



USGS/Eros Field Office

Mapping, page 16

Editor's Note: Nothing could be more disorienting than trekking toward an obscure village in a foreign country, only to discover—no village. The map was drawn wrong. Even driving the back roads of America requires a good road map.

At the most basic level, maps keep us from getting lost. They also explain the world to us. Today, with satellite imagery, we can see details even more precisely—each bend in the river and each mountain ridge-line. The perspective of a map also says something about how we view the world and our place in it. North American cartographers, for instance, figure the northern hemisphere more prominently in global maps. Maps allow us to see relationships: topographical, geological, even emotional. And they delight the eye as well as the mind. Whether thinking about vacations to a favorite beach or long-term, far-away adventures, our journeys begin with dreams and a map.

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The magazine of the National Parks and Conservation Association

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Cover: Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, by Al Read
The east buttress of Cube Point, a 9,550-foot peak in the Teton Range, is one of the more advanced routes for climbing students in the park.

Established in 1919, the National Parks and Conservation Association is the only national, nonprofit, membership organization that focuses on defending, promoting, and improving our country's National Park System while educating the public about the parks.

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Commentary

Almost Like Being There

If there are two questions about parks that I am frequently asked, they are "Where can I get information about the parks?" "How do I learn more about the parks *before* I get there?"

These questions are related, yet different. The second question is particularly frustrating. Many park visitors want to learn more about the resources in a park before their visit, but there is no central repository for information about the parks. Like others, I am always overwhelmed with material once I get to the park, but never before.

The 64 cooperating associations—nonprofit organizations that work with the National Park Service—are outstanding in providing publications and other information to visitors at the parks. Each cooperating association concentrates on the natural and cultural resources of its particular park. Although these associations usually have limited funds and depend on volunteer help, they achieve consistent quality. Unfortunately, there is no one place to contact if you want to order cooperating association publications.

Private publishers also provide information about the parks. *The Story Behind the Scenery* is a series of high-quality, colorful publications that park visitors can obtain before visiting the parks. But again, these publications were not obtainable from a central park publications repository.

Now, there is one convenient place where the park enthusiast can obtain all of these materials before and after a visit. It is NPCA's Park Education Materials Center, a newly established educational program of the Association. The center has secured a wide variety of materials and information about national parks, from books on river runners of the Grand Canyon to a hiker's guide to Glacier. These materials are now available to all park visitors, armchair travelers, teachers, students, and others.

In this issue of *National Parks* magazine, explore more than 100 different parks by browsing through our new catalogue. The catalogue features more than 250 book titles from 39 cooperating associations; official National Park Service handbooks; *The Story Behind the Scenery* series; and much, much more. We look forward to other cooperating associations joining our efforts to make you, the park visitor, better informed.

The Park Education Materials Center is the key to discovering everything about a park—before you go.

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clude insufficient management funds, pollution and acid rain, illegal livestock grazing, and mining and mineral exploitation.

Threatened areas added to the register in 1988 include Kaziranga National Park and World Heritage Site in India (threatened by rhinoceros poaching and a proposed railway within the park); Paramillo National Park in Colombia (two planned dams would flood 600 square miles of land); and Banhine and Zimane national parks in Mozambique (threatened by heavy wildlife poaching, military disturbances, and lack of management).

In total, 53 countries have protected areas on the list. The U.S. national park areas on the list are Cuyahoga Valley and Indiana Dunes, both listed in 1984 due to the threat of acid rain.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park in Alaska was placed on the list in 1984 because a bill had been introduced in Congress to shift a large part of the park into the adjacent Wrangell-St. Elias National Preserve in order to permit hunting. The park was removed from the threatened register when pressure from NPCA and several other conservation groups prevented the bill from being passed.

The IUCN threatened list has been criticized for not being the result of a systematic survey. Instead, it is compiled through reports and letters from members of the CNPPA network.

Paul Pritchard, NPCA president and a member of CNPPA, believes that a number of United States national parks should be on the threatened list, especially Everglades and Glacier national parks. NPCA intends to nominate these U.S. parks for consideration in the next updating session.

NPCA urges other conservation groups and individual citizens to submit nominations. These can be sent to Jim Thorsell, CNPPA executive officer, IUCN headquarters, Avenue de Mont Blanc, CH-1196, Gland, Switzerland. Nominations of threatened areas should be supported with scientific reports or press clippings when possible.

Civil War Battlefield Loses Ground to New Mall

A Virginia developer recently announced plans to construct a major shopping mall adjacent to the Manassas National Battlefield Park in northern Virginia. The company has already obtained permission from the Prince William County board of supervisors to begin the project. The property in question is bounded on two sides by the historic battlefield park.

Local residents have teamed up with preservationists, historians, and military enthusiasts from around the country to block the construction of William Center, the proposed 600-acre development that will include several hundred new homes and a 1.2-million-square-foot shopping mall.

Critics of the development fear the shopping mall will bring excessive traffic, noise, and visual blight to the area, destroying the serenity and integrity of the battlefield. The National Park Service has complained the project to "book a roller derby in the Sistine Chapel."

Proponents of the project cite a projected \$135 million in revenues over the next 20 years, and the creation of 2,900 new jobs. At present, there are three major malls within a 25-mile radius of the William Center site, and a fourth that is under construction.

The battles that took place in and around the battlefield park were among the most important of the Civil War. The First Battle of Manassas, fought in 1861, was the first major land engagement of the war. The Second Battle of Manassas, fought a year later, proved critical in countering previous Union advances into northern Virginia. The site of General Lee's headquarters—left out of the park originally—would be desecrated by the proposed William Center.

In 1986, Hazel/Peterson, the development company, purchased the William Center tract and persuaded the county board to create a new zoning category—Planned Mixed-Use District (PMD)—for office developments. William Center



Jerry Foster

Arizona Congressman Morris Udall (left) listens to arguments against the proposed William Center shopping mall from Ann Snyder, founder of Save the Battlefield Coalition, and former Manassas Battlefield historian John Henessey. The plan includes an office complex and 560 new homes—all adjacent to the battlefield.

was touted as a "campus-like" office park with a small neighborhood shopping center.

Despite public protest, county supervisors approved the zoning. Manassas National Battlefield Superintendent Rolland Swain reluctantly gave his consent in November 1986, reasoning that development of the lot was inevitable and an office park would prove the least offensive form.

In January, developers announced plans to cut the office space in half and replace the small shopping center with a major mall, significantly changing the focus and scale of the project.

A storm of public criticism ensued. Annie Snyder, a Manassas resident and veteran preservation activist, led the local protest and formed the Save the Battlefield Coalition. National Park Service Director William Penn Mott, Jr., wrote to the Prince William County board of supervisors, complaining that the mall "does not even resemble the good-faith agreements we thought had been made."

At present the William Center project has all the approval it needs, and no public hearings are scheduled. Opponents are planning legal

action to stop construction of the mall.

They also plan to appeal to the Department of Transportation (DOT). For the project to progress, DOT must approve proposals to upgrade several interchanges and re-route one road in order to handle the increased traffic.

NPCA has set up a special donation account to aid the Save the Battlefield Coalition. Concerned citizens can send contributions to the coalition to Bruce Craig, NPCA, 1015 Thirty-first St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20007.

In addition, NPCA, together with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is coordinating the national movement to save the Manassas Battlefield. The two groups are pushing Congress to enact legislation to protect endangered national historic sites.

According to Bruce Craig, Cultural Resources Coordinator for NPCA, "This property is of national significance. Ideally, the federal government should purchase the tract and incorporate it into the park." Until legislation is introduced to include the parcel, NPCA supports initiatives to limit development to a version of the original proposal.

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Battling Over Manassas

The outcome will decide the fate of America's historical parks

by Jody Powell

If you stand at Manassas Battlefield today, where the dusty, rumpled soldier sat on his horse a century and a quarter past, you can almost see it as it was.

Within shouting distance, at the base of the gently rising hill, the Union Army trudges along the Warrenton Pike toward Washington. In the woods beyond are massed the hard-marching infantry of Robert E. Lee's I Corps.

The lone horseman in the slouch cap is the Confederate commander, General Thomas J. Jackson. A year earlier, on another hill less than three miles east, he had won the name "Stonewall." Now, he turns and gallops back to his assembled commanders. In a soft voice, as if he were conversing with a friend, Jackson says, "Bring up your men, gentlemen."

It is August 28, 1862, and the battle of Second Manassas has begun. For three days, 125,000 Americans will tear at one another. Ammunition expended, they will fight on with rocks and knives. In all, 25,000 will die.

The sense of history on that little hill on the Brawner Farm is palpable. Just across the pike rises Stuart's Hill where Lee sent General James Longstreet and the II Corps crashing into the unsuspecting left flank of the Union Army. But for a gallant

twilight stand on the hill where Jackson had earned his name 13 months before, that attack might well have destroyed that army and the nation.

Today you can still see it, feel it: that blood-soaked, valor-hallowed piece of Virginia countryside where the entire Union tottered on the brink of destruction.

The landscape has not changed. In rare and mystical moments, you can relive the battle scene. But not for long.

This January, the Virginia development firm Hazel-Peterson, in conjunction with the Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation, announced plans to construct a huge regional mall that will level Stuart's Hill. The mall's office buildings and retail outlets will dominate the view from Brawner's Farm as an obscene mon-

ument to the desecration of a nation's history.

The two-lane pike where a green Union brigade wheeled to repulse Jackson's surprise assault will become a four-lane thoroughfare packed with the cars of shoppers and commuters. Traffic jams will stretch for miles through the battlefields of both First and Second Manassas.

Lee's headquarters will become a parking lot. The hospitals where his men suffered and died in agony, where some are almost certainly buried, will make way for designer jeans and VCRs.

Hazel-Peterson's announcement signaled the latest in a series of battles to protect Manassas from development. Marriott Corporation tried unsuccessfully to get permits for a theme park on the same piece of property in the 1970s. Hazel-Peterson acquired the parcel in 1986 from Marriott.

After heated debate with local citizens and National Park Service officials, Hazel-Peterson agreed to a compromise proposal that allowed construction of "high quality, campus-like office developments" subject to a number of restrictions informally worked out with NPS. Those who cared about the battlefield were not happy, but it seemed to be the best deal at the time.

NPCA and the National Trust for Historic Preservation have formed the National Heritage Coalition to save Manassas and to seek legislation that will better protect all historic park areas. If you would like to help protect the Manassas Battlefield, please send contributions to Save the Battlefield Coalition, P.O. Box 110, Catharpin, VA 22018.

Then, in January, Hazel-Peterson tossed the compromise aside and announced plans for a 1.2 million-square-foot shopping mall. The Prince William County board of supervisors loosely interpreted local zoning ordinances to accommodate the switch. The Park Service summed up the situation well: approving this mall would be "like booking a roller derby in the Sistine Chapel."

The battle has commenced and, as usual, the odds and the money are on the side of the developers. But there is hope. Annie Snyder, a hard-headed retired Marine officer and veteran of previous fights to protect Manassas, has organized the Save the Battlefield Coalition.

With a zeal that belies her 66 years and uncertain health, she has brought together friends and neighbors to pursue every legal option available, from the courthouse to the Capitol. A Washington, D.C., law firm and a public relations agency have both donated their help.

In addition, a broad-based national coalition involving veterans' organizations, historical and natural preservationists, Civil War enthusiasts, and others of like mind is being formed to support the local coalition, which is desperately short of funds.

This emerging national coalition is predicated on the belief that what is at stake here goes well beyond Manassas. Throughout the land, Civil War and Revolutionary War battle-

fields—as well as many other units of the National Park System—are threatened.

The attitude that open space is just land waiting to be developed has prevailed in this country. High-rise condominiums, television and radio towers, housing subdivisions—and shopping malls—are springing up in every available

Protecting sites significant to our history has a personal meaning for this writer. Nine members of my family fought under Jackson at Second Manassas.

They also fought at Gettysburg, at Sharpsburg, and at Chickamauga—other pieces of hallowed ground, which are national battlefields now threatened with similar desecration.

In a major way, however, the personal connection is beside the point. The ancestors of the vast majority of present-day Americans had yet to reach these shores when the cannons first roared in Charleston Harbor, signaling the start of the Civil War. Yet, the national heritage embodied in these imperiled bits of land is in every respect as much theirs as it is mine.

We all share equally in the glory and the horror. As Robert E. Lee said in his farewell to his troops, we share in the "unsurpassed courage and fortitude" that shaped us as a people and a nation. Just as surely, the fight to protect that heritage summons all.

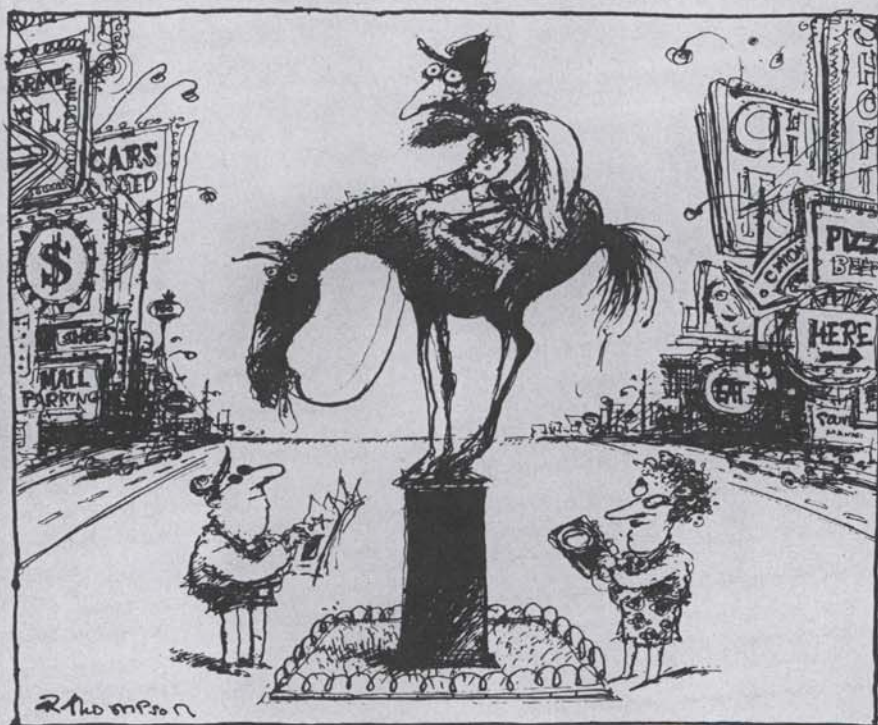


Illustration by Richard Thompson

Lee's headquarters will become a parking lot. The hospitals where his men suffered, where some are most certainly buried, will make way for designer jeans and VCRs.

square mile. What is the purpose of preserving a historical scene if the area is then intruded upon by adjacent development?

As a country, we simply have not yet been willing to make an investment in our national heritage that is sufficient to guarantee its preservation. And, many of those who speak frequently and fervently of our nation's past glories seem largely uninterested in lifting a finger to protect any of them.

Jody Powell is currently president of Ogilvy & Mather Public Affairs, a public relations firm in Washington, D.C., which is involved in pro bono work for the battlefield coalition. He served as press secretary to Jimmy Carter from 1970 to 1981, through Carter's years as Georgia governor to president. Powell has lectured extensively, was news analyst for ABC News, and was a columnist for the L.A. Times.