Boundary Amendment Request
FEBRUARY 2021

Left: Professor Lowe’s military balloon near Gaines Mill, Virginia. Mathew Brady photograph. Photographed June 1, 1862; courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Above: Board from a box used to hold balloon equipment, similar to the boxes pictured at left. Courtesy of the Hagerstown Aviation Museum.
The amended boundaries in Washington County will better reflect the vision for the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area.
destination. The heritage area also delivers technical assistance to partner organizations, promotes area resources through a variety of means, implements a mini-grant program, and has undertaken an education initiative for K-12 classrooms and student travel groups across the country.

Both the City of Hagerstown expansion and the Aviation Museum requests have come at this time because there are projects underway for which MHAA grant support will be sought. Further, the Hagerstown request will shore up gaps, creating a heritage area boundary with better continuity. That was achieved elsewhere in the county with a boundary amendment in 2017, but at that time there was no anticipated grant project for the recently annexed sections of the City. It was believed that the necessary municipal support would be difficult to secure and might delay progress on the other areas to be added to the boundary. We now seek to include four Hagerstown annexations that occurred since the boundary was originally established in the HCWHA Management Plan. All four areas include pre-Civil War era historic resources documented on Maryland Historical Trust inventory/evaluation survey forms and assigned State inventory numbers and are located along troop movement corridors significant to the Gettysburg Campaign.

As of September 27, 2020, the Hagerstown Aviation Museum entered a long-term lease (with an option to purchase) with the owners of the former Fairchild Aircraft facility, specifically for the Dome Hangar to become the permanent home of the museum. The museum is planning a Dome Hangar Capital Campaign starting in the spring of 2021 for the purchase of the hangar. A future goal of the museum is also to acquire the 1945 Flight Test Hangar, which is also included in this boundary request. We are asking for a tight boundary around the hangars and associated parking and tarmac areas. This will allow the museum to tap heritage area benefits. Although nearby areas do have significant Civil War history, they are also heavily developed with housing, commercial and industrial use, and plans for more development in the future. We hesitate to apply the “heritage area” description to a large swath in this part of the county that retains little historical integrity. However, the Hagerstown Aviation is an important heritage area asset, one that includes Civil War-related
collections and much more. Drawing a boundary circle around the museum, essentially creating an island within the heritage area, was discussed with MHAA Administrator Jen Ruffner, and we agree with this solution.

Elizabeth Scott Shatto
Executive Director
February 2021

Acknowledgements: Thanks to every who contributed to this request package, including:
- Heritage Area staff: Emily Huebner, Rachel Nichols, Liz Shatto
- Advisory Council members: Steve Bockmiller, Meghan Jenkins
- City of Hagerstown: Megan Flick, Kathleen Maher
- Hagerstown Aviation Museum: John Seburn
- Washington County Planning Department: Jill Baker
Heart of the Civil War Interpretive Themes

**Era of Change**: The two decades leading up to the outbreak of the war saw a number of major developments that began to change long-established patterns. These include technological changes (such as transportation improvements and telegraphs), societal tensions (especially related to the shift from an agrarian to an industrial economy), and the abolitionist movement (including the triggers of the Dred Scott decision in 1857 and John Brown’s raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859).

**Maryland as Borderland**: The Mason-Dixon Line, the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, can be said to be the most famous line in America—traditionally thought to separate North from South. The state’s location translated into divided sympathies within communities and even within families. Maryland also bordered the federal capital and was therefore a strategic military location. In addition to geographic borders, cultural divisions (such as German and Anglo-American influences) and divided loyalties that put a strain on community life are ideas related to Maryland as a Borderland.

**Maryland as War Zone**: Because Maryland’s location was crucial to keeping the Union intact and secure—especially the federal capital of Washington, DC—extraordinary measures were taken to keep the state from siding with the Confederacy. Besides Maryland’s strategic location, interpretive projects might ask what it was like to live in occupied towns and countryside and feature actions of mercy and healing that were extended to thousands of soldiers that lay wounded and dying following the battles of Antietam and South Mountain (1862), Gettysburg (1863), and Monocacy (1864).

**Re-union and Reconciliation**: Interpretation may extend to seething passions and issues of reunification. The heritage area offers opportunities to explore the challenges of reuniting families and resuming everyday life after war. How the nation managed to reunite may also be probed.

**Aftermath**: Changing economics, the role of African Americans during Reconstruction, commemoration and care of the dead, and veterans’ reunions are post-war
interpretive themes for the heritage area. Interpretation will also consider how the Heart of the Civil War came to be regarded as hallowed ground. When did war become a memory, and its memory become history? The process of memorializing—and mythologizing—history may be explored.

**Shadows of the Civil War**: War’s influences—some positive, some problematic—linger on our political and cultural landscape. Political and social tensions continue around the issues of states’ rights, individual and community relationships to federal and state governments, and race relations. There are excellent opportunities to explore a number of these shadows of war in the heritage area. Living history programs on location at battlefields and other sides interpret the history in war’s shadow.

The sites that are proposed to enter the Heritage Area each contribute to the preservation of Washington County history, from its agricultural heritage to its twentieth century industrial history. Both proposed inclusions contribute to the quality of experiences available to heritage tourists visiting the area. The wartime stories preserved by the Hagerstown Aviation Museum, including the participation of women in wartime production, rapidly changing technology, and the social changes wrought by market forces, echo the realities of the Civil War and speak to our interpretive themes. Preserving civilian sites that were present during the Civil War offers the future opportunity to interpret these themes.
Hagerstown Aviation Museum

The Hagerstown Aviation Museum has desired inclusion in the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area for many years. Having secured an appropriate home in a historic airplane hangar, the organization is poised to be an even more valuable tourism resource for our area.

The Hagerstown Aviation Museum is dedicated to preserving and presenting the over 100-year aviation history of the Hagerstown, Maryland region. Over the past 25 years the museum has grown from a concept to a collection of 23 historic aircraft, most of which were built in Hagerstown. The museum archive has grown to thousands of photographs, artifacts, models, personal items, artwork, and paintings.

This museum and its collection tell impactful stories of the development of modern aviation, with particular focus on the industrial efforts made during WWII. This has a direct link to the heritage area theme “Era of Change,” as these include engineering of concept aircraft, the challenges of keeping pace with the needs during war.
As during the Civil War, women played important roles in supporting the war effort during WWII, seen nowhere more clearly than in the stories of the Rosie the Riveters who helped build thousands of small training airplanes at the Fairchild Aircraft plant in Hagerstown. Their contributions to the war effort took them out of their usual domestic role and began bringing normalcy to the idea of women having careers outside the home.

Of direct Civil War significance, the first aeronautical activity in Washington County occurred two days after the Battle of Antietam. Thaddeus Lowe and his Union Army Balloon Corps arrived to observe the movements of Lee’s army after the battle. The museum has three boards in its collection from the boxes that contained the glass jugs of sulfuric acid used to make hydrogen for the balloons. In June of 1863, 13,000 Confederate soldiers traveled on Old Route 11, just yards from the Dome Hangar on their way to Gettysburg.

The impact of the aircraft industry on the local population was keenly felt during World War II and the economic effects as war efforts slowed and when production stopped altogether with devastating impact on a large workforce, follows the heritage area theme “Aftermath.”

Even though the museum has not had a permanent facility to showcase its collections, the museum has held outdoor events at the Hagerstown Regional Airport, drawing thousands of visitors each year. During these outdoor events, rides in the museum’s Fairchild PT-19 aircraft are offered and provide a memorable living history flight experience.
Over the past 25 years the museum has researched many concepts to create a permanent home for the museum at the Hagerstown Regional Airport. One of these concepts included the most historic building on the airport that until recently was not available – the historic 1943 Fairchild Aircraft Flight Test Hangar, also known as the Dome Hangar.

The former Fairchild Aircraft facility located at the Hagerstown Regional Airport was purchased by new owners in July of 2019 and renamed New Heights Industrial Park. The museum signed a five-year lease on September 27, 2020 and started moving in on October 1, 2020. The lease includes an option to buy the Dome Hangar, which is the next major goal of the museum. The museum is planning a Dome Hangar Capital Campaign starting in the spring of 2021 for the purchase of the hangar. A future goal of the museum is to also acquire the 1945 Flight Test Hangar.

By signing the lease, the historic Dome Hangar was saved from a very uncertain future, if any future at all. The plan is to renovate the Dome Hangar to the point it can be open to the public with regular hours in the summer of 2021.

Resources Within the City of Hagerstown

The City of Hagerstown is requesting that the boundary of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA) be amended to follow up on the 2017 boundary amendment that included the troop movement corridors of MD 60, MD 64, and the National Road. The proposed boundary amendment fills gaps in those corridors that were not included in 2017, because they were part of the City of Hagerstown. These gaps include four annexations into the corporate boundaries which have occurred since the boundary was originally established in the HCWHA Management Plan. All four areas include pre-Civil War era historic resources documented on Maryland Historical Trust inventory/evaluation survey forms and assigned State inventory numbers and are located along troop movement corridors significant to the Gettysburg Campaign.

The Washington County Historical Trust got this ball rolling when they requested a boundary amendment to include one of the proposed areas containing the Saylor/Sailor House, so that their restoration work would be eligible for State heritage funding assistance. Since the City was moving forward with this request, they surveyed areas that were annexed after the heritage area was certified for additional historic resources and included three additional sites.
The four properties under consideration are:

- Peter Sailor House (c. 1820) located at 368 Dynasty Drive. The stone farmhouse represents the building traditions of the German settlers in the early 19th century and the agricultural industry of the 19th and 20th centuries. The farm was adjacent to the Hagerstown-Cavetown Pike (MD 64) which saw troop movement in the Gettysburg Campaign. The house overlooks the Antietam Creek which was dotted with mills to process grains from area farms. Across the creek is the Martin Funk Farm. It is adjacent to Kiwanis Park, which includes a boat launch ramp into the Antietam Creek. (Source: Paula Stoner Dickey, 1975; MHT staff in 2007; and Steve Bockmiller)
Significant Resources

- Martin Funk Farm (c. 1864 or earlier) located at 11850 Indian Lane. The farmhouse is a brick-cased, log house modified to its general configuration around the time of the Civil War. The house and outbuildings on the property represent the agricultural industry of our county in the late 19th century to mid-20th century. The farm was near the Hagerstown-Cavetown Pike (MD 64), which saw troop movement during the Gettysburg Campaign. The farmhouse overlooks the Antietam Creek, which was dotted with mills to process grains from area farms. Across the creek is the Sailor House. (Source: Paula Stoner Dickey, 1974, MHT staff 2012, and Steve Bockmiller)

- Verdant Mead (late 18th century) located at 12810 Shank Farm Way. The stone farmhouse represents the building traditions of the German settlers of
late 18th century and 19th century and the agricultural industry of the late 18th to 20th century. The farmhouse overlooks the Leitersburg Pike (MD 60) which saw troop movement in the Gettysburg Campaign. (Source: Paula Stoner Dickey, 1973; and Steve Bockmiller)

- Ridenour’s Folly (mid-19th century) located at 17514 W. Washington Street. The stone house is a large Georgian-inspired farmhouse of the mid-19th century. At the time of survey, the surrounding land had already been developed residentially for some time, so no agricultural information was provided, however it is likely that a substantial portion of the nearby land was part of the original farm. The farmhouse overlooks the National Road (MD 144) which saw troop movement throughout the war. (Source: Paula Stoner
Three of the four properties are currently designated Local Landmarks in Hagerstown’s zoning ordinance and all have detailed reviews within the Maryland Historic Trust Inventory. The Sailor/Saylor House is currently under restoration and has become a high-profile demonstration project for period-correct stone restoration work. Interpretation of the history of the property would be encouraged. The building could be adapted for a variety of low impact commercial support uses.
Heritage Tourism Activities

Overview

The heritage tourism-related public and private uses to be encouraged in the areas proposed by this boundary amendment request reflect the varied uses that already characterize the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. From a tourism perspective, the areas to be added will help us to make progress on our Economic Benefit goals, including:

- Thematically link and market the area’s heritage resources, thereby creating synergy among varied historic sites, recreational resources, and cultural assets
- Support the creation of economic gains for new and current visitor-serving businesses within the heritage area by generating greater visitation
- Guide visitors to places of unique character, such as Hagerstown Main Street, a waterway (Antietam Creek), and a historic airplane manufacture facility.

The areas fall near one or more of Maryland’s Civil War Trails, a primary vehicle for heritage tourism in the Heart of the Civil War and one that enjoys major support through the Maryland Office of Tourism Development (MOTD). Adding more of the corridor that follows the roads of invasion and retreat from Gettysburg positions HCWHA well to appeal to Gettysburg-bound heritage travelers. Until now, Washington County Civil War tourism development has been more focused on the Antietam story.
Heritage Tourism Activities at the Hagerstown Aviation Museum

The Hagerstown Aviation Museum has been holding public events since 2006, even without having a permanent home. The “Wings & Wheels” annual events bring in an average of 8,000 people over a single day. “Open Airplane” afternoons, which only last a few hours, draw approximately 400 visitors each time they are held. Both events feature airplane rides in the PT19 open cockpit trainer and access to the interiors of many of the museum’s airplanes and those brought in by other cooperating groups. Aircraft enthusiasts who own and operate historic airplanes will fly in to participate in the annual “Wings & Wheels.” Classes from public and private schools and homeschool associations already enjoy visits to the museum.

Viewing Washington County from the air provides a unique opportunity to appreciate the surrounding historic landscape and even opens up the possibility of interpreting Civil War resources and battlefields from above. Gaining a new perspective on nineteenth century history while flying in a historic aircraft would be an unforgettable heritage tourism experience.

The reutilization and renovation of the Dome Hangar and the original 35,085 square feet of the 1943 Fairchild Flight Test Hangar assures historic preservation of the unique stories of civilians during war time. All the small museum aircraft displays and activities will be under one roof, protected from the weather, and allow for year-round operation at one facility. Along with the Hagerstown Aviation Museum, it could
Heritage Tourism Activities

Host a Tourist Information Center, Museum Event space, Aviation/Transportation/Manufacturing Education Center, and STEM education. Additionally, the Test Hangar creates an indoor event space of up to 10,000 square feet, outdoor event space on the adjacent tarmac and ample free parking. Once the Dome Hangar is purchased by the museum, it will be possible to pursue a nomination for its inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Heritage Tourism Activities Within The City of Hagerstown

The Sailor/Saylor House is in a public park and zoned commercially. Kiwanis Park is a boat launch park along the creek. The current restoration demonstration project for the Sailor House will take some time to evolve and complete. Hands on projects on period-correct masonry work have proven popular and draw attention to the house renovation and to the recreational activities at the park. Interpretation of the history of the property would be encouraged. The building could be adapted for a variety of low impact commercial uses or park-support uses.

Verdant Mead’s stone farmhouse is zoned commercially and is presently located overlooking the main entrance to the Stone House Square Shopping Center on the Leitersburg Pike. It was renovated as a café and is currently occupied by a winery/tasting room. This and other types of tourism-support activity are appropriate given the current situation with this property. Interpretation of the history of the property and the types of Civil War activity in the area would be encouraged too.

Ridenour’s Folly is zoned residentially and was recently subdivided off the remaining 10 or so acres of the annexed area north of MD 144. It is anticipated that the remainder of the land will develop residentially to match the surrounding development patterns. Continued use as a dwelling is the least intrusive use for the house, but modification to accommodate a B&B Inn could be a suitable tourism-support activity. Interpretation of the history of the property and the types of Civil War activity in the area would be encouraged too.

The small Martin Funk Farm complex is zoned agriculturally and located on a private lane. Continued use as a dwelling is the least intrusive use for the property. Restoration of the house and outbuildings to remove inappropriate modifications would be encouraged. Other low impact tourism-related activities, such as a B&B Inn
Heritage Tourism Activities

might be suitable, but a zoning change would be needed. Interpretation of the history of the property and the types of Civil War activity in the area would be encouraged.
Existing & Proposed Mechanisms

- **Civil War Trails:** Follow the “bugle signs” to more than 60 interpreted Civil War sites linked together within Maryland’s Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. The Maryland Civil War Trails program features individual routes focusing on the 1862 Maryland Campaign (Antietam), the 1863 Gettysburg Invasion and Retreat, Jubal Early’s 1864 Raid on Washington D.C. These driving tours take visitors through towns, battlefields, cemeteries, and other significant Civil War sites. Map guides and interpretive markers show the routes of troop movements and provide interesting stories and asides, many hidden within the landscape for 150 years. Civil War Trails Map/Guides are available at Maryland Welcome Centers, County Visitor Centers and the HCWHA Exhibit & Visitor Center at the historic Newcomer House.

- **Scenic byways:** Maryland’s 18 scenic byways allow travelers to follow carefully mapped driving routes into areas rich with beauty, history and culture. Four fall within Washington County: the Historic National Road, the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground, and the Antietam Campaign. In addition to their state scenic byway title, the National Road and Journey Through Hallowed Ground have also earned national distinction as America’s Byways, meaning that they have been recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation through the National Scenic Byways Program as some of the most significant routes in the country based on their scenery, culture, history, archaeology and recreational opportunities. The Historic National Road is the byway most applicable to this request.

- **Washington County Historical Trust:** With over 4,000 listed historic properties in Washington County, the Washington County Historical Trust (WCHT) fosters preservation by targeting specific properties that are endangered. WCHT is a membership-driven organization with general membership meetings that are open to the public.

- **Rural Preservation programs:** Washington County has an extensive rural preservation program, administering at least seven individual preservation easement programs (Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation, etc.). Two staff
members in the county’s Planning and Zoning Department work exclusively on land preservation matters, most aimed at agricultural land but others such as Maryland’s Rural Legacy program target historic, environmental (natural resources) and open space priorities as well. The County also has its own Installment Payment Easement Program (IPP) that permanently protects agricultural land. These are all protective easement purchase programs but donated easements have income tax benefits for property owners.

Washington County has a stated goal in its Comprehensive Plan of 50,000 acres of permanently protected land. The County currently has more than 30,000 acres of rural lands permanently protected by purchased or donated easements. A Priority Preservation Area appears in the County’s Comprehensive Plan, per Maryland Department of Planning guidelines.

- National Register of Historic Places: Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service’s National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America’s historic and archeological resources. Several of the resources within the proposed additions are possibly eligible for the National Register, which can help qualified properties receive preservation benefits and funding incentives.
### Appendix 1: Selected Inventory of Resources

Much of this language comes from National Register of Historic Places listings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Site Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Annexation</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peter Sailor House</td>
<td>Historic</td>
<td>368 Dynasty Drive</td>
<td>Light Annexation - A-2005-02</td>
<td><strong>MD Inventory No. WA-I-132.</strong> The stone farm house represents the building traditions of the German settlers in the early 19th century and the agricultural industry of the 19th and 20th century. The farm was adjacent to the Hagerstown-Cavetown Pike (MD 64) which saw troop movement in the Gettysburg Campaign. The house overlooks the Antietam Creek which was dotted with mills to process grains from area farms. Across the creek is the Martin Funk Farm. (Source: Paula Stoner Dickey, 1975; MHT staff in 2007; and Steve Bockmiller)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verdant Mead</td>
<td>Historic</td>
<td>12810 Shank Farm Way</td>
<td>Faison Annexation - A-2005-05</td>
<td><strong>MD Inventory No. WA-I-100.</strong> The stone farm house represents the building traditions of the German settlers of late 18th century and 19th century and the agricultural industry of the late 18th to 20th century. The farm house overlooks the Leitersburg Pike (MD 60) which saw troop movement in the Gettysburg Campaign. (Source: Paula Stoner Dickey, 1973; and Steve Bockmiller)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ridenour’s Folly</td>
<td>Historic</td>
<td>17514 W. Washington Street</td>
<td>Snook Annexation - A-2005-07</td>
<td><strong>MD Inventory No. WA-I-001.</strong> The stone house is a large Georgian-inspired farm house of the mid-19th century. At the time of survey, the surrounding land had already been developed</td>
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residentially for some time so no agricultural information was provided, however it is likely that a substantial portion of the nearby land was part of the original farm. The farm house overlooks the National Road (MD 144) which saw troop movement throughout the war.  
(Source: Paula Stoner Dickey, 1973; and Steve Bockmiller)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Martin Funk Farm</th>
<th>Historic</th>
<th>11850 Indian Lane</th>
<th>Foggy Bottom Farm Annexation - A-2018-01</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MD Inventory No. WA-I-066.</strong> The farm house is a brick-cased, log house modified to its general configuration around the time of the Civil War. The house and outbuildings on the property represent the agricultural industry of our county in the late 19th century to mid-20th century. The farm was nearby the Hagerstown-Cavetown Pike (MD 64) which saw troop movement during the Gettysburg Campaign. The farm house overlooks the Antietam Creek which was dotted with mills to process grains from area farms. Across the creek is the Sailor House. (Source: Paula Stoner Dickey, 1974, MHT staff 2012, and Steve Bockmiller)</td>
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<tr>
<th>1943 Fairchild Aircraft Flight Test Hangar</th>
<th>Historic</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Also known as the “Dome Hangar.” An architecturally unique hangar designed by Albert Kahn to house PT-19s and the secret “Cargo” plane. Built of wood due to steel shortages at the height of WWII, it is 35,085 square feet and was previously at risk of demolition.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1945 Fairchild Aircraft Flight Test Hangar</td>
<td>Historic</td>
<td>Also known as the “Executive Hangar.” This 88,000 square foot steel hangar was constructed to house the Fairchild C-82 “Packet” Flying Boxcar during the final days of WWII. The hangar was in continuous use up to 1984 when the last Fairchild A-10 “Warthog” left the hangar.</td>
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Appendix 2: List of Projects

The following represents planned or contemplated projects that may tap MHAA benefits.

Hagerstown Aviation Museum
MHAA capital and mini-grants would be very helpful to the Hagerstown Aviation Museum in completing strategic planning for the organization, hangar renovations and displays, exhibits and programs to establish this as a destination site in the heritage area.

The mission of the Hagerstown Aviation Museum is to preserve and present the aviation heritage of the Hagerstown, Maryland region. A physical facility is required to fulfill this mission. The primary purpose of this project is to create a permanent home for the Hagerstown Aviation Museum’s:

- Aircraft collection
- Archives, offices, and classrooms
- Aircraft maintenance and restoration
- Museum events
- Education programs

Additional activities will add to the attraction and increase revenue for the museum facility.

- Museum Event Space
- Tourist Information Area
- Restoration and Training Center
- Manufacturing and Transportation Heritage Showcase

City of Hagerstown Properties
The only known project at this time is the activity of the Washington County Historical Trust (WCHT) with the Sailor House to continue their restoration demonstration
project efforts. They have been actively fundraising to assist with the costs of the project and plan to seek MHAA funding support. The City of Hagerstown looks forward to opportunities to facilitate heritage tourism in these areas, and between various heritage resources and tourism-support enterprises. The available incentives provided by the Heritage Area program would be marketed to the owners and occupants of the other three farmhouses to encourage appropriate conservation activities, to facilitate tourism-related economic development, and to interpret the heritage of the properties for the enrichment of the heritage tourists in the region.

Access the Heart of the Civil War Management Plan online: www.heartofthecivilwar.org/stakeholders/management-plan