

Fiscal Year:
2009

Acreage:
119

Estimated Price
to National Park
Service:
\$3,600,000

Cultural
Resources:

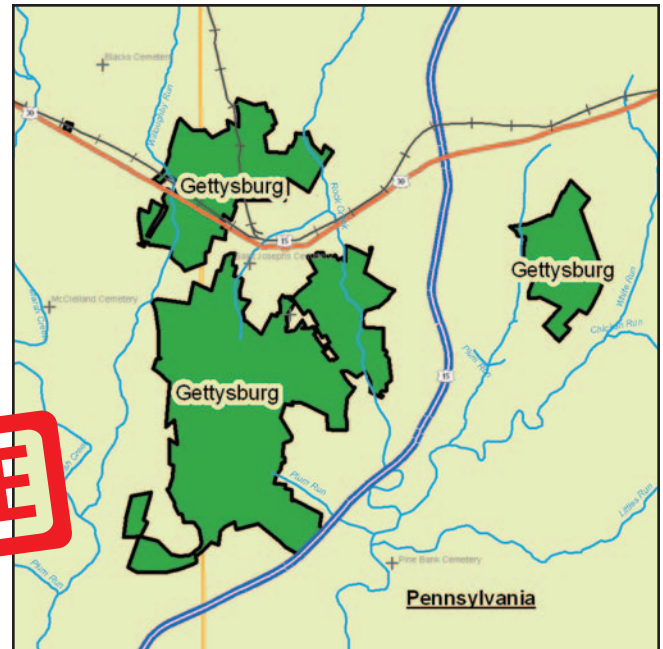
Civil War
battlefield,
battle-era
structures,
battlefield
hospital

Programmatic
Significance:

Education,
battlefield
landscape
preservation,
cultural
resources

Gettysburg National Military Park (PA)

FOR SALE



As a premier classroom, Gettysburg National Military Park tells the story of the largest battle of the American Civil War. Fought from July 1-3, 1863, the Battle of Gettysburg resulted in a victory for the Union Army, ending the second invasion of the North by Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Often referred to as the turning point of the Civil War, Gettysburg was the bloodiest battle of the war, with more than 51,000 soldiers killed, wounded, captured, or missing.

Gettysburg also serves as a strong economic engine for the local community. According to NPCA's December 2006 economic study, *U.S. National Park System: An Economic Asset at Risk*, Gettysburg provides a return of \$2.20 to Pennsylvania's state and local economies for every \$1.00 the federal government invests in the park's budget. In addition, the report found that the park generates more than \$15 million in annual economic benefits, and that park visitors generate more than \$95 million annually in local revenue while supporting nearly 3,000 local non-park jobs. The park's annual budget is \$7 million.

As Gettysburg is investing millions of dollars to rehabilitate the battlefield landscape to its 1863 appearance and in improving visitor education—a decision strongly supported by visitors and the community as the right investment in Gettysburg's future—inappropriate development threatens that future. Currently, one out of every five acres inside the park's congressionally designated boundary is not owned by the National Park Service, making the land subject to incompatible development. Adams County, where Gettysburg is located, is the fourth fastest-growing county in Pennsylvania.

The Park Service has the opportunity to purchase and protect four parcels of land that are at risk of inappropriate development. These priorities total 119 acres, including battle-era structures and cultural landscapes, and the site of a battlefield hospital. Estimated value of the four parcels is \$3.6 million.