



Date of Council Meeting: October 22, 2013

**TOWN OF LEESBURG
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Subject: Support for Expansion of Ball's Bluff National Register and Landmark Boundary

Staff Contact: Susan Berry Hill, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning

Recommendation: Approval of Resolution

Issue: Loudoun County request for support for expansion of the current boundary for the Ball's Bluff battlefield historic boundaries.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no discernible cost to the Town of providing support to the County's effort to expand the boundaries of this battlefield.

Background:

In 2011 Planning Commissioner Doris Kidder raised concerns about the preservation of natural and cultural resources on the segment of Edwards Ferry Road outside of the town's corporate limits to River Creek Parkway. The Planning Commission forwarded this concern to the Town Council which supported the concern and directed the Town Manager to send a request to the Board of Supervisors to investigate means of addressing this concern (Attachment 1, Letter from John Wells dated October 6, 2011). County staff first looked at the aspect of conserving natural resource and did not recommend any changes to county ordinances or county land development practices because sufficient regulation and oversight was already in place regarding protections to tree canopy and natural resources. However, county staff did recommend that the county investigate means of preserving identified historic and cultural resources. Staff noted that the Balls's Bluff National Historic Landmark is currently 80.58 acres. However, the battlefield in its entirety is approximately 2900 acres. In 2005-2006, preliminary work was done by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) and it noted that the Battlefield, in its entirety, could be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Upon receiving this recommendation in November, 2011, the Board of Supervisors, tasked the County Heritage Commission to work on this project. The Commission solicited input from property owners along the subject segment of Edwards Ferry Road. After gaining this input, the Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors consider expansion of the boundaries of the Balls Bluff Battlefield National Landmark. This is an honorific designation without regulatory implications. The Board directed the Commission to identify the necessary steps for such expansion. Generally, the steps include:

1. Preparation of a Preliminary Information Form, or PIF, which details the local, state and national significance of the Battle and describes the events of the Battle as they relate to the subject land
2. Submit the PIF to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) for review
3. If the PIF is approved by VDHR, the County is encouraged to submit a nomination to the National Park Service.
4. Letters of support for the nomination are highly recommended. The affected jurisdictions include Loudoun County, Montgomery County and the Town of Leesburg.
5. The County will seek a grant from the ABPP to prepare the nomination. The letters of support will be submitted with this grant application.
6. The grant application will be submitted in December, 2013.
7. Property owner notification is scheduled for November to explain the historic significance of the battlefield and the process for the nomination. A FAQ sheet has been prepared for these meetings (see Attachment 2)
8. Notice of the grant award will be in July, 2014.
9. If the grant is successful, all property owners will then be notified of the intent to pursue the nomination.
10. A consultant will be hired to prepare the nomination.
11. The nomination is submitted to the National Park Service.

In the intervening time since the Board's initial direction to go ahead with the project, the Heritage Commission has prepared and submitted the PIF which was approved by VDHR. Therefore, the County is at Step 4 - the letters of recommendation.

On September 24, the Heritage Commission spoke as petitioners at the Town Council meeting to request Council support for this nomination. Council directed staff to draft a resolution of support for the County.

Attachments:

- 1) Letter from Town Manager, dated October 6, 2011
- 2) County staff report to Board of Supervisors dated October 16, 2013
- 3) Resolution



Loudoun County, Virginia

www.loudoun.gov

Office of the County Administrator

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October 24, 2011

Mr. John Wells, Town Manager
 Town of Leesburg
 25 West Market Street
 PO Box 88
 Leesburg, Virginia 20178

Re: Edwards Ferry Road – Protection of Natural and Historic Resources

Dear Mr. Wells:

Thank you for your letter of October 6, 2011, regarding the Town of Leesburg's interest in the protection of the natural and cultural resources along Edwards Ferry Road. The County shares the Town's interest in, and concern for, the protection of heritage resources, particularly along this corridor which contains floodplain, steep slopes, tree canopy and vestiges of Civil War embattlements.

As you acknowledge in your letter, the County has a strong policy and regulatory framework in place to facilitate the protection of natural and cultural resources including overlay zoning districts which limit development encroachment and protect natural features in floodplains and steep slopes. Further, the Town may also be aware that the majority of the property along this segment of Edwards Ferry Road is under conservation easement which limits the land development potential and affords yet another layer of protection. In any case, the County will continue to apply its policies and ordinances, in coordination with the Town, as part of the review of all development proposals in this corridor.

With regard to some of the other tools mentioned, the establishment of a Historic Access Corridor overlay zoning district may be an appropriate additional protection for this area. As you may know, the Board of Supervisors has recently appointed a Heritage Commission to act in an advisory capacity to the Board on heritage resource issues. If the Board is interested in the possibility of Historic Access Corridor designation, it would be my recommendation that they task the Heritage Commission to evaluate current and future threats to identified resources, identify the range of tools available to address resource protection, and to ascertain interest of the property owners along Edwards Ferry Road. Such involvement and coordination with affected property owners would be essential to the establishment of such a district under the current County ordinances.

Letter to Mr. John Wells
October 24, 2011
Page Two

As the Board of Supervisors considers the Town of Leesburg's request regarding Edwards Ferry Road, County staff will continue to be available to discuss questions and concerns and to provide available data to the Town that is pertinent to this issue.

Sincerely,



Tim Hemstreet
County Administrator

cc: Julie Pastor, Director of Planning
Linda Neri, Deputy County Administrator
Board of Supervisors
Leesburg Town Council

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUSINESS MEETING
ACTION ITEM**

#7

SUBJECT: Heritage Commission request for Board Statement of Support for the Expansion of Ball's Bluff National Register and Landmark Boundary

ELECTION DISTRICT: Catoctin

CRITICAL ACTION DATE: December 31, 2013

STAFF CONTACTS: Heidi Siebentritt, Heritage Commission Staff Liaison
Julie Pastor, AICP, Director of Planning

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Heritage Commission: The Heritage Commission (HC) recommends the Board of Supervisors (Board) approve a formal statement of support to include in the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) grant application.

Staff: Staff recommends the Board's approval of the proposed expansion of the current Ball's Bluff National Register and Historic Landmark boundary through a formal nomination to the National Park Service and support the Heritage Commission's submission of an ABPP grant application to fund the nomination.

BACKGROUND:

On January 16, 2013, the Board directed staff to work with the HC to prepare a grant application to the ABPP for the purposes of preparing a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (8-0-1, Letourneau abstained). This involves a nomination for the expansion of the current 76-acre Ball's Bluff National Register and National Landmark boundary.

The Ball's Bluff initiative stemmed from the HC's recommendation to the Board regarding methods to recognize and protect the unaltered section of Edwards Ferry Road between Battlefield Parkway and River Creek Parkway, which the Board had tasked the HC to evaluate in 2011 (9-0). National Register and National Historic Landmark designation is honorific and imposes no restrictions on the use of lands included in the designation. The necessary research that will culminate in the nomination is anticipated to be funded through a grant from the National Park Service's ABPP. On January 16, 2013, the HC asked the Board for permission to pursue the ABPP grant which must be submitted by the end of 2013 (Attachment 1).

In the intervening months since the Board's direction, the Commission prepared a Preliminary Information Form (PIF) which outlined the local, state and national significance of the Battle and described the events of the Battle as they relate to the lands included in the proposed expanded

boundary. The proposed boundary identified in the PIF includes approximately 2,900 acres of land extending across Harrison's Island to the shores of the Potomac in Montgomery County. The HC submitted the PIF to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) for review to ascertain whether the expanded boundary would be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and, thus, whether a formal nomination should be pursued. On September 24, 2013, VDHR's State Board of Review approved the PIF for the expanded boundary and encouraged the submission of a formal nomination. The PIF document (Attachment 2), is foundational to the ABPP grant submittal.

At this juncture, the HC is seeking letters, resolutions and statements of support from all jurisdictions included in the expanded boundary to include with the grant submission. The jurisdictions include Loudoun County, Montgomery County, and the Town of Leesburg. The HC addressed the Leesburg Town Council at their September 24 Council Meeting where the Town Council directed its staff to draft a resolution of support for the project. The HC has contacted Montgomery County and anticipates a letter of support in the near future. The HC is also seeking letters of support from various property owners, community leaders, preservation organizations and noted historians.

While the Board has already demonstrated support for the project with their January 16, 2013 vote approving the pursuance of the ABPP grant, the HC is now seeking a formal vote from the Board in support of the Ball's Bluff National Register and Landmark boundary expansion for inclusion in the ABPP grant submittal.

NEXT STEPS:

The ABPP grant application will be submitted in December 2013. If successful, the grant will be awarded in July 2014. Property owner notification is not a requirement of the grant submission and will not be required until a formal nomination is prepared. Regardless, prior to submission of the grant application, the HC is scheduling property owner meetings in early November to explain the project process, the proposed new boundary and to share with property owners the rich and enduring history of their properties as part of the landscape of the 1861 Battle. A Frequently Asked Questions sheet has also been developed by the HC and will be included in all correspondence with property owners (Attachment 3). If awarded in July 2014, the grant application will fund a consultant to conduct the necessary research to prepare a formal nomination to expand the current Ball's Bluff National Historic Landmark boundary.

ISSUES:

There are no issues identified with the formal statement of support.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The Board of Supervisors could approve the statement of support based on the findings of the Heritage Commission, or;
2. The Board of Supervisors could take no action at this time.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the formal statement of support.

MOTIONS:

1. I move that the Board of Supervisors support the proposed expansion of the current Ball's Bluff National Register and Historic Landmark boundary through a formal nomination to the National Park Service and support the Heritage Commission's submission of an ABPP grant to fund the nomination based on the findings included in Attachment 4 of the October 16, 2013 staff report.

OR

2. I move an alternate motion

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1	January 16, 2013 Board Action Item
Attachment 2	Preliminary Information Form with Maps
Attachment 3	FAQs Sheet
Attachment 4	Heritage Commission Findings Dated 10/16/13



Loudoun County, Virginia

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At a business meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Loudoun County, Virginia, held in the County Government Center, Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room, 1 Harrison St., S.E., Leesburg, Virginia, on Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

IN RE: HERITAGE COMMISSION

Mr. Higgins moved that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to work with the Heritage Commission to prepare a grant application to the American Battlefield Protection Program for the purposes of preparing a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Seconded by Mr. York.

Supervisor Letourneau moved that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to work with the Heritage Commission to prepare a more detailed scope of work and schedule for consideration by the Board.

Seconded by Mrs. Volpe.

Voting on Mr. Letourneau's FAILED Motion: Supervisors Letourneau and Volpe – Yes; Supervisors Buona, Clarke, Delgaudio, Higgins, Reid, Williams and York – No.

Voting on Mr. Higgins' Motion: Supervisors Buona, Clarke, Delgaudio, Higgins, Reid, Volpe, Williams and York – Yes, None – No; and Supervisor Letourneau - Abstained.


Alanita Siebert
DEPUTY CLERK FOR THE LOUDOUN
COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(13-HERITAGE COMMISSION)

Date of Meeting: January 16, 2013

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ACTION ITEM**

13

SUBJECT: Heritage Commission Recommendation Regarding
Edwards Ferry Road Historic Designation Analysis

ELECTION DISTRICT: Catoctin

CRITICAL ACTION DATE: July 1, 2013

STAFF CONTACT: Heidi Siebentritt, Planning Department
Julie Pastor, Planning Department

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Commission: The Heritage Commission (HC) is seeking support from the Board to pursue designation of the Battle of Ball's Bluff Battlefield, in its entirety, through nomination to the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic Battlefield District. The HC's request would represent an expansion of the existing Ball's Bluff National Historic Landmark, is consistent with the surveyed boundaries identified by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP), and is consistent with the determination by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) of the battlefield area's potential listing on the national register. As the core of the Virginia portion of the battlefield area is the segment of Edwards Ferry Road between Battlefield and River Creek Parkways, the HC's request is also consistent with the Board's directive to the HC to evaluate protection measures that may be appropriate for the preservation of identified resources along that portion of Edwards Ferry Road.

Staff: Staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to work with the Heritage Commission to prepare a grant application to the American Battlefield Protection Program for the purposes of preparing a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

BACKGROUND:

In a letter dated October 6, 2011 (Attachment 1), the Town of Leesburg requested that the Board of Supervisors (Board) consider the protection of a segment of Edwards Ferry Road, between Battlefield Parkway and River Creek Parkway, through the establishment of a Historic Access Corridor (HAC) zoning overlay district. Edwards Ferry Road extends from River Creek Parkway to downtown Leesburg. The County's segment of Edwards Ferry Road located in the Catoctin Election District, is a two-lane, undivided rural collector road flanked by scenic, natural and historic resources; making this segment of the corridor a unique, preserved landscape compared to the adjacent four-lane, divided urban collector located within the Town of Leesburg from Battlefield Parkway to U.S. Route 15 (Leesburg Bypass).

In response to the Town's request, at its November 15, 2011 meeting, the Board directed the Heritage Commission (HC) to evaluate the current and future threats to identified heritage resources, identify the range of tools (including Historic Access Corridor designation) available to address resource protection and to ascertain support of the property owners along this segment of Edwards Ferry Road. The Board's request was consistent with County policies that support efforts to work with the Town of Leesburg to designate Edwards Ferry Road from Battlefield Parkway east to River Creek Parkway as a Historic Access Corridor (Amended 2010 Countywide Transportation Plan, Chapter 7 Heritage Resources, Policy 4c).

The HC began evaluation of heritage resources along the subject section of Edwards Ferry Road in December, 2011. At the Board's March 6, 2012 General Business meeting, an Information Item was presented by Bill Wilkin, Chairman of the HC to update the Board on the Commission's progress on the Board's directive. The Information Item included a preliminary analysis of identified natural and cultural resources including known historic surveys and resource evaluations (Attachment 2). Chairman Wilkin stated that the Commission would provide a recommendation to the Board at a future meeting.

ANALYSIS:

Since March of 2012, the HC has held several meetings with property owners and conducted additional research on the history of Edward's Ferry Road and the area surrounding the right-of-way. Upon further analysis of the HAC zoning designation, the HC concluded that the designation would only be effective in regulating future alterations to two structures on the south side of the road segment and would not protect or reflect the significance of the corridor itself, inclusive of the landscapes, earthworks and tree canopy. Further, the owner of the two affected structures voiced opposition to the HAC designation.

In consideration of other methods to recognize the historic significance of the road, the HC looked at Edward's Ferry Road in the context of its role in the 1861 Civil War battle, the Battle of Ball's Bluff. The Battle of Ball's Bluff is currently commemorated within the 80.58 acre Ball's Bluff National Historic Landmark (NHL) located within the Town of Leesburg. The property is owned and operated by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA). However, the NHL represents a fraction of the actual Battlefield area which extends south and east from the current NHL and crosses the Potomac River (Potomac) to include Harrison Island and land within Montgomery County, Maryland. The core of the Virginia portion of the Battlefield area is the segment of Edwards Ferry Road between Battlefield and River Creek Parkways and the lands that flank the road segment to the north and south. A brief history of the Battle of Ball's Bluff is attached for the Board's reference (Attachment 3).

Battle of Ball's Bluff Battlefield

Between 2005 and 2006 the National Park Service's ABPP surveyed all known battlefield areas in Virginia in response to the ABPP Act of 1996 as amended by the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002. The amended Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to update the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) *Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*.

As part of this initiative, the 1861 Battle of Ball's Bluff Battlefield area was surveyed and potential National Register boundaries were identified by ABPP. Because the Battle was also staged across the Potomac in Montgomery County, Maryland, the battlefield area includes land in both Virginia and Maryland (Attachment 4).

The VDHR has determined the entire Ball's Bluff Battlefield area to have potential eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The subject section of the Edwards Ferry roadbed is noted as a contributing resource to the Battlefield. At the time of the ABPP survey, approximately 1,000 acres of land on the Virginia side of the Battle was considered potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. Since the ABPP survey, portions of the surveyed Battlefield area have been developed into residential subdivisions. Thus, the current boundaries must be re-examined and likely reduced to reflect current land uses. Regardless, after conducting surveys of significant Civil War battlefields throughout the state, ABPP has concluded that the Battle of Ball's Bluff Battlefield is one of few battlefields left in the state with the *core* of the battle area largely intact. This is due in large part to the stewardship efforts of private property owners along Edward's Ferry Road.

Research and discussion with the ABPP and VDHR have aided in the development of the HC's interest in focusing on the larger Battlefield area of which Edward's Ferry Road is a vital element.

Effect of National Register Designation

The Town of Leesburg requested the Board consider the establishment of a HAC zoning designation along the Edwards Ferry Road segment from Battlefield Parkway east to River Creek Parkway. The HC concluded that the HAC zoning designation, beyond the County's existing environmental policies and regulations, would not be effective in protecting the heritage and natural resources along the County's segment of Edwards Ferry Road that are important to both the Town and the County. The HAC zoning designation would only be effective in regulating future alterations to two structures on the south side of the Edwards Ferry Road segment. The Board of Supervisors, however, directed the HC to also evaluate the range of tools available to address resource protection. This is in keeping with the Town's request to the County to consider multiple ways to protect the natural and historic resources (floodplain, steep slopes, tree canopy and vestiges of Civil War embattlements) that exist within the corridor.

National Register designation is the highest level of significance bestowed on a historic resource. Although the designation does not provide for local land use controls, the identification of the Battlefield as significant to the Nation's history provides a foundation for future Town and County policies geared toward the long-term preservation of this area and a stronger level of influence related to heritage resource protection of the Edwards Ferry Road corridor not afforded under an HAC zoning designation.

The creation of a Battle of Ball's Bluff National Historic District Battlefield would underscore the significance of the 1861 Battle of Ball's Bluff during the commemoration of the sesquicentennial anniversary of the Civil War. Furthermore, National Register designation is a

statement that a certain place or area is significant to local, state and national history. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) which created the National Register, endeavors to mitigate impacts to nationally significant resources that may result from federally funded or permitted projects. Under Section 106 of the NHPA, consideration of impacts to Register-eligible or listed resources must be taken when planning a federally funded or permitted project. Projects may range from monopoles requiring permits from the Federal Communications Commission to Virginia Department of Transportation road improvement projects which may rely on federal funding. Section 106 review ensures that significant cultural resources are taken into consideration as part of initial project planning and design.

In addition, owners of property within the battlefield that contribute to the National Register district may be eligible for state tax credits to assist in the rehabilitation of their historic buildings. The tax credit program is administered through the VDHR.

Property Owner Input To Date

As part of the HC's analysis of the segment of Edwards Ferry Road between Battlefield and River Creek Parkways, the Board directed the HC to solicit the input of property owners along the subject road segment to understand property owner interests and concerns regarding the protection of the historic right-of-way. Representatives of the HC held on-site meetings with the four property owners owning the majority of land along the road segment on February 27, 2012, March 1, 2012, September 8, 2012, and October 10, 2012.

At these meetings, all of the property owners articulated an interest in preserving the resources along the road segment. However, property owners on the south side of the road expressed emphatic opposition to any additional regulatory means of achieving preservation, such as the HAC zoning overlay which would require additional review and County approval for any exterior alterations to structures within the designated overlay, including demolition.

As a result of the HC's interest in interpreting the history of Edwards Ferry Road in the context of the Battlefield, and in consideration of property owner input regarding regulatory designation, representatives from the HC held an additional meeting on November 16, 2012 with the four major property owners, NVRPA (owners of both the Balls Bluff NHL and Red Rocks Park) and staff from VDHR to thoroughly discuss the process of National Register nomination and the effect of designation. If the Board supports the HC's recommendation and the process for creating the Battlefield District begins, the HC will endeavor to meet with all affected property owners in addition to VDHR's public meeting requirements.

If the Board endorses the HC's recommendation to pursue nomination of the Battle of Ball's Bluff Battlefield to the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic Battlefield District, the following process would need to be followed:

General Scope

Preparation of a nomination for listing the Battle of Ball's Bluff Battlefield in the National Register of Historic Places would require the services of a professional consultant to survey and document contributing properties, further define a historic district boundary, create the historic narrative and coordinate the multi-jurisdictional aspects of the nomination (Loudoun County, Town of Leesburg and Montgomery County).

Phase I

The ABPP administers a grant program to fund Battlefield projects such as National Register nominations. Grants are awarded in January of each year. In preparation for the submission of a grant application for January 2014 several steps should be taken in the 2013 calendar year. Consultant services could be necessary for these initial undertakings, depending on available staff and HC resources. These undertakings include:

1. Re-examination of the ABPP proposed National Register Battlefield boundary in light of current land development;
2. Meet with Town of Leesburg staff and seek endorsement from Leesburg Town Council for nomination;
3. Meet with Montgomery County staff and seek endorsement from County Board of Supervisors for nomination;
4. Hold public meetings with property owners identified to be within potential National Register boundary; and
5. Prepare grant application for submission in fall of 2013.

Phase 2

If awarded, the ABPP grant would fund consultant services for the following activities in the 2014 calendar year:

1. Establish a formal Battlefield boundary for nomination;
2. Survey all properties within the boundary and determine what properties and resources contribute to the Battlefield District;
3. Hold public meetings with property owners; and
4. Complete a National Register nomination for submission to VDHR

ISSUES:

There are no policy issues associated with the HC's recommendation.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Support the HC's recommendation to pursue designation of the Battle of Ball's Bluff Battlefield, in its entirety, through nomination to the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic Battlefield District.
2. Direct staff to work with the Heritage Commission to prepare a more detailed scope of work and schedule for consideration by the Board.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The HC is a working body with members experienced in the National Register process. However, the scope of this project and the multi-jurisdictional nature of the nomination would require significant staff support. Specifically, County staff from the Departments of Planning and the Office Mapping and Geographic Information would be required to assist the HC in preparation of the grant application, for grant administration and to administer any consultant contracts over a period of 12 to 24 months. Staff time would also be necessary for public meetings.

DRAFT MOTIONS:

1. I move that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to work with the Heritage Commission to prepare a grant application to the American Battlefield Protection Program for the purposes of preparing a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

OR

2. I move that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to work with the Heritage Commission to prepare a more detailed scope of work and schedule for consideration by the Board.

OR

3. I move an alternate motion

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Town of Leesburg Request, dated October 6, 2011
2. Preliminary Analysis of Identified Natural and Cultural Resources including Known Historic Surveys and Resource Evaluations, dated March 6, 2012, without attachments
3. Brief History of Battle of Ball's Bluff
4. ABPP Battle of Ball's Bluff Battlefield Survey Area

Virginia Department of Historic Resources PIF Resource Information Sheet

This information sheet is designed to provide the Virginia Department of Historic Resources with the necessary data to be able to evaluate the significance of the proposed district for possible listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. This is not a formal nomination, but a necessary step in determining whether or not the district could be considered eligible for listing. Please take the time to fill in as many fields as possible. A greater number of completed fields will result in a more timely and accurate assessment. Staff assistance is available to answer any questions you have in regards to this form.

General Property Information		For Staff Use Only DHR ID #:
District Name(s):	Ball's Bluff Battlefield Historic District	
District or Selected Building Date(s):	October 21-22, 1861 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Circa Pre <input type="checkbox"/> Post	Open to the Public? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Main District Streets and/or Routes:	Edwards Ferry Road Route 15	City: Leesburg Zip: 20176
County or Ind. City:	Loudoun County & Town of Leesburg USGS Quad(s): Leesburg, Waterford, Sterling, VA, and Poolesville, MD	

Physical Character of General Surroundings	
Acreage: <u>2,870</u>	Setting (choose one): <input type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Corridor
Site Description Notes/Notable Landscape Features/Streetscapes: The proposed district covers portions of Leesburg and Loudoun County, Virginia, and Montgomery County, Maryland. Edwards Ferry Road, the main road, retains its curved and rolling roadbed. The Potomac River, with the strategically significant Harrison's Island, is the main waterway. The land in the proposed district includes hills, rolling fields and bluffs, all important to the October 1861 battle.	
Ownership Categories:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-Federal

General District Information	
What were the historical uses of the resources within the proposed district? Examples include: Dwelling, Store, Barn, etc... The lands within the proposed battlefield boundaries were located along the Potomac River and contained established farms, mills, landings, warehouses, ferries and a road network by the start of the Civil War.	
What are the current uses? (if other than the historical use)	Much of the land is still in agricultural and residential use. The main road, Edwards Ferry Road, is a key transportation link to homes and commerce, just as it was during the time of the battle. Three parks are within the boundary. Seventy-six acres is currently designated as the Ball's Bluff National Historic Landmark.
Architectural styles or elements of buildings within the proposed district:	There are at least three houses that were present at the time of the battle. All represent the vernacular style of rural Virginia.
Architects, builders, or original owners of buildings within the proposed district:	Property owners at the time of the battle were: Ball, Rust, Trundle, Saunders, Ault, Harris, Smart, and Bentley.
Are there any known threats to this district?	Substantial suburban and commercial development borders the proposed expanded boundary on the west and south sides.

General Description of District: (Please describe building patterns, types, features, and the general architectural quality of the proposed district. Include prominent materials and noteworthy building details within the district and a general setting and/or streetscape description.)

The Loudoun County Heritage Commission proposes to significantly expand the Ball's Bluff Battlefield from the current 76 acre Ball's Bluff National Historic Landmark to include well-preserved land surrounding the current Landmark and along both sides of the Potomac River on which many significant events relevant to the battle took place. The expanded boundary of the Ball's Bluff Battlefield encompasses land in Loudoun County, Virginia, the Town of Leesburg, Virginia, and Montgomery County, Maryland. It includes land on both the Virginia and Maryland shores of the Potomac River as well as Harrison's Island, Maryland which lies between the shores. The proposed enlarged battlefield contains almost 2,900 acres of land.

The proposed boundary expansion is based on the Battlefield Core Study Area created by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) during its nationwide survey of Civil War sites in 1992-1993. The map titled Proposed_Ball's_Bluff_HD_Boundary_Quads shows the Battlefield Core Study Area. The heavy black dotted line represents CWSAC's study of the battle and areas on which troops moved and where sites contributing to the start and evolution of the battle are located. However, portions of the core study area have been developed since the CWSAC study and are no longer eligible for inclusion. Recent research also shows support for the inclusion of the Markley Division parcel, also known as Springwood. The solid black line indicates the existing Ball's Bluff National Historic Landmark. The thick gray line shows the proposed expanded boundary.

The northern boundary begins at point A on the map above White's Ferry, known at the time of the battle as Conrad's Ferry (VDHR 053-0104). The boundary angles to the west through Big Spring Farm, crossing present-day Route 15 to include Springwood (VDHR 053-0298) then along the edge of Veteran's Park at Ball's Bluff to the Jackson House (point C) and along the western boundary of Ball's Bluff Park. It runs southeast to Sage Hill Farm (VDHR 053-5248-0001) then north along Battlefield Parkway to include Fort Evans (VDHR 253-5138) on the Rehau parcel west of the Parkway. The section near the intersection of Battlefield Parkway and Edwards Ferry Road contains on both sides of the latter road intact earthworks constructed by the Confederates (VDHR 053-5248-0004). The boundary continues eastward on Edwards Ferry Road (VDHR 053-6078) to its terminus at River Creek Parkway. It continues eastward along the river on Town of Leesburg property to narrow along the flood plain of River Creek Country Club. At Edwards Ferry landing (point B on the map), where Goose Creek flows into the Potomac River, the boundary extends south along Goose Creek encompassing the locks of the Goose Creek Canal and Elizabeths Mill (VDHR 053-0136). Also at the confluence, the boundary crosses to Edwards Ferry landing on the Maryland side. It turns northwest and back across the Potomac River to the southern tip of Harrison's Island where it spans the river again into Maryland. The boundary runs northward encompassing portions of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Park (M: 12-46) back to the beginning at the Maryland landing of White's Ferry.

The northern portion of the expansion on the Virginia side falls within the Catoclin Rural Historic District (VDHR 053-0012) which is listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register and is eligible (but not listed) in the National Register of Historic Places. White's Ferry, Springwood, Big Spring and the current Ball's Bluff Historic District fall within the Catoclin Rural Historic District. Each of these three resources is individually eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Edwards Ferry roadbed is deemed eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The expanded boundary contains largely pristine riverbank, open fields, wooded lots, and minimal residential. Included in the Virginia area are Ball's Bluff Battlefield and National Cemetery (a National Historic Landmark), two ferry crossings, one active and one historic; three structures extant at the time of the battle; earthworks constructed as part of the defense of Leesburg; Fort Evans; Edwards Ferry Road; a roadbed abandoned after the Civil War; and rolling lands that retain much of their character from the mid-19th century. The Maryland side contains portions of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Park, Harrison's Island, and the Edwards Ferry landing. The expanded district will add many locations – White's and Edwards Ferries, Harrison's Island, the Jackson House, Edwards Ferry Road – significant to the events on and around October 21, 1861.

White's Ferry on the Maryland side of the northern boundary was the location of Union camps as thousands of Federals were moved into the Poolesville area in the months preceding the Ball's Bluff Battle. It was from here that Colonel and Senator Edward Baker and his California Brigade moved downriver to cross at Harrison's Island on the day of the battle. Today there are some post-Civil War buildings on both sides of the ferry but not so many that the rural character of the landings has changed much. The ferry crossing provides a nearly pristine view up and down the river.

The area around Big Spring and Springwood was a critically important part of the Confederate defense of Leesburg. A detachment of the 17th Mississippi established a camp there some two months before the battle at Ball's Bluff. Men from this unit would later participate in firefight at the Jackson House.

Harrison's Island played a strategic and important role before, during and after the major battle. It was where the twenty man Federal reconnaissance patrol crossed over to Virginia on the evening of October 20, 1861. Early morning the next day, a

Union raiding party crossed the island only to discover that the so-called encampment was actually a tree line. More troops crossed over the island on the 21st and were part of the battle in the afternoon. Harrison's Island was the destination for the hundreds of retreating Union soldiers after the engagement but many never made it across the fast moving Potomac.

The island contains four partially or fully standing structures: a silo, a dwelling, a corncrib and barn. Construction of the two-story house is estimated to be ca. 1800. The construction dates of the other structures are not known. The view of the island from both shores is very similar to what it would have been in the mid-1860s. The expanded boundary in Maryland encompasses the C&O Canal and follows the boundary of the Battlefield Core Study Area as drawn by the CWSAC.

At Edwards Ferry, at the southern end of the proposed district, over the course of two days 4,500 Union troops crossed from Maryland to Virginia as ordered by commanding General Stone and camped on the flood plain along the river. Today the flood plain is part of the golf course at River Creek Country Club. According to the developer, minimal earth movement was done at the confluence of Goose Creek and the Potomac River. The 9th tee box was elevated by adding dirt, which covers the foundation of the warehouse at the ferry site. Standing at the confluence of Goose Creek and the river where the ferry landing once was, the view of the river and the Maryland shore retains its historical integrity.

On the morning of October 21, thirty-three men from the 3rd New York Cavalry were ordered to leave camp along the flood plain at Edwards Ferry and ride out Edwards Ferry Road to provide a diversion. Approximately three miles down the road "near the base of the hill upon which sits Fort Evans", the Federals tangled with men from a Mississippi regiment. This did not escalate into a larger fight.

The Union Cavalry "...returned to Edwards Ferry, examining along the way the terrain on both sides of the road."^{vi} This likely encompassed the lands presently owned by the Dennis, Rust, and Harris families and Red Rock Wilderness Park.

This stretch of Edwards Ferry Road retains its undulating roadbed, slight curves and sightlines that were present at the time of the battle. It remained a gravel road until approximately 2005 when VDOT gradually paved it in place over the course of many months. Much of the view from the road remains as it was in 1861. A one-story log house (VDHR 053-5367) sits back from and can be easily viewed from the road (point E). The site survey estimates the structure's construction to be ca. 1830.

Cattail Ordinary (VDHR 053-0403) sits right on the south side of the road, just as it did at the time of the battle (point D on the map). Construction of the original log section of the building is estimated to be pre-1775. The fields to the rear leading down to Cattail Branch remain undeveloped. Heading west past Cattail Ordinary, the fields are rolling and largely undeveloped. The roadbed dips and rises as it did when the diversionary troops galloped on it. At its western boundary within the proposed district are Confederate-constructed earthworks on both sides of the road. They are in pristine condition and so close to the road that they can be seen easily even with heavy underbrush in the summer months.

During the Edwards Ferry Road entanglement, the Confederate soldiers at Big Spring moved down the river bank toward the Jackson House, occupied by Mrs. Margaret Jackson and her children. Filing along a steep hollow that still exists today, the Confederate soldiers crested the hill and saw the enemy in the yard of the Jackson House. The first real skirmish of the day ensued. Approximately two hours later at 10:00 AM, another small attack occurred. As described in Gregory Coco's book, *From Ball's Bluff to Gettysburg...And Beyond: The Civil War Letters of Private Roland E. Bowen, 15th Massachusetts Infantry, 1861-1864*, Private Bowen later recalled the "terrible howling" of the Jackson family inside the houseⁱⁱ The building was at the center of the morning fighting. Confederate soldier, Private Ezekiel Armstrong, later described the scene after the second skirmish. He wrote, "We were ordered to remain at the fence [at the Jackson house] by which place all the killed & wounded were brought..."ⁱⁱⁱ

By 1:00 PM another skirmish took place near the Jackson House. Federal troops fell back to the river. Around 2:00 PM Colonel Baker and his men crossed at Harrison's Island. By mid-afternoon, all of the Federals were on the Virginia side along the river. The 8th Virginia moved into the area that is now by the parking lot for the National Historic Landmark and tangled with the 1st California. Both sides fell back after the skirmish.

By late afternoon the 18th Mississippi arrived. The Confederates informally ended up in a horseshoe formation. By 4:00 the main fighting was underway. In the midst of the battle, Colonel Baker was killed. Meanwhile the thousands of men at the Edwards Ferry landing were waiting for orders that never came.

The battle at Ball's Bluff was an evenhanded fight until the 17th Mississippi arrived with fresh troops right before dark. They swept across the field and the tired Union troops were caught between the advancing Confederates and the bluffs above the river. It then turned into a rout and all went wrong for the Federals. They took to the river slightly south of the battle area where the bluffs weren't as steep. Many men couldn't or wouldn't swim. There weren't enough boats to return the soldiers to safety on Harrison's Island. High above, the Confederates shot down to the river and continued until it was too dark to see. Many Union soldiers trapped on the Virginia side were taken prisoner. Bodies of those who were swept up in the river washed ashore along the Potomac River for days, some as far south as Alexandria. One is known to have washed up on George Washington's lawn at Mount Vernon.

The battle resulted in 223 Union soldiers killed; 226 wounded; and 553 taken prisoner. On the Confederate side, thirty-six were killed; 264 wounded; and three taken prisoner.

The next day the 13th Mississippi was positioned along Edwards Ferry Road to watch the Union encampment at the ferry landing. By this time, they were dug in with trenches. Late in the afternoon, Confederate Colonel Barksdale decided to attack with 650 of his men. Two Union and two Confederate soldiers were killed.

On October 23rd the Federal cavalry conducted two or three patrols. By the night of October 24th, all of the Union soldiers had re-crossed the river.

Although residential and commercial development has occurred on a few parcels originally included in the CWSAC Battlefield Core Study Area, the landscape in the proposed boundary expansion retains its topography and most of its historic integrity and view shed. The land within the expanded boundary is either undeveloped or exhibits very low density residential or commercial development.

The proposed district includes approximately 20 contributing resources and 36 non-contributing resources.

The table below describes many of the defining resources in the proposed district.

Feature	Role in Battle	Location	Condition
Veterans Park at Ball's Bluff	There were troop movements in this area during the battle. Afterward, Union survivors of the retreat passed through the flood plain.	Adjacent to National Historic Landmark	Open space. Potomac flood plain.
Ball's Bluff Battlefield Regional Park	This is the site of the core battle and the cemetery.	Northeast of Leesburg, along the Potomac River.	The park contains the National Historic Landmark and the cemetery. The site retains its historical integrity.
Jackson House	At the center of two early morning skirmishes leading up to the main battle. Was the site for wounded and killed Confederate soldiers after the morning battles.	Adjacent to Veteran's Park at Ball's Bluff.	The house is a two-story frame house in the vernacular style of rural Virginia. Post-Civil War additions were added. The Civil War Trust and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority recently received an NPS grant and private funding to acquire the three acre property. It will eventually be used as a visitors' center.
Steep hollow and fields by the Jackson House	At the center of two early morning skirmishes leading up to the main battle.	Adjacent to Veteran's Park at Ball's Bluff.	The property retains its historic character.
White's Ferry (VDHR 053-0104)	Known at the time of the battle as Conrad's Ferry, thousands of Federal troops were encamped on the Maryland side for months preceding the battle.	North of Leesburg on the Potomac River	A few post-Civil War buildings have been constructed on both sides of the river. The view shed up and down the river is nearly pristine.
Springwood (VDHR 053-0298)	It was part of the Ball property at the time of the battle. A detachment of the 17th Mississippi camped here for several months	North of Leesburg, west of and adjacent to present day Route 15.	The house and cemetery pre-date the Civil War. Much of the property is open space.

	prior to the battle. The soldiers were part of the fire fight at the Jackson House on October 21.		
Fort Evans (VDHR 253-5138)	The earthen fortification was the site of Confederate General Nathan Evans' command post and encampment of Confederate troops. On the morning of October 21, the 3 rd New York Cavalry tangled with a Mississippi regiment at the base of the Fort.	On a hill south of Edwards Ferry Road.	The site retains its historical integrity.
Edwards Ferry Road (VDHR 053-6078)	The road was the site of the 3 rd New York Cavalry's diversion the morning of the battle. It was the route for Federal pickets from Edwards Ferry landing toward Leesburg. The day after the battle, the 13 th Mississippi was stationed along the road to watch the Federals at the landing.	Situated between Battlefield Parkway and its modern-day terminus at River Creek Parkway.	The roadbed retains its rolls, curves and sight lines. As noted in the Reconnaissance Level Survey, "...the embankments and mature trees on either side of the roadbed ...convey the length of time the roadbed has been in use..." Deemed eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A (Transportation, Military).
Earthworks on Edwards Ferry Road (053-5248-0004)	This was the site of the NY Cavalry diversion on the morning of the battle.	Edwards Ferry Road	The earthworks are intact.
Harrison's Island (VDHR 053-0082)	The crossing location for Federal soldiers from Maryland to Virginia and the destination for hundreds after the battle.	Potomac River	The island contains three structures, the construction date of one estimated to be 1800. There is one archaeological site.
Cattail Ordinary (VDHR 053-0403)	Prominently situated on Edwards Ferry Road, the structure would have been visible by both Union and Confederate troops on the road. It is on land probably examined by Federal Cavalry as it returned to Edwards Ferry after the morning diversion on October 21.	Edwards Ferry Road	The house has been altered by changes in the twentieth century however large hand-hewn logs with chinking can be seen on the interior as well as large, hand-hewn logs in the ceiling.
Log house on Rust property (VDHR 053-5367)	Set back on Edwards Ferry Road but clearly within view, the structure would have been visible by both Union and Confederate troops on the road. It is on land probably examined by Federal Cavalry as it returned to Edwards Ferry after the morning diversion on October 21.	Edwards Ferry Road, adjacent to Red Rocks Wilderness Park.	The structure has been slightly modified. The landscape on both sides is open fields with trees at the back.
Edwards Ferry (Virginia and Maryland)	Thousands of Federal soldiers crossed at this site	Confluence of Goose Creek and the Potomac	On the Virginia side, the landing is owned by the

	prior to and after the battle.	River on the Virginia side.	River Creek Country Club. The site has had modest development in the creation of a community park. On the Maryland side, the landing retains much of its historical integrity.
Flood plain along the Potomac River, Virginia side	Approximately 4,500 Federal troops camped here prior to and during the battle.	West of the confluence of Goose Creek and the Potomac River.	Owned by River Creek Country Club, the flood plain is part of the golf course. Underneath the mound that is the 9 th tee box lies the foundation of the antebellum warehouse.
Goose Creek and Little River Navigation Canal (VDHR 053-0136).	The day after the battle, a “friendly fire” incident occurred near the mill when men from the 16 th Indiana were on picket duty.	East side of Goose Creek	Canal locks and mill site are part of Loudoun County Parks and Recreation: Elizabeths Mill Riverfront Park and Kepharts Bridge Landing.
Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Park, Maryland (M:12-46)	Movement of troops up and down the river between Poolesville and Edwards Ferry landing.	Potomac River	The site retains its historic integrity.

Significance Statement: Briefly note any significant events, personages, and/or families associated with the proposed district. It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or genealogies to this form. Please list all sources of information. Normally, only information contained on this form is forwarded to the State Review Board.

The Battle of Ball’s Bluff, on October 21, 1861, was when the Civil War first came to Loudoun County. Its significance does not lie in its size, or in its strategic outcome. Its significance is how this modest sized and tragic engagement led to major change in the conduct of the war.

Part of McClellan’s Operations in Northern Virginia (October-December 1861), this early battle of several thousand armed men was a Federal disaster. Misunderstandings, miscommunications and errors of judgment led to almost 1,000 casualties and captured soldiers among Federal troops, the death of a US Senator and major Congressional inquiries. Those inquiries led to the formation of the Congressional Joint Committee on the Conduct of War, had profound influence on attitudes about the war and altered the conduct of the war from that point forward.

The battle, while modest in size, is recognized as one of the most significant battles of the War. It is currently commemorated with a tiny National cemetery and a small 76 acre National Historic Landmark at the site of the final and most intense portion of the engagement.

Now we have an opportunity to document and honor more of this land where soldiers battled and so many died – and to officially recognize a very special piece of our history and rural character. The approximately 2,800 acres surrounding the current Battlefield Landmark represent a rare undeveloped area along the Potomac River in fast growing Loudoun County. The proposed new district includes open land and the Jackson House where both sides maneuvered and fought during the early hours of the battle, the old Edwards Ferry roadbed used by both Confederate and Federal troops and the furthest forward movement of the troops at Edwards Ferry, earthwork fortifications near the road from which the Confederates directed their side of the battle and pristine Harrison’s Island, Maryland, just a little way into the Potomac, from which Federal troops crossed into Virginia and which proved to be such a significant obstacle to Federal movement and escape.

Surprisingly in such a rapidly developing area, much of the topography in the area proposed for designation has not changed since 1861. The bluffs, deep hollows, rolling fields, and streams remain as they were.

In late October of 1861, General George McClellan saw the opportunity to capture Leesburg, an important strategic objective that appeared lightly defended. He ordered his local commander, Brig General Charles Stone, to make a “small demonstration” that might induce the Confederates to pull back and leave the town open to capture. Just a short distance downstream from Ball’s Bluff, at Edwards Ferry, thousands of Federal troops crossed the river as part of the “small demonstration”. A small group of cavalry rode toward Ball’s Bluff, encountered some Confederates on the road and withdrew. The rest of the troops just stayed at Edwards Ferry. This large contingent drew the attention of local Confederate forces and effectively divided the Confederates resources for most of the day. However, in the confused environment, this large force never seriously engaged the Confederates or came to the aid of their beleaguered colleagues upstream when the Confederate forces observing their inaction moved westward late in the day to decisively engage the Federal units at Ball’s Bluff.

The battle at Ball’s Bluff itself started on October 21, when, in a separate but nearby activity, a small group of Federal troops, deployed the evening before on a reconnaissance mission toward Leesburg, sent a mistaken report of a Confederate camp on the riverbank near Ball’s Bluff. That report led to an attempted raid on the camp by a small number of Federal troops crossing a short distance over the Potomac River from nearby Harrison’s Island. Despite the discovery that there was no undefended camp, the Federal troops stayed and continued their probes. As Confederates stationed near Leesburg discovered the incursion, fighting began. During the course of the day an increasing number of Federal troops crossed over from the island several at a time in a few small boats, ultimately totaling about 1700. They made a few incursions toward the Confederates, but mostly stayed close together near the riverbank. Several artillery pieces were dragged up the steep bluffs with huge effort. The lack of available boats made crossing a slow and tedious process and thousands of troops spent all day lined up waiting to cross.

The objective of the Federal incursion, the tactics to be employed and the role of various field commanders was murky and confused. Efforts to break out from this difficult position proved futile as Confederate resistance increased. Late in the afternoon, as fighting became more intense, Colonel and US Senator Edward Baker, who had arrived to take command in the midst of the early fighting, was killed in the battle. He is the only US Senator to ever die in combat and was a close friend of President Lincoln. His death, in the midst of this calamity, led to huge uproar in Washington.

The force of almost 2000 Federal troops could not gain ground from their position near the top of the bluffs overlooking the river and then tried to retreat back to Harrison’s Island. A lack of sufficient boats and the swift current made that retreat extremely difficult, especially in the face of increasing Confederate fire. No aid was forthcoming from the large Federal force nearby at Edwards Ferry

By the next morning, several hundred Federal troops were killed, several hundred more were wounded and over 500 had been taken prisoner. The Confederates suffered about 150 total casualties.

The terrible and unexpected outcome of this early battle led to a new and much more serious concern about this “rebellion” by the public and major inquiries by the US Congress. The Congressional Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War was formed and played an important role throughout the rest of the conflict. General Stone was imprisoned and investigated. Efforts to build up the Federal military force, and to address this bigger and more serious situation, took on new importance.

This is a very special place and a spectacular reminder of our place in the country's history and our rich rural past. We need to ensure that it is recognized and honored by our community, our visitors, our state and our nation.

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Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia (VDHR):

Ball's Bluff Battlefield and National Cemetery (VDHR 253-5021).

Ball's Bluff Battlefield, Harrison's Landing (VDHR 053-5058).

Catoctin Rural Historic District (VDHR 053-0012).

Cattail Ordinary (VDHR 053-0403).

Edwards Ferry Road (VDHR 053-6078).

Farmstead, 42843 Edwards Ferry Road; Cattail Run Farm (VDHR 053-5782).

Fort Evans (VDHR 253-5138).

Frances V. Speek Farm (VDHR 053-0752).

Goose Creek and Little River Navigational Canal (VDHR 053-0136).

Harrison's Island (VDHR 053-0082).

House, 42910 Edwards Ferry Road NE; Murray Hill (VDHR 053-5783).

House, 43022 Edwards Ferry Road (VDHR 053-5367).

Sage Hill Farm (VDHR 053-5248).

White's Ferry (VDHR 053-0104).

Sponsor (Individual and/or organization, with contact information. For more than one sponsor, please use a separate sheet.)

Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/>	Loudoun County Heritage Commission		
	(Name)		
1 Harrison St. SE	Leesburg	VA	20175
(Address)	(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)
Heidi.Siebentritt@loudoun.gov	703-777-0246		
(Email Address)	(Daytime telephone including area code)		

In the event of organization sponsorship, you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: Heidi Siebentritt, Historic Preservation Planner

Daytime Telephone: (703) 777-0246

Applicant Information (Individual completing form)

Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mitch Diamond and Lori Kimball		Loudoun County Heritage Commission
Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/>	(Name)		(Firm)
1 Harrison St. SE	Leesburg	VA	20175
(Address)	(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)
Mdiamond9@earthlink.net and LhinterL@aol.com	703-777-0246		
(Email Address)	(Daytime telephone including area code)		

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: 7/10/2013

Notification

In some circumstances, it may be necessary for DHR to confer with or notify local officials of proposed listings of properties within their jurisdiction. In the following space, please provide the contact information for the local County Administrator or City Manager.

Mr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Timothy Hemstreet		County Administrator
Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Hon. <input type="checkbox"/>	(Name)		(Position)
Loudoun County	1 Harrison St. SE		
(Locality)	(Address)		
Leesburg	VA	20175	703-777-0200
(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)	(Daytime telephone including area code)

Please use the following space to explain why you are seeking an evaluation of this district.

The Loudoun County Heritage Commission, as directed by the Loudoun Board of Supervisors, is seeking to enlarge the current modestly sized Ball's Bluff Battlefield (a National Historic Landmark) and list the increased area on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. The objective is increased awareness of the significance of this currently well-preserved area as an important element of its future preservation. The Heritage Commission is applying for an American Battlefield Protection Program grant for the cost of nominating this enlarged area, and requests formal evaluation and support for this request.

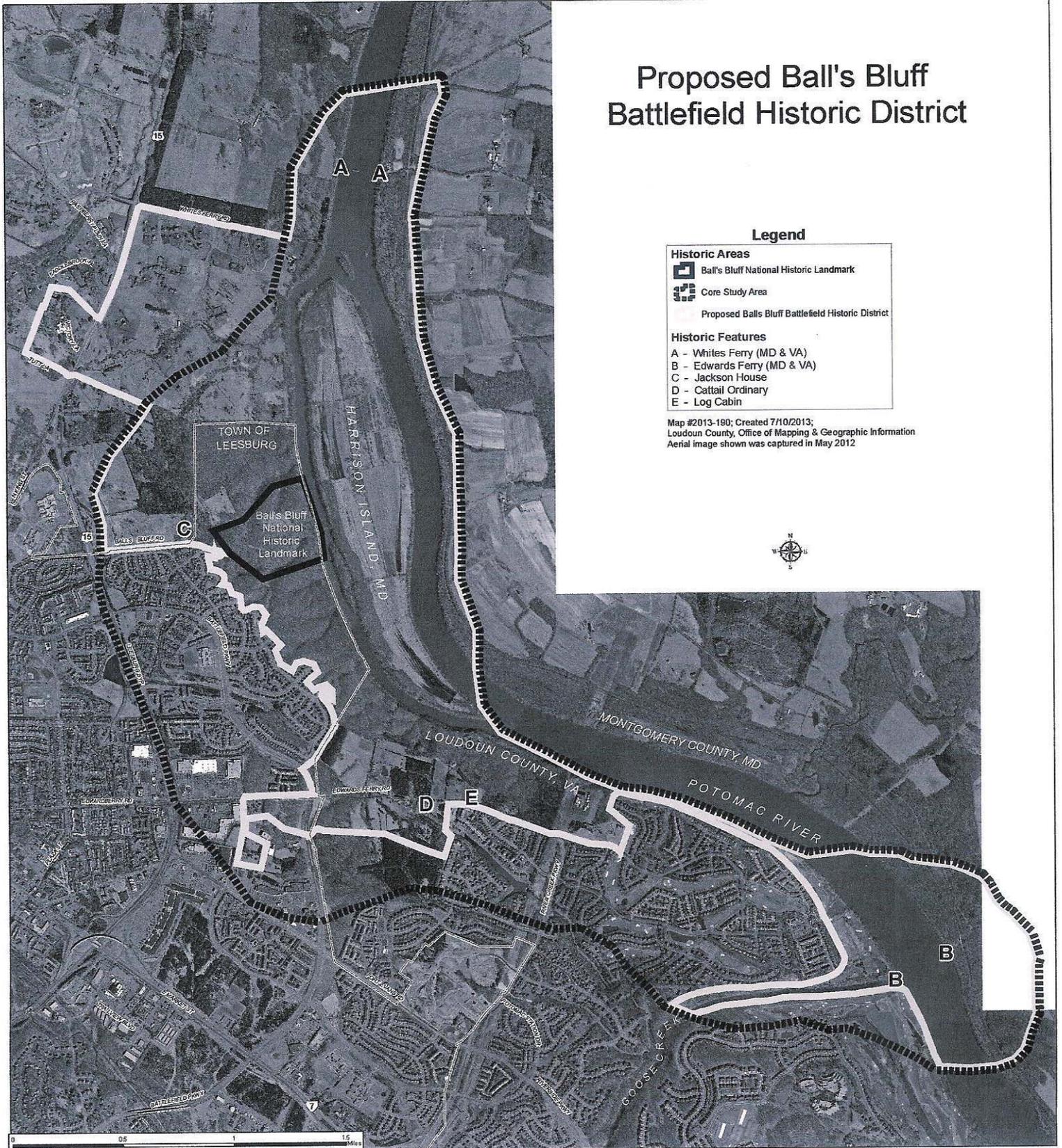
Would you be interested in the State and/or the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits? Yes No
 Would you be interested in the easement program? Yes No

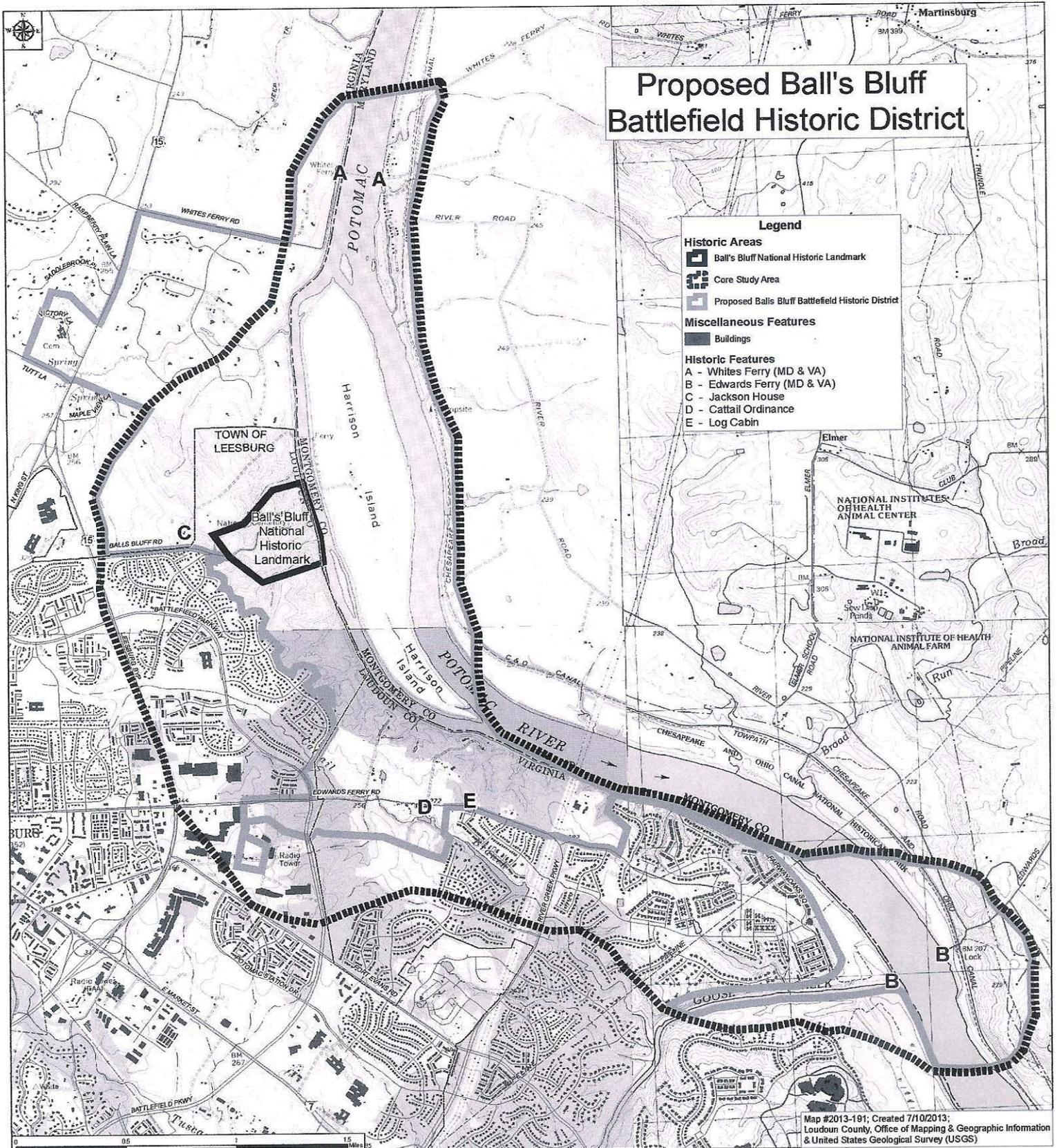
ⁱ Morgan III, James A. *A Little Short of Boats, The Battles of Ball's Bluff & Edwards Ferry, October 21-22, 1861*, p. 43.

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Proposed Ball's Bluff Battlefield Historic District





Frequently Asked Questions about the Proposed Balls Bluff/Edwards Ferry National Historic Landmark Boundary Expansion

1. Who is the Heritage Commission?

The Heritage Commission, created in 2011 by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, is a group of volunteers tasked with advising the Board on matters related to heritage resources and heritage preservation in the County.

2. What is a National Historic Landmark?

National Historic Landmarks are nationally significant historic places designated by the Secretary of the Interior because they possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. Today, fewer than 2500 historic places bear this national distinction. Virginia is particularly rich in history and currently has 121 of these National Historic Landmarks. Five of these are in Loudoun County.

3. Why is the Heritage Commission seeking to expand the current size of the Balls Bluff NHL?

The current Balls Bluff National Historic Landmark contains only 76 acres and includes only the location of the final and most fierce fighting in the October 21st, 1861 battle. Important activities, engagements, encampments and movements occurred in other locations near and around the current site as well as on the Maryland shore and Harrisons Island. This ground, about 2900 acres on both sides of the Potomac River, is largely unchanged from its appearance 152 years ago. The Heritage Commission is seeking to honor the memory of those who fought and those who died here and to properly recognize this important place in our nation's history by including more of this sacred ground in the officially recognized battlefield area.

4. What is the event being commemorated?

Very early in the morning of October 21st, 1861, a small group of Federal soldiers was sent across the Potomac from their base in Maryland to investigate Confederate sites near Leesburg. At the same time a larger group was sent across at Edward ferry to make a "small demonstration" of force near Leesburg. Through a series of mistakes, errors in judgment and miscommunications the small incursion escalated into a large battle on and near Balls Bluff. The large force at Edwards Ferry never reinforced the group at nearby Balls Bluff. The Federals suffered heavy losses and many were captured, wounded or died as they found themselves trapped and unable to flee to safety across the swollen and fast moving river. A US Senator, Edward Baker was killed in the action. The U.S. Congress, appalled at the terrible result, formed the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War that had profound impact on the way the war was perceived and prosecuted thereafter.

5. How will this expansion affect me and my property?

The designation of National Historic Landmark is a great and rare honor – but it has no effect whatsoever on how you use or treat your own property. And, it does not give anyone the right to enter your property without your permission. The designation does provide benefits through generous tax advantages to anyone with a structure that was standing during the battle and who seeks to restore that structure. And, it does require that any land development project within the National Historic Landmark boundaries utilizing Federal funding or requiring Federal permits,

seek design alternatives that minimize impacts to the Landmark in order to preserve contributing historic elements.

6. What is the process for this proposed expansion?

With grant funding, Loudoun County and its Heritage Commission will engage a consulting team of experienced historians and archeologists to study the area and develop a document describing the events of October 1861, the land itself, all associated historic structures and landscape features (such as earthworks) and the landscape itself. The research will be used to produce a nomination proposing expansion of the current boundaries. Various committees of experts in the National Park Service will review the nomination and provide their recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior. The entire process is likely to require several years.

7. How will the final boundaries of the area be determined?

The proposed boundaries on the enclosed map are largely based on the findings of the Congressionally appointed 1972-73 Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC). More current study of the battle events has led to the addition of some new sites. Some areas have been removed where development has significantly altered the natural characteristics of the battlefield. The consulting team will conduct further research on battle events and where they occurred, and on the integrity of the sites today. Based on their findings, they will propose final boundaries likely to meet National Park Service requirements.

8. Who is paying for all this?

Loudoun County is seeking a grant from the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) to fund the cost of the research and nomination process. The Heritage Commission, other Loudoun County volunteers as well as county staff will contribute time and expertise to the project.

9. How can I find out more about the battle, the effect of Landmark status, or the project?

For more details on the battle and on the land proposed for inclusion in the expanded boundaries you can read the Preliminary Information Form (PIF) provided by the Heritage Commission to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. It is posted on the Heritage Commission website at www.loudoun.gov/historic. Click on “Heritage Commission” to the left on the screen. For more information on National Historic Landmarks, the criteria for listing, and the effect on landowners within their boundaries, visit the National Park Service website at www.nps.gov/nhl.

FINDINGS:

1. The Battle of Balls Bluff and Edwards Ferry on October 21st, 1861 was an event of regional, state and national significance.
2. The battle site is named as a National Historic Landmark (NHL), the Nation's highest honor for historic sites.
3. The current Balls Bluff NHL, however, is only 76 acres, encompassing the location of the final and most intense fighting.
4. The forces of both sides in the battle traversed a much wider area, along both sides of the Potomac and Harrisons Island, Maryland.
5. The Congressional Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) in 1972-73 recommended this wider area be recognized as the Balls Bluff battlefield.
6. Much of this land is still pristine and retains many of the features from 152 years ago.
7. The Loudoun County Heritage Commission (LCHC) proposes to expand the boundaries of the Balls Bluff NHL to encompass 2900 acres on both sides of the river that closely align with the recommendations of the CWSAC.
8. The LCHC has prepared a Preliminary Information Form (PIF) that describes the proposed new boundaries, the condition of the land and structures within the boundaries, and the events which occurred here on October 21, 1861.
9. The Virginia Department of Historic Resources has reviewed the PIF and given approval to proceed with formal nomination of the enlarged battlefield.
10. The LCHC is applying for a grant from the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) to fund the consultant team to conduct needed research and prepare the nomination documents.
11. The LCHC is seeking indications of support for this grant application from regional and national organizations, and from county and state government organizations and officials in Virginia and Maryland.

PRESENTED October 22, 2013

RESOLUTION NO. _____

ADOPTED _____

A RESOLUTION: TO SUPPORT LOUDOUN COUNTY'S INITIATIVE TO EXPAND
BALLS BLUFF NATIONAL REGISTER AND LANDMARK
BOUNDARY

WHEREAS, the Battle of Balls Bluff and Edwards Ferry during the Civil War occurred on October 21, 1861 and was an event of regional, state and national significance; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the battle site is named as a National Historic Landmark, the Nation's highest honor for historic sites and encompasses an area of the most intense fighting; and

WHEREAS, the Congressional Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) recommend in 1972-73 that a wider area be recognized as the Balls Bluff Battlefield; and

WHEREAS, much of the battlefield area is still pristine with features from 152 years ago; and

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Heritage Commission (LCHC) at the direction of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors proposed to expand the boundaries to encompass approximately 2900 acres on both sides of the Potomac River to closely align with the earlier recommendation of the CWSAC and such recommendation has been endorsed by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and given approval to proceed with the formal nomination of the enlarged battlefield; and

WHEREAS, the LCHC is applying for a grant to prepare such nomination and is seeking support from the Town of Leesburg as an affected jurisdiction for such nomination;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Town of Leesburg supports Loudoun County's efforts to seek a grant to prepare a nomination in effort to enlarge the boundaries of the National Historic Landmark to encompass the Balls Bluff battlefield in its entirety.

A RESOLUTION: TO SUPPORT LOUDOUN COUNTY'S INITIATIVE TO EXPAND THE
BALLS BLUFF NATIONAL REGISTER AND LANDMARK
BOUNDARY

PASSED this 22nd day of October, 2013.

Kristen C. Umstattd, Mayor
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council