



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

March 12, 2011

Notice to file:

This property has been automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This is due to the fact that the publication of our Federal Register Notice: "National Register of Historic Places: Pending Nominations and Other Actions" was delayed beyond our control to the point where the mandated 15 day public comment period ended after our required 45 day time frame to act on the nomination. If the 45th day falls on a weekend or Federal holiday, the property will be automatically listed the next business day. The nomination is technically adequate and meets the National Register criteria for evaluation, and thus, automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Ringgold Gap Battlefield
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number White Oak Mountain, east of Ringgold and north of Interstate 75, and not for publication
the northeast face of Taylor Ridge south of Interstate 75
city or town Ringgold vicinity
state Georgia code GA county Catoosa code 047 zip code 30736

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this 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 meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

for Dr. David C. Crass 12-31-10
Signature of certifying official/Title: Dr. David C. Crass/Historic Preservation Division Director/Deputy SHPO Date

Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

David C. Crass 3/12/11
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Ringgold Gap Battlefield
 Name of Property

Catoosa County, Georgia
 County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
 (Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	5	buildings
1	0	sites
2	5	structures
1	0	objects
4	10	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Chickamauga-Chattanooga Civil War-Related Sites, 1863-1947, Georgia and Tennessee

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- Defense: battle site
- Transportation: rail-related, pedestrian-related
- Landscape: natural feature
- Recreation and Culture: monument/marker

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- Transportation: rail-related, road-related
- Landscape: natural feature
- Recreation and Culture: monument/marker
- Government: government office, public works

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE; BRICK
 walls: STONE; BRICK; CONCRETE
 roof: ASPHALT
 other: BRONZE

Narrative Description

Ringgold Gap Battlefield

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(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The 110-acre Ringgold Gap Battlefield contains a series of ridges and bottoms and the gap between White Oak Mountain and Taylor Ridge located immediately east of the small city of Ringgold in Catoosa County in northwest Georgia. The Battle of Ringgold Gap was a Civil War engagement fought on November 27, 1863, between portions of the Union Army's XII Corps under the command of Major General Joseph Hooker and the Confederate States of America (C.S.A.), Army of Tennessee under the command of Major General Patrick Cleburne. The main Confederate line occupied the ridges below modern-day Clearview Drive on the southwest face of White Oak Mountain. Confederate artillery and infantry were placed in the gap on the north side of the Western & Atlantic Railroad (now CSX). A third Confederate line was located on the north end of Taylor Ridge south of South Chickamauga Creek. Deploying near the railroad, elements of the Union Army's XII Corps (approximately 12,000 soldiers) launched at least two coordinated attacks upon the west face of White Oak Mountain and into Ringgold Gap. Confederate defenders (approximately 4,100 soldiers) repulsed both assaults. The state of New York in 1898 erected a monument to commemorate the actions of the New York Brigade, participant in the battle. The Works Progress Administration began construction in 1939 of a Wayside Park that was later completed in 1947 by the National Park Service. Ringgold Gap was widened during the late 1960s during the construction of Interstate 75. Despite the construction of houses and industrial facilities during the 20th century along the crest of White Oak Mountain and near Taylor Ridge, the core area of the battle site remains intact. A noncontributing water treatment plant and Interstate 75 are located within the proposed National Register boundary.

Narrative Description

NOTE: The following description was written by Joseph E. Brent, consultant, Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. "Ringgold Gap Battlefield" draft National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, September 30, 2006. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia. The nomination was prepared for the Catoosa County Historical Society with funding provided by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). Minimal editing for clarification was made by Gretchen Brock, National Register & Survey Program Manager, Historic Preservation Division.

The Battle of Ringgold Gap was fought primarily along the heights of White Oak Mountain and Taylor Ridge just east of the town of Ringgold, Georgia. Confederate soldiers held the high ground and it was up to the attacking Federal soldiers to dislodge them. The nominated area is approximately 110 acres. It is located generally along the southwest face of White Oak Mountain, the north face of Taylor Ridge, and in the bottom land of Ringgold Gap on either side of present-day Interstate Highway 75. The nominated area extends approximately one and four-tenths miles along the ridges. Most of the battle site is north of the gap, although a portion extending south of Interstate 75 is also included in this nomination.

The two ridges, White Oak Mountain and Taylor Ridge, range in elevation from 390 to 400 feet above mean sea level and extend in a northeasterly direction just east of Ringgold in Catoosa County, Georgia (photographs 18 and 19). Ringgold Gap, from which the battle takes its name, is the division between Taylor Ridge and White Oak Mountain. The natural gap was formed by South Chickamauga Creek and was widened in the 1960s by the construction of Interstate 75. Geographically, Ringgold Gap is the widest and most accessible pass in that section of the North Georgia mountains. The nearest western pass, for example, is more than 30 miles away. During the 19th century, while the area was still governed by the Cherokee Indians, the Old Federal Road traveled through Ringgold Gap. Today, U.S. Highway 41 retraces the Old Federal Road's path through the gap. Beginning in the 1850s, trains operating on the Western & Atlantic Railroad passed through the gap transporting goods and passengers to and from Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Atlanta, Georgia. The extant CSX rail line is essentially the same alignment as the former Western & Atlantic route. From pre-white settlement through the present day, Ringgold Gap has played an important role in access through the North Georgia mountains.

Contributing Resources

The Battle Site – Located east of the city of Ringgold in Catoosa County, Georgia, the Ringgold Gap Battlefield is approximately 110 acres of land along White Oak Mountain and Taylor Ridge, which includes the natural gap between the

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mountains. The main Confederate line was located along the ridge on the west face of White Oak Mountain facing the town of Ringgold (photographs 22-27). From a point approximately 100 feet southwest of the intersection of Clearview and Forest drives extending southwest across the face of White Oak Mountain, is the area that was held by the Confederate infantry. The Confederates were on the military crest of the mountain, that is, they were not on the top of the ridges but approximately 20 feet lower. Confederate artillery was placed in the gap on the north side of the railroad. The position was backed by infantry that was placed behind the field guns. A third line of Confederate infantry was on the north end of Taylor Ridge just south of South Chickamauga Creek. Deploying near the railroad, the Union soldiers attacked up the west face of White Oak Mountain at least twice but the assaults were repulsed. Another attack was made into the Ringgold Gap area, generally between South Chickamauga Creek and the railroad.

A portion of the South Chickamauga Creek bottom in the gap just southwest of White Oak Mountain also remains. This area saw intense fighting. Some industrial development has occurred in this area and the city of Ringgold has constructed a small water filtration complex in this area. However, a large portion of the bottom retains integrity.

The gap is clearly visible. It has been widened by the construction of I-75, however it is nonetheless recognizable as Ringgold Gap (photographs 13 and 14). An industrial park has been developed near the battle site on Taylor Ridge but is outside of the boundary.

South Chickamauga Creek, Depot Street (historically the Old Federal Road), and the railroad still pass through the gap. The 1850s stone railroad depot (listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 30, 1978) still stands in Ringgold just west of the nominated area (outside of the boundary). The modern alignment of U.S. Highway 41/76 was shifted to the north of the railroad, yet it still goes through the gap. The railroad right-of-way appears unchanged from its 1863 configuration (photographs 2, 11, and 12).

In the mid- to late 20th century, houses were built on the top of the ridge along present-day Clearview Drive; the National Register boundary generally follows the rear lot line of these properties. Although single-family houses were constructed along the top and western base of White Oak Mountain, the battlefield still retains good integrity (photographs 17 and 20). The battlefield is counted as one contributing site.

The New York Brigade Monument – Located on the northwest corner of the water treatment plant property is a granite and bronze monument erected in 1898 by the state of New York. The monument marks the advance position held by Union Colonel David Ireland's New York Brigade during the November 1863 battle of Ringgold Gap (photographs 15 and 16). The monument is approximately 11 feet tall and sits on a plot of ground 50 feet square. The monument is a contributing object.

The Railroad – The Western & Atlantic Railroad (now CSX) was a major transportation artery for the Confederacy during the Civil War. The railroad was one of the earliest built in Georgia and it retains good integrity. As noted above, the antebellum depot remains in Ringgold (outside of the boundary and listed in the National Register of Historic Places). The railroad is a contributing structure.

Ringgold Gap Wayside Park—On the south side of U.S. Highway 41 is a small roadside park (photographs 3-10). In the late 1930s, the U.S. National Park Service began constructing a series of five rock-enclosed waysides between Ringgold and Atlanta to commemorate the 1864 Atlanta Campaign. Waysides were constructed in Ringgold, Rocky Face, Resaca, Cassville, and New Hope. Two National Park Service landscape architects, Walter Ewald and [unknown] Frost, designed the five waysides. In 1947, artist John Steinichen received the contract to design bronze plaques for the five waysides and the foundry at the Georgia Institute of Technology cast the markers. The Ringgold Gap Wayside was constructed to interpret the end of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Campaign and the opening phase of the Atlanta Campaign. The park is a 4.26-acre tract of land owned by the state of Georgia. The wayside park was begun by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1939 and completed in 1947 by the National Park Service.

The main feature of the wayside park is a stone wall approximately three feet high that forms a half circle approximately 100 feet in diameter. A bronze plaque 50 by 38 inches is displayed on a six-by-19-foot flagstone located prominently in the center of the eastern wall. The marker depicts the route of Sherman's Atlanta Campaign from Chattanooga, Tennessee, to Atlanta, Georgia, and lists the five wayside marker sites. The text of the marker reads:

THE ATLANTA CAMPAIGN
MAY 7 – SEPTEMBER 2, 1864
RINGGOLD GAP

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Here a Federal advance position / Was maintained / During the winter 1863-1864 / With the main force / Concentrated at Chattanooga. / Sherman moved South / Through this Gap, May 7, 1864 / To begin the Atlanta Campaign. / He captured Atlanta / Four months later, September 2, / And reached the coast / At Savannah, December 21. / This movement split the Confederacy in two, / Destroyed military resources, / Centers of supply, And hastened / The end of the war.

There are two additional markers north of the wall, one erected by the state of Georgia and the other by the National Park Service. Several c.1947 concrete picnic tables flank the north and south ends of the wayside enclosure. The Wayside Park is a contributing structure.

Noncontributing Resources

Ringgold Water Treatment Plant Complex – This noncontributing complex occupies approximately two acres on the north bank of South Chickamauga Creek. The complex consists of one noncontributing building and three noncontributing structures (photograph 16, left). The complex has a main building with water treatment facilities, a large storage pole barn, a concrete storage shed, and a mound of earth capped by a concrete slab. The main building is a two-story, brick, utilitarian building with aluminum casement windows and steel doors. The façade features raised aluminum letters that read "Ringgold Georgia Water Treatment Plant." The building dates to the mid-20th century and has open-air water treatment facilities to the rear. Southeast of the main building is a mound of earth approximately 100 x 100 feet. The earthen mound is capped with a slab of rectangular concrete. North of the main building is a five-bay, metal, pole barn. This large structure, approximately 50 to 70 feet in length, is open on the north face and is used to store vehicles and other large equipment. West of the main building is a concrete structure that appears to be the remains of what was once a more complex building. The poured-concrete structure is approximately 12 feet high and some 24 feet wide. It has two bays and is open on the southern face. It is currently being used for storage.

Georgia Forestry Commission Building – On the north side of U.S. Highway 41 across from the WPA roadside park is a grey, frame, utilitarian building built on a concrete slab foundation. The building is of mid-20th century origin and is used by the Georgia Forestry Commission for office and storage space. The building is noncontributing.

Late 19th- to Early 20th- Century House (see map #3 and map #4, parcel 52)--Between the railroad and U.S. Highway 41 southeast of the wayside park is a vacant house. The one-story, frame, gabled-ell cottage appears to date from the late 19th to early 20th century. Because it is outside the period of significance for this nomination and no other information is known at this time about the property, it is considered a noncontributing building.

Fire Tower Complex—The fire tower complex is located off of Clearview Road on White Oak Mountain (see map #1). The complex is owned by the Georgia Forestry Commission and consists of two noncontributing buildings and one noncontributing structure. The fire tower is a metal-frame tower, standing approximately 100 feet high, and is topped by a lookout post. Below the fire tower is a concrete utility building with a flat roof. This building is approximately ten by eight feet and approximately seven feet high. This building appears to be of mid-20th-century construction. Southeast of the fire tower is a concrete-block storage building. This building appears to be of mid-20th-century construction. It has an end gable roof with asphalt shingles. There is a single door on the front of the structure and two small windows on either side. It is approximately 20 feet long and six feet wide.

Water Tank Complex—The water tank complex is located south of the fire tower complex (see map #1) and consists of two noncontributing structures, a water tank and pump house. The water storage tank is a white, cylindrical, metal storage tank approximately 50 feet high. It appears to be of mid- to late-20th-century construction. The pump house is a small concrete-block building, approximately six by ten feet, with an end-gable asphalt shingle roof.

The area surrounding Ringgold Gap Battlefield is a mixture of development. To the west of White Oak Mountain is the city of Ringgold, which is comprised of historic and nonhistoric residential and commercial properties. To the east of White Oak Mountain is low-density, mid- to late-20th-century residential development. On the south end of the site to the west of Taylor Ridge is nonhistoric industrial development and to the south and east of Taylor Ridge is the Chattahoochee National Forest.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Military
- Social History
- Art
- Landscape Architecture

Period of Significance

1863, 1898, 1938-1947

Significant Dates

- November 1863: Battle of Ringgold Gap
- 1898: placement of New York monument
- 1938-1939: design and construction of Ringgold Gap Wayside Park
- 1947: completion of Ringgold Gap Wayside Park

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cleburne, Major General Patrick Ronayne (1828-1864)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance corresponds to the three significant resources within the boundary: the site of the battle of Ringgold Gap in November 1863; the placement of the commemorative marker to the New York Brigade; and the beginning and completion of the commemorative Ringgold Gap Wayside Park by the National Park Service 1938 to 1947.

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The New York Brigade Monument and the Ringgold Gap Wayside Park within the Ringgold Gap Battlefield National Register boundary meets National Register Criteria Consideration F for commemorative properties because their primary importance derives from the late 19th- and early 20th-century efforts to mark and commemorate people and events associated with the American Civil War. In particular, these places are directly associated with efforts in the late 1880s by veterans groups lobbying for recognition and preservation of places associated with the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Campaign in Tennessee and Georgia. These efforts led to the National Park Service establishing the nearby Chickamauga-Chattanooga Military Park in 1890 and, beginning in 1938, a series of five wayside parks marking the Atlanta Campaign.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

On November 24-25, 1863, Union Army forces, under the command of Major General Ulysses S. Grant, routed the Army of Tennessee (C.S.A.), under the command of General Braxton Bragg, at the battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge near the city of Chattanooga, Tennessee. The defeat forced the Confederate army to retreat into north Georgia and through Ringgold Gap in the hopes of reorganizing in the city of Dalton (Whitfield County). With portions of the Union Army in pursuit, Bragg ordered Major General Patrick Cleburne to defend Ringgold Gap to allow the Army of Tennessee's escape. On November 27, 1863, portions of the Union Army XII Corps made at least two coordinated assaults upon Confederate defenses along White Oak Mountain, Ringgold Gap, and Taylor Ridge. Cleburne's skilled defense repulsed the Union assault resulting in over 500 enemy casualties at a loss of more than 200 defenders. The battle site is significant in the area of military history because the Confederate victory preserved the Army of Tennessee and required Union commanders to halt their advances until the start of the Atlanta Campaign in the spring of 1864. Cleburne and his soldiers received an official letter of gratitude issued by the C.S.A. Congress for their actions. The victory also contributed to Cleburne's fame as the Confederacy's "Stonewall of the West." The site is also significant in the areas of art, landscape architecture, and social history because the design and form of the New York monument and the Ringgold Gap Wayside Park represent distinctive periods of the public art of Civil War commemoration in America.

The Ringgold Gap Battlefield nomination is significant at the state level of significance because the Battle of Ringgold Gap played a major role in sustaining the Army of Tennessee (C.S.A.) in Georgia following the rout at the battle of Missionary Ridge in Tennessee. The battlefield and commemorative sites were evaluated within the context of Civil War battlefields and Civil War commemoration in Georgia.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Ringgold Gap Battlefield is significant in the area of military and meets National Register Criteria A and B for its direct association with the battle of Ringgold Gap, which marked the end of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Campaign, and its direct association with the Confederate victory under the leadership of Major General Patrick Cleburne. The Confederate victory at the gap, skillfully executed by Cleburne against larger Union forces, required the Union commanders to halt their advance until the spring of 1864 and the start of the Atlanta Campaign. The battle of Ringgold Gap led to Cleburne's reputation as the "Stonewall of the West."

On Ringgold Gap Battlefield on November 27, 1863, Union and Confederate troops battled for control of Ringgold Gap, the only direct pass through the North Georgia mountains between Chattanooga and Atlanta. The battle at Ringgold Gap marks the end of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Campaign and it was here that a Confederate stand allowed the retreating Army of Tennessee and its supply wagons to escape south to Dalton, Georgia, halting Union General Joseph Hooker's advance.

In the previous days, the Confederate army had suffered devastating losses in Tennessee. On November 24th and 25th Union forces under the command of Major General Ulysses S. Grant, routed General Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee at the battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge outside of Chattanooga, Tennessee. The defeat forced the Confederate army to retreat into north Georgia and through Ringgold Gap in the hopes of reorganizing in the city of Dalton in Whitfield County. With portions of the Union army in pursuit, orders from General Braxton Bragg were to "tell General Cleburne to hold his position at all hazards, and keep back the enemy, until the artillery and transportation of the army is

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secure, the salvation of which depends on him."¹ Born in County Cork, Ireland, on March 16, 1828, Cleburne was an Irish Protestant who immigrated to the United States in 1849 and settled in Helena, Arkansas. He viewed the South as his homeland and is one of the few Civil War soldiers who rose to the rank of general after initially enlisting as a private.

At Ringgold, Cleburne skillfully deployed his division of 4,157 soldiers in a manner that maximized the advantages of the area's terrain. The bulk of his force was placed along the northwest face of White Oak Mountain. The Confederates took positions behind rock outcroppings and hastily cleared as much vegetation as possible from their line of site. Cleburne defended the gap with two cannon and about 1,000 of his most veteran infantrymen from his home state of Arkansas. The scene in this part of the field was chaotic as Confederate supply wagons and artillery caissons continued to move through the gap right up until the start of battle. Cleburne cautiously posted three companies of infantry atop Taylor Ridge in case the Federals attempted to flank the infantry's position. The position at Taylor Ridge, at an altitude of 400 feet, also enabled Cleburne to use deadly "enfilade fire" (flank fire) upon Federals approaching the right side of the Confederate line.

The retreating Confederates were being pursued by three Union divisions of infantry (approximately 12,000 soldiers) under the command of Major General Joseph Hooker. Hooker was a West Point graduate and veteran of the Seminole and Mexican wars. In January 1862, President Abraham Lincoln appointed Hooker to command the Army of the Potomac, the Union's largest command. After failing to defeat Confederate General Robert E. Lee at the Battle of Chancellorsville and refusing to pursue Lee as he invaded Pennsylvania, Hooker lost his command and was sent west as punishment.

On November 26, 1863, Hooker's troops entered the town of Ringgold at dusk. Hooker hastily established his headquarters at the Whitman House (outside of the boundary) and observed Confederate positions. Hooker mistakenly believed that the gap was only defended by a small detachment of Confederate cavalry. At 3:00 AM, Hooker's forward regiments marched into the gap after forming lines in front of the Ringgold train depot (outside of the boundary).

Cleburne waited until the Federals were within less than 100 yards and opened fire. Hooker mistakenly believed that the Confederates had only defended the gap and ordered the bulk of his troops to flank the gap along White Oak Mountain. As Union soldiers climbed the steep hillside, which in some places had a 45-degree incline, Confederates unleashed a deadly fire upon the advancing columns. At daybreak, Hooker was confident that the Confederates could be dislodged and ordered a second assault but again was unable to overtake the Confederate's superior position.

Cleburne's victory was a significant event in American military history. His victory provided the Army of Tennessee with enough time to reorganize and resupply at Dalton. His skilled defense repulsed the Union assault resulting in over 500 Federal casualties. The Union army was forced to halt its pursuit of the routed Confederates, thus prolonging the war through the winter of 1863 and directly leading to the spring 1864 Atlanta Campaign. Had Cleburne failed to hold Ringgold Gap, the Union army would have captured the Confederate army and began to march southward on to Atlanta and beyond uncontested. Cleburne received an official letter of gratitude from the Confederate Congress in recognition of the importance of his victory at Ringgold Gap. On February 9, 1864, Cleburne and his men received a

... commendation "for distinguished service" [that] read: Resolved, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered to Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne, and the officers and men under his command, for the victory obtained by them over superior forces of the enemy at Ringgold Gap, in the State of Georgia, on the 27th day of November, 1863, by which the advance of the enemy was impeded, our wagon train and most of our artillery saved, and a large number of the enemy killed and wounded.²

The battle also contributed to Cleburne's fame as the Confederacy's "Stonewall of the West."

Despite the widening of Ringgold Gap in the 1960s as a result of the construction of Interstate 75 and the construction of houses and industrial facilities in the modern period, the core area of the battlefield remains intact and the terrain, rock outcroppings, and the gap itself are retained and represent direct associations with the events of November 1863. According to the 1997 *Chattanooga Area Civil War Sites Assessment* report, although the construction of Interstate 75 altered the face of Taylor Ridge and straightened the South Chickamauga Creek, "despite these changes, much of the

¹ Howell and Elizabeth Purdue, *Pat Cleburne: Confederate General, A Definitive Biography* (Hillsboro, TX: Hill Jr. College Press, 1973), 255.

² *Ibid.*, 263.

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core area of the November 27, 1863 battlefield remains intact... Much of the steep wooded land between the base and crest of White Oak Mountain remains undeveloped and resembles its wartime appearance."³

The Ringgold Gap Battlefield is also significant in the area of art, landscape architecture and social history because the design and form of the New York monument and the wayside park represent distinctive periods of the public art of Civil War commemoration in America. National commemoration of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Campaign began with veterans' groups lobbying for the preservation of the battlefields in the 1880s. In 1890, Congress approved the creation of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park and the park was dedicated in 1895.

In evaluating the New York monument according to the registration requirements for commemorative properties in the *Chickamauga-Chattanooga Civil War-Related Sites, 1863-1947, Georgia and Tennessee, Multiple Property Documentation Form*, the monument is significant in the areas of art and social history and meets National Register Criteria A and C and Criteria Consideration F for commemorative properties. The location, materials, and design of the monument are unchanged from its placement in 1898. Typical of commemorative monuments from the time period, the monument is in the form of a large rough-hewn slab of granite resting on a granite base. The marker is 11 feet tall with inset bronze plaques on each face of the slab. The plaque is a circular bronze seal of the state of New York above a bronze shield with raised letters listing the brigade and the date of the battle. The monument represents the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Campaign commemorative period of 1890 to 1947, which began with the National Park Service's creation of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Military Park in 1890 and ends with the completion of the five wayside parks in 1947. The 1898 New York monument was erected by the state of New York at the site to mark and commemorate the forward advance position of the brigade. The monument is the only Civil War monument standing on the site of an engagement during the battle of Ringgold Gap.

In evaluating the Ringgold Gap Wayside Park according to the registration requirements for commemorative properties in the *Chickamauga-Chattanooga Civil War-Related Sites, 1863-1947, Georgia and Tennessee, Multiple Property Documentation Form*, the wayside is significant in the areas of art, landscape architecture, and social history and meets National Register Criteria A and C. The park as a commemoration site dates to c.1937 when the National Park Service began negotiations with Georgia state officials to place five waysides with historical markers to interpret and memorialize the Atlanta Campaign along the existing highway route between Chattanooga and Atlanta. Waysides were to be constructed in Ringgold, Rocky Face, Resaca, Cassville, and New Hope. The battle of Ringgold Gap marked the end of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Campaign and the beginning of the Union's Atlanta Campaign. Ringgold Gap was chosen as the first of the five waysides. National Park Service architects prepared plans by late 1938 and Works Progress Administration (WPA) workers would build the waysides. Construction on the waysides began in late 1939, but the project remained unfinished at the end of the WPA agency in 1942. Construction resumed in 1947 by the National Park Service and the Ringgold Gap Wayside was the first of the five to be completed in 1947. Two National Park Service landscape architects, Walter Ewald and [unknown] Frost, designed the five waysides. In 1947, artist John Steinichen received the contract to design bronze plaques for the five waysides and the foundry at the Georgia Institute of Technology cast the markers. The main feature of the wayside park is a stone wall approximately three feet high that forms a half circle approximately 100 feet in diameter. A bronze plaque, located prominently in the center of the eastern wall, depicts the battle at Ringgold Gap and beginning of the Atlanta Campaign. By providing an open-air interpretation and picnic tables, the waysides along U.S. Highway 41, the route of the Dixie Highway, combined Civil War commemoration with the rise of automobile tourism in the early to mid-20th century.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

NOTE: The following developmental history was written by Joseph E. Brent, consultant, Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. "Ringgold Gap Battlefield" draft *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, September 30, 2006. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia. The

³ Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency, et. al., *Chattanooga Area Civil War Sites Assessment* (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 1997), 26.

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nomination was prepared for the Catoosa County Historical Society with funding provided by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). Minimal editing for clarification was made by Dr. Keith Hébert, Historian, and Gretchen Brock, National Register & Survey Program Manager, Historic Preservation Division.

Battle of Ringgold Gap

The battle of Ringgold Gap marked the end of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Campaign, which lasted from September through November 28, 1863, and the beginning of the Union Army's march to Atlanta in the spring of 1864. On November 24-25, 1863, Union army forces, under the command of Major General Ulysses S. Grant, routed the Army of Tennessee (C.S.A.), under the command of General Braxton Bragg, at the battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge around the city of Chattanooga, Tennessee. The defeats forced the Confederate army to abandon the area and retreat into north Georgia and through Ringgold Gap towards the city of Dalton in Whitfield County. There, the Confederates hoped to reorganize. The Union pursuit was slow and General Bragg's soldiers delayed Union troops by destroying bridges between Chattanooga and Ringgold.⁴

The Confederate army reached Ringgold in the early morning hours of November 27, 1863. Bragg ordered Major General Patrick Cleburne to defend Ringgold Gap long enough for the Army of Tennessee with its wagon, ordnance trains, and artillery to escape further south. The task of holding Ringgold Gap fell to Cleburne and the 4,157 men under his command.⁵

Cleburne used his soldiers and the terrain to his advantage. He placed infantry along the ridges on either side of the gap; skirmishers were placed at the foot of each ridge and more infantry was placed further up the slope. The 7th Texas Infantry held the crest of White Oak Mountain overlooking the Western & Atlantic Railroad, Old Federal Road, and the gap to the south. Brigadier General Lucius Polk's and Brigadier General Mark P. Lowrey's brigades were distributed in a north-south line on the west face of White Oak Mountain. Cleburne positioned his artillery to command the route through the gap. He placed two 12-pounder Napoleons near the base of White Oak Mountain on the north side of the rail line and had the artillerists conceal the guns with branches. Two brigades of infantry were placed with the artillery. Colonel Daniel C. Govan's Arkansas brigade was positioned just behind the guns and Lowrey's brigade was placed behind Govan's men to act as a reserve.⁶

Major General Joseph Hooker was in command of the Union XII Corps of approximately 12,000 soldiers, who marched into Ringgold following the retreating Confederate army. In the preceding days, Hooker's success at Lookout Mountain forced the Confederates to withdraw from the mountain across Chattanooga Valley, which led to a Union victory at Missionary Ridge. Hooker looked forward to rounding up what he characterized as an enemy "in full retreat." Hooker's troops crossed South Chickamauga Creek and moved toward Ringgold. Hooker was forced to leave artillery behind, as the promised pontoon bridges had not arrived. Careful note of the missing artillery was made in his later report.⁷

Cleburne placed a screen of cavalry and a few infantrymen at the two main crossings of the South Chickamauga Creek north of Ringgold with orders to make only token resistance and then retreat back to town. When Union troops approached the crossings, the Confederates opened fire. After firing a volley and skirmishing for a short time, the Confederate soldiers retreated back through town and into the gap. Cleburne's ruse worked. At least one source noted that Union Brigadier General Peter J. Osterhaus, one of Hooker's brigade commanders, believed that cavalry could seize the gap. Perhaps it was the overconfidence that came with the success in Chattanooga but whatever the reason, Hooker, who had no artillery, decided to press the fight, hoping to capture the Army of Tennessee.⁸

Hooker made his headquarters at the Western & Atlantic Railroad Depot in Ringgold. From there he could watch the fighting unfold on the heights east of town. At 8:00 AM Osterhaus set the battle in motion. His first brigade led the initial

⁴ Keith S. Bohannon, *Preservation Plan for the Ringgold Gap, Ga. Battlefield* (Ringgold, GA: Catoosa County Historical Society, 1997), 7-8.

⁵ Wiley Sword, *Mountains Touched With Fire: Chattanooga Besieged, 1863* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995), 335.

⁶ *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Series I Volume XXXI/2 (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1890), 758-759. Hereafter cited as *Official Records*

⁷ Sword, 335, and *Official Records*, 319-320.

⁸ Bohannon, 8-9, and *Official Records*, 321.

Ringgold Gap Battlefield

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assault. The 13th Illinois pushed into the gap and the Missourians, Ohioans, and Iowans attacked the western slopes of White Oak Mountain.

Cleburne had planned a ". . . cushioned, multi-tiered defense, where successive layers of troops might absorb an enemy attack or be available to rush to any threatened point."⁹ Cleburne's design worked well. Osterhaus formed his men at the foot of White Oak Mountain and began a general assault on the Confederate position. After Osterhaus bogged down, Hooker ordered a second brigade into battle. This was the 1st Brigade 2nd Division of XII Corps (66th and 7th Ohio, 28th and 147th Pennsylvania) under the command of Colonel William R. Creighton. Creighton's orders were to get on Osterhaus' left and flank the Confederates.¹⁰

If anything, Creighton's move up the side of White Oak Mountain only made matters worse for the Union troops. As Union troops advanced up steep terrain, Brig. Gen. Lucius Polk ordered the 1st Arkansas north along the ridge to meet the assaulting troops. The Arkansas soldiers slugged it out with the 76th Ohio until help arrived in the form of Brig. Gen. Mark P. Lowrey's brigade. "I knew that nothing but the most prompt and rapid movement could save the position," Lowrey later wrote. Lowrey brought the 32nd and 45th (consolidated) Mississippi Regiment into line in support of the 1st Arkansas. Colonel A. B. Hardcastle deployed his Mississippians on either side of the 1st Arkansas regiment and opened fire on the 66th and 7th Ohio troops in the draw below them (see Attachment 1).¹¹

Two Iowa regiments also inched their way up to the position of the 76th Ohio and from a sheltered position traded fire with the Confederates. The 4th Iowa had been trailing the 76th Ohio and was closest to that regiment. The two Union regiments suddenly found themselves in a hot fight. The 32nd and 45th Mississippians along with the 15th Mississippi Sharpshooter battalion flanked the Union troops in the ravine. Confederate firepower took its toll on the beleaguered Union soldiers.

Eight color bearers of the 76th Ohio were killed and their regimental flag lost. The 4th Iowa fared little better, losing 31 men killed and a flag to the Confederates on the ridge. The two battered Union regiments slowly backed down the hill, taking shelter below the crest.¹²

Reinforcements were sent to relieve the 76th Ohio and 4th Iowa. Colonel James A. Williamson led his brigade of Iowa troops east out of Ringgold and marched them across the open field between the railroad and White Oak Mountain. The additional regiments extended the Union line, stretching it to the south. The soldiers once again tried to advance on the Confederates who held the top of the ridge.¹³

Cleburne reinforced the line on top of the ridge and extended it to the north. In the meantime, a second Federal brigade under Colonel William R. Creighton (147th and 28th Pennsylvania and the 7th and 66th Ohio) began their ascent of White Oak Mountain. These soldiers were from the Army of the Potomac and were determined to show the westerners how to fight. Despite warnings from Col. Williamson's officers that an advanced unit would be caught in crossfire, the brash easterners pushed forward, through the line of the 25th Iowa. Standing there in line of battle, the 7th Ohio met Cleburne's right. In minutes, 12 of the 13 officers of the 7th Ohio were down. Worse, the Iowa soldiers behind them could not fire for fear of hitting the Ohioans. The surviving officer of the 7th Ohio wrote, "The regiment nearly gained the crest of the hill, within a few yards of the rebel breastworks, when their fire became too heavy for flesh and blood to stand." Creighton ordered his men back, but it was too late. Panic had set in and the survivors made for the rear.¹⁴

Creighton's brigade advanced in two lines with the 7th Ohio and 147th Pennsylvania in the lead. The 147th Pennsylvania moved north of the 7th Ohio, around the flank of the 25th Iowa, and took cover in a natural fortification after the 7th Ohio was routed. The maneuver did little good for the 174th Pennsylvania. By pushing the 7th Ohio from the field, the Confederates were able to flank the Pennsylvanians as well. The retreat became a general retreat as the panicked men rushed through the ranks of those behind them. Officers tried to rally the men but without much success. Some men re-formed behind a

⁹ Sword, 335.

¹⁰ *Official Records*, 403.

¹¹ *Official Record*, 768-769, and Mark Lowrey, "An Autobiography," *Southern Historical Society Papers*, Volume XVI, January-December, 1888, 370.

¹² Sword, 339, and Bohannon, 22-23.

¹³ Sword, 339, and Bohannon, 23-24.

¹⁴ Sword, 340, and *Official Record*, 418.

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stone wall east of the railroad, at the base of the ridge. Most of the soldiers did not stop until they had reached the railroad cut.¹⁵

Further south closer to the narrower portion of the gap, another brigade of Union soldiers tested the Confederate position on White Oak Mountain. Brigadier General Charles R. Woods' brigade was between Creighton and the gap. Woods sent two regiments of Missouri troops, the 12th and 31st across the open ground as skirmishers. These soldiers were soon under heavy fire. Woods then sent the 29th Missouri in support.¹⁶

Woods' Missourians ran into portions of Confederate Colonel Hiram B. Granbury's Texas brigade. The brunt of the fighting was taken by the 17th, 18th, 24th, and 25th Texas under Major W. Taylor's command. Taylor shifted his command and deployed a portion of it on his flanks and caught the Missourians in crossfire. Taylor attacked. The fire of the Texans was too much and the Missouri soldiers retreated in confusion. Cleburne's Confederates had beaten back Hooker's initial assault on the ridge.¹⁷

With the Missourians in full retreat, Brig. Gen. Woods sent in his last two brigades, the 76th Ohio and the 13th Illinois, to the left and right respectively. It was on the Union right that the Confederate artillery came into play. Cleburne had concealed Lieutenant Richard W. Goldthwaite's 16th Alabama battery such that, "the position occupied by the guns commanded a clear and open view of the ground over which the enemy were forced to advance." Cleburne, who had dismounted and taken a position with the gunners, waited until the 13th Illinois had gotten to within 50 yards of their position before ordering the artillery to open fire. The result was immediate and devastating. The 13th Illinois took a brutal beating. Additional fire from a regiment of Confederate infantry opened on the Federals, forcing them to retreat to the barn on the Jobe farm (no longer extant) where all they could do was hold on and fire.¹⁸

Hooker had one brigade left and he called for it to move forward. Colonel David Ireland's brigade had been in waiting, sheltered behind the stone depot west of the gap in the town of Ringgold. This time Hooker was going to plug the gap. Around 11:00 AM Ireland's New Yorkers moved out, crossing one-half mile of open ground before they reached the Jobe farm. "Here our men were subject to a galling fire from sharpshooters, secreted on Taylor's Ridge; also from a piece of artillery the enemy had in the gap"¹⁹

The 13th Illinois ran out of ammunition and abandoned the barn to the New Yorkers. Ireland's brigade was now in position to fire. The 16th Alabama, deployed on Taylor Ridge, exchanged fire with the New Yorkers across South Chickamauga Creek. The New Yorkers sent skirmishers into the creek and the main body prepared to cross. The 16th Alabama drove the skirmishers back across the creek, forcing the New Yorkers to take cover behind the farm buildings on Jobe's Farm. From their covered positions, the New York soldiers drove the Alabamians back up the ridge (Attachment 2).²⁰

Goldthwaite's gunners fired at Ireland's brigade only to be driven from their guns. "Poor fellows! That was a fearful blast! It went full into the head of their column. Our guns continued for some time, volley after volley."²¹ The 5th, 13th, 8th and 19th Arkansas regiments fired from the ravines and creek banks, effectively keeping Ireland's soldiers in check. The Confederate artillery fired when the opportunity presented itself. The battle eventually became a stalemate, both sides settling into a sharpshooters duel. Shortly after noon, Cleburne received word from Lieutenant General William J. Hardee that the Confederate army and wagon trains were safe and he could withdraw his troops. Cleburne withdrew from Taylor Ridge and moved one mile to the rear. About the same time, Hooker's artillery finally arrived and troops were concentrating in Ringgold. Cleburne surmised that Hooker was preparing to advance with a larger force on the Confederate flanks. The Arkansas regiments remained in place, holding Ireland's men at bay for another hour, covering the Confederate brigade withdrawal.²²

¹⁵ Peter Cozzens, *The Shipwreck of Their Hopes: The Battles for Chattanooga* (Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1994), 381-382.

¹⁶ *Official Record*, 608.

¹⁷ *Official Record*, 778, and Sword, 341.

¹⁸ *Official Record*, 778, and Cozzens, 375-376.

¹⁹ *Official Record*, 438, and Sword, 341.

²⁰ Cozzens, 383, and Bohannon, 35.

²¹ P. D. Stephenson, "Reminiscences of the Last Campaign of the Army of Tennessee, May 1864, to January, 1865," *Southern Historical Society Papers*, Volume XII, Nos., 1-2, January-February, 1884, 38.

²² *Ibid.*

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Retreat and Aftermath

Cleburne used the terrain to mask his withdrawal. He pulled Polk's and Lowrey's brigades off of White Oak Mountain and sent them out first. He then slowly extricated his whole command, although Union artillery opened up a short volley on the Confederate positions in the gap. The battle ceased shortly after 2:00 PM. General Joseph Hooker, who had begun the battle in a very aggressive manner, had lost 507 men during the approximate two-and-a-half-hour battle on November 27th. Cleburne's losses were 20 killed, 190 wounded, and 11 missing out of the 4,157 troops in the fight.

At Ringgold, Cleburne chased three Union brigades off the mountain and stalemated a fourth. Hooker had expected to meet discouraged soldiers in disarray. Instead, he met an aggressive, motivated rear guard. He failed to crush Cleburne's force and, as a result, Confederate General Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee was able to retreat unimpeded into Georgia along with the army's wagon trains and artillery. Union Major General Grant called off the pursuit at Ringgold, although the next day he sent a raiding party south to wreck track and burn railroad bridges. Grant's focus instead became the Federal garrison at Knoxville, Tennessee. For his work in Ringgold, Cleburne received a commendation from the Confederate Congress.²³

On the night of November 27th, Cleburne's troops had moved south to Tunnel Hill, Georgia, three miles south of Ringgold towards Dalton, serving as the rear guard while the Army of Tennessee pushed on to Dalton, Georgia. Union soldiers from Sherman's command were sent south to tear up the railroad. When the Union army abandoned Ringgold, Georgia, on November 30, 1863, they burned the town. The local people were told it was a military necessity. The hotel, gristmills, private dwellings, courthouse, and jail were set afire. The destruction devastated the town and demoralized its residents.²⁴

With winter weather and impassible roads, fighting ceased. The Union army wintered in the Chattanooga, Tennessee area, which became a vital storage and staging area leading up to the spring and summer 1864 Atlanta Campaign. The Army of Tennessee quartered in Dalton and the surrounding area. On November 30 1863, General Braxton Bragg was relieved of his command and General William J. Hardee received temporary command of the army until December 27, 1863, when General Joseph E. Johnston was placed in command. Cleburne and his troops remained in Tunnel Hill over the winter to block any Union advance south.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Brent, Joseph E., consultant, Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. "Ringgold Gap Battlefield" draft *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, September 30, 2006. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

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²³ Sword, 343; Paul M. Angle, editor, *Three Years in the Army of the Cumberland, Letters and Dairy of James A. Connolly*, reprint edition, (Bloomington, IN: University of Indiana Press, 1987), 160, and Thomas Lawrence Connelly, *Autumn of Glory: The Army of Tennessee, 1862-1865* (Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 1971), 276.

²⁴ Sword, 350-351, and Angle, 160.

Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Name of Property

Catoosa County, Georgia
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Christman, Abbey and Tara Mitchell Mielnik, students, Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University. "Ringgold Gap Battlefield Wayside" draft *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, November 22, 1999. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

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Cozzens, Peter. *The Shipwreck of Their Hopes: The Battles for Chattanooga*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1994.

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Stephenson, P. D. "Reminiscences of the Last Campaign of the Army of Tennessee, May 1864, to January 1865." *Southern Historical Society Papers*, Volume XII, No. 1-2. Richmond, Virginia, January-February, 1884.

Sword, Wiley. *Mountains Touched With Fire: Chattanooga Besieged, 1863*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995.

War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Series I Volume XXXI/2. Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1890.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 110 acres.
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>673590</u>	<u>3866177</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

3	<u>16</u>	<u>673761</u>	<u>3864087</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

2	<u>16</u>	<u>673783</u>	<u>3866205</u>
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4	<u>16</u>	<u>672949</u>	<u>3864418</u>
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Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Name of Property

Catoosa County, Georgia
County and State

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The National Register boundary is indicated on the attached tax maps drawn to scale with a heavy, black line.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nomination includes an approximately 110-acre tract of land that encompasses the core area of the battle of Ringgold Gap that retains its historic integrity. The boundary includes the ridge along White Oak Mountain south to U.S. Highway 41, the Western & Atlantic Railroad (now CSX), South Chickamauga Creek, crosses Interstate 75 that runs through Ringgold Gap, and the north face of Taylor Ridge.

11. Form Prepared By

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organization Historic Preservation Division, GA Dept. of Natural Resources date October 28, 2010
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organization Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. date January 9, 2007
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city or town Versailles state KY zip code 40383
e-mail jbrent1@alltel.net

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Name of Property: Ringgold Gap Battlefield
City or Vicinity: Ringgold

Ringgold Gap Battlefield

Catoosa County, Georgia
County and State

Name of Property

County: Catoosa

State: Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart, Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

Date Photographed: May 2009

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

NOTE: Photographs 1-28 document the nominated battle site. Photographs 29-37 document the setting of the battle site outside the National Register boundary.

- 1 of 37 Ringgold Gap, view of U.S. Highway 41 looking towards the town of Ringgold; photographer facing northwest.
- 2 of 37 View of north face of Taylor Ridge from between U.S. Highway 41 and the Western & Atlantic (now CSX) rail line; photographer facing south.
- 3 of 37 Ringgold Gap Wayside Park, U.S. Highway 41; photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 37 Ringgold Gap Wayside Park, U.S. Highway 41; photographer facing south.
- 5 of 37 Ringgold Gap Wayside Park, detail of National Park Service Marker and Georgia Historical Marker, U.S. Highway 41; photographer facing southwest.
- 6 of 37 Ringgold Gap Wayside Park, detail of Georgia Historical Marker, U.S. Highway 41; photographer facing southwest.
- 7 of 37 Ringgold Gap Wayside Park, detail of National Park Service Marker, U.S. Highway 41; photographer facing southwest.
- 8 of 37 Ringgold Gap Wayside Park, U.S. Highway 41; photographer facing southwest.
- 9 of 37 Ringgold Gap Wayside Park, detail of bronze Atlanta Campaign plaque, U.S. Highway 41; photographer facing southwest.
- 10 of 37 Ringgold Gap Wayside Park, detail of bronze Atlanta Campaign plaque, U.S. Highway 41; photographer facing southwest.
- 11 of 37 View of Western & Atlantic (now CSX) rail line in Ringgold Gap; photographer facing east.
- 12 of 37 View of Western & Atlantic (now CSX) rail line in Ringgold Gap; photographer facing northwest.
- 13 of 37 View of Interstate 75 looking towards Ringgold Gap; photographer facing west.
- 14 of 37 View of Interstate 75 in Ringgold Gap; photographer facing northwest.
- 15 of 37 1898 New York Brigade monument; photographer facing southwest.
- 16 of 37 1898 New York Brigade monument; photographer facing southwest.
- 17 of 37 View of Clearview Road (outside of district boundary); photographer facing northeast.
- 18 of 37 View of town of Ringgold from the top of White Oak Mountain ridge; photographer facing northwest.
- 19 of 37 View of ravine from the top of White Oak Mountain ridge; photographer facing northwest.
- 20 of 37 View of White Oak Mountain from outside of district; photographer facing northeast.
- 21 of 37 View of White Oak Mountain from outside of district; photographer facing northeast.
- 22 of 37 View of rock formations on White Oak Mountain; photographer facing north.
- 23 of 37 View of rock formations on White Oak Mountain; photographer facing north.
- 24 of 37 View of rock formations on White Oak Mountain; photographer facing northeast.
- 25 of 37 View looking down White Oak Mountain; photographer facing west.
- 26 of 37 View looking down White Oak Mountain; photographer facing west.
- 27 of 37 View looking down White Oak Mountain; photographer facing west.
- 28 of 37 View of road bed on White Oak Mountain; photographer facing northwest.

The following photographs are outside of the National Register boundary:

- 29 of 37 View of Ringgold Depot; photographer facing northeast.
- 30 of 37 View of Ringgold Depot and rail line; photographer facing north.
- 31 of 37 View of rail line at U.S. Highway 41; photographer facing northeast.
- 32 of 37 View from the west side of Ringgold looking towards gap and White Oak Mountain; photographer facing northeast.
- 33 of 37 Georgia Historical Society marker at the Whitman-Anderson House in Ringgold; photographer facing west.
- 34 of 37 Whitman-Anderson House, 309 Tennessee Street, Ringgold (listed in the National Register on October 5, 1977); photographer facing west.
- 35 of 37 View of Ringgold Gap from Interstate 75; photographer facing east.

Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Name of Property

Catoosa County, Georgia
County and State

- 36 of 37 View of Ringgold Gap from Interstate 75 west of the city; photographer facing east.
37 of 37 View of Ringgold Gap from Interstate 75 west of the city; photographer facing east.

Sponsor of nomination:

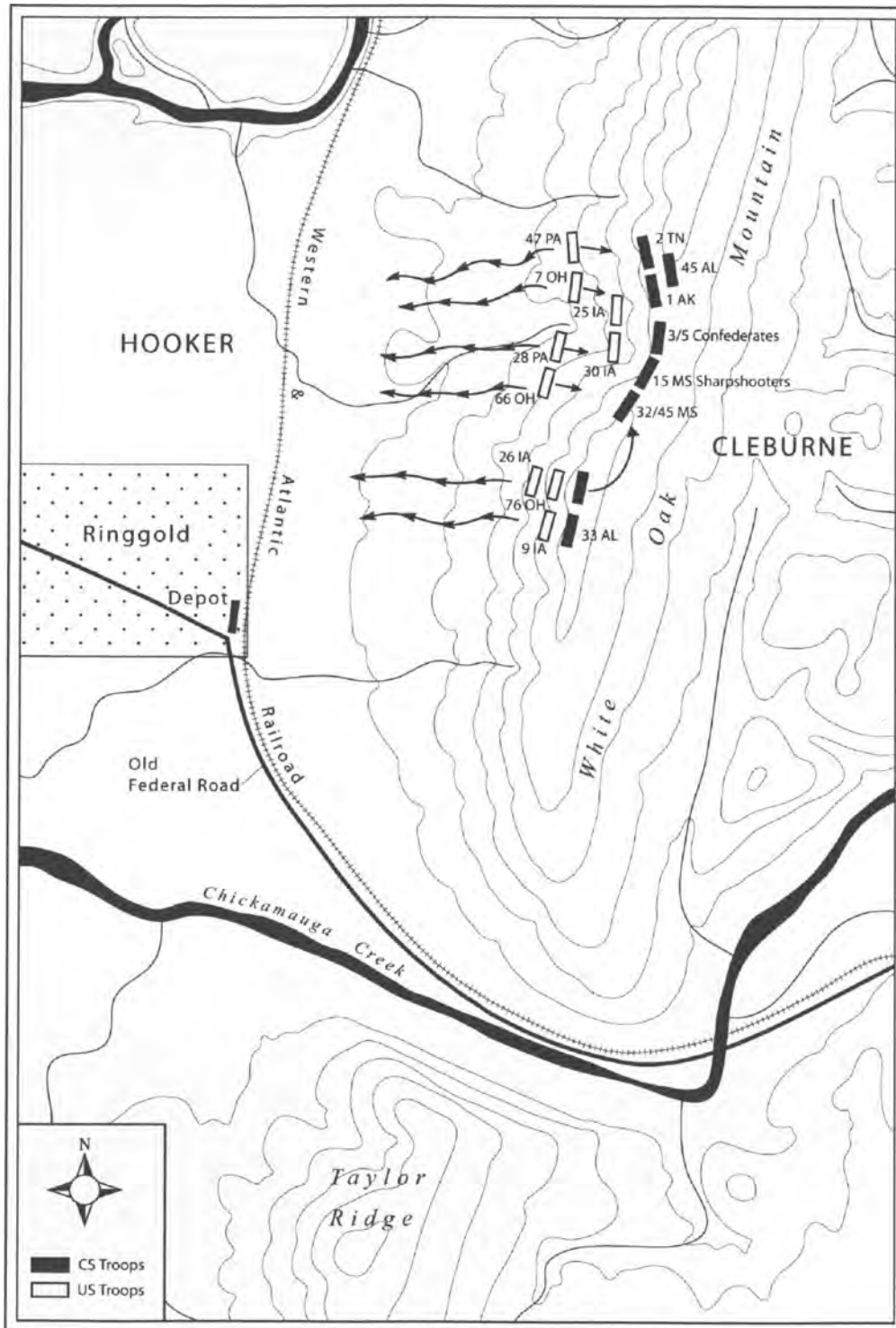
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Sarah Roach, president, Catoosa County Historical Society
street & number 132 Pleasantview Drive telephone (706) 935-9282
city or town Ringgold state GA zip code 30736

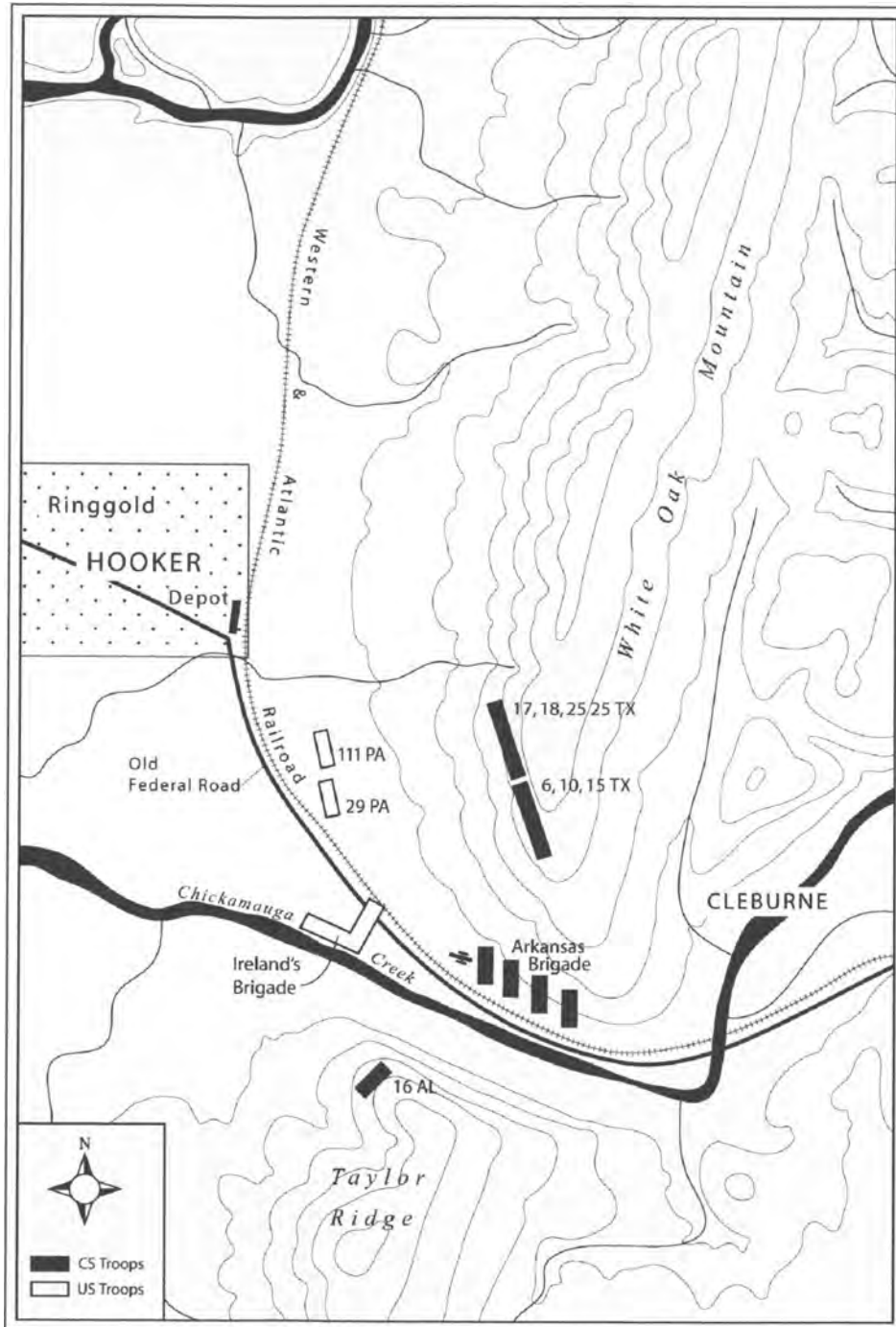
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

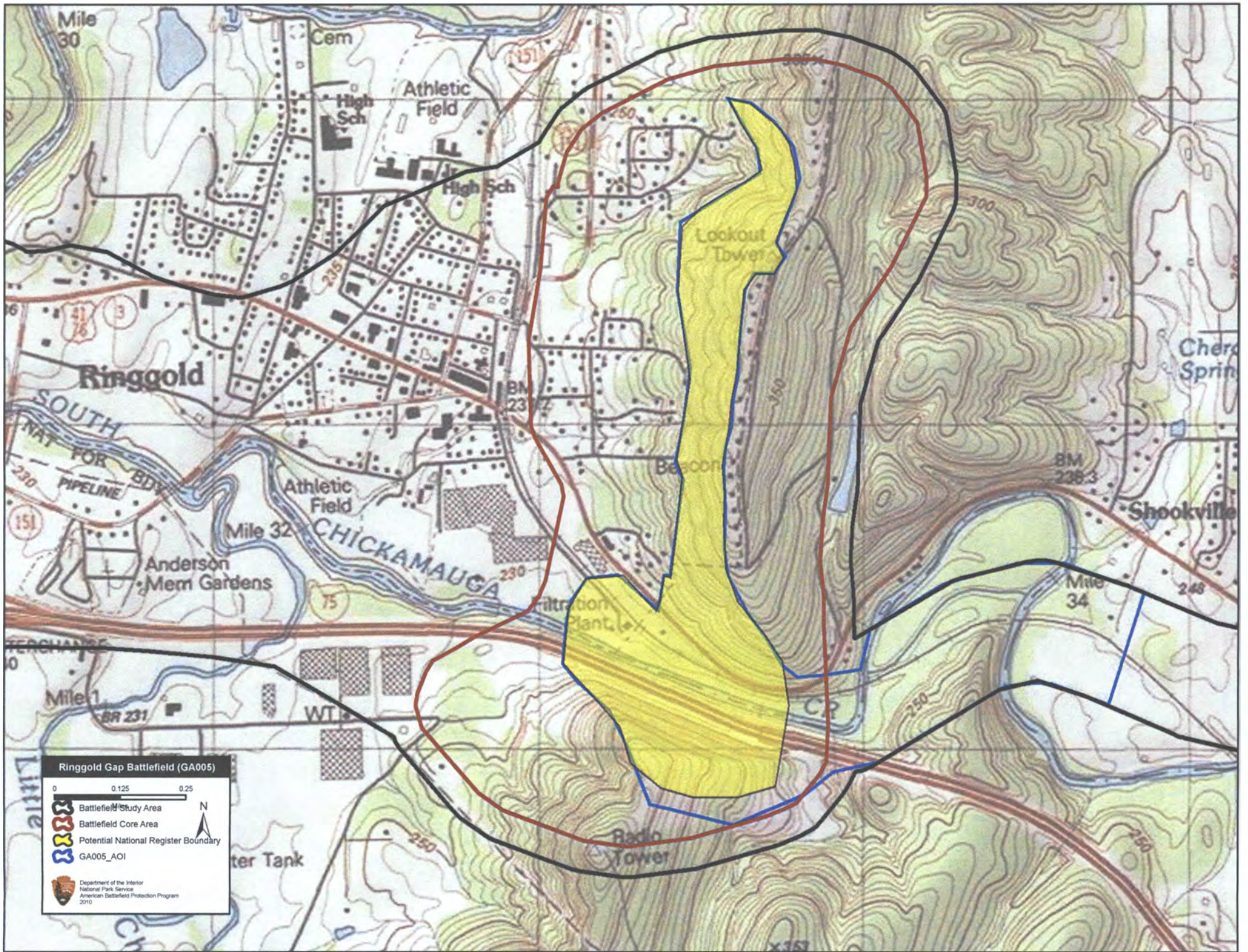
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Attachment 1: Union attack on northern end of White Oak Mountain (provided by Joseph E. Brent, Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc., September 30, 2006.)







Attachment 2: Union attack into Ringgold Gap (provided by Joseph E. Brent, Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc., September 30, 2006.)





Ringgold Gap Battlefield (GA005)

0 0.125 0.25

-  Battlefield Study Area
-  Battlefield Core Area
-  Potential National Register Boundary
-  GA005_AOI

 Department of the Interior
National Park Service
American Battlefield Protection Program
2010

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Ringgold Gap Battlefield

MULTIPLE NAME: Chickamauga-Chattanooga Civil War-Related Sites in Georgia and Tennessee MPS

STATE & COUNTY: GEORGIA, Catoosa

DATE RECEIVED: 1/25/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/02/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/17/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/12/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000079

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: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/12/11 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

State-level well written battlefield nom. has also included WPA commemorative elements of the Civil War site.

RECOM./CRITERIA A, B, C

REVIEWER USA Delone

DISCIPLINE Historic

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 3/12/11

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.



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 1 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 2 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 3 of 37



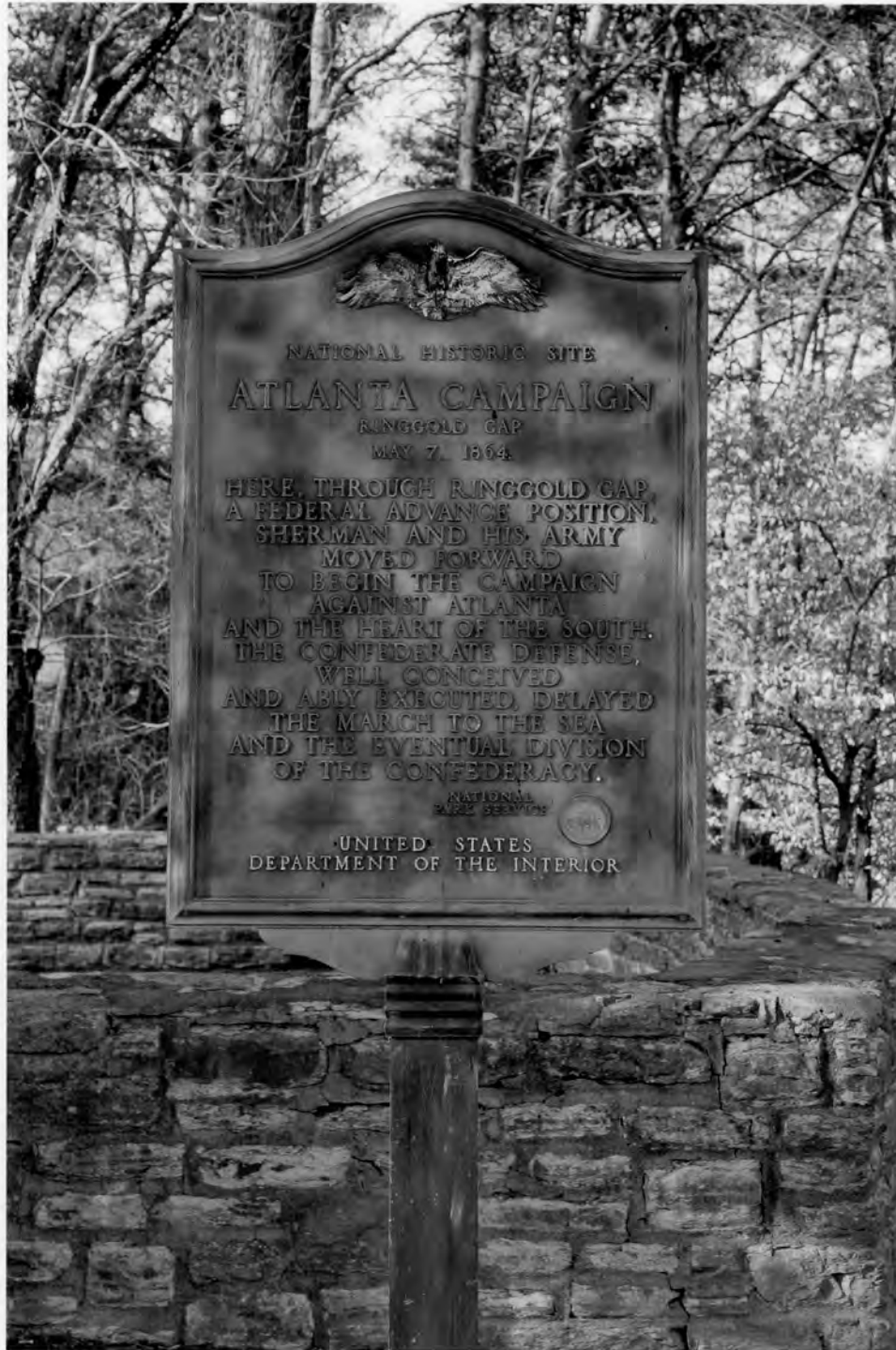
Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 4 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 5 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED] Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 6 of 37



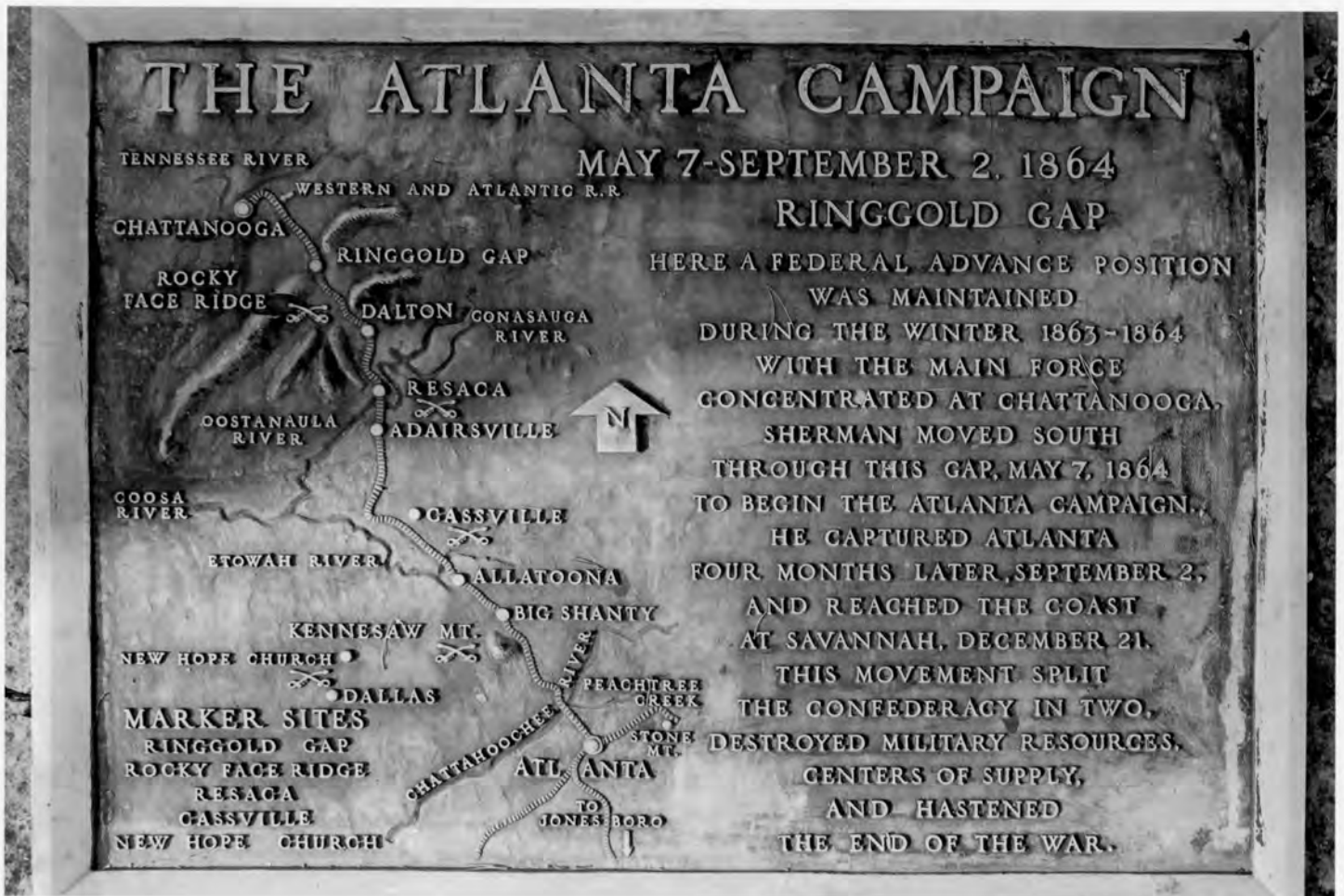
Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 7 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED] Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 8 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 9 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold ████████, Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 10 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 11 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 12 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 13 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 14 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 15 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold ~~County~~, Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 16 of 37



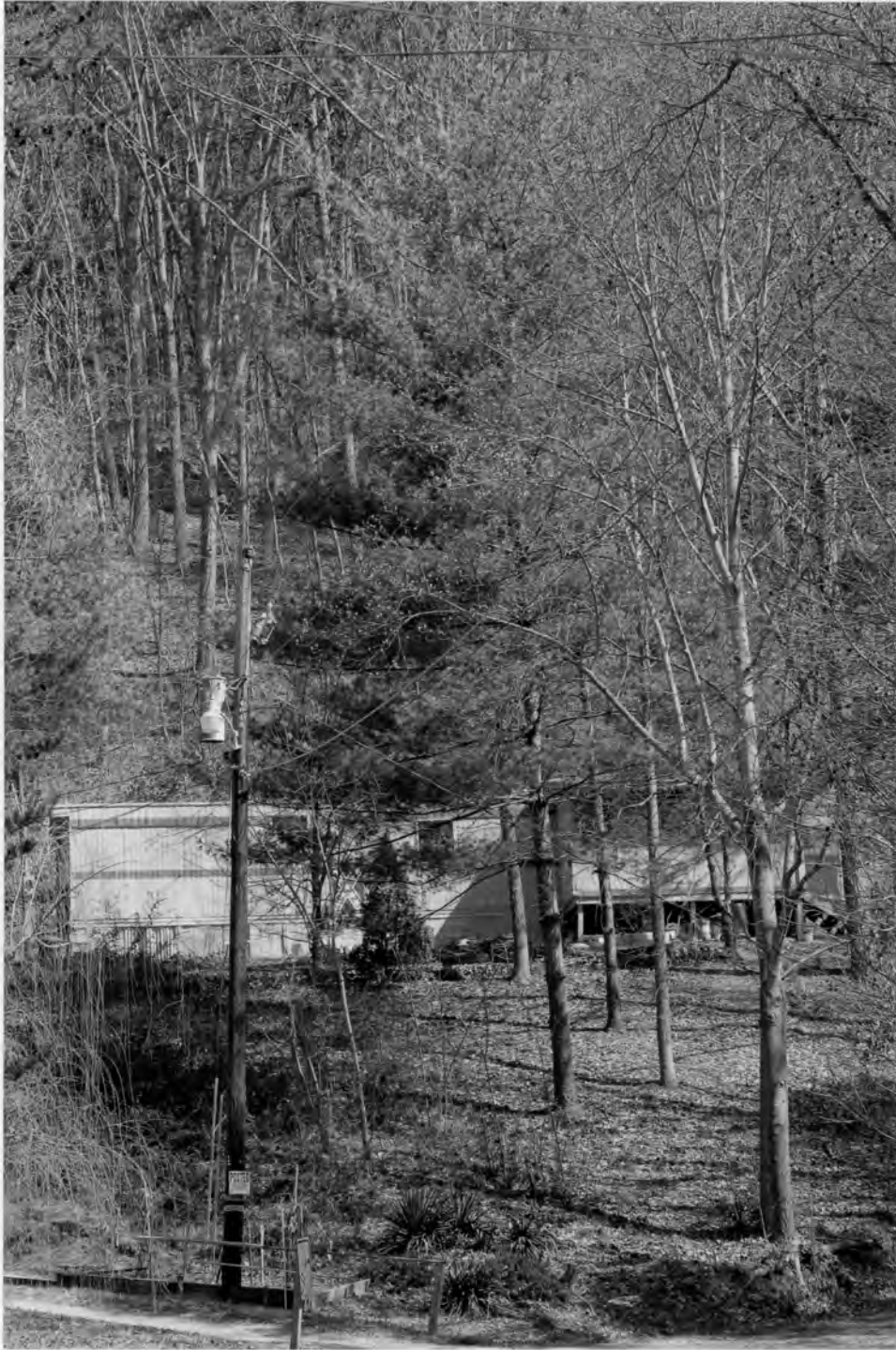
Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 17 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 18 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 19 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 20 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 21 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 22 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 23 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 24 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 25 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 26 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 27 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 28 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 29 of 37



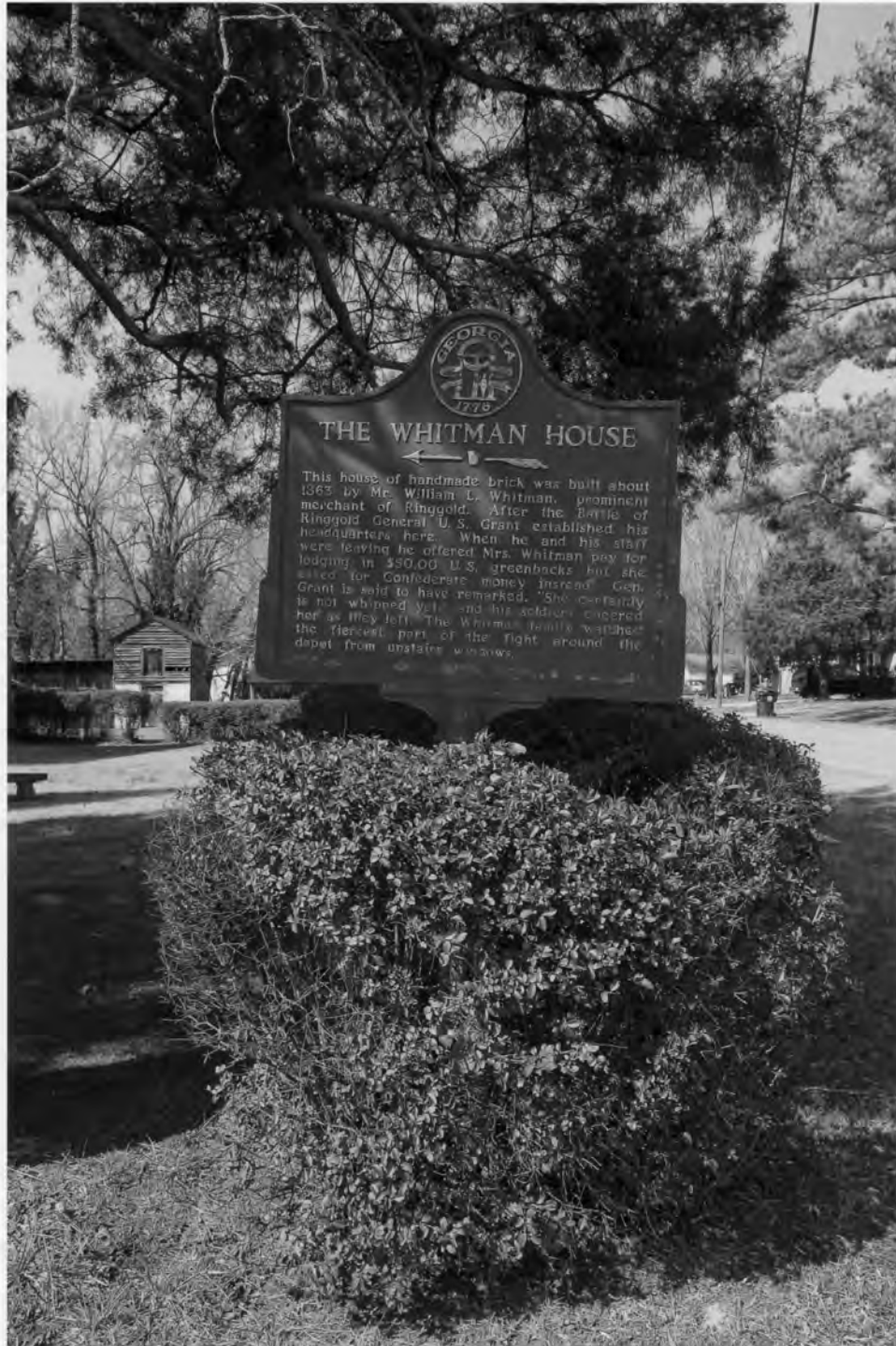
Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED] Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 30 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 31 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 32 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 33 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 34 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 35 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 36 of 37



Ringgold Gap Battlefield
Ringgold [REDACTED], Catoosa County, Georgia
Photograph 37 of 37





DATE	REVISION	REVISION	BY	REMARKS:	CATOOSA COUNTY, GA.		
				SEE MAP #2	CITY OF RINGGOLD		
					MAP R9		
					DIST:	SCALE: 1" = 100'	DATE:
					MAP #1		

RINGGOLD GAP BATTLEFIELD
 CATOOSA COUNTY, GEORGIA
 NATIONAL REGISTER MAP 1 OF 4
 NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY:
 PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW:
 SCALE: 1" = 100'
 NORTH: ↑
 SOURCE: CATOOSA COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

SEE MAP #1

OUTSIDE OF BOUNDARY

OUTSIDE OF BOUNDARY

RINGGOLD GAP BATTLEFIELD
CATOOSA COUNTY, GEORGIA
NATIONAL REGISTER MAP 2 OF 4
NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY:
PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: 
SCALE: 1" = 100'
NORTH: 
SOURCE: CATOOSA COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

CATOOSA COUNTY, GA.
CITY OF RINGGOLD
MAP R10

DIST: SCALE: 1" = 100' DATE:

MAP #2

SEE MAP #3

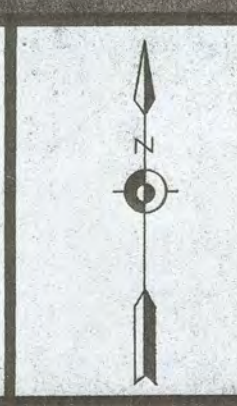
DATE	REVISION	BY	DATE	REVISION	BY	REMARKS





END	(55) SUBDIVISION LOT NUMBER
	21 TAX PARCEL NUMBER
	"6" BLOCK NUMBER
	SCHOOL OR COLLEGE
	CHURCH AND CEMETERY
	ADJOINING MAP NUMBER

Aerial photography was flown March 9, 1993 for the Catoosa County Tax Assessors Office.
 Furnished by RILEY, PARK, HAYDEN & ASSOCIATES, INC., ATLANTA, GEORGIA.
 The County assumes no responsibility for the legal accuracy of information contained herein.





DATE	REVISION	BY	DATE	REVISION

BY RINGGOLD GAP BATTLEFIELD
 CATOOSA COUNTY, GEORGIA
 NATIONAL REGISTER MAP 3 OF 4
 NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY:
 PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW:
 SCALE: 1" = 100'
 NORTH: ↑
 SOURCE: CATOOSA COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

CATOOSA CO
 CITY OF RI
 MAP
 DIST: SCALE: 1" = 1

MAP #3



RINGGOLD GAP BATTLEFIELD
 CATOOSA COUNTY, GEORGIA
 NATIONAL REGISTER MAP 4 OF 4
 NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY:
 PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: 
 SCALE: 1" = 400'
 NORTH: 
 SOURCE: CATOOSA COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

SEE MAP #3

SEE MAP #4

SEE MAP #3-A

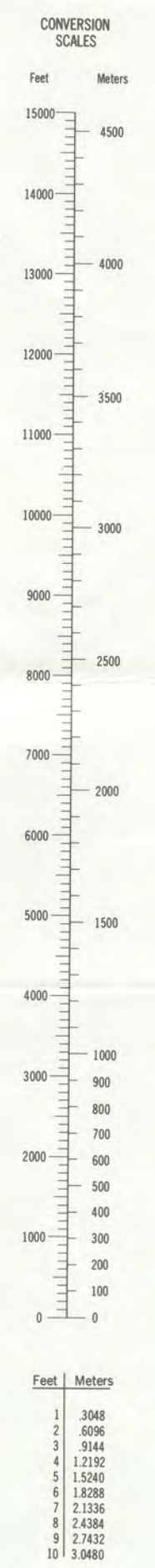
DATE	REVISION	BY	DATE	REVISION	BY

REMARKS:

MAP #4

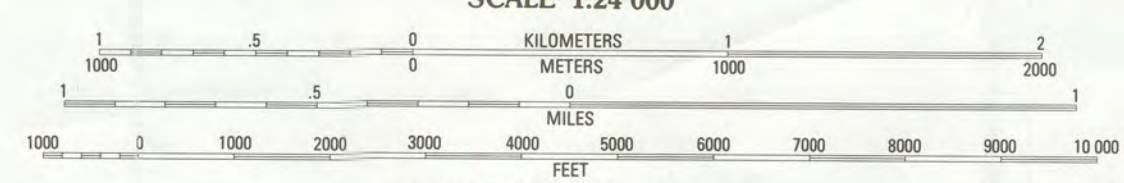
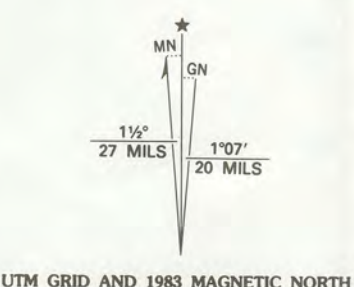


RINGGOLD GAP
BATTLEFIELD
CATOOSA COUNTY,
GEORGIA
A) 1673590/
3866177
B) 1673783/
3866205
C) 1673761/
3866087
D) 1672949/
3864418

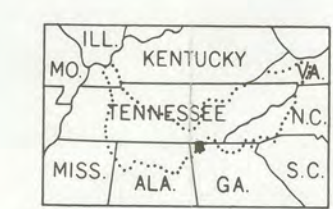


Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, Tennessee Valley Authority, and
Georgia Geologic Survey

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1975. Field checked 1975. Map edited 1983
Supersedes USGS-TVA map dated 1946
Projections: Georgia coordinate system, west zone (transverse
Mercator). 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Georgia coordinate
system, west zone, and Tennessee coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 16
1927 North American Datum. To place on the predicted North
American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 5 meters south
and 3 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092,
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, DIVISION OF GEOLOGY, NASHVILLE, TENN. 37219,
AND U. S. TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY, CHATTANOOGA, TENN. 37401, OR KNOXVILLE, TENN. 37902
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION (TVA 113-NE)
Primary highway, hard surface Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface Unimproved road
Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route

RINGGOLD, GA.—TENN.
34085-H1-TM-024
1983
DMA 3953 1 NE—SERIES V845

Gladys P. Bowman

MAY 26 2009

PO Box 791
Ringgold, Georgia 30736

RECEIVED

To: W. Ray Luce
Division Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Division
Department of Natural Resources
34 Peachtree Street, NW
Suite 1600
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2316

Re: LT 13 Clearview Hgts & adjacent property
Map Code R0110-026-000
District 02 City of Ringgold
Location: 715 Clearview Drive
Ringgold, Georgia 30736

Dear Mr. Luce,

I am the sole owner of the above-referenced private property and wish to inform you that I object to any listing of my property on the National Register of Historic Places.

It is my understanding that if I so object to any such listing that my property on White Oak Mountain, Ringgold Gap area of Catoosa County, Georgia, will not be listed.

Please, do not include my property in any such listing.

Sincerely,

Gladys P. Bowman
Gladys P. Bowman

5-21-09
Date

Signature witnessed by Notary Public:

Lanette Hamill
Name (printed)

Lanette Hamill
Signature

5-21-09
Date

My Commission Expires: 6-7-09



GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

DR. DAVID CRASS
DIVISION DIRECTOR

January 18, 2011

J. Paul Loether
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W. 8th floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Please find enclosed the following nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for your consideration:

Ringgold Gap Battlefield, Catoosa County, Georgia

The proposed nomination was funded by an American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) grant to the Catoosa County Historical Society and was prepared by a consultant. At the time that our office received the first draft of the nomination in 2007, it was not clear whether property owners within the proposed National Register boundary were notified and consented to the proposed nomination. In October 2008, Catoosa County Historical Society confirmed that the property owners were informed about the proposed district and were supportive. Prior to presenting the nomination at our June 2009 Review Board meeting, our office officially notified property owners of record within the National Register boundary and received one official, notarized objection, which is enclosed.

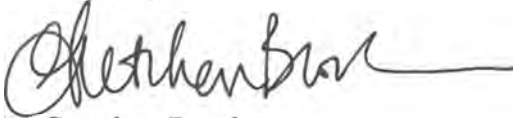
At the June 2009 Review Board meeting, the board recommended that the battlefield be nominated at the national level of significance because of its association with Major General Patrick Cleburne (CSA) and as a result of his actions halting the advance of Union troops at Ringgold Gap, the Union army was forced to hold off the advance to Atlanta until the following spring. However, our office does not believe that the case for national significance has been made in the nomination as written and does not have the resources at this time to make the case for national significance. We would, of course, support any future effort to nominate the resource at the national level of significance.

In addition, our office revised the nomination to include as contributing properties, with corresponding periods of significance, the 1898 New York monument and the 1938 Ringgold Gap Wayside Park because of the direct association of these resources with the battle and the fact that both resources are located within the proposed boundaries. Our office also made minor revisions to the nomination to include additional information about the importance of Patrick

Cleburne; clarified the proposed National Register boundary and maps to more accurately reflect the current legal boundaries of properties; corrected descriptions and locations of resources; and added references to the *Chickamauga-Chattanooga Civil War-Related Sites, 1863-1947, Georgia and Tennessee* multiple property documentation form.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at gretchen.brock@dnr.state.ga.us or by phone at 404.651.6782.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gretchen Brock", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gretchen Brock
National Register & Survey Program Manager
Historic Preservation Division

Enclosure



Paul Hawke/WASO/NPS
03/08/2011 03:19 PM EST

To Lisa Deline/WASO/NPS@NPS
cc tanya_gossett@nps.gov
bcc
Subject Ringold Gap

Lisa,

I quickly looked over the Ringold Gap nomination. It looks pretty good, we know the contractor and he usually does good work. The study area is the same as the POTNR boundary from our latest study, which is good. I don't know if he mentioned that the Study area boundaries for Dalton II and Rocky Face Ridge extend into Ringold Gap, but it may be worth mentioning.

As for significance. Ringold is a Class B battlefield according to the CWSAC. Usually Class A's and B's are Nationally Significant. For NHL and National Park status the argument is weighted more for Class A. However, there are quite a few B's that are elevated to the higher tier. For example: Kennesaw Mtn [NPS], Port Gibson [NHL], Chaffin's Farm [NPS], Brices Cross Roads [NPS], Glendale [NPS], Mill Springs [NHL], Newtonia [NHL possible NPS], Prairie Grove [NHL], Corinth [NHL & NPS], Harper's Ferry [NPS], Sand Creek [NPS & NHL], Fort Sumpter [NPS], Fort Pulaski [NPS], and Salem Church [NPS], to name a few Class B's that are either NPS or NHL. So Nationally significant on the NRHP does not seem out of place. You may even want to consider NHL. But that's another can of worms.

Tanya will have it now, and she will have instructions to make sure you get it back no later than Thursday.

Thank you,

Paul

Paul Hawke
Chief, American Battlefield Protection Program
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street N. W. (2255)
Washington, D. C. 20240-0001

(202) 354-2023

Please see our web site: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/abpp>

407. House. 1307 28th Street North, ca. 1920s.

One story brick and rubble stone Craftsman bungalow with exposed rafters. The roof is a side gable with a front gable covering the front porch. This decorative gable has stucco and wood and a six paned window. The porch wraps around the right side and has three rubble stone columns and rubble stone porch and cheek walls. The off center entrance retains its original wood and glass door and has divided side lights. There is a left side exposed brick chimney. There are 7/1 wood windows flanked by 2/1 wood windows on either side of the entrance. The yard has a series of concrete steps leading to the sidewalk. The foundation is rubble stone. Roll 9 Neg. 19

408. House. 1311 28th Street North, ca. 1954

One story brick hipped cottage. There is a right side recessed porch with one decorative wrought iron post. The house has a central interior brick chimney. The windows are 6/6 and 8/8 double hung wood and there is a picture window in the front bay flanked by 4/4 windows. These windows have a brick sill. The yard has a series of brick steps leading to the sidewalk. The