

National Park Service



The National Park Service and The Civil War Sesquicentennial

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NPS Civil War Sites in Virginia

- Arlington House
- Booker T. Washington National Mon.
- Colonial National Historical Park
- Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania NMP
- Harpers Ferry NHP
- Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site
- Manassas National Battlefield Park
- Petersburg National Battlefield
- Richmond National Battlefield Park
- Shenandoah Valley Battlefields NHD

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The Civil War Centennial

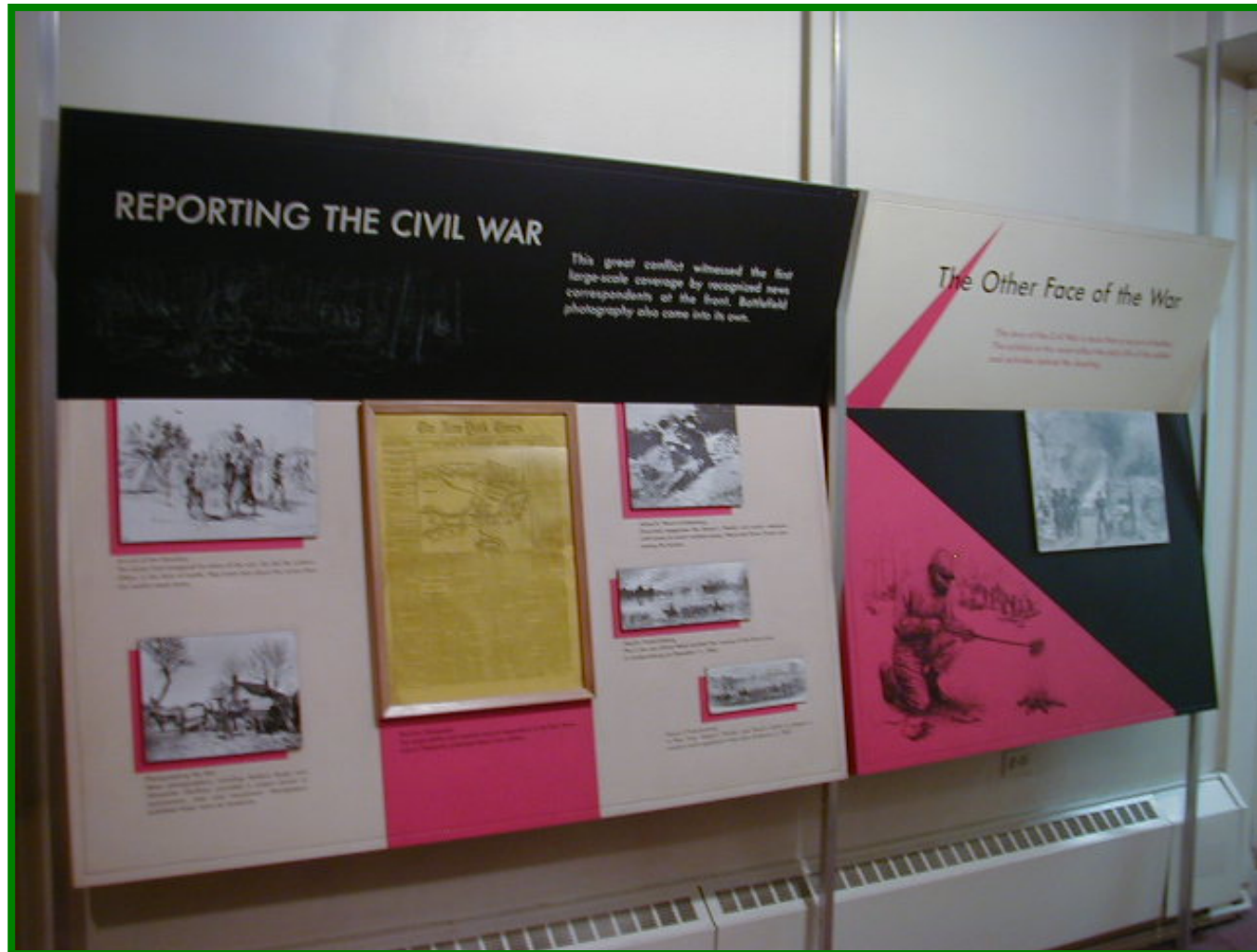
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Holding the High Ground Interpretive Plan

- Re-Defining a Civil War Site
- Acknowledging Differing Perspectives on the Civil War
- Establishing a Thematic Context for Interpreting the Civil War through Civil War Sites

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Themes

- Causes
- The Military Experience
- The Changing War
- Emancipation & the Quest for Freedom
- Ethnicity, Race, and the Military
- Women Amidst War
- The Civilian Experience

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Themes (cont.)

- Industry/Economics
- The Ordeal of the Border States
- The War and the Westward Movement
- Consequences
- Reconstruction
- Reconciliation, Commemoration, & Preservation

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Actions Needed:

- Upgrade of on-site interpretive media
- Personal Service/Education/Special Events
- National Media & the Internet



Actions Taken So Far:

- Improvements in interpretive media at individual sites
- Civil War web site
- Civil War Soldier & Sailor System
- Cooperation with the National Archives
- Meeting with Virginia Sites



Challenges

- Funding
- Competing priorities in Washington
- Lack of direction
- Lack of overall coordination
- **Need for legislation**

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Reasons for Optimism

