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DAVID N. DUNCAN
President

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Dear Friend and Fellow Preservationist,

I don't usually like to be so abrupt but, today, there's no time to spare, and I must cut right to the chase: I need your help with two important Eastern Theater Civil War battlefields.

For one of them, we only have 30 days. Our deadline is May 15th!

For the next, we have a little more time, but we've already achieved so much at this battlefield, we simply can't lose this current opportunity to save even more hallowed ground.

If you've had a chance to examine your battle maps already, you'll recognize the two 1863 battlefields I'm talking about: Gettysburg and Bristoe Station.

I will explain why we must take urgent action to save land at both of these battlefields in just a moment, but first I have to fill you in on a very important detail of this transaction:

Every dollar you are able to give today will be worth \$12.87 in preserved battlefield land.

No, I didn't get the decimal in the wrong place!

Thanks to a generous contribution from the Gettysburg Foundation and anticipated funding from the federal American Battlefield Protection Program and other state and local sources, you and I can save **28 acres of battlefield land** with a **\$12.87 to \$1 match!**

Combined, these properties are worth more than \$1.3 million. I know that is a big number, but luckily, we only need to raise \$103,500 to see this land saved forever.

Opportunities like this are simply too important for us to let them pass by — and that is why I need your help today.

Both of these battlefields face the imminent threat of residential and commercial development — unfortunately, pieces of each have already been lost (just take a look at the back of your Bristoe Station map and you'll see what I mean).

The good news is that we can still save crucial battlefield acres at both of these sites.

But only if we act quickly! As I mentioned before, we only have 30 days before we need to close on the parcel we're trying to save at Gettysburg, so I want to jump right into the history of this tract,

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located near the Culp's Hill sector of the battlefield.

Abutting the Baltimore Pike and adjacent to land preserved by both the National Park Service and the American Battlefield Trust, this 6-acre parcel served as a key Union position near Culp's Hill. (If you look to the back of your battle map, you can see a historic illustration and photograph that help show just where this land is located).

On the battle's first and second days, tens of thousands of Union troops, and hundreds of cannons and other materiel of war moved toward battle zones along the western edge of this tract.

On July 2nd, Union cannons were positioned just west of the tract and sent shells screaming over this land to support Union forces on nearby Culp's Hill, where the battle raged between General Edward "Allegheny" Johnson's Confederate division (the command formerly held by General Stonewall Jackson) and Federal forces led by General Henry W. Slocum.

The next day, Federal troops reinforced Culp's Hill and multiplied 12th Corps units from New York and Maryland were positioned upon and moved across the tract as they charged into the fray, helping to stymie Confederate thrusts near Pardee Field, Culp's Hill, and Spangler's Spring.

Preserving this tract will not only add to our success along the Baltimore Pike but also provide the most direct and simplest way to connect a walking trail from the Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center complex with National Park Service land around Culp's Hill.

Now, I don't know if you know this, but an inside source told me once that Culp's Hill (though it's vastly important) usually sees fewer visitors than other parts of the battlefield.

This has always surprised me, quite frankly, since no other part of the battlefield was fought over for longer than Culp's Hill, including a rare and vicious night fight and a seven-hour-long melee on July 3rd.

But if we are able to save this land in the next 30 days, we will have the chance to present new opportunities for interpretation and to helpfully provide easier access to this key part of the battlefield.

Thanks to individuals like you, the Trust and its partners have succeeded in saving a remarkable amount of battlefield land at Gettysburg.

And yet, as more and more of our nation's battlefield land faces the threat of destruction from development, I'm reminded of the absolute necessity of acting swiftly to ensure we don't lose a single hallowed acre more.

If we want to save this land *and* try to open a walking path to Culp's Hill, we must reach our fundraising goal by May 15th. Will you join me in this fight to save Gettysburg before the clock runs out?

I know raising the funds we need in such a short amount of time could be a challenge.

But luckily, we won't be on our own ... I mentioned the Gettysburg Foundation just a moment ago, but I want to emphasize again that this opportunity wouldn't have been possible without their generosity. When I reached out to them, they rallied to the charge, and you and I could not ask for a better ally!

After all, I doubt I need to remind you what can happen to battlefield land that isn't preserved.

But in case you want to see it for yourself, I've enclosed an aerial view of our next battlefield — Bristoe Station — that illustrates exactly why we must preserve this battlefield land as soon as we can.

If you were alarmed when you saw that image, you're not alone.

Unfortunately, this sort of encroachment is continually threatening this otherwise pristine battlefield, which means that it's up to us to intervene.

And today, we have an opportunity to do just that by preserving forever 22 acres that witnessed one of the most lopsided victories of the war:

Following the Union victory at Gettysburg, Federal forces spent the remainder of the summer of 1863 playing cat and mouse with Lee across central Virginia.

By mid-October in response to a Confederate offensive, the Army of the Potomac changed course and made for Centreville, Virginia, so that General George G. Meade could protect his supply line and shield Washington.

On October 14, near the Orange & Alexandria Railroad, General A.P. Hill caught sight of what he believed were the final two Union corps crossing Broad Run. Hill saw an opportunity and tried to push his perceived advantage but incomplete reconnaissance proved disastrous for the Confederates.

Hill's troops maneuvered directly into the Union 2nd Corps, led by General Gouverneur K. Warren (another veteran of Gettysburg). Realizing Hill's mistake from afar, Warren had ordered his troops to lie in wait in a defensive position behind the embankment formed by the railroad.

The results were devastating. In just about an hour's time, more than 1,380 Confederate troops became casualties of the Union trap.

After the battle, Hill approached Lee to apologize for his error. Lee cut him off, famously saying only: "Well, well, general, bury these poor men and let us say no more about it."

The parcel we can save today marked the position of Union troops led by General Joshua Owen, who acted as the main force to repel the Confederate attack. If we protect these acres now, we can preserve a crucial piece of the story of Bristoe Station.

If you look to your battle map and find the southernmost end of our target property, you'll also notice Captain William Arnold's battery of light artillery — these guns played a pivotal role in repulsing the Confederates, who had positioned their own guns across the railroad on what is now the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park.

It's also worth mentioning that these same 22 acres had seen action about a year earlier, on August 27, 1862, in the Battle of Kettle Run, a part of the Second Manassas Campaign.

You may recall that just a few years ago, dedicated individuals just like you eliminated the threat of an industrial park on the battlefield by saving a tract that will double the size of the existing county battlefield park! Thanks to the timely and generous support from our members, we have saved 286 acres of hallowed ground from being paved over, developed, and lost forever.

Since then, your support has helped the Trust achieve even more preservation success, at

battlefields across the country — but we're not finished yet.

When we apply for any federal, state, and local grants, it speaks volumes to show the dedication of our members — individuals like you.

In fact, part of the reason that I'm writing to you so urgently today is to let you know that any gift you are able to send to this important cause will only help us save more land at Bristoe Station and Gettysburg.

As I mentioned, we anticipate that local partners may want to help us save this land. Will you help us show our partners they we're ready to do our part to save this land?

In my twenty-plus years saving battlefields, I've learned many things, but here's one that stands out: you can't save land without allies.

Just as you can't go into battle without your comrades beside you, you can't preserve these important battlefields without friends. And that's where you come in.

You, my friend, are the final key to the puzzle for both of these battlefields.

Your commitment has already helped accomplish so much for battlefield preservation in America, at Gettysburg, and at Bristoe Station — but we can achieve so much more if we continue to charge ahead.

Will you join us in the fight for our nation's history once again, taking advantage of this **incredible \$12.87 to \$1 match** and securing this hallowed ground before time runs out?

Now is our chance to save 28 acres at these two critical battlefields, as well as hallowed ground all across America. I hope you will consider sending your most generous gift today.

Thank you again, my friend. I look forward to continuing alongside you in this important mission to protect all of our nation's hallowed ground forever.

Humbly and gratefully yours,



David Duncan
President

P.S. Please don't wait! We have only 30 days before we reach the closing date for 6 crucial acres at Gettysburg, and we don't want to lose another minute to preserve 22 more acres at Bristoe Station. Can you lend me your aid today?

P.P.S. And don't forget! Any gift you are able to give today will have more than **12 times the preservation power** thanks to support from our partners. Please don't delay! If you'd like to make your secure donation online, please visit our specially-designated web page for this appeal at **battlefields.org/eastern-battlefield-duo**. Thank you!