Survey # F-4-128 Approximate date September 14, 1862
Stone Wall, P. Butler Property
Street Address: South of US 40 Alternate, South Mountain Summit
Town, State: Middletown vicinity, MD
private ___, public X

This property is included in the survey of resources associated with the Civil War Battle of South Mountain, which occurred on September 14, 1862. The stone wall runs north-south along the wooded western perimeter of the Dahlgren Campground. Although in a deteriorated state, the wall is clearly defined by the standing remnants and rubble. It runs in length approximately 50 feet. A heavily overgrown road trace appears to end at the northern edge of the wall. No foundation of the P. Bulter house was located, however both the wall and the road trace are probably associated with the dwelling. The dwelling is mentioned in the Official Records of the war and is shown on maps. The wall and the road trace are all that remain above ground of the property. The house was apparently destroyed during the battle.

The surveyed property contains less than an acre. The wall, located near the northern terminus of the old ridge road along the crest of South Mountain, played a direct and primary role in the military action that took place that day, providing cover for the men of Colonel A.H. Colquitt's Brigade of Georgians as they aimed their fire on the approaching Black Hat Brigade, commanded by General John Gibbon.

Photo Reference: Photo #

Form Prepared By: Paula S. Reed, PhD and Edith B. Wallace
Woodward-Clyde
200 Orchard Ridge Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Date: February, 1998

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. F-4-128

Magi No.

DOE ___ yes ___ no

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Stone Wall, P. Butler Property

and/or common Stone Wall, Dahlgren Campground

2. Location

street & number South Mountain, summit, south of US Alternate 40 ___ not for publication

city, town Middletown _X_ vicinity of congressional district 6

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district)	_X_ public	_X_ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
___ building(s)	___ private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
_X_ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	_X_ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	_X_ not applicable	___ no	___ military	_X_ other: Wall

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Maryland Department of Natural Resources

street & number Tawes State Office Building telephone no.:

city, town Annapolis state and zip code MD 21401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse Liber

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street Folio

city, town Frederick state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title National Register Nomination Form, South Mountain Battlefields, F-4-17 A,B,C

date February, 1986 _X_ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD

7. Description

Survey No. F-4-128

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	_X_ deteriorated	___ unaltered	_X_ original site
___ good	___ ruins	_X_ altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The stone wall is located on the western edge of the Dalgren Campground at Turner's Gap on the eastern face of South Mountain. The wall is greatly deteriorated but is easily identifiable as a stone wall. Fifty feet to the east of the wall the old Ridge Road, now the Appalachian Trail, runs north-south parallel to the old stone wall. An old road trace approaches the wall from the crest of the mountain to the west. The wall and the road trace appear to be associated with a property listed as P. Butler on the 1862 Engineer's Map.(Frye, N.R.Nomination Form, F-4-17-C)

The Dahlgren Campground stone wall runs north-south along the wooded western perimeter of the campground. Although in a deteriorated state, the wall is clearly defined by the standing remnants and rubble. It runs in length approximately 50 feet. A heavily overgrown road trace appears to end at the northern edge of the wall. No foundation of the P. Bulter house was located, however both the wall and the road trace are probably associated with the dwelling. The dwelling is mentioned in the Official Records of the war and is shown on maps. The wall and the road trace are all that remain above ground of the property. The house was apparently destroyed during the battle. The surveyed property contains less than an acre.

8. Significance

Survey No. F-4-128

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400-1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500-1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600-1699	___ architecture	___ education	_x_ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700-1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	
_X_ 1800-1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ theater
___ 1900-	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ transportation
		___ invention		___ other(specify)

Specific dates September 14, 1862 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: _X_ A ___ B ___ C ___ D

and/or

Applicable Exceptions: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Level of Significance: _X_ national ___ state ___ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This remnant of historic stone wall is significant for its association with the Civil War Battle of South Mountain which occurred on September 14, 1862. The wall, located near the northern terminus of the old ridge road along the crest of South Mountain, played a direct and primary role in the military action that took place that day, providing cover for the men of Colonel A.H. Colquitt's Brigade of Georgians as they aimed their fire on the approaching Black Hat Brigade, commanded by General John Gibbon.

On September 14, 1862 the defense of Turner's Gap, the South Mountain pass through which the National Pike ran, was left to the Georgia Brigade of Col.A.H. Colquitt. The steep terrain and convenient location of numerous stone walls, as well as the tenaciousness of the men from Georgia, made such a minimal defense possible. That afternoon the approach of Gibbon's Black Hat Brigade of westerners up the National Pike put the Confederate defense to the test.

Colonel Colquitt's Brigade was deployed at the Turner's Gap pass by General D.H. Hill on the morning of September 13, 1862 in response to the movements of General Alfred Pleasanton's Cavalry in the fields to the east of South Mountain. Seeing the advantage of the roads and stone walls on the right and left of the National Pike at the crest of the mountain, Colquitt divided his men. Three regiments were placed on the Ridge Road, "Upon the right of the road [National Pike], across the valley and upon the hillside."[1] The following day, September 14, this position behind the stone walls of the P. Butler property along Ridge Road served in the defense against Gibbon's direct attack up the National Pike. Colonel Solomon Meredith's 19th Indiana approached on the left of the Pike: "On arriving near a house on our extreme left, surrounded on the southwest and north by timber, I discovered large numbers of the enemy in and around the house. They had been annoying us...by firing from the house and outhouses; also from the woods near the house. I ordered Lieutenant Stewart, who commanded a section of Battery B, Fourth Artillery, to come forward and open fire upon the house...[he] threw several splendid shots, the first of which took effect in the upper story, causing a general stampede of their forces from that point..."[2] The musket fire continued for some time following the destruction of the house, until the Confederate forces on the south side of the Pike retreated. The fighting then

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[1]Jay Luvaas and Harold W. Nelson, eds. **The US Army War College Guide to the Battle of Antietam**, New York: Harper Collins, 1987, p.49, from O.R., Vol.XIX, Part I, pp.1052-53

[2]**War College Guide**, p.43, from O.R., Vol.XIX, Part I, pp.249-50.

turned to the north side of National Pike as darkness was bringing an end to the day and the battle.

The discovery on September 13, 1862 of General Robert E. Lee's Special Order #191, the Lost Order, in a field near Frederick where the Confederates had camped precipitated the march of the Army of the Potomac toward South Mountain along the Old National Pike. The turnpike crossed the mountain running west toward the center of Lee's divided army. Had Union commander, George B. McClellan approached the mountain with speed, as he had indicated he would to President Lincoln, the Battle of South Mountain might have ended differently.[3]

The Special Order #191 detailed General Lee's deployment of the Army of Northern Virginia in September 1862. In addition to the siege of Harper's Ferry by three divisions under Stonewall Jackson from the west and two divisions under Lafayette McLaws from the northeast, the orders described the location of Robert E. Lee and James Longstreet with two divisions at Hagerstown and D.H.Hill's division, alone at Boonsboro, just below Turner's Gap. With the knowledge of the divided nature of Lee's army on the west side of South Mountain, and the small defensive line at the pass, McClellan felt confident in his army's ability to catch Lee's forces in this vulnerable position. However, McClellan's infamous cautiousness and over-estimation of the size of his opponent, delayed the movement of the Army of the Potomac for half a day. The result of his slow approach to the pass at South Mountain was to give the Confederate defenders time to reinforce their tenuous position and begin pulling their divided army together again at Sharpsburg.

General Alfred Pleasonton's Cavalry were the first Union troops to approach South Mountain by the Old National Pike on September 13, 1862. Jacob D. Cox's Kanawha Division was in Middletown to serve as support for the cavalry.[4] Brigadier General Cox reported, "At 6 o'clock in the morning of September 14 the division marched from Middletown under an order...from Major-General Reno, directing me to support...the advance of General Pleasanton, who, with his brigade of cavalry and artillery, was moving up the Hagerstown turnpike toward the positions of the enemy in the pass of South Mountain."[5] Here the famous warning "My God, be careful" from Colonel Moore, who had been paroled by the Confederates, convinced Cox that a greater force was on the mountain than the Lost Orders had led them to believe, a result of McClellan's delay.[6] Thus began the Federals' plan to flank the defenders on the left and right by the convenient Sharpsburg and Hagerstown Roads leading from the National Pike at Bolivar. General Cox continued, "...I rode forward to find Pleasonton, who was...where the old Sharpsburg road leaves the turnpike. I

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[3]Stephen W. Sears, "Fire on the Mountain," **Blue and Gray**, December-January, 1986-86, p. 11

[4]James V. Murfin, **The Gleam of Bayonettes**, New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1965, p. 162.

[5]Jay Luvaas and Harold W. Nelson, eds. **The US Army War College Guide to the Battle of Antietam, the Maryland Campaign of 1862**, Washington: Harper Collins, 1987, p. 16, citing the Official Records, War of the Rebellion, Vol. XIX, Part I, p. 458-9.

[6]War College Guide, P. 17.

found that he was convinced that the enemy's position in the gap was too strong to be carried by a direct attack, and that he had determined to let his horsemen demonstrate on the main road, supporting the batteries... while Scammon should march by the Sharpsburg road and try to reach the flank of the force on the summit."[7] Later in the day, Hooker's I Corps would be sent by General McClellan down the Old Hagerstown Road (Mt. Tabor and Frostown Roads) to flank the left side of the Confederate defense.[8] D.H.Hill's response to the deployment of the Union troops as he viewed them from his headquarters at the Mountain House on the crest of the pass, would set up the battles at Fox's and Turner's Gaps. Major General Hill stated, "Should the truth be known, the battle of South Mountain, as far as my division was concerned, will be regarded as one of the most remarkable and creditable of the war....the division numbered less than 5,000 men the morning of September 14, and we had five roads to guard, extending over a space of as many miles."[9]

Later that day the Old National Pike again became a center of action, in an attempt to distract the Confederate defenders from the attacks on their left and right.[10] In the words of Brigadier General John Gibbon, "...Late in the afternoon I was ordered to move up the Hagerstown turnpike with my brigade and one section of Gibbon's battery, to attack the position of the enemy in the gorge. The 7th Wisconsin and the 19th Indiana were placed respectively on the right and left of the turnpike...the section of the battery under Lieutenant Stewart, 4th Artillery, keeping on the pike a little distance in the rear of the first line..."[11] This direct advance up the Old National Pike was eventually stalled as darkness fell. However, in combination with the flanking attacks on the Old Sharpsburg Road and the Old Hagerstown Road, enough damage had been done and the Confederates had retreated by morning.

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[7]War College Guide, p. 17, citing **Battles and Leaders of the Civil War**, vol. II, p. 585-6.

[8]Murfin, p.178

[9]Official Records, Vol. XIX, Part I, p. 1021.

[10]Stephen W. Sears, **Landscape Turned Red**, New York: Ticknor and Fields, 1983, p. 141.

[11]War College Guide, p. 42, citing Official Records, Vol. XIX, Part I, p 247-8.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition, A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Military

Resource Type:

Category: Structure

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Wall

Known Design Source: None

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-4-127

Books

Hartwig, D. Scott, Civil War Regiments, A Journal of the American Civil War, Vol 5, #3, "Antietam, the Maryland Campaign of 1862". Article entitled "My God, Be Careful! The Morning Battle of Fox's Gap", Savas Publishing Co., Campbell, CA, 1997.

Luvaas, Jay and Harold W. Nelson eds., The U.S. Army War College Guide to the Battle of Antietam, The Maryland Campaign of 1862, Harper Collins Publishers, Washington, 1987.

Murfin, James V., The Gleam of Bayonets, The Battle of Antietam and Robert E. Lee's Maryland Campaign, September 1862, Thomas Yoseloff, New York, 1965.

Roth, Dave, "The General's Tour of South Mountain", Blue & Gray Magazine, Dec-Jan, 1986-87.

Schildt, John W., The Ninth Corps, At Antietam, Chewsville, Maryland, 1988.

Sears, Stephen W., "Fire On The Mountain, The Battle of South Mountain September 14, 1862", Blue & Gray Magazine, Dec-Jan, 1986-87.

Sears, Stephen W., Landscape Turned Red, The Battle of Antietam, Ticknor and Fields, New York, 1983.

Swinton, William, Army of the Potomac, Smithmark Publisher, New York, 1995.

U.S. War Department, The War of Rebellion: A Compilation of the Offical Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series I, Vol XIX, Parts I and II, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1880-1901.

Manuscripts

Frye, Dennis, National Register Nomination Form, South Mountain Battlefields F-4-17-A,B,C, 1986.

Maps

The Official Military Atlas of the Civil War, Plate 27, Gramercy Books, New York, 1983.

Engineers Maps, 1862, National Register Nomination, South Mountain Battlefields F-4-17-A,B,C, 1986.

Macombe Map, 1861.

10. Geographical Data

F-4-128

Acreage of nominated property approximately 1

Quadrangle name Middletown

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References DO NOT COMPLETE UTM REFERENCES

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

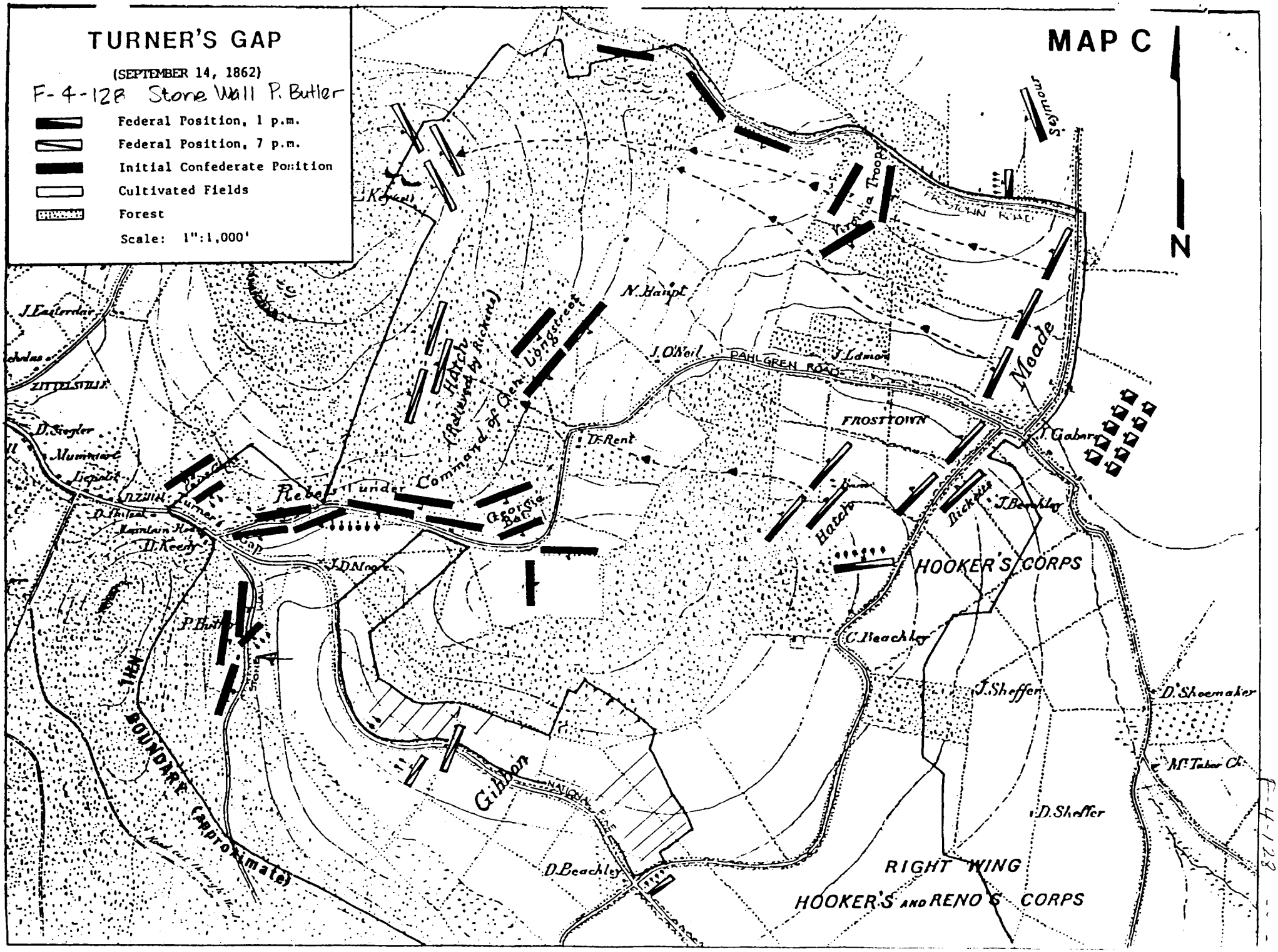
11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paula S. Reed, PhD and Edith B. Wallace		
organization	Woodward-Clyde	date	2/98
street & number	200 Orchard Ridge Drive	telephone	301-739-2070
city or town	Gaithersburg	state	MD 20878

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

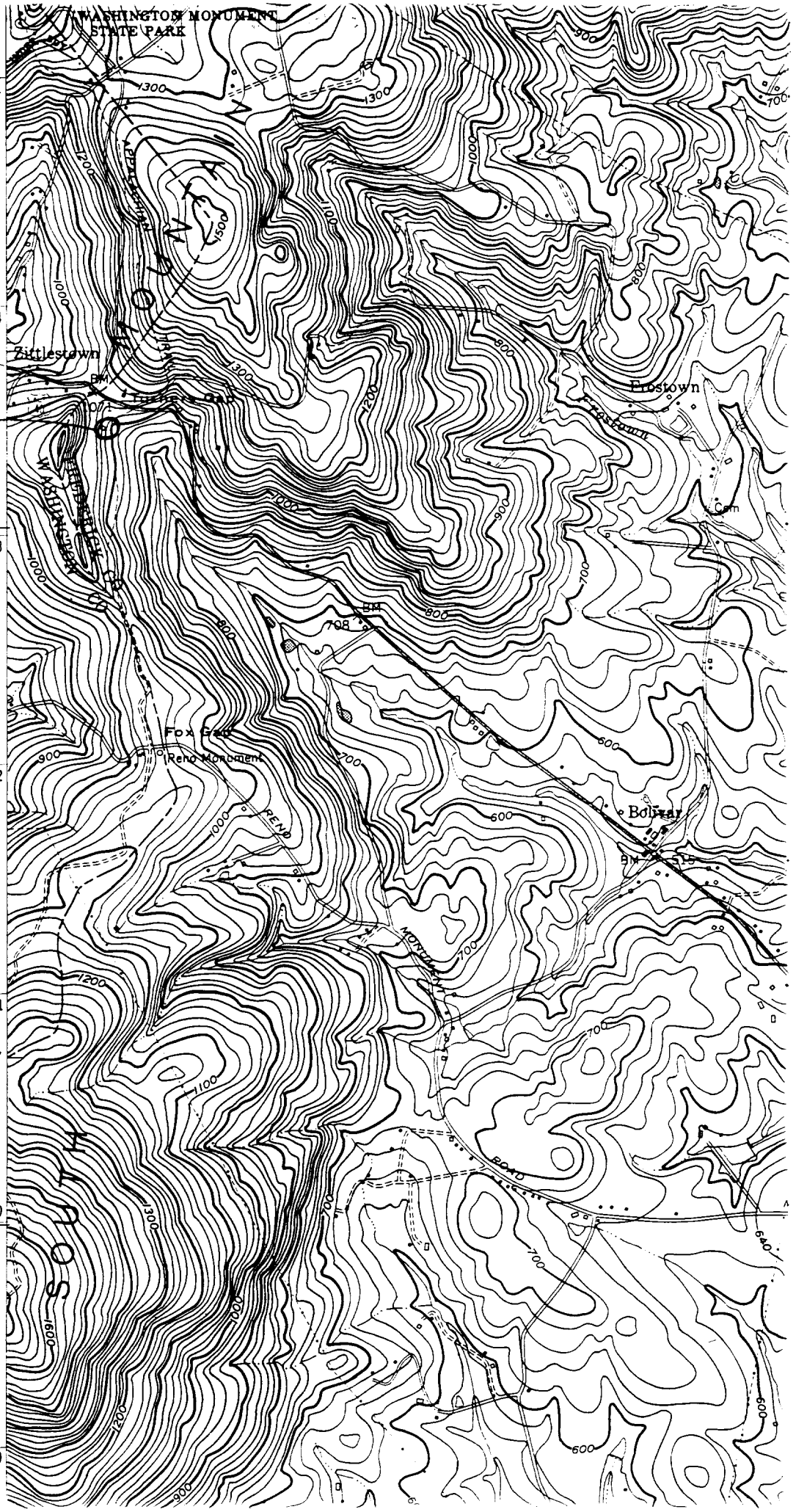
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
People's Resource Center
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7000


TURNER'S GAP
(SEPTEMBER 14, 1862)
F-4-128 Stone Wall P. Butler
Federal Position, 1 p.m.
Federal Position, 7 p.m.
Initial Confederate Position
Cultivated Fields
Forest
Scale: 1":1,000'
MAP C
N
Seymour
Virginia Troops
FROSTOWN ROAD
N. Haupt
J. O'Neil
PAHLGREN ROAD
J. Lamon
Meade
FROSTTOWN
J. Gabary
Hatch
(Returned by Rickett)
Longstreet
Rebels under Command of Gen.
Georgia Bar
D. Rent
Hatch
Rickett
J. Beachley
HOOKER'S CORPS
C. Beachley
J. Sheffer
D. Shoemaker
Mt. Tabor Ch.
D. Sheffer
RIGHT WING
HOOKER'S AND RENO'S CORPS
D. Beachley
Gibbon
NATIONAL PIKE
J. D. Moore
P. Butler
STONE WALL
Turner's Gap
D. Keedy
D. Siegler
Mummert
Liepolt
ZITTELSVILLE
J. Easterday
THIN BOUNDARY (approximate)
F-4-128

F-4-128
Stone Wall, P. Butler

Middletown Quad



F-4-128
Stone wall, P. Butler property
Frederick Co. Maryland
Edith B. Wallace
18 November 1997
Maryland SHPO
View were from Dahlgren Campground
1/1