Battle of Lexington State Historic Site Conceptual Development Plan October 2014

Location:

Lexington, Missouri

Lafayette County

Established:

1959

Size:

94.97 acres

INTRODUCTION

The Battle of Lexington State Historic Site is significant due to the Civil War battle that was fought here in September 1861 and due to the state of preservation of the Anderson House with still visible battle damages and the extensive remains of the earthen work fortifications. Many improvements have been made since the last conceptual develop plan was prepared in 1985. This new plan addresses some recognized needs to further improve preservation, interpretation, maintenance, and administrative needs.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site is to preserve and interpret the significance of this Civil War battle through the use of the Anderson House, the extant battleground and artifacts; and to provide appropriate and compatible memorial activities.

SITE GOALS

- Provide facilities that are harmonious with and respectful to the natural and cultural resources of the site
- Provide the public with safe and controlled access to the site
- Provide adequate orientation and interpretation facilities to enhance the public's understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the site resources
- Provide for those opportunities that are compatible with the resources and mission for the site
- Provide adequate administration, operation and maintenance support facilities to protect,
 secure and maintain the natural and cultural features of the site

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

Extend Trail

Expand trails to tie in key features.

Develop New Service Facility

Acquire suitable tract for service area to include shop and compound for vehicles and equipment.

Convert Existing Service Area

Reconfigure lower level of state residence into meeting rooms for staff and community use and facility storage.

Historic Landscape

Selectively remove and thin vegetation from Anderson House and battlefield areas to create view shed of Missouri River that more closely resembles the mid-19th century landscape.

Pedestrian Links

Coordinate with city or county efforts to provide pedestrian link(s) with community trail networks and city sidewalks.

Further Define Historic Features

Further define features discovered through research (archival, archaeological) that would broaden or fill in gaps — such as summer kitchen, slave quarters, privies, other outbuildings or landscape features associated with Anderson House or with battleground features (redoubts, entrenchments).

PROPOSED PURCHASE UNITS

Acquisition A

Acquire 0.67 acres for development of a new service area

Acquisition B

Acquisition of 0.12 acres is desired to protect the park boundary by owning all the land on the west boundary adjacent to 10th Street.

Acquisition C

Two inholdings consist of 0.411 acres. Acquisition is desired to further protect state park boundary on the northern edge of the park. The upper parcel contains a natural water fall, which is unique to the park area.

Acquisition D

1.18 acres (left) and 0.58 acres (right)=1.76 acres total

Acquisition E

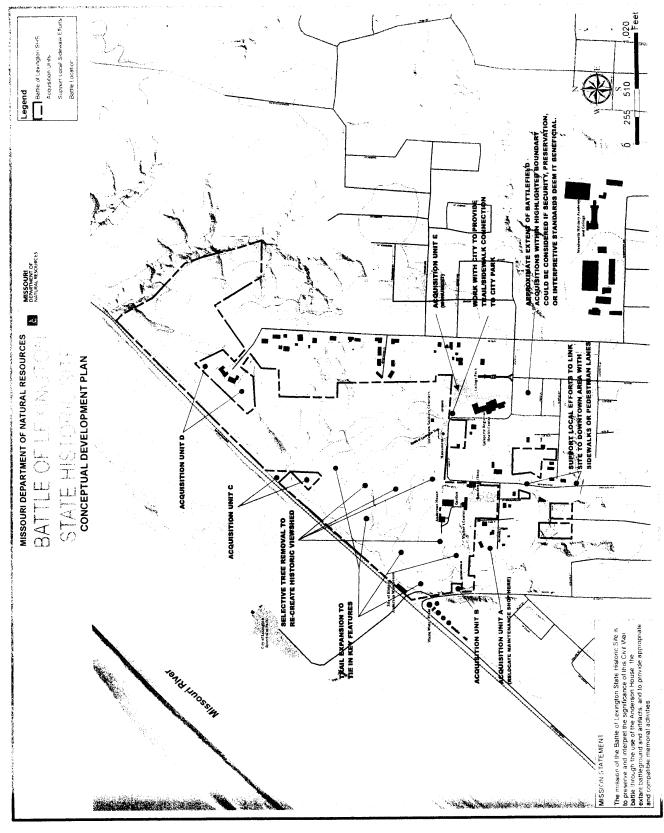
Acquire monument that commemorates site of unknown soldiers that is currently within Lafayette Regional Health Center parking lot. Elevate monument and provide appropriate setting.

Additional Battlefield Acquisitions

Area highlighted on the map depicts approximate extent of battlefield. Properties within the highlighted boundary that possess important interpretive, preservation or security links with the site could be considered for acquisition.

BATTLE OF LEXINGTON STATE HISTORIC SITE Conceptual Development Plan November 2014

Approved by:	
Director, Missouri State Parks	12/17/14 Date
Director, Planning and Development Program	12-10-2014 Date
Field Operations Supervisor, Northern Missouri Historic Dist.	11/25/25/4 Date
Site Administrator	11/20/2014 Date



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