Interpretive Plan for the Mill Springs Battlefield
Pulaski and Wayne Counties, Kentucky
(GA-2255-08-031)

Part 1

DRAFT

Prepared For
Mill Springs Battlefield Association, Inc.
Somerset, Kentucky 42502

Prepared By
Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc.
Versailles, Kentucky 40383

October 25, 2010
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Prepared For
Gilbert Wilson, Battlefield Administrator
Mill Springs Battlefield Association, Inc.
9020 W. Hwy 80
Nancy, Kentucky 42502
606-679-1859
administrator@millspring.net

Prepared By
Maria Campbell Brent
Joseph E. Brent
Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc.
129 Walnut Street
Versailles, Kentucky 40383
maria.brent@windstream.net

October 25, 2010

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mill Springs Battlefield (KY 006) is located on both sides of Lake Cumberland in Pulaski and Wayne counties, Kentucky. The Mill Springs Battlefield Association, a 501(c)3, was founded in 1992 to preserve, protect, maintain and interpret the Mill Springs Battlefield. The Mill Springs Battlefield Association owns and administers over 400 acres of battlefield land and the only two extant structures associated with the Battle of Mill Springs, the Brown-Lanier House and the West-Metcalf House, both in Wayne County.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MILL SPRINGS BATTLEFIELD

The Battle of Mill Springs fought on January 19, 1862, resulted in a decisive Union victory that ultimately drove the Confederates from Kentucky and enabled the Federal advance into Middle Tennessee in February of 1862.

The Battle of Mill Springs

- Listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1993
- Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1994
- National Register boundary now encompasses 1,529 acres

THE BATTLE OF MILL SPRINGS, JANUARY 19, 1862

In November 1861, Confederate General Felix K. Zollicoffer advanced into Wayne County, Kentucky, intending to strengthen Confederate control in the area. He established a fortified encampment in Mill Springs, on the south bank of the Cumberland River.

By January 18, 1862, Union General George H. Thomas’s army and reinforcements commanded by General Albin Schoef were at Logan’s Crossroads with orders to drive Zollicoffer out of Kentucky. Meanwhile, Confederate General George B. Crittenden had taken command of the Confederate forces at Mill Springs. Believing that offense was his best defense, and unaware that Schoepf’s force had already arrived, Crittenden attacked the Federals at Logan’s Crossroads at dawn on January 19.

The Confederates pushed back the first unit they encountered. Succeeding attempts met heavy resistance and the Confederates were repulsed. The Confederates were hampered by inferior weapons; many soldiers carried flintlocks rendered useless by the heavy rain. Union counterattacks succeeded in pushing the Confederates from the field. Crittenden’s army retreated to the Cumberland River. By dawn the Confederates had crossed to Mill Springs and were in the midst of a retreat that would take them to Tennessee.
The Union victory at Mill Springs:

- Helped secure Kentucky for the Union, a vital achievement.
- Opened East and Middle Tennessee to invasion by Union forces.
- Was the first major Union victory of the war following the disastrous defeat at First Manassas on July 21, 1861.
- Showed the Confederate army’s shortage and inferiority of arms and equipment.

The Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of the plan is to document and evaluate existing interpretation and to develop a comprehensive interpretive plan for the Mill Springs Battlefield that will assist the Mill Springs Battlefield Association to create more public support for the preservation effort by increasing public awareness of the battlefield.

The plan addresses:

- Marketing
- Partnerships
- Building public support
- Facilities
- Expanding and improving the interpretive program

Recommendations for the Interpretive Program

A great deal has changed since 1992 when the Mill Springs Battlefield’s first interpretive program, a driving tour, was launched. With more land preserved, there are opportunities to expand the interpretive program on the battlefield. A new initiative, interpreting the battlefield in Mill Springs as the Confederate Base of Operations, presents the opportunity to create programs equal to those that interpret the battlefield in Pulaski County, strengthening the interpretive program as a whole and creating a second visitor destination. Lastly, refining existing interpretation can present the MSBA’s message more effectively.

Expand Interpretation of the Battlefield

- Expand Driving Tour to include three new stops
  - The Union Army Gathers at Logan’s Crossroads
  - The Bayonet Charge of the 9th Ohio
  - Last Stand Hill
- Create new, four-color Driving Tour brochure
- Expand interpretation on existing pedestrian trails
Battlefield Loop Trail
Beech Grove Trail

• Develop three new pedestrian trails
  Bayonet Charge
  Last Stand Hill
  Moulden’s Hill

• Develop programs for personal interpretation

**Interpret Mill Springs as the Confederate Base of Operations**

• Move Mill Springs visitor center to larger facility
• Create exhibits in Mill Springs
• Interpret and open Brown-Lanier House
• Interpret and open West-Metcalfe House
• Develop pedestrian trails
  Artillery Trail
  Camp of the 17th Tennessee Trail

• Develop programs for personal interpretation

**Refine Museum Exhibits**

• Strengthen presentation of the central theme
• Reinforce video storyline through the exhibits
• Highlight extant battlefield features
• Improve graphics
• Layer text
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Gilbert Wilson, Battlefield Administrator, Mill Springs Battlefield Association

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Thanks to all of those who attended the community meetings and demonstrated support for this project.
INTRODUCTION
INTRODUCTION

The Mill Springs Battlefield (KY 006) is located on either side of the Cumberland River in Pulaski and Wayne counties, Kentucky (Map 1). The Civil War Battle of Mill Springs resulted in a decisive Union victory that, with the Union victory at Middle Creek in Floyd County, Kentucky, ended the Confederate threat in eastern Kentucky and enabled the Federal advance into Middle Tennessee in February of 1862.

The Mill Springs Battlefield Association, a 501 (c) 3 founded in 1992, owns and administers the Mill Springs Battlefield. When the Mill Springs Battlefield Association was formed, only one acre of battlefield land, Zollicoffer Park, was protected. Today, the Mill Springs Battlefield Association (MSBA) owns over 400 acres of battlefield land. The interpretive program began in 1994 with a nine-stop numbered-post driving tour. The driving tour is now ten stops, and two interpreted pedestrian trails make it possible for visitors to experience the battlefield firsthand.

THE PURPOSE OF THE PLAN
Raymond Price Associates of Frederick, Maryland, completed the existing interpretive plan in 1994. In the past 15 years the MSBA has acquired over 400 acres, installed pedestrian trails, constructed exhibits in the Nancy visitor center, and now holds four annual events and periodic large-scale battle reenactment events. The scope of the interpretive program has grown considerably and the MSBA’s needs have changed. This project was initiated to document and evaluate the existing interpretation and to develop a comprehensive interpretive plan for the Mill Springs Battlefield that will assist the Mill
Map 1: Mill Springs Battlefield, Pulaski and Wayne counties, Kentucky.
Springs Battlefield Association in achieving its goals for the resource, specifically to create more public support for the preservation effort by increasing public awareness of the battlefield.

**Significance of the Resource**
The Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Survey assigned the Battle of Mill Springs a Class B designation, meaning that it had a direct and decisive influence on the campaign with which it is associated, the Offensive in Eastern Kentucky (1862). The Battle of Mill Springs was listed in the National Register of Historic Places with national significance and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1994. The National Register boundary was expanded in 2008 and now encompasses 1,529 acres.

**The Battle of Mill Springs**
On January 19, 1862, Confederate General George Crittenden ordered an attack on Union troops commanded by General George Thomas near the hamlet of Logan’s Crossroads, Kentucky. It was a disastrous decision.

Weeks before, Confederate General Felix K. Zollicoffer, Crittenden’s subordinate, left Cumberland Gap and advanced west into Kentucky, intending to strengthen Confederate control in the area of Somerset. He established winter quarters in Mill Springs, in Wayne County, on the south bank of the Cumberland River. Zollicoffer fortified both sides of the river, building earthworks in Mill Springs and on the north side of the river in Beach Grove.

The Union command ordered General George Thomas to drive Zollicoffer from the area and to break up George Crittenden’s army. Thomas reached Logan’s Crossroads on January 17 and settled in to await reinforcements commanded by General A. Schoef. Meanwhile, Crittenden, unhappy with Zollicoffer’s inaction, had arrived in Mill Springs to take command of the Confederate forces there. Believing that offense was his best defense he ordered an attack on the Union position. The Confederates attacked Thomas at Logan’s Crossroads at dawn, January 19. Crittenden did not know that part of Schoef’s force had arrived.

The Confederates pushed back the first unit they encountered. Succeeding attempts met heavy resistance and the Confederates were repulsed. Union counterattacks on the Confederate right and left succeeded in pushing the Confederates from the field.
PLANNING PROCESS

In 2008, the MSBA submitted a Project Funding Application to the American Battlefield Protection Program. That application was funded by the ABPP in April 2008, Grant Number GA-2255-08-031. The planning process began in late November 2008, when Mill Springs Battlefield Administrator Norrie Wake informed Joseph Brent of Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc., Versailles, Kentucky, that the firm had been awarded the project.

Joseph E. Brent and Maria Campbell Brent met with Bill Neikirk, President, Mill Springs Battlefield Association; Gilbert Wilson, Executive Director Mill Springs Battlefield Association and Battlefield Administrator; Karyn Branham, Assistant Battlefield Administrator; and Norrie Wake, Battlefield Administrator from 2002 through 2008 on May 14, 2009, to discuss the MSBA’s objectives for the project. Following the meeting, Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. conducted field work to record existing interpretation.

The firm held the first public meetings at the battlefield visitor center in Nancy, Pulaski County, and at the Brown-Lanier House in Mill Springs, Wayne County, on June 23 and 24, 2009, respectively. The meetings were held to increase public awareness of the project and to solicit input regarding existing interpretation and directions the interpretive program might take in the future. Fieldwork was resumed June 23 through June 25 to complete documentation of the existing interpretation.

Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. conducted a visitor survey between May 31 and September 30, 2009. One visitor in each group was asked to complete a one-page questionnaire to obtain information regarding where visitors come from, repeat visitation, how many visitors visit both sides of the battlefield, what they do on their visit to the battlefield, and what interpretation and programs they would like to see at the battlefield.

Joseph and Maria Brent met with Gilbert Wilson, Battlefield Administrator, and Karyn Branham, Assistant Administrator, again on January 14, 2010, and September 28, 2010, to discuss changes in battlefield land holdings, possible changes to the events and interpretive program, and facilities use.

Maria Brent presented the draft plan in October, 2010 at community meetings held on October 19 and 21 in Mill Springs and Nancy, respectively.
PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS
The Mill Springs Battlefield Association, Inc., formed in 1992, is a non-profit, publicly-supported 501 (c) 3 corporation. The Association has grown steadily and continues its efforts to preserve battlefield land. To date, over 400 acres of battlefield lands in have been acquired in Pulaski and Wayne Counties and preserved. Funding has come from the Pulaski County and Wayne County Fiscal Courts, The Civil War Preservation Trust, the American Battlefield Protection Program, Land and Water Conservation Funds, Transportation Enhancement Act funds, and through private donations and memberships.

MISSION STATEMENT
The Mill Springs Battlefield Association, Inc. is dedicated to preserving, protecting, maintaining and interpreting the Mill Springs Battlefield.

VISION STATEMENT
The Mill Springs Battlefield will be a National Park.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE
The object of this project is to create more public support for the preservation efforts of the Mill Springs Battlefield Association (MSBA) by increasing public awareness of the battlefield. The MSBA believes that this objective can be achieved by:

- Increasing awareness that the battlefield encompasses both sides of the Cumberland River in two counties.
• Increasing awareness that the battlefield is a National Historic Landmark and that it is nationally significant.
• Using the MSBA logo and other marketing tools to help make the public and local government aware of the site and its importance to the community and region.

Directing its efforts toward developing partnerships, professionalism and programs are three ways that the Mill Springs Battlefield Association could achieve its goals.

Partnerships
One of the keys to a successful site is partnerships. Over the years, the MSBA has partnered with the Kentucky Heritage Council, the American Battlefield Protection Program and the Civil War Preservation Trust to find funding to preserve the battlefield. The MSBA can use this successful effort as a model to grow the site. Creative partnerships can bring people to the battlefield, increase revenue and enhance the visitor experience. Developing partnership to market battlefield will help the MSBA tell the world what the battlefield is about and they should visit. The MSBA has the opportunity to partner with local, state, regional and national tourism organizations. Some can provide funding; all can help by putting professional tourism people to work for you.Partnering with other sites helps create regional destinations. The more sites with a similar focus in one area the more for like minded visitors to see. Partnerships help share the cost of advertising and staffing; they create a network of support. Corporations want to broaden their audience and/or create goodwill—help them by letting them invest in the battlefield. The MSBA could seek partnerships that being new, non-traditional visitors to the battlefield and take the MSBA’s message of the necessity of preserving this nation’s cultural resources new audiences.

Professionalism
All historic sites have similar concerns—funding, developing effective programs, insufficient staff, how to market effectively, getting their message to the public the list goes on and on. Professional organizations like the Kentucky Museum and Heritage Alliance, National Association for Interpretation, American Association of Museums and American Association for State and Local History offer a wealth of opportunities to network with colleagues who work at sites across the nation. Conferences and workshops are opportunities to learn from other sites and to see what is new in the fields of public history, interpretation and historic sites administration. It’s a chance to see what other sites have done to develop creative partnerships, evaluate the effectiveness of events, recruit volunteers, and to solve how they addressed issues facing the MSBA. The MSBA is a member of the American Association for State and Local History, but has not taken full advantage of that membership.
Managing a historic site, even a not-for-profit site, is a business endeavor. Joining and actively participating in professional organizations helps administrators and staff members develop networks of like-minded individuals at other sites. Attending professional meetings, reading the literature and taking advantage of opportunities for continuing education help staff keep abreast of new developments and standards in the field. Every member of the staff, whether paid and volunteer, should receive appropriate training. A professionally staffed site generates visitor confidence in what is presented, and trained staff will be more effective at conveying the message MSBA wants visitors to receive.

Programs
As far as the public is concerned, a site is its programs. Visitors judge the Mill Springs Battlefield by the quality of their experience. They are paying with time, and in some cases money, and if they feel that they have been sufficiently rewarded for the investment they have made, they will be satisfied when they leave the Mill Springs Battlefield. Different people expect different things, but most want programs that are interesting, enjoyable, and from which they learn something new. Effective programs satisfy the needs and desires of visitors while conveying the messages MSBA wants and needs to convey.

The Mill Springs Battlefield has reached the stage in its development when visitors expect a certain level of programming—professional exhibits, tours, costumed interpreters, and demonstrations. On-site programs give the public a reason to visit your site. Off-site programs take MSBA’s message to new audiences—schools, senior centers and service clubs to name a few. This plan suggests a number of ways in which MSBA can provide a complete, quality visitor experience.

**Issues and Challenges**
- The battlefield is divided by Lake Cumberland
- Staff has limited training in historic sites administration and interpretation
- Current staff is over-extended
- Lack of a strong volunteer organization
- Housekeeping
- Securing the West-Metcalfe House from vandalism
- Lack of funding to implement recommended changes to interpretive program
OPPORTUNITIES

- Make more of battlefield accessible to visitors
- Give the battlefield in Mill Springs its own identity
- Become more involved in the community
- Join the professional community of historic sites administrators and interpreters
- Network with sites facing similar challenges
- Partner with the Western Kentucky University’s Civil War Institute
- Partner with the William Crenshaw Kennedy, Jr. Memorial Wayne County Museum
- Partner with the Monticello Woman’s Club and the Army Corps of Engineers
- Initiate and grow a professional volunteer organization
- Open the West-Metcalf House to visitors
- Become a leader in, and advocate for, historic preservation
- Expand gift shop inventory to become a local shopping destination
- Take the battlefield to the next level
PREVIOUS PLANNING EFFORTS
A number of documents prepared for the Mill Springs Battlefield Association over the past two decades have implications for the interpretive program. The National Register of Historic Places nominations and preservation plans identified the extant cultural and natural resources associated with the Battle of Mill Springs. The preservation plans identified priorities for protection of battlefield lands. The subsequent purchase of those lands has made it possible to expand on-site interpretation. The 1994 interpretive plan addressed the driving tour, proposed visitor centers and exhibits, walking trail development and Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery. A portion of the Visitor Center Master Plan Report completed in 2002 outlines exhibits for the visitor center lobby and exhibit gallery and exhibits on the visitor center grounds.

**National Register Nomination: Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas, 1993**

In 1993, 674.5 acres of battlefield land were listed in the National Register of Historic Places with national significance. The Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas then encompassed three discontiguous areas: Battlefield—320 acres; Beech Grove—320 acres; Confederate Base—7.5 acres.

**National Historic Landmark Nomination: Mill Springs Battlefield, 1994**

In 1994, the area listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas was designated a National Historic Landmark, the highest honor accorded a historic site in this nation. As a National Historic Landmark, the Mill Springs Battlefield has meaning for all Americans. The interpretive program should reveal that
meaning in such a way that it is understood and appreciated by all of the battlefield’s visitors.

**Preservation Plan for the Mill Springs Battlefield, Wayne and Pulaski Counties, Kentucky, 1994**

Orloff Miller, Ph.D. and Rita G. Walsh of Gray and Pape, Inc. completed the *Preservation Plan for the Mill Springs Battlefield*, funded by the American Battlefield Protection Program, in 1994. A framework for interpretation is provided in “Chapter II: Battlefield History.” Chapter V describes the battlefield’s cultural and natural resources. The introduction to “Chapter III: Themes for Public Interpretation,” states:

The following discussions have been assembled as proposed interpretive themes for presenting the complexities of the battle, and the complexities of historic narration and preservation, to the public. We are not advocating a specific medium, whether a roadside sign or a museum display, but are instead assembling in one place some of the key issues which will add depth and ethnographic nuance to the presentation of the past. Stories are lost if they are not repeated each generation.

Miller and Walsh proposed eight themes: Unresolved Historical Issues; Past Protection Efforts; The “Atypical” Nature of the Battle; Nineteenth Century Valor; Neighbor Versus Neighbor, The Material Nature of the Confederate Encampment; The Civilian Reaction: Local Memories of the Battle and Its Aftermath; and General Zollicoffer in Romantic Memory. Each theme is discussed briefly in terms of the way in which it can contribute to visitors’ understanding of the battle. The discussion of several themes includes pertinent stories and quotations that could be used to illustrate these themes in interpretive media.

The interpretive program was also addressed in the section *Public Interpretation* in “Chapter VII: Proposed Goals and Implementation Strategies.” The section briefly discusses visitor circulation as it applied to walking and driving trails, restoring the battlefield’s original landscape in selected areas, the erection of commemorative monuments, visitor services (restrooms, picnic grounds, boat docks), the location of a potential visitor center, special events and an archaeological survey.

**Mill Springs Battlefield Interpretive Plan, 1994**

Raymond Price Associates completed the *Mill Springs Battlefield Interpretive Plan* in 1994. The comprehensive plan outlined nine interpretive objectives and addressed pre-visit publicity, visitor centers in Wayne and Pulaski counties, improvements to the driving
tour, and proposed a walking trail on the property adjacent to Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery, the only property the MSBA had access to at the time.

Raymond Price Associates proposed that there should eventually be visitor centers of about the same size at Nancy and at Mill Springs. Both would provide a place for visitors to obtain information and literature about their visit, and both would have self-guided exhibits and a gift shop. Exhibits at Nancy would interpret the Battle of Mill Springs—the strategy, tactics, and events of the battle. Exhibits at Mill Springs would also interpret the battle but in addition would address the non-Civil War history of the Mill Springs area. The plan outlined facilities and exhibits proposed for each visitor center.

Raymond Price Associates developed the driving tour stop destination sign and waysides for each of the nine driving tour stops, including an introductory wayside at the Nancy visitor center, and suggested topics for waysides to be developed in Phase II of the wayside exhibit program. They recommended a walking trail connecting the Nancy visitor center and Mill Springs National Cemetery; at the Beech Grove Confederate encampment site; on the property adjacent to Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery, the only property the MSBA had access to at the time; and in Mill Springs. The recommendations made by Raymond Price Associates and their implementation will be discussed in detail in Chapter 8: Interpreting the Mill Springs Battlefield.

**Beech Grove Encampment Archaeological Survey, 1998**

In 1998 the Mill Springs Battlefield Association received $15,000 from the American Battlefield Protection Program to continue archaeological investigations at Beech Grove. The artifacts recovered during the survey helped further understanding of the Confederate soldiers encamped at Beech Grove, the items they carried with them, and the nature of the winter shelters they constructed.

**Visitor Center Master Plan Report, 2002**

The Visitor Center Master Plan Report completed by JRA Architects and Gerard Hilferty & Associates, Inc. in 2002, defines mission and vision statements and a central theme, or main messages, for visitor center interpretive media. The mission, vision and central theme developed during the planning process are discussed in detail in Chapter 7: Thematic Guidelines.

The exhibit gallery outlined by Gerard Hilferty & Associates, Inc. includes five exhibit areas: Military and Political Background, Preparing for Battle, The Battle Commences, The Battle’s Aftermath, and Legacy. The section Exhibit Narrative Walkthrough describes
the multi-media exhibits in general terms. No cost estimates for design and fabrication are given but based on an average cost of $300 per square foot the cost of the exhibits for the 2,800 square foot gallery would be $840,000.

The recommendations made by Gerard Hilferty & Associates, Inc. and their implementation will be discussed in detail in Chapter 8: Interpreting the Mill Springs Battlefield.

**THE BATTLE OF MILL SPRINGS: A PRESERVATION PLAN UPDATE, 2004**

The preservation plan update funded by the American Battlefield Protection Program, reviews the progress made in preserving and interpreting the battlefield since Miller and Walsh completed the original plan in 1994 and formulates new priorities for protection in light of the increased knowledge of the battlefield’s boundaries, property preserved and changes in threats to the battlefield.

In 1994, interpretation consisted of one historical highway marker and a nine-stop numbered-post driving tour brochure. By 2008, all but two stops on the driving tour had at least one interpretive wayside and the walking trail proposed by Raymond Price Associates near Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery had been completed.

Participants at the project’s community meetings suggested several general ways to raise awareness of and to interpret the battlefield: pursuing a History Channel documentary on the battle; preparing articles for Civil War enthusiast magazines; creating audio versions of the driving tour; creating a Battle of Mill Springs CD-ROM; and making better use of the MSBA website. Those attending the community meeting in Nancy, where basic interpretation was already in place, were concerned with developing more in-depth and innovative forms of interpretation. Those attending in Mill Springs, where there was only one wayside in place, wanted the sites in Wayne County to be interpreted, especially the West-Metcalfe House, Brown-Lanier House, Confederate earthworks and the Mill Springs community during the Civil War.

Participants in both Nancy and Mill Springs felt that there should be a boat tour or shuttle to tie the two parts of the battlefield together, and a courtesy dock at Beech Grove.

Several ideas for walking trails were advanced: a hiking/biking trail from Mill Springs National Cemetery to the West Metcalfe House via the US 90 Bridge or a ferry shuttle across Lake Cumberland; a walking trail interpreting the fortified encampment at Beech Grove; and a walking trail in Mill Springs crossing the US Army Corps of Engineers property and including the Brown-Lanier House.
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION: BATTLE OF MILL SPRINGS HISTORIC AREAS (BOUNDARY INCREASE), 2008

Between 1993, when the Battle of Mill Springs was listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and 2007 the MSBA continued efforts to document the battle. Historical research and archaeological projects provided new insight into the events of the battle and the locations associated with those events.

The amended National Register nomination prepared in 2008 for the Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas, which was funded by the American Battlefield Protection Program, added a fourth discontiguous site, Timmy’s Branch, to the historical areas associated with the battle. Timmy’s Branch is well-documented as the site where the opening shots of the battle were fired. The nominated area was 22 acres. The nomination also increased the area associated with the battlefield from 320 acres to 664 acres, and the Beech Grove area from 320 to 659 acres. Altogether, the amended nomination increased the listed area from 881.5 acres to 1,529 acres.
The Battlefield’s Visitors
The Mill Springs Battlefield opened for visitors in 1993 with the publication of the first driving tour brochure *Kentucky Heritage Tours*. The original tour didn’t even have tour stop signs—just a brochure and driving directions. The one-acre Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery, with two monuments and a historical highway marker, was the only publicly accessible site on the battlefield.

Much has changed since 1993. Over 400 acres are preserved, including the only two standing structures associated with the battlefield, the Brown-Lanier House and the West-Metcalf House. There are visitor-information centers in both Pulaski and Wayne counties. The visitor center in Nancy in Pulaski County has over 2,000 square feet of interpretive displays. The Mill Springs visitor center staff provides tours of the Brown-Lanier House. Both give visitors the opportunity to view an interpretive film on the battle.

The driving tour now has waysides at almost every stop. There is a one-half-mile interpreted walking trail around Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery and a shorter interpreted walking trail at Beech Grove. There are several waysides at Mill Springs Battlefield Park in Mill Springs, and an interpretive wayside at the restored West-Metcalf House. There is a wayside and an artillery piece in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers park in Mill Springs, which is adjacent to the Mill Springs visitor center. There is, in fact, much to see.

Many historic and natural sites fall back on resource-based planning, assuming that “if
we build it (a visitor center, trails, an exhibit), “visitors will come.” Sometimes that is true, often it is not. The MSBA wants visitors to come not just to generate income, but to create support for its efforts to preserve and interpret the Mill Springs Battlefield, for visitors to understand, appreciate, and become stewards of the battlefield. A market-based approach that takes the considerations, below, into account could be more productive.

Marketing the Mill Springs Battlefield isn’t just about promotion, although promotion is part of it. Marketing a historic site involves “an understanding what the product or experience is; who the internal and external audiences are that might be associated with the product in some way and what they need, desire and are willing to pay for with time or dollars; how the product can be promoted and targeted to appeal to current and potential audiences; what pricing strategies are most appropriate for the target audiences; what interpretive niche needs to be filled given the surrounding competitive and complimentary functions; how to create partnerships that turn competitive functions into complimentary functions; and what the most appropriate placement of services might be given the target audiences.” Conducting market research to help make informed decisions; developing the most effective ways to promote programs, products and services and setting prices, based on an understanding of MSBA’s target market; and using the social marketing concept to encourage stewardship could help MSBA market more effectively. For more information about a market-based approach consult Management of Interpretive Sites: Developing Sustainable Operations Through Effective Leadership by Tim Merriman and Lisa Brochu.

**EXISTING VISITORS**

According to visitor logs at the Nancy and Mill Springs visitor centers and Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery, 8,710 people visited the battlefield in 2009. Visitation has risen slowly since the visitor center in Nancy opened, with 8431 total visitors in 2007 and 8394 in 2008. Visitation for 2010 also shows an increase, with 6575 visitors between January and the end of August as compared to 5592 visitors for the same period in 2008. Note that these counts reflect only those who signed the guest books and does not take into account those who may have signed the guest book at both the Nancy and Mill Springs visitor centers, and they do not include school groups.

In 2009, approximately 1,500 people attended the five annual events sponsored by the Mill Springs Battlefield Association—Annual Anniversary Observance, Memorial Day Services, Living History Weekend, Ghostwalk and Christmas Open House. The first four events take place at Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery (with Memorial Day Services also

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held at the Mill Springs National Cemetery in Nancy), the last at the Brown-Lanier House in Mill Springs. Attendance at each event has remained consistent.

Three types of visitors seem to come to the battlefield: Civil War enthusiasts, casual visitors—including local residents who bring friends and relatives—and school groups. The MSBA tracks the number of school groups and numbers in each group, but there is no way at this time to differentiate Civil War enthusiasts—visitors who came specifically to see the battlefield—from casual visitors. There are numbers kept on those who visited as groups, such as Civil War Roundtables, but they reflect only a small percentage of visitors.

**MUDPUPPY & WATERDOG, INC. VISITOR SURVEY**

Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. conducted an informal visitor survey between May 30 and September 30, 2009. The purpose of the survey was to determine where the battlefield’s visitors were coming from, how many people visiting the battlefield on one side of Lake Cumberland had visited or intended to visit the battlefield on the other side of the lake, what activities visitors took part in or intended to take part in, and what activities or programs they would like to see on the battlefield. Staff at the visitor centers in Nancy and Mill Springs asked visitors if they would participate; those who agreed answered questions by checking off the answers supplied on the form. All of those who participated received a Mill Springs Battlefield logo pin. Over the four-month survey period, 440 forms were completed, 309 at the Nancy visitor center and 131 at Mill Springs. The results of the survey are presented in Appendix 1.

Respondents from thirty-one states, three foreign countries, and forty-six Kentucky counties filled out the questionnaire. Most of the respondents were from Kentucky—58% in Nancy and 48% in Mill Springs—and of the Kentucky residents, 46% were from either Pulaski or Wayne counties.

About 30% of the respondents in Nancy learned about the battlefield from brochures, websites and the Kentucky Visitor Guide. Approximately 30% learned about the battlefield from friends or relatives, and the remainder from a variety of other sources. Responses in Mill Springs were similar, with 21% learning about the battlefield from brochures, websites and the Kentucky Visitor Guide; 58% from friends or relatives, and the remainder from other sources.

Seventy-seven percent of those visiting the Nancy visitor center had visited or planned to visit the Mill Springs side of the battlefield. Of those who had not or did not plan to visit
the Mill Springs side of the battlefield, 21% said it was too far, 27% said they did not have the time, 4% said there was not enough to do on the Mill Springs side, 4% were not interested, and 1% did not indicate a reason. It is telling that 42% said that they did not know the Wayne County portion of the battlefield existed.

Of those who filled out the survey in Mill Springs, 64% said they had visited or planned to visit the Pulaski County portion of the battlefield. Of those who had not or did not plan to visit the battlefield in Pulaski County, 8% said it was too far, 38% said they did not have the time, 4% were not interested, and 13% did not give a reason. Thirty-seven percent of the respondents did not know that the Pulaski County portion of the battlefield existed.

**TARGET AUDIENCE**

In 2001, during the planning for the Mill Springs Visitor Center in Nancy, the Planning Committee and the Mill Springs Board of Directors worked with the architect and the exhibit planner to provide a direction for the visitor center exhibits. This group, which said that their goal was to increase visitation, stated: “The Battlefield will be visited by a wide spectrum of audiences, from devoted Civil War enthusiasts to tourists visiting the area’s other recreational attractions.”

The group further defined the battlefield’s target audience as family groups from the general region and school groups from across the state. The group voted to target several groups of potential visitors. Their first priority was those “... with a grade school education and a casual interest or no preexisting interest in the subject ...” (the subject being the Battle of Mill Springs, or the Civil War). The second priority group was “... visitors with a secondary school education and a casual interest in the subject.” It was noted in the plan that some members of the group expressed an interest in attracting visitors with higher levels of both education and interest. Bill Neikirk, President of the MSBA, Norrie Wake, former Mill Springs Battlefield administrator, and Gilbert Wilson, the current administrator, defined the battlefield’s target audience as school groups, Civil War enthusiasts and the general public. One of the stated purposes of the interpretive plan was to attract individuals vacationing at Lake Cumberland to the battlefield. These casual visitors are one segment of the battlefield’s target audience.

General heritage travelers would be an appropriate target audience for the battlefield. The

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3 Ibid.
4 Ibid.
National Trust for Historic Preservation defines a cultural heritage tourist as someone “traveling to experience the places and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present. It includes historic, cultural and natural resources.” The battlefield is such a resource but it is the only heritage site in Pulaski County. Wayne County has several heritage sites in addition to the battlefield, but neither Wayne nor Pulaski counties market themselves as heritage destinations; they market themselves as recreation destinations bordering Lake Cumberland.

The Battlefield’s Target Audience:
- School groups
- Civil War enthusiasts
- Casual visitors

School Groups
Schools are the only target audience to which the MSBA specifically markets. Invitations are sent to 50 schools, encouraging teachers to take advantage of the battlefield. Most school groups come to the Nancy visitor center in the spring and fall and most are fifth graders from the local school system, although students in other grades and from school districts outside of Pulaski County and Kentucky do visit. Recently, the MSBA placed the Teaching with Historic Places lesson plan, The Battle of Mill Springs: The Civil War Divides a Border State, on the Association website.

The MSBA charges schools $2.00 per student; in return each student receives a Mill Springs Battlefield Passport allowing them free entrance to the exhibit gallery and the battlefield’s annual events. Most classes view the film and visit the exhibit gallery; some also go to Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery. For an additional fee, weather permitting, groups can be taken across Lake Cumberland to Mill Springs on a pontoon boat, where they rendezvous with their bus. Several hundred students visit annually. MSBA staff also makes in-school visits.
Issues

- Limited time—Time is a factor with school visits. Generally, school groups are able to allot only two hours per visit. Mill Springs Battlefield administrator Gilbert Wilson expresses concern at the short time frame. He believes it does not give students enough time to visit the site and to grasp the significance of the Civil War and battle, ideas that could be better conveyed if the students were allowed more time on-site.

- The number of field trips has decreased—The increased costs of buses and fuel has forced schools to curtail the number of field trips in recent years. This is reflected in the lower number of visits that schools are making to the Mill Springs Battlefield.

Actions

- Help teachers prepare—Make the most of the time students are allotted by helping teachers prepare before they reach the battlefield. The Battle of Mill Springs Teaching with Historic Places lesson plan is available on the MSBA website so that teachers can download it and use it before they visit. With pre-visit planning and preparation, the visits will be more meaningful for students and the trip more useful for teachers. Little or no time will have to be spent providing background and MSBA will be able to develop a program that encourages participation, allows hands-on activities, and is based in the Teaching with Historic Places lesson plan.

  However, the Teaching with Historic Places lesson plan needs to be updated. Part of the lesson is focused on the Zollie Tree, which fell in 1995. Mr. Wilson, administrator of the Mill Springs Battlefield, is retired from the local school system and has numerous contacts with educators. MSBA might ask for assistance in updating the lesson plan and insuring that it meets Kentucky state testing and curriculum requirements, making a visit to the battlefield more attractive to local and regional educators.

- Develop special programs—The battlefield competes with a number of other sites for school visits. Developing grade-specific programs that engage students and help teachers fulfill curriculum requirements will give the battlefield an advantage over sites that do not offer these programs. Special interest programs that go beyond history could be developed. A science class might visit to learn about Civil War medicine and how the lack of scientific knowledge about bacteria and infections influenced the treatment soldiers received and how it affected their
survival. A media studies class could analyze the way the Northern and Southern newspapers reported the Battle of Mill Springs and what readers in different parts of the country were told.

Make sure that teachers have the tools they need to get the most out of their visit to the battlefield. Prepare grade-specific materials to help teachers prepare for an upcoming visit. As new programs are developed, pre-visit materials should be developed for each program. Sample pre-visit materials focusing on the African American experience at Camp Nelson in Jessamine County, Kentucky, are presented in Appendix 2.

- Market education programs creatively—Teachers don’t have to participate in MSBA’s education programs. Providing teachers with programs they want and need and marketing those programs creatively are necessary ingredients for success. There are four essential components to a museum marketing program: develop and maintain credibility, build on success, know the competition, and find a market niche. The AASLH Technical Leaflet, *Reaching Teachers: Marketing Museum Education in the Twenty-First Century* by Cindy Lucas discusses what makes a marketing campaign successful and what any museum or site can do to market effectively.

- Evaluate, revise, re-evaluate—Keep trying to improve. Create evaluation forms to judge the effectiveness of field trips. Ask teachers what they would like the battlefield to offer and how field trips can be made more effective and attractive. Attend professional conferences to see what other sites are doing, network with peers, and keep abreast of the latest trends in education and interpretation.

- Find sponsors for field trips—One way to help bring more students to the battlefield is to find a way to offset the cost of the trip for teachers. The MSBA might approach area businesses and ask them to underwrite the cost of field trips. Funding could be provided to schools on a first-come first-served basis, or the local businesses could target specific schools.

**Civil War Enthusiasts**

Civil War travelers, a specific subset of heritage travelers, visit areas specifically to see a Civil War battlefield or site. Like all heritage tourists, they want to see the real thing; they want to experience the authentic. The Mill Springs Battlefield offers visitors an authentic experience. The MSBA has preserved over 400 acres of battlefield land. There are several
opportunities for visitors to get on the battlefield and see firsthand the defining features—the cultural or natural landscapes that played critical roles in the battle. The driving tour allows visitors to see the battlefield from one end to the other and highlights sites on both sides of the lake. On the north side of the lake there are two pedestrian trails that take the visitor deep into the heart of the battlefield. These are the kind of experiences Civil War travelers seek.

That the Battle of Mill Springs is known to at least some Civil War enthusiasts is evidenced by the number of individuals and organized groups that have visited the site. In 2009, the Chicago Civil War Roundtable brought ninety people to the battlefield. That same year, the Civil War Fortification Study Group visited the battlefield as part of its annual conference/workshop (Figure 2). In 2010, the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) visited the site as part of their annual conference. There have been three large-scale reenactments of the battle since 1993, the last in 2006 attended by more than 20,000 people.

The Mill Springs battlefield has been listed in the Civil War Preservation Trust’s *Civil War Discovery Trail Guide* since the guide’s inception in the mid-1990s. There are visitor centers on either side of Lake Cumberland. There is a driving tour of the battlefield, walking trails, and two historic houses to visit. The battlefield is part of the Kentucky Civil War Sites Association, a statewide organization working to preserve and interpret Kentucky Civil War sites. Since Civil War travelers often visit multiple sites on any given trip, being part of a regional, statewide or national Civil War trail improves the prospect of visitation. The battlefield is affiliated with several organizations that promote Civil War history, heritage and tourism.

**Issues**

- The Battle of Mill Springs is not well-known—The Battle of Mill Springs was an early-war battle with relatively few troops engaged. Although it is nationally significant, as evidenced by its status as a National Historic Landmark, it has not earned the attention of larger battles such as Shiloh.
• Total site visitation, though growing, remains low—Most of the battlefield’s visitors are from Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana and Ohio. It is very likely that many of those Midwestern visitors are in the area to vacation at Lake Cumberland. The regiments that participated in the battle were from Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio and Tennessee. There has been no effort to market directly to the Civil War enthusiasts from the states whose regiments participated in the battle.

• Former visitors are not aware of battlefield improvements—There have been a number of improvements to the battlefield’s interpretive program in the last decade. Many former visitors may not be aware of those improvements and see no reason for a return visit.

• Visitors want interpretation and programs that make sites come alive—Making sites come alive for visitors is one of the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s five principles of successful heritage tourism. As the Trust’s website notes, “Competition for time is fierce. To attract visitors, you must make sure that your destination is worth the drive.” This point is addressed in Chapter 8: Interpreting the Mill Springs Battlefield.

Actions
• Develop a resource-focused website for potential visitors—The focus of the MSBA website is the Mill Springs Battlefield Association, not the Mill Springs Battlefield-as-attraction. A Battle of Mill Springs Battlefield website devoted strictly to the battlefield should be developed to provide information for people interested in the battle and, more importantly, interested in visiting the battlefield. The site should include a brief history, photographs, planning a visit, what to see, fees, directions and hours, and a “getting involved” section. It might include a virtual tour of the exhibit gallery and some of the walking trails. The site should have links to the Pulaski Somerset Convention and Visitors Bureau, Monticello-Wayne County Chamber of Commerce and TourSEKY as well as the MSBA, the ABPP and CWPT. The MSBA website has much of this information, but it requires some navigation to find it and its focus is clearly on the organization, not on marketing the resource to potential visitors.

• Invest in Gozaic—A ready-made marketing tool is the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s new program, Gozaic, http://www.gozaic.com. Gozaic is the online
community and destination guide for cultural and heritage travelers. Through this website, individuals or groups can plan “. . . life-enriching experiences and participate in a community that shares their passion for history and culture.” This website enables domestic and international heritage travelers to connect with sites around the world. Gozaic’s *Circles* include a section for Civil War enthusiasts. The Civil War Preservation Trust and other Civil War groups are now part of this organization. There is a fee to become a Gozaic member, but this powerful and respected site has the potential to generate many times the investment in increased visitation. Gozaic partner destinations and sites receive:

- Global exposure via an innovative, online community that engages cultural and heritage travelers.
- Participation in Gozaic’s social media and public relations channels including blogs, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, press releases, e-newsletters and more.
- Exposure via a multi-channel, integrated marketing plan.
- Affiliation with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, America’s leader in preserving the places that matter.
- A forum for sharing best practices and proven techniques with other culture and heritage-oriented destinations and sites.
- The ability to offer culture and heritage-related packages and tours via Gozaic.com.

- Take advantage of American Heritage Sites—Launched last year, American Heritage Sites, [http://www.heritagesites.com](http://www.heritagesites.com), is another national internet marketing tool, and it is free to members of AASLH—which includes the MSBA. This website features a list of sites by type—which include military and battlefields—and themes, which include Civil War and military history. There is also a section on collections that allows a site to list objects or archival collections accessible to visitors, and a calendar where members can post upcoming events. Member organizations are given a unique username and password that allows them to edit and add content to their listing and the events calendar. There are currently thirty-three Kentucky sites listed on this website, but the only Civil War site is the James A. Ramage Civil War Museum in Fort Wright. MSBA is a member of AASLH, the battlefield can take advantage of this marketing tool immediately.

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• Approach Civil War publications—*Blue & Gray* magazine published “The Battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky,” written by MSBA Board member Roger Tate, in 1992. Over the years, MSBA has provided many articles for *Civil War News*. A new *Blue & Gray* article or an article in one of the other popular Civil War history magazines might spur interest among the Civil War enthusiasts.

• Market to Civil War Roundtables—Each of the states that fought at Mill Springs except Mississippi has multiple Civil War Roundtables. Develop “Discover the Battle of Mill Springs” packets containing the site brochure, driving tour, information on immersion tours, photographs of the battlefield, and contact information. Mail to every Civil War Roundtable whose troops fought in the battle. Include a PDF copy of the packet that can be copied and distributed to Roundtable members.

• Hold workshops—Line up speakers, programs, activities and hold one-or-two day workshops on the Battle of Mill Springs. Market regionally to Civil War Roundtables, historical societies, and ask other Civil War sites to publish a press release in their newsletters and to post posters on notice boards.

Casual Visitors
Almost two million people visit Lake Cumberland each year. It has long been the goal of the MSBA to draw a large portion of those visitors to the battlefield, yet less than 9,000 people total—about one-half of one per cent of the number that visit Lake Cumberland—come to the battlefield each year. Given that they are already in the area, Lake Cumberland’s visitors remain the battlefield’s most significant source of potential visitors.

People come to Lake Cumberland to vacation. They want to engage in activities. They may not be averse to learning, but they want to do so in a relaxed, enjoyable, unstructured environment. Many look for activities that their children will enjoy. The Somerset-Pulaski Convention

*Figure 3: Visitors walking the Battlefield Loop Trail.*
and Visitors Bureau lists the Brown-Lanier House, the Mill Springs Battlefield, Dutton’s Hill, the Mill Springs Park and Mill, and a flea market under History Attractions. Other than recreation, agri-tourism and the arts are the only other categories on the website. Two of the agri-tourism sites—Haney’s Appledale Farm and Bear Wallow Farm—are near the battlefield in Nancy. All of the arts offerings are in Somerset.

Issues

- Reaching vacationers to Lake Cumberland—Vacationers at Lake Cumberland are not getting the word about the battlefield, are not interested in the battlefield, or the battlefield has a poor reputation among the lake’s visitors. For whatever reason, more than 1.9 million people are not visiting the battlefield.

- Reaching visitors to the Mill—Approximately 50,000 people are said to visit the Mill Springs Mill each year, but the log book at the Mill Springs visitor center recorded only 2,342 visitors. Staff in Mill Springs report that there is a great deal of visitor confusion regarding the relationship of the battlefield visitor center to the Mill. Most visitors believe that they represent the same site; if they have visited the Mill they see no reason to go to the “information center and bookstore.”

- Lack of data—The MSBA has no data showing why vacationers aren’t visiting the battlefield—whether it is lack of knowledge, lack of interest, lack of activities and programs. Until the MSBA knows why such a low percentage of vacationers to Lake Cumberland visit the battlefield in either Wayne or Pulaski counties, MSBA cannot address the problem.

Actions

- Market locally—The 1994 interpretive plan called for the development of “A wayside exhibit entitled ‘Visit Mill Springs Battlefield’ to be displayed at marinas, state parks and other appropriate locations in the Somerset-Mill Springs region.” This recommendation was never acted upon but it should be, and as soon as possible. A colorful, well-designed poster illustrated with current and historic images of the battlefield, visitor center and other battlefield features could be mounted in inexpensive frames and distributed to the larger marinas, resorts, and other venues frequented by tourists in the Lake Cumberland region. Where possible, a permanent upright wayside using the same image could be installed in lieu of the poster. All displays should provide essential location and contact information and the website address. Make sure that resorts and nearby attractions, like Haney’s Appledale Farm and Bear Wallow Farm, have battlefield brochures.
The MSBA should also distribute battlefield brochures to every commercial location that will display them, and should check frequently to refresh supplies.

- **Work with the Somerset-Pulaski CVB**—Create a short questionnaire that can be placed in the Somerset-Pulaski CVB to collect data on visitation. In the meantime, insure that Lake Cumberland’s vacationers know what the battlefield offers.

- **Accommodate visitors**—Conversations with tourism professionals indicate that families are looking for places to take the children after a day on the lake. It may be necessary for the battlefield to provide some after-hours programming to attract lake visitors. Weekly after-hours programs, such as artillery demonstrations, walking tours of the battlefield, and programs at the West-Metcalf or Brown-Lanier houses might create interest and attract people who have spent all day on the water, or families who might be looking for an alternative to adult activities.

- **Kentucky Living Magazine**—Write an article for *Kentucky Living Magazine*. This magazine is distributed through the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc. It has a large subscriber base and the magazine will pay you to prepare the article if they believe it is of interest to their readers. With the Nancy visitor center open, nearly 500 acres of battlefield preserved, and the advent of the Civil War sesquicentennial, it is the prefect time to submit a prospectus for an article to this publication.

- **Target regional publications**—It is recommended that the MSBA investigate advertising in regional publications of interest to those whose ancestors fought in the Battle of Mill Springs. Soldiers from Alabama, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Tennessee fought in the battle. *Midwest Living* or *Southern Living* carry many travel features and cover all of the states listed above. They would be excellent choices, but their advertising rates are expensive. MSBA might invite or pay a professional travel writer to create a one-page feature story on the battlefield for *Midwest Living* or *Southern Living*, with the orientation of the feature being specific to the magazine’s readership. The MSBA might also target less expensive statewide publications, newspapers or travel guides, and could investigate writing articles for history-oriented magazines to highlight the battle and each state’s role in it.

**Current Marketing**
Marketing has not been a priority for the Mill Springs Battlefield Association, which has
focused on preserving the battlefield. The battlefield has been marketed, but the MSBA has generally not initiated the marketing as much as allowed organizations to promote the battlefield as part of local, regional, statewide, or national efforts. Regardless of how the battlefield is marketed, the MSBA should work closely with the organization promoting the battlefield to make sure the message being sent is the message that MSBA wants the world to hear. Advertisements should make the battlefield sound interesting. The copy should be accurate, enticing, and illustrated with attractive, compelling photographs.

Outside Marketing
A number of organizations market the Mill Springs Battlefield:
- Civil War Preservation Trust—*Civil War Discovery Trail*
- Kentucky Department of Travel & Tourism
- Kentucky Civil Sites Association website
- Southern and Eastern Kentucky Tourism Development Association—TourSEKY
- Somerset-Pulaski Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Monticello-Wayne County Chamber of Commerce

National marketing—The Battle of Mill Springs has been listed in the *Civil War Discovery Trail* since the early 1990s. The *Discovery Trail* website includes a listing for the battlefield, which guides visitors to the Nancy visitor center, and a separate entry for Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery, listed in the guide as Zollicoffer Park. There is also a link to the MSBA website. The battlefield entry mentions all five annual events. The entry does not tell potential visitors that there is a visitor center in Mill Springs or that the Christmas Open House takes place at the historic Brown-Lanier House, which is also in Mill Springs.

Listed sites are allowed to post a photograph on their page of the *Discovery Trail* website. Mill Springs does not have one with either entry, and should. When someone clicks on the site they should see artillery, rail fences or the Zollicoffer Monument. MSBA should review the *Civil War Discovery Trail* entry, both the print and the web versions. If they are not current, submit changes and add pictures to the website. Stock the print version of the *Civil War Discovery Trail* guide, *Civil War Sites: The Official Guide to Battlefields, Monuments, and More*, in the visitor center gift shops.

Statewide marketing—The Mill Springs Battlefield is listed in the Kentucky Department of Travel & Tourism’s *2010 Kentucky Official Visitor’s Guide*. The entry includes the vital information—name, address, phone number, website, and a 150-character description of the site:
Established in 2006 with the purpose to exhibit objects illustrating the history and importance of the Battle of Mill Springs.

This is a fairly accurate description but it is unlikely to grab the attention of the visitor. A revised entry might read:

*The Battle of Mill Springs changed the course of the war in Kentucky—visit our exhibit gallery, walk the hallowed ground, experience history up close.*

The guide has other categories under which the battlefield could be listed including *walking* and *tours*. The driving tour could be listed under tours and the two pedestrian trail sites could be listed under walking. The Mill Springs visitor center should be listed in the Mill Springs section. Take advantage of this annual opportunity.

The Battle of Mill Springs is also listed on the new Kentucky Civil Sites Association website. The entry has a succinct history and includes location, hours and other pertinent information regarding the visitor center and museum. Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery and the Brown-Lanier House are listed under associated sites, but the Mill Springs visitor center is not. Consider adding the visitor center and the West-Metcalfé house to the website.

**Regional marketing**—The battlefield is listed in the regional guide *Travel Kentucky*, printed and distributed by TourSEKY.com. The Southern and Eastern Kentucky Tourism Development Association is based in Somerset and was created to “. . . promote, develop, and market the tourism industry throughout Southern and Eastern Kentucky in an effort to contribute to the economic and cultural growth of the region.”

TourSEKY has granted nearly $73,000 to the MSBA. It has funded interpretive signs, the video, rail fencing, promotional gazebos and other amenities (Figure 4). The one

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requirement that TourSEKY has for funding is that representatives of an organization attend the majority of their monthly meetings. It is important for several reasons that the battlefield is represented at TourSEKY meetings. TourSEKY is a serious marketing organization for Southern and Eastern Kentucky. They are in the process of creating I-phone applications for the Country Music Highway—shouldn’t there be an app for the Civil War?

The TourSEKY guide and associated website provide the opportunity to make more information available to potential visitors. CR 235 is listed as the George Thomas-Felix K. Zollicoffer Kentucky Scenic Byway. State Route 90 is part of the Cumberland Cultural Heritage Highway, a state scenic byway. CR 235 bisects the battlefield and the West-Metcalfe House can be seen and accessed via SR 90.

The latest TourSEKY travel guide is designed to work in tandem with the TourSEKY website. The guide is a promotional piece filled with photographs and lively text. One of the four covers of the 2010 guide features reenactors firing a cannon. The guide is divided into six categories, one of which is history. The fifteen-page history section highlights the offerings within the region, including the Mill Springs Battlefield.

Two-page spreads on pages 44-45 and 48-49 are devoted to the Mill Springs Battlefield. These large, color photographs promote the battlefield and the Nancy visitor center. There is also a full-page map featuring all of the Civil War sites in the TourSEKY region that includes the Mill Springs Battlefield Visitor Center & Museum and the Brown-Lanier House. The accompanying website is still under construction, providing an excellent opportunity to work with TourSEKY—to provide photographs of the exhibit gallery, the battlefield, the Brown-Lanier House, West-Metcalfe House, and the visitor center in Mill Springs.

The next edition of the TourSEKY guide will provide the opportunity to give the southern portion of the battlefield its own identity. We recommend calling the visitor center on the south side of Lake Cumberland the Mill Springs Battlefield Visitor Center—South. Ask that TourSEKY to use this name. Make sure that the website tells visitors that the Brown-Lanier House is part of the Battle of Mill Springs to make it clear that the house is not associated with the US Army Corps of Engineers Mill Springs Mill Park.

A second regional publication, Lake Cumberland, Kentucky, which is produced by the Dale Hollow Marketing Group, has a full-page ad purchased by MSBA and the battlefield is mentioned in the front of the publication. This is an excellent proactive marketing effort on the part of the MSBA. This for-profit publication highlighting the lake and recreation is distributed in five counties.
Local Marketing—Two local tourism organizations promote the battlefield: the Somerset-Pulaski Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Monticello-Wayne County Chamber of Commerce. The Somerset-Pulaski County website includes the Brown-Lanier House and the battlefield. The main photograph in the history section of the website is of the battlefield.

On the other hand, the Somerset-Pulaski CVB website lists Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery as Zollicoffer Park, under the heading of recreational parks. It should be removed from this listing. Over the years the cemetery has come to be known as Zollicoffer Park. The word “park” implies recreation. To their credit, the website notes that Zollicoffer Park is strictly dedicated to the history of the Battle of Mill Springs. In the future, use the name Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery to avoid this type of listing.

The Monticello-Wayne County Chamber site highlights the Brown-Lanier House and lists the hours for guided tours. Some of the historical information on the Wayne County site is wrong. This site also features the West-Metcalfe House. The image on the website is a wonderful historic (pre-1980) image of the house; however, a picture of the house after restoration would be more appropriate (Figure 5).

When Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. visited the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce the Chamber did not have any battlefield brochures. There were no copies of the driving tour brochure and no one from the battlefield had visited the Chamber of Commerce office in the last ten months.

The publication, Welcome to Wayne County, Kentucky produced by the Wayne County Outlook, the Monticello-Wayne County newspaper, features articles and photographs of the Mill Springs information center and gift shop (visitor center), the Brown-Lanier House and the West-Metcalfe House. This publication is produced annually and is distributed throughout the county, including by the MSBA at the Mill Springs Information Center and Bookstore.
ACTIONS

Review Brochures, Websites and Publications
The best way to insure that what you want before the public is accurate and tells your story is to review what is currently out there. There is a lot of information in print and on the web promoting the Mill Springs Battlefield, but does it contain what you want potential visitors to see?
- Civil War Discovery Trail
- Kentucky Official Visitors Guide
- Kentucky Civil War Sites Association
- TourSEKY guides
- Somerset-Pulaski Convention and Visitor Bureau
- Monticello-Wayne County Chamber of Commerce

Scrutinize each entry for accuracy, consistency between publications, and the power to generate interest.
- Review all copy
- Review all images
- Check phone numbers
- Check web addresses
- Check street addresses
- Check for needed updates
- Write text to entice visitors
- Write action-oriented prose
- Avoid old, digitized and out-of-focus photographs

Look at everything that markets the Mill Springs Battlefield. When necessary, rewrite text to grab the visitor’s attention—this may be the only chance the MSBA has to attract the individual seeing the entry. Emphasize authenticity, the battle, and what there is to see and do. Write clear, action-oriented prose; make the battlefield sound like the interesting and exciting site that it is. Have a ready supply of current images that show the battlefield at its best—artillery, fences, seasonal shots, the best of the exhibit gallery, historic structures and people visiting the battlefield. The MSBA should invest in a good camera and take photographs at all events and of the battlefield in all seasons to create a contemporary image library and also keep high resolution copies of historical images on hand to add authenticity to articles.

Get the Mill Springs Battlefield brochure in Kentucky’s Welcome Centers
One way to let the traveling public know that the Mill Springs Battlefield exists and what
it has to offer visitors is the display brochures at Kentucky’s nine Welcome Centers. Brochures must comply with guidelines in the Kentucky Department of Travel & Tourism Welcome Centers’ Brochure Policy, see Appendix 3.

Work Closely with Local Tourism Agencies
The MSBA should develop a close working relationship with TourSEKY, the Somerset-Pulaski Conventions and Visitors Bureau and the Monticello-Wayne County Chamber of Commerce. MSBA should verify that the information on their websites and in the printed material that they are distributing is accurate, useful and appropriate. Local organizations are on the front line—they are the gatekeepers for tourists. It is the MSBA’s responsibility to ensure that they have the copy, photographs, and information they need to effectively market the battlefield.

The MSBA should contact local tourism organizations to ascertain deadlines for the submission of materials for their promotional pieces. MSBA should provide new information and photographs each year for brochures and websites, something that has been neglected recently. Go by the offices, meet the staff, find out what the battlefield can do to help tourism professionals better promote the site. Carolyn Mounce in Somerset and Marilyn Hensley in Monticello want to promote the battlefield, but to do their job well they need your assistance. They promote all of the sites in their respective counties, but they can’t possibly know or be expected to know the battlefield as well as MSBA staff.

Develop a Media Resource Library
Creating copy for brochures, the website, radio, newspapers and other marketing vehicles is an ongoing task. Battlefield staff should keep reference copies of all marketing materials, whether developed in-house or by other agencies. All materials released to the media should be evaluated for effectiveness and the copy improved for the next media campaign. Writing copy well in advance of the deadlines and having prepared copy that can be used in several applications will help MSBA create consistent marketing tools.

Although developed specifically for marketing the Pathways program, the Pathways Communications & Media Kit prepared by AASLH contains a number of useful and universally applicable suggestions for targeting media, handling media interviews, selecting publicity tools, developing media lists, and understanding media deadlines.

Find Ways to Increase the Marketing Budget
Last year, the MSBA had a marketing budget of about $500. Money is tight, but if more
people come to the Nancy visitor center they are likely to generate increased revenue for the battlefield. The marketing opportunities discussed earlier do not cost the battlefield anything—they are free. Partnering with the Somerset-Pulaski CVB, TourSEKY and the Monticello-Wayne County Chamber of Commerce will help stretch advertising dollars. MSBA should work closely with these organizations. Marketing has been a low priority for some years. With most of the battlefield land preserved, it is time for MSBA to direct its efforts toward expanding the interpretive program and attracting visitors. A reasonable goal is to double visitation in five years. To do so, the MSBA will have to invest. Advertisements in national, statewide and regional publications are expensive, but they will draw attention.

**Define Measurable Objectives**
Without measurable objectives it is difficult to judge progress. It is recommended that the MSBA define measurable objectives and the actions necessary to achieve those objectives. For example:

Objective: Total visitation will exceed 20,000 by the end of 2016
   - **Action:** Place brochures in all Kentucky Welcome Centers
   - **Action:** Place exhibit ‘Visit Mill Springs Battlefield’ at marinas, state parks and other appropriate locations in the Somerset-Mill Springs region
   - **Action:** Send “Discover the Battle of Mill Springs” information packets to every Civil War Roundtable whose troops fought in the battle

**Evaluate Marketing Efforts for Effectiveness**
Document each new marketing initiative—number of brochures put in Welcome Centers, packets mailed to Roundtables, date the new website was launched—and the response each generates. Track hits to the website, requests received for information by mail and email, which Roundtables responded, tours booked, and so on. Color-code free or discount coupons, add a lettered or numbered code to registrations forms for programs.

Find out more about your visitors by conducting surveys; ask visitors if they came to the area primarily to vacation at Lake Cumberland, to visit the battle field, or for another reason. Ask them how they found out about the battlefield or how they learned about an event. Tracking data can be time consuming but without it there is no way to ascertain which marketing efforts are successful and which need to be modified or are not worth the funds they require. It may be necessary to hire a marketing consultant to help MSBA decide which methods are best for tracking the effectiveness of marketing campaigns.
BUILDING LOCAL SUPPORT
The Mill Springs Battlefield is located in two small communities in two counties. It has or should have ties to both Somerset and Monticello. Reaching out to these communities in a proactive way will draw attention to the battlefield and help make the battlefield and those associated with it part of the community. Given the limited staff now available, this will be a challenge, but if the effort is successful it will generate support for the battlefield, and may lead to increased funding for staff. Until that time, the MSBA should devote effort to building a corps of dedicated volunteers.

**INTRODUCE THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE COMMUNITY**

The MSBA can take several simple, inexpensive actions to raise the battlefield’s profile. The community cannot support the battlefield if it is not aware of its presence, its significance, and its role in the local economy.

**Reach out to local merchants**

In Nancy, many businesses have *Mill Springs* as part of their name. This implies that those individuals see the tie to the national cemetery and the Mill Springs Battlefield Visitor Center and Museum as an important part of their community’s identity.

Invite business owners in Nancy to an open house. Many business owners may not be familiar with the site’s history. Show the video and tell them about the battlefield. Ask how they and the battlefield might partner. Hand out an FAQ (*frequently asked questions*), sheet with answers to questions about the visitor center, the battle, battlefield, and the
national cemetery, so that they can correctly answer questions that, as business people, they may be asked by travelers. Ask business owners for information about hours and services so visitor center staff can give it to visitors looking for meals, gasoline, or other needs. Offer businesses catering to tourists and travelers space for brochures and rack cards in return for giving the MSBA brochure space or providing space for a small poster advertising the battlefield.

Create an Exhibit
Develop an inexpensive but attractive panel exhibit. One panel should be a brief history of the battle with maps, color photographs and Civil War-era images. The second might illustrate what the MSBA has accomplished—land preserved, the visitor center, restoration of the West-Metcalf House, the interpretive program. The remaining panels should be devoted to future plans and information on how people can get involved. Feature the battlefield’s Zollie Tree logo. Provide a web address and other contact information. If possible and practical, pair the panels with a case exhibit containing artifacts or reproductions. The exhibit might be placed in the public library where it would be seen by a large number of people, and for short periods of time in schools. MSBA might contact some of the larger businesses and ask if the exhibit could be placed in their lobby for a week or two. It’s important to get the message out to the largest number and widest variety of people possible.

Speak at Service Clubs
MSBA could develop a program to present at service clubs. The presentation should not be a history lesson, but a public relations and marketing tool. Use five minutes or so to present a brief history of the battle. Stress the significance of the battle and its National Historic Landmark status. Follow with an overview of the progress MSBA has made in preserving and interpreting the battlefield. Focus on projects that are underway and those being planned. End the presentation with an economics lesson based on the CWPT’s Blue, Gray and Green. If possible, incorporate data gathered from local sources to demonstrate the impact the battlefield has already had on the economic health of the community and stress that now that the battlefield is largely preserved, its economic impact will grow in proportion to the growth of its interpretive program.

Host a Booth at Local Festivals
Having a presence at festivals is a great way to meet the public and to spread your message—MSBA can reach almost 10,000 people during one SomerNights Cruise weekend. A professional, portable outdoor display might be developed as a back drop for the booth. This display could include color photographs, text, and images designed to
attract festival goers to the booth. Feature the battlefield’s Zollie Tree logo. The exhibit discussed in the section above could form part of the offering for visitors. A costumed interpreter would draw attention. MSBA might have a drawing for a framed print, which would require registration and help build a list of names, mailing addresses and email addresses of people who could be sent information on the membership organization and upcoming events. A Civil War-themed children’s game would provide an opportunity to interest younger people. A small prize—a Mill Springs Battlefield tee-shirt, a small reproduction cannon, a Mill Springs coloring book developed by the MSBA or an inexpensive kepi—might be given to each child who successfully completes the game. Corporate sponsors might provide the prizes.

**BECOME A COMMUNITY GATHERING PLACE**

Offering after-hours programs at the visitor center in Nancy and the Brown-Lanier House can help the battlefield become part of the community. Residents will begin to see the battlefield not only as a place to take out-of-town guests but as a valuable resource for recreational learning.

**Host a film series**

Over the winter, the MSBA might offer an evening film series of Civil War or other historical films or documentaries for no cost or for a minimal charge. After the film, invite viewer’s opinions regarding the film’s portrayal of the historical event—costuming, historical accuracy, evidence of bias, actor’s skill—whatever gets people talking. As a part of film nights, the exhibits and gift shop might be open.

**Have an Exhibit**

There are many images of the battlefield that could be used to develop an exhibit for the visitor center community room or in the Brown-Lanier House. There are a number of images of the battle created in the nineteenth century that could be used to create an exhibit named *The Battle of Mill Springs – The Historic Images*. A short block of text mounted on the wall next to each image might explain when the image was made, where and when it was originally published, and what it depicts. Open the exhibit with an evening reception and leave it up for six months. Follow with an exhibit of modern images of the battlefield, a *Faces of War* exhibit featuring the images of the soldiers who fought at the battle of Mill Springs, or an exhibit of some of the images donated by Mr. Duke Turpin. Open each new exhibit with a reception. Changing exhibits create a reason for local visitors to come back and add another activity for one-time visitors.
Create the look of a gallery by purchasing simple black frames with white or black mats in several standard sizes—16 x 20, 11 x 14, 8 x 10 and 5 x 7 inches. The same frames can be used for subsequent exhibits. Consider installing a picture rail on the wall just below the ceiling in the Brown Lanier House similar to the one in the community room at the visitor center in Nancy to facilitate hanging framed images without damaging the walls.

**Sponsor concerts at the Brown-Lanier House and West-Metcalfe House**
Consider holding summer concerts at the Brown-Lanier House and West-Metcalfe House. Both houses have wide porches suitable for performers and lawns that can accommodate a large number of chairs—the price of admission being a lawn chair to sit on. Presentations of traditional music, Civil War-era music, or light classical music by local college ensembles or groups would provide residents and visitors another reason to visit. *Note: Both of these houses are on the battlefield but they are not in the Core Area. Using the houses for concerts is not inappropriate because the activity is not taking place on hallowed ground.*

**Begin a Civil War Roundtable**
Organize a local Civil War Roundtable to provide an ongoing forum for the exchange of ideas and information. Roundtable meetings give local enthusiasts and visitors a venue in which to gather and enjoy their passion. During the Civil War sesquicentennial, host a monthly or quarterly lecture series.

**Build Partnerships with Like-Minded Organizations**
The Wayne County Historical Society and the Monticello Woman’s Club have expressed interest in working with the MSBA. Partnering with these organizations could help increase visitation to the partner sites and might provide a way to sharing of resources and facilities for the benefit of all.

The West-Metcalfe House is a significant part of Wayne County history. Reach out to the Wayne County Historical Society; ask if the Historical Society would consider working with the MSBA to staff and interpret the house. The MSBA might develop a temporary exhibit to be installed in the William Crenshaw Kennedy, Jr. Memorial Museum in Monticello to let the public know that the house has been restored and to build support for opening the site to the public.

**Have a program at the West-Metcalfe House.**
The setting of the West-Metcalfe House, in the wide agricultural valley, vividly illustrates the reason the Confederates chose to establish their base of operations in Mill Springs...
in 1861-62. The recently restored house would make the perfect backdrop for a simple living history program with one or two costumed interpreters and would give the community a chance to see the restored interior. Temporary exhibits interpreting the building’s history and restoration could be printed on foam core and placed in the house.

**BECOME AN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE**

Offering educational programs for adults and children will change the way the community sees the battlefield, transforming it from what many view as a “tourist activity” to a community resource that offers meaningful experiences. People expect museums and historic sites to offer educational programs—and 94% of them do. They are rewarded with repeat visitation and community support.

**Develop children’s programs**

Develop age-appropriate monthly or bi-monthly children’s programs. Each half-day program at the Nancy visitor center might have a limited enrollment and charge a modest fee. The children’s activities should be hands-on and they should be mission-based—they should educate the participants about the Battle of Mill Springs and why it is an important part of our nation’s history.

Create programs that offer meaningful and memorable experiences. Participants might explore the life of the soldiers encamped at Beech Grove—deciding what possessions to bring with them on the campaign, sampling hard tack, writing a letter home using a dip pen, building and furnishing a miniature winter cabin—all offer starting points for discussion. A tour of the Beech Grove encampment and earthworks could begin a program for older children, who could explore what these tangible remains and the artifacts recovered from the encampment tell us about the soldiers encamped there. The *Pathways* program developed by the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) offers a wealth of ideas that could be adapted to the battlefield. Look at programs offered by other sites and see how they might be adapted to the Battle of Mill Springs.

**Offer meaningful adult programs**

Mature learners come to museums and historic sites to learn something new, to be entertained, and to socialize. Many seek experiences that lead to personal growth. These programs attract hundreds of thousands of people each year. The Mill Springs Battlefield could be a tremendous resource for adult learners, and well-administered programs can pay for themselves. There is no limit to the types of programs the Mill Springs Battlefield might offer—docent and interpreter training, professionally led archaeological
investigations, Union and Confederate strategy at the Battle of Mill Springs, “reading the battlefield,” discerning patterns and meaning in artifact distribution, researching Civil War ancestors, how to use the *Official Records of the War of the Rebellion* on CD—are a few possibilities. Offering adult programs can help create a pool of volunteers, encourage repeat visitation, and strengthen the community and its ties to the battlefield while changing people’s lives. Consult *Adult Museum Programs: Designing Meaningful Experiences* by Bonnie Sachatello-Sawyer, et al, for practical advice on adult learners, types of programs, planners, instructors, and designing an excellent learning experience.

**Staffing Battlefield Programs**

The Mill Springs Battlefield will need additional staff to implement many of the programs and activities described above. One of MSBA’s most significant weaknesses is the organization’s lack of a strong, committed corps of volunteers.

A strong volunteer program will not only provide staff, it can also help grow the battlefield by creating a group of people committed to its success—the battlefield’s success becomes their success. Most cultural, heritage and natural sites, including the National Parks, rely strongly on volunteers. The best programs have waiting lists of individuals eager to volunteer. Volunteers can undertake any phase of battlefield operation—marketing, program development, fundraising, creating brochures, even developing and running the volunteer program. Should the MSBA doubt that the time spent recruiting volunteers is worth the effort involved, Larry Beck and Ted Cable cite the following in *Interpretation for the 21st Century*: The National Park Service calculates that it receives $32 worth of work for every dollar spent on recruiting and training. Beck and Cable go on to say that more then 300 volunteers donate over 20,000 hours annually at the Louisiana Nature and Science Center—the equivalent of 10 full-time staff positions; and at the private, non-profit Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota, volunteers organize and manage the volunteer program, which has over 150 participants who donate more than 10,000 hours annually. These statistics are not isolated incidents. Recruiting and training volunteers would be well worth MSBA’s time and effort.

It’s interesting that research found that almost seventy percent of those who volunteer respond to personal invitations to do so. People need to be asked to volunteer; they cannot be expected to approach MSBA. People can be invited individually or through presentations made to social, civic, scout, church or other groups. There are two groups that the MSBA should not overlook in its recruiting efforts—seniors and teenagers. Seniors have valuable skills and often are looking for meaningful ways in which to use them. Seniors and retirees are the backbone of many successful volunteer programs.
Teenagers are among the best and least often considered group when recruiting volunteers. Beck and Cable state that teen volunteer hours increased considerably in the 1990s. Like adults they must be asked, but when asked by an adult about ninety percent accept the invitation.

Every volunteer, no matter what their age, wants the experience to be enjoyable and interesting. They want responsibility, recognition for their efforts, and to learn by doing. Even though volunteers aren’t paid they should be treated the same way paid staff is treated, and the MSBA should expect as much of them as it does its paid staff—to commit to a schedule, to be there on time, and to perform duties in a professional manner. Volunteers should receive training, be given the opportunity to grow as individuals, and rewarded for the work they do. They should never be taken for granted.

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) offers periodic one-day workshops on creating and maintaining a volunteer program. The AASLH Technical Leaflet, *Establishing a Volunteer Program: A Case Study: The Valentine Museum, Richmond, Virginia* by Laura Daly, is an excellent, inexpensive source on building and maintaining a dedicated corps of volunteers. Another valuable resource is the American Association for Museum Volunteers (AAMV), a national organization that supports both volunteers and the staff who work with them. *Transforming Museum Volunteering: A Practical Guide for Engaging 21st Century Volunteers* by Ellen Hirzy is published by the AAMV. The book contains practical information, sample forms, helpful resources and a toolkit for engaging volunteers. Valuable insights are also found in *Volunteer Management: Mobilizing All the Resources of the Community* by Steve McCurley and Rick Lynch. This volume contains an extensive bibliography, resource list, sample volunteer management policies, and numerous forms and worksheets.
The Mill Springs Battlefield Association oversees two visitor centers, one in Nancy in Pulaski County, and one in Mill Springs in Wayne County. The Association also owns the only two extant structures associated with the Battle of Mill Springs, the Brown-Lanier House and the West-Metcalfe House, both in Mill Springs. Other existing battlefield facilities include Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery.

Recommendations regarding the Brown-Lanier House are discussed below and in Chapter 8: Interpreting the Mill Springs Battlefield. The West-Metcalfe House and Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery are discussed in the same chapter.

Mill Springs Battlefield Visitor Center and Museum in Nancy
Conversations with the MSBA and site staff indicate that they are satisfied with the way the Nancy visitor center performs, but that there are concerns regarding space to house the growing artifact and archival collection. The rooms that seem to be the most underused are the library and the conference room. Analysis also suggests that the gift shop space could be better used and the inventory improved.

Option—Create Storage Space in the Library
Library materials include a number of duplicate books and books not related to the Mill Springs campaign or the Civil War in the Western Theater. The battlefield staff needs a working library to conduct research for programs and exhibits and to increase personal knowledge of the site and its place in the Civil War. Items that do not contribute to that
end could be sold or they could be donated to an appropriate facility. Fitting the hard-to-reach lower shelves with doors would create closed storage space.

**Option—Convert the Conference Room into Artifact Processing and Storage**

Existing storage space for artifacts and archival materials will soon be exhausted. The collection already contains bulky items for which there is no storage space. Fitting the conference room with file cabinets, a desk, computer, and floor to ceiling shelving would create a dedicated space for the processing and storage of artifacts and archival material.

The table in the conference room would be moved into the library, turning it into a dual-purpose room, creating space for small conferences and giving researchers more working room. Any conferences too large for the library would be held in the Community Room.

**Option—Rethink the Gift Shop**

The gift shop seems at odds with the character of the site and the visitor center building. The clear shelving forces items to compete for attention and makes it difficult to highlight any one item (Figure 6). People approaching the visitor center have a cluttered view of the backs of items displayed on the exterior wall of the gift shop. Consider replacing the clear shelving with warm-colored solid wood shelving that extends to a height of five feet from the floor. The back side of the shelving visible through the walls of the gift shop becomes an interpretive opportunity. Approaching the entrance, visitors might see a mural (composed of panels) created from a photograph of the last reenactment with *Mill Springs Battlefield National Historic Landmark* in large letters. The side of the gift shop facing the exhibit gallery might have panels with historic images of the battlefield with captions in large letters, or a landscape photo of the battlefield.

**Research facility**

Early in the development of the Mill Springs Battlefield, the MSBA expressed its intention to become a research facility for scholars of the Battle of Mill Springs and its place in the Civil War in the Western Theater. To that end, the MSBA began collecting
reference works, photographs, documents and artifacts. After the visitor center opened in Nancy, local residents approached MSBA with donations of archival materials and artifacts, not all of which were relevant to the Battle of Mill Springs. It may be appropriate at this time for MSBA to reevaluate its goals and objectives as a research and curatorial facility.

Accepting donations of artifacts, original documents, photographs and rare books is accepting responsibility for their care in perpetuity. To do so properly requires staff trained in the conservation and proper handing of such materials. It requires time-consuming cataloging and costly storage materials. It requires facilities that maintain optimum humidity and temperature for each class of item being stored, and security arrangements and planning in the event of a disaster. It also requires ample storage space for expanding collections. These responsibilities should not be undertaken lightly. Before continuing to grow the research facility, the MSBA should decide if such a commitment is in the Association’s best interest and reflects the wisest use of limited resources.

The Mill Springs Battlefield Association already has responsibility for a sizable collection. Before adding to that collection, the Association should craft a collections policy that clearly defines what MSBA will purchase or accept as a donation. A donor form that states MSBA’s rights and responsibilities and those of the donor should be created, as well as a loan form, should the MSBA enter into loan agreements to obtain artifacts or documents for a special purpose or exhibit.

It is strongly recommended that the MSBA acquire archival materials and artifacts only when necessary for research and exhibit purposes. One issue that was expressed by MSBA staff was a lack of storage at the Nancy visitor center. Acquiring additional archival and photographic material and three-dimensional artifacts will require storage and, as mentioned above, expensive archival storage materials. It is recommended that the MSBA partner with an accredited curatorial facility to store any archival material. Photographs could be scanned and high resolution copies made for use in exhibits and publications. Originals could also be borrowed for exhibit purposes. An accredited facility will have the staff and the expertise to care for the collection, and it would be mutually beneficial for both the MSBA and the facility.

The following publications will be helpful if the MSBA decides to pursue a policy of accepting archival materials and artifacts. Complete citations can be found in the Bibliography.

- *Registration Methods for the Small Museum*, Daniel B. Reibel
Destination Sign

During the planning process a number of people remarked that the destination sign for the Nancy visitor center was too small, hard to see, and looks temporary. The brown sign tends to fade into the background against the trees, grass and fence of the national cemetery, which is on higher ground immediately adjacent to the visitor center. The MSBA worked long and hard to make the visitor center a reality; the destination sign should attract attention and compliment the design of the visitor center building.

It is recommended that the MSBA install a large destination sign mounted on a brick-faced base. The full-color Zollie Tree logo should be prominently featured, taking up one-third to one-half of the face of the sign. The words Mill Springs Battlefield should dominate the text, North Visitor Center in somewhat smaller text. Calling the visitor center in Nancy the North Visitor Center will alert visitors that there is more than one battlefield visitor center. Placing an artillery piece next to the sign would reinforce the idea that the visitor center is affiliated with the battlefield and not with the national cemetery.

**Mill Springs Battlefield Visitor Center in Mill Springs**

The interpretive plan completed by Raymond Price Associates in 1994 recommended that two visitor centers be built, one in Mill Springs and one in Nancy. The authors described visitor centers of approximately the same size and offering the same services. That vision has not been realized. The 10,000-square foot visitor center in

![Figure 7: The visitor center in Mill Springs.](image-url)
Nancy has a lobby, gift shop, public restrooms, community room, library, administrative offices, conference room, staff area, storage and a 2,000 square foot exhibit gallery. The Mill Springs visitor center building is approximately 875 square feet (Figure 7).

The Mill Springs visitor center is housed in a building about twenty-five feet wide by thirty-five feet long. A unisex restroom and the reception area occupy about one-third of the interior. There is no dedicated area for visitors to watch the video, which is shown on television that sits on a stand in one corner of the room. Visitors can stand, or sit in folding chairs set up specifically for the viewing. Most of the items for sale are presented in two freestanding hutches and on a revolving display; prints are on a stand in the center of the room. A collection of artifacts is arranged in a glass fronted cabinet.

The space in the current facility could be used more efficiently and effectively, but the building is simply too small to function adequately as the visitor center for this significant area of the battlefield. There is little likelihood of a new visitor center being constructed in Mill Springs in the foreseeable future, nor is constructing a new building in this historic area particularly desirable.

Option—Move the visitor center to the adjacent rental property
The MSBA owns the brick ranch house and associated property adjacent to the Brown-Lanier House. This structure could be converted into a visitor center without extensive modification. It is large enough to house a reception area with gift shop, administrative office, staff area, storage, restroom, and video presentation area.

The current visitor center building would house self-guided exhibits. These exhibits would be primarily wall-mounted panels enhanced with inexpensive reproduction artifacts. A three-dimensional topographic map in the center of the room would illustrate Mill Springs in 1862—the Mill and other industrial buildings, the Brown-Lanier and West-Metcalfe houses, other residences and the Confederate earthworks. The unstaffed exhibit building would be left unlocked during regular hours of operation; the interior could be monitored with a video camera.

Putting the visitor center into a larger facility would not only make it possible to provide adequate visitor services, but would tell elected officials and residents of Wayne County that the MSBA considers Mill Springs to be a significant part of the battlefield National Historic Landmark. The income now generated from renting the house contributes to paying costs associated with preserving and interpreting the Mill Springs Battlefield, and in that way supports the mission of the MSBA. Only the Association can decide if the
enhanced image of the battlefield in Wayne County and increased visitor services that would result from such a move would compensate for the loss of income.

Option—Move the visitor center to the Brown-Lanier House
Moving the visitor center to Brown-Lanier would accomplish many of the same objectives as moving it to the adjacent rental property, although this option is less desirable in that the physical configuration of Brown-Lanier is less suitable and any modifications will have to respect the structure’s architectural integrity.

From an interpretive standpoint, the optimal use of the Brown-Lanier house is to interpret it as the Lanier residence and as a military headquarters before and after the Battle of Mill Springs. That would still be possible, though to a lesser extent, if the reception area and gift shop were moved to the ground floor of the house.

If this option is exercised, the parlor of the house would become the reception area and gift shop. The center room and dining room would interpret the house as a military headquarters and as the Lanier home, respectively. The exhibits in these rooms would be self-guided. The video would be shown in an alcove in the Headquarters Room. The kitchen would serve as the staff break room; the upper floor would become office and storage space. The current visitor center building would house self-guided exhibits, as described above.

The Brown-Lanier House is now marketed as a bed and breakfast inn and wedding venue. Most bookings are scheduled for weekends, when site visitation is highest. Tours cannot be given if the house is occupied. Brown-Lanier generated about $2,500 between January 1 and November 1, 2010; with no further reservations pending. Again, only the MSBA can decide if using the house as an inn is the best use for one of the two remaining structures associated with the battlefield.

Option—Improve the current facility
A number of small improvements would make the current visitor center space more efficient, more professional in appearance, and would allow a few panel exhibits to be installed.

- Eliminate glass-fronted cabinet with artifact display. Use appropriate artifacts in new exhibits.

- Consolidate gift and souvenir items. If possible, construct more efficient display
furniture. Alternatively, move existing display furniture into the corner so that they command more attention but take up as little space as possible. Discard revolving gift display furniture. Use inexpensive risers to create more space on wide shelves for the display of small items (Figure 8).

- Eliminate print display stand in center of floor. Display framed prints on the walls; group them for more impact. Place easy-to-read labels in the lower right corners stating the prices of unframed prints. Restrict art on walls to prints offered for sale (Figure 8).

- Clear the reception counter. Put all brochures and tourism information in racks installed on the wall behind and to the left of the reception desk (Figure 9).

- Eliminate open shelving beneath window on rear wall. Move tourism information publications to brochure and publication rack (Figure 10).

- Create a comfortable video viewing area. Place the television on a wood cabinet that allows visitors to comfortably see the screen when seated. Fit the cabinet with shelves spaced to store overstock prints. Rectangular wooden boxes covered with low-pile carpeting make sturdy bench seating. If they are fitted with hinged lids they become storage space for overstock brochures or gifts (Figure 11).
• Install exhibits as described in Chapter 8: *Interpreting the Mill Springs Battlefield.*

**Visitor Center Identity**
Many visitors believe that the visitor center and the Brown-Lanier House are part of the US Army Corps of Engineers Mill Springs Mill property. This is understandable. The battlefield visitor center stands adjacent to the entrance to the mill property, which is identified with a large sign mounted on an impressive stone-faced base topped with a flagstaff. The battlefield visitor center is identified only by the *Zollie Tree* logo on the small sign labeled *Visitor Parking* and by the black and white sign on the visitor center building, which reads *Battlefield Information Center and Bookstore.* It is recommended that the sign on the visitor center building be replaced with a sign similar to that on the destination sign described below (Figure 12).

A large, attractive destination sign should be placed on the visitor center lawn to identify the building and the property as part of the Mill Springs battlefield. The full-color Mill Springs Battlefield *Zollie Tree* logo should be prominently displayed so that visitors recognize the building as part of the Mill Springs Battlefield and learn to associate the logo with the battlefield if they do not already do so. The sign might read *Mill Springs Battlefield—South Visitor Center,* alerting visitors that there is a battlefield visitor center in another location. *Brown-Lanier House* and *West-Metcalf House* could be placed in smaller type under the logo, identifying those sites as part of the battlefield.

**Notice Board**
There is a large notice board near the visitor center. Most of the items on the notice board...
are shabby, faded and outdated (Figure 13). It is recommended that MSBA remove the notice board and use the space for interpretive panels.

**Battlefield Comfort Stations**

The driving tour takes visitors nine miles south of the visitor center in Nancy. Visitors who take their time, stop at each tour stop, and walk the existing and proposed pedestrian trials will be on the battlefield for an extended period of time. Visitors who are uncomfortable will not stay long. To insure visitors physical comfort MSBA should build one or two simple restroom facilities on the battlefield. These facilities should have water fountains and could also have vending machines with snacks and drinks.

Until permanent facilities can be constructed, chemical toilets could be installed. Shielding the facilities with wooden fencing would provide privacy and would help protect the visual integrity of the battlefield in which they are installed.

Space requirements, compliance with sanitary codes, and impact on the battlefield’s archeological resources and landscape will determine the location of permanent facilities. MSBA owns considerable property on which comfort stations could be constructed. A restroom at or near Driving Tour Stop 6, Moulden’s Hill and Driving Tour Stop 7: Fortification Site would be desirable.

**Mill Springs Battlefield Use Statement/Policy**

The MSBA requested that Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. develop a use statement/policy clearly defining what activities are allowed on battlefield land as part of this project. Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. reviewed the use/statement policy enforced at Stones River National Battlefield and crafted a use statement for the Mill Springs Battlefield based on National Park Service policy (Appendix 4).
APPENDIX 1:
MUDPUPPY & WATERDOG, INC. SURVEY RESPONSES
Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. conducted a visitor survey between May 30 and September 30, 2009. During that time, 440 forms were completed, 309 at the Nancy Visitor Center and 131 in Mill Springs. The numbers in the responses below indicate the number of checks that answer received; some people checked multiple answers.

## Nancy Survey Responses

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Are you a first time visitor?</strong></td>
<td>290</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>How did you hear about the Mill Springs battlefield?</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brochure or rack card</td>
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<tr>
<td>Web site</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky Visitor Guide</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friend or relative</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Have you visited or do you plan to visit the battlefield in Mill Springs? (Wayne County)</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>If No Why?</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too Far</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not have enough time</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough to do</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not interested</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Did not know it existed</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>What did you or what do you plan to do during your visit?</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum/Visitor Center exhibits</td>
<td>227</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>View video</td>
<td>148</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving tour</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit Zollicoffer Park</td>
<td>124</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tour Brown-Lanier House</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tour Mill Springs Mill</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tour West-Metcalfe House</td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Walking trails at Zollicoffer Park</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Walking trails (earthworks) Driving Tour Stop 7</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mill Springs Visitor Center</td>
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**Which battlefield events have attended in the past or do you plan to attend in the future?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tr>
<td>Battle Anniversary Observance</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial Day Observance</td>
<td>62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Living History Weekend</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghostwalk</td>
<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Battle Reactment</td>
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**What would you like to see at the Mill Springs Battlefield?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>More living history</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guided tours</td>
<td>117</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artillery/musket demonstrations</td>
<td>78</td>
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<td>Activities for children</td>
<td>59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participatory activities</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhibits in Mill Springs</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events in Mill Springs</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown-Lanier House open daily</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West-Metcalfe House open daily</td>
<td>33</td>
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## Mill Springs Survey Responses

### Are you a first time visitor?

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<tr>
<th></th>
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<td></td>
<td>76</td>
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### How did you hear about the Mill Springs battlefield?

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<tr>
<td>Web site</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky Visitor Guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friend or relative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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### Have you visited or do you plan to visit the battlefield in Nancy? (Pulaski County)

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<td>84</td>
<td>47</td>
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### If No Why?

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<tr>
<td>Not interested</td>
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<tr>
<td>Did not know it existed</td>
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### What did you or what do you plan to do during your visit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Museum/Visitor Center exhibits</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View video</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Driving tour</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit Zollicoffer Park</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tour Brown-Lanier House</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tour Mill Springs Mill</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tour West-Metcalfe House</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walking trails (earthworks) Driving Tour Stop 7</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Battle Anniversary Observance</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Day Observance</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Living History Weekend</td>
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<td>Ghostwalk</td>
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<table>
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</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>West-Metcalfe House open daily</td>
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</table>
APPENDIX 2:

PRE-VISIT MATERIALS FOR CAMP NELSON CIVIL WAR SITE

FROM SLAVE TO SOLDIER: CAMP NELSON AND THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
From Slave to Soldier: 
Camp Nelson and the African 
American Experience

by Sonya Gardner, Franklin Co. High School
edited by Joe Brent, Kentucky Heritage Council

Introduction

Bordered by scenic palisades on the Kentucky River lies gentle rolling pastures that were once home to Camp Nelson—Kentucky's largest recruitment and training center for African Americans in the Civil War. Some 10,000 former slaves and freedmen were enlisted at the Camp Nelson site, making it the third largest black military encampment in the nation. Row upon row of military grave markers, with the initials U.S.C.T. (United States Colored Troops), tell their own vivid story of the many soldiers who were once a part of Camp Nelson. Segregated in death, as they were in life, these black soldiers' contributions led to a new era of advancement for all African Americans in the Commonwealth. Their journey to freedom began long before they enlisted at Camp Nelson and continued to be a difficult one even in post-war Kentucky.

The Civil War policies in Kentucky were conflicting and ever-changing, so it was no wonder that the policies for recruitment of black troops were unique as well. At the beginning of the Civil War, the Federal government had rejected the offer of free blacks to enlist in the Union army. In fact, Lincoln assured slaveholders that the war would not affect the "peculiar institution." But the need for troops forced President Lincoln to allow them to enlist. Fearing adverse reactions by its citizens, Lincoln exempted the Bluegrass state, therefore forcing the first Kentucky American Americans to enlist in the Union army outside of the state.

As soon as the Federal army entered Kentucky, it began impressing slaves for military labor just as the Confederate army had impressed thousands of slaves to work on defensive positions. The Union army at first only used slaves from people who were disloyal, but later even loyal Kentuckians lost their slaves in order to prepare for a Confederate invasion of Kentucky. These impressed slaves built roads, cut timber for new bridges and to repair old ones, chopped wood for railway engines, worked on Federal river boats, and built fortifications.

Enlisting for Freedom

What started as a trickle soon swelled into a steady stream of arrivals of slaves into Union camps by the end of 1861. The arrival of Federal troops in Kentucky provided many bondsmen their first real opportunity to challenge the slave system. At first blacks entered the military camps out of curiosity. Some soldiers encouraged the slaves to run away while others simply hired them to cook to do other camp duty. Once the labor jobs were filled, the military had little or no use for additional slaves and their families.

Kentucky slaves fleeing to Union camps increased dramatically during the summer and fall of 1862. Despite new orders to sur-

Private Jesse
Keenegan, Co. F 108
USCT, from Louis-
vilie. Courtesy
Kentucky Heritage
Council.
KY OK On Connections

render the Kentucky slaves in Federal camps, the situation worsened. Many Union troops were sympathetic to the plight of the slaves. Masters who entered the camps threatening to whip or shoot slaves who refused to return home only encouraged the soldiers to aid the fleeing slaves. Soldiers increasingly resorted to surrender fugitives to their owners and often let slaves join them as they marched through the state.

Once recruitment began, thousands of Kentucky African Americans left farms to join the Union army. Regiments were filled at Louisville, Paducah, Lebanon, Covington, Bowling Green, and Camp Nelson. Camp Nelson was by far the largest, and by the end of the war some 10,000 African American soldiers had passed through its gates.

Second only to Louisiana, Kentucky provided 23,000 black troops for the Union. The U.S. Colored Troops from Camp Nelson performed garrison duty throughout Kentucky and were involved in a number of skirmishes as well as major battles in the 1864 Saltville and Virginia campaigns. Two Camp Nelson regiments, the 114th and 116th U.S. Colored Infantries, were sent east and saw action around Petersburg and Richmond, Virginia.

Families at Camp Nelson

One of the saddest tragedies of this mass movement of slaves was that the families of soldiers often suffered greatly after entering Union lines. Federal authorities were as unwilling and unprepared to receive refugees after 1863 as they had been in 1861 and 1862. As the men went into Federal camps, their families followed. Sometimes whole families fled together. William Jones and his wife started their journey to Camp Nelson on March 11, 1865, after escaping from Scott County. They took with them their clothing and their life savings of sixty-six dollars. The couple was captured and robbed by a Lexington patrol, but despite everything, Jones said he "would rather die than go back." A second attempt without his wife was successful. The treatment of refugees at Camp Nelson was, unfortunately, all too typical. Upon arriving they found a hostile post commander, Brigadier General Speed S. Fry, who rejected any responsibility for feeding or sheltering refugees. Despite the threats from Fry, women and children continued to arrive at Camp Nelson in order to escape unfriendly own-

It was during this migration and impressment of slaves into Kentucky Federal camps that news of President Abraham Lincoln’s preliminary Emancipation Proclamation arrived. Although it did not take effect until January 1, 1863, the news of freedom encouraged slaves to flee from their owners and try and free themselves from slavery in the Commonwealth. Unfortunately, the Emancipation Proclamation would not free the Kentucky slaves; only the states that seceded were affected. In 1863 the Federal government conducted a census of blacks between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. The census revealed 40,285 draft-age Kentucky slaves. In March 1864, Governor Thomas E. Bramlette reluctantly agreed to the recruitment of slaves to fill deficits created by the failure of Kentucky to meet the state’s draft quota.
Camp Nelson

ers or at the urging of their soldier-husbands. Fry's policy of harassment continued. A slave girl, employed as a cook at the camp hospital, was arrested and held for her master on Fry's orders. Reportedly, she "begged" to be shot rather than sent back into slavery. A band of sympathetic soldiers who heard her pleas eventually rescued the girl, successfully preventing her return.

Finally, Fry decided to expel those refugees living inside Camp Nelson and destroy their shanty town in order to prevent their return. Early on the morning of November 23, 1864, a bitterly cold day when the temperature remained below freezing, the warmly clad soldiers of the provost guard drove four hundred raggedly clothed women and children, including the sick, from their huts into the "wintry blast." Joseph Miller, a Lincoln County recruit and former slave, described what happened to his family:

A mounted guard came to my tent and ordered my wife and children out of Camp. The morning was bitter cold. It was freezing hard. I was certain that it would kill my sick child to take him out in the cold. I told the man in charge of the guard that it would be the death of my boy. I told him that my wife and children had no place to go and I told him that I was a soldier of the United States. He told me that it did not make any difference. He had orders to take all out of Camp. He told my wife and family that if they did not get up into the wagon . . . he would shoot the last one of them. On being thus threatened my wife and children went into the wagon. My wife carried her sick child in her arms. When they left the tent the wind was blowing hard and cold and we had to leave much of our clothing when we left our master, my wife with her little one was poorly clad. I followed them as far as the lines. I had no knowledge of where they were taking them. At night I went in search of my family. I found them at Nicholasville about six miles from Camp. They were in an old meeting house belonging to the colored people. The building was very cold having only one fire. My wife and children could not be near the fire, because of the number of colored people huddled together . . . I found my wife and children shivering with cold and famished with hunger. They had not received a morsel of food during the whole day. My boy was dead. He died directly after getting down from the wagon. I knew he was killed by exposure to the inclement weather. I had to return to camp that night so I left my family in the meeting house and walked back . . .

Next morning I walked to Nicholasville. I dug a grave myself and buried my own child. I left my family in the Meeting house—where they still remain.

Out of the four hundred refugees driven from Camp Nelson, one hundred and two died from exposure.

Out of the four hundred refugees driven from Camp Nelson, one hundred and two died from exposure. Migration of slave families into camps increased following the new Federal law issued in March 1865, which stated that not only was the male enlistee given his freedom but the wives and children of enlisted slaves were also freed.

There were those who were deeply concerned and protested the government's policy in regard to the refugees at Camp Nelson. John G. Fee, a minister and founder of Berea College, helped expose the inhumane conditions to the nation. After the Northern press reported the incidents, the government was forced to take action. A new policy was created that helped correct the harsh conditions at the camp. The policy called for shelter and rations to be provided to the families of the soldiers.

The government provided lumber and, with the help of the soldiers, homes that resembled army barracks were erected. This only led to close confinement of people causing the rapid spread of disease. At the urging of John Fee, the army began to consider the customs and habits of the refugee
Kentucky Connections

families. "They have been accustomed to
the fireplace and the cabin," he complained,
"not the ward haunted by disease." With
his urging, the superintendent of Camp
Nelson ordered that separate cottages for
individual families be built in the future.
When some complained about the cost of
firewood for cottages, Fee commented, "It
is cheaper to buy additional firewood than
coffins and graves."

After the War

After Appomattox, most former slaves
were celebrating their newly won freedom,
but Kentucky's African Americans found
themselves placed in a unique and bewil-
dering position. Kentucky's legislature and
courts rejected emancipation, leaving sixty-
five thousand people in bondage. This
would not change until the passage of the Thirteenth
Amendment, which freed them
in December 1865, six months after the war
had ended.

Federal officials struggled to force refu-
gees to leave Camp Nelson. Despite their
efforts, by September 1865, 2,477 women
and children were within the perimeter of
the camp. With disease rampant, an appall-
ing death rate once again gripped the
camp. When the camp finally closed in June
1866, 1,300 refugee graves reflected a death
rate of almost 50 percent over the previous
fifteen months.

Following the war many African Ameri-
cans took to the road to seek protection.
Some African Americans were expelled from
their cabins by their old masters, others ran
because they would no longer accept the
authority of others after the war. Miscom-
munication was rampant. Federal authori-
ties considered the Kentucky slaves free, their
masters considered them fugitives. Reform-
ers urged blacks to migrate to regions
where they had greater opportunities, but the rail-
roads refused to transport them without a
pass from their masters, and often they were
arrested.

Because of this desperate situation, Ma-
jor General John M. Palmer decided to use
his authority to help the slaves move out-
side Kentucky to freedom. Taking advan-
tage of martial law, Palmer issued "Palmers
passes," free papers which allowed blacks to
move freely, to seek employment, and ride
trains or river boats. Palmer estimated that
5,000 freedmen had crossed the Ohio River
by mid-July and 10,000 more by November,
beginning another trend of out-migration
which continued through 1890. The
greatest number emigrated during the tur-
bulent 1860s when the state's black popula-
tion declined by 14,000.

Black Kentuckians, using Palmer's passes
during the spring and summer of 1865, also
crowded into cities and federal military
camps, often moving to other locations
when conditions became intolerable. Ravi-
tished by poverty and disease, both in the
cities and the countryside, working when
possible, some resorted to stealing to stay
alive. But despite the extensive suffering
during this transition period, most slaves
preferred their freedom, and the responsi-
bilities that went with it, to slavery.

Given the circumstances of blacks fol-
lowing the Civil War, the government cre-
ated the Freedman's Bureau to assist former
slaves in their transition to freedom by guar-
anteeing impartial justice and by promot-
ing "industry, peace, food, order, and edu-
cation."

The Freedman's Bureau had only lim-
ited success in Kentucky due to the general
hostility among many whites at the war's
end. Whites, like blacks, were bewildered
by the emancipation process. They were
promised that the Emancipation Procla-
mation did not apply to Kentucky. Now they
were witnessing the steady freeing of slaves
by the army and Congress. Many white
Kentuckians felt betrayed by the federal gov-
ernment and unfortunately hostility re-
sulted in a very brutal era of violence in the
Commonwealth.
Mob violence was one of the biggest problems faced by the new freedmen during the post-war period. Much of this terrorism stemmed from the belief that blacks were inferior. Titles were placed on these terrorists such as “regulators,” “guerrillas,” or the Ku Klux Klan. The families of black soldiers were particular objects of hatred among the terrorists. Gangs of whites began beating black soldiers caught alone outside the camp. The white missionaries who had come to work with the freedmen were also easy targets.

The Freedman’s Bureau reported startling statistics of brutality in the Commonwealth. In an 1866 report, fifty-eight incidents including more than two dozen whippings and beatings of men and women, three rapes, eight stampede murders, nine murders, and one case of burning a freedman alive. The 1866-67 bureau report listed twenty murders, eighteen shootings, and eleven rapes in 319 cases of maltreatment of blacks. In the final report, 1868-69, the bureau detailed twenty-six murders, three rapes, and thirty shootings among 327 incidents of violence and maltreatment.

**Conclusion**

During this great time of transition into post-war Kentucky, many blacks decided to stay in the Commonwealth instead of fleeing the state. For some it meant fleeing immediate threat of violence, others just wanted to be beyond the reach of their masters in a place where they were “unknown.” Moving to another part of the state, nearby counties, or just other sections of the same county were common. Looking for security in numbers, many former slaves deserted the rural areas and settled in Kentucky’s urban cities and towns. Scarcely a town or city failed to experience rapid growth. Hoping for economic opportunities, the new black population took any available housing, often living in shanties in the less desirable sections of towns.

Many blacks found entering the military to be a traumatic experience, but one also of hope. They would still face injustice, but a long journey had been endured in the name of freedom and opportunity. The Camp Nelson soldiers and their families provide a unique look at the migration of African Americans in Kentucky. Today the Camp Nelson Preservation and Restoration Foundation and Jessamine County are committed both to telling the Camp Nelson story and to preserving the site of the camp. Besides the Camp Nelson National Cemetery, which is still in use today and contains many black and white soldiers from the Civil War, there is also a driving tour of Camp Nelson, and long term goals call for a historical park and museum to educate the public about this site. For more information about Camp Nelson, contact: Mary Kozak, Project Director, Camp Nelson Preservation Office, 109 Court Row, Nicholasville, KY 40356; (606) 881-9126.
A Teaching Strategy

The article on Camp Nelson may be used as a guide or copied for use with the following classroom activities. The following lessons are for use on the secondary level but may be adapted for all levels.

Activity 1: Camp Nelson Memorial Project

Although there were over 10,000 enlisted African Americans at Camp Nelson, third highest in the nation, there is still no physical monument or other memorial to their contributions. As a group or individual activity, students could design a memorial as an appropriate way of remembering those at Camp Nelson during the Civil War. Student's ideas could be submitted to Camp Nelson possibly to be used in a future exhibit at the site, or even an actual monument could be made from a student's design.

Memorials can be a great learning tool because they take events from our history and express them through the various arts and thus help us to better envision the events that took place. Using the arts to interpret our history is an important tool and can allow students to express their own feelings about the triumph and tragedies of this time period.

When designing their memorials, students should consider the unique situation that Kentucky played during the Civil War and the various groups that played a role in Camp Nelson's history, such as: the white Union soldiers (mainly from Northern states), role of African American Union recruits, families in the refugee camp, civilians in the area, and the use of missionaries in the schools and refugee camp.

Encourage students to put themselves in the place of those being memorialized to portray their emotions and feelings. You may wish to study other memorials in the U.S. to compare styles and controversies surrounding them such as the new F.D.R. memorial, the women's military memorial or the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. What Kentucky memorials and monuments have impressed your students? What would be the best way to express the events you want to help others remember?

Memorials can be of a variety of forms and materials. Some suggestions are:

- Murals—depicting a specific event or the overall story of Camp Nelson. These can be painted first on paper and may be reproduced on a large scale in the future.
- Clay sculptures—of African American soldiers or the refugee camp; this may be reproduced later on a larger scale.
- Models—A replica of the camp, daily life activity, or refugee camp. Although a variety of materials may be used, thin strips of wood or core board are sturdy and easy to paint.
- Music—Writing a song related to events at Camp Nelson or reading the letter of a soldier put to music.
- Poetry—Describe the emotion of the struggle for freedom for many African American Kentuckians.
- Drama—Have a class write a short story that they can act out for their school to depict the role of African Americans in the Civil War.

Activity 2: A Soldier's Letter

Background: African American soldiers at Camp Nelson often fled in haste to enlist in the Union army, leaving behind family and friends whom waited eagerly for news. Many of these soldiers could not read and write which made any contact with home even more difficult. The teachers and missionaries at Camp Nelson were hounded by the African American troops to write letters for them to send to their families. Aided by the few African Americans who were educated, the missionaries spent hours upon hours writing dictated letters. Many soldiers also took advantage of the classes offered at the camp at the Ariel College and learned to read and write for themselves. Missionary Rev. John Fee envisioned the refugee camp as a place to educate and train the freedmen to become self-reliant integrated members of American society. Rev. Fee encourage the educated African American soldiers from Camp...
Nelson to move to Berea and attend college after the war.

Activity: Students should be in pairs for the letter-writing activity. Each pair will take turns dictating to their partner a letter home to their family. This will require good listening skills and students may soon learn that a revision of the letter will be necessary in order to make any corrections. While writing home, students may wish to consider the following:

- experiences on the journey to the camp (migration route, new places, excitement, tragedies, etc.)
- daily life in the camp
- news about how families were allowed into the refugee camp (You may want to encourage your family to join you at the camp. You may give examples of mistreatment of families that did enter Camp Nelson and discourage your family from coming.)
- news about the war front and other military activities
- inquiries about life back home, how they are treated, etc.

Evaluation: Students will want to research their ideas and write an outline of what they wish to be expressed in the letter prior to its being dictated to a fellow student. Students writing the letter will want to revise the letter after the initial interview. Have several students read out loud the letter that their partner interpreted for them. Consider the following questions: Did your partner express your emotions and information correctly? Was it frustrating to relate events and feelings via a stranger? What was difficult about dictating your letter? How would your letter be different if you had written the letter yourself?

Activity 3: Group Role Play

Central Questions: Should Kentucky slaves be allowed to enlist in the Federal army? What effect did the movement of Kentucky slaves into the Federal camps have on their lives?

The issue of whether or not to use black troops in the Civil War was debated in most states during this time, but Kentucky played a unique position during that war and the resulting migration drastically affected the state. Have students represent the following groups in a class debate on this issue. Students should conduct further research on their position and may wish to use primary documents, charts, etc. in their presentations. Each group should be allowed a short presentation of their position before debate begins.

Groups:

- male slaves—What is the price for freedom? What are the cons of not enlisting?
- slave families—If the males leave, how are the families to be treated that remain? How do you stay informed? What are your options? What emotions do you have?
- masters & farmers—What would the loss of male slaves mean to you? What would it mean to the economic future for all farms in Kentucky?
- Governor of Kentucky—How would Beriah Magoffin defend Kentucky's position of neutrality to the Federal government. What realistic conditions make Kentucky vulnerable to Federal control?
- The President(s)—What promises did Lincoln make to Kentucky? What obligations did Kentucky not meet that caused revision of previous promises? How would Jefferson Davis view Kentucky's position?
- Union military officers—What are their concerns? What adjustments might they have to make?

Each group must answer the question in relation to how their persons would have felt about the issue. Remember to include economics, geography, human rights, and other issues of importance.

As the moderator, the teacher should allow each group to present their views on the central questions and then question each other's opinions while remaining loyal to their group's views of that time.

Evaluation: Have each student write an essay explaining why the issue of the use of African American troops was so controversial in Kentucky.
APPENDIX 3:
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF TRAVEL & TOURISM
WELCOME CENTERS’ BROCHURE POLICY
Brochure Overview

Brochures and publications featuring Kentucky tourism services and facilities are eligible for consideration for distribution and/or display in our Tourism staffed Welcome Centers across the state. You must submit 2 samples of the brochure or publication along with your contact name, telephone number, fax number, and email address.

Kentucky’s Welcome Centers:

- Grayson Welcome Center - I 64 West at Grayson, KY 41143
- Shelby Co. Welcome Center – I 64 East at Simpsonville, KY 40065
- Florence Welcome Center – I 75 / 71 South at Florence, KY 41094
- Williamsburg Welcome Center – I 75 North at Williamsburg, KY 40769
- Kentucky Artisan Center – I 75 at Berea. (limited distribution) 40403
- Bullitt Co. Welcome Center – I 65 South at Shepherdsville, KY 40165
- Franklin Welcome Center – I 65 North at Franklin, KY 42134
- Christian Co. Welcome Center – I 24 West at Oak Grove, KY 42240
- Whitehaven Welcome Center – I 24 East at Paducah, KY 42001

Kentucky Accepts and Displays

- Publications that promote Kentucky tourism - must be 80% Kentucky related
- Kentucky attractions
- Kentucky CVB and Chamber of Commerce publications featuring tourism related information or locations
- Tourism oriented regional and area publications and maps
- Special events and festivals happening in Kentucky
- Kentucky accommodations - hotels, motels, inns, bed and breakfast, and campgrounds - must be 100% Kentucky
- State of Kentucky travel related program publications (e.g. Dept. of Transportation Safety)

Note - Due to limited brochure space, our staff may need to rotate brochures on our display racks. While every effort is made to display an approved brochure, it is not guaranteed a designated slot in the rack. It may be displayed at the travel counter or distributed from under the counter. The Welcome Center Travel Supervisor determines the rotation.

Kentucky Accepts but Does Not Display

- Outlets, Shopping Centers, Stores
- Private camps
• Schools or Universities
• Restaurants (unless recognized as a tourist attraction)
• Relocation and retirement publications

Kentucky Does Not Accept

• Commercial or non-tourism related materials.
• Accommodations or rentals that are restricted to membership or require a deposit, promotional presentation, or several nights stay. This includes time-shares.
• Publications which contain religious, political, inappropriate, or objectionable content.
• Publications (other than state government agencies) promoting the sale of sponsorships, memberships or other goods, such as t-shirts, mugs, etc.
• Literature rating travel attractions, events and/or accommodations.
• Publications promoting the sale of liquor, wine, tobacco, firearms, gambling, etc. Ky. will display tourism related information for winery and distillery tours.
• Publications advertising non-KY attractions, events, or facilities.
• Real estate or other classified sales literature.
• Literature promoting a property that is not yet opened to the public.
• Mail order brochures.
• Literature representing a property that has changed names since the brochure was originally printed and approved.
• Accommodation materials that include other states.
• Properties receiving numerous complaints.
• Publications promoting out-of-state mail order web site.
• Publications with expired coupons.
• Hotel/Motel Coupon Books at the KY Artisan Center @ Berea.

Approval Procedures

Publications must be approved by the KY Department of Travel & Tourism central office.

A. Supplier should send a transmittal letter and two copies of publication to:

Kentucky Department of Travel & Tourism
Attn: Pam H. Lyons
500 Mero Street, Suite 22
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-4930, Ext. 136
Pamh.lyons@ky.gov

Transmittal letter should clearly identify supplier, affiliation, address, phone number, fax number, email address, and identify the center(s) where the supplier desires distribution.

B. If accepted, an approval letter/e-mail will be sent or faxed to the supplier. If not
approved, an explanation will be sent to the supplier.

C. Along with the approval, the supplier will be provided the shipping addresses of the Welcome Centers and the quantity to send to approved centers.

D. It is the responsibility of the supplier to maintain brochure supplies. Please contact Welcome Centers directly using information from our shipping address list. Please be able to provide sufficient stock to fill rack slots. Packages should not weight over 50 lbs.

E. **If there is ever a change in the brochure, it must be resubmitted for approval.**

F. Brochures should be professionally typeset, error-free, and informative. All advertisements on the publications should be travel & tourism related.

G. Titles should appear in the top 1/3 of the brochure to accommodate rack display. Brochure size should not exceed 8 ½ X 11”, with 11” being the maximum vertical measurement. Brochures or rack cards should have a minimum height of 7 ½”, with 9” being the maximum height and with a 4” width.

D. The ratio of advertising space to editorial space should not exceed 2:3, including the inside front page and both back cover pages. (A 50/50 advertising editorial format may be allowed with prior department approval for pieces co-sponsored by the Dept. of Travel & Tourism).

E. Brochures approved under matching fund guidelines meet our KY brochure criteria. Matching fund brochures should follow the approval procedure outlined above.

F. First priority is given to distributing brochures at appropriate Welcome Center entry points for the specific destination, attraction, event, restaurant, accommodation, or service facility. The decision to distribute at two or more centers will be based on location, display space, storage availability at Centers, and regional or statewide marketability of the facility or attraction. Local attractions or events should be within a 75 mile radius of the approved Welcome Center.

**Approval Time Frame**

- The approval process usually takes 2 weeks from the time the piece is mailed or scanned & e-mailed to receiving approval.

- Festival and event or dated materials should be sent for approval 60 days prior to the start of the event. This will allow 30+ days for approved Welcome Centers to display the material prior to the event.
Questions or Comments

The Department of Travel & Tourism implements brochure guidelines that will enhance the tourism businesses in Kentucky. We are always open to the comments and observations of those involved in these programs. We invite your comments. Simply write to Wayne Cusick, Assistant Director Welcome Centers, at the address on the front page for your views to be considered.

Approved brochures may be sent only to approved Welcome Centers.

When your brochure is approved, we believe it will be of interest to the traveling public. We desire to partner with you to assist the traveler.

Because of storage and display limitations, the Kentucky Department of Travel & Tourism restricts distribution of tabloid size publications at KY Welcome Centers.
APPENDIX 4:
USE STATEMENT/POLICY
**Mill Springs Battlefield**  
**Abbreviated Use Statement/Policy**

All activities conducted on the properties of the Mill Springs Battlefield Association shall respect the resource, respect its visitors, and be consistent with good stewardship.

All activities conducted on the battlefield shall respect the battlefield as hallowed ground.
- Recreational activity will be confined to walking on designated trails.
- Activities such as, but not limited to, ball playing of any kind, Frisbee, hacky-sack, sunbathing, jogging, rollerblading, skateboarding, camping and picnicking are prohibited.
- Vehicles shall be confined to public rights-of-way and designated parking areas. No vehicles are permitted on battlefield lands including but not limited to bicycles, scooters, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, automobiles and trucks.

All visitors and staff shall respect the battlefield as a rare and significant historic resource.
- Metal detecting, digging, and removing any artifacts or objects from the battlefield are prohibited.

All staff—permanent and temporary, paid and unpaid—represent the Mill Springs Battlefield Association and shall show respect for all of the battlefield’s visitors.
- Living histories and reenactments are not forums in which to espouse personal opinions or viewpoints. Anyone doing so will be asked to leave.
- Staff will act in a professional manner at all times.

NOTE: It is recommended that the MSBA create a handbook stating the expectations of the MSBA regarding professional behavior. A handbook that can be distributed to anyone representing the Association—paid, volunteer staff and temporary staff, including reenactors—will insure that everyone receives the same information, prevent misunderstandings and eliminate professions of ignorance of MSBA policy.
**Mill Springs Battlefield Comprehensive Use Statement/Policy**

The following use statement/policy was adapted from that enforced at Stones River National Battlefield, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

**Mill Springs Battlefield Use Statement/Policy**

Mill Springs Battlefield Visitor Center is open from ______ to ______. All areas Battlefield, including Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery and the walking trails, opens for public use at sunrise and closes at sunset.

**Prohibited Activities**
- Public assemblies
- Religious services
- Sale or distribution of printed matter
- Display of commercial notices or ads
- Business operations
- Commercial photography
- Scattering of human ashes

**Parking**
Parking is permitted at Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery and the driving tour/walking trail stops from sunrise until sunset. Visitors may use parking lots/areas for their vehicles only while using the battlefield area immediately adjacent to the lot. Parking at driving tour stops that do not access walking trails will be limited to 30 minutes. Parking is not permitted in front of any closed access gate.

**Recreational Activities**
Recreational activities including, but not limited to, football, baseball, softball, Frisbee, hacky-sack, sunbathing, jogging, rollerblading, skateboarding, kite flying or any like activity are not permitted on any portion of the battlefield. The use of skateboards, roller skates, and other coasting devices are prohibited on all battlefield roads, trails and parking areas.

Recreational camping is not permitted on the battlefield. Living history encampments are permitted at designated sites in conjunction with an approved living history program.

Picnicking is not permitted on the battlefield.
Bicycles
Bicycles may be ridden in accordance with Kentucky State law on all public roads. Bicycles are prohibited on walkways around the visitor center and tour stops, and all battlefield trails.

Pets
No pets are permitted in the battlefield visitor centers, Brown-Lanier House, West Metcalfe House or any buildings on the Mill Springs Battlefield except for service animals (hearing-ear and seeing-eye dogs).

Pets must be crated, caged or restrained on a leash not exceeding 6 feet at all times on the battlefield. Leaving a pet unattended and tied to an object is prohibited. Animals found running loose or wild on battlefield property without any identification will be turned over to Pulaski or Wayne County animal control or to the county humane society, as appropriate.

Pet owners must properly dispose of all pet excrement from the landscaped grounds that surround the visitor centers, all mowed areas near the parking lots, all parking areas, and on or along all trails. Excrement must be disposed of by placing it in adjacent woods or bushes at least 15 feet from any of the previously mentioned areas.

Preservation of Natural, Cultural and Archeological Resources
Walking on, climbing, ascending, descending, traversing all earthworks, cannons, cannon carriages, wagons and monuments are prohibited.

Metal detecting, digging, and removing any artifacts or objects from the battlefield are prohibited.

Short-cutting on trails and use of unauthorized trails are prohibited.

Collecting botanical specimens is prohibited.

Wildlife Protection, Hunting and Fishing
Hunting and trapping are not permitted.

The viewing of wildlife with an artificial light source is prohibited.

Fishing is permitted in accordance with Kentucky State Fishing Regulations.

Fishing is restricted to areas that can be reached using authorized trails.

Carrying or possession of traps or nets is prohibited.
**Weapons**
In accordance with KRS 237.110, members of the public with valid concealed carry permits may carry loaded weapons (as prescribed by their permit) on battlefield property.

Firearms are not permitted in the visitor centers, Brown-Lanier House, West Metcalfe House or any buildings on the Mill Springs Battlefield.

The use of firearms is prohibited on property owned by the Mill Springs Battlefield Association.

The Battlefield administrator may permit Mill Springs battlefield personnel, volunteers, and temporary personnel (reenactors) to carry approved, reproduction Civil War period shoulder weapons, side-arms, swords and belt knives while participating in living history programs.

**Fires**
Ground fires (fire pits) are permitted only for interpretive living history encampments at a location approved by the Superintendent or the designee.

All fires shall be completely extinguished prior to the user leaving the area.

All fires are prohibited during times of high fire danger.

**Horses and Pack Animals**
Horseback riding is prohibited on the battlefield. Horses, horseback riding, and pack animals may be authorized for personnel engaged in approved living history demonstrations when this activity is determined to be an essential part of the program.

**Smoking**
Smoking is prohibited in all publically accessible buildings owned by the Mill Springs Battlefield Association.

**Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances**
Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on all battlefield property.

**Public Assemblies, Meetings**
No public assemblies or meetings may be held on battlefield property without prior written approval from the battlefield administrator.

**Speed Limits**
The maximum speed limits on all public roads on the battlefield are posted.
APPENDIX 5:
COMMUNITY MEETING RESPONSES
Battle of Mill Springs Interpretive Plan Community Meeting  
Nancy, Kentucky—June 23, 2009

1. What do you like about the existing interpretation? What elements of the interpretive program do you feel are effective in telling the story of the battle?
   - Driving Tour
   - Tour Stop 7 (Confederate Encampment at Beech Grove)—ability to get onto the battlefield
   - Add an audio tour to the driving tour
   - Walking trails are effective
   - Museum exhibits
   - Interactive exhibits for kids

2. What doesn’t work and why?
   - Driving tour does not work for children
   - The wayside on the battlefield trail with the drawing by A.E. Matthews
   - There is no access to the battlefield for the physically challenged
   - There is not enough that appeals to younger people, those under 25 years of age
   - There are limited opportunities for older people

3. What stories do you feel are not being told, or are not being told effectively?
   - Need more human interest and personal stories
   - Stories from or about the people/families that have lived in Nancy for generations
   - Story about the Bennett Young monument (the monument in Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery)
   - Stories about the animals in the battle, such as Zollicoffer’s horse
   - Stories about women and civilians
   - Dorotha Burton story
   - The *Brother against Brother* story of the battle and the war in Pulaski County

4. How can the interpretation make the battlefield more meaningful? 
   What would help tell the stories that need to be told?
   - An animated map of the battle
   - More detail added to the walking tours/walking trail interpretation
   - Personal audio tours
   - More living history
   - Music of the time period incorporated into interpretation
   - Clothing of the time period-costumed interpreters
5. What value does the battlefield have for the community?
   - Local businesses are naming themselves after the battle; e.g. Mill Springs Pizza
   - Educational resource for county and region
   - The outreach program for schools is valuable
   - Elderly outreach—would be valuable; they enjoy the stories
   - Recorded stories of local families who have battlefield stories—would be valuable
   - Monthly column in newspaper—would be valuable
Battle of Mill Springs Interpretive Plan Community Meeting
Mill Springs, Kentucky—June 24, 2009

1. What do you like about the existing interpretation? What elements of the interpretive program do you feel are effective in telling the story of the battle?
   - The pontoon tours across the lake from Wayne county to Pulaski County (conducted during the summer 2008)
   - Renovation of the West-Metcalf House (then in progress)
   - Personal tours
   - Inclusion of Wayne County story in the battlefield interpretation

2. What doesn’t work and why?
   - The story of the retreat through Kentucky to Tennessee is not told
   - The driving tour should be expanded south to add the retreat
   - There are no living history events on the Wayne County side of the battlefield
   - We need a ghostwalk on this side of the lake
   - Need to reconstruct part of the encampment that took place in Mill Springs
   - There are no interactive activities—cooking, clothing and other activities
   - Need living-history demonstrations at the Brown-Lanier House
   - Need to tell the story of the troops encamped in Wayne County
   - Interpret the lives of the soldiers who were encamped in Mill Springs before the battle
   - Interpret the reason the Confederates were in Mill Springs—the mill, an abundance of food, the Cumberland River
   - There needs to be a way to get people to the West-Metcalf House, perhaps a horse-drawn wagon

3. What stories do you feel are not being told, or are not being told effectively?
   - The Zollicoffer story; the story of his life—MSBA should host a symposium
   - The Balie Peyton story
   - Life in Mill Springs before the battle; the impact of the soldiers on the community
   - Provisioning the soldiers and the impact of that on the community in Mill Springs
   - Limited/no activities for children—need school of the soldier or 19th century life skills for children
   - The Civil War in Wayne County—stories of local people and the impact of the war on them, such as Margie Williams
   - The story of the industrial town of Mill Springs
   - That Zollicoffer was trying to block the invasion of East Tennessee
4. How can the interpretation make the battlefield more meaningful? What would help tell the stories that need to be told?
   - More personal tours, tours tailored to the guests
   - First person interpretation at the West-Metcalfe House
   - A Union soldier at the Brown-Lanier house and a Confederate soldier at the West-Metcalfe House, each telling their version of the story

5. What value does the battlefield have for the community?
   - Source of pride
   - More people are aware of their history
   - People on both sides of the lake identify with the battle—it is their history
   - The possibility of creating partnerships
APPENDIX 6:

MILL SPRINGS DRIVING TOUR BROCHURE
Welcome to Mill Springs Battlefield

On January 19, 1862, the fields and farms where you are now standing were being rocked by artillery and musket fire, as Confederate and Union forces clashed in the Battle of Mill Springs. When the smoke cleared, 150 Confederates and 50 Federal soldiers lay dead on the field and the Union had its first significant victory of the Civil War. The battle was at first a sensation in the newspapers, both North and South. However, later in the spring of 1862, the horrendous and bloody Battle of Shiloh occurred and the Battle of Mill Springs was forgotten, overshadowed by the atrocities to come in America's Civil War.

Years later, through the actions of young Dorothea Burton who decorated the Confederate graves on Decoration Day, the battle was again remembered and a monument was placed over the Confederate graves. Once again, however, time dimmed people's memories and the battle and monuments were forgotten by all but the local people and a few scholars.

The battle remained forgotten and the graves unkempt until the 1970s, when efforts were made to preserve the battlefield. Due to lack of funds, these efforts were unsuccessful. However, in 1992, the National Park Service placed the Mill Springs Battlefield on the 25 most endangered battlefields list. In June of that year, the Mill Springs Battlefield Association (MSBA) was formed with the purpose of preserving and interpreting the original battlefield.

Your visit is appreciated and we hope you enjoy the driving tour. What you'll see on this tour is the result of a strong effort over the past several years to preserve this battlefield and to educate future generations about this dark portion of our nation’s history and the part of it that belongs to Kentucky.

The Battle of Mill Springs

Early in 1862, the hills and ravines of southwestern Pulaski County, Kentucky, were the scenes of the first decisive Federal victory of the Civil War and the beginning of a long line of Confederate setbacks in the West. Both North and South recognized the importance of holding Kentucky. Both sides moved into the state in the late summer and fall of 1861.

The western part of the Confederate defense line across Kentucky was anchored in Bowling Green.

In October, Brigadier General Felix K. Zollicoffer left Knoxville, Tennessee and moved up through Cumberland Gap, Barbourville, and London. His advance was stopped north of London at Camp Wildcat in the Rockcastle hills, where Federal under Brigadier General Albin Schoepf repulsed the attack. Zollicoffer moved his forces back into Tennessee and tried a new route into Kentucky, moving up through Monticello to reach Mill Springs on the south bank of the Cumberland River in late November. Here, he set up camp and fortified his position.

Having decided that the north bank of the river was a better position, Zollicoffer moved his forces across the river to Beech Grove in early December, putting his regiments into winter camp and digging a line of entrenchments to guard the camp from the north.

In early January of 1862, Major General George Bibb Crittenden arrived to take command of the forces at Beech Grove, which were strengthened with additional troops bringing the Confederate strength in the area to about 4,000 men.

Meanwhile, the Federals were concentrating under General Schoepf at Somerset and Brigadier General George H. Thomas at Lebanon, Kentucky.

Driving Tour for Mill Springs Battlefield

National Historic Landmark

Battle near Mill Springs & Somerset, Kentucky

STAY ON TRACK Watch for signs like these to direct you as you take the driving tour.

Continued on Page 6
Mill Springs Battlefield Driving Tour Guide

What’s in a Name?

The Battle of Mill Springs has the distinction of being called by more names than any other Civil War battle. The most common name used by the Federals is Mill Springs (a small village 9 miles south of the battlefield), while the most common Confederate name for the battle is Fishing Creek (a creek about 5 miles east of the battlefield now a part of Lake Cumberland). The battle is also referred to as the Battle of Logan's Crossroads, Somerset, Clifty Creek, and Old Fields. The Battle of Mill Springs is the most commonly used and well-known of these names.

Driving Tour Tips and Instructions

Let us help you get the most from your tour of the Mill Springs Battlefield National Historic Landmark. We recommend that you start your tour at the Visitors Center and Museum which is located at 9020 West Hwy 80 in Nancy, Kentucky, 8 miles west of Somerset. Here you will receive the most current information about the driving tour as well as an overview of the battlefield. The Visitors Center is open 6 days each week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Restrooms, interpretive exhibits and a gift shop are available to the visitor.

Most of the Mill Springs Battlefield can be viewed from the public roadways or pull-off areas provided. (Please refer to the driving tour map.) While various land acquisitions in recent years have placed a large proportion of the battleground under the ownership of the Mill Springs Battlefield Association, many areas still remain private property. If you want to get a closer look at specific areas along the way, we urge you to ask landowners permission before venturing on private property.

This driving tour takes you along various rural Kentucky roads. At some stops, parking is limited. Please be careful on the narrow roads and park safely on the shoulder or in the pull-off areas. All stops on this tour are marked with tour stop signs. Follow the tour map and watch for these signs as well as directional signs along the route. Travel directions from one tour stop to the next are given in **bold italicized print**. There are interpretive signs throughout the battlefield which you’ll find helpful in gaining a more in-depth understanding of the details of the battle and events before and after the conflict. Drive carefully and enjoy the learning experience.

One of the original 12 national cemeteries created by Congress, the Mill Springs National Cemetery officially opened in 1867. The cemetery encompasses approximately 7 acres (one of the smallest active national cemeteries in the country) and holds the graves of many of the Union soldiers killed in the Battle of Mill Springs and other soldiers from the time of the Civil War through today.

In the southwest corner of the cemetery is the grave of William and Nancy Logan. The Logans owned most of the land where the battle occurred and they donated the land for the Mill Springs Cemetery.

One particularly notable person resting in this cemetery is Sgt. Brent Woods, an African-American Congressional Medal of Honor winner for his service in the Indian Wars. Woods’ grave is located beside the flagpole near the center of the cemetery.

Standing at a rock wall, the original cemetery wall built in 1867, and looking south across KY 80, one can view the battle area from the Federal viewpoint. In the orchard directly across the road was the camp of the 1st Ohio artillery, with the camp of the 10th Indiana located a few hundred yards to the front.

The dirt road next to the brick church and passing through the orchard generally follows the course of the old road used by many of the Federal troops to reach the front lines. Please be sure to read the interpretive signs in this area.

From the cemetery, proceed west on KY 80 to its intersection with KY 235. This intersection along with the KY 196 junction one half mile further west (where most of the Federal force camped before the battle) was called Logan's Crossroads and is now called Nancy. It was named for Nancy Logan, William Logan's wife, and the first postmistress of the area. The Logan house was 200 yards south of the intersection (no trace remains of the house). **Turn left onto KY 235.** As KY 235 bears left about 200 yards further, the 1st Kentucky Cavalry camped on the high ground to the right (where the large barn now stands).

After proceeding one mile down KY 235, you will arrive at Tour Stop 2. This stop features a number of interesting items, including the monument to Confederate General Felix K. Zoller, his men and the Confederate mass grave and marker. Both of these were placed here in 1910 by Confederate veterans. Also at this stop are the Confederate soldiers memorial stones as well as the earth-pit of the large white oak tree where it was said General Zoller’s body was placed after his death during the battle.

The white oak tree was known as the "Zoller Tree" and was decorated faithfully each Memorial Day beginning in the early 1900's by a little girl named Dorthy Burton Hudson whose family has carried on the tradition through three generations. In a tragic twist of fate, the tree was struck by lightning in the spring of 1995 and destroyed, leaving only the stump. However, a seedling salvaged from the white oak is planted in the park and the remains of the old tree are now being crafted into commemorative souvenirs.
Mill Springs Battlefield Driving Tour Guide

In 1997, after over a decade of painstaking research for a complete list of Confederate soldiers who died during the Battle of Mill Springs, 148 headstones with the names of each were placed in the area just to the right of the Confederate mass grave.

The latest addition to this tour stop is the Memorial Flame located across the road from Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery. This monument of stone and flame was built in 1996 and dedicated at the Mill Springs Battlefield anniversary ceremony on January 17, 1998. The flame is lit for special occasions and remembrance dates.

This cemetery and the surrounding area was the scene of the heaviest fighting during the battle. The Confederates attacked up the road from the southeast and out of the deep wooded ravine behind and east of the cemetery. The Federals made their main stand along a rail fence just north of the Cemetery.

The battle lines in this area were quite fluid and it was here that General Felix K. Zollicoffer rode forward to speak with what he mistakenly thought were his own troops. As a result of this mistake, Zollicoffer was shot and killed. The fighting here continued for over two hours, until Federal reinforcements came up on both banks of the Confederates. The southern soldiers, demoralized by the death of General Zollicoffer and the failure of their outdated flintlock muskets to fire in the rain, retreated in disorder from the field. Please note the interpretive signs in this area and the walking trail that takes you down to the ravine and behind the Confederate line. The walking trail is approximately 3/4 of a mile and is moderately difficult, walking shoes are recommended.

Tour Stop 3: Last Stand Hill

Proceed one-quarter mile south on KY 235 to Tour Stop 3. At this stop, drive past the tour stop sign and park in the pull-off area at the top of the hill in front of the Fairview Cemetery.

This hilltop was the area where the 17th, 28th, 29th Tennessee and the 16th Alabama Infantry regiments attempted to hold back the advancing Federal army in a last stand to allow the other retreating Confederate units to escape destruction. This vantage point allows a good view of the field from the Confederate side, including the ravine (east of the road) used by the 15th Mississippi and 20th Tennessee regiments to attack the Federal line. Budloe’s Confederate artillery was stationed across the road on the forward slope of the hill. These guns were only able to fire a few shots because of the wooded terrain and fear of hitting their own men. Buried in Fairview Cemetery is Dorthia Burton Hudson, who began the tradition of decorating the “Zollic Tree” and the Confederate mass grave.

Tour Stop 4: Confederate Field Hospital

Proceed one-quarter mile south on KY 235 to Tour Stop 4. Turn into the gravel drive and park to view this area.

During the battle a small log cabin located here served as the main Confederate field hospital. A few of the foundation stones are still visible. This hospital was in operation throughout the battle until its capture by Federal forces after the Confederate retreat from the battlefield.

Tour Stop 5: Timmy’s branch

Travel three-quarters of a mile south on KY 235 to Tour Stop 5.

In the predawn of January 19, 1862, the Confederate forces collided with the Federal pickets near this small creek. This area is the site of the first shots fired in the Battle of Mill Springs.

Tour Stop 6: Moulder’s Hill

Proceed south on KY 235 about 4 miles. Watch for directional signs and turn right onto Old Mill Springs Road. Travel two miles to Tour Stop 6.
Mill Springs Battlefield Driving Tour Guide

The Federal forces pursuing the beaten Confederates halted here on the night of January 19, 1862, to rest and prepare for an assault on the Confederate fortifications in the morning. The Federals deployed artillery on the high ground around this area and shelled the Confederates all night. When the Federals made their attack on the morning of January 20, they found the Confederates had retreated across the river during the night. Please note the interpretive sign at this stop.

Tour Stop 7: Confederate Fortified Camp at Beech Grove

Proceed approximately three-quarters of a mile south to Tour Stop 7.

Fortified Camp, Beech Grove

This area was the site of the Zollioffer headquarters at the Beech Grove encampment. The Confederate camp covered all of this area, a narrow neck of land between the Cumberland River and White Oak Creek. The southern soldiers had built comfortable cabins for their stay in Beech Grove. This camp was protected by a formidable line of earthworks. The earthworks protecting the camp followed a slight rise perpendicular to the road about 20 yards north of here. After the camp was abandoned by the Confederates, the Federal forces burned the cabins.

Tour Stop 8: Ferry Landing

Proceed south to the end of the road and Tour Stop 8.

You may park here and walk down to the old ferry road (on your left) to the edge of the lake. On the night of January 19 and the early morning of the 20th, the Confederates abandoned their camps and passed down this road to the ferry boat which would carry them across the river to Mill Springs. The original road (now covered by Lake Cumberland) curved sharply to the left from this point and followed the bluff about 500 yards to the ferry landing.

This concludes the Battlefield Tour north of the Cumberland River (Lake Cumberland). There are other sites important to the Mill Springs campaign at Tour Stop 9 and Tour Stop 10 across the lake at Mill Springs. See the Driving Tour Directions and Information on the next page.

If you wish to visit Tour Stop 9 and 16, you must retrace your route to Nancy and from there, take KY 80 east to Somerset, US 27 south about 7 miles to KY 90 west. Follow KY 90 west for about 9 miles and turn right onto KY 1275 proceeding one mile to Mill Springs Mill and Tour Stops 9 and 10.

Tour Stop 9: Mill Springs

This area was occupied by the Confederate Army from mid-November, 1861, until January 20, 1862. Mill Springs served as General Zollioffer’s headquarters before moving across the river to Beech Grove. Mill Springs features the historic Brown-Lanier House and the restored working grist mill. There are 5 interpretive signs within walking distance of each other.

The Brown-Lanier House is a two-story farmhouse built prior to the Civil War and the traditional home of the families operating the mill. The house is open for guided tours which begin at the Battlefield Information Center and Bookstore. The house was headquarters for three of the Generals associated with the Battle of Mill Springs. Tradition holds that the Battle received its name from the report written to Washington by the victorious Union General George H. Thomas while he occupied the Brown-Lanier House at Mill Springs, Kentucky. A cannon ball hole through the parlor wall has been faithfully preserved.

There has been a working grist mill on this site since the early 1800s. Thirteen continuous springs provided power to grind meal for the armies and to saw logs for boats used to cross the river. The present mill was built around 1877 on the site of the original 1840 mill, which burned in 1876. The mill is open for guided tours, which begin at the Battlefield Information Center and Bookstore.
Mill Springs Battlefield Driving Tour Guide

During the summer months on Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. visitors may experience the mill in operation.

The stone pathway heading to the left of the parking lot in the park leads down to the ferry landing on the south bank of the river. This was the main road to the mill and wheel races worn into the rock from the passage of numerous wagons through the years can be seen all along this road. Please note the interpretive sign on this path which tells the story of the Noble Ellis, the ferry boat which transported the defeated Confederates to safety after the battle.

The road was also used by the Confederate army before the battle and in retreat from Beech Grove Camp after the battle. An overlook on Lake Cumberland is one of the artillery positions the Confederates built here to protect the river (a small cannon is on display here) and also provides a good view of the Beech Grove position (to your left) across the river.

Tour Stop 10:
West-Metcalfe House

Departing from Mill Springs drive south on the Old Mill Springs Road approximately one mile. On your left you will see the West-Metcalfe house also known as the Confederate Hospital. There is an interpretive sign at this location. Tour Stop 10

The house was built in 1799 and is the first brick house in this part of Kentucky. The house served as Zollicoffer’s first headquarters in this area. When the Confederates moved their headquarters to the Brown-Lanier house it was converted into a hospital.

The original structure consisted of two rooms with fireplaces; a second level under the roof; and a cellar equipped with a fireplace and long stone shelf where surgeries were performed on the wounded and sick soldier. After the battle, journalist traveling with the Union Army reported seeing many injured and dying soldiers lying outside the West-Metcalfe house.

The West family cemetery which is located on a small rise in the field to your right has several gravestones without names. Tradition holds that these gravestones are the final resting place for the bodies of the Confederate soldiers.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Support the Battlefield Preservation Effort.
Become a member of the Association.
Simply complete this application and mail to:

Mill Springs Battlefield Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 282,
Nancy, KY 42544

along with your annual dues:

- Student Membership $ 5.00
- Supporting Membership $ 25.00
- Sustaining Membership $140.00
- Corporate Membership $480.00

Members receive the Association’s newsletter The Zollie Tree, discounts on merchandise and admissions, announcements of special events, and other benefits.

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Memberships are due on the one year anniversary of the date last paid.
The Battle of Mills Springs
Continued from Front Page

Thomas' superior feared that Crittenden's forces would attack and overwhelm Schoepf, so they ordered the Federal to concentrate west of Somerset near Fishing Creek. Poor weather and bad roads kept Thomas from reaching the area until January 17th, at which time his forces camped at Logan's Crossroads, now called Nancy, Kentucky. The crossroads was a key intersection nine miles west of Somerset and about nine miles north of the Confederate camp at Beech Grove.

Although Confederates thought that heavy rains would make Fishing Creek impassable, keeping Schoepf from joining Thomas at Logan's Crossroads, the advance Confederates met a strong Federal picket force made up of Wolfs's 1St Kentucky Cavalry and the 10th Indiana Infantry regiments. After being surprised, the Federals were on watch and this picket force stubbornly resisted the Confederate advance toward Logan's Crossroads and the Federal camps.

After being slowly pushed back, the Federal pickets were reinforced by the rest of the 10th Indiana and a unit south of the Federal camps near present-day Zollicoffer Confederate Cemetery. The Federal force stood its ground against the advancing Confederates.

Crittenden advanced with Zollicoffer's own brigade in front. Zollicoffer placed the 15th Mississippi in line of battle advancing up the road, with the 19th and 20th Tennessee regiments on either side of the road. A little behind the Mississippi soldiers, Zollicoffer's other regiments followed in support of the line and his force was sufficient to drive the 1st Kentucky Cavalry and the 10th Indiana back to a ridge just north and west of Zollicoffer Cemetery. However, the dawn was dark and misty, and the Confederates advanced slowly.

After fighting for almost an hour on their own, the 10th Indiana and 1st Kentucky Cavalry were running low on ammunition and in danger of being flanked by the advancing Confederates. Just as the Federal line was wavering and about to give way it was reinforced by the 4th Kentucky Infantry. These fresh troops stabilized the Federal line and halted the Confederate advance.

Unable to push this force back, the Confederates moved to the right, under a cover of deep wooded ravine. From here, the Confederates could approach the Federal line before engaging them at close range. This infuriated the commander of the 4th Kentucky, Colonel Speed S Fry. Fry climbed up on a rail fence his regiment had taken cover behind and demanded that the enemy come out and fight like men.

The Confederates made little headway into the woods west of the road. Most of the soldiers had never been in a battle before, and the dark and rainy morning coupled with the smoke and din of the battle, produced quite a bit of confusion.

General Zollicoffer, unaware of the arrival of the Federal reinforcements, became convinced that his men were firing on another Confederate regiment. He ordered his troops to cease fire and rode forward down the road to correct the error. On the road, he met Colonel Fry, who had ridden down the road to get a better look at the Confederate position. In the smoke and confusion neither man recognized the other, and Zollicoffer ordered Fry to cease fire, telling Fry he was firing on friendly troops.

Thinking Zollicoffer was a superior Federal officer, Fry began to ride back to his regiment and give the order, but as he turned to ride back, a Confederate staff officer rode out of the woods shouting "General, it is the enemy" and firing his pistol at Fry. Colonel Fry and the Federal soldiers nearby opened fire on Zollicoffer and his side, and both fell dead in the road.

Zollicoffer's death demoralized his troops on that part of the field and the Confederates made no more efforts to advance. However, the 15th Mississippi and the 20th Tennessee launched a series of furious attacks on Fry's position, some of them even reaching the rail fence where they fought the Federal soldiers hand to hand. The Confederate regiments moved ever toward their right, threatening to turn the Federal left flank. Then a section of Federal artillery appeared and threw shells into the advancing Confederates and 9th Ohio regiments arrived to bolster the Federal line.

For over an hour, the 15th Mississippi and 20th Tennessee battled the Federals almost alone. Rutledge's Confederate battery fired a few rounds, but never able to bring up the rest of his infantry and bring all his forces to bear. The Confederates were further demoralized by the failure of many of their weapons. Most were obsolete flintlocks and were not firing in the pouring rain. As the 1st and 2nd Tennessee and the 12th Kentucky U.S regiments arrived on the Federal left, outflanking the hard fighting 15th Mississippi and 20th Tennessee, the 9th Ohio made a bayonet charge on the west side of the road and the Confederate line crumbled. Most of the men simply turned and ran.

The entire Federal line advanced, forcing what was left of the Confederate army back to the top of the hill from which they had attacked. Here, the 16th Alabama and the 17th and 29th Tennessee regiments made a last stand and held the advancing Federals until the shattered Confederate units could retreat down the road toward their camp. These units retreated in disorder and the battle was over.

Aftermath
The beaten Confederates fled back down the road, many of them discarding their weapons and accoutrements along the way. They rallied at their Beech Grove entrenchments, but General Thomas arrived with his forces in the afternoon and promptly opened a bombardment on the Confederate camp and the stream below the camp. Recognizing that his men were badly beaten and his position was untenable, Crittenden ordered a withdrawal across the river that night. Throughout the night, the steamboat "Noble Ellis" ferried almost 4,000 Confederate soldiers across the river. The last Confederates reached the safety of the north bank at daylight on January 20th.

In order to get the soldiers across the river, everything else had to be left behind: all artillery, horses, wagons, and most of the camp equipment. When the Federals assaulted the Confederate camps on the morning of January 20th, they found the camps abandoned and the Confederate army safely across the river.

The Federals suffered 246 casualties in the battle; of these, 55 were killed or mortally wounded. The Confederates suffered 335 casualties, including 150 killed or mortally wounded. These were left on the field to be buried in a mass grave near the site of Zollicoffer's death.

This Federal victory broke the Confederate defense line across Kentucky and placed pro-Union eastern Kentucky into Federal hands and also opened pro-Union eastern Tennessee for Federal invasion. The Confederate defeat coupled with the subsequent loss of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, ultimately led to the Battle of Shiloh in April of 1862.

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VISIT

The Brown-Lanier House
in
Historic
Mill Springs
Wayne County, Ky.

Mill Springs Battlefield
Visitors Center and Museum

Located at 9020 W Highway 80 in Nancy, Kentucky
Hours of Operation:
10 am to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays
Closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Years Day.

Visitor’s services include:

- Visitors Center staff and volunteers available to assist the guest;
- Information about the Battle of Mill Springs;
- A ten stop self-guided driving tour map which begins at the Visitors Center is available;
- A video presentation of the “Battle of Mill Springs”;
- Special Exhibits;
- The Gift Shop offering: souvenirs, books, prints, postcards, hand-made art and craft pieces by juried artists and many other items;
- Special event and activity planning services at the Visitors Center and Museum;
- Reservations and information for the historic Brown-Lanier House;
- With advance notice Step-on-Guides are available for schools, tour groups and other organizations interested in viewing the Battlefield;
- “Haversack” lunches are available by reservation;
- Scholarly research facilities available by appointment.

Contact: Mill Springs Battlefield Association, Inc

Call 606-636-4045 or Email: administrator@millsprings.net
Website: www.millsprings.net
APPENDIX 7:

PANNIER CORPORATION WAYSIDE MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS
Pannier Graphics Sign Maintenance

Prior to Installation

Pannier recommends leaving panels in original packaging until time of installation. As with any products, careful handling procedures must be observed to protect surface from scratching or marring and corners and edges from chipping. It is recommended that a coating of wax be applied to help protect and provide longer panel life. Pannier recommends 3M Marine Ultra Performance Paste Wax 09030 readily available where boat care products are sold or through an internet product search.

Cleaning and Maintenance

Pannier fiberglass signs are very durable and require little maintenance. Periodic cleaning and removal of debris ensures good appearance and product life. Most commercial cleaning products may be used to remove dirt and debris. However, we recommend using the safest and most environmentally friendly cleaners before increasing the strength of a cleaner. Many household cleaners may be used safely, however, some may affect aluminum frames. Read all cleaning directions and recommendations carefully and always rinse thoroughly.

Steps

1. Wash the panel, frame and base with a mild liquid detergent such as Original Green or Palmolive or other dish soap to remove dirt and debris.

2. If still soiled, spray area with a biodegradable green cleaning solution such as ZEP Green All Purpose Cleaner. Work across the panel and under the frame channels with a sponge and rinse thoroughly.

3. For sticker removal, Pannier recommends Super Orange by Direct Chem. This product can be purchased from Zireon Industries (1-800-547-4328) or by contacting Pannier. Follow all product instructions carefully.

4. For permanent marker, graffiti or paint removal (not for urethanes based paints), Pannier recommends Graff-Off Graffiti Paint Stripper. This product can be purchased at Hydra-Tone Chemicals (1-859-534-5630) or by contacting Pannier. Follow all product instructions carefully.