



Arkansas Battlefield Update

Summer, 2004 Volume 12, Number 2

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An agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage

ABPP awards grant for plan to preserve Reed's Bridge site

The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) has awarded a \$24,203 grant to the Reed's Bridge Battlefield Preservation Society to assist in the Society's efforts to preserve the site of an August 27, 1863, Civil War battle.

Through this project, a preservation and management plan will be prepared for the Bayou Meto (Reed's Bridge) Battlefield. Ongoing residential development, which has already claimed significant portions of the battlefield, continues to threaten the 360-acre historic site. The preservation and management plan will result in community-based priorities

for protecting the battlefield and scenic views around the battlefield. Bayou Meto is the only intact battlefield associated with the Federal campaign to capture Little Rock in 1863. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on December 31, 2002.

"The development of a preservation and management plan will be a major step forward in our efforts to preserve this important Civil War battlefield," Reed's Bridge Preservation Society President Tommy Dupree said. "We appreciate the ongoing support that we are receiving from both the American Battlefield Protection Program and the Civil War Preservation Trust."

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Two Southwest Arkansas Civil War sites on agenda for National Register listing

Two Civil War-related sites in Southwest Arkansas will be considered for nomination by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's State Review Board when it meets in August.

The Dooley's Ferry Fortifications Historic District in Hempstead County features three hilltop artillery fortifications and associated infantry trenches constructed by Confederate troops in the winter of 1864-65.

"While they never witnessed a shot fired in anger, the network
Continued on Page 5.



The Confederate Section, Old Rondo Cemetery contains the remains of Texas soldiers who died of disease while camped in the area in 1862.

NEACWHT holds meeting at Chalk Bluff

By Danny Honnoll
NEACWHT Chair

For the second year, the Northeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trails Committee held its meeting at the Chalk Bluff Battle site on May 1 and 2. The group helped sponsor a living history/reenactment of the Battle of Chalk Bluff with Clay County and the Col. Robert G. Shaver Camp # 1655, Sons of Confederate Veterans of Jonesboro. They marked the 141st anniversary of the Battle of Chalk Bluff.

On Saturday at the pavilion, more than 40 people attended the meeting of the NEACWHTC. After the meeting chairman Honnoll presented a talk on Brigadier M. Jeff Thompson and the Civil War in Arkansas.

On Saturday and Sunday, reenactments were held on the Dalton Farm, which is just south of the Chalk Bluff Natural Area Park. This is a near perfect site to hold a reenactment, with most of the action taking place in the valley between two hills that make up part of Crowley's Ridge. More than 300 attended this event even though it was raining. Seven period cannons thundered on both days to the
Continued on Page 3.

For information

General Information

Mark Christ (501) 324-9880
mark@arkansasheritage.org

The Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail is a network of regional private, nonprofit, volunteer organizations seeking to identify, protect, interpret and promote Arkansas properties related to the state's Civil War experience. General guidance for the groups is provided by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

Northwest Arkansas CWHT

John Scott (Pea Ridge)
(479) 451-8122
John_C_Scott@nps.gov
Robert Still (Harrison)
(479) 741-5443

The Northwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Benton, Carroll, Boone, Marion, Washington, Madison, Newton, Searcy and Van Buren counties.

West Central Arkansas CWHT

Tom Wing (479) 474-4781
wcacwht@aol.com

The West Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Crawford, Sebastian, Franklin, Johnson, Logan, Yell, Pope and Scott counties.

Southwest Arkansas CWHT

Jim Hale (501) 760-2566
jim.hale@sbcglobal.net

The Southwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Polk, Montgomery, Garland, Howard, Pike, Clark, Hot Spring, Grant, Dallas, Sevier, Little River, Hempstead, Nevada, Ouachita, Calhoun, Miller, Lafayette, Columbia and Union counties.

Southeast Arkansas CWHT

Mark Kalkbrenner (870) 247-2394
captk1ark@hotmail.com

The Southeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Jefferson, Arkansas, Phillips, Cleveland, Lincoln, Desha, Bradley, Drew, Ashley and Chicot counties.

Central Arkansas CWHT

Tom Ezell (501) 961-1937
tomezell@aristotle.net

The Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Conway, Perry, Saline, Faulkner, Pulaski, White and Lonoke counties.

Northeast Arkansas CWHT

Danny Honnoll (870) 935-9830
wdhonnoll@prodigy.net

The Northeast Arkansas Civil War Trail serves Baxter, Fulton, Izaard, Stone, Cleburne, Independence, Sharp, Randolph, Clay, Lawrence, Greene, Jackson, Craighead, Poinsett, Mississippi, Woodruff, Cross, Crittenden, Prairie, Monroe, Lee and St. Francis counties.

Trust accepting nominations for most-endangered sites

The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT), the nation's largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization, is accepting nominations for its America's Most Endangered Battlefields Report. The report identifies the most threatened Civil War sites in the United States and what can be done to save these precious links to our nation's past.

"The most effective preservation tool in our arsenal is public awareness," said CWPT President James Lighthizer. "The Most Endangered Battlefields Report is a rallying cry to the nation that our hallowed battlefields are in imminent danger."

The Most Endangered Battlefields Report is part of CWPT's ongoing effort to protect America's remaining Civil War battlefields. Nearly 20 percent of our Civil War battlefields have already succumbed to the backhoe and bulldozer. Once lost, these historic treasures can never be replaced.

The 2005 Most Endangered Battlefields Report is scheduled to be released this coming February in Washington, D.C. Any Civil War battlefield is eligible to be nominated. The ten sites to be highlighted in the study will be selected based on geographic location, military significance, and the immediacy of current threats.

"The task of monitoring the 10,000-plus battlefields where the Civil War was fought is enormous," Lighthizer remarked. "We simply cannot do the job without input from concerned citizens, history buffs and preservation activists."

Among the ten sites identified in this year's report were Chancellorsville, Va.; Franklin, Tenn.; Morris Island, S.C. and

Wilson's Creek, Mo. The report also mentioned 15 "at risk" battlefields that did not make the final ten, including Helena and Reed's Bridge in Arkansas. "Thanks in part to the publicity generated by the report, we expect that several sites will be able to claim preservation victories before the end of the year," Lighthizer predicted.

To nominate a battlefield, individuals and groups are encouraged to fill out the

"Thanks in part to the publicity generated by the report, we expect that several sites will be able to claim preservation victories before the end of the year," Lighthizer predicted.

nomination form available online at <http://www.civilwar.org/nominationform.pdf>. Applications should include photographs of the site and a detailed description of recent threats. Nominations must be postmarked no later than October 31, 2004.

CWPT is a 58,000-member nonprofit battlefield preservation organization. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War sites and promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds. CWPT's web site is located at www.civilwar.org.

Battlefield Preservation News?

If your group is working to preserve a Civil War-era battlefield or site, is planning a major reenactment, or has other news of interest to the battlefield preservation community, send it to *Arkansas Battlefield Update*. The newsletter is published quarterly. Send articles to: *Arkansas Battlefield Update*, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street, Little Rock, AR 72201 or to mark@arkansasheritage.org.

NEACWHT making progress on markers to be placed at Martin's Creek, Pocahontas

Continued from Page 1.

enjoyment of those in attendance. More than 50 reenactors took part in the events. Yankee artillery opened the event by firing on the Confederates. After the event all of the reenactors fired a volley in honor of all soldiers of the "War Between the States" and our troops serving in Iraq. Then there was a grand review; it was a great sight to see.

Sunday, a memorial was held for those who fell at Chalk Bluff and over 125 turned out to witness the event. Special honors were given to M. Jeff Thompson for his leadership of the Confederate army. Reenactors dressed in Federal and Confederate uniforms took part in the memorial. Trustee Rev. Terry Bandy conducted a church service on Sunday and over 50 attended this religious service.

The ladies of the Northeast Arkansas Living Historians set up a demonstration of a Civil War refugee camp. This was to show the lives of the civilian population after they were displaced by the actions of both armies. They did an excellent job as always and we want to thank Jeanne Thompson, Stephanie Denton and Judy Downs for their work in an area that is mostly overlooked in most modern history books.

Clay County Judge Gary Howell and his family played a key role in the success in this event. Delbert Hughes of Piggott did his usual outstanding job in bringing together the largest gathering of Civil War cannons in years. He also did a great job playing a Yankee officer during the reenactments.

Judge Howell announced at the meeting that he would help host the event on April 30 and May 1, 2005.

The NEACWHTC took part in Memorial Day services in Jonesboro. Chairman Danny Honnoll was the master of ceremonies and Terry Bandy helped with a flag display at the Craighead County Courthouse. Over 400 people turned out to honor veterans of all wars.

Honnoll and Bandy talked to the group about the veterans of the "War Between the States." Bricks honoring Federal and Confederate veterans were placed at the base of the "Battle of Jonesboro" marker. Some of these bricks honored the men killed in the battle that took place in Jonesboro.

We should be able to complete the Martin's Creek/Morgan Mill marker this year. We are waiting on the estimate from the marker manufacturers at this



Reenactors participate in NEACWHT event at Chalk Bluff battlefield.

time. The Pocahontas marker might be completed this year if we get some more donations for this very worthwhile project. We will keep you posted.

We have completed a pamphlet on Maj. Gen. Samuel Bell Maxey, one of the commanders of the Battle of Poison Spring. His ties to Indian troops make him a very interesting subject. He was also a roommate of Stonewall Jackson at West Point. He graduated 55th out of 56

in the class of 1846. (General George Pickett was last in the class.) This brings our information pamphlets to a total of 14. "The Generals of the Delta" is the most requested of the pamphlets that the NEACWHTC has produced.

Jimmy Steven reported that the marker at Pineville is in limbo. The family wants us to wait for a few months before we do anything with it. Mr. Lester Bledsoe passed away and we want to honor their request. It looks like we are going to leave it in the Bledsoe family's front yard.

We have been in contact with a researcher, Rhonda Kohl, who lives in Indiana, who is sharing information on the "Battle of Taylor's Creek." She has related that the dates that most of us have are incorrect. She states that soldiers' journals show the battle took place on May 11, not the 12th as Marmaduke reported. She is very interested in information on the 5th Illinois Cavalry. If anyone has anything on them please email her at rkohl@aye.net.

Last year it rained and we had a low turnout at our meeting in Colt. We had a great time the last time we visited Colt. Ann and Walter Meals want to invite everyone down on Friday, Sept. 10, from 5-8 p.m. for Gospel singing and Saturday, Sept. 11, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the Stone House

Pioneer Days Celebration. The NEACWHTC will have a sign up on Saturday to let everyone know where we are to hold our meeting. It will start Saturday, Sept. 11, 2004, at 11 a.m., at the Stone House at Colt, Arkansas. See y'all there!!!!

(Directions to the Stone House)

From Jonesboro traveling South on Arkansas Highway 1 to Colt, Arkansas. Then turn east (right) on Arkansas Highway 306. The Stone House will be the first house on the south side of the road.

CACWHT members serve as guides to National Guard soldiers on tour

By Tom Ezell
CACWHT Chair

Members of the Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail conducted a staff ride on the battlefields of the 1863 Little Rock Campaign for 45 noncommissioned officers of the Arkansas Army National Guard's Professional Education Center on June 3.

A "staff ride" differs from the customary "battlefield tour" in that the participants conduct a systematic study of a particular battlefield and campaign, which is then followed by a detailed visit to the actual sites involved. The objective is to place the participants on the original ground, confront them with the operational situation at that place and time, then challenge them to reach a conclusion about and learn lessons from the way in which operational art and tactics were used in that case. Majors Clem Papineau, Tom Ezell, and Charles Emerson guided the tour across the Brownsville, Reed's Bridge, Ashley's Mills, Terry's Ferry, and Bayou Fourche battlefields, capping off the tour with a picnic at the Bayou Fourche marker in Pratt Rammel Park.

A staff ride handbook for the Little Rock campaign is being compiled for future use and will be made available through the Central Arkansas Trail. Additionally, requests for the Little Rock Campaign driving tour brochures should be made to the City of Little Rock Convention and Visitor's Bureau, P.O. Box 3232, Little Rock, AR 72203. Copies may be obtained by writing the Bureau or calling (501) 370-3290, attention Cathy Cerrato.

Under the guidance of Trail members Jimmy Rice and Don Hamilton, a cement marker has been moved from its former location on Little Rock's East 21st Street to the Bayou Fourche battlefield site on Fourche Dam Pike, near the monument previously placed by the Little Rock Civil War Roundtable. Currently blank, actions are underway to place a plaque

on this marker commemorating the battle at Bayou Fourche and listing the units that participated. Approximately \$1,500 will be needed for the plaque. To contribute to this effort, please contact Don Hamilton at (501) 688-1403.

Suggestions have been made to move the granite marker that marks the site of the execution of David O. Dodd, located near the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Law School, to the courtyard behind the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History in nearby MacArthur Park. The Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail opposes this move, in that it negates the original purpose of the marker, which was to mark a particular site, and would create confusion for future visitors by giving the impression that Dodd was hanged on the Little Rock Arsenal's parade ground.

Dodd was hanged on January 8, 1864, in front of St. John's College – a site currently under the roadbed of Interstate 30 behind the UALR Law School. The current marker has been moved slightly in the intervening years as the area adjacent to MacArthur Park has been developed and redeveloped, yet its current location best serves its purpose of commemorating Dodd's death and the approximate location. We ask that Trail members contact the City of Little Rock Parks and Recreation Department if they oppose the relocation of the Dodd monument. Letters should be addressed to Brian

Day, Director, Little Rock Parks and Recreation, City Hall, 500 W. Markham, Little Rock, AR 72201, or call (501) 371-6939.

Planning is underway for the observance of the 141st anniversary and memorial service for David O. Dodd on Jan. 8, 2005, at noon at Mt. Holly Cemetery in Little Rock.

The CACWHT meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month, jointly with the Civil War Roundtable of Little Rock (except in December, when there is no meeting) at the John Gould Fletcher Library at H and Buchanan streets in Little Rock. The Civil War Roundtable programs are excellent and guests are encouraged and welcome to attend. CACWHT volunteers are very much needed to help with projects, including ongoing maintenance of the existing nine interpretive panels located in Little Rock, North Little Rock, Brownsville, Jacksonville, and Scott. For more information, call Tom Ezell at (501) 682-0876 or (501) 961-1937.

For more information on the Reed's Bridge Preservation Society, call Tommy Dupree at (501) 833-0265. The Society's meetings are held each month at 12:30 p.m. at the new Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce building at 200 Dupree Drive, and are open to the public. Donations can be made, and checks payable to the Reed's Bridge Preservation Society, 600 Lynx Lane, Jacksonville, AR 72076.

Civil War Arkansas on the Internet!

Log onto these sites to learn more:

www.arkansaspreservation.org

www.civilwarbuff.org

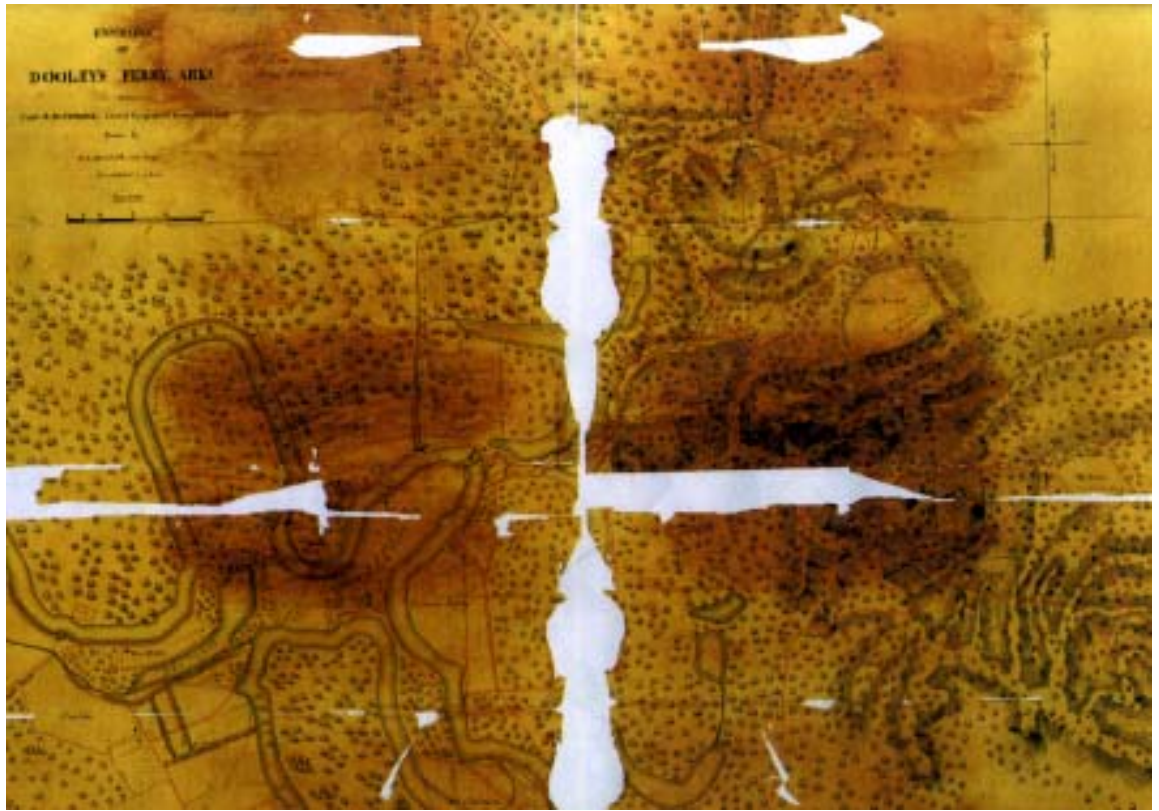
<http://history-sites.com/cgi-bin/boards/arcwmb/>

Fortifications, cemetery linked to Civil War

Continued from Page 1. of fortifications at Dooley's Ferry remain today as silent witnesses to Confederate strategy in Arkansas during the waning days of the Civil War," the National Register nomination says. "Their extensive nature and remarkable state of preservation make them the largest and best-preserved set of fortifications in all of southern Arkansas."

The Confederate Section, Old Rondo Cemetery at 1712 Smith Road in Rondo contains the remains of 85 Confederate soldiers who died of disease while camped in the area in 1862 and were memorialized by the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1934.

"The Confederate Section, Old Rondo Cemetery is the historic property most closely associated with the efforts of the Albert Pike Chapter 2057 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to honor Confederate war dead," the National Register nomination says. "As such, it deserves recognition on the National



This 1864 map shows the approaches to Dooley's Ferry, where Confederate soldiers were stationed in 1864-65.

Register of Historic Places."

For more information on the National Register of Historic Places program, write the AHPP at 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center St., Little Rock, AR

72201, call the agency at (501) 324-9880 [TDD 501-324-9811], send e-mail to info@arkansaspreservation.org or visit the AHPP's Internet web site at www.arkansaspreservation.org.

SWACWHT plans meeting August 22 at Old Washington Historic State Park

*By Jim Hale
SWACWHT Chair*

The SWACWHT will hold a meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 22, at the Washington Methodist Church at Old Washington State Park to discuss recent activities and to plan for activities in 2004/2005.

Among the subjects to be covered at the meeting are Civil War sites in Southwest Arkansas that need to be documented and recorded with the state and the possibility of marking some sites with interpretive materials.

SWACWHT members recently worked with the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program to document a network of

Confederate entrenchments at Dooley's Ferry and the Confederate Section at the old Rondo Cemetery. Both of those sites will be considered for National Register nomination in August

The SWACWHT also helped to identify Civil War sites near Fulton that may be nominated at a later date.

A number of Confederate camps in Union County are being identified and marked for further documentation this winter. Also, I am working with a landowner near Calhoun in Columbia County to identify and mark a Confederate campsite on his property.

The Southwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Polk, Montgomery,

Garland, Howard, Pike, Clark, Hot Spring, Grant, Dallas, Sevier, Little River, Hempstead, Nevada, Ouachita, Calhoun, Miller, Lafayette, Columbia and Union counties. For more information or to get involved, call Jim Hale at (501) 760-2566.

The Arkansas Battlefield Update newsletter is available online at the AHPP web site at arkansaspreservation.org.

SEACWHT members active throughout region

By Mark Kalkbrenner
SEACWHT Chair

The Southeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail group has been active in the past few months on various projects throughout the region. I know firsthand about some of them, and only hear bits and pieces about others. If you are working on a project or just have an idea, please let me know so that we can help.

Edgar Colvin has been extremely busy. He not only works tirelessly on his own project, Marks' Mills, but also creates stone markers for just about anyone who asks. In the past several months, Edgar has done markers for the Fagan Six at Helena, unknowns in the southwest part of the state, and the markers that will be talked about later in this article.

In May, Tim Johnson of Warren erected a marker on the Bradley County Courthouse lawn in memory of Capt. Hugh Bradley, namesake of Bradley County. Capt. Bradley was an officer in the 5th Regiment of Arkansas Militia during the War of 1812 and is buried in an unmarked grave outside of town. The marker has family information on the reverse side. The marker was dedicated on Memorial Day Weekend.

Also on Memorial Day weekend, a marker was erected at Marks' Mills Cemetery Park with a poem inscribed "April '64." It was written by Scott Temple of New Edinburg after a visit to the site. The poem was written from the perspective of a Confederate soldier during the battle.

On June 18, several members of the Sulphur Springs Historical Preservation Association erected markers for Mrs. Eliza Curry, her son, and four unknown Confederate soldiers at Lee Springs, just down the road from Camp White Sulphur Springs Confederate Cemetery. Mrs. Curry took the soldiers to her home and all are supposed to have died from smallpox.

Also in regards to Camp White Sulphur Springs Confederate Cemetery, paperwork has recently been filed to have the site placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The annual White Sulphur Springs Civil War Weekend is being planned for Oct. 9 and 10. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Mark Kalkbrenner or Jerry Lawrence.

Plans are also in the works for the Battle of Marks' Mills Reenactment to be held the last weekend in April 2005. The

event in 2003 drew more than 100 reenactors and over 2,500 spectators. The 2005 event is planned to be even bigger and better, with a few surprises.

The next meeting of the SEACWHT will be at noon on Saturday, September 18, at Arkansas Post National Memorial.

Old State House sets Oct. 9 date for third annual Civil War seminar

The Old State House Museum will host its third annual Civil War seminar, "'A General Desolation': Civil War Arkansas, 1864," on Saturday, Oct. 9.

The seminar will focus on events that took place 140 years ago in 1864.

Planned speakers and topics include:

Dr. Gary D. Joiner, Louisiana State University—Shreveport, "Fred Steele's Dilemma and Kirby Smith's Quest for Glory"

Dr. Daniel Sutherland, University of Arkansas—Fayetteville, "Guerrilla Conflict in 1864: The Day of the Outlaw"

Dr. William L. Shea, University of Arkansas—Monticello, "North to Missouri: The Origins of Price's Raid"

Tom Wing, University of Arkansas—Fort Smith, "'A Den of Corruption and Iniquity': Confederate Indians and Fort Smith"

Mark Christ, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, "'The Queen City was a Helpless Wreck': J.O. Shelby's Summer of '64."

The \$15 seminar fee includes breakfast pastries and lunch. The registration deadline is Oct. 1, 2004. For additional information, call the Old State House Museum at (501) 324-9685 or send an e-mail message to georganne@arkansasheritage.org. The Old State House is a museum of the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

Sign me up!

I want to find out more about battlefield preservation in Arkansas. Send me future issues of [Arkansas Battlefield Update](#).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number (optional): _____

E-mail address (optional): _____

Name of Friend: _____

Address: _____

NWACWHT looks at Boone, Newton, Searcy

By John C. Scott
NWACWHT Chair

The Northwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail committee met in Harrison in May. Lesser-known Civil War-related sites in Boone, Newton and Searcy counties were discussed.

J. Troy Massey and Suzie Rogers will undertake the development of a list of these sites and the stories behind them. This should be a very interesting list and we will all look forward to looking it over.

Speaking of looking over interesting resources, if you have not read the "Memoirs of Captain J.M. Bailey," edited by James Troy Massey, you will want to do so. The memories are those of an Arkansan Confederate soldier and will take you from Wilson's Creek to Pea Ridge to the Campaigns of the Mississippi Valley. Here you will also find one of the very few written accounts of General Ben McCulloch's death. The book can be obtained by contacting the author, J. Troy Massey, P.O. Box 536, Harrison, Arkansas 72602.

If you have not been to the Pea Ridge Battlefield lately you will see a lot of "progress into the past" being made. The park recently received a \$25,000 discretionary grant from Unilever. This grant will help us restore the historic fencing in the Lee Town area. Along with the placement of additional artillery pieces and the reopening of historic traces, this

part of the park is back to its 1862 look. Unilever is the longest-standing corporate partner of the National Park Foundation, and in ten years Unilever has committed \$20 million in donations and support to the

National Park Foundation.

The fall NWACWHT meeting will be sometime in October in the Bentonville area. The date and time will be announced later.

WCACWHT continues effort for brochure, battlefield site

By Tom Wing
WCACWHT Chair

The WCACWHT has continued to work on a number of projects. The driving tour brochure for Fort Smith and Van Buren is still in progress. The 140th Anniversary of Massard Prairie resulted in a Mayor's Picnic and special programs.

Numerous items pertaining to the Civil War in Western Arkansas have come to light recently. A private tintype collector in Oregon contacted WCACWHT Chairman Tom Wing. The collector had three photos of the 12th and 13th Kansas Infantry and the 2nd Kansas Battery. The tintypes were hand-tinted and dated November 12, 1864. Buildings on Garrison Avenue in Fort Smith were easily identified in the pictures. General Francis Herron reviewed troops in the city on that day. The collection also included two views of the post including the barracks, guardhouse, and officers

quarters. The photos will be published in the "Diary of Henry Albert Strong," due out next year from the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies in Little Rock.

A gun collector in Idaho also contacted Tom Wing requesting information about a Starr Carbine he had recently purchased. Research revealed that the gun was issued to a soldier in Co. F of the 6th Kansas Cavalry and possibly carried in Fort Smith. Negotiations are underway for the possibility of the gun coming to Fort Smith.

In August, a special presentation and dedication will take place in Fairview Cemetery in Van Buren. The presentation will focus on U.S. Colored Troops and other African-American graves, recently identified by a local research team headed by Angela Walton. She has a web page that contains information on Arkansas Freedmen (www.arkansasfreedmen.com).

Walton is currently helping National Park Service officials establish Abolition and Underground Railroad information to submit Fort Smith to be included on the historic trail. Charles Bolton, professor of history at UALR, is also graciously assisting in this effort.

In other news, the contact information for the WCACWHT is changing as Chairman Tom Wing is taking a new position as history professor with the University of Arkansas Fort Smith. Please note the new contact information on page 2 in this *Update*.

The next meeting of the WCACWHT will be on Saturday, Sept. 18, time and place to be determined. For information, contact Tom Wing at (479) 474-4781.

Mark your calendar!

Northeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail meeting

11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, Stone House Museum, Colt
Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail meeting

7 p.m., fourth Tuesday of each month,

John Gould Fletcher Branch Library, Little Rock

Southeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail meeting

Noon, Sunday, Sept. 18, Arkansas Post National Memorial

Southwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail meeting

2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 22, Old Washington Historic State Park, Washington

West Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail meeting

Saturday, Sept. 18, time and location to be announced

Northwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail meeting

October, Bentonville, details to follow

Old State House Civil War Seminar

Saturday, Oct. 9, Old State House Museum, Little Rock

Jacksonville battlefield preservation group is one of 12 recipients of ABPP funding

Continued from Page 1.

For more information on the Reed's Bridge Preservation Society, call Dupree at (501) 833-0265. The Society's meetings are held each month at 12:30 p.m. at the new Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce building at 200 Dupree Drive, and are open to the public. Donations can be made, and checks payable to the Reed's Bridge Preservation Society, 600 Lynx Lane, Jacksonville, AR 72076.

The ABPP recently announced the award of 12 grants totaling \$387,975 to assist in the preservation and protection of America's historic battlefields. Funded projects include battlefield surveys, site mapping, National Register of Historic Places nominations, preservation and management plans, educational materials, and GPS/GIS data collection. The American Battlefield Protection Program funds projects conducted by federal, state, local, and tribal govern-

ments, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions. The ABPP's mission is to safeguard and preserve significant American battlefield lands for present and future generations as symbols of individual sacrifice and national heritage.

The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) earlier this year included the Bayou Meto (Reed's Bridge) Battlefield on its list of "at risk" battlefields. The Trust's web site notes: "Reed's Bridge was a key engagement during the Union advance on Little Rock. Although small parts of the battlefield are protected, the site's proximity to I-440, combined with sprawl emanating from Jacksonville and Little Rock, threaten to engulf the battleground."

CWPT is committed to protecting the last tangible links to this period in American history. With 50,000 members, CWPT is the largest nonprofit battlefield

preservation organization in the United States. Its purpose is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds. CWPT's principal goal is to preserve historic battlefield land through outright purchases, conservation easements, and partnerships with federal, state, and local governments.

DeGray Park schedules event

DeGray Lake Resort State Park will host its eighth annual Civil War Weekend Oct. 29-31, 2004.

Activities will include drilling, tactical maneuvers, living history demonstrations, a skirmish and a Civil War haunted trail. Interested reenactors can contact DeGray Lake Resort State Park, 2027 State Park Entrance Road, Bismarck, AR 71929; phone (501) 865-2809.



Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
1500 Tower Building
323 Center Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 324-9880

info@arkansaspreservation.org

www.arkansaspreservation.org

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage. Other DAH agencies are the Arts Council, the Old State House Museum, the Historic Arkansas Museum, the Delta Cultural Center in Helena, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center and the Natural Heritage Commission.

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