

Public Law 101-214
101st Congress

An Act

To expand the boundaries of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park near Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Dec. 11, 1989
[H.R. 875]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park Expansion Act of 1989".

SEC. 2. REVISION OF PARK BOUNDARIES.

(a) **BOUNDARY REVISION.**—In furtherance of the purposes of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a national military park at and near Fredericksburg, Virginia, and to mark and preserve historical points connected with the battles of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania Court House, Wilderness, and Chancellorsville, including Salem Church, Virginia", approved February 14, 1927 (44 Stat. 1091), the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "park") shall hereafter comprise the lands and interests in lands within the boundary generally depicted as "Proposed Park Boundary" on the maps entitled "Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park", numbered 326-40075D/89, 326-40074E/89, 326-40069B/89, 326-40070D/89, 326-40071C/89, 326-40072E/89, 326-40076A/89, and 326-40073D/89, and dated June 1989. The maps shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

(b) **EXCLUDED LANDS.**—Lands and interests in lands within the boundary depicted on the maps referred to in subsection (a) as "Existing Park Boundary" but outside of the boundary depicted as "Proposed Park Boundary" are hereby excluded from the park, in accordance with the provisions of subsection 3(b). The Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") may relinquish to the Commonwealth of Virginia exclusive or concurrent legislative jurisdiction over lands excluded from the park by this section by filing with the Governor a notice of relinquishment. Such relinquishment shall take effect upon acceptance thereof, or as the laws of the Commonwealth may otherwise provide.

SEC. 3. ACQUISITIONS AND CONVEYANCES.

(a) **ACQUISITION.**—The Secretary is authorized to acquire lands and interests in lands within the park, by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds or by exchange.

(b) **CONVEYANCE OF LANDS EXCLUDED FROM PARK.**—(1) The Secretary is authorized, in accordance with applicable existing law, to exchange Federal lands and interests excluded from the park pursuant to subsection 2(b) for the purpose of acquiring lands within the park boundary.

Fredericksburg
and
Spotsylvania
County
Battlefields
Memorial
National
Military Park
Expansion Act of
1989.
Public lands.
16 USC 425k
note.
16 USC 425k.

Public
information.

16 USC 425l.

Gifts and
property.
Real property.

Historic
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(2) If any such Federal lands or interests are not exchanged within five years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary may sell any or all such lands or interests to the highest bidder, in accordance with such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, but any such conveyance shall be at not less than the fair market value of the land or interest, as determined by the Secretary.

(3) All Federal lands and interests sold or exchanged pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to such terms and conditions as will assure the use of the property in a manner which, in the judgment of the Secretary, will protect the battlefield setting. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the net proceeds from any such sale or exchange shall be used, subject to appropriations, to acquire lands and interests within the park.

(c) **ALTERNATIVE ACCESS.**—In order to facilitate the acquisition by the United States of existing easements or rights of access across Federal lands within the park and to provide the owners of such easements or rights of access with alternative rights of access across nonpark lands, the Secretary may acquire, by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange, interests in land of similar estate across lands which are not within the park. With or without the acceptance of payment of cash to equalize the values of the properties, the Secretary may convey such nonpark lands or interests in lands to the holders of such existing easements or rights of access across Federal lands within the park in exchange for their conveyance to the United States of such easements or rights. Nothing in this Act shall prohibit the Secretary from acquiring any outstanding easements or rights of access across Federal lands by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds or by exchange.

Gifts and
property.

Historic
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(d) **CONSERVATION EASEMENTS.**—The Secretary is authorized to accept donations of conservation easements on lands adjacent to the park. Such conservation easements shall have the effect of protecting the scenic and historic resources on park lands and the adjacent lands or preserving the undeveloped or historic appearance of the park when viewed from within or without the park.

(e) **OTHER PROVISIONS.**—Within the area bounded by the Orange Turnpike, the Orange Plank Road, and McLaws Drive no improved property (as defined in section 4) may be acquired without the consent of the owner thereof unless the Secretary determines that, in his judgment, the property is subject to, or threatened with, uses which are having, or would have, an adverse impact on the park.

16 USC 425m.

Real property.

SEC. 4. RETAINED RIGHTS.

(a) **RETENTION OF USE AND OCCUPANCY.**—With the exception of property which the Secretary determines is necessary for development or public use, the owner or owners of improved property acquired pursuant to this Act may retain a right of use and occupancy of such improved property for noncommercial residential purposes for a definite term of not more than twenty-five years, or for a term ending at the death of the owner or the owner's spouse. The owner shall elect the term to be reserved, except that if the owner is a corporation, trust, partnership, or any entity other than an individual, the term shall not exceed twenty-five years. Ownership shall be determined as of June 1, 1989. Unless the property is wholly or partially donated, the Secretary shall pay to the owner the

fair market value of the property on the date of such acquisition, less the fair market value of the right retained by the owner.

(b) **TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**—Any rights retained pursuant to this section shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe and may be terminated by the Secretary upon his determination and after reasonable notice to the owner thereof that such property is being used for any purpose which is incompatible with the administration, protection, or public use of the park. Such right shall terminate by operation of law upon notification of the owner by the Secretary and tendering to the owner an amount equal to the fair market value of that portion of the right which remains unexpired.

(c) **DEFINITION.**—As used in this section, the term “improved property” means a year-round noncommercial single-family dwelling together with such land, in the same ownership as the dwelling, as the Secretary determines is reasonably necessary for the enjoyment of the dwelling for single-family residential use.

SEC. 5. INTERPRETATION.

16 USC 425n.

In administering the park, the Secretary shall take such action as is necessary and appropriate to interpret, for the benefit of visitors to the park and the general public, the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania Courthouse, and the Wilderness in the larger context of the Civil War and American history, including the causes and consequences of the Civil War and including the effects of the war on all the American people, especially on the American South.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

16 USC 425o.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Approved December 11, 1989.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 875:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 101-144 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 101-220 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 135 (1989):

July 17, considered and passed House.

Nov. 21, considered and passed Senate, amended. House concurred in Senate amendments.