remnant of the Confederate Battery 9 earthwork is visible along the Tour Road near the Living History Site, marked by one cannon and an interpretive sign. The battery moat is visible to the north and south of the intersection of the Jordan Point and Prince George Courthouse roads. The battery's location at this key fork in the pre-war road network contributed to its partial destruction after fighting in this area ceased and the roads were re-opened (Figure 21).

Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 10.
Confederate Battery 10 is located in the woods between Battery 9 and Hickory Hill Road and is not distinct in the landscape. The 1941 NPS Master Plan, states that Battery 10 is "partially obliterated" and the tour road is shown traversing the center of the battery.

Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 11.
Confederate Battery 11 are not as distinct in the landscape as Batteries 5 – 9. Like Battery 10, the 1941 National Park Service Master Plan states that Battery 11, near the site of the former Dunn House, was partially obliterated.

Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 12.
Confederate Battery 12 is located in the woods southeast of the site of the former Dunn House. The 1941 Master Plan shows the tour road traversing a portion of the battery earthworks. Earthworks of Battery 12 are visible in the wooded landscape, but they are not distinct.

Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 13.
Confederate Battery 13 is located in the woods south of Battery 12 and east of the Soldiers Spring Monument. Like Battery 12, Battery 13 remains visible in the landscape though it is not distinct.

Hagood Line (Second Confederate Line).
Two segments of the north/south Hagood Line, also known as the Second Confederate Line, have been identified within Eastern Front landscape, one on the Initial Assaults battlefield and the other within the Fort Stedman CLI boundaries. The first section, located northeast of the park headquarters office on Hickory Hill Road, has an outer moat trench and parapet wall that extends approximately 100 feet north-south and 50 feet east-west. It is approximately 4 feet high and 6 feet wide. The second section, by Taylor Creek extends approximately 1,030 feet north-south and 350 feet east-west and is 5 feet high by 8 feet wide. Two bombproofs located adjacent to the line, each

measuring 24 feet square, were likely associated with later Union camps.

Union Earthworks on Friend House Hill.
As Federal troops advanced on June 16, 1864, these field fortifications were constructed along the crest of Friend House hill. The troops dug a ditch in rear and piled earth in front of them to protect them from Confederate troops. Today they are in woods and are in good condition. (Review comments: Dabney, 23 September 2021)

Confederate Earthwork Reversed Later by Federal Infantry.
This earthwork was built by Confederate troops in the overnight hours of June 15-16, 1864 after the initial Confederate defenders were overwhelmed along the Dimmock Line. The earthwork rests alongside Harrison Creek on the west side of the creek. The work shows some signs of having been partly refaced by Federal troops on June 17, 1864 after Confederate troops had fallen back to Hare House hill. The earthwork is in good condition and in woods at present. (Review comments: Dabney, 23 September 2021)

Federal Earthwork, June 16-17, 1864.
This line of earthworks rests along the west side of Harrison Creek near the Friend Trail and north of the Eastern Front Tour Stop 4 parking lot. The fortifications were dug on the evening of June 16, 1864 by U.S. troops in the Fourth Brigade, Second Division, Second Corps comprised of the 8th New York Heavy Artillery, 155th, 164th, 170th, and 182nd New York Infantry regiments following a failed assault on Confederate troops on the west side of Harrison Creek. The earthwork is in good condition and in woods at present. (Review comments: Dabney, 23 September 2021, referencing Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, vol. 40 (1), 377-379)

Federal Artillery Lunettes.
Likely built by Captain Nelson Ames' Battery G, First New York Light Artillery, the lunettes are open at the rear and face west. The positions are located just south of the tour road which in this sector follows the historic Prince George Court House Road. These lunettes are in fair condition and in woods at present. (Review comments: Dabney, 23 September 2021, referencing Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, vol. 40 (1), 422-423)

Federal Covered Way.
One of numerous covered ways, this covered way constructed by Federal troops made possible the movement of men and supplies from the rear across Harrison's Creek to the front. The covered way is eroded in spaces, although it appears the Harrison's Creek valley was used in part to save the troops' energy. It is in a dense woods and in fair condition. (Review comments: Dabney, 23 September 2021)

Federal Double Combat Trenches, June 17, 1864.
Federal troops in the Ninth Corps dug these double lines of trenches while under Confederate musketry fire during the fighting on June 17, 1864. The line is bisected by the Attack Road Trail which is approximately 15.5 ft. wide. A rear parapet earthwork is slightly east of a longer better developed ditch with parapet dirt thrown in front of the ditch. Together these combat trenches reflect the foot by foot fighting that Federal troops were conducting. The rear line was built first under combat and reflects the desperation of digging fortifications while under fire. It is not as high or as long as the forward line. The longer forward earthwork rests alongside the paved entrance lane to the Resource Management Office, and extends approximately 240 ft. from Hickory Hill Road northward to a trail that bisects it from Confederate Battery 13. The earthworks are in fair condition and in woods at present. The forward line is precariously close to the Resource Management driveway which has led to significant erosion and damage from tires. (Review comments: Dabney, 23 September 2021)

Dam.
The construction and history of the dam is unknown and requires additional research. The dam is in good condition and in dense woods at present. (Review comments: Dabney, 23 September 2021)

Utility Building No. 1.

The Utility Building No. 1, completed by the CCC in December 1941, was built in stages to house fire equipment and repair shops. It is located in a clearing in the woods south of the Tour Road, near Harrison Creek. The one-story, concrete-block building measures approximately 25 feet by 70 feet and has a gable roof covered with asbestos shingles. It has an interior and an exterior chimney. Two garage doors are located at the south end of the east elevation. Most of the windows are covered with bars. The building is currently used for maintenance equipment storage and meetings (Figure 22).

World War I Training Trenches.
Approximately 1.5 miles of World War I Training Trenches –generally more traversed, wider, and deeper than Civil War trenches—are located within the Eastern Front site. Constructed between 1917 and 1920 for World War I training exercises at Camp Lee (now Fort Lee), the running lines of traversing trenches with squared, U-shaped offsets are located in the woods to the east of the Tour Road between the Route 36 entrance and the Living History Site. This land became part of Petersburg NB in 1929 (Figure 23).

World War I Era Concrete Reservoir and Building.
This large concrete reservoir is shown on the 1941 Master Plan for Petersburg NB as a “World Ware Concrete Reservoir” and is visible on Google Earth. Note: this feature is not described in the 2014 draft National Register documentation.

Park Entrance Station.
The Park Entrance Station, constructed in the early 1990s, is located along the entrance drive, just inside the park boundary. The 6-foot-by-10-foot brick building has a gable roof. A flagpole stands to the south, and brick planters flank the building on the north and south. The entrance drive continues north to the Visitor Center parking area and loops back to Route 36, where it connects to the Eastern Front Tour Road. (NR draft 2014, Sec.7: 29)

Eastern Front Visitor Center.
The Eastern Front Visitor Center was constructed in 1968. The 7,250-square-foot, two-story building has an octagonal shape that mimics that of a fort, with each face approximately 22 feet. The structural system consists of a steel frame and a combination of brick and concrete masonry unit bearing walls. The building is sited to provide at-grade access on both levels. A truncated, trapezoidal-shaped vestibule approached from the southwest functions as the primary public entrance to the upper level. The vestibule features a pair of glass doors flanked by fixed single-light windows set within a metal frame, as well as two banks of windows at the basement level. The building’s upper walls are solid red-brick laid in a common bond. Two pairs of vertically oriented plate-glass windows are located at the intersection of two north-facing walls overlooking Battery 5. The lower-level window-walls are set back from the upper-level wall plane, leaving solid corners to support the subtracted mass. The flat roof, large expanses of glass set in metal frames, and absence of decorative elements contribute to the Visitor Center’s contemporary appearance. The Visitor Center has experienced very little change since its construction, with the exception of modifications to the restrooms on the lower level for accessibility (Figure 24).

Maintenance Shed & Carpenter Shop.
The central maintenance area is located immediately west of the park entrance, just north of the Park Entrance Station. A chain-link fence encloses the area, and trees partially screen it from view. The NPS constructed two one-story, six-bay, rectangular brick buildings—the Maintenance Shed and the Carpenter Shop—between 1966 and 1968 as part of the Mission 66 development program. Both buildings are oriented lengthwise north to south and face each other across a 35-foot-wide paved work yard. They have shallow-pitched gable roofs covered with asphalt shingles and concrete slab foundations. The Maintenance Shed, the eastern building, measures 97 feet by 32 feet, while the Carpenter Shop measures 73 feet by 24 feet. Between 1989 and 1997, a number of alterations and small-scale additions were made to these buildings. The two southernmost bays of the Maintenance Shed were enclosed with a wooden wall. A lean-to structure was added at the south end of the building, and a paint shed was added to the north end. A room was added on the east side (rear) of the building, beginning at the north end and extending half the length of this elevation. The south bay of the Carpenter Shop was also enclosed with a wooden wall, a

pedestrian door added, and two additional open bays were constructed at the north end. A roof overhang was added on the west side to cover fuel storage and the furnace room. The fourth bay from the south end was enclosed with a wooden wall. The interiors of both buildings have been altered to create office space (Figure 25).

Equipment Parking Shed 1 and 2, and Vehicle Repair Building.
The NPS constructed the Equipment Parking Shed 1 to the west of the Carpenter Shop between 1989 and 1997. The one-story, rectangular brick building has a similar form and massing to the two earlier buildings, with a side-gable roof covered in asphalt shingles and a concrete slab foundation. It features half-lit overhead garage doors in each of the five bays along the east elevation. In 2006, the park added two more buildings to the maintenance area, including the Equipment Parking Shed – 2 and the Vehicle Repair Building. Both are located on axis with and north of the Equipment Parking Shed – 1. Both are large, double-height, rectangular warehouses with side-gabled roofs constructed of standing-seam metal. The Equipment Parking Shed – 2, directly adjacent to the Equipment Parking Shed – 1, has three open bays along the east elevation. The Vehicle Repair Building is fully enclosed, with two metal overhead garage doors, a pedestrian door, a set of paired vinyl casement windows along the east elevation, and a brick water table.

1429 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #29].
The building at 1429 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #29] is a one-story, three-bay, wood-frame house constructed c.1955. It is part of the western most cluster of administrative buildings in the park which includes three employee residences and two associated garages. This building, a typical Colonial Revival Cape Cod, has a side-gable roof clad in composition shingles, with two gabled dormers on the south slope; vinyl siding; and a brick foundation. A gabled hood supported by decorative metal posts shelters the central entrance. The windows are six-over-six, double-hung wood sash.

Quarters #29 Garage.
The Quarters #29 Garage, also constructed c.1955, is a one-story, one-bay, concrete-block garage northeast of the house. It has a standing-seam metal, front-gable roof with exposed rafter tails, and the gable ends are clad in vertical boards.

1431 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #77].
The home at 1431 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #77] is a one-story, L-shaped, wood-frame ranch house, constructed c.1967. The cross-gabled roof is clad in asphalt shingles, and the walls are clad in a pink-and-white permastone veneer. A large exterior chimney is centered on the south elevation, and a small gable-roof addition extends south from the wall west of the chimney. The main entrance in the east elevation opens onto a three-bay porch with metal railings. The windows are one-over-one, double-hung wood sash. The east-west portion of the house includes an integral two-car garage.

1445 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #34].
The house at 1445 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #34] is a one-story, three-bay, brick building, constructed c. 1950. The Colonial Revival Cape Cod has a side-gable roof clad in composition shingles with two gabled dormers on the south slope. The center entrance opens onto a small concrete stoop with metal railings, and a second entrance in the east side elevation opens onto a wood-railed porch with ramp access. Windows include six-over-six, double-hung wood sash and a fixed picture window.

Quarters #34 Garage.
The Quarters #34 Garage, also constructed c.1950, is a one-story, one-bay, concrete-block building northeast of the house. The front-gabled roof is clad in composition shingles, and a double board-and-batten door is centered in the south wall.

1505 Hickory Hill Road [Ranger Station].
The building at 1505 Hickory Hill Road [Ranger Station], constructed c.1955, is a one-story, three-bay, brick house with a large side-gable wing attached to the northeast corner. The front-gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and has two small brick ridge chimneys. The center entrance opens onto

a wide porch with a concrete floor and a half-hip-roof supported by four tapered wood columns set on brick piers. A large pyramidal-roof enclosed porch extends from the rear (north) elevation.

Ranger Station Storage Building.
The Ranger Station Storage Building northwest of the house at 1505 Hickory Hill Road is a one-story, front-gable building clad in vinyl siding.

1539 Hickory Hill Road [Headquarters Building].
The building at 1539 Hickory Hill Road [Headquarters Building], constructed c.1974, is a one-story, brick, ranch house with a side-gable roof clad in composition shingles. A short hyphen attached to the northwest end of the rear elevation connects the house to a brick front-gable garage. The original garage door in the east elevation has been infilled with board siding and a pedestrian door. A shallow shed-roof porch with scrollwork iron posts extends across three bays of the façade (Figure 26).

Pump House Tack Room.
The Pump House Tack Room is a small concrete-block building located at the far north end of the pasture behind the Ranger Station house. It has a side-gable roof clad in asphalt shingles, two entrances, and small rectangular windows (Figure 27).

1835 Hickory Hill Road [Resource Management].
The building at 1835 Hickory Hill Road [Resource Management] is a one-story, three-bay, concrete-block house, constructed c.1956, with a small addition on the west side and a short breezeway on the east side connecting to a garage. The side-gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and has three gabled dormers on each slope. Colonial Revival detailing includes a dentilated cornice with deep returns along the facade and sidelights with pilasters flanking the central entrance.

Resource Management Storage Building.
The Resource Management Storage Building is a large one-story, utilitarian building located slightly southwest of the house. The front-gable roof and walls are clad in standing-seam metal, and a large sliding metal door is centered in the east elevation.

Living History Site Replica Structures.
The NPS developed the Living History Site, located near Confederate Battery 9, between 1969 and 1972 to reflect soldier's living and fighting conditions during the Civil War siege. The site's largest feature is a replica of a small Civil War lunette built with fraises and a picket trench. A replica bombproof is located on the southeast side of the fort. Other replica structures at the site include a sutler's store (converted to quarters in 2009), several lean-to sunshades, and a soldier's hut. (NR draft 2014: Sec.7: 28)

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Seacoast Mortar at Dictator Site | 194334 | Contributing | | | Asset | 40991 | Yes |
| Powder Magazine at Dictator Site | 194335 | Contributing | 081730 | | | | No |
| Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 5 / Federal Battery IV | 194336 | Contributing | 006764 | | Location | 21850 | Yes |
| Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 6 | 194337 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 7 | 194338 | Contributing | 006766 | | Location | 21900 | Yes |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 8 / Union Fort Friend | 194339 | Contributing | 006767 | | Location | 21799 | Yes |
| Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 9 | 194340 | Contributing | | | Location | 21802 | Yes |
| Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 10 | 194341 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 11 | 194342 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 12 | 194343 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Dimmock Line - Confederate Battery 13 | 194344 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Hagood Line / Second Confederate Line | 194345 | Contributing | 081697 | | | | No |
| Utility Building No. 1 | 194346 | Contributing | 081729 | | Location | 22833 | No |
| World War I Training Trenches | 194347 | Contributing | 006775 | | | | No |
| Park Entrance Station | 194348 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 22903 | No |
| Eastern Front Visitor Center | 194349 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 24625 | Yes |
| Maintenance Shed | 194350 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 22883 | No |
| Carpenter Shop | 194351 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 23021 | Yes |
| Equipment Parking Shed - 1 | 194352 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 23035 | No |
| Equipment Parking Shed - 2 | 194353 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 23035 | No |
| Vehicle Repair Building | 194354 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 97367 | Yes |
| 1429 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #29] | 194355 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 242272 | No |
| Quarters #29 Garage | 194356 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 242272 | No |
| 1431 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #77] | 194357 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 242272 | No |
| 1445 Hickory Hill Road [Quarters #34] | 194358 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 242272 | No |
| Quarters #34 Garage | 194359 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 242272 | No |
| 1505 Hickory Hill Road [Ranger Station] | 194360 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 45264 | Yes |
| Ranger Station Storage Building | 194361 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 45388 | Yes |
| Pump House Tack Room | 194362 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 47253 | No |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1539 Hickory Hill Road [Headquarters Building] | 194363 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 45365 | Yes |
| 1835 Hickory Hill Road [Resource Management] | 194364 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 45363 | Yes |
| Resource Management Storage Building | 194365 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 226344 | Yes |
| Comfort Station | 194366 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | | | No |
| Living History Site Replica Structures | 194367 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | | | No |
| Union Earthworks on Friend House Hill | 194368 | Undetermined | | | | | No |
| Confederate Earthwork Reversed Later by Federal Infantry | 194369 | Undetermined | | | | | No |
| Federal Earthwork June 16 -17, 1864 | 194370 | Undetermined | | | | | No |
| Federal Artillery Lunettes | 194371 | Undetermined | | | | | No |
| Federal Covered Way | 194372 | Undetermined | | | | | No |
| Federal Double Combat Trenches. June 17, 1864 | 194373 | Undetermined | | | | | No |
| Dam | 194374 | Undetermined | | | | | No |
| World War I Concrete Reservoir and Building | 194375 | Undetermined | | | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 16. Sea Coast Mortar, Mortar Loop Trail looking northwest from near Sea Coast Mortar Powder Magazine. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 17. Mortar Loop Trail, Confederate Battery 5 / Federal Battery IV looking northwest from Dimmock Line. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 18. Confederate Battery 6 / Dimmock Line looking north. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 19. Confederate Battery 7 / Dimmock Line, looking northwest. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 20. Confederate Battery 8 / Union Fort Friend, looking north. (OCLP, 2021)*




*Figure 21. Confederate Battery 9 / Dimmock Line. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 22. Utility Building No. 1, east front facade, looking west. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 23. World War I Training Trenches, near Battery 7, looking northwest. (OCLP, 2021)*




*Figure 24. Eastern Front Visitor Station, looking east with small scale features, fencing and armament in the foreground. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 25. Maintenance complex including the Maintenance Shed, Office, and Carpenters Shop, looking east. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 26. Park Administrative Headquarters Building, 1505 Hickory Hill Road, facing north. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 27. Pump House Tack Room, looking north. (OCLP, 2021)*

**Landscape Characteristic: Circulation**

Historic Condition (to 1942):

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. The placement of both Confederate and Union defensive lines and batteries was influenced by the railroads, county roads, and farm lanes that crossed the battlefield landscape. During the siege, these included Petersburg and City Point Railroad, Jordan Point Road, Prince George Courthouse Road, Shand House Road, the Boundary Lane between White Hall and Clermont, and numerous farm lanes connecting properties to more major transportation routes.

In the decades following the Civil War, the farm lanes and roads that traversed the battlefield did not change drastically. During World War I, when Camp Lee used the former battlefield for training, new roads were built to connect temporary structures throughout the eastern half of the property. Later these were removed by the NPS. However, by 1942, as documented in the NPS Master Plan for Petersburg Battlefield, the circulation system had changed quite dramatically. Petersburg Hopewell Highway/State Route 36 extended across the park in approximately its current alignment, with the Petersburg Hopewell Railroad running adjacent. The CCC had recently constructed Mortar Road around Battery 5 and the tour road south of State Route 36. Then called Attack Road, the tour road between State Route 36 and Prince George Courthouse Road trace was in its approximate location. However, by 1942, the tour road continued south through and adjacent to Batteries 10 through 13 before connecting with roads beyond the park's boundaries. Today, this segment of the former tour road (Attack Road) is a pedestrian path. The 1941 Master Plan also identified bridle trails in the park, many located in the alignment of former roads. Many of these bridle trails are pedestrian paths today.

Post Historic and Existing Conditions:
In the 1950s and 1960s, park management altered the primary vehicular route by closing the tour road between Battery 9 and Battery 12 and the entrance to Siege Road from State Route 36. Concurrently, an overpass was built over Route 36, seamlessly connecting the entire tour road between Battery 5 and the Crater in the southwestern end of the park.

Overall, circulation retains historic character for the Civil War and commemorative and park establishment contexts. Major historic circulation features, such as the traces of Prince George County Road, Shands House Road, and Jordan Point Road, have been incorporated into the existing circulation system. Contemporary circulation features for visitor access and enjoyment do not detract from historic landscape character.

Eastern Front Civil War Road Network - Prince George Courthouse Road Trace.
Prince George Courthouse Road (labeled Old Norfolk and Petersburg State Road on the 1863 Campbell Map) was constructed between the City Point Road east of Petersburg and the small hamlet of legal offices and the county court, known as Prince George Court House, likely in the third quarter of the eighteenth century. Near the point where Confederate Dimmock Battery 9 was constructed during the Civil War, Prince George Courthouse Road divided into two forks. The south fork led to the courthouse, while the north fork, called Jordan's Point Road, led east to Jordan's Point on the James River. Both Jordan's Point Road and Prince George Courthouse Road are shown on the 1797 boundary survey. (Prince George County Surveyor's Record 1797: 22). Prince George Courthouse Road is bordered by a single line or allee of trees on either side of the road, on the 1864-1865 Map of the Siege of Petersburg.

Prince George Courthouse Road was retained when Camp Lee was created and currently extends through Fort Lee. However, the 1941 Park Master Plan identified the road section between the tour road east to the park's boundary for removal as an active road. From the eastern park boundary to Battery 9, the trace of the former road is preserved as part of the park trail system and can be identified as a road trace by the trail's width. At the same time, the modern park tour road overlies the trace of Prince George Courthouse Road from Battery 9 across Harrison Creek to the Hare house site (Figure 28). At the site of the former Hare House (in the Fort Stedman CLI), the trace of Prince George Courthouse Road, which visitors use for hiking, turns northwestward to intersect with City Point Road (Route 645).

Eastern Front Civil War Road Network - Jordan Point Road Trace.

Like Prince George Courthouse Road, Jordan Point Road was likely constructed in the third quarter of the eighteenth century. It split from Prince George County Road near Battery 9 and led east to Jordan's Point on the James River. Jordan Point Road was eliminated east of the park with the creation of Camp Lee in the early twentieth century. Today, Jordan Point Road trace is incorporated into the park trail system and visually reveals its former use through its width (Figure 29).

Boundary Lane Trace.
A boundary lane is indicated on the 1797 boundary survey and ran between "Clermont" and "White Hill." (Prince George County Surveyor's Record 1797 :22). This lane is also shown on the early and mid-nineteenth century maps connecting City Point Road to the west with Jordan's Point Road to the east. In June 1864, the lane and the ravine through which it ran provided a vital route to invading Union troops. Union forces advanced from the James River on June 15 and assaulted the Dimmock line at several points. (Beauregard 1887: 540-541). The lane is also shown on the late nineteenth-century USGS map (USGS 1894) and the National Park Service 1935 topographic map when it provided access to the concrete loading platforms adjacent to the railroad tracks. The NPS ultimately closed this road, but the abandoned trace still extends through the ravine between the maintenance center and the visitors center. (Blades et.al. 2001: 4b)

Eastern Front Civil War Road Network - Shand House Road Trace.
During the time of the battle, Shand House Road led to the Shand's plantation, located south of the current boundaries of the park, on a 100-foot elevation plateau above Harrison Creek, west of and behind Dimmock Battery 14. On the 1860 census, Sarah Shand was identified as the owner of the property and described as a "farmer" with two children and real estate valued at $7,000. (U.S. Census, Prince George County: 62). The 1860 personal property tax records indicate that the Shand family enslaved ten adults. According to maps contemporary with the time of the battle, including the 1863 Campbell Map, the Engineer maps of 1864 and 1866, and the Michler Map of 1867, the lane extended south from Prince George Courthouse Road to the Shand property. The frequency with which this lane was depicted on Civil War-era maps may reflect its importance as a means of communication behind the siege line and for the access it provided to Union encampment areas and command centers. The buildings associated with the Shand property were destroyed during the siege. (Blades et.al. 2001: 4c). A portion of this road trace is incorporated into a section of the Encampment Trail within the Initial Assaults battlefield.

Eastern Front Tour Road.
Construction of the Tour Road began in 1932 and continued piecemeal by the War Department, NPS, and CCC over the next decade as the federal government acquired land and funding. By 1942, a tour route within the battlefield of the Initial Assaults consisted of multiple unconnected sections: a gravel roadway north of Route 36 (Mortar Road), a two-way road between Route 36 and Jordan Point Road, and an extension of the main tour road (Attack Road) south from Battery 9 to Battery 12. The section of the road between Battery 9 and Battery 12 is no longer in use. Mission 66 improvements included converting the two-way road to a one-way tour route and connecting the Crater site to Battery 5. Since the tour road differs markedly from its original alignment and lacks integrity to the early park development period, it is considered a non-contributing resource (Figure 30). (NR draft 2014, Sec.7: 26)

Park Administration Access Roads from Hickory Hill Road.
Private owners developed the parcels adjacent to Hickory Hill Road, at the southern end of the park, as residential properties from the 1950s to the 1970s. The park acquired the properties in the 1970s, and the park currently uses the buildings for administration. The drives that connect the buildings on these parcels to Hickory Hill Road likely date from the properties' development in the mid-twentieth century. The question of whether these service drives share an alignment with earlier farm lanes requires analysis beyond the scope of this report.

Pedestrian Trails.
The trail system in Petersburg NB separates uses into three categories: multi-use trail, including horses; hiking-biking trails; and interpretive trails. The majority of the trails through the Initial Assaults battlefield are multi-use trails. Segments of these trails, for instance, the trail northeast of

Prince George Courthouse Road trace (Friend Multi-Use Trail), appear to align with bridle trails mapped on the 1941 Master Plan for Petersburg NB. In turn, many of the bridle trails shown on the Master Plan aligned with former roads. These roads were likely related to the Army's land use during and following World War I. Park planners and users may have incorporated minor nineteenth-century boundary and farm lanes into park trails. In addition, some segments, like the Mortar Trail, which follows the path of the 1930s Mortar Road, are in the alignment of early park circulation routes. Further research, beyond the scope of this Cultural Landscape Inventory, is necessary to determine the history of each trail segment.

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eastern Front Civil War Road Network - Prince George Courthouse Road Trace (portion) | 194376 | Contributing | 006796 | | Location | 22444 | Yes |
| Eastern Front Civil War Road Network - Jordan Point Road Trace | 194377 | Contributing | 017270 | | Location | 22742 | Yes |
| Boundary Lane Trace | 194378 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Eastern Front Civil War Road Network - Shand House Road Segment | 194379 | Contributing | 081714 | | Location | 22861 | Yes |
| Eastern Front Tour Road | 194380 | Noncontributing – Compatible | 081728 | | Location | 22461 | No |
| Park Administration Access Roads from Hickory Hill Road | 194381 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Location | 22993 | No |
| Pedestrian Trails | 194382 | Undetermined | | | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 28. Prince George Courthouse Road Trace, facing northwest. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 29. Jordan Point Road Trace, facing northeast, USCT monument on right of photograph. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 30. Eastern Front Tour Road,facing east near Fort Friend. (OCLP, 2021)*

**Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features**

Historic Condition (to 1942):
Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation.
The defining natural system of the Initial Assaults battlefield is Harrison's Creek and the valley cut by this watercourse, as well as the many small seasonal streams that meandered through the agricultural landscape during the time of the siege. Harrison's Creek runs through a valley between Fort Stedman and the boundary between the City of Petersburg and Prince George County. The creek influenced the placement of the Union and Confederate defensive lines, and it provided cover during the during the Initial Assaults battles. The creek, valley, and accompanying swampy bottomlands remained largely unchanged after the end of the war and through the end of the historic period (Figure 31).

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Since the end of the historic period, additional successional vegetation has grown within the creek corridor, primarily west of Battery 8. Except where trees were removed for timber or to open lines of fire during the siege, much of the stream valley was wooded during period of significance. It remains so today.

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harrison Creek | 192010 | Contributing | | | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 31. Harrison Creek, facing south, with Harrison Creek Trail visible on the left side of the photograph. (OCLP, 2021)*

**Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation**

Historic Conditions (to 1942):
Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. Before the battle and throughout the Petersburg Campaign, the Initial Assaults battlefield consisted of open fields and wooded swales and hillsides. East of the Dimmock Line, the trees were cleared to improve the fields of fire and provide materials for defensive lines and batteries. West of Batteries 10 through 13, Harrison Creek and its many seasonal streams created a boggy landscape that was difficult to cultivate. According to the Map of the Seige of Petersburg 1864-1865, the stream corridors remained wooded. In contrast to the wooded landscape in the stream corridors, the primary roads were surrounded by fields, with an allee of trees bordering Prince George Courthouse Road. Period photographs and maps reveal orchards growing on plantation properties at the northern end of the battlefield, including the Clermont/Jordan House, White Hill/Friend House, and the Dunn farm, and confirm the open character of these agricultural landscapes.

By late in the period of historic significance, the CCC had cleared woody vegetation around Batteries 5 and 6 within the Initial Assaults battlefield. In the 1941 Master Plan, the National Park Service identified extensive areas for clearing to restore historic viewsheds between the sites of historic farms and plantations, batteries, and forts within the battlefield. With the onset of World War II, however, park management did not have the capacity to clear many of these viewsheds.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Though the Master Plan prescribed extensive vegetation clearing, even maintaining battle-era open, agricultural land was difficult for park management given the nation's personnel and budgetary focus on World War II. Successional woody vegetation continued to fill formerly open land, while the park focused its maintenance around Batteries 5 and 6 and along interest points on the mission 66 auto tour route stops.

Overall, vegetation does not retain historic character for the Civil War and commemorative and park establishment contexts. Although key areas around Batteries 5 and 6 have remained open turf, large portions of the park that were open in agricultural production during the siege through the end of the historic period are now covered by successional woody vegetation.

Fields and Meadows.
Both the 1863 Gilmer Map and 1865 Michler Map show that agricultural fields and open, non-forested areas dominated the landscape to the east of the Dimmock Line and on lands of the former Friend, Jordan, Dunn, and Gibben properties. Following the Civil War, continued cultivation maintained fields and meadows as open areas, while woods continued to grow in the swampy stream corridors. Over time, as agriculture practice was reduced, successional woody vegetation encroached and reduced the size of open fields and meadows in the former battlefield after World War II. Presently, the fields and meadows in the project area east of the Dimmock Line and north of Prince George Courthouse Road reflect a fraction of the open area during the battle (Figure 32).

Woodland within Stream Corridor.
Historic maps from the siege period reveal woodlands growing within the corridors associated with Harrison Creek and its tributaries. This woodland provided both cover for and concealment of forces during the battle and siege.

Successional Woodlands.
Based on the 1865 Michler Map, approximately half of the Initial Assaults battlefield landscape was wooded or forested at the end of the Petersburg Campaign, primarily in the swales and valleys of Harrison Creek and its small seasonal tributaries. The Friend, Jordan, and Dunn properties in the project area were primarily farm fields and orchards. Successional woodlands developed after the battle and grew at varying rates as farmers no longer cultivated agricultural fields. Successional woodland growth accelerated with World War II as the war effort limited available materials and labor. Existing conditions mapping records that approximately 90% of the CLI project landscape is presently wooded.

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fields and Meadows | 192011 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Woodlands within Stream Corridor | 192012 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Successional Woodland | 192013 | Noncontributing – Incompatible | | | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 32. Herbaceous and grassy vegetation in an open meadow near Battery 5, facing northwest. (OCLP, 2021)*

**Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas**

Historic Conditions (to 1942):
Views and vistas are the prospect created by a range of vision in a landscape, conferred by the composition of other landscape characteristics and associated features. In June 1864, Union and Confederate forces established defensive lines, artillery batteries, and picket lines on the Initial Assaults battlefield. The land had been primarily in agricultural production, lacked large areas of woody vegetation except for the swales associated with Harrison Creek, and afforded views for observing the enemy, directing troop movements, and firing artillery. Following the end of the Civil War, cultivation of open fields kept the trees from growing, preserving some siege-related views on the Initial Assaults battlefield. By the time the NPS produced the 1941 Master Plan, successional vegetation had grown within previously open viewsheds. Indeed, the Master Plan identified numerous historic views recommended for restoration through the removal of successional vegetation. These views included:

Battery 5 to Petersburg; White Hill House site to Massachusetts Monument on Crater Battlefield; White Hill House site to Fort Stedman; Battery 8 to Siege Road; Battery 8 to Maine Monument; Battery 8 to Fort Stedman; Battery 8 to Massachusetts Monument; Battery 8 to the Crater; Battery 11 (former site of Dunn House) to Fort Stedman; Battery 11 (former site of Dunn House) to Crater Battlefield; and Battery 11 (former site of Dunn House) to Massachusetts Monument.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
After 1942, while the park maintained cleared areas around some of the batteries, accelerated growth of successional woody vegetation encroached upon or completely obscured these identified battle-era views. The park presently maintains essential views east from Fort Stedman into the Initial Assaults battlefield to help define the spatial relationships between the Union and Confederate forces during the battle (Figure 33). However, most tactical views and fields of fire from the Civil War period do not retain their historic character due to the growth of successional woody vegetation.

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tactical views west to Fort Stedman from the Initial Assaults Battlefield | 192014 | Contributing | | | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 33. Tactical views between Fort Stedman and the Initial Assault Battlefield, view from Fort Stedman northeast towards the Prince George Courthouse Road Trace. (OCLP, 2021)*

**Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features**

Historic Condition (to 1942):
Small-scale features are the elements providing detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in a landscape. Small-scale features from the Civil War were likely ephemeral, supported daily life behind a defensive line or in a fortification, and did not survive long after the war's conclusion. Multiple fence lines likely traversed the landscape after the Civil War to divided distinct fields and agricultural working areas. The Jordan Family cemetery, though established in the late 19th century during the period of significance, does not relate to the historic themes defined within the National Register nomination for Petersburg Battlefield. Therefore, it is noncontributing. In 1912, survivors of the IX Corps regiment erected the Soldiers' Spring Monument, located in the woods northwest of the Resource Management Office on Hickory Hill Road. Before transferring ownership to the NPS in 1933, the War Department may have installed signage at the battlefield to identify features.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Following the period of significance, several monuments and memorials were erected in the park. These include a Confederate Unknown Monument in 1960, and a USCT Monument erected in 1993 to honor the United States Colored Troops (USCT) who served in the Army of the James and the Army of the Potomac. In addition, the Mather monument was erected in 1930, which though it predates the end of the period of significance, is noncontributing as it does not relate to the park's identified historic themes.

Contemporary small-scale features have been added to the landscape and are primarily designed to support park operations and interpretation. These include cannons, fences, and directional and

interpretive signage. No small-scale features remain today from the Civil War at the Initial Assaults battlefield. Monuments installed during the early twentieth century retain historic character for the commemorative and park establishment context. Contemporary small-scale features introduced by the park for operations and interpretation are generally inconspicuous and do not distract from the integrity of the park landscape. (Layton 2017: 125,138-142)

Soldiers' Spring Monument.
The Soldiers' Spring Monument marks the spring used by the 209th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry during the siege. Survivors of the IX Corps regiment erected the monument, located in the woods northwest of the Resource Management Office on Hickory Hill Road, in October 1912. Two flights of curving concrete steps set into a slope provide access to the monument, consisting of a 3-ft-square concrete spring box (Figure 34). A bronze marker on top of the concrete base bears the following inscription in raised letters:
SPRING USED BY THE
209TH REGT. PENN. VOLS.
DURING THE
SIEGE OF PETERSBURG
1864 – 1865
ERECTED OCT. 1912 BY
F.H. BARKER
M.A. EMBICK
S.W. JONES

Confederate Unknown Monument.
On September 23, 1960, Mrs. W.H. Evans erected the Confederate Unknown Monument to honor three unknown Confederate dead buried on her property. Located in the woods southwest of the Resource Management Office on Hickory Hill Road, the monument consists of a slender slab of granite that measures 2 feet wide, 5 inches thick, and 1 foot high. The sides are rough-cut, while the front and rear are smooth-faced. One side of the monument bears the inscription: "To The Unknown Confederate Dead, They Fought a Good Fight."

USCT Monument.
The USCT Monument was erected in 1993 to honor the United States Colored Troops (USCT) who served in the Army of the James and the Army of the Potomac during the Siege of Petersburg. The granite monument is located at the intersection of the Prince George Courthouse Road Trace and the Jordan Point Road Trace. It consists of an 8-inch-thick, 3-foot, 4-inch tall light gray monolithic stone mounted on a 6-foot, 1-inch tall, and 5-foot long granite base. The sides of the monument are rough cut, while the front and rear faces are smooth. The west face bears the incised inscription:
IN MEMORY OF
THE VALOROUS SERVICE OF REGIMENTS
AND COMPANIES
OF THE U. S. COLORED TROOPS
ARMY OF THE JAMES
AND ARMY OF THE POTOMAC
SIEGE OF PETERSBURG
1864 – 65

Jordan Family Cemetery.
The Jordan Family Cemetery is located within an overgrown, wooded area on the east side of the Visitor Center parking lot. A board fence encloses the approximately 24-foott-square burial ground. During the Petersburg siege, this land belonged to Josiah Jordan, buried here with his parents, his wife Mary, and four of their children: Watson, ten months; Laura, three years; Charles, four months; and Lemuel, 24 years. Three marble markers with rounded tops locate these graves, all of which date to the second half of the nineteenth century. Two of the stones bear the maker's mark "JH Brown" on the back. Two are held together with iron frames. Josiah and Mary's stones measure 1 foot, 2 inches wide by 3 feet, 2 inches high. The children's stone measures 1 foot, 8 inches wide by 4 feet, 3 inches high and 2 inches thick. They are inscribed with incised lettering (Figure 35).

Powder Magazine and Revetment.
A Powder Magazine and Revetment constructed as part of the World War I training exercises at Camp Lee (1917–1920) are located in the woods to the north of the Living History Site. Although the magazine and revetment structure were built during the park's period of significance, it is counted as a noncontributing resource because of its poor condition and lack of integrity. The one-room magazine measures 9 feet by 12 feet and is approximately 10 feet high. It has a single metal door on the west side and a gable roof with a ventilator. The revetment consists of two crescent-shaped earthworks, measuring approximately 30 feet long and 4 feet high, that encircle the powder magazine.

Mather Monument.
The Mather Monument, located adjacent to the main walkway, consists of a bronze tablet attached to the slanted top face of an approximately 3-foot-high rectangular brick base. The tablet, created in 1930, bears the profile of Stephen T. Mather, the first director of the NPS, in relief against a scenic mountain background above the following inscription:
HE LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK
SERVICE, DEFINING AND ESTABLISHING THE POLICIES
UNDER WHICH ITS AREAS SHALL BE DEVELOPED AND
CONSERVED UNIMPAIRED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.
THERE WILL NEVER COME AN END TO THE GOOD THAT
HE HAS DONE.

The monument was installed at its current site when the Visitor Center complex was constructed in the late 1960s. Additional paths lead north from the main walkway to Confederate Battery 5, Mortar Loop Road, and the Dictator site. (NR draft 2014, Sec.7: 29)

Reproduction fencing, interpretative and directional signage, and cannons are located near the visitor center and near many of the Confederate batteries. These were installed after the period of significance and thus are non-contributing (Figure 36).

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Soldiers' Spring Monument | 194383 | Contributing | 006798 | | Asset | 304353 | Yes |
| Confederate Unknown Monument | 194384 | Noncontributing – Compatible | 081696 | | Asset | 304459 | Yes |
| USCT Monument | 194385 | Noncontributing – Compatible | 081727 | | | | No |
| Jordan Family Cemetery | 194386 | Noncontributing – Compatible | 006817 | | Asset | 304441 | Yes |
| Revetment | 194387 | Noncontributing – Compatible | 081731 | | Asset | 356457 | Yes |
| Mather Monument | 194388 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 304406 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Artillery Tube, Bronze, 12 pdr. Napoleon, visitor center | 194389 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1484813 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Carriage, Steel, Type 1., 5.72 FT, 7.25 FT, Visitor Center | 194390 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1484823 | Yes |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fixed Artillery, Carriage, Steel, Type 1., 5.72 FT, 7.25 FT, Battery 5 | 194391 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1463392 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Carriage, Steel, Type 1., 5.72 FT, 7.25 FT, Battery 8 | 194392 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1463401 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Carriage, Steel, Type 2., 5.58 FT, 8.16 FT, Battery 5 | 194393 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1463393 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194394 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461223 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194395 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461226 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194396 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461228 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194397 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461229 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194398 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461230 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194399 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461231 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194400 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461232 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194401 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461233 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194402 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461234 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194403 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461235 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194404 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461236 | Yes |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194405 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461237 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194406 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461238 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Small Cannon Block, 2.83 FT, 3.67 LF, Battery 5 | 194407 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461240 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Med. Cannon Block, 3.33 FT, 4.25 FT, Battery 5 | 194408 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461244 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Med. Cannon Block, 3.33 FT, 4.25 FT, Battery 5 | 194409 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461246 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Med. Cannon Block, 3.33 FT, 4.25 FT, Battery 5 | 194410 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461247 | Yes |
| Fixed Artillery, Other, Concrete, Med. Cannon Block, 3.33 FT, 4.25 FT, Battery 5 | 194411 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1461249 | Yes |
| Reproduction Fencing near batteries and along Paths | 194412 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | | | No |
| Wayside, Upright, Aluminum, Laminate Plastic, "Siege of Petersburg Grant's Offensive" | 194413 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1243682 | Yes |
| Wayside, Low Profile, Aluminum, Fiberglass, "Battery 5 Trail" | 194414 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1243683 | Yes |
| Wayside, Low Profile, Aluminum, Fiberglass, "Uprooted by War" | 194415 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1243684 | Yes |
| Wayside, Low Profile, Aluminum, Fiberglass, "Battery 5 of the Dimmock Line" | 194416 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1243685 | Yes |
| Wayside, Other, Aluminum, Porcelain Enamel, "Opportunity Lost (Battery 5)" | 194417 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1243686 | Yes |
| Wayside, Upright, Aluminum, Laminate Plastic, "A Prelude to Petersburg" | 194418 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1243729 | Yes |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sign, Identification, Other, Aluminum, ADA Restroom Signage, Visitor Center | 194419 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 1488917 | Yes |
| Sign, Metal, Earthworks, Battery 5 Interpretive Trail | 194420 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 442733 | Yes |
| Sign, Aluminum, Wheelchair Pic, Visitor Center | 194421 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | Asset | 443205 | Yes |
| Additional Interpretive and Directional Signage | 194422 | Noncontributing – Compatible | | | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 34. Soldiers' Spring Monument. (OCLP, 2021)*



*Figure 35. Jordan family cemetery, looking east. (OCLP, 2021)*




*Figure 36. Typical trail sign. (OCLP, 2021)*

**Landscape Characteristic:** **Archeological Sites**

Archeological sites are the locations of ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or subsurface features. Only sites identified in approved National Register documentation are evaluated as contributing resources in this CLI.

The Friend House Ruins consist of the remains of an eighteenth-century manor house: a partial brick foundation surrounding a depression that measures approximately 30-x-40 ft, a ramp into the cellar hole, a set of stairs, and the remains of a cistern. Archeological investigation of a brick foundation located southeast of the main cellar hole provided artifact data suggesting it was related to the pre-Civil War, Friend family occupation of the property but could not definitively identify its function. The Friend House formerly was the center of a much larger plantation known as White Hill, and survived the Civil War, but was razed by the US Army in 1918. Historical research indicates that the remains of a possible overseer's house and slave quarters associated with the Friend House may be found nearby on the terrace above Harrison Creek. The site is the only known example as of 2021 within the Eastern Front of an overseer and slave dwelling complex separated from the owner-occupied dwelling. Activity patterns among the African-Americans at the site would likely be distinct from those of the owner and more clearly identifiable from an archeological standpoint as a consequence of the physical separation. (NR draft 2014, Sec.8: 157-158; Review comments: Dabney, 20 September 2021)

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friend House Ruins | 192015 | Undetermined | | | | | No |

# Condition

**Assessment Interval (Years):** 8

**Next Assessment Due Date:** 09/28/2029

**Condition Assessment and Impacts**

**Condition Assessment:** Fair

**Assessment Date:** 09/28/2021

**Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:**

The overall condition of the Initial Assaults battlefield is evaluated as “Fair.” The property shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of
many of the character defining elements will cause the property to degrade to a poor condition.

Non-historic successional woody vegetation continues to obscure the open landscape and tactical viewsheds that were present during the 1865 battle. Several battle-era earthworks, defensive features, and circulation features have non-historic woody vegetation growing directly on them. These features are at risk for damage due to the trees being thrown or toppled in a storm event.

## Impacts

**Type of Impact:** Adjacent Lands

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** External

**Impact Narrative:** Future redevelopment along the roadways north, south and east of the Initial Assaults battlefield may not be sympathetic or appropriate.

**Date Identified:** 09/21/2021

**Type of Impact:** Vegetation/Invasive Plants

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** Internal

**Impact Narrative:** Successional woody vegetation is limiting the full ability of the landscape to convey its significance as a Civil War battlefield and earthwork preservation.

**Date Identified:** 09/21/2021

# Treatment

### Stabilization Measures

## Treatment Documents

**Treatment Type:** Undetermined

**Treatment Completed:** No

**Document Type:** General Management Plan

**Title:**

**IRMA Link:**

**Narrative:**

Although the Final General Management Plan, Abbreviated Final Environmental Impact Statement for Petersburg published 12/01/2004 emphasizes the importance of the landscape in telling the story of the ten-month-long Petersburg Campaign, and prescribes preservation and rehabilitation as the only levels of treatment for Petersburg NB as a whole, no Cultural Landscape Report or other management document addresses the Initial Assaults battlefield specifically. Therefore, there is no approved landscape treatment for the Initial Assaults battlefield.

**Approved Treatment Costs**

**Cost Narrative:**

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