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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Division of Master Plan Coordination

(Park or Office)

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HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

FILE NUMBER  
OR SUBJECT



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(Date)

TO: \_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

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MASTER PLAN  
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE  
OF  
HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

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MISSION 66 EDITION

*Forced + Chyter*  
*1965*

MASTER PLAN  
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE  
OF  
HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

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MISSION 66 EDITION

MASTER PLAN  
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE  
OF  
HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK  
MISSION 66 EDITION

\* \* \* \* \*

The Service thus established shall

- . Promote and regulate the use of
- . The Federal Areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations hereinafter specified
- . By such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments and reservations

which purpose is

- . To conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, and
- . To provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as shall
- . Leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

From an Act to Establish a National Park Service. Approved August 25, 1916

Master Plan  
for Horseshoe Bend National Military Park

MISSION 65 Edition

Volume I

Master Plan Narrative

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THE PARK

In the State of Alabama, exactly halfway between Tennessee and Florida, and only some 30 airline miles from Georgia's west boundary, the Tallapoosa River makes a lazy loop before falling down to join the Coosa in creating the mightier Alabama. When this land was still part of Mississippi Territory, the pioneers called the remarkable river bend "The Horseshoe"; to the redman, it was "Tohopeka."

The U-bend forms a sort of peninsula with high points 50 to 70 feet above the Tallapoosa, falling away to a broad flood plain about 1,000 feet deep at the toe. This "horseshoe", embracing about 100 acres, within which the Indians barricaded themselves behind a stout breastwork across the neck of the bend, was the battleground and hence the key part of Horseshoe Bend National Military Park which covers 2,040 acres in all.

Today it is, for most part, wooded, with some 20 acres of the higher plateau in fields planted to cotton and corn in recent years. The forest is a mixture of pine and hardwood regeneration, with a rather dense cover of hardwoods and brush, including vines and brambles, in the lower flood plain.

Upstream and downstream from the bend, rough ravine-indented hillsides border the north bank of the river except for several fields, cultivated in the recent past. These well-wooded hillsides probably look about as they did at the time of the battle and contribute much to the scenic quality of the area.

Except for a precipitous stretch on the downstream leg of the bend, broad bottom lands, largely subject to flooding, stretch along the southern bank of the river. It is here--within the Park boundaries--that the site of the Indian village of New Youka is located. Behind this plain is wooded escarpment that rises abruptly to rough table-lands.

Foreword

THE MISSION

Horseshoe Bend National Military Park -

its Mission is to convey to visitors an understanding of the desperate struggle between warriors of the Creek Nation and American military forces that occurred here, and a realization of its importance in winning the Old Southwest.

The National Park Service -

its Mission at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park is to so manage, develop, present and preserve this Park that it will fulfill its Park Mission effectively and permanently.

Approved: E. T. Scayen                      9-30-60  
Actg. Director                                      Date

MASTER PLAN  
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE  
OF  
HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

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VOLUME I - CHAPTER 1  
Objectives and Policies

MASTER PLAN  
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VOLUME I - CHAPTER I  
Objectives and Policies

MASTER PLAN  
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OF  
HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

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Chapter 1, Objectives and Policies  
Significant Resources  
Significant Values  
Preservation and Use Policies  
Guidelines

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Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended: (Signed) Clarence L. Johnson Date 8/24/60

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Concurred: Elbert Cox Date 9/2/60  
Regional Director, Region One

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APPROVED E. T. Scoven Date 9-30-60  
Director

MASTER PLAN  
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE OF  
HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

VOLUME I

Chapter 1. Objectives and Policies

Horseshoe Bend National Military Park contains historic resources of national importance

The most significant resource of the Park lies in the historic ground within its boundaries. Here, on March 27, 1814, Andrew Jackson's regulars, militia and Indian allies, defeated the assembled braves of the Creek Nation and broke forever the power of the Creeks. The immediate result was the Creek cession, by the Treaty of Fort Jackson, of 20 million acres of what Jackson called "the best unsettled country in America," at the same time opening a passage from Georgia to Mobile for continuation of southwestward expansion.

A more indirect outcome was Andrew Jackson's election to the Presidency and the resultant introduction into American History of "Jacksonian Democracy." For President Madison appointed Jackson a major general in the regular army, in command of the 7th (Southern) Military District, as a direct result of his exploits in the Creek campaign, crowned by the crushing victory at Horseshoe Bend. And that appointment accounts for Andrew Jackson's presence at New Orleans, 1814-1815, and his electrifying conquest of the veteran British force on the plains of Chalmette, thus becoming the national hero, who, almost inevitably, was chosen to serve as President.

The heavy log barricade behind which the Indians fought and the huts in the toe of the "horseshoe," only man-made features on the battleground, have long since disappeared. South of the river, the Indian village of New Youka had been burned even before the battle. But the natural features have remained, or have returned, much the same: the spectacular bend in the river, the eminence on which Jackson mounted his feeble artillery, and a re-growth of trees -- together, these, and other natural landmarks, set a scene wherein mental recreation of the battle is fostered.

Sparse settlement in the region in which Horseshoe Bend is located has tended to preserve the setting of 1814. The Park acreage, moreover, includes no inholdings and is so generous that, in all likelihood, the battlefield, which is the central core of the Park, will never be disturbed, or even threatened, by any adverse development. However, for better management and protection of the area small additions to the area should be considered, particularly a tract at the northwest corner of the Park which would be bounded by Alabama State Highway No. 49 as presently being realigned and the midstream of Mauckfaw Creek.

These resources can be used to lead people to a greater understanding of a phase of American History.

The Mission of Horseshoe Bend National Military Park will be attained to the extent that its resources are made to communicate to the visitors a knowledge of, and feeling for, the history commemorated there. As shown in the preceding section, the battle of Horseshoe Bend had certain far-reaching results. In a basic and immediate sense, however, Horseshoe Bend was an unusually sear death struggle between troops of the Old Southwest and warriors of the Creek Nation, resulting in the annihilation of the latter. It is an important part of what has been called the "Century of Dishonor"; it is not a pretty story -- hardly inspirational, in any way, except for the valor of fighters on both sides. But it is an important segment of the history of the wresting of lands from the Indians and the attendant westward movement.

Largely through the personality and activity of Andrew Jackson, the story of Horseshoe Bend has points in common with those of the Natchez Trace Parkway and Chalsette National Historical Park suggesting a three-way inter-relation in interpretation. These are to be recognized and exploited.

Properly developed and interpreted, Horseshoe Bend National Military Park has the capacity to afford to its visitors an insight into the period of their country's history which it commemorates. To this, the following contribute:

The visitor's presence at the actual historic scene.

Interpretation of a battle coincident to the War of 1812, and important in westward expansion and conquest of the Indians, with personages such as Andrew Jackson, Sam Houston, and the Indian Chief Menawa participating.

An appreciation of the significance of the event and the persons involved, in helping to shape the destiny of America.

The National Park Service is responsible for the preservation of this resource, and for the development of a capacity to provide visitor enjoyment and experience.

The Mission of the National Park Service at Horseshoe Bend is to create opportunity for visitors to gain a true and meaningful knowledge of the event commemorated on that ground and its effect on our nation's history.

A monument to ". . . Andrew Jackson and his Brave Men . . . Erected by the Congress of the United States" in 1914, centennial of the battle, and a knee-high stone marker on the site of Jackson Trace set up the same year by the U. S. National Society of the Daughters of 1812, are the only "interpretive" devices on the field -- if indeed they may be called that. The larger monument, incidentally, proclaims an erroneous date for the battle.

The land is well-authenticated as the site of the battle of Horseshoe Bend but, other than natural features, there are no remains associated with the battle. The only structures, present in 1814, were the log breastwork behind which the Indians fought and a cluster of huts in the toe of the "horseshoe." These were burned during, and after, the battle.

In this circumstance an excellent interpretive program is mandatory if the Service mission at this area is to be carried out. Research -- historical, archeological, and administrative -- upon which to base such interpretation, as well as other visitor service, and the development and protection of the area, must be undertaken. Relatively little has been written on the Creek War and the Battle of Horseshoe Bend and that has been more journalistic than scholarly.

The Interpretive Theme is more controversial than obvious. At the present stage of limited research it appears to be about as stated in the foregoing sections. For the full story, attention should be given also to early Indian cultures in the vicinity of the park, the discovery and the Anglo-French controversy, and problems of the Indian frontier east of the Mississippi, including the preliminaries of the Creek War.

The Interpretive Method, basically, will be self-guiding.

With a strong interpretive presentation in a visitor center at a site overlooking most of the park and all of the actual battleground, supplemented by interpretive shelters and by roads and trails, with markers and exhibits-in place, over the field, this method should be effective. To groups with special interest, including school groups, guided trips will be afforded.

Efficient operation requires construction of a small utility area in the Park and residences for employees subject to transfer.

In keeping with the day-use principle, no camp grounds or picnic areas will be provided within the area. The sale of interpretive literature and other objects selected for interpretive value is recognized as a desirable service. Such service would be undertaken by a cooperating association. There will be no concessioner.

Guidelines are suggested to adapt broad Service policies to the specific local situation.

The items which follow are in application of principles which have been discussed, or call attention to other specific practices or developments to be adopted for this Park.

1. Present boundaries of the Park are fully adequate for preservation and interpretation of the historic event for which the Park was established. However, for better protection and interpretation of the area and to secure a more pleasing entrance from the north, some readjustment of the boundaries is considered desirable.
2. The Park area north of the Tallapoosa River (containing the site of the battle) will receive preferential treatment in programming of interpretive developments.
3. The area south of the Tallapoosa will receive secondary interpretive development.
4. In departure from usual policy, the covered bridge, built 1907-1908, will be repaired and maintained. One of the longest in the country, at 900 feet, it is interesting in its own right and is less an intrusion than otherwise would be the case by reason of the presence of a modern concrete bridge on Highway 49 between the covered bridge and the battleground area. Interpretation at this point will be confined to the bridge itself and visitors will be urged to proceed to the visitor center where the story of the battle will be told.
5. An archeological reconnaissance will be undertaken for determination of pre-Creek occupation of the area, details of the log "fort" or breastworks, and the location of the Creek village of New Youka and the huts in the toe of the "horseshoe."
6. Continued corporate existence and cooperative activity of the Horseshoe Bend Battle Park Association, Inc., will be encouraged.

7. A visitor center will be established in the park area north of the Tallapoosa, with three interpretive shelters located near the hill upon which Jackson mounted his artillery, in the toe of the "horseshoe" at the site of the Indian village, and at the point on the Indian Breastworks where Major Lemuel Montgomery lost his life. Interpretive activity at those points will be extended through appropriate markers and exhibits along the roads and trails.
8. Ethno-botanical trails will be established around the "horseshoe," emphasizing the names, lore and use of plant materials illustrative of the way of life of the Indians and early settlers. This trail will pass the two interpretive shelters at the site of the Indian village and at the point where Major Montgomery was killed.
9. For this day-use area, there will be no concession operation but it is expected that some non-profit cooperating association will offer for sale, in the visitor center, items selected for their interpretive connection with this Park.
10. Park administrative headquarters will be incorporated in the visitor center, and living quarters provided for transferable employees; a small utility group will be erected to facilitate park maintenance and protection.
11. A selective program of restoration clearing and vista cutting will be undertaken to restore the period appearance of portions of the battleground for interpretive purposes and to establish views to important areas of supporting interest. For a better understanding of the area, the land, between the visitor center (the site of which approximates the position of Jackson's rear guard) and the eastern portion of the Indian breastwork, which is now open, will remain open, and that part of the "horseshoe" south of the breastworks, will revert to forest.
12. All housing and farm buildings existing at the time the Park came into the National Park System have been removed and the areas will be returned to their natural state.

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MASTER PLAN  
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE  
OF  
HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

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VOLUME I - CHAPTER 2  
Visitor Use Brief

MASTER PLAN  
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- Chapter 2, Visitor Use Brief
- A. The Area in General
  - B. Future Use
  - C. South of the Tallapoosa River
  - D. North of the Tallapoosa River

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Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Recommended: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

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Concurred: Eugene DeSilats Date 3-21-60  
Actg. Chief, Eastern Office, Design and Construction

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APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Regional Director, Region One

VOLUME I

Chapter 2. Visitor Use Brief

Established as recently as April 12, 1959, Horseshoe Bend National Military Park has not had time for a visitor use pattern to have been established and development -- interpretive or other -- to date has consisted only of disposal of some old, unserviceable buildings. Any estimate of future visitation, after development of the area, must be by crystal ball method but interest in the area is known to be high in Alabama and adjoining states. Even though the Park is not now served by any common carrier, and in all probability never will be, it seems it should have some 150,000 visitors in 1966. This is comparable to present visitation at such areas as Fort Dowdson and Fort Necessity.

In the total absence of statistical evidence or operational experience for the Park this chapter must be based entirely upon conjecture. Accordingly, it is expected that it will be revised later in the light of experience which then will have been gained.

A. The Area In General

All visitors to Horseshoe Bend National Military Park must reach it by private or rented automobile or chartered bus. Access is solely by State Highway 49 which leads in from U. S. Route 280 near Dadeville, Alabama, about 12 miles to the south, and passes through the northwest section of the Park very close to the "horseshoe", or battleground proper. A peculiarity of the expected traffic is that almost all visitors will pass through or within a mile of Dadeville en route to the Park, regardless of the direction of their origin. U. S. Route 280 is the only highway of that classification intersecting State Route 49 for a distance of 63 miles, to the north. The road system being as it is in this locality, it is expected that practically all distant travellers to the Park will funnel through the Dadeville area.

B. Future Use

In this instance, the past cannot be a guide to the future, as there has been no recorded Park visitation. In arriving at a conjectural seasonal pattern of future visitation, it seems reasonable to accept as an analogy that at Vicksburg National

Military Park, similarly an inland park in the Deep South. Approximately one-half of Vicksburg's annual visitation is counted in the quarter June-July-August (47% in 1958; 54% in 1959). Some 20 to 25 per cent of the total yearly travel to Vicksburg National Military Park occurs in the "school group months," March-April-May.

Much the same pattern may be expected at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park. Perhaps owing to the constant availability of the buses which carry them regularly to their consolidated schools, rural students' group visitation generally outruns that of their city cousins who must charter buses on one of the commercial lines, at considerably greater cost. Horseshoe Bend is in a region, and of such a nature, as almost certainly to attract great numbers of school groups in the March-May season each year.

A description follows of the facilities and services available to the visitor, identifying by underlining those proposed for the future. As no facilities or services now exist, all proposals will be underlined.

#### C. South of the Tallapoosa River

Regardless of direction from which travel originated, it seems that 85% or more of the non-local visitors, and many of the local ones, will approach Horseshoe Bend National Military Park from the south, via Alabama Highway 49, from U. S. Route 280. An orientation exhibit shelter, at a parking area on the high ground on the east side of the highway, south end of bridge, will provide the approaching traveler with an introduction to the significance of the Park and advice as to services available at the visitor center ahead. A supplemental parking area on the opposite side of the highway will accommodate visitors who wish to examine the old covered bridge.

Led on, by the orientation exhibit, to the visitor center, most visitors, it is expected, will then cross the highway bridge and proceed directly to that facility where much of the interpretation will be presented. On retracing his route southward, over State Highway 49, back to U. S. Route 280, the visitor will have an opportunity to visit the additional interpretive features south of the river, equipped with the background derived from his recent experience in the visitor center and on the historic ground in the "horseshoe." This will consist of interpretive signs and markers on a trail along the south bank of the river to tell of the action by Coffee's band of friendly Indians and "spies."

By combination of road, parking area and trail, the Creek townsite of New Youka, with interpretive exhibits, will be made accessible to those interested in pursuing that subject, provided archeological findings support such an interpretive development.

D. North of the Tallapoosa River

The major interpretive development, and that in highest priority, will be north of the Tallapoosa River, embracing the battleground in the peninsula formed by the "horseshoe" bend where all the close-range fighting occurred.

The key interpretive development will be a visitor center to be erected on one of the heights immediately behind the position of Jackson's rear guard. For best use of this vantage point from which the battleground and some two-thirds of the entire park are visible, consideration will be given an observation platform with orientation facilities, or some comparable device, in connection with the visitor center. This will be the administrative headquarters for the Park, housing offices of superintendent and staff. The lobby and exhibit room will be used by the visitor in gaining information and orientation; here also will be presented, through exhibits of varying form, the essentials of the story commemorated, and its significance. An assembly room will provide for slide or movie interpretive programs, or talks, to assembled groups, especially school children.

Having received the basic orientation provided in the visitor center, the visitor would normally proceed down into the historic "horseshoe" battleground by a minor road with markers and interpretive exhibits along it at key points. On this part of the tour the visitor passes by the monument to Jackson and his troops erected by the United States in 1914, Centennial year. From the tour road, will lead a system of foot trails to afford access for those desiring to make more complete coverage of the battlefield.

Having toured the battleground proper, it is expected that the visitor usually will re-enter State Highway 49 and head back toward U. S. Route 280. As stated in the preceding section, the more leisurely, or more interested, then will have an opportunity to visit the south bank of the Tallapoosa and learn more about the action by Coffee's men at that point. Those with still more time and interest, will be able to proceed to the site of New Youka, provided the development there had been found feasible and had been effected.

In some part of the one-third of the Park, north or south of the river, not visible from the visitor center site, one or two spots will be designated as areas in which lunches may be eaten and minimum facilities will there be provided. There will be no picnic area development.

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VOLUME I - CHAPTER 3  
Area Organization Brief

MASTER PLAN  
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- Chapter 3. Area Organization Brief
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  - B. Office of the Superintendent
    - (1) Administrative Functions
    - (2) Ranger Activities
    - (3) Interpretation
    - (4) Maintenance and Operation of Physical Facilities
  - XX. Concessions General

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Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

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Concurred: Eugene Desjats Date 3-21-60  
Actg. Chief, Eastern Office, Design and Construction

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APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Regional Director, Region One

VOLUME I

Chapter 3. Area Organization Brief

A. General Organization

Within the framework of this approved Master Plan, and under stated delegations of authority, Horseshoe Bend National Military Park functions as a Group A organization as defined in the Administrative Manual. In carrying out its responsibilities within the limits of authority as defined, the Area staff is organized and functions as described below:

Office of SUPERINTENDENT

Directs and is responsible for all functions of the area, including preservation, development, interpretation and use of Horseshoe Bend National Military Park

B. Office of the Superintendent

Function: Direct all operations in the Area to accomplish its mission of dual service to the visitor and to its resources.

Task: Plan, direct, supervise, coordinate, and evaluate all activities performed by the Area staff as follows:

Personnel management and training  
Fiscal management  
Property management  
Protection of resources  
Public services  
Operation and maintenance of facilities  
Minor construction work

Participate with offices of Regional Director and Eastern Office of Design and Construction, to the degree defined in and in accordance with procedures described in the Administrative Manual, in the following:

- Long range management and development planning
- Preparation of Master Plan
- Review of Master Plan drawings
- Programming of construction projects
- Supervision of construction projects

Provide membership or liaison with boards, commissions, or other government agencies, of which the following are most important:

State of Alabama

- Governor's Office
- Department of Highways
- Department of Conservation
- Department of Archives and History

Cooperating Society

Horseshoe Bend Battle Park Association, Inc.

(This organization, largely instrumental in having the Park established, has a Board of Trustees with an impressive array of business and professional men, historians and other writers, from Tennessee, Florida, Mississippi, and Louisiana, in addition to Alabama. They plan to retain their Association to cooperate in Park development.)

Federal -- Local representative of the

- Department of Justice ( U. S. Attorney's Office)
- Department of the Interior (Fish and Wildlife Service)
- Department of Commerce (Weather Bureau)
- Department of Health, Education and Welfare  
(Public Health Service)

Organization and Operation: The Superintendent is the officer responsible for all activities within the Park. Headquarters are in the visitor center, and this is the base of operation for the Superintendent and his staff.

Financial accounting and payrolling of Park employees will be accomplished by the Region One Field Finance Office in Richmond, Virginia.

There will be no pronounced seasonal fluctuation in personnel and procurement activities.

Staff Required:

<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Total Existing</u>	<u>Total Long Range</u>
Superintendent	1	1
Rangers	-	2
Historian	-	1
Administrative Aid	-	1
Clerk-Stenographer	1	1
Maintenance man	-	1
Caretakers	1	2
<b>Total Permanent</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>

Seasonal

Ranger Historians (3 months) - 2 (.5 n.y.)

Facilities Required:

	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Additional Proposed</u>
New Visitor Center		
Office Rooms	-	4
Information Desk	-	1
Assembly Room	-	1
Audio-Visual Room	-	1
Exhibit Space	-	(as needed)
Employee Residences	-	5
Maintenance Facilities		
Maintenance Equipment (stalls)	-	3
Fire Equipment Storage (Stalls)	-	1
Supply Storage (Room)	-	1
Office	-	1
Oil and Paint Storage (Room)	-	1
Tool Storage (Room)	-	1
Work Shop (Room)	-	1

**B. (1) Administrative Functions**

**Function:** The Administrative Aid will perform the common administrative services, in accordance with established procedures, for and in the interests of the efficient operation of the entire Park organization.

**Assigned Tasks:**

Train other personnel in administrative service procedures and skills.

Perform procedures relating to all personnel functions within the authority delegated to the Superintendent.

Effect procedures to ensure that management is currently informed of appropriation utilization, and maintain records necessary to effect control of funds allocated to the Park.

Effect the procurement, and when necessary the storage and issuance of supplies and materials for the Park.

Effect the acquisition and disposal and maintain records of accountability for all equipment and property, except museum collections.

Provide information and advice to the Superintendent and other Division heads on fiscal and personnel matters.

Coordinate and consolidate the Park's budget estimates for submission to the Regional Office.

Maintain mails and files.

Carry out Park responsibility for time, leave, and payroll procedures.

B. (2) Ranger Activities

Function: To protect the Park, its historic and natural features and physical improvements, and to safeguard, aid and inform Park visitors.

Assigned Tasks:

Train personnel in protection and other related skills and procedures.

Control public use of the Park, including its historic, natural and developed features, and promote proper and safe use of the Park.

Plan and apply measures for the prevention and control of damage to Park resources and physical improvements by fire, insects, diseases, soil erosion and other agencies.

Provide information to Park visitors.

Provide services to safeguard and assist Park visitors.

Enforce rules and regulations applicable to the Park.

Promote favorable public relations with Park neighbors and visitors.

Advise the Superintendent and his staff on matters relating to protection of the Park and visitors and control of use of the Park.

B. (3) Interpretation

Function: To determine, assemble and present the National Military Park and its resources so as to guide in protection these resources and enriching visitor experience.

Assigned Tasks:

Train personnel in the procedures and skills utilized in Interpretation. Inform other personnel on the resources of the Park.

Coordinate or perform research in the field of history and, to a lesser extent, prehistory.

Prepare and publish technical and popular publications.

Preserve historical and archeological materials; maintain museum records and study collections.

Maintain Park library, photographic files, and audio-visual materials.

Plan and operate the Park's interpretive program, including operation and curatorial service of the visitor center museum, self-guiding trails, audio-visual programs, conducted trips, wayside and roadside exhibits.

Maintain relationships with educational and historical organizations concerned with knowledge and interpretation germane to the Park.

Advise the Superintendent and other personnel on matters pertaining to interpretation, and those relating to the preservation of historical resources or materials.

B. (4) Maintenance and Operation of Physical Facilities

Function: The maintenanceman and caretakers will perform the common maintenance activities required to operate and maintain the physical facilities in a manner contributing to the efficient functioning of the Park staff, to the welfare of the visitors and to the preservation of Park resources.

Assigned Tasks:

Operate utility systems, building equipment, and other facilities of the physical plant.

Maintain roads, trails, buildings, grounds, equipment, and utility systems (except telephone and power systems maintained by a public utility company.)

Maintain the river banks for erosion control and esthetic appearance.

Perform minor maintenance of the covered bridge.

**XX. Concessions**

The visitor will remain in the Park only a few hours at the most, and concessioner operated facilities and services are unnecessary for visitors' use and enjoyment of the Park.

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CULLEN - OK  
4/16/63

Volume 1, Chapter 2  
Visitor Use Brief  
Page 1

MASTER PLAN  
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE  
OF  
HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

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- Chapter 2, Visitor Use Brief  
A. The Area in General  
B. South of the Tallapoosa River  
C. North of the Tallapoosa River

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Prepared by: Edward E. Tinney Date January 15, 1963  
Park Historian

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Recommended: Clarence L. Johnson Date January 25, 1963  
Superintendent

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Concurred: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Eastern Office, Design and Construction

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APPROVED Elbert Cox Date March 8, 1963  
Regional Director, Southeast Region

VOLUME I

Chapter 2. The Visitor Use Brief

Because of the recency of the Park's establishment (August 1959) and the incomplete state of its development, a true pattern of visitor use has yet to be established. With no interpretive facilities to encourage visitation, the Park had an estimated 24,000 visitors in 1960 and an actual count of 15,608 visitors in 1961. The interest evidenced by these figures is remarkable considering that the Park was nothing more than about 2,000 acres of forested land with a few open fields. With completion of some interpretive facilities and the establishment of an interpretive program visitation should increase sharply. This is especially likely because of the Parks' relative proximity to Atlanta and Columbus, Georgia, and Birmingham and Montgomery, Alabama.

Since the Park has neither natural features of unusual interest nor physical evidence of the historic events commemorated, the interpretive facilities and services are of particular importance for an understanding and appreciation of the area's values.

A. The Area in General

All visitors to Horseshoe Bend will arrive by private or rented cars or chartered buses. The only access road is State Highway 49 which leads from U. S. Route 280 near Dadeville, Alabama, about 12 miles south of the Park. Since U. S. 280 is a major route between Chicago and Florida, increased knowledge of the area and an adequate directional sign system could well result in a great increase in transient visitation.

Very limited observation indicates that heaviest visitation occurs between April and August.

Since local schools emphasize the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in their history courses many school groups are to be expected when interpretive facilities and services become available. Since buses are more readily available to rural schools than to urban schools, the former will probably be more heavily represented.

The following is a description of the envisioned plan of visitor use, listing the facilities and services available and identifying by underlining those proposed for the future.

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B. Use of the Area South of the Tallapoosa River

At this time there is no apparent need for interpretive devices south of the river. However, research or additional experience may indicate that such devices are needed.

A directional sign south of the river on U. S. 49 will guide visitors to the Visitor Center.

C. Use of the Area North of the Tallapoosa River

The major interpretive development, and that in highest priority, will be north of the Tallapoosa River, embracing the battleground in the peninsular formed by the "Horseshoe Bend".

The key interpretive development is the Visitor Center located on the south slope of Miller Hill directly behind the position of Jackson's rear guard. This is also the administrative headquarters for the Park, housing offices of Superintendent and staff. At the information desk in the lobby the visitor is offered personal information and orientation service, appropriate free and sales literature. In the exhibit room the visitor receives a synoptic presentation of the battle story and he is encouraged to follow the self guiding vehicular tour through the battlefield area. Each of the vehicular tour stops is served by a roadside parking pull-off.

The visitor stops first at the foot of Cotton Patch Hill. A path leads to an Interpretive Station on the top of this knoll. From this point about two-thirds of the Park including part of the battlefield can be seen. The interpretive exhibit locates and identifies the important landmarks or positions.

Following the tour loop road the visitor stops next at the monument near Gun Hill. Self-guiding trails from the Interpretive Station at this point provide a more detailed interpretation of the battlefield.

At stop three, the site of the Creek Indian village, the Interpretive Station presents the story of the village.

The visitors' last stop on the tour is near and in the rear of the approximate position of the log barricade. Here the visitor will learn the story of the barricade, the assault on it, and the death of Major Lemuel Purnell Montgomery.

After completing the tour the visitor may wish to stop again at the Visitor Center or he may leave the Park. Should archeological research furnish needed information, the site of New Youka may be interpreted as part of the driving tour.

Organized groups are given personal interpretive service when this is possible. School groups are encouraged to give advance notice of their visits. Lunching facilities are available in a roadside picnic area on the north bank of Emuckfaw Creek. This area is administered by the Alabama State Highway Department.

MASTER PLAN  
FOR THE PRESERVATION AND USE  
OF  
HORSESHOE BEND NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

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  - F. Maintenance and Operation of Physical Facilities
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Prepared by: Edward E. Tinney Date January 15, 1963  
Park Historian

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Recommended: Clarence L. Johnson Date January 25, 1963  
Superintendent

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Concurred: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Eastern Office, Design and Construction

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APPROVED: Elbert Cox Date February 12, 1963  
Regional Director, Southeast Region

VOLUME I

Chapter 3. Area Organization Brief

A. General Organization

Within the framework of this approved Master Plan, and under stated delegations of authority, Horseshoe Bend National Military Park functions as a Group A organization as defined in the Administrative Manual. In carrying out its responsibilities within the limits of authority so defined, the Area staff is organized and functions as described below:

Office of SUPERINTENDENT

Directs and is responsible for all functions of the area, including preservation, development, interpretation and use of Horseshoe Bend National Military Park

B. Office of the Superintendent

Function: Direct all operations in the Area to accomplish its mission of dual service to the visitor and to its resources.

Task: Plan, direct, supervise, coordinate, and evaluate all activities performed by the Area staff as follows:

Personnel management and training  
Fiscal management  
Property management  
Protection of resources  
Public services  
Operation and maintenance of facilities  
Minor construction work

March 1963

Participate with offices of Regional Director and Eastern Office of Design and Construction, to the degree defined in and in accordance with procedures described in the Administrative Manual, in the following:

- Long range management and development planning
- Preparation of Master Plan
- Review of Master Plan drawings
- Programming of construction projects
- Supervision of construction projects

Provide membership or liaison with boards, commissions, or other government agencies, of which the following are most important:

State of Alabama

- Governor's Office
- Department of Highways
- Department of Conservation
- Department of Archives and History

Cooperating Society

Horseshoe Bend Battle Park Association, Inc.

(This organization, largely instrumental in having the Park established, has a Board of Trustees with an impressive array of business and professional men, historians and other writers, from Tennessee, Florida, Mississippi, and Louisiana, in addition to Alabama. They plan to retain their Association to cooperate in Park development.)

Federal -- Local representative of the

- Department of Justice (U.S. Attorney's Office)
- Department of the Interior (Fish and Wildlife Service)
- Department of Commerce (Weather Bureau)
- Department of Health, Education and Welfare  
(Public Health Service)

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Organization and Operation: The Superintendent is the officer responsible for all activities within the Park. Headquarters are in the visitor center, and this is the base of operation for the Superintendent and his staff.

Financial accounting and payroll of Park employees will be accomplished by the Southeast Field Finance Office in Richmond, Virginia.

There will be no pronounced seasonal fluctuation in personnel and procurement activities.

Staff Required:

<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Total Existing</u>	<u>Total Long-Range</u>
Superintendent	1	1
Rangers	1	1
Historian	1	1
Park Guide	-	1
Administrative Aid	-	1
Clerk-Stenographer	1	1
Maintenance man	1	1
Caretakers	1	2
Janitor	1	1
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TOTAL PERMANENT	7	10

Seasonal

Ranger Historians (3 months)	-	2 (.5 m.y.)
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Facilities Required:

	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Additional Proposed</u>
Visitor Center		
Office Rooms	4	-
Information Desk	1	-
Exhibit Space	1	(as needed)
Employee Residences	2	3
Maintenance Facilities		
Maintenance Equipment (Stalls)	3	1
Fire Equipment Storage (Stalls)	1	-
Supply Storage (Room)	1	-
Office	1	-
Oil and Paint Storage (Room)	1	-
Tool Storage (Room)	1	-
Work Shop (Room)	1	-

C. Administrative Functions

Function: The Administrative Aid will perform the common administrative services, in accordance with established procedures, for and in the interests of the efficient operation of the entire Park organization.

Assigned Tasks:

Train other personnel in administrative service procedures and skills.

Perform procedures relating to all personnel functions within the authority delegated to the Superintendent.

Effect procedures to ensure that management is currently informed of appropriation utilization, and maintain records necessary to effect control of funds allocated to the Park.

Effect the procurement, and when necessary the storage and issuance of supplies and materials for the Park.

Effect the acquisition and disposal and maintain records of accountability for all equipment and property, except museum collections.

Provide information and advice to the Superintendent and other Division heads on fiscal and personnel matters.

Coordinate and consolidate the Park's budget estimates for submission to the Regional Office.

Maintain mails and files.

Carry out Park responsibility for time, leave, and payroll procedures.

D. Ranger Activities

Function: To protect the Park, its historic and natural features and physical improvements, and to safeguard, aid and inform Park visitors.

Assigned Tasks:

Train personnel in protection and other related skills and procedures.

Control public use of the Park, including its historic, natural and developed features, and promote proper and safe use of the Park.

Plan and apply measures for the prevention and control of damage to Park resources and physical improvements by fire, insects, diseases, soil erosion and other agencies.

Provide information to Park visitors.

Provide services to safeguard and assist Park visitors.

Enforce rules and regulations applicable to the Park.

Promote favorable public relations with Park neighbors and visitors.

Advise the Superintendent and his staff on matters relating to protection of the Park and visitors and control of use of the Park.

E. Interpretation

Function: To determine, assemble and present the National Military Park and its resources so as to guide in protecting these resources and enriching visitor experience.

Assigned Tasks:

Train personnel in the procedures and skills utilized in Interpretation. Inform other personnel on the resources of the Park.

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Coordinate or perform research in the field of history and, to a lesser extent, prehistory.

Prepare and publish technical and popular publications.

Preserve historical and archeological materials; maintain museum records and study collections.

Maintain Park library, photographic files, and audio-visual materials.

Plan and operate the Park's interpretive program, including operation and curatorial service of the visitor center museum, self-guiding trails, audio-visual programs, conducted trips, trailside and roadside exhibits.

Maintain cooperative relationships with educational and historical organizations concerned with knowledge and interpretation germane to the Park.

Advise the Superintendent and other personnel on matters pertaining to interpretation, and those relating to the preservation of historical resources or materials.

F. Maintenance and Operation of Physical Facilities Division.

Function: To operate and maintain the physical facilities in a manner contributing to the efficient functioning of the Park staff, to the welfare of the visitors and to the preservation of park resources.

Assigned Tasks:

Operate utility systems, building equipment, and other physical facilities.

Maintain roads, trails, buildings, grounds, equipment, and utility systems (except telephone and power systems maintained by a public utility company).

Supervise maintenance contracts on roads, buildings, grounds, equipment, and utilities.

Perform or supervise maintenance of fixed audio-visual installations.

Carry out a continuous inspection and planned maintenance program for park facilities.

Conduct or supervise training programs for maintenance and operation personnel.

Organization and Operation: The maintenanceman, under the supervision of the Superintendent, directs and coordinates the activities of the Division.

Since the Horseshoe Bend National Military Park is operated all year, the area requires a permanent staff supplemented by a seasonal staff to assist in the maintenance of developed facilities during the heaviest travel season which is summer.

Some major maintenance projects are performed by contract.

Telephone and electric power service and the maintenance of these utilities are provided by local public utility companies.

Staff Required:

<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Total Existing</u>	<u>Total Long-Range</u>
Maintenanceman	1	1
Caretakers	1	2
Total permanent	2	3
 <u>Seasonal</u>		
Laborers	-	1 (.5 m.y.)

Facilities Required:

Equipment (Stalls)	3	1
Supply Storage (Room)	1	-
Office (Room)	1	-
Oil and Paint Storage (Room)	1	-
Tool Storage (Room)	1	-
Work Shop (Room)	1	-

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XX. Concessions

The visitor will remain in the Park only a few hours at the most, and concessioner operated facilities and services are unnecessary for visitors' use and enjoyment of the Park.