

# Clarke County

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## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION



July 8, 2022

Dear Property Owner:

In 2020, the Clarke County Historic Preservation Commission (CCHPC) received a grant from the National Park Service to study the site of the Battle of Berryville, which was fought September 3 and 4, 1864. The primary goals of this study are to gain a greater understanding of the battle itself, to identify any key features of the battlefield that may survive, and to determine if the battlefield retains enough integrity to warrant its nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. A secondary goal is to foster public interest in the battlefield and determine if there is public support for the creation of a National Historic District.

The CCHPC hired Richard Grubbs & Associates (RGA) to complete the research portion of this project. In October 2021, members of the RGA team presented their preliminary findings to the public. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, this meeting was held virtually, which resulted in a lower attendance than desired. In addition, both commission members and members of the public raised questions about some of the conclusions presented in RGA's preliminary report.

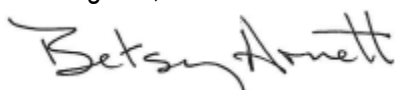
The preliminary report has since been reviewed by several other professionals familiar with past explorations of the battlefield. Accordingly, RGA has provided the CCHPC with a revised, final report.

Representatives from RGA will present their final report in a public meeting on Monday, July 18, 2022, at 6 p.m. in the Clarke County Government Center. We invite you to join us for this in-person meeting. The preliminary meeting agenda is attached.

At this time, based on the feedback received at the October 2021 meeting, the CCHPC has no plans to pursue additional grant funding to nominate the battlefield to the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register. The current grant includes the completion of a Preliminary Information Form (PIF); however, submission of a PIF to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources in no way obligates the submission of a full nomination.

I hope you will join us on July 18<sup>th</sup>. If you are not able to attend, the CCHPC welcomes your comments. After the meeting, a copy of the final report will be available on the county website at ([URL](#)) for your review.

Best regards,



Betsy Arnett, Chair

Clarke County Historic Preservation Commission