

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase)

Other Name/Site Number: Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, WA0452

2. Location

Street & Number: North of U.S. Hwy. 62; east of city limits

Not for Publication: NA

City/Town: Prairie Grove

Vicinity: NA

State: AR County: Washington Code: AR 143 Zip Code: 72753

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public -- State

Category of Property: Site

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing Noncontributing

___	___ buildings
<u>1</u>	___ sites
___	___ structures
___	___ objects
<u>1</u>	___ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 1

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

 9/5/05

Signature of certifying official

Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
 ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the
 National Register
 ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
 National Register
☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other (explain):

for Donnell J. Vilem 10/21/05
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Defense Sub: battle site

Current : Landscape Sub: park

7. Description

Architectural Classification: NA

Materials: foundation NA roof NA
 walls NA other NA

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary:

The Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park contains approximately 837 acres of the core battlefield fought over on December 7, 1862, by the Federal Army of the Frontier and the Confederate First Corps, Army of the Transmississippi. This boundary increase will add 707.81 acres to the 130 acres that were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in the original 1970 nomination and the 1992 boundary increase. The amended boundaries include substantial areas that were occupied by Federal troops during the battle. Though bordered on the southeast by U.S. Highway 62 and considerable development in the town of Prairie Grove, the majority of the core battlefield land remains agricultural in nature. The Prairie Grove Battlefield was classified in the 1993 *Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields* as having good integrity while facing moderate threats. The report rated it as a Priority I preservation site.

Elaboration:

The Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park contains approximately 837 acres of the core battlefield fought over on December 7, 1862, by the Federal Army of the Frontier and the Confederate First Corps, Army of the Transmississippi.

It is located in the Boston Mountains Subdivision of Arkansas's Ozark Mountain Natural Division eight miles west of Fayetteville in northwest Arkansas in the town of Prairie Grove. The oldest part of the battlefield park includes the Hindman Hall visitor center, built through a donation by Biscoe Hindman, the son of the Confederate commander at Prairie Grove, several log structures moved to the site to create an "Ozark village," a small playground area with picnic shelters, and the original 55-foot-tall chimney from Rhea's Mill, placed on the battlefield as a memorial. These intrusions are located in the area of the Confederate center and are all fairly close together and shielded by trees so that they do not have a significant impact on the overall battlefield's integrity.

Northeast of these stands the ca. 1868 Borden House (National Register-listed 03/17/77), built on the foundations of the Archibald Borden house that saw much of the fiercest combat during the battle of Prairie Grove but was burned the day after the battle. Modern park employee houses lie south of the Borden House.

Northwest of the high ground that was held by the Confederate First Corps during the battle spreads a wide valley with scattered agricultural buildings, providing a panoramic vista encompassing virtually all of the ground held by Francis J. Herron's two divisions on the Union left and much of the land held by James G. Blunt's men on the Federal right. Most of the property in the core area of the battlefield remains agricultural. In the decade since the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission's report, many of the modern buildings on the battlefield have been purchased and demolished, restoring the historic appearance of the landscape. Any soldier, Union or Confederate, who fought at Prairie Grove on December 7, 1862, would recognize the battlefield today.

The 707.81 acres contained in Prairie Grove Battlefield that are the subject of this boundary increase contains the ground where the much of the hardest combat of December 7, 1862, took place. The surrounding area

remains in agricultural use and complements the serene beauty of the battlefield park.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: National

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): NA

Areas of Significance: Military

Period(s) of Significance: 1862

Significant Dates: December 7, 1862

Significant Person(s): NA

Cultural Affiliation: NA

Architect/Builder: NA

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Summary:

The Prairie Grove Battlefield boundary increase is being nominated under Criterion A with national significance for its association with the heaviest, most severe fighting of the Battle of Prairie Grove, the last major Civil War engagement in Northwest Arkansas. Although General Hindman's Confederates held the field at the end of fighting, their subsequent retreat enabled the Union occupation of Northwest Arkansas. In effect, the battle represents a major blow to the Confederate war effort in the Transmississippi department.

Elaboration:

Following the decisive Union victory at Pea Ridge, Arkansas, on March 7-8, 1862, (Pea Ridge National Military Park, NR 10-15-66) Confederate commander Earl Van Dorn was ordered to move all Rebel troops in Arkansas to Corinth, Mississippi, as part of a concentration intended to crush Federal Gen. U.S. Grant's army at Pittsburg Landing on the Tennessee River. Though arriving too late to participate in the Battle of Shiloh, Van Dorn did strip the state of virtually all of its soldiers, weapons, materiel, machinery and livestock, transporting them east of the Mississippi River by the end of

April.¹

To alleviate the resulting political and military chaos in the state, Confederate authorities transferred fire-eating Helena politician Thomas C. Hindman, a major general in the Rebel army, to head the Military District of the Transmississippi, a task the diminutive Hindman seized with draconian zeal. Hindman declared martial law; gathered troops through conscription, transfer of troops from Mississippi and Indian Territory, and by dragooning passing Texas regiments that were headed toward the East; established manufacturing facilities to create military equipment; established price controls, and authorized formation of guerrilla bands to harass Union efforts in the state. While effective, Hindman's actions also raised howls of protest within Confederate Arkansas.²

In reaction to the protests from Arkansas, Confederate President Jefferson Davis created a new Department of the Transmississippi made up of Arkansas, Missouri, Louisiana, Texas and Indian Territory. He placed an old friend and failed Eastern Theater general, Theophilus Hunter Holmes, in command of the new district. "Holmes was an incredibly poor choice," historian William L. Shea has observed. "He was infirm, timid, vacillating, and pathologically pessimistic; his soldiers derisively called him 'Granny' and a doctor diagnosed his condition as a case of 'softening of the brain.'" The new department commander arrived in Little Rock on August 12, 1862. Eight days later, he divided the sprawling Transmississippi into three districts, giving Hindman command of the District of Arkansas, which also included Missouri and Indian Territory.³

The two Rebel officers held different opinions of how best to pursue the Confederate cause militarily west of the Mississippi, with Holmes preferring a passive defense while Hindman argued for carrying the battle to the Yankees in Missouri. The fiery lawyer from Helena ultimately did just that, leading a small force into southwestern Missouri in fall 1862 and setting up his headquarters in the hamlet of Pineville. Called back to Little Rock for a conference in the middle of September, Hindman left Brig. Gen. James S. Rains to lead his troops in Missouri.⁴

Union Maj. Gen. Samuel Ryan Curtis, the victor of Pea Ridge and now commander of the Union Department of the Missouri, was not amused by Hindman's audacity in establishing a new Rebel foothold in southwest Missouri and dispatched Brig. Gen. John M. Schofield to drive the Confederate force out of Pineville. Schofield scraped together a task force and quickly pushed the Confederate forces back into Arkansas or over into the Indian Territory. Schofield's Army of the Frontier drove into northwest Arkansas on October 18, briefly holding Fayetteville, Bentonville and Cross Hollows, all familiar names from the Pea Ridge campaign. Leaving the pugnacious Brig. Gen. James G. Blunt and his division in northwest Arkansas, Schofield fell back into Missouri by early November, returning to St. Louis on November 20 after falling ill. Command of the Army of the Frontier – comprised of Blunt's division and two divisions at Springfield, Missouri, under Francis J. Herron – fell to Blunt, a veteran abolitionist Jayhawker who was always ready for a fight. Thus two of the most belligerent field commanders of the Transmississippi were poised to meet in the mountains of northwest Arkansas.⁵

Returning to Fort Smith, Hindman learned of Blunt's isolated division and determined to sneak across the Boston Mountains and crush the Federal detachment. Holmes, facing demands from Richmond for more troops and fears of an attack from the east, ordered Hindman to "give up that darling project" to invade Missouri. The former Helena lawyer, however, assured his superior officer that he merely sought to destroy Blunt's command and had no plans to proceed on to Missouri. "Considering Hindman's nature, and his disdain for the ineffectual Holmes, Hindman may not have been totally honest," historian William Shea has noted.⁶

Hindman sent Brig. Gen. John S. Marmaduke and 2,000 Rebel cavalrymen north to divert Blunt's attention from his advance. The pugnacious Yankee commander, true to form, gathered 5,000 men and slammed into Marmaduke's force at Cane Hill on November 28, 1862, forcing the Southern horsemen into a stubborn withdrawal into the Boston Mountains (Cane Hill Battlefield, 03/07/94), falling back to Dripping Springs just north of Van Buren. Federal casualties totaled 4

killed and 36 wounded; Marmaduke lost 10 killed, 66 wounded and 6 missing. While casualties were light on both sides, the fighting at Cane Hill had pulled Blunt's lone division 35 miles deeper into Arkansas, more than 100 miles from the support of Herron's two divisions in Springfield. The stage was set for the Battle of Prairie Grove.⁷

On December 3, Hindman headed north from Van Buren at the head of the First Corps of the Army of the Transmississippi, 11,000 poorly trained men and 22 cannon supported by inadequate supplies of food and ammunition and draft animals left haggard by a lack of forage. The Confederate general planned for Marmaduke to threaten Cane Hill from the south to attract Blunt's attention, then swing the majority of the First Corps around the Union left to strike the Yankees from the east. Blunt, nervous about his command's exposed position, had already telegraphed Herron in Springfield to march to his support. The combative Kansan then ordered his wagons north to Rhea's Mill and dug his men in around Cane Hill to face whatever came his way.⁸

On December 6, Marmaduke's Rebel cavalry burst from the Cove Creek Valley to skirmish with Union horsemen at Reed's Mountain near Canehill as the bulk of Hindman's bedraggled army inched northward. The Confederate commander learned that night that Herron was in Fayetteville and determined to continue his march around Blunt's left but instead of striking at the Kansan to continue north and hit the Union troops from Missouri, defeat them, then destroy Blunt's troops. On the morning of December 7, the Confederate corps straggled north from the Boston Mountains. Marmaduke's horsemen, scouting toward Fayetteville, encountered and routed a Union patrol: Herron, following a harrowing three-day forced march of 110 miles, had arrived.⁹

Herron, who rose from captain of an Iowa regiment to become the youngest major general on either side in the war at the time of his appointment and who received the Medal of Honor for his valor at Pea Ridge, had started from Springfield with about 7,000 soldiers. The grueling march from Springfield (some of the Yankee soldiers marched the last 66 miles in a blistering 20 hours) cut his force in half by the time they reached Fayetteville on the evening of December 6-7. After a brief rest, they continued toward Cane Hill, encountered Marmaduke's advance, and began driving the Rebel horsemen before them. Marmaduke halted atop a low, wooded hill near Prairie Grove Presbyterian Church where he was joined at mid-morning by Hindman. The 9,000 or so of Hindman's men who were still on their feet after the grueling march through the Boston Mountains slowly converged on the rolling grasslands around the church. It would be afternoon before sufficient Confederate forces would gather for Hindman to contemplate an attack on Herron, and by then the Rebel commander was informed that Blunt was preparing to march out of Cane Hill.¹⁰

Herron's emaciated divisions began crossing the Illinois River on the morning of December 7 and formed up on Crawford's Prairie below Archibald Borden's house and apple orchard. Deploying against the Confederate divisions of Marmaduke and Brig. Gen. Francis A. Shoup opposite the Rebel right, Herron ordered his 24 rifled cannon to open fire on the lighter, less effective Confederate cannons. The Federal guns opened up at about 10 a.m. and began hammering the Rebel guns in a two hour bombardment that either disabled the Southern guns or caused their artillerymen to abandon them. Marmaduke and Shoup's men also fell back behind the crest of the hill, seeking cover from the terrible Union fire.¹¹

Mistakenly thinking that his artillery barrage had sent the Confederates into full-scale retreat, Herron quickly ordered four small regiments on the attack. Moving without opposition up the hill and past the Borden House, the attacking Yankees were hit with a withering crossfire from three sides as they entered the orchard. Within minutes, the attacking force suffered 49 percent casualties and was sent reeling back across Crawford's Prairie. Jubilant Rebels then advanced in headlong attack, but were slaughtered by Herron's rifled cannon as they crossed the prairie and were themselves forced to retreat. Herron, incredibly, ordered two regiments of Illinois and Indiana soldiers back up the hill, where they exchanged volleys around the Borden House before being driven away in disarray. More than half of the Union casualties suffered at Prairie Grove occurred in the two assaults around Archibald Borden's house.¹²

Hindman now saw his chance: If he used the troops under John Roane and Daniel Frost on his as yet unengaged center and

left to hit the exhausted troops on Herron's unsupported left, he could smash the Yankee force and claim the day. It took until mid-afternoon for the Confederate movement to begin, but as the grey-clad troops began the sweeping maneuver they hoped would doom Herron's men they were suddenly hit with artillery fire from the northwest. Blunt had arrived.¹³

Blunt had awaited attack at Cane Hill until he heard the sound of artillery in the direction of Fayetteville and realized that Hindman had stolen a march on him. The Kansas general's division marched first to Rhea's Mill north of Prairie Grove, where he left cavalry to defend his wagon train, which he had left there earlier. With his supplies safeguarded, he headed toward the gunfire and sent his men streaming into action.¹⁴

Blunt's division – about 4,500 men and three artillery batteries – deployed opposite Frost's Confederates on the Rebel left and severe fighting broke out around the William Morton House at the edge of the prairie. Unable to drive back the Confederates, Blunt's Yankees began to fall back and, in a ghastly reprise of the earlier attack against Herron, Frost's men charged into the prairie to be savaged by Blunt's massed artillery. The battered Confederates returned to the top of the hill where they would remain for the rest of the day. Herron and Blunt's forces linked up by late afternoon, and the Army of the Frontier presented a mile-long front to their Southern foes. However, both armies were exhausted and with the exception of volleys of musketry and occasional artillery fire the day's fighting was over. The day's horror continued into the night, however, as wounded soldiers who had crawled into haystacks for warmth in the freezing December night were burned to death when the stacks caught fire.¹⁵

During the night, the Federal force swelled as Blunt brought his 3,000 cavalymen up from Rhea's Mill and more of Herron's footsore soldiers straggled in from Missouri. Hindman, low on supplies and ammunition with no hope of reinforcements, wrapped the wheels of his artillery with blankets and slipped away from the battlefield in the darkness, leaving his dead and most of his wounded behind. The battered remains of the First Corps of the Army of the Transmississippi would struggle back through the Boston Mountains, arriving in Van Buren on December 10.

Both armies suffered heavily. Union forces entered the battle with around 8,000 men and suffered 1,261 casualties, including 175 dead, 813 wounded and 263 missing. The Confederate First Corps held some 9,000 men and suffered about the same amount of losses, with at least 164 killed, 817 injured and 336 missing; Hindman would suffer additional losses as hundreds of his conscripts deserted, many joining the Federal army. "If Pea Ridge was an extended boxing match in which the combatants weaved and jabbed," historian William Shea has observed, "then Prairie Grove was a short, brutal slugging match in which both sides traded direct frontal assaults until both were exhausted."¹⁶

The Federal army remained in the area for several weeks. In late December, Schofield headed toward Arkansas to resume command of the Army of the Frontier. Blunt and Herron, seeking to strike a final blow against Hindman's First Corps, led 8,000 men on a fast march through the Boston Mountains to hit Van Buren. The Confederates were taken by surprise on December 28, losing hundreds of men as Union prisoners while hundreds of others simply fled. Hindman, across the Arkansas River at Fort Smith, burned two steamboats and headed for Little Rock with the remains of his command. The Union commanders headed back toward Prairie Grove and, with Schofield in command, returned to Missouri, ending the Prairie Grove Campaign.¹⁷

Preservation Efforts at Prairie Grove

Preservation efforts at Prairie Grove began in 1908 with the purchase of nine acres of battlefield land by the Prairie Grove Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy as a memorial park. In 1956, not long after transfer of the property to the Prairie Grove Battlefield Memorial Foundation, the Arkansas General Assembly approved creation of a Prairie Grove Battlefield Commission and appropriated funds to acquire additional land and develop the site. On September 4, 1970, a 64-acre section of the battlefield was listed on the National Register of Historic Places; 22 years later the listing was amended to include an additional 66 acres that was part of Prairie Grove Battlefield Historic State Park, which was

established in 1971.¹⁸

On November 28, 1990, Public Law 101-628 created the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission and gave it a mandate to identify the country's significant Civil War battlefields, assess their importance and condition, identify threats to their integrity and recommend preservation and interpretive alternatives. Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park was identified as a "Priority I" site "with a critical need for coordinated nationwide action by the year 2000" by virtue of its location in rapidly developing northwest Arkansas. The Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism, working with the National Park Service, Southwest Region and the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, developed a battlefield protection plan for Prairie Grove that recommended protection of core battlefield land. Since then, approximately 825 of those acres have been protected through fee-simple acquisition.¹⁹

Significance of Prairie Grove

In assessing the significance of the Battle of Prairie Grove, historian William Shea wrote: "The second and final Confederate attempt to recover Missouri and turn the tide of the Civil War in the Transmississippi was stopped at Prairie Grove. Had the Confederates triumphed at Prairie Grove, there was nothing to stop them from marching deep into Missouri and threatening St. Louis. The hard-fought Union victory was a tactical draw, perhaps even a tactical defeat, but it was a crushing strategic defeat for the Confederates. When the Confederate army retreated to the south side of the Arkansas River after Prairie Grove, all of Missouri and most of Arkansas were permanently lost to the Confederacy."²⁰

The battle at Prairie Grove effectively ended the Rebel dream of securing Missouri as part of the Confederate States of America "and consequently reduced the strategic importance of Arkansas in the eyes of military planners in both Washington, D.C., and Richmond," historian Thomas A. DeBlack has noted, both considerations that had far-reaching implications for the Transmississippi Theater. The battle thwarted Confederate efforts to transport Hindman's First Corps to aid efforts east of the Mississippi. "Practically speaking," historian Shelby Foote wrote, "[Hindman] had no army. So much of it as did not lie in shallow graves at Prairie Grove was scattered over northern Arkansas, hiding from conscription agents in Ozark coves and valleys. Thus it was that the battle lost in northwest Arkansas had repercussions far beyond the theater in which it was fought." Theophilus Holmes formally declined to send troops east on December 29, the day after Blunt and Herron chased Hindman from Van Buren and Fort Smith, writing "such a reinforcement would be useless, while such a diversion would enable the enemy to penetrate those portions of the Arkansas Valley where the existence of supplies of subsistence and forage would afford them leisure to overrun the entire state."²¹

The additional acreage acquired by Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park since the National Register boundary was last expanded in 1992 includes some 695 acres where some of the heaviest fighting and most important maneuvering of the December 7, 1862 battle took place. Its appearance continues to reflect that of the landscape of the time of the battle. For these reasons the expanded boundaries of the battlefield are being nominated under Criterion A with national significance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Michael E. Banasik, *Embattled Arkansas: The Prairie Grove Campaign of 1862* (Wilmington, NC: Broadfoot Publishing Co., 1996)

Battlefield Protection Plan: Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism, November 1991

Mark K. Christ, ed., *Rugged and Sublime: The Civil War in Arkansas* (Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 1994)

Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, *Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields Executive Summary* (Washington, DC: Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, 1993)

Thomas A. DeBlack, *With Fire and Sword: Arkansas, 1861-1874* (Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 2003)

Shelby Foote, *The Civil War: A Narrative* Vol. II (New York: Random House, 1963)

William L. Shea, *War in the West: Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove* (Fort Worth, TX: Ryan Place Publishers, 1996)

Ezra J. Warner, *Generals in Blue: Lives of the Union Commanders* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1964)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

☒ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

☒ State historic preservation office

☐ Other state agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☒ Other -- Specify Repository: Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 707.81 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>381646</u>	<u>3984699</u>	B	<u>15</u>	<u>382449</u>	<u>3984679</u>
C	<u>15</u>	<u>382444</u>	<u>3984588</u>	D	<u>15</u>	<u>383074</u>	<u>3984563</u>
E	<u>15</u>	<u>383206</u>	<u>3984334</u>	F	<u>15</u>	<u>382952</u>	<u>3984182</u>
G	<u>15</u>	<u>383811</u>	<u>3984182</u>	H	<u>15</u>	<u>382795</u>	<u>3983090</u>
I	<u>15</u>	<u>382820</u>	<u>3983598</u>	J	<u>15</u>	<u>382414</u>	<u>3983628</u>
K	<u>15</u>	<u>381783</u>	<u>3982841</u>	L	<u>15</u>	<u>381581</u>	<u>3982841</u>
M	<u>15</u>	<u>381611</u>	<u>3983247</u>	N	<u>15</u>	<u>380773</u>	<u>3983272</u>
O	<u>15</u>	<u>380809</u>	<u>3984080</u>	P	<u>15</u>	<u>381621</u>	<u>3984054</u>

Verbal Boundary Description:

A part of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 7, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract #1 – 109.45 acres;
 A part of NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 18, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract #3 - .55 acres;
 A part of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 7, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract #4 – 63.85 acres;
 A part of W $\frac{1}{2}$, Sec 8, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract #5 & #5c – 58.30 acres;
 A part of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 8, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract 5a – 2.01 acres;
 A part of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 8, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract 5b – 1.06 acres;
 A part of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 8, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract 6 – 6.47 acres;
 A part of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 18, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract 7 - .68 acres;
 A part of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 7, T 15 N, R 31 W and Pt of NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 18, T15 N, R 31 W known as tract 8 – 97.33 acres;
 A part of NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 7, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract 10 – 130.92 acres;
 A part of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 8, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract 11 – 70.00 acres;
 A part of Section 8, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract 12 – 95.34 acres;
 A part of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 7, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract #13 – 60.66 acres;
 A part of Sec 12, T 15 N, R 32 W known as tract #20 – 6 acres;
 A part of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 8, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract #21 – 4.04 acres
 A part of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 7, T 15 N, R 31 W known as tract #22 – 1.15 acres

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all of the land added to Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park since the original nomination was amended on November 9, 1992.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Mark Christ/Community Outreach Director

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: September 6, 2005

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

¹ William L. Shea, "1862: 'A Continual Thunder'" in Mark K. Christ, ed., *Rugged and Sublime: The Civil War in Arkansas* (Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 1994) p. 38

² Shea, "1862," p. 38-39.

³ Shea, "1862," p. 45.

⁴ Shea, "1862," p.46

⁵ Shea, "1862," p. 47; Ezra J. Warner, *Generals in Blue: Lives of the Union Commanders* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1964) p. 37-38.

⁶ Shea, "1862," p. 48.

⁷ William L. Shea, *War in the West: Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove* (Fort Worth, TX: Ryan Place Publishers, 1996), p. 83-85; Michael E. Banasik, *Embattled Arkansas: The Prairie Grove Campaign of 1862* (Wilmington, NC: Broadfoot Publishing Co., 1996) p. 287, 292.

⁸ Shea, "1862," p. 50; Banasik, *Embattled Arkansas*, p. 288.

⁹ Shea, "1862," p. 50-51.

¹⁰ Warner, *Generals in Blue*, p. 228-9; Shea, "1862," 51-52.

¹¹ Shea, "1862," p. 54.

¹² Shea, "1862," p. 54; Shea, *War in the West*, p. 96-97.

¹³ Shea, "1862," p. 55.

¹⁴ Shea, *War in the West*, p. 98-99.

¹⁵ Shea, "1862," 56; Shea, *War in the West*, 98-101.

¹⁶ Shea, "1862," p. 56-57

¹⁷ Shea, *War in the West*, 104-106.

¹⁸ *Battlefield Protection Plan: Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park*, Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism, November 1991, p. 21.

¹⁹ Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, *Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields Executive Summary* (Washington, DC: Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, 1993), p. 9; Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism, *Battlefield Protection Plan*, p. 11.

²⁰ William L. Shea, e-mail communication with Mark Christ, October 9, 2003.

²¹ Thomas A. DeBlack, *With Fire and Sword: Arkansas, 1861-1874* (Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 2003), p. 75; Shelby Foote, *The Civil War: A Narrative* Vol. II (New York: Random House, 1963), p. 51-52.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase II)

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 9/07/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/30/05
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/15/05 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/21/05
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05001167

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: Y

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT _____ RETURN _____ REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase II) is nationally significant under Criterion A for its association with the heaviest, most severe fighting of the Battle of Prairie Grove in 1862, the last major Civil War engagement in northwest Arkansas. The battle represented a major setback to the Confederate war effort in the Transmississippi department. Since the last increase to the National Register boundary in 1992, Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park has acquired additional acreage associated with the battle to ensure its preservation. This boundary increase includes over 700 acres where some of the heaviest fighting and important maneuvering of the battle took place. Today, most of the core of the battlefield remains in agricultural use. Its appearance continues to reflect the landscape of the time of the battle and thus retains integrity from its period of significance.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A

REVIEWER Daniel Vivian

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE (202) 354-2252

DATE 10/21/05

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase)

Prairie Grove, Washington Co, AR

Photo by M. Christ

February 2005

Negative on file at AHPP

View from west



Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase)
Prairie Grove, Washington Co, AR
Photo by M. Christ
February 2005
Negative on file at AHPC
View from South



Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase)

Prairie Grove, Washington Co, AR

Photo by M. Christ

February 2005

Negative on file at AHPP

View from Northeast



Prairie Grove Battletield (Boundary Increase)
Prairie Grove, Washington Co, AR
Photo by M. Christ
February 2005
Negative on file at AHPP
View from north



Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase)

Prairie Grove, Washington Co, AR

Photo by M. Christ

February 2005

Negative on file at AHPP

View from West



Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase)

Prairie Grove, Washington Co, AR

Photo by M. Christ

February 2005

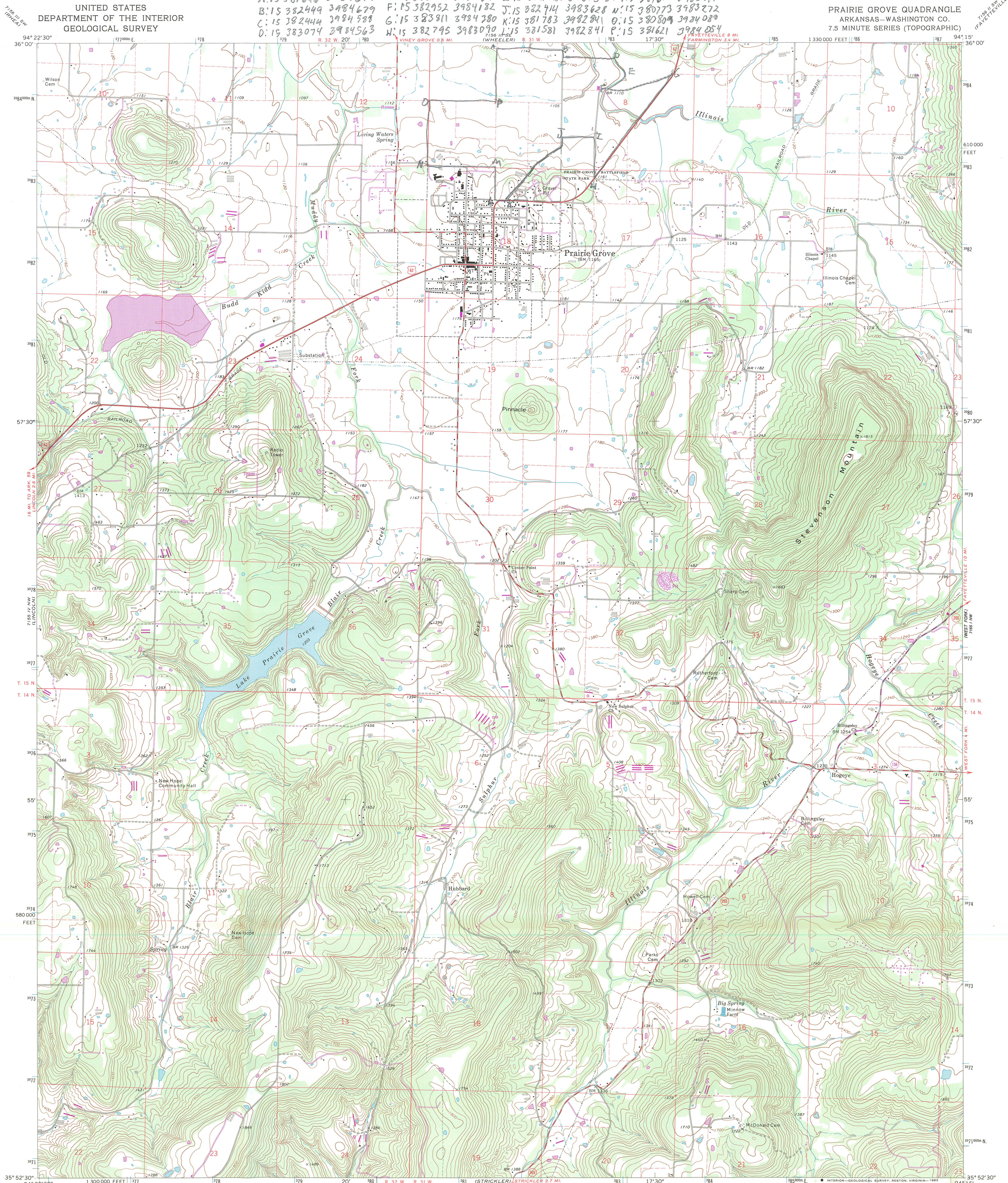
Negative on file at AHPP

View from northwest

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase) Prairie Grove, Washington Co., AR
A: 15 381646 3984699 E: 15 383206 3984334 I: 15 382820 3983598 M: 15 381611 3983247
B: 15 382449 3984679 F: 15 382952 3984182 J: 15 382414 3983628 N: 15 380773 3983272
C: 15 382444 3984588 G: 15 383811 3984380 K: 15 381783 3982841 O: 15 380809 3984089
D: 15 383074 3984563 H: 15 382795 3983090 L: 15 381581 3982841 P: 15 381621 3984054

PRAIRIE GROVE QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS-WASHINGTON CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS

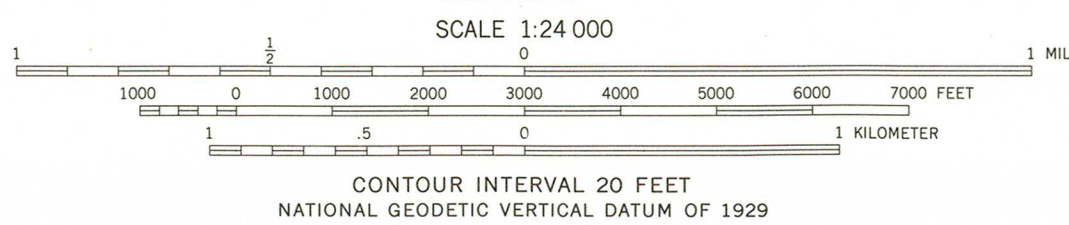
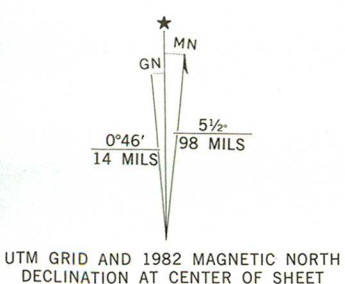
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1970

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 6 meters south and
18 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1980
and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1982



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
U.S. Route	State Route

PRAIRIE GROVE, ARK.
N3552.5-W9415.7.5

1970
PHOTOREVISED 1982
DMA 7155 IV NE-SERIES V884



The Department of Arkansas Heritage

September 6, 2005

Mike Huckabee, Governor
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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e-mail:

info@arkansaspreservation.org

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Dr. Jan Matthews
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St., NW
8th Floor (MS 2280)
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Prairie Grove Battlefield (Boundary Increase),
Prairie Grove, Washington County

Dear Dr. Matthews:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews
State Historic Preservation Officer

enc.

An Equal Opportunity Employer



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