

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: West Virginia	
COUNTY: Pocahontas	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.147.0006	DATE 1/26/70

1. NAME

COMMON:
Droop Mountain Battlefield

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
On U. S. 219

CITY OR TOWN:
About 14 miles south of Marlinton

STATE West Virginia	CODE 54	COUNTY: Pocahontas	CODE 075
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Division of Parks and Recreation, W. Va. Department of Natural Resources

STREET AND NUMBER:
Capitol Building

CITY OR TOWN: Charleston	STATE: West Virginia	CODE: 54
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Pocahontas County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
M₁

CITY OR TOWN: Marlinton	STATE: West Virginia	CODE: 54
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 288 acres

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

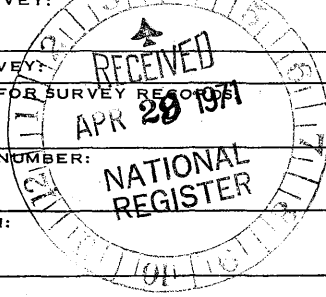
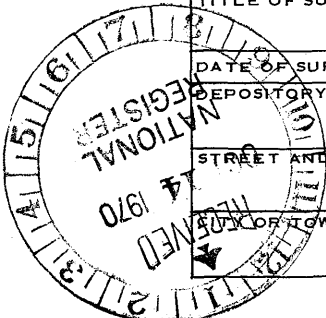
DATE OF SURVEY: APR 29 1971

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY REPORTS:
Federal State County Local

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:
COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

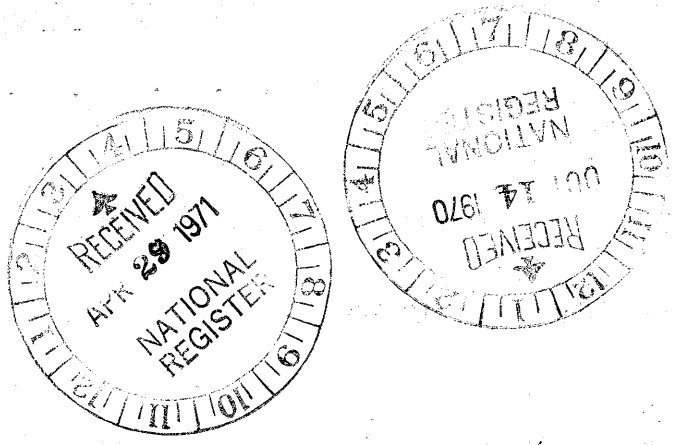
CONDITION	(Check One)				
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park is today a densely wooded mountain area cut by deep ravines and traversed by well maintained roads. Buildings, all modern, include a park headquarters, three cabins, small stone shed, shelter, and two overlooks, one in the form of a tower. Cranberry bogs occupy a large oval area in this center of the park. A small grassy field to the east of the lookout tower is the only large break in the foliage. Route U. S. 219 borders this property.

The Civil War road to Lewisburg, however, extended over the mountain, and Confederate Colonel H. R. Jackson disposed his troops to block it against Averell's invasion from the North. At that time the northern slope of Droop Mountain was partially cultivated, strips of woodland partly concealing the approach from the pike. To attack this force from the front, Averell was forced to advance across open fields, but he placed his main reliance on a flanking movement through thick underbrush to weaken the Confederates' center.

There is now little to be seen of trenches and fortifications, which were constructed in part of perishable materials; however, trenches are still visible along the northern boundary.



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8. SIGNIFICANCE

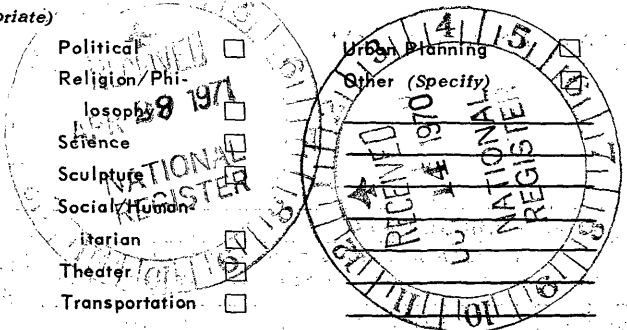
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **November 6, 1863**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Literary <input type="checkbox"/>	
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		



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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

West Virginia soldiers participated in major battles on many distant fronts throughout the Civil War, but the Battle of Droop Mountain was fought on home soil, with West Virginians fighting West Virginians in close contact. This battle exemplifies the tragic Civil War descriptive phrase, "Brother against Brother." When the Battlefield was dedicated as a State Park in 1926, it was to be developed as a memorial to both the North and the South.

From a military standpoint, the Federal objective was to clear the Confederate forces from the Greenbrier Valley, which they occupied in its total length. A continuing objective of the North was the severing of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, lifeline of Confederate forces fighting in the eastern part of Tennessee. But access to this railroad was next to impossible as long as the Confederates blocked the Greenbrier Valley.

There are six hundred and thirty-two (632) actions of various types listed for the State of West Virginia; the Battle of Droop Mountain is considered one of the principal conflicts.

Brigadier General William Averell defeated Brigadier General John Echols, CSA, of Virginia, on November 6, 1863. Averell's Federal troops outnumbered the Confederate troops 3 or 4 thousand to 1,700. Echols had the advantage of position from the crest of Droop Mountain. Dr. Dallas Shaffer in a booklet describing the conflict lists Union casualties, killed, wounded and missing, at 119 and Confederate losses at 275. The defeat of the Confederates restrained further Confederate action in all the area west of the Allegheny Mountains with the exception of a few minor skirmishes. A West Virginia historian notes that from the conclusion of this battle the Confederate forces never had any further success in West Virginia. In December, 1863, Averell was able to reach Salem, Virginia, and destroy the railroad at that point.

West Virginia's part in the war was one of divided loyalties, as illustrated most clearly in the Battle of Droop Mountain.

The Battle of Droop Mountain was in some degree responsible for the creation of the State of West Virginia, while Lincoln referred to Averell's victory to boost the morale of Federals in Tennessee who had recently been defeated by General Sam Jones at Rogersville. Federal Commander Burnside thought this news greatly encouraged his troops.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Shaffer, Dallas B. The Battle at Droop Mountain. Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Natural Resources. Charleston, 1963. 12 pp. For the lives of the principals, Averell and Echols, Cf. Dictionary of American Biography.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	38° 07' 06.40"	80° 16' 52.99"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	38° 07' 06.40"	80° 15' 48.05"				
SE	38° 06' 06.04"	80° 15' 48.05"				
SW	38° 06' 06.04"	80° 16' 52.99"				

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Clifford M. Lewis, S.J.

ORGANIZATION: **In contract with W. Va. Antiquities Commission** DATE: **October 7, 1970**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Wheeling College

CITY OR TOWN: **Wheeling** STATE: **West Virginia** CODE: **54**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Dallas B. Shaffer</u> Dallas B. Shaffer</p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>October 9, 1970</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Ernest A. Connelly</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>/s/ 1/26/70</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>William M. Stewart</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>1/14/70</u></p>
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