



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

JOINT MEETING

STATE REVIEW BOARD and BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

9:30 a.m., June 15, 2023

Huntington Room, Mariners' Museum and Park, 100 Museum Drive, Newport News, Virginia

EASEMENT PROGRAM
BOARD PACKET

PROJECT SUMMARIES

**Provided to the
Virginia Board of Historic Resources**

June 6, 2023

**NEW
EASEMENT OFFERS**

BHR Meeting Date: June 15, 2023	Staff: Wendy Musumeci	DHR File No. 043-5078-0004
Applicant: American Battlefield Trust (the "Trust")	County: Henrico	Acres: ±11.763

Property Features and Current Use:

Located along Hanover Road (Route 156) in eastern Henrico County, the Carter Tract (the "Property") is comprised of a single ±11.763-acre parcel. The Property has a small area of frontage on Hanover Road and is bounded by small residential parcels to the west and south. It features a flat topography with approximately ±4.98 acres under forested cover and a small area of frontage on an intermittent stream that drains to the Chickahominy River. Per Robert Krick, Richmond National Battlefield Park, "The Carter Tract represents probably the best remaining piece of historically significant open space on the two-day Seven Pines/Fair Oaks battlefield." The Property was in residential and agricultural use prior to and during the Civil War and includes the site of the Francis Adams House, a frame dwelling built ca. 1850 that served as a field hospital during the 1862 Battle of Seven Pines. DHR staff confirmed that the Adams House was largely rebuilt during the early to mid-twentieth century and therefore the existing dwelling and contemporary outbuildings (concrete shed, two frame sheds and a frame barn) do not contribute the battlefield landscape. The Trust has contracted with the heirs of Philip Carter to acquire the Property by June 2023. The Trust will install a pedestrian trail on the Property along with 3-5 interpretive signs. In the long term, the Trust plans to transfer the Property to Henrico County or another local entity for use as a pocket park. The Trust will apply for an American Battlefield Protection Program ("ABPP") grant and has been awarded a Virginia Land Conservation Foundation ("VLCF") grant to assist with the fee-simple acquisition of the Property. Conveyance of an easement to the Virginia Board of Historic Resources ("BHR") is a condition of these grants.

Conservation Values:

Historic/Landscape:

- The Property is entirely within the core and study areas of the Seven Pines Battlefield, which has been given a Preservation Priority Rating of IV.2 Class B by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission ("CWSAC"). Sites with a priority rating of IV are those that have are considered fragmented with poor integrity. Battlefield sites rated Class B are those that had a decisive influence on their campaign, in this case the Peninsula Campaign (March – September 1862).
 - In May 1862, two Federal army corps occupied a vulnerable position south of the Chickahominy River at the intersection of Nine Mile Road, Williamsburg Road and Charles City Road at the village of Seven Pines. Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston saw an opportunity to attack the Federal corps while they were separated from the main body of the Army of the Potomac due to the swollen Chickahominy River. Johnston's forces attacked and disbursed the two corps but the Federals soon established a new line at nearby Fair Oaks Station. The Federal troops held their line and repelled the Confederates. During the battle, Johnston was struck by a bullet and shrapnel forcing him to relinquish command of the Army of Northern Virginia to General Robert E. Lee. The Battle of Seven Pines ended in a stalemate with 13,736 total casualties.
 - The Federal left flank was located on the Carter Tract near the ca. 1850 Francis Adams House. Contemporary maps show the placement of troops and canon on the Property. Following the battle, the Adams House served as a field hospital with both Union and Confederate troops receiving treatment at the house.
- The Property is partially within the core and entirely within the study areas of the Garnett's and Golding's Farms Battlefield which has been given a Preservation Priority Rating of IV.2 Class D by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission ("CWSAC"). Sites with a priority rating of IV are those that are fragmented with poor integrity. Battlefield sites rated Class D are those that had a "limited influence on the outcome of their campaign or operation but achieved or affected important local objectives," in this case the Peninsula Campaign from March to September 1862.
- The Property is entirely within the study area of the Savage's Station Battlefield, which has been given a Preservation Priority Rating of IV.1 Class C by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission ("CWSAC"). Sites with a priority rating of IV are those that are fragmented with poor integrity. Battlefield sites rated Class C are those that had an "observable" influence on the outcome of their campaign, in this case the Peninsula Campaign from March to September 1862.

Archaeological: The Property is significant for its archaeological potential as a Civil War battlefield and specifically as a field hospital following the Battle of Seven Pines. The Property not only has the potential to contain archaeological sites, deposits and features associated with the Battle of Seven Pines, but also Garnett's and Golding's Farm and Savage's Station Battlefields, based the concentration of troop movement and engagement of the opposing armies across or on the Property. The Property is also significant for its archaeological potential related to its historic domestic and agricultural uses.

Open Space: The Property contains ±11.763 acres of land, of which ±4.98 acres is under forested cover.

Water Quality: The Property includes ±92.7 feet of frontage on an unnamed intermittent stream that drains to the Chickahominy River. The Property is within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Conserve Virginia: The Property lies entirely within the “Cultural and Historic Preservation Category” and partially within the “Scenic Preservation Category”, “Protected Landscapes Category” and “Water Quality Improvement Category” in ConserveVirginia, Virginia’s land conservation strategy that identifies high value lands and conservation sites across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Other Supporting Governmental Policy:

Federal: (i) “The Report on the Nation’s Civil War Battlefields,” issued by the CWSAC in 1993, authorized under 54 U.S.C. § 100507; (ii) Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant Program administered by ABPP (54 U.S.C. §§ 30801 – 308103; (iii) The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, 54 U.S.C. §§ 200301 – 200310.

State: (i) Section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of Virginia; (ii) Chapter 22 of Title 10.1, Sections 10.1-2200 through 10.1-2214 of the Code of Virginia; (iii) The Open-Space Land Act, Chapter 17 of Title 10.1, Sections 10.1-1700 through 10.1-1705 of the Code of Virginia; (iv) Virginia Code § 10.1-1017 *et. seq.*; (v) the Board’s practices in reviewing and accepting an easement over this Property, which include review by VDHR’s Easement Program staff, review by a committee comprised of VDHR staff from different divisions and review and acceptance by the Board at a public meeting, as set forth in the Board’s written adopted policies; (vi) Virginia Outdoors Plan (2018) Region 15: Richmond Regional (12.2, 12.3, 12.7, 12.8, 13.93); (vii) *ConserveVirginia* (2018); (viii) Chesapeake Bay Program for permanent land conservation in Bay watershed.

Local: The Property is currently zoned Agricultural District (A-1); the future land use designation is Suburban Residential 1 in the *Henrico County 2026 Comprehensive Plan* (adopted August 11, 2009). The *Henrico County 2026 Comprehensive Plan* provides support for the use of conservation and open space easements at General Development Policy 12 (page 282), provided the easements do not adversely impact planned infrastructure or the pattern of development in the area. Other objectives in support of conservation easements include Land Use and Community Character Objective 38, Natural, Cultural and Historic Resource Objectives 8 and 22 and Rural Keystone Policy 1. By letter dated May February 24, 2023, Henrico County has confirmed that a historic preservation and open-space easement placed on this Property would be consistent with the *Henrico County 2026 Comprehensive Plan*.

Existing Buildings and Structures:

Frame dwelling (ca. 1850) with later additions	Well
Concrete Generator Shed (ca. 1930)	Fences
Frame Shed (ca. 2005)	Flagpole
Frame Shed (ca. 1930)	Gravel Driveway
Frame Barn (ca. 1930)	

General Easement Terms:

Maintenance and Preservation: Property shall be maintained, preserved, and protected in same or better condition.

Division: no subdivision or division permitted.

Existing Buildings and Structures: demolition and/or treatment of all existing non-historic buildings and structures according to a rehabilitation management plan within three years from the date of easement recordation.

Permitted New Buildings, Structures and Amenities: (i) reconstructions of documented historic buildings/structures; (ii) pervious roads/drives; (iii) pervious paths/trails; (iv) utilities that serve the Property (v) fences, gates, mailboxes; and (vi) outbuildings/structures ancillary to use as a historic site or battlefield park, not to exceed 300 square feet in collective footprint.

New Construction & Alterations: all new construction and alterations to existing buildings/structures requires prior written approval; use *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties* as standard for review.

Archaeology: ground disturbance may require professional archaeological survey; owner must take precautions to protect archaeological sites; no relic hunting.

Impervious Surface Coverage: cap at 1% or less for collective footprint.

Activities: prohibits activities inconsistent or incompatible with the Conservation Values protected by easement.

Ground Disturbance: (i) any Ground Disturbing Activities are subject to prior written approval; (ii) mining by any method, dredging on or from the Property, or drilling for oil, gas or any natural resource (excluding fresh water), is prohibited.

Forest Management: trees and vegetation shall be managed according to established arboreal and horticultural practices; easement shall address land conversion consistent with current easement template; review and approval required prior to battlefield landscape rehabilitation.

Trash: accumulation or dumping of trash/refuse/junk, or hazardous/toxic material is prohibited.

Signs: restrictions on size and number of signs permitted.

Public Access: Two days of public access required by the easement terms.

Grant Funding: ABPP grant requires specific easement language for Section 6(f)3 of Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. VLCF grant requires specific language per Virginia Code Section 10.1-1017 *et. seq.*

Documentation Information:

Tax Map Number: 829-721-7000

Property Address: 231 Hanover Road, Sandston, VA 2331

USGS Quad: Seven Pines

Statement of Public Benefit:

The Carter Tract is of historic and archaeological significance and is within the boundaries of three battlefields with preservation priority ratings from the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission. Restrictions on ground disturbing activities and alterations of historic and landscape resources on the Property, including archaeological sites, and requirements for the maintenance of such resources will ensure the Property retains its historic integrity as a Civil War battlefield landscape. Preservation of the Property will augment efforts to preserve historic properties in Henrico County, including approximately 983.725 acres of land already subject to perpetual easements held by the Board. The Property is also located within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Preservation of the open-space and wooded character of the Property preserves a local landscape that attracts tourism and commerce to the area and enhances the quality of life for area residents. Additionally, restrictions on development, new construction, and ground disturbing activities. The Property is visible from Hanover Road (Route 156), a public right-of-way. The Property includes frontage on an unnamed intermittent stream and is within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Limiting new construction, timbering, ground disturbing activities and uses of the Property in the Easement will support protection of water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. The protection of the Property by the easement will fulfill the intent of the 2018 Virginia Outdoors Plan to protect Virginia's historic and cultural resources, including Civil War battlefield landscapes and resources, and to place historic preservation and open-space easements on historic properties.

Easement Acceptance Committee Recommendation:

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends approval of the Carter Tract easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. Demolition of the existing non-historic buildings and structures and rehabilitation of the battlefield landscape shall be completed within three years from the date of easement recordation. Such rehabilitation of the battlefield landscape shall be conducted according to a written rehabilitation management plan negotiated by DHR and the Trust, and such plan shall be incorporated into the easement either directly or by reference.
2. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easement, and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.



Carter Tract, Seven Pines Battlefield (House, 231 Hanover Rd) **Henrico County, Seven Pines Quad** **DHR ID: 043-5081-0001**

- 043-5081-0001
- ABPP Core Areas (2014)
- VBHR Easements
- ABPP Study Areas (2014)
- Listed Resources

Created By: D. Bascone 1/5/2023
 Sources: VDHR 2023, ESRI 2023, VDOT 2023, VGIN 2023
 Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. The map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". Contact DHR for the most recent information as data is updated continually

BHR Meeting Date: June 15, 2023	Staff: Kyle Edwards	DHR File No. 026-5005-0001
Applicant: American Battlefield Trust (the "Trust")	County: Dinwiddie	Acres: ±7.88 acres

Property Features and Current Use:

The Gilchrist Tract (the "Property") is comprised of a single ±7.88-acre tax parcel located on Wilkinson Road (Route 611), approximately 1.5 miles northwest of Dinwiddie Court House. The Gilchrist Tract is bounded on the south by Wilkinson Road, and the entire western boundary is formed by Chamberlain's Bed Creek, a perennial stream that drains to Stony Creek. The unimproved Property has been under forested cover since the Civil War. The Gilchrist Tract is located within the C2 Ecological Core as determined by the Department of Recreation and Conservation's ("DCR") Natural Heritage Division. Properties within the C2 Ecological Core have very high to outstanding ecological integrity. DCR recommends that native vegetative cover should be maintained with minimal ground disturbance in this C2 core area to preserve its ecological integrity. The American Battlefield Trust has contracted with the owner, Susan Gilchrist, to acquire the Property in fee-simple, with closing scheduled for June 2023. The Trust plans to use the Property for open space and battlefield interpretation purposes and will install a small pull-off along Wilkinson Road for public access, as well as a short trail and three to five interpretive signs. The Trust will apply for an American Battlefield Protection Program ("ABPP") grant and a Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund grant to assist with acquisition of the Property. Conveyance of an easement to the Board of Historic Resources is a condition of these grants.

Conservation Values:

Historic/Landscape:

1. The Gilchrist Tract is entirely within the core and study areas of the Dinwiddie Court House Battlefield, which has been given a Preservation Priority Rating of II.3 Class C by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission ("CWSAC"). Sites with a priority rating of II are those that are in relatively good condition with opportunities for "comprehensive preservation". Battlefield sites rated Class C are those that had an "observable influence" on their campaign, in this instance, the Appomattox Campaign from March to April 1865.
 - As Petersburg's weakened defenses started to fall in late March 1865, Union Major General Philip Sheridan began a flank attack from the south marching north towards Five Forks and onward to Petersburg. On the morning of March 31, as Sheridan's forces moved north of Dinwiddie Court House, Confederate forces under Major General W. H. Fitzhugh Lee and Major General George Pickett attempted to slow Sheridan's progress. Fitzhugh Lee's calvary and Pickett's infantry managed to stall Sheridan, and the Union forces fell back towards Dinwiddie Court House. Knowing that additional Federal forces were on their way to reinforce Sheridan, Pickett withdrew to Five Forks which Robert E. Lee had ordered "must be held at all hazard." The Battle of Dinwiddie Court House ended in a Confederate victory with 1,100 total casualties.
 - The Gilchrist Tract is located on the western flank of Sheridan's route north towards Petersburg. Sheridan ordered Brigadier General Charles H. Smith to guard Fitzgerald's Ford located adjacent to the Gilchrist Tract on what is now Wilkinson Road (Route 611). Fitzhugh Lee's calvary pushed Smith's brigade east along Wilkinson Road and ultimately south towards Dinwiddie Court House.
2. The Gilchrist Tract is entirely within the study area of the Five Forks Battlefield, which has been given a Preservation Priority Rating of III.1 Class A by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission ("CWSAC"). Sites with a priority rating of III are those that need additional protections. Battlefield sites rated Class A are those that had a "decisive influence on their campaign and a direct impact on the course of the war" in this instance, the Richmond-Petersburg Campaign from June 1864 to March 1865.

Archaeological: Although the Property has not been subjected to professional archaeological survey, in the opinion of DHR, the Property has the potential to contain archaeological sites, deposits and features associated with the Civil War, specifically the Battles of Dinwiddie Courthouse and Five Forks, based on the concentration of troop movements and engagement of the opposing armies across or on the Property. The Property also has potential for pre-contact archaeological sites, deposit, or features based upon the local topography and proximity to Chamberlain's Bed Creek.

Open Space: The Property includes ±7.88 acres of land under forested cover.

Water Quality: The Property includes ±514.7 feet of frontage on Chamberlain's Bed Creek (perennial) which drains to Stony Creek, and ±1.25 acres of Forested/Shrub Wetlands. The Property is located within the Chowan watershed.

Ecological Core: The Property is partially within the C2 Ecological Core Area as defined by DCR's Natural Heritage Division. Properties within the C2 Ecological Core Area have very high to outstanding ecological integrity.

ConserveVirginia: The Property lies partially within the “Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity” and “Water Quality Improvement” layers of ConserveVirginia, Virginia’s land conservation strategy that identifies high value lands and conservation sites across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Other Supporting Governmental Policy:

Federal: (i) “The Report on the Nation’s Civil War Battlefields,” issued by the CWSAC in 1993, authorized under 54 U.S.C. § 100507; (ii) Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant Program administered by ABPP (54 U.S.C. §§ 30801 – 308103); and (iii) The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, 54 U.S.C. §§ 200301 – 200310; (iv) The National Wetlands Inventory as established by 16 U.S.C. § 3931.

State: (i) Section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of Virginia; (ii) Chapter 22 of Title 10.1, Sections 10.1-2200 through 10.1-2214 of the Code of Virginia; (iii) The Open-Space Land Act, Chapter 17 of Title 10.1, Sections 10.1-1700 through 10.1-1705 of the Code of Virginia; (iv) Virginia Board of Historic Resources practices in reviewing and accepting an easement over this Property, which include review by VDHR’s Easement Program staff, review by a committee comprised of VDHR staff from different divisions and review and acceptance by the Board at a public meeting, as set forth in the Board’s written adopted policies; and (v) Virginia Outdoors Plan: Region 19 - Crater (Pages 12.2, 12.3, 12.7, 12.8, 13.113-117); and (vi) Chesapeake Bay Program for permanent land conservation in Bay watershed.

Local: The Property is currently zoned A-2 (Agricultural General), and its future land use designation is Planned Growth Area. The *Dinwiddie County Comprehensive Plan 2006, Updated February 2014* provides support for the placement of a conservation easement on the Property at Chapter X, Future Land Use, page 15, Chapter XI, Policies Goals & Objectives, pages 5-7. By letter dated February 27, 2023, Dinwiddie County has confirmed that DHR’s proposed historic preservation and open-space easement is consistent with the comprehensive plan.

Existing Buildings and Structures:

Gravel trail within 60’ telephone corridor

General Easement Terms:

Maintenance and Preservation: Property shall be maintained, preserved, and protected in same or better condition.

Division: no subdivision or division permitted.

Existing Buildings and Structures: none.

New Dwellings: no new residential dwellings permitted.

New Buildings Structures and Amenities: walking trails, footpaths, parking facilities, signs, for interpretation of the Property as a Civil War battlefield.

New Construction: construction of new buildings, structures, and amenities, requires prior written approval; use *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties* as standard for review.

Archaeology: ground disturbance may require professional archaeological survey; owner must take reasonable precautions to protect archaeological sites; no relic hunting.

Impervious Surface Coverage: cap at 1% or less for all construction.

Activities: prohibits activities inconsistent or incompatible with the Conservation Values protected by easement.

Ground Disturbance: (i) grading, blasting, earth removal, or other ground disturbing activities shall not alter topographic aspects of property, except as for construction of permitted buildings, structures, and roads; (ii) mining by any method, dredging on or from the property, or drilling for oil, gas or any natural resource (excluding fresh water), is prohibited.

Forest Management: easement shall address forest management including timbering, replanting, landscape rehabilitation and land conversion consistent with the current standard easement template; review and approval required prior to battlefield landscape rehabilitation.

Trash: accumulation or dumping of trash/refuse/junk, or hazardous/toxic material is prohibited.

Signs: restrictions on size and location of signs on property; interpretative signage permitted.

Public Access: easement requires 2 days minimum public access and Property is also visible from a public-right-of way.

Grant Funding: ABPP grant requires specific easement language for Section 6(f)3 of Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

Documentation Information:

Tax Map Number: 44B1-1-A1

Property Address: Wilkinson Road (Route 611) 1.2 miles west of Courthouse Road

USGS Quad: Dinwiddie

Statement of Public Benefit:

The Gilchrist Tract is of historic and archaeological significance and is within the boundaries of two battlefields with preservation priority ratings from the CWSAC. Restrictions on ground disturbance, archaeological resources and historic resources will ensure the Property retains its historic integrity as a Civil War battlefield landscape. Preservation of the Gilchrist Tract will augment efforts to preserve historic properties in Dinwiddie County, including approximately 1,068 acres of land

already subject to perpetual easements held by the Board. Preservation of the open-space and wooded character of the Property preserves a local landscape that attracts tourism and commerce to the area and enhances the quality of life for area residents. Additionally, restrictions on development, new construction, and ground disturbing activities and requirements for forest management in the easement will protect the forestal and ecological resources on the Property and the natural benefits associated with forest conservation such as clean air and water. The Property is visible from Wilkinson Road (Virginia Route 611). The Property includes frontage on Chamberlain's Bed Creek, a perennial stream, and is within the Chowan watershed. Limiting new construction, timbering, ground disturbing activities and uses of the Property in the Easement will support protection of water quality. The forestal and water resources also contribute to the Gilchrist Tract's classification as a C2 ecological core and limits on ground disturbance and development will ensure the protection of significant ecological resources. In addition to visibility from a public right-of-way, the easement will require physical public access two calendar days per year. The protection of the Gilchrist Tract by the easement will also fulfill the intent of the 2018 Virginia Outdoors Plan to protect Virginia's historic and cultural resources, including Civil War battlefield landscapes and resources, and to place historic preservation and open-space easements on historic properties.

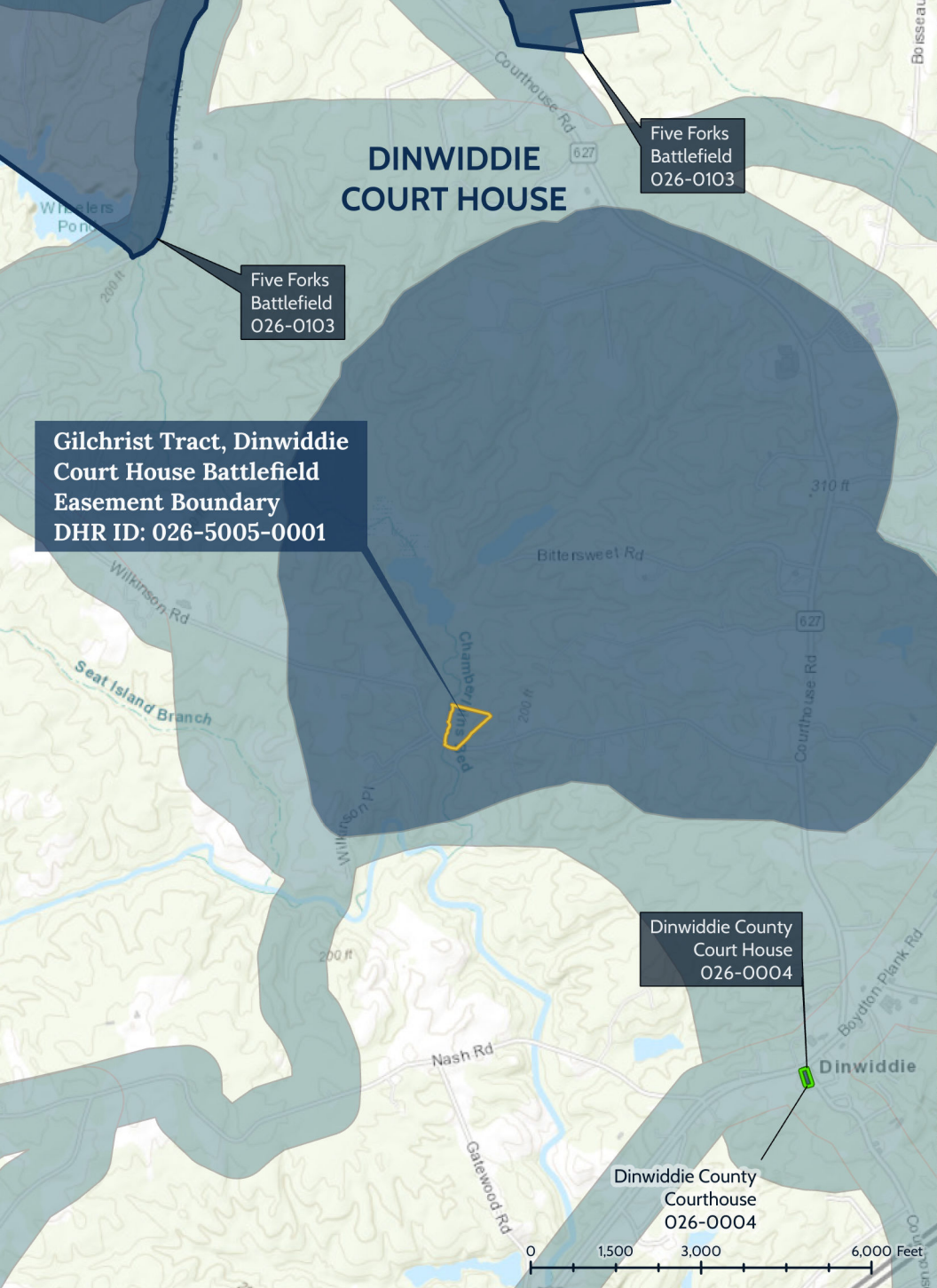
Complexities:

1. The boundary survey shows an undocumented Southside Electrical Cooperative (SEC) line with two poles extending from the neighbor's property and serving no apparent purpose on the Gilchrist Tract; the Trust is investigating this issue and plans to have the line and poles removed.
2. The boundary survey includes an access point from the neighbor's land to the gravel trail within the 60' telephone corridor on the Gilchrist Tract; the trail extends northeast to connect to other roads and neighboring properties. The Trust states that it will gate the access point to prevent future access to the property.

Easement Acceptance Committee Recommendation:

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends approval of the Gilchrist Tract easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. The Trust must gate or fence all access points along the southeastern boundary of the Property within 30 days from its acquisition of the Property.
2. The easement will protect Natural Heritage resources within the C2 Ecological Core as defined by DCR's Natural Heritage Division. This includes, but is not limited to, provisions for a 100' riparian buffer, maintaining native vegetative cover and avoiding permanent ground disturbances to the greatest extent possible in the forested area.
3. Removal of the undocumented SEC line that extends from the neighboring property. If removal is not possible, the line must be documented with an existing easement, new easement, or containment letter.
4. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easement, and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.



Gilchrist Tract, Dinwiddie Court House Battlefield **Dinwiddie County, Dinwiddie Quad** **DHR ID: 026-5005-0001**

- 026-5005-0001
- VBHR Easements
- Listed Resources
- ABPP Core Areas (2014)
- ABPP Study Areas (2014)

Created By: D. Bascone 3/27/2023
 Sources: VDHR 2023, ESRI 2023, VDOT 2023, VGIN 2023
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**EASEMENTS RECORDED
SINCE THE
MARCH 16, 2023 MEETING**

BHR Meeting Date: June 15, 2023	Staff: Kyle Edwards	DHR File No. 085-5045-0006_ep
Donor: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation	County: Shenandoah County	Acres: ±123.66

Property Description:

Mrs. Anna Morris has conveyed a perpetual historic preservation and open-space easement to the Board of Historic Resources over the Morris Tract in Shenandoah County. The easement protects 123.36 ± acres of historically significant land that contains a portion of the Tom's Brook Battlefield. The Property is located along Brook Creek Road in Toms Brook, Virginia. It currently consists of rolling agricultural land used for livestock pasturing, hay production, and cultivation.

The Morris Tract contains approximately 79.14 ± acres of land within the study area of the Tom's Brook Battlefield as determined by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC), which has given the Tom's Brook Battlefield a Preservation Priority II.3 Class C Rating. The CWSAC defines Priority II battlefields as those in relatively good condition with opportunities for "comprehensive preservation", while Class C are those with an observable influence on the results of their campaign, in this case the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864. After his victory at Fisher's Hill on September 22, 1864, Union Major General Philip Sheridan began a two-week campaign to destroy Confederate supplies and morale throughout the Shenandoah Valley. Known as "the Burning", Federal troops burned crops, barns, farms, and mills and confiscated livestock from Staunton to Strasburg. Major General Thomas Rosser and Major General Lunsford L. Lomax, in command of Confederate Cavalry forces, were tasked with harassing the Union Army as they moved northward through the Valley to slow their advanced and determine their ultimate intent. On October 9, Brigadier General Alfred Torbert's Union cavalry confronted their pursuers, routing the Confederate divisions of Rosser and Lomax at Tom's Brook. The result was a decisive victory that gave the Federal cavalry superiority in the Shenandoah Valley.

The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation (SVBF) worked with DHR to record the easement over the Morris Tract. SVBF received a Virginia Battlefield Protection Fund grant and an American Battlefield Protection Program grant to partially fund the easement acquisition, which was a requirement of both grants. SVBF will construct a roadside pull-off and trail to make the Property accessible to the public.

Documentation Information:

Tax Map Number: 22-A-130, 22-A-131, 22-A-133, 23-A-108A, 23-A-112, 23-A-170, 22-A-173, 34-A-24, and a portion of 23-A-107

Property Address: 1390 Brook Creek Road, Toms Brook, Virginia 22660

USGS Quad: Toms Brook

Board Approval:

Easement Recordation Date:

Approval – June 18, 2020; Reapproval – June 16, 2022

March 23, 2003



BHR Meeting Date: June 15, 2023	Staff: Wendy Musumeci	DHR File No. 082-5430-0005
Donor: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation	County: Rockingham County	Acres: ±107.345
Property Description:		
<p>The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation ("SVBF") has conveyed a perpetual historic preservation and open-space easement to the Virginia Board of Historic Resources over the Edwards Tract in Rockingham County. The easement protects 107.345 acres of historically significant open-space land. Located southeast of the City of Harrisonburg, the Edwards Tract is situated in a rural agricultural area of Rockingham County known as Port Republic. The unimproved, densely forested property is bisected by Ore Bank Road (State Route 708).</p> <p>The property contains 99.45 ± acres of land within the core area of the Port Republic Battlefield, which has been given a Preservation Priority Rating of III.2 Class B by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission ("CWSAC") as described in <i>The Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields</i> (1993). On June 9, 1862, after a victory at Cross Keys, Confederate Gen. Thomas J. Jackson turned towards Federal forces east of the village of Port Republic. Joined by Gen. Richard S. Ewell, Jackson planned to concentrate his forces and quickly overwhelm a smaller Union division under Brig. Gen. James Shields. The battle centered on a 70-foot-high ridge (known locally as "The Coaling") that had a cleared top from a charcoaling operation. The Edwards Tract was part of The Coaling. Union troops on or near the property consisted of two isolated brigades under the command of Gen. Erastus B. Tyler, whose artillery units positioned on the ridge top initially dominated the battlefield. Concerned that any delays would allow time for Federal reinforcements to arrive, Jackson launched haphazard attacks against the battery. Elements of Brig. Gen. Charles S. Winder's Stonewall brigade attacked through the wheat fields along the South Fork Shenandoah River plain but were repulsed with heavy casualties due to Union artillery fire from The Coaling. While one Louisiana regiment joined the fight on the plain, the rest of the brigade, including the renowned Louisiana Tigers, moved through the woods west of the property to assault The Coaling. The crest of The Coaling saw intense fire as the Federal batteries attacked the charging Louisianans. Both sides seized and retook possession of the heights in a series of charges and countercharges. Reinforcements from Ewell's division arrived and allowed the Confederates to permanently remove the Federals from their position on the high ground. With the capture of The Coaling, which incorporated the property, the tide of the battle changed. The Confederates then turned the captured Federal cannon against the rest of the Union line, and drove away the Federal defenders, bringing an end to the battle. The victory at Port Republic and the withdrawal of Federal troops back down the Shenandoah Valley allowed Jackson to cross the Blue Ridge Mountains and join the main force of Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army near Richmond.</p> <p>Additional conservation values associated with the property and protected in the easement include 107 ± acres of forested cover, 49% of which have "Very High" or "Outstanding" Forest Conservation Value as designated by the Virginia Department of Forestry. Along its western boundary, the Property fronts an unnamed intermittent stream for 3,707 ± feet. This stream drains to the South Fork of the Shenandoah River and the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The property also contains 51.16 ± acres of land within an ecological core identified as having an "Outstanding" ecological integrity value in the Virginia Natural Landscapes Assessment. Finally, a portion of the property also lies within the Deep Run-Madison Run Pond Complex Conservation Site as designated by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.</p> <p>SVBF acquired the property in 2022 and used American Battlefield Protection Program, Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund, and Virginia Land Conservation Fund grants to assist with fee-simple acquisition of the tract. Conveyance of a perpetual historic preservation and open-space easement is a requirement of the grants. SVBF intends to install pedestrian trails and interpretative signs related to the Battle of Port Republic. The Property adjoins other properties owned by SVBF and associated with the Battle of Port Republic, and together with preservation of the property by the easement, will create a contiguous corridor of 327 acres of conserved historic landscape.</p>		
Documentation Information:		
Tax Map Number: 153-(A)-L68B, 153-(A)-L68B1, 153-(A)-L68B1A, 153-(A)-L68B1A1, 153-(A)-L68B1B, 153-(A)-L68B2, 153-(A)-L68B2A, 153-(A)-L68B2B, 153-(A)-L68B3, 153-(A)-L68B4		
Property Address: S. East Side Highway, Ore Bank Road, and Battery Heights Lane, Port Republic, VA 24471		USGS Quad: Grottoes
Board Approval:		Easement Recordation Date:
September 23, 2021		April 15, 2023



BHR Meeting Date: June 15, 2023	Staff: Kyle Edwards	DHR File No. 006-5031-0007_ep
Donor: American Battlefield Trust	County: Appomattox County	Acres: ±8.1

Property Description:

The American Battlefield Trust (ABT) has conveyed a perpetual historic preservation and open-space easement to the Board of Historic Resources over the Vaughan Tract in Appomattox County. The easement protects 8.1 ± acres of historically significant land that contains a portion of the Appomattox Court House Battlefield and one (1) known archaeological site. The Property is located along Oakleigh Avenue in Appomattox, Virginia. It currently consists of a small residential complex surrounded by 6.96 ± acres of forested cover.

The entirety of the Vaughan Tract is located within the core of the Appomattox Court House Battlefield, which has been given a Priority III.1, Class A rating by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission. The battle took place on April 9, 1865 and, during its early phases, Confederate cavalry under the command of Brigadier General Martin Gary crossed the southeastern portion of the Property to protect the Confederate left flank, attacking the Union V Corps. After crossing the Vaughan Tract, the cavalry was beaten back by the opposing Union forces and suffered serious casualties. The retreating Confederate cavalry crossed the Property again, this time on its northwest side. After several hours of inconclusive fighting, the Battle of Appomattox Court House ended with the surrender of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia, which precipitated the end of the Civil War. The Property also contains one (1) known archaeological site, a 19th-century road trace, identified on Civil War era maps that supports the integrity of the battlefield landscape.

ABT acquired the Vaughan Tract in 2018 with grant funding from the Virginia Battlefield Protection Fund and the American Battlefield Protection Program. Conveyance of an easement was a requirement of both grants.

Documentation Information:

Tax Map Number: 65 (1) 5	
Property Address: 2549 Oakleigh Avenue, Appomattox, Virginia 24522	USGS Quad: Appomattox
Board Approval:	Easement Recordation Date:
Approval – March 15, 2018; Reapproval - December 9, 2021	April 18, 2023



BHR Meeting Date: June 15, 2023	Staff: Kyle Edwards	DHR File No. 165-5001-0001_ep
Donor: American Battlefield Trust	County: Appomattox County	Acres: ±45.772

Property Description:

The American Battlefield Trust (ABT) has conveyed a perpetual historic preservation and open-space easement to the Board of Historic Resources over the Jamerson Tract in Appomattox County. The easement protects 45.77 ± acres of historically significant land that contains a portion of the Appomattox Station Battlefield. The Property is located at the end of Jamerson Lane in Appomattox, Virginia, surrounded by a mix of residential and commercial properties. Today, the Jamerson Tract is improved with amenities associated with its use as a historic site for Civil War battlefield interpretation and is regularly open to the public.

The Jamerson Tract lies entirely within the study area of the Appomattox Station Battlefield as determined by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, which has given the Appomattox Station Battlefield a Preservation Priority IV.2 Class B Rating. The Battle of Appomattox Station was the penultimate battle of the Civil War, coming on the heels of Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant's first request for General Robert E. Lee's surrender. After the Battle of Cumberland Church, Lee's Army of Northern Virginia moved toward Appomattox Station to rendezvous with supply trains before moving west to Lynchburg. But on April 8th, 1865, Union Major General George Custer's cavalry reached Appomattox Station first, capturing three Confederate supply trains. Confederate Brigadier General Reuben L. Walker's artillery and some cavalry troopers, having arrived in advance of the main Confederate Army, took up position and deployed heavy guns on the Property in an arc facing south toward the Union army. Around 4 p.m., Custer attacked the Confederate position, scattering the enemy and capturing twenty-five of Walker's cannon and approximately one thousand soldiers. The Confederate army returned fire, killing about 48 Union soldiers, but failed to deter the Union cavalry from capturing valuable supplies. Late that night, Grant would again demand Lee's surrender with the Army of Northern Virginia Capitulating on April 9th.

In addition to its historic significance, the Jamerson Tract contains approximately 689.39 ± linear feet of frontage along Plain Run Branch, 1,042.45 ± linear feet of frontage along an unnamed stream that feeds into Plain Run Branch, 0.94 acres of freshwater/ forested shrub wetland, and 24 acres of mature forested cover. Combined, these natural resources make the Jamerson Tract valuable open space within the town of Appomattox.

ABT acquired the Jamerson Tract in 2010 with grant funding from the Virginia Battlefield Protection Fund (VBPF), the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP), and a Transportation Enhancements grant administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation. Conveyance of an easement was a requirement of the ABPP and VBPF grants.

Documentation Information:

Tax Map Number: 64A2(4)142, 64A2(4)4A, 64A2(4)4C, 64A2(4)2, and 64A2(4)3A	
Property Address: 249 Jamerson Lane, Appomattox, Virginia, 24522	USGS Quad: Appomattox
Board Approval:	Easement Recordation Date:
Approval - December 9, 2009; Reapproval – June 16, 2022	May 17, 2023

