

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 1117

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 27, 2000

Referred to the Committee on Resources

AN ACT

To establish the Corinth Unit of Shiloh National Military Park, in the vicinity of the city of Corinth, Mississippi, and in the State of Tennessee, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Corinth Battlefield
5 Preservation Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

3 (1) in 1996, Congress authorized the establish-
4 ment and construction of a center—

5 (A) to facilitate the interpretation of the
6 Siege and Battle of Corinth and other Civil
7 War actions in the area in and around the city
8 of Corinth, Mississippi; and

9 (B) to enhance public understanding of the
10 significance of the Corinth campaign and the
11 Civil War relative to the western theater of op-
12 erations, in cooperation with—

13 (i) State or local governmental enti-
14 ties;

15 (ii) private organizations; and

16 (iii) individuals;

17 (2) the Corinth Battlefield was ranked as a pri-
18 ority 1 battlefield having critical need for coordi-
19 nated nationwide action by the year 2000 by the
20 Civil War Sites Advisory Commission in its report
21 on Civil War Battlefields of the United States;

22 (3) there is a national interest in protecting and
23 preserving sites of historic significance associated
24 with the Civil War; and

25 (4) the States of Mississippi and Tennessee and
26 their respective local units of government—

1 (A) have the authority to prevent or mini-
2 mize adverse uses of these historic resources;
3 and

4 (B) can play a significant role in the pro-
5 tection of the historic resources related to the
6 Civil War battles fought in the area in and
7 around the city of Corinth.

8 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

9 (1) to establish the Corinth Unit of the Shiloh
10 National Military Park—

11 (A) in the city of Corinth, Mississippi; and

12 (B) in the State of Tennessee;

13 (2) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to
14 manage, protect, and interpret the resources associ-
15 ated with the Civil War Siege and the Battle of Cor-
16 inth that occurred in and around the city of Corinth,
17 in cooperation with—

18 (A) the State of Mississippi;

19 (B) the State of Tennessee;

20 (C) the city of Corinth, Mississippi;

21 (D) other public entities; and

22 (E) the private sector; and

23 (3) to authorize a special resource study to
24 identify other Civil War sites area in and around the
25 city of Corinth that—

1 (A) are consistent with the themes of the
2 Siege and Battle of Corinth;

3 (B) meet the criteria for designation as a
4 unit of the National Park System; and

5 (C) are considered appropriate for inclu-
6 sion in the Unit.

7 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map en-
10 titled “Park Boundary-Corinth Unit”, numbered
11 304/80,007, and dated October 1998.

12 (2) PARK.—The term “Park” means the Shiloh
13 National Military Park.

14 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of the Interior.

16 (4) UNIT.—The term “Unit” means the Cor-
17 inth Unit of Shiloh National Military Park estab-
18 lished under section 4.

19 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIT.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the States
21 of Mississippi and Tennessee the Corinth Unit of the Shi-
22 loh National Military Park.

23 (b) COMPOSITION OF UNIT.—The Unit shall be com-
24 prised of—

1 (1) the tract consisting of approximately 20
2 acres generally depicted as “Battery Robinett
3 Boundary” on the Map; and

4 (2) any additional land that the Secretary de-
5 termines to be suitable for inclusion in the Unit
6 that—

7 (A) is under the ownership of a public en-
8 tity or nonprofit organization; and

9 (B) has been identified by the Siege and
10 Battle of Corinth National Historic Landmark
11 Study, dated January 8, 1991.

12 (c) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The Map shall be on file
13 and available for public inspection in the office of the Di-
14 rector of the National Park Service.

15 **SEC. 5. LAND ACQUISITION.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may acquire land
17 and interests in land within the boundary of the Park as
18 depicted on the Map, by—

19 (1) donation;

20 (2) purchase with donated or appropriated
21 funds; or

22 (3) exchange.

23 (b) EXCEPTION.—Land may be acquired only by do-
24 nation from—

1 (1) the State of Mississippi (including a polit-
2 ical subdivision of the State);

3 (2) the State of Tennessee (including a political
4 subdivision of the State); or

5 (3) the organization known as “Friends of the
6 Siege and Battle of Corinth”.

7 **SEC. 6. PARK MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION.**

8 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall administer
9 the Unit in accordance with this Act and the laws gen-
10 erally applicable to units of the National Park System,
11 including—

12 (1) the Act entitled “An Act to establish a Na-
13 tional Park Service, and for other purposes”, ap-
14 proved August 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and

15 (2) the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the
16 preservation of historic American sites, buildings,
17 objects, and antiquities of national significance, and
18 for other purposes”, approved August 21, 1935 (16
19 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).

20 (b) **DUTIES.**—In accordance with section 602 of the
21 Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of
22 1996 (16 U.S.C. 430f–5), the Secretary shall—

23 (1) commemorate and interpret, for the benefit
24 of visitors and the general public, the Siege and Bat-
25 tle of Corinth and other Civil War actions in the

1 area in and around the city of Corinth within the
2 larger context of the Civil War and American his-
3 tory, including the significance of the Civil War
4 Siege and Battle of Corinth in 1862 in relation to
5 other operations in the western theater of the Civil
6 War; and

7 (2) identify and preserve surviving features
8 from the Civil War era in the area in and around
9 the city of Corinth, including both military and civil-
10 ian themes that include—

11 (A) the role of railroads in the Civil War;

12 (B) the story of the Corinth contraband
13 camp; and

14 (C) the development of field fortifications
15 as a tactic of war.

16 (c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—To carry this Act, the Sec-
18 retary may enter into cooperative agreements with
19 entities in the public and private sectors, including—

20 (A) colleges and universities;

21 (B) historical societies;

22 (C) State and local agencies; and

23 (D) nonprofit organizations.

24 (2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—To develop coop-
25 erative land use strategies and conduct activities

1 that facilitate the conservation of the historic, cul-
 2 tural, natural, and scenic resources of the Unit, the
 3 Secretary may provide technical assistance, to the
 4 extent that a recipient of technical assistance is en-
 5 gaged in the protection, interpretation, or commemo-
 6 ration of historically significant Civil War resources
 7 in the area in and around the city of Corinth, to—

8 (A) the State of Mississippi (including a
 9 political subdivision of the State);

10 (B) the State of Tennessee (including a
 11 political subdivision of the State);

12 (C) a governmental entity;

13 (D) a nonprofit organization; and

14 (E) a private property owner.

15 (d) RESOURCES OUTSIDE THE UNIT.—Nothing in
 16 subsection (c)(2) authorizes the Secretary to own or man-
 17 age any resource outside the Unit.

18 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—To determine whether certain ad-
 20 ditional properties are appropriate for inclusion in the
 21 Unit, the Secretary shall conduct a special resource study
 22 of land in and around the city of Corinth, Mississippi, and
 23 nearby areas in the State of Tennessee that—

24 (1) have a relationship to the Civil War Siege
 25 and Battle of Corinth in 1862; and

1 (2) are under the ownership of—

2 (A) the State of Mississippi (including a
3 political subdivision of the State);

4 (B) the State of Tennessee (including a
5 political subdivision of the State);

6 (C) a nonprofit organization; or

7 (D) a private person.

8 (b) CONTENTS OF STUDY.—The study shall—

9 (1) identify the full range of resources and his-
10 toric themes associated with the Civil War Siege and
11 Battle of Corinth in 1862, including the relationship
12 of the campaign to other operations in the western
13 theater of the Civil War that occurred in—

14 (A) the area in and around the city of Cor-
15 inth; and

16 (B) the State of Tennessee;

17 (2) identify alternatives for preserving features
18 from the Civil War era in the area in and around
19 the city of Corinth, including both military and civil-
20 ian themes involving—

21 (A) the role of the railroad in the Civil
22 War;

23 (B) the story of the Corinth contraband
24 camp; and

1 (C) the development of field fortifications
2 as a tactic of war;

3 (3) identify potential partners that might sup-
4 port efforts by the Secretary to carry out this Act,
5 including—

6 (A) State entities and their political sub-
7 divisions;

8 (B) historical societies and commissions;

9 (C) civic groups; and

10 (D) nonprofit organizations;

11 (4) identify alternatives to avoid land use con-
12 flicts; and

13 (5) include cost estimates for any necessary ac-
14 tivity associated with the alternatives identified
15 under this subsection, including—

16 (A) acquisition;

17 (B) development;

18 (C) interpretation;

19 (D) operation; and

20 (E) maintenance.

21 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year and 180 days
22 after the date on which funds are made available to carry
23 out this section, the Secretary shall submit a report de-
24 scribing the findings of the study under subsection (a)
25 to—

1 (1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
2 sources of the Senate; and

3 (2) the Committee on Resources of the House
4 of Representatives.

5 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
7 as are necessary to carry out this Act, including
8 \$3,000,000 for the construction of an interpretive center
9 under section 602(d) of title VI of the Omnibus Parks and
10 Public Lands Management Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 430f-
11 5(d)).

Passed the Senate November 19, 1999.

Attest:

GARY SISCO,
Secretary.