Preservation Study for Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields
Prince William County, Virginia
Guiding Principles for the Study: (Station 1)

- The Study will not create any new regulations and is for information only.

- The Study results will help the county negotiate development proposals within the study area.

- The Study results will provide tools for landowners interested in conservation or preservation programs.

- The Study will provide through historical analysis, significant tangible evidence of the events and lives of the people who occupied and shaped the battlefield landscape.

- The Study will provide guidelines to maintain and protect the rural character of the landscape so that battlefield events can be interpreted now and in the future.
Project Team:

- **Commonwealth Heritage Group** (Alexandria and Charlottesville Offices)
  - Jo Balicki, Archeologist
  - Jane Jacobs, Historical Landscape Architect
  - Laura Knott, Historical Landscape Architect
  - Christina Osborn, Historic Preservation Specialist

- **Prince William County Planning Office** and **Department of Public Works, Historic Preservation Division**
  - Justin S. Patton, County Archaeologist
  - William Backus, Historic Site Manager
  - Robert Orrison, Historic Site Operations Supervisor
  - Preservation Study Steering Committee
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American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP): (est. 1990)

Mission: lead a federal partnership initiative to help communities identify, assess and protect American battlefields, and support the goals of the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC)

CWSAC- 1993: Published Report on the nation’s Civil War battlefields identifying 384 conflicts as the war’s principal battles and classified them according to their historic and military significance. Bristoe Station Battlefield was included in this report.

2009 Updated Report: “Commonwealth of Virginia Update” included reassessment of battlefield boundaries and surviving areas that retain integrity were identified. It also included an individual battlefield profile.

The Battle of Bristoe Station: was included in the updated report for the state’s battlefields and classified as a Priority I, Class B battlefield- (Class B reflects good or fair integrity)
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Study Area Boundary (Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields)
Study Area Context  (Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields)
Cultural landscapes may be any lands, large or small, with historic significance and historic integrity.

Battlefields are considered cultural landscapes and recognized as historic sites.

Cultural Landscape Approach:

- Military terrain analysis (KOCOA)
- Landscape Documentation/historic and existing conditions
- Landscape Evaluation/integrity assessment
- Preservation / development of an appropriate set of planning tools and management guidelines
Military Terrain Analysis (cultural landscape approach)

**KOCOA:** provides the necessary information to isolate prospective battlefield locations

(K): Key Terrain  
(O): Observation and Fields of Fire  
(C): Cover and Concealment  
(O): Obstacles  
(A): Avenues of Approach

Looking along the Orange and Alexandria railroad South from Bristoe Station after Lee’s army retreated back to the Rappahannock River
Battles of Bristoe Station and Kettle Run:
Bristoe Station 1860s (See Station 2)
**Investigating Military Sites:** Research Designs and Methodology

- Detailed Historic Research
- Military Terrain Analysis (KOCOA)
- Inherent military Probability
- Historic Map Research
- Viewshed Analysis
- Army Regulations
- Pedestrian Survey
- Detailed Mapping
“Twice baptized in blood for Liberty’s sake, it will be a place to which in after time pilgrimages will be made by those who reverence the glorious, though suffering past”

Joseph Hopkins Twichell
Chaplain for the 71\textsuperscript{st} N.Y. Infantry
Battle of Kettle Run:
27 August 1862
Battle of Bristoe Station
14 October 1863
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Defining Features: Kettle Run
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Defining Features:  Bristoe Station
Historic Conditions/Existing Conditions *(cultural landscape approach)*
(See Station 3)

**Documentation:** focus our preservation and guidelines on the most important landscape features and accurately depict the landscape

*Defining features from battle*  
*Existing landscape condition*
Historic Conditions/Existing Conditions (cultural landscape approach)

Documentation: (1937 aerial photo)
Historic Conditions/Existing Conditions (cultural landscape approach)

Documentation:
(1937 aerial photo)
with 2016 overlay
**Historic Conditions/Existing Conditions** (cultural landscape approach)

**Evaluation:** Define the significance of the landscape and assess the integrity

**Integrity:** Ability of a property to convey its significance, aspects include:

- **Location:** place where military event occurred
- **Setting:** character of the place in which the property played its historic role, physical features of setting can be natural or man-made.
- **Feeling:** presence of physical features that together convey historic character
- **Association:** direct link between historic event and a historic landscape
Feature Integrity: Historic Conditions/Existing Conditions
Parcel Priority (based on Historic Features and Integrity)
**Preservation**

**Preservation:** Once the landscape is evaluated, an appropriate set of planning tools and management guidelines may be selected. They can then be used by private landowners interested in conservation or preservation programs and by the county to help negotiate development proposals within the evaluated areas.
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