

IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

A RESOLUTION authorizing the Trustees of the Land Trust of Jackson County to convey one parcel of real property located in Kansas City, Missouri, to the Monett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., of Kansas City, MO, for rehabilitation and redevelopment of the urban core in accordance with section 141.750.2, RSMo 2000.

RESOLUTION #17926, June 18, 2012

INTRODUCED BY Scott Burnett, County Legislator

WHEREAS, section 141.750.2, RSMo 2000, authorizes the Trustees of the Land Trust of Jackson County to convey title in fee simple for consideration less than two-thirds of the appraised value of a property, only after the consent of at least two of the Trustees' appointing authorities; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Kansas City, Missouri, by its Resolution 110072, approved February 10, 2011, has delegated the authority to its Director of Neighborhood and Community Services Department to approve the transfer of blighted properties held by Land Trust of Jackson County to neighborhood-based non-profit corporations for rehabilitation; and,

WHEREAS, by Resolution 17509, dated February 14, 2011, the Legislature did express its support for these efforts of the City Council and staff of the City of Kansas City to reduce blight in the city's urban core; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Kansas City, Missouri Director Neighborhood and Community

Services Department has recommended that the property located at 5001 E. 59th Street, Kansas City, MO, legally described in the attached Exhibit A, be conveyed to Monett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., of Kansas City (Jackson County), MO, a Missouri non-profit corporation, for restoration to its 1864 appearance as part of the Saving Kansas City's Battlefield Initiative; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, that the Land Trust Trustees be authorized to convey the property located at 5001 E. 59th Street, Kansas City, MO, for an amount of less than two-thirds market value, to the Monett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., a Missouri non-profit corporation, for the purpose of better maintaining this property and revitalizing the area in which it is located; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, encourages the Land Trust Trustees to include and enforce reversionary clauses in the conveyances regarding redevelopment of the properties within a prescribed time frame; and,


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Land Trust Trustees are hereby authorized to execute any and all necessary documents to convey the above-described property for less than two-thirds market value.

Effective Date: This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage by a majority of the Legislature.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Chief Deputy County Counselor



County Counselor

Certificate of Passage

I hereby certify that the attached resolution, Resolution #17926 of June 18, 2012, was duly passed on June 18, 2012 by the Jackson County Legislature. The votes thereon were as follows:


Yeas 9

Nays 0

Abstaining 0

Absent 0

6/18/12
Date



Mary Jo Spino, Clerk of Legislature

EXHIBIT A

<u>Address</u>	<u>Parcel Number</u>	<u>Legal Description</u>
5001 E. 59 th Street Kansas City, MO 64130	46-210-05-06-00-0-00-000	SECTION 02-48-33 BEG 30' S OF N LI OF N W 1/4 OF NE 1/4 OF SEC 2-48-33 & ON ELY LI OF MO PAC R/W TH E ON S LI OF 59TH ST 375' TH S 322.5' TH NWLY 298.56' MOL TO E LI OF ROW TH NWLY ALG R/W 271.7' TO BEG

REQUEST FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

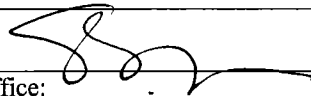
Completed by County Counselor's Office:

Res/Ord No.: 17926

Sponsor(s): Scott Burnett

Date: June 18, 2012

<p>SUBJECT</p>	<p>Action Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance</p> <p>Project/Title: Administration requests the donation of the Land Trust property at 5001 E. 59th St, Kansas City, Missouri, to the Monett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc.</p>												
<p>BUDGET INFORMATION <i>To be completed By Requesting Department and Finance</i></p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Amount authorized by this legislation this fiscal year:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount previously authorized this fiscal year:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total amount authorized after this legislative action:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount budgeted for this item * (including transfers):</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Source of funding (name of fund) and account code number; FROM / TO</td> <td>FROM ACCT</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>TO ACCT</td> </tr> </table> <p>* If account includes additional funds for other expenses, total budgeted in the account is: \$</p> <p>OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No budget impact (no fiscal note required) <input type="checkbox"/> Term and Supply Contract (funds approved in the annual budget); estimated value and use of contract: Department: Estimated Use: \$</p> <p>Prior Year Budget (if applicable): Prior Year Actual Amount Spent (if applicable):</p>	Amount authorized by this legislation this fiscal year:	\$0	Amount previously authorized this fiscal year:	\$0	Total amount authorized after this legislative action:	\$0	Amount budgeted for this item * (including transfers):	\$0	Source of funding (name of fund) and account code number; FROM / TO	FROM ACCT		TO ACCT
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Amount budgeted for this item * (including transfers):	\$0												
Source of funding (name of fund) and account code number; FROM / TO	FROM ACCT												
	TO ACCT												
<p>PRIOR LEGISLATION</p>	<p>Prior ordinances and (date):</p> <p>Prior resolutions and (date): 17509,</p>												
<p>CONTACT INFORMATION</p>	<p>RLA drafted by Sandy Aguirre Mayer, Special Projects Coordinator for the County Executive Office, 881-3282</p>												
<p>REQUEST SUMMARY</p>	<p>This non-profit was established in 1975 and plans to demolish the abandoned warehouse located on this property and restore the site of this portion of the Battle of Westport battlegrounds to its original 1864 appearance.</p> <p>This effort is part of the organization's Saving Kansas City's Battlefield initiative which was launched in 2006. This group restores as much as possible properties that were once battle grounds in order to conduct meaningful re-enactment and commemoration of the Battle of Westport, which was the largest battle fought west of the Mississippi.</p> <p>All documentation is attached with numerous letters of support from the former Mayor Kay Barnes, Jonathan Kemper, chair of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Park Service, and a resolution of support from the Kansas City Board of Parks and Recreation.</p>												

CLEARANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> Tax Clearance Completed (Purchasing & Department) <input type="checkbox"/> Business License Verified (Purchasing & Department) <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 6 Compliance - Affirmative Action/Prevailing Wage (County Auditor's Office)	
ATTACHMENTS	Letters	
REVIEW	Department Director:	Date:
	Finance (Budget Approval): <i>If applicable</i>	Date:
	Division Manager: 	Date: 6/8/12
	County Counselor's Office:	Date:

Fiscal Information (to be verified by Budget Office in Finance Department)

- This expenditure was included in the annual budget.
- Funds for this were encumbered from the _____ Fund in _____.
- There is a balance otherwise unencumbered to the credit of the appropriation to which the expenditure is chargeable and there is a cash balance otherwise unencumbered in the treasury to the credit of the fund from which payment is to be made each sufficient to provide for the obligation herein authorized.
- Funds sufficient for this expenditure will be/were appropriated by Ordinance # _____
- Funds sufficient for this appropriation are available from the source indicated below.

Account Number:	Account Title:	Amount Not to Exceed:

- This award is made on a need basis and does not obligate Jackson County to pay any specific amount. The availability of funds for specific purchases will, of necessity, be determined as each using agency places its order.
- This legislative action does not impact the County financially and does not require Finance/Budget approval.



Property Account Summary

Links: [Segregation/Merge Data](#) [Where are my tax dollars going?](#)

Parcel Number 46-210-05-06-00-0-00-000 Property Address 5001 E 59TH ST , KANSAS CITY, MO 64130

General Information

Property Description	SECTION 02-48-33 BEG 30' S OF N LI OF N W 1/4 OF NE 1/4 OF SEC 2-48-33 & ON ELY LI OF MO PAC R/W TH E ON S LI OF 59TH ST 375' TH S 322.5' TH NWLY 298.56' MOL TO E LI OF ROW TH NWLY ALG R/W 271.7' TO BEG
Last Sale Price	400,000.00
Last Sale Date	10/10/2006
Last Sale Document Number	2006E0104652
Property Category	Land and Improvements
Status	Active, Delinquency, Host Other Property, Locally Assessed
Tax Code Area	001

Property Characteristics

Property Class 3010

Parties

Role	Percent	Name	Address
Taxpayer	100	LAND TRUST OF JACKSON COUNTY MISSOURI	C/O C/O PROPERTY AND RELOCATION DIVISION, 414 E 12TH ST FL 16, KANSAS CITY, MO 64106
Owner	100	LAND TRUST OF JACKSON COUNTY MISSOURI	C/O C/O PROPERTY AND RELOCATION DIVISION, 414 E 12TH ST FL 16, KANSAS CITY, MO 64106

Property Values

Value Type	Tax Year 2012	Tax Year 2011	Tax Year 2010	Tax Year 2009	Tax Year 2008
Market Value Total	396,000	396,000	396,512	396,512	396,512
Taxable Value Total	0	126,720	126,884	126,884	126,884
Assessed Value Total	126,720	126,720	126,884	126,884	126,884

Active Exemptions

E04 (land trust)

No Charges are currently due.

No Charge Amounts are currently due for this property. If you believe this is incorrect, please contact the Taxpayer Services Unit at (816) 881-3232.

NOTICE: Telephones are staffed during regular business hours (8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays observed by Jackson County). There will be no one available to answer calls on **Saturday, December 31, 2011.**

Distribution of Current Taxes

District	Amount

Receipts

Date	Receipt No.	Amount Applied	Amount Due	Tendered	Change
04/28/2011 09:33	6890394	9.40	109,517.40	9.40	0.00
01/20/2011 12:50	6814128	1,876.51	3,992.80	1,876.51	0.00
01/20/2011 12:49	6814122	1,138.10	5,130.90	1,138.10	0.00
10/14/2010 07:02	6385074	3,734.49	7,727.27	3,734.49	0.00
10/14/2010 07:00	6385073	376.07	98,198.63	376.07	0.00

08/11/2010 07:06	6367322	796.19	8,523.48	796.19	0.00
08/11/2010 07:04	6367320	387.72	97,493.17	387.72	0.00
07/21/2010 07:15	6360508	393.49	97,610.02	393.49	0.00
07/21/2010 07:15	6360509	790.67	9,314.14	790.67	0.00
06/07/2010 09:42	6345996	431.84	9,745.99	431.84	0.00
06/07/2010 09:41	6345994	743.84	97,625.26	743.84	0.00
06/07/2010 09:40	6345993	49.44	97,674.70	49.44	0.00
04/27/2010 14:43	6327717	1,890.14	11,636.12	1,890.14	0.00
04/27/2010 14:40	6327713	410.42	12,351.11	410.42	0.00
04/27/2010 14:32	6327705	304.57	12,058.04	304.57	0.00
12/05/2009 08:15	5906912	840.89	12,781.58	840.89	0.00
12/05/2009 07:27	5906844	0.00	12,781.58	1,277.89	0.00
12/05/2009 07:26	5906843	437.00	94,736.98	437.00	0.00
10/09/2009 11:43	5830713	5,076.97	17,858.56	5,076.97	0.00

REMINDER: Occasionally, the parcel number for a real estate parcel changes, due to a parcel segregation or merge. In such a case, a search of the new parcel number may not reflect tax delinquency or a full tax history concerning that parcel. You may wish to contact us to obtain that information. Or, you may wish to search all relevant parcel numbers of parcels involved in such a segregation or merge. [Click here to begin a search to see if a parcel was involved in a segregation or merge and to see a list of parent parcel\(s\) and child parcel\(s\) involved in such segregation or merge.](#)

ATTENTION: This website will close at 11:00 p.m. on December 31.
Taxes paid online after the website reopens in the New Year will accrue interest, penalties and fees.

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NON-PROFIT SUMMARY FOR REQUEST OF DONATION
OR REDUCED PURCHASE PRICE OF LAND TRUST PROPERTY

NAME OF ORGANIZATION Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., a Missouri not for profit corporation

ADDRESS 6900 College Boulevard, Suite 510, Overland Park, Kansas 66211

CONTACT PERSON Daniel L. Smith, chairman of the board

PHONE 913 345-2000 EMAIL: battleofwestport1864@yahoo.com

HOW LONG HAS YOUR ORGANIZATION BEEN OPERATING? (MINIMUM 5 YEARS REQUIRED) 37 years

WHAT IS THE MISSION OF YOUR ORGANIZATION? Educating the public concerning the Battle of Westport, the largest Civil War battle fought west of the Mississippi; our mission is accomplished in three main ways:

1. Acquisition, preservation and restoration of historic battlefields associated with the Battle of Westport;
2. Operation of the Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum in Swope Park, Kansas City, Mo; and
3. Maintenance of a series of public markers concerning the battle on a 32 mile self-guided auto tour.

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENTS (1 PAGE EACH) AND CHECK IF ATTACHED:

COVER LETTER TO:

MICHAEL D. SANDERS, COUNTY EXECUTIVE

CC: SHELLEY KNEUVEAN, DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

CC: SCOTT BURNETT, CHAIR OF FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

EXPLANATION WHY YOU NEED A DONATION OR PURCHASE FOR LESS THAN 2/3 APPRAISED VALUE OF PROPERTY (IES) *see attached cover letter*

MAP SHOWING THE PROPERTY YOU ARE REQUESTING WITH SURROUNDING, LABELED STREETS

COPY OF YOUR 501 c (3) LETTER

LISTING OF BOARD MEMBERS WITH CONTACT INFORMATION *will follow*

LISTING OF STAFF MEMBERS, IF ANY *NA*

NARRATIVE OF YOUR PLANS FOR THE PROPERTY, INCLUDING: *see attached will follow*

1. PREVIOUS SIMILAR PROJECTS AND THEIR OUTCOMES
2. HOW THIS PROPOSED PROJECT WILL BENEFIT THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND/OR GENERAL PUBLIC

LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR THE PROJECT YOU PLAN TO UNDERTAKE WITH THE PROPERTY

DESCRIPTION OF FUNDING OR RESOURCES TO CARRY OUT PROJECT. ARE PUBLIC FUNDS INVOLVED? *will follow*

COPY OF WEBPAGE, IF ANY *see web page citation in cover letter*

2nd LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

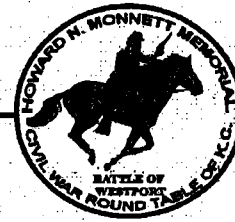
HOW LONG HAS THIS PROPERTY BEEN IN LAND TRUST? *March 2012*

PLEASE EMAIL ALL DOCUMENTS TO: smayer@jacksongov.org

Call Sandy Mayer at 816 881-3282 with questions

MONNETT BATTLE OF WESTPORT FUND, INC.

Under the aegis of
THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF KANSAS CITY



7 June 2012

The Honorable Michael D. Sanders
County Executive of Jackson County, Missouri
Jackson County Courthouse
200 E. 12th Street, Suite 415
Kansas City, MO 64106

Re: Request for Donation of Jackson County Land Trust Property
For Inclusion in Big Blue Battlefield Park of the Battle of Westport
Jackson County Parcel No. 46-210-05-06-00-0-00-00

Dear County Executive Sanders:

As chairman of the board of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., we are submitting an application to Jackson County Missouri on behalf of our not-for-profit organization for the donation of a tract of land located at 5001 E. 59th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64130.

Our organization is a Missouri not-for-profit corporation established in 1975. We are recognized as an IRC §501(c) (3) tax exempt organization. The basis for our tax exempt status is set forth in the accompanying application and supporting documentation.

The purpose of the requested donation is to demolish the abandoned warehouse located on the property and restore the site of this portion of the Battle of Westport battlegrounds to its original 1864 appearance. Approximately 11,000 troops clashed on October 22 and 23, 1864 over the ground at Byram's Ford including the tract which is the subject of the requested donation.

This effort is part of our organization's *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative which was launched in 2006. Our restoration and preservation program is explained in more detail on our website at www.battleofwestport.org. We are working to restore as much of this Hallowed Ground at Byram's Ford in order to conduct a meaningful reenactment and commemoration of the Battle of Westport, which was the largest battle fought west of the Mississippi.

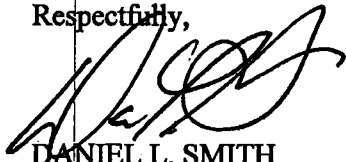
Accompanying this donation application are the following items:

1. Non-profit summary for request for donation of land trust property
2. Site map for the subject property at 5001 E. 59th Street
3. IRS 501 (c) (3) letters for the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc.
4. National Park Service, CWSAC Site MO027, Battle of Westport documentation and core battlefield site map which encompasses the subject tract

5. Resolution #209850 of the Kansas City Board of Parks Commissioners adopted on June 5, 2012, in support of the proposed donation
6. Battle Map of area prepared by the Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department and in consultation with our organization
7. Big Blue Battlefield Master Plan of 2012 for the Big Blue Battlefield Park which includes the subject tract, prepared for and adopted by the Kansas City Board of Parks Commissioners on June 5, 2012.

On behalf of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., we appreciate your favorable consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

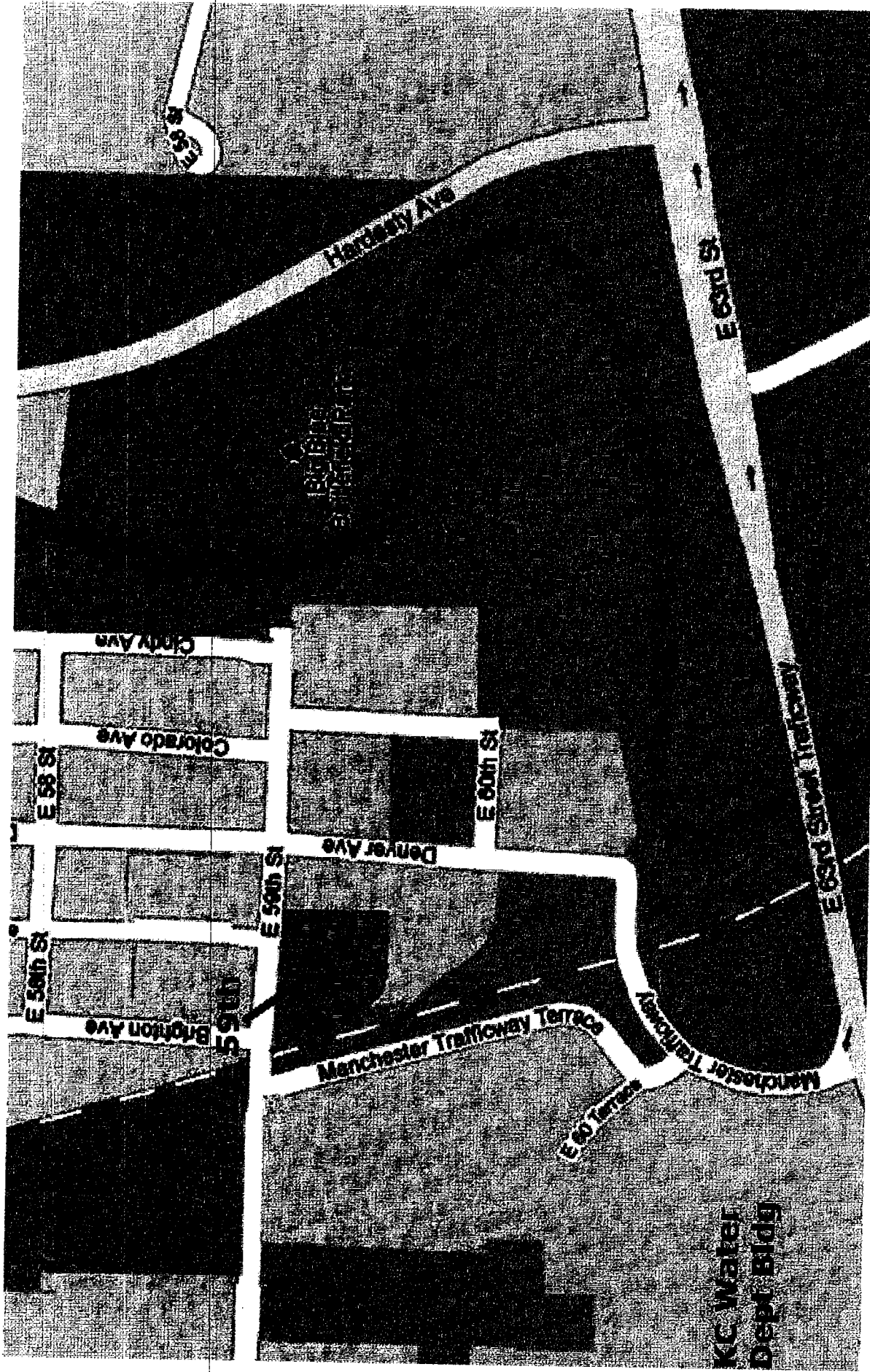


DANIEL L. SMITH
Chairman of the Board
Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc.

cc: Shelley Kneuvean via email to skneuvean@jacksongov.org
Scott Burnett via email to burnett.scott@gmail.com
Sandy Mayer via email to smayer@jacksongov.org

Explanation of Need for Donation

The requested donation will permit our organization to complete a part of its *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative and further the preservation of the Civil War battlefield at Byram's Ford. This effort is to preserve, restore and interpret this historic and Hallowed Ground on which troops clashed on October 22 and 23, 1864 in the largest Civil War battle west of the Mississippi. Our organization has limited funds. Every officer, director and member of our non-profit organization is a volunteer. We have no paid staff. The members of our organization volunteer and contributes many hundred hours each year in service to the goal of educating the public concerning the Battle of Westport. In carrying out this project and the larger battlefield restoration, we rely upon donations that are in cash or in kind. Without donations, we do not possess the means to carry out this important service to the public.



Jaco Parcel number 46 210-05-06-00-0-00-00

Internal Revenue Service
P.O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Department of the Treasury

Date: AUG 03 2006

Person to Contact:
Mrs. Jones 31-03886

MONETT BATTLE OF WESTPORT FUND
% DANIEL L SMITH
6900 COLLEGE BLVD STE 510
OVERLAND PARK KS 66211

Toll Free Telephone Number:
877-829-5500
Employer Identification Number:
43-1124141

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request of June 23, 2006, regarding your tax-exempt status.

Our records indicate that a determination letter was issued in April 1978 that recognized you as exempt from Federal income tax. Our records further indicate that you are currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records also indicate you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are described in sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,



Cindy Westcott
Manager, Exempt Organizations
Determinations

Internal Revenue Service
District Director
P.O. Box 1123, Central Station
St. Louis, Mo. 63188

Department of the Treasury

Date: JUN 28 1978

StL:EO:78:1255

Employer Identification Number:
43-1124141

Accounting Period Ending:
December 31

Form 990 Required: Yes No

Monnet Battle of Westport Fund
4001 Gladstone Boulevard
Kansas City, Missouri 64123

Person to Contact:
V. McDonald:EP/EO:7206

Contact Telephone Number:
314-425-5651

Dear Applicant:

Based on information supplied, and assuming your operations will be as stated in your application for recognition of exemption, we have determined you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

We have further determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code, because you are an organization described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) and 509(a)(1).

If your sources of support, or your purposes, character, or method of operation change, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on your exempt status and foundation status. Also, you should inform us of all changes in your name or address.

Generally, you are not liable for social security (FICA) taxes unless you file a waiver of exemption certificate as provided in the Federal Insurance Contributions Act. If you have paid FICA taxes without filing the waiver, you should contact us. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Since you are not a private foundation, you are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, you are not automatically exempt from other Federal excise taxes. If you have any questions about excise, employment, or other Federal taxes, please let us know.

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for Federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

The box checked in the heading of this letter shows whether you must file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income tax. If Yes is checked, you are required to file Form 990 only if your gross receipts each year are normally more than \$10,000. If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your annual accounting period. The law imposes a penalty of \$10 a day, up to a maximum of \$5,000, when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay.

1114 Market Street, St. Louis, MO 63101 (over)

Letter 947(DO) (5-77)

You are not required to file Federal income tax returns unless you are subject to the tax on unrelated business income under section 511 of the Code. If you are subject to this tax, you must file an income tax return on Form 990-T. In this letter, we are not determining whether any of your present or proposed activities are unrelated trade or business as defined in section 513 of the Code.

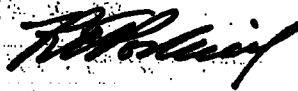
You need an employer identification number even if you have no employees.

If an employer identification number was not entered on your application, a number will be assigned to you and you will be advised of it. Please use that number on all returns you file and in all correspondence with the Internal Revenue Service.

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your exempt status and foundation status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

If you have any questions, please contact the person whose name and telephone number are shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely yours,



R. C. Voskuil
District Director

This letter supersedes and modifies our letter dated April 6, 1978 in which we placed certain conditions on your exemption.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
MONNETT BATTLE OF WESTPORT FUND, INC.

Daniel L. Smith, *CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD*
6900 College Boulevard, Overland Park, KS 913 345-2000

Les Thierolf, *PRESIDENT*
7221-N. Smalley Avenue, Kansas City, MO 816 426-2265

Lane Smith, *1ST VICE-PRESIDENT*
7411 W. 100th Place, Overland Park, KS 913 381-0399

Alana A. Smith, *SECRETARY*
10075 Goodman Drive, Overland Park, KS 913 648-0952

Shirley A. Christian, *DIRECTOR*
6836 Glenwood Street, Overland Park, KS 913 677-4116

Alisha A. Cole, *DIRECTOR*
912 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 816 931-4807

Paul H. Gault, *DIRECTOR*
7118 N. Congress Avenue, Kansas City, MO 816 741-2962

Howard G. Mann, *DIRECTOR*
P. O. Box 6712, Lee's Summit, MO 816 932-5663

Charles H. Kopke, *DIRECTOR*
1237 W. 59th Street, Kansas City, MO 816 444-1114

Narrative of Our Plans for the Property

We launched the *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative in 2006 with the purposes of restoring and reclaiming one of the few remaining significant sites associated with the Battle of Westport. The Battle of Westport occurred in Jackson County Missouri on October 21-23, 1864. The battle is the largest battle of the Civil War fought west of the Mississippi. Our overall plan is to remove and restore the flood plain along the Big Blue River at the Byram's Ford crossing. The Ford was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989. With the removal of nine modern buildings in the flood plain we intend to seek the expansion of the area of the original National Register Site to include the Meadow area where the subject tract is located along with the Bloody Hill area to the west of the flood plain and approaching the site of the Kansas City Water Services Department. The Battle of Westport involved 30,000 troops over the three day engagement. It is far and away the most significant Civil War event in Missouri with the exception of the Battle of Wilson's Creek. It has been ranked as a Class A battlefield, the highest rating by the National Park Service; however, the subsequent urbanization of most of the battlefields have made restoration infeasible except at Byram's Ford.

Our *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative of which the subject property is included will result in the removal of the industrial park from the battlefield and restore this Hallowed Ground to its 1864 appearance as a Meadow, as described by the battle participants. A goal of the restoration is the conduct of a planned battlefield commemoration and re-enactment upon the site. We have pursued this goal in association with the Kansas City Parks Department.

As noted on the following history of our organization, for the past 30 years we have accumulated through donation and purchase a substantial portion of the Byram's Ford site. In turn, we have donated these parcels to the Kansas City Parks Department for the creation of the Big Blue Battlefield Park. We have acquired an adjacent tract at 5951 Manchester for the same purpose of the removing the building. We are currently conducting a fundraising campaign to retire the indebtedness on the 5951 property in order then remove the warehouse upon that tract. We have worked with the Parks Department to also obtain a Transportation Enhancement grant in order to seek obtain the property at 5950 Manchester. The 5950 property adjoins the subject tract at 5001 E 59th.

As a result of the acquisitions of the three properties at 5001 E. 59th, 5951 Manchester and 5950 Manchester, we will have acquired and removed a total of six of the original nine buildings that stood on the battlefield in 2002.

The donation of the Hallowed Ground of this subject tract will provided a vivid monument to the courage and blood of the participants. The public will gain a greater appreciation that our community was the site of an epic struggle during this chapter of our turbulent history that ultimately produced the vibrant community and nation that followed the end of the Civil War. The public will see and appreciate that men fought and died on this site nearly 150 years ago that we might have the freedoms that we enjoy today.

Narrative of plans

1. Previous similar projects and their outcomes

History of Monnett Battle of Westport Fund

Dr. Howard N. Monnett of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 1964 wrote the book *Action Before Westport* which recounted the story of the Battle of Westport of 21-23 October 1864, the largest engagement west of the Mississippi. Dr. Monnett's enthusiasm for the subject within the Round Table led to the discussion of creating an automobile tour of the widely dispersed battle sites.

As a memorial to his vision, in 1975, members of the Kansas City Round Table formed the Howard N. Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc. as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization to mark and interpret the sites associated with the Battle of Westport. By 1979, the founders of the Fund had raised \$25,000, erected permanent monument markers at 25 sites and created a self-guided 32-mile automobile tour. The Fund's principal challenge has been to interpret the battlefield which has been mostly overtaken by the subsequent urban development of Kansas City, Missouri.

Since 1979 the Fund's preservation efforts have focused on the reclamation of the Byram's Ford site which was damaged in the 1950s by an industrial park development. In 1983 the Fund obtained a donation from Commerce Bank of fifty acres of the battlefield including the Byram's Ford crossing on the Big Blue River. The Fund's leaders in 1989 obtained the designation of the site as the Byram's Ford Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1985 the Fund laid out a self-guided walking tour with way posts and a map of the Byram's Ford battlefield.

The Byram's Ford Road Site of the Historic District covering 40 acres was acquired for \$42,000 by the Fund and APCWS, predecessor to the Civil War Trust, in 1995 through a joint fund raising campaign. The leaders of the Fund obtained the agreement of the Kansas City Parks Department to assume the stewardship of these tracts of Hallowed Ground totaling more than 100 acres of the battlefield. In April 1995 the Fund and the APCWS deeded the land to the Parks Department for use as the Big Blue Battlefield Park. The Fund deeded another three acres to the Parks Department in 2002. As a result a corridor stretching for a mile along the Byram's Ford Road across the battle field from the bluffs on the east side of the Blue River to the crest of Bloody Hill came within the public domain except for one tract known as the DuPont property.

In response to plans by the City and Corps of Engineers to alter the river channel and obliterate the historic Byram's Ford site, the Fund's leaders negotiated a compromise plan in 1992 which prevented the destruction of the Ford. In 1995 and 1997, the Fund sponsored archaeological surveys of the site. The 1995 Gray and Pape study funded by the Fund and the City's Historic Preservation Department outlined the areas of the battlesite for protection.

The Fund's Chairman in 2002 wrote an *Interpretive and Development Plan for the Byram's Ford* (available on the web at www.battleofwestport.org/Plan.htm) which

provided for acquiring additional tracts and restoring the site to its 1864 appearance. The City's *Greenway Study* in 2005 adopted the Fund's Plan to restore the field to its 1864 appearance. As part of the Plan, the Fund obtained a grant through the City's PIAC program for \$30,000 for installation of a replica cannon on Bloody Hill. As another part of the Plan, the Fund obtained funding for the engineering drawings for the construction of a pedestrian walking trail along the Byram's Ford Road and the crest of Bloody Hill. The drawings were completed in 2008. The Fund is working with City agencies to implement its construction.

In 2006 the Fund launched its *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative which is a program designed to reclaim all of the Byram's Ford site south of 59th Street on which eight buildings of the industrial park then were standing. The Fund's initiative received the enthusiastic endorsement of the City Park Board in October 2006. Director Shirley Christian and the Fund Chairman Smith co-chair this funding and acquisition effort. A video showing the *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* project result is on the web at www.battleofwestport.org/Video.html.

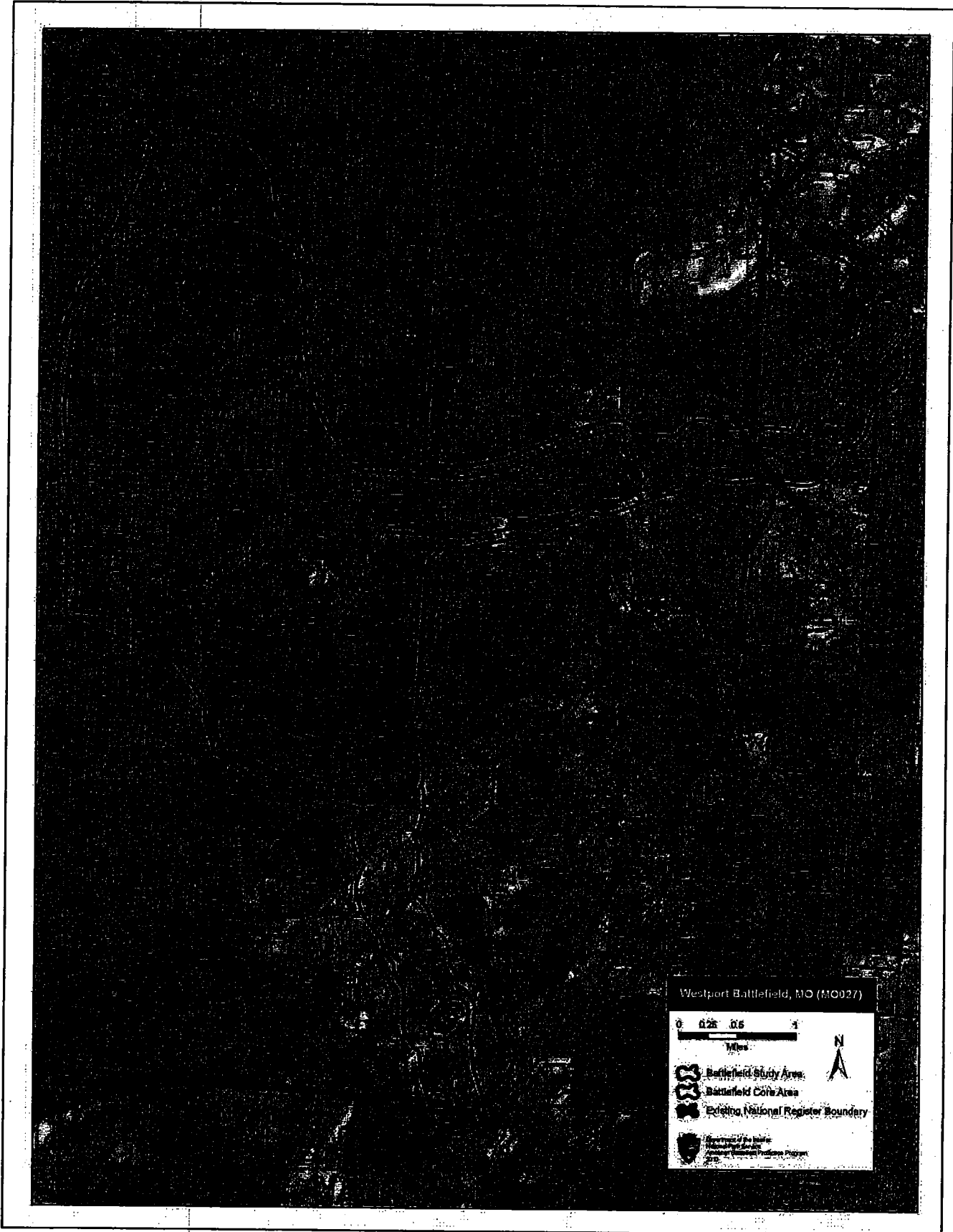
The Fund has made substantial progress on its *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* reclamation initiative. Three of the eight buildings are now taken care of. Two of the buildings have been removed. In 2010 the Fund obtained donations of \$100,000 for the acquisition of a third property at 5951 Manchester in the heart of the battlefield and took title to the property in December 2010. The Fund is now conducting further fund raising in order to pay off the \$150,000 mortgage on the land so that the warehouse can be removed. A fourth building, the DuPont property, is anticipated to be acquired in the near future. In 2007 the Fund's Chairman prepared a successful grant for \$498,000 from MoDOT and a grant for \$150,000 from the City's PIAC program for the acquisition of the former DuPont. Completion of the acquisition of the property is underway.

Another major project of the Fund is the Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum located in Swope Park near the Byram's Ford site. The Fund conducted the Grand Opening of the center in October 2008 at which Congressman Cleaver was the keynote speaker. The Fund's members have volunteered countless hours to the development of displays and sharing the stories of the battle with visitors to the center from April to October each year. For more, see our website at www.battleofwestport.org

Westport (MO027)

Location	Jackson County
Campaign	Price's Missouri Expedition (1864)
Battle Date(s)	October 23, 1864
Principal Commanders	Major General Samuel R. Curtis [US]; Major General Sterling Price [CS]
Forces Engaged	Army of the Border [US]; Army of Missouri [CS]
Results	Union victory
Study Area	<p>11,179.39 acres (10,885.48 in Missouri; 293.91 acres in Kansas) The 1993 Study Area boundaries did not include the October 23rd action at Byram's Ford. The CWSAC incorrectly included that action as part of the Byram's Ford battlefield (MO026). The ABPP therefore removed that action from MO026 and incorporated it into Westport (MO027).</p> <p>The ABPP made extensive revisions to the 1993 Study Area. The Study Area now reflects the following: 1) the Federal approach route from the east; 2) the action at Byram's Ford on October 23rd; 3) troop movements to the east; 4) fighting to the west along and over the Missouri-Kansas state line; 5) the movement of Price's wagon train to the south from the Byram's Ford area; 6) retreats and advances over open ground toward the Confederate wagon train; 7) skirmishing toward, and the action at, Mockbee Farm; 8) the Confederate route to and across Russell's Ford; 8) the skirmish south of Russell's Ford along the Confederate route of withdrawal; and 9) the Confederate route of withdrawal to the south (the boundary extends only as far as the ABPP was able to identify the course of the historic road to Little Santa Fe).</p> <p>The ABPP expanded the 1993 Core Area to represent the following areas of engagement: 1) fighting at Byram's Ford on October 23rd; 2) fighting north and south along Brush Creek; fighting to and along the Missouri-Kansas state line; 3) heavy fighting as the Confederate forces began to fall back from Westport (unwittingly) toward Pleasonton's division; and 4) Shelby's last defensive position along a series of stone walls running east-west.</p> <p>In addition, the ABPP established two new Core Areas. The central Core Area represents the location of the Union attack near the Confederate wagon train and the running battle across the landscape to Mockbee Farm (this action is not to be confused with the Mockbee Farm action on October 22nd). The southern Core Area represents the Federal assault on the Confederate wagon train (which was repulsed).</p>
Potential National Register Lands	0.00 acres
Protected Lands	166.37 acres Kansas City Department of Parks, 162.37 acres, fee simple Monett Battle of Westport Fund, 4.00 acres, fee simple

Publicly Accessible Lands	412.37 acres Kansas City Department of Parks, Swope Park, 250.00 acres Kansas City Department of Parks, Big Blue Battlefield Park, 122.37 acres Kansas City Department of Parks, Loose Park, 40.00 acres
Management Area(s)	Big Blue Battlefield Loose Park Swope Park
Friends Group(s)	Monnett Battle of Westport Fund (1975) http://www.battleofwestport.org
Preservation Activities Since 1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advocacy ✓ Cultural Resource Surveys and Inventories ✓ Fundraising ✓ Interpretation Projects ✓ Land or Development Rights Purchased Legislation ✓ Planning Projects ✓ Research and Documentation Other
Public Interpretation Since 1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Brochure(s) ✓ Driving Tour ✓ Living History ✓ Maintained Historic Features/Areas ✓ Visitor Center ✓ Walking Tour/Trails ✓ Wayside Exhibits/Signs ✓ Website http://www.kcmo.org/CKCMO/Depts/ParksandRecreation/LoosePark/index.htm http://www.kcmo.org/CKCMO/Depts/ParksandRecreation/SwopePark/index.htm ✓ Other Video documenting on-going reclamation efforts
Condition Statement	With the exception of lands around and immediately to the west of Byram's Ford, the landscape and terrain of this battlefield have been altered beyond recognition since the period of significance. The growth of Kansas City has subsumed the battlefield and it is now an urban landscape. Other than the Byram's Ford area, only commemorative and interpretive opportunities exist for this battlefield particularly in Big Blue Battlefield, Swope, and Loose Parks.
Historical Designation	None



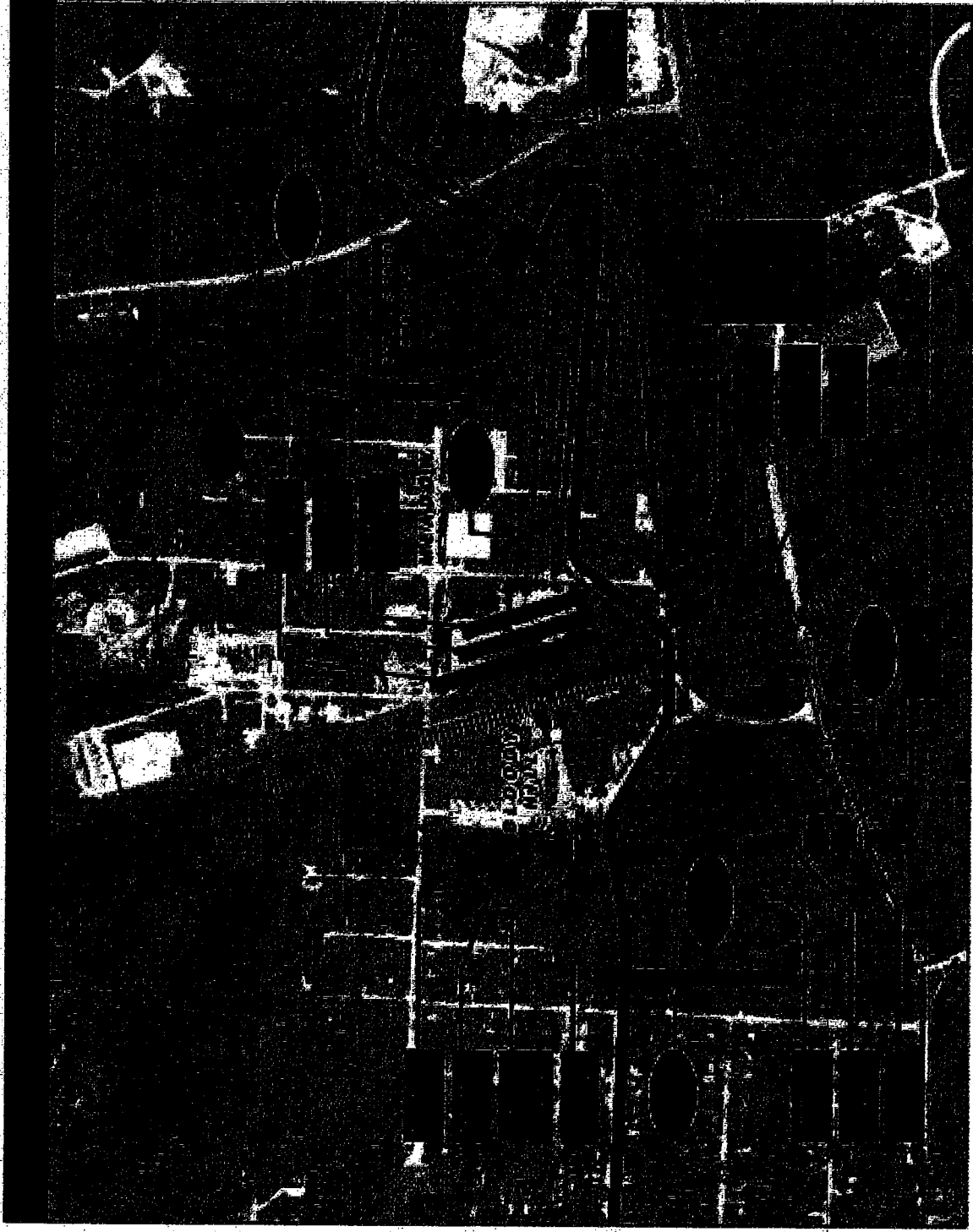
**Battle Record at
BYRAMS FORD
BATTLEFIELD**

October 25, 1864

Commanding General
Major G. W. Anderson, United States Army

General
Major G. W. Anderson, United States Army

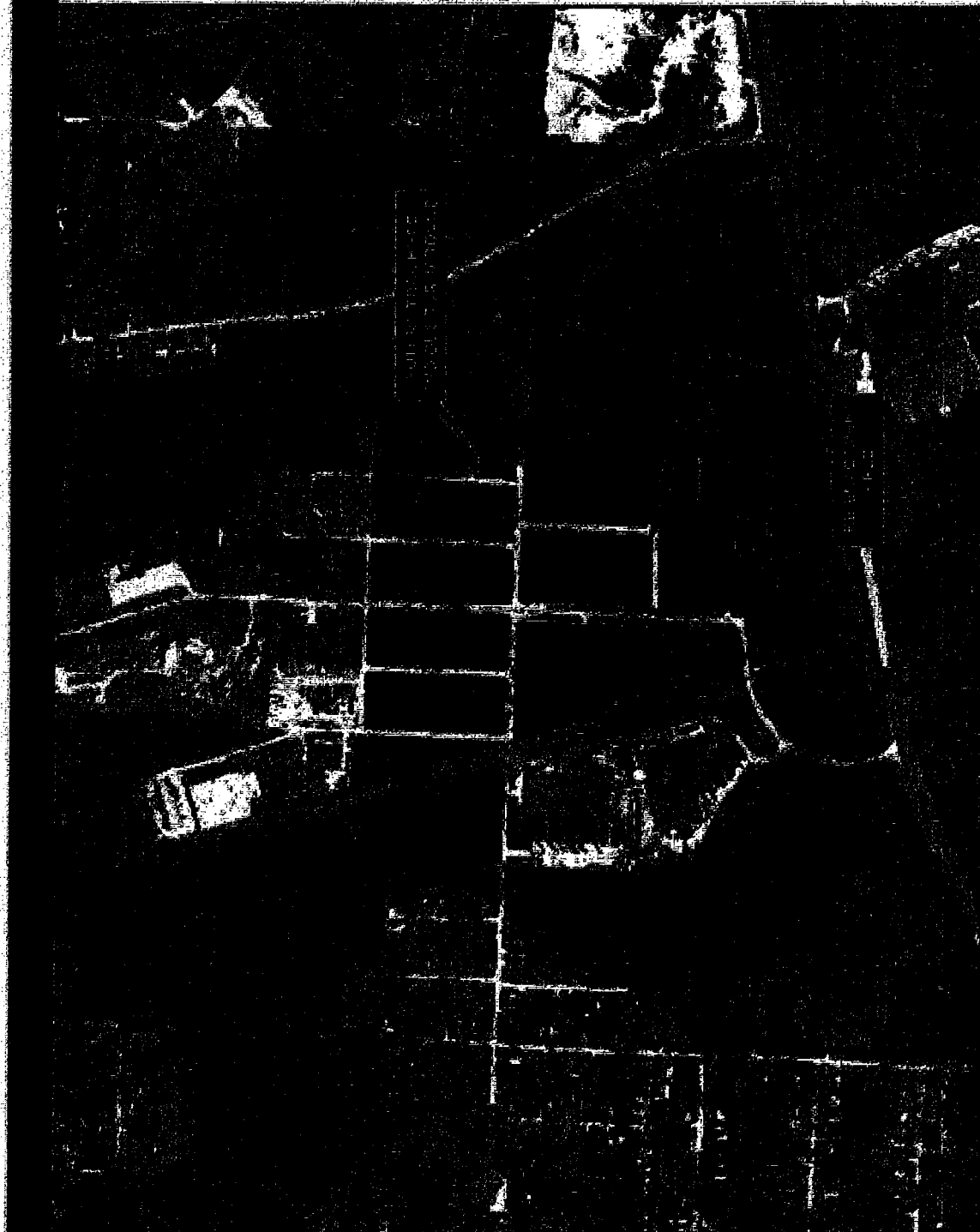
Company	Rank	Name
1st	Private	John A. Smith
2nd	Private	John B. Jones
3rd	Private	John C. Williams
4th	Private	John D. Brown
5th	Private	John E. White
6th	Private	John F. Black
7th	Private	John G. Green
8th	Private	John H. Hall
9th	Private	John I. King
10th	Private	John J. Lee
11th	Private	John K. Miller
12th	Private	John L. Moore
13th	Private	John M. Taylor
14th	Private	John N. Wilson
15th	Private	John O. Young
16th	Private	John P. Adams
17th	Private	John Q. Baker
18th	Private	John R. Campbell
19th	Private	John S. Evans
20th	Private	John T. Ford
21st	Private	John U. Gibson
22nd	Private	John V. Hall
23rd	Private	John W. King
24th	Private	John X. Lee
25th	Private	John Y. Miller
26th	Private	John Z. Moore
27th	Private	John A. Taylor
28th	Private	John B. Wilson
29th	Private	John C. Young
30th	Private	John D. Adams
31st	Private	John E. Baker
32nd	Private	John F. Campbell
33rd	Private	John G. Evans
34th	Private	John H. Ford
35th	Private	John I. Gibson
36th	Private	John J. Hall
37th	Private	John K. King
38th	Private	John L. Lee
39th	Private	John M. Miller
40th	Private	John N. Moore
41st	Private	John O. Taylor
42nd	Private	John P. Wilson
43rd	Private	John Q. Young
44th	Private	John R. Adams
45th	Private	John S. Baker
46th	Private	John T. Campbell
47th	Private	John U. Evans
48th	Private	John V. Ford
49th	Private	John W. Gibson
50th	Private	John X. Hall
51st	Private	John Y. King
52nd	Private	John Z. Lee
53rd	Private	John A. Miller
54th	Private	John B. Moore
55th	Private	John C. Taylor
56th	Private	John D. Wilson
57th	Private	John E. Young
58th	Private	John F. Adams
59th	Private	John G. Baker
60th	Private	John H. Campbell
61st	Private	John I. Evans
62nd	Private	John J. Ford
63rd	Private	John K. Gibson
64th	Private	John L. Hall
65th	Private	John M. King
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70th	Private	John R. Wilson
71st	Private	John S. Young
72nd	Private	John T. Adams
73rd	Private	John U. Baker
74th	Private	John V. Campbell
75th	Private	John W. Evans
76th	Private	John X. Ford
77th	Private	John Y. Gibson
78th	Private	John Z. Hall
79th	Private	John A. King
80th	Private	John B. Lee
81st	Private	John C. Miller
82nd	Private	John D. Moore
83rd	Private	John E. Taylor
84th	Private	John F. Wilson
85th	Private	John G. Young
86th	Private	John H. Adams
87th	Private	John I. Baker
88th	Private	John J. Campbell
89th	Private	John K. Evans
90th	Private	John L. Ford
91st	Private	John M. Gibson
92nd	Private	John N. Hall
93rd	Private	John O. King
94th	Private	John P. Lee
95th	Private	John Q. Miller
96th	Private	John R. Moore
97th	Private	John S. Taylor
98th	Private	John T. Wilson
99th	Private	John U. Young
100th	Private	John V. Adams



2012 Master Plan for

BIG BLUE BATTLEFIELD PARK

- City Property
- Park Boundary
- Existing Buildings
- Proposed Buildings
- Proposed Parking
- Proposed Paths
- Proposed Landmarks
- Proposed Amenities
- Proposed Utilities
- Proposed Stormwater Management



Letters of Support

Resolution #29850

WHEREAS, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners recognizes the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., and its continuous efforts in the preservation of Kansas City's Big Blue Civil War Battlefield; and,

WHEREAS, the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., preserves this historic battlefield, and protects and defends irreplaceable historical, cultural, and environmental resources; and,

WHEREAS, the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., does Kansas City a great service by promoting educational programs to inform the public of the incredible sacrifice and heroism of all those who fought on that battlefield; and,

WHEREAS, the 2012 Big Blue Battlefield Master Plan will serve as a guide for future development and acquisition and return the landscape to its 1864 appearance; and,

WHEREAS, the Board Parks and Recreation Commissioners currently maintains approximately 90 acres of land known as the Big Blue Battlefield, and would work in cooperation with the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc. to maintain any additional acreage that may be acquired by the organization; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Kansas City, through David Park, as Deputy Director, Neighborhoods and Housing Services Department, has determined that it is appropriate to authorize the Land Trust of Jackson County ("Land Trust") to donate to the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc. certain property located at 5001 E. 59th Street being Jackson County Parcel Number 46-210-05-06-00-0-00-000, and requested a "hold" to be placed by the Land Trust pending the completion of the approval of the donation process, and such "hold" was approved by the Land Trust on May 23, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., is seeking the consent to such donation from the second statutorily required appointing authority to the Land Trust prior to the Land Trust's July 2012 meeting, at which point the "hold" for this parcel will lapse; and,


WHEREAS, Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc., has been advised that the City does not have the resources to demolish the existing structure at 5001 E. 59th Street at this time, and that such demolition will be the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund Inc.'s responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners is not likely to support taking title into the City until the demolition is completed, and efforts to restore the meadow of the 1864 battlefield have been completed by the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund Inc.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS: fully supports the endeavors and fundraising efforts of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund Inc.'s Saving *Kansas City's Battlefield* Initiative, the donation of this parcel, and requests the approval of this donation by the second appointing authority, being either Jackson County or the Kansas City Missouri School District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS: that this Resolution be entered into the Minutes of the Board and the Secretary, be directed to furnish a copy to the City Clerk.

I, Karmen D. Bradley, Secretary to the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners do hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of Resolution No. 29850, Adopted by the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners on June 05, 2012 and recorded in the official proceedings of that date.


Karmen D. Bradley, Secretary

CITY OF FOUNTAINS
HEART OF THE NATION



KANSAS CITY
MISSOURI

Office of the Mayor

Mayor Kay Barnes

29th Floor, City Hall
414 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2778

Kansas City
Missouri



2006

(816)513-3500
Fax: (816)513-3518

April 16, 2007

Daniel L. Smith
Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc.
6900 College Boulevard, Suite 510
Overland Park, Kansas 66211

Dear Mr. Smith,

I am pleased to add my support and endorsement of the Monnett Fund's *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative. I read with interest (particularly given my own family history) the article in the Kansas City STAR (January 8, 2007, p. B4). It is clear that efforts to save historic sites are essential to our understanding of history.

The Monnett Fund is to be commended for its longstanding efforts to commemorate and preserve this land associated with the 1864 Battle of Westport. From your presentation last year and my subsequent visit to the site for the dedication of the battlefield, I have learned much more about the significance of this site. It is indeed hallowed ground.

I concur with the endorsement made by the Kansas City Board of Parks Commissioners, and join others who support your program of land acquisition and reclamation of the Byram's Ford site for restoration as a significant Civil War battlefield. The Parks board's resolution of October 31, 2006 reflects my view of the importance of your project, and I hope this project can be completed successfully.

Major development activity is reviving a once moribund city; to complement this development, I think the restoration of the Byram's Ford site as a green space and its preservation of the battlefield is an important pursuit. Our historic memory and concern for culture demand that the site be restored. Furthermore, your initiative to acquire and remove the warehouse structures will diminish the blight in the area and in so doing, provide an infinitely greater benefit for all residents of the city (as well as those who visit).

The approach of the 2011 sesquicentennial of the Civil War is another reason to act quickly to accomplish the reclamation of the Byram's Ford site of the Battle of Westport. Heritage tourism is an increasingly important element in our city's economic diversity and strength. Efforts like this historic restoration and preservation will help us attract

visitors—this is readily illustrated by the success of the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial.

The key element of your plan has become possible with the offering for purchase (in December 2006) of the former DuPont Corporation's warehouse. This property is surrounded by core battlefield land owned by the Kansas City Parks Department. The addition of the DuPont property will make it possible to create an historic park and green space stretching from Byram's Ford all the way to the ridge of Bloody Hill, where we dedicated the artillery piece. I think quick action is essential to avoid losing this opportunity to create a recognizable, intact Civil War battlefield within the city.

As outlined by your initiative, you are applying for funding through the following agencies (among others): the Missouri Department of Economic Development tax credit programs including the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP); Public Improvements Advisory Committee (PIAC) of Kansas City, Missouri; Transportation Enhancement program through the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) and the Missouri Department of Transportation (MODoT).

I strongly urge these bodies to act upon your applications both favorably and promptly in the pursuit of this initiative, and I encourage other people and foundations to join me in supporting the *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative. It is an eminently worthy cause.

Sincerely,


Kay Barnes



Commerce Bank

1000 Walnut Street
Post Office Box 419248
Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6248
(816) 234-2391

Jonathan Kemper
Chairman

March 1, 2007

Mr. Daniel L. Smith
Chairman
MONNETT BATTLE OF WESTPORT FUND, INC.
6900 College Boulevard, Suite 510
Overland Park, Kansas 66211

Re: Support and endorsement for *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* Initiative

Dear Mr. Smith:

I support and endorse your recently announced *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative.

In my role as chairman of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, I have been privileged to see many examples of commendable efforts to reclaim and restore historic properties and landscapes. I understand your *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative is comparable to the restoration work being accomplished at the Franklin Battlefield in Tennessee, a site like Westport, which has been ravaged by the encroachment of the urban landscape.

Through these efforts the historic landscapes of the battlefields of the Battles of Westport and Franklin will once again be made tangible for this and future generations.

The Battle of Westport which raged for three days in October 1864 was the largest Civil War battle fought west of the Mississippi River. The National Park Service's Civil War Advisory Committee has ranked the Battle of Westport among the nation's 25 most significant Civil War battlefields.

Unfortunately, many of the sites associated with the Battle of Westport have long been lost to urban growth during the past century and a half. With your *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative, our community has an historic opportunity to reclaim a significant portion of the Westport battlefield.

I have a deep personal interest in the history of this community and join in supporting the endorsement of your initiative by the Kansas City Parks Board in its Resolution 27863 of October 31, 2006. As noted by the resolution, the *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* campaign will remove the warehouse buildings which lie in the core area of the battle field. The initiative will restore the Byram's Ford battle site to its original 1864 appearance.

Several of these warehouses in this area have been vacated and become deteriorated. In November 2006, the DuPont Corporation vacated its warehouse facility at the Byram's Ford site.

The acquisition and removal of the DuPont warehouse is critical to the restoration of the battle site. We need to act urgently in order to seize the opportunity now that the DuPont property is being offered for sale. Our community has a rare chance to redevelop this declining twentieth century industrial park into an important historic site and cultural resource.

The land acquisition and redevelopment goals of your initiative are both attainable and appropriate. Once acquired, these properties would be available for inclusion in the adjacent portion of battlefield which is currently administered by the Kansas City Parks Department. This municipally administered battlefield is located in the Byram's Ford Historic District of the National Register of Historic Places. The removal of the non-contributing elements presented by the vacated warehouses will enhance the sense of place and feeling associated with this National Register property.

Reclaiming this hallowed ground will also enhance the community's economic well being by promoting heritage tourism to the area. It can be expected that preservation of historic places like the Byram's Ford battlefield of the Battle of Westport will attract tourists and allied economic benefits. We must always remember that it is Kansas City's unique history- not its warehouses and strip malls - that distinguishes it from other communities. Protecting this unique history will guarantee that Kansas City remains a special place for tourists to visit.

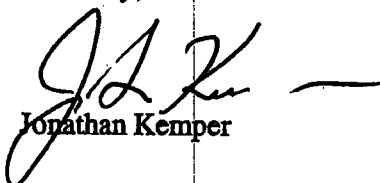
As Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, has noted, "A battlefield can literally change your life. Of course, you can read any number of books about the Civil War — but when you visit a battlefield, you can do more than read about history. You can see it and touch it and walk through it. At a battlefield, just as at other kinds of historic sites, history says, 'This is what happened.' Preservation says, 'It happened right here.'"

I want to lend my strong support to your applications for funding assistance by you and your partners in this initiative. As outlined by your initiative, you are applying for assistance from the following:

Missouri Department of Economic Development tax credit programs including the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP);
Public Improvements Advisory Committee (PIAC) program of Kansas City Missouri;
and
Transportation Enhancement program through the Mid America Regional Council (MARC) and the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT).

I solicit the positive consideration by these potential funders of your applications in connection with its *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative. I encourage other individuals and foundations to join with me in this timely effort to fund this unique historic preservation opportunity.

Sincerely,


Jonathan Kemper



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Wilson's Creek National Battlefield
6424 W. Farm Road 182
Republic, Missouri 65738-9514

March 1, 2007

Daniel L. Smith
Chairman
MONNETT BATTLE OF WESTPORT FUND, INC.
6900 College Boulevard, Suite 510
Overland Park, Kansas 66211

Re: Support and endorsement for *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield Initiative*

Dear Mr. Smith:

In my role as Midwest Coordinator of the American Battlefield Protection Program of the National Park Service, I have had the opportunity to work with the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund since the inception of the program. You have a well deserved reputation for diligence and solid work in the efforts to protect and preserve the historic sites associated with the Battle of Westport.

The Battle of Westport which took place on October 21 through 23, 1864 ranks as one of the 25 most significant battles of the Civil War. It was the largest engagement west of the Mississippi River. Sadly, city growth has engulfed large portions of the hallowed ground at Westport over which the Confederate and Union forces grimly contested for control of the State of Missouri.

Although much of the Battle of Westport has been irretrievably lost to us, your recently announced *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield initiative* is welcome news.

I appreciated the opportunity in September 2006 to view your video presentation of the *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield initiative* and to tour the battlefield at Byram's Ford with members of the Monnett Fund. The proposed reclamation and restoration of the Meadow area of the battlefield from the Byram's Ford crossing to Bloody Hill will allow present and future generations to experience a significant portion of the Battle of Westport as it was in October 1864.

As the Midwest Coordinator of the ABPP, I join with others in supporting and endorsing your initiative. The events at Byram's Ford were pivotal to the final outcome of the Battle of Westport and Price's Missouri Expedition.

It was at Byram's Ford on October 22, 1864 that the intrepid Confederate General Jo Shelby was finally able to make a break out and avoid having the entire Confederate

Army crushed between the Blue River and the Federal advance from Independence. The events at the Ford were even more critical on the next day October 23, 1864. The Confederate cavalry fought doggedly across the fields west of the Ford from before dawn to nearly noon in order to hold back the Federal pursuit by General Alfred Pleasonton. Only after intense assaults and mounting casualties, Confederate General Marmaduke was compelled to withdraw his forces to the south and west from the Byram's Ford Road. This action compelled the remainder of the Confederate army at Westport to break off the engagement and retreat.

It is imperative that your initiative be funded as soon as possible. The recent availability of the DuPont warehouse for purchase should be acted upon in order to protect the corridor of the Federal and Confederate armies' paths along the Byram's Ford Road from the Ford across the Meadow to the top of Bloody Hill. Only the former DuPont warehouse now remains in the viewshed from the tope of Bloody Hill at the center of the Confederate battle line as one looks east toward the crossing of the Blue River at the Ford. Hopefully this chance to complete the restoration of this historic view will not be lost other interests.

As outlined by your initiative, you are applying for funding assistance from the following agencies among others:

Missouri Department of Economic Development tax credit programs including the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP);
Public Improvements Advisory Committee (PIAC) program of Kansas City Missouri; and
Transportation Enhancement program through the Mid America Regional Council (MARC) and the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT).

I urge these agencies to act favorably upon your applications in connection with this important battlefield preservation initiative. I hope that other individuals and foundations will join with me in supporting your *Saving Kansas City's Battlefield* initiative.

Sincerely,



Connie Langum
Coordinator
Midwest Region
American Battlefield Protection Program

Description of Funding to Execute Project

The Monnett Battle of Westport will obtain cash donations and in kind donations for the demolition of the abandoned building on the subject tract and removal rubbish from the site left from previous use a moving and storage facility. The anticipate cash expenditures are estimated to be approximately \$20,000 to \$30,000 based on prior experience in removing other adjacent buildings from the battlefield. We do not anticipate any hazardous materials based on recent environmental studies conducted on adjacent tracts. We plan on completing the work necessary for donating this tract ultimately to the Big Blue Battlefield Park of the Kansas City Parks Department from private sources.

Webpages

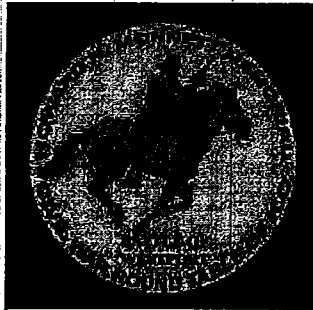
Following are some of the pages from our website located at www.battleofwestport.org

Legislative District

The tract is located in the Second Legislative District.

How Long Has Property Been In Land Trust

This tract accumulated substantial delinquent taxes beginning in 2006. Because the previous owner obtained bankruptcy protection, the property continued to accumulate significant unpaid tax liability. As a result foreclosure of the property was delayed. The subject property foreclosed upon in 2011 and went to tax sale in August 2011 sale. No bids were received for the property at the 2011 sale. The property was formally transferred to the Land Trust in March 2012 by Order of the Circuit of Jackson County, Missouri. At the time of the tax sale, the amount of tax delinquency for this tract was in excess of \$100,000.00.



BATTLE OF WESTPORT

BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION

History of Preservation

To stand on a Civil War battlefield is to stand on holy ground --

Fields consecrated by American bravery and blood.

First Efforts - 1920s

In 1923, the Mayor and City Council of Kansas City adopted ordinances encouraging the preservation and marking of the sites associated with the Battle of Westport along Brush Creek in the Country Club District and along the Blue River at the Byram's Ford Crossing.

Efforts to create a National Military Park at Loose Park and at Byram's Ford were pursued in 1926 in the United States Congress. Unfortunately, the Great Depression overwhelmed these efforts.

Formation of Monnett Battle of Westport Fund - 1970s

In 1975, members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City banded together to form the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, non-profit corporation.

Named in honor of the late Dr. Howard Monnett, who was the author of the *Action Before Westport*, the Monnett Fund raised \$25,000.00 in contributions to purchase and place markers along a 32 mile auto tour of the sites of the Battle of Westport.

Initial Land Acquisition of Battlefield - 1983

In 1983, Commerce Bank donated to the Monnett Fund separate tracts totaling 50 acres within the site of the battlefield at Byram's Ford. The Monnett Fund later led a successful effort to place tracts of the Byram's Ford Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989.

With the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, a predecessor to the present Civil War Preservation Trust, the Fund raised over \$40,000.00 in 1992 to acquire another critical 80 acres containing parts of the National Register site. Commerce Bank in 1995 donated another three acre tract of the battlefield to the Monnett Fund.

Byram's Ford Big Blue Battlefield Development Plan - 2002

Between 1995 and 2002, the Monnett Fund transferred its battlefield tracts to the Kansas City Parks Department for development and maintenance as the Big Blue Battlefield.

The Monnett Fund published its Big Blue Battlefield Interpretive and Development Plan which provided an incremental process for creating a viable restored battlefield at Byram's Ford. [Click here to view the plan.](#)

Most of the major objectives of this Battlefield Development Plan have been accomplished including:

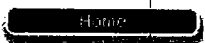
- Installation of replica artillery at Pratt's Artillery on Bloody Hill
- Demolition of the Straco Building
- Demolition of the Schlumberger Building
- Demolition of the Blabee Buildings
- Funding for Acquisition of DuPont Warehouse
- Opening of Visitor Center and Museum

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Saving Kansas City's Battlefield Initiative - 2006

The success of the implementation of the 2002 development plan led to an expanded



- Water Control
- Battlefield Tours
- Battlefield History
- Preservation Plan

effort by the Monnett Fund to reclaim the Byram's Ford Battlefield. The decline of the industrial district that had been built upon the battlefield presented the opportunity to finally restore this Hallowed Ground.

Click here to view the Saving Kansas City's Battlefield Initiative.