

Compact

A COMPACT FOR THE CREATION OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA ON THE CIVIL WAR IN TENNESSEE

Part I

On November 12, 1996, Congress passed Public Law 104-333, which created the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area. The stated purposes of the proposed area were "(1) to preserve, conserve, and interpret the legacy of the Civil War in Tennessee; (2) to recognize and interpret important events and geographic locations representing key Civil War battles, campaigns, and engagements in Tennessee; (3) to recognize and interpret the effect of the Civil War on the civilian population of Tennessee during the war and postwar reconstruction period; and (4) to create partnerships among Federal, State, and local governments and their regional entities, and the private sector to preserve, conserve, enhance, and interpret the battlefields and associated sites associated with the Civil War in Tennessee." Section 205 of the act "recognizes the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University as the clearing house for the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area." In 1997, Congress appropriated the first federal moneys for the Heritage Area subject to completion of the Compact.

In August 1998, Governor Don Sundquist directed the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University to create the compact to implement the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area, working with the Tennessee Historical Commission. For this purpose the Center assembled a planning group representing potential partners in the Heritage Area which included persons representing Civil War related National Parks in Tennessee, the Tennessee Historical Commission, several state agencies, the Tennessee General Assembly, the National Park Service, the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, Tennessee State University's African-American History Conference, the Office of the Governor, and others to help lay the foundation for a Heritage Area that would meet the stated congressional purposes of the act.

The appointed participants met several times between September 1998 and March 1999. After receiving National Park Service comments on a draft compact for the Heritage area in summer 1999 the Center for Historic Preservation entered into a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service to produce a master plan to guide the implementation and development of the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area and completion of the final compact. Master plan work began in October 1999 and included a series of statewide public forums in May and June 2000 in order to identify other potential partners and stakeholders and to solicit additional public participation in the creation of interpretative goals and programs and the management entity of the Heritage Area. An Internet web page devoted to the Heritage Area was launched in the summer of 2000 to provide further opportunities for the dissemination of information and for public comment and participation.

In summary, as mandated by Congress, the primary purposes of the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area are to preserve, enhance, and interpret the state's rich Civil War and Reconstruction era heritage through partnerships and cooperation between local property owners, local, state, and federal government entities, and the private sector. Other goals of the National Heritage Area include education, cultural, recreational and economic benefits. The proposed compact herein described reflects the continued input of the Heritage Area planning group, state government, and the citizens and institutional representatives who attended the public forums or who provided comments through some other means.

Part II

Section 204 (a) of Public Law 104-333 states that the compact "shall include information relating to the objectives and management of the area proposed for designation as the national area. Such information shall include (but not be limited to) each of the following":

(1) "A delineation of the boundaries of the proposed national heritage area."

The proposed boundaries of the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area shall include the entire state of Tennessee for overall planning and eligibility requirements. Congress requires that the Heritage Area recognizes and interprets "the effect of the Civil War on the civilian population of Tennessee during the war and postwar reconstruction period." The congressional legislation also requires the Heritage Area to "recognize and interpret important events and geographic locations representing key Civil War battles, campaigns, and engagements in Tennessee." The themes of occupation, homefront, and Reconstruction necessitate a statewide boundary to address potentially associated properties for those themes and the Congressional directive to recognize and interpret the key Civil War battles, campaigns, and engagements. Within the overall state boundaries, sub regions have been identified which are associated particularly with the major themes of the military conflict. Research, interpretation, funding, and preservation, will be organized around the primary and secondary military activities, impacts and consequences of the Civil War in Tennessee as exemplified by the following topics and the geographic areas physically linked to them. The areas with their associated county boundaries are delineated on attached Map 1. These six themes and their associated regions are:

(1) The Fight for West Tennessee.

(2) The War for the Railroad.

(3) By River Into Battle

(4) The Struggle for Middle Tennessee

(5) Hood's Nashville Campaign

(6) Tennessee's Mountain War

(2) "A discussion of the goals and objectives of the proposed national heritage area, including an explanation of the approach, proposed by the partners referred to paragraph (4), to conservation and interpretation of resources"

The general goal of the National Heritage Area is to interpret, preserve, conserve, enhance, and promote the story and resources of Tennessee's Civil War era through a collaborative effort involving every Tennessee county, community, agency, and organization interested in the potential of the Heritage Area. Partnerships will be developed among local agencies and institutions, including, but not limited to local governments and other organizations, state and national agencies and others who possess the necessary expertise to advise and assist with conservation and interpretive efforts, facilitated and coordinated by the Heritage Area's management entity. Objectives of the Heritage Area include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. To provide associated cultural educational, recreational, environmental and economic benefits to the citizens of Tennessee and the United States through result-oriented heritage tourism promotion and historic site identification, preservation, enhancement, and education.

b. To emphasize the diversity of the peoples involved in the both the campaigns and the homefront of the Civil War in Tennessee

c. To emphasize the relationship between developing federal Reconstruction policy, war strategy, and evolving relationships between newly freed people and the rest of Tennessee's citizens during the war and postwar years.

d. To provide assistance with local, state, and federal government efforts, and those from the private and non-profit sectors, to identify, preserve, and enhance significant sites, buildings, structures, properties, and objects associated with the Civil War and Reconstruction in Tennessee

e. To establish and promote a partnership ethic among the key stakeholders in the Heritage Area to promote and enhance the programs, initiatives, and projects of the Heritage Area.

f. To develop a prioritized list of properties and projects that would further the conservation, preservation, and interpretation of the Civil War era in Tennessee.

g. To achieve financial self-sufficiency for the Heritage Area by the year 2012.

(3) "An identification and description of the management entity that will administer the proposed national heritage area"

The management entity of the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area shall consist of an Executive Agency, which shall be supported, advised, and directed by a Board of Advisors composed of representatives of the Heritage Area's primary institutional partners as well as a diverse group of citizen and other institutional representatives.

Executive Agency

The Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University shall serve as the Executive Agency and will function as the executive directorate for the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the executive agency to direct and carry out the programs and activities of the heritage area. As legislatively mandated by PL 104-333, the Center for Historic Preservation shall also serve as the "clearing house" for information, consultation, education, and research for the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area project.

With the advice and consent of the Board of Advisors the Executive Agency's responsibilities shall include the following:

- a. To develop an annual budget for the Heritage Area for submission to the National Park Service or other funding agencies.

- b. To propose an annual course of action intended to achieve the goals of the Heritage Area, including the development of a prioritized list of potential projects to be funded and/or supported by the Heritage Area.

- c. To monitor and report to the Board of Advisors on the execution and administration of all projects and programs funded or supported by the Heritage Area.

- d. To assume responsibility for the financial management of the project. Any and all funds appropriated, granted, or donated to the Heritage Area shall be lodged in a dedicated account at Middle Tennessee State University. An annual financial report shall be provided to the Board of Advisors.

Board of Advisors

The Board of Advisors shall consist of six members representing the permanent public stakeholders in the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area and up to 29 members representing other institutional stakeholders and private citizens. The six permanent institutional stakeholders are (1) The Center for Historic Preservation, (2) The National Park Service, (3) The Tennessee Historical Commission, (4) The Tennessee Department of Tourism, (5) a member selected by and representing the Governor of Tennessee and (6) representatives of the two houses of the Tennessee General Assembly. The other members shall be selected so as to achieve a board which is diverse and representative of the state racially and geographically. Members will also be selected for their ability to represent various disciplines, interests, and areas of expertise, which can contribute to the success of the Heritage Area project. Some will be selected to represent other institutional entities beyond those which constitute the 6 permanent institutional members. These may include but not be limited to: the Tennessee Historical Society, the East Tennessee Historical Society, the West Tennessee Historical Society, the Tennessee Cultural Heritage Preservation Society, the Tennessee Trust for Historic Preservation, the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, and the Tennessee Land Trust.

The duties and responsibilities of the Board of Advisors shall be:

1. To provide advice and direction to the Executive Agency as needed and appropriate to further the goals and objectives of the Heritage Area.

2. With the advice and coordination of the Executive Agency to develop grant eligibility requirements, to solicit grant applications, and to approve the annual selection of matching grants for Heritage Area projects and programs.

3. To review and approve the annual budget and the annual work plan for the Heritage Area.

The Board of Advisors shall normally meet twice a year in open public meetings with the Executive Agency. Additional meetings may be called by the Executive Agency if necessary. The Board of Advisors shall appoint committees to facilitate and to support its work and the efforts and projects of the Heritage Area. These committees shall consist of at least three Board Members and may include non-Board members as consultants and advisors. At a minimum the following committees shall be created: (1) Committee on Administration and Management, (2) Committee on Research, Interpretation, and Education, (3) Committee on Finance.

The representatives of the six permanent public members shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Board of Advisors with the power to act when the Board of Advisors is not able to meet or act. The Executive Committee shall also serve as a nominating committee for the purpose of proposing new members of the Board of Advisors. Proposed new board members must be approved by a majority of the Board of Advisors. Board members shall be appointed to serve for three-year terms and may be re-appointed. The terms of the initial Board may be staggered so that approximately one-third will expire in one year, one-third in two years, and the remaining third after the third year.

(4) "A list of the initial partners to be involved in developing and implementing the management plan for the proposed national heritage area, and a Statement of the financial commitment of the partners."

In addition to the above named Tennessee Historical Commission and the Tennessee Department Tourism Development, state agencies who will play important consultative and support roles in the development of the management plan include the Tennessee departments of Agriculture, Economic and Community Development, Environment and Conservation (especially the Division of Archaeology and Tennessee State Parks), and Transportation; the Tennessee State Library and Archives; and the Tennessee State Museum. Also, representatives of the private sector such as the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, Tennessee Main Street network, Tennessee Trust for Historic Preservation, Tennessee Tourism Roundtable, Tennessee Municipal League, Tennessee County Services Association, Tennessee Farm Bureau, Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, the Tennessee Humanities Council, Tennessee Historical Society, East Tennessee Historical Society, Tennessee Cultural Heritage Preservation

Society, Tennessee Association of Museums, Chambers of Commerce, Convention and Visitors Bureaus, and the Tennessee R.,C. and D. councils will be participating as the project develops. These and other potential partners will enable the Executive Agency and the Board of Advisors to better address such issues as:

research, conservation, preservation, interpretation and enhancement of resources, economic development, environmental conservation & recreation, hospitality industry, Civil War attractions, and marketing and promotion

Financial support will consist of a combination of public and private sources, including the funding for qualified activities to come from federal sources in accordance with Public Law 104-333. At present, non-federal funding sources will include matching, both in moneys and in-kind services, from the Center for Historic Preservation and the other state agencies who are committed to the support of the project through the Office of the Governor and the Tennessee General Assembly. As the project develops it is expected that other partners and stakeholders will provide an increasing share of the matching moneys as projects sponsored by these entities are developed and further funding is allocated in future years for the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area. As a part of the management plan a fundraising program will be designed to achieve the goal of financial self-sufficiency for the Heritage Area by the year 2012.

(5) "A description of the role of the State of Tennessee"

All public stakeholders are agencies of the State of Tennessee. The Center for Historic Preservation, based at Middle Tennessee State University, is the legislatively designated clearing house for the Heritage Area. The University is an academic institution governed by the Tennessee Board of Regents. State Agencies in the Executive Branch of state government have been designated by the Governor and the Tennessee General Assembly. The Tennessee Historical Commission has recently prepared a statewide plan for Civil War sites preservation in Tennessee. The activities of the Heritage Area will coordinate with and complement that plan.

Leadership & Technical Support

In addition to the leadership role of the Board of Advisors, the Center will provide leadership as the Executive agency. Other leadership will evolve during the process of developing the master plan. Formal collaborative ties to provide additional leadership and support will be established with the several state departments and agencies through coordination by the Tennessee Historical Commission.

Financial Support

Financial support, as deemed appropriate and subject to the appropriation of funds from the legislature will match other governmental and private sector funding. In-kind services as deemed appropriate for technical, administrative and other types of needed support.

Don Sundquist, Governor of Tennessee

Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of Interior