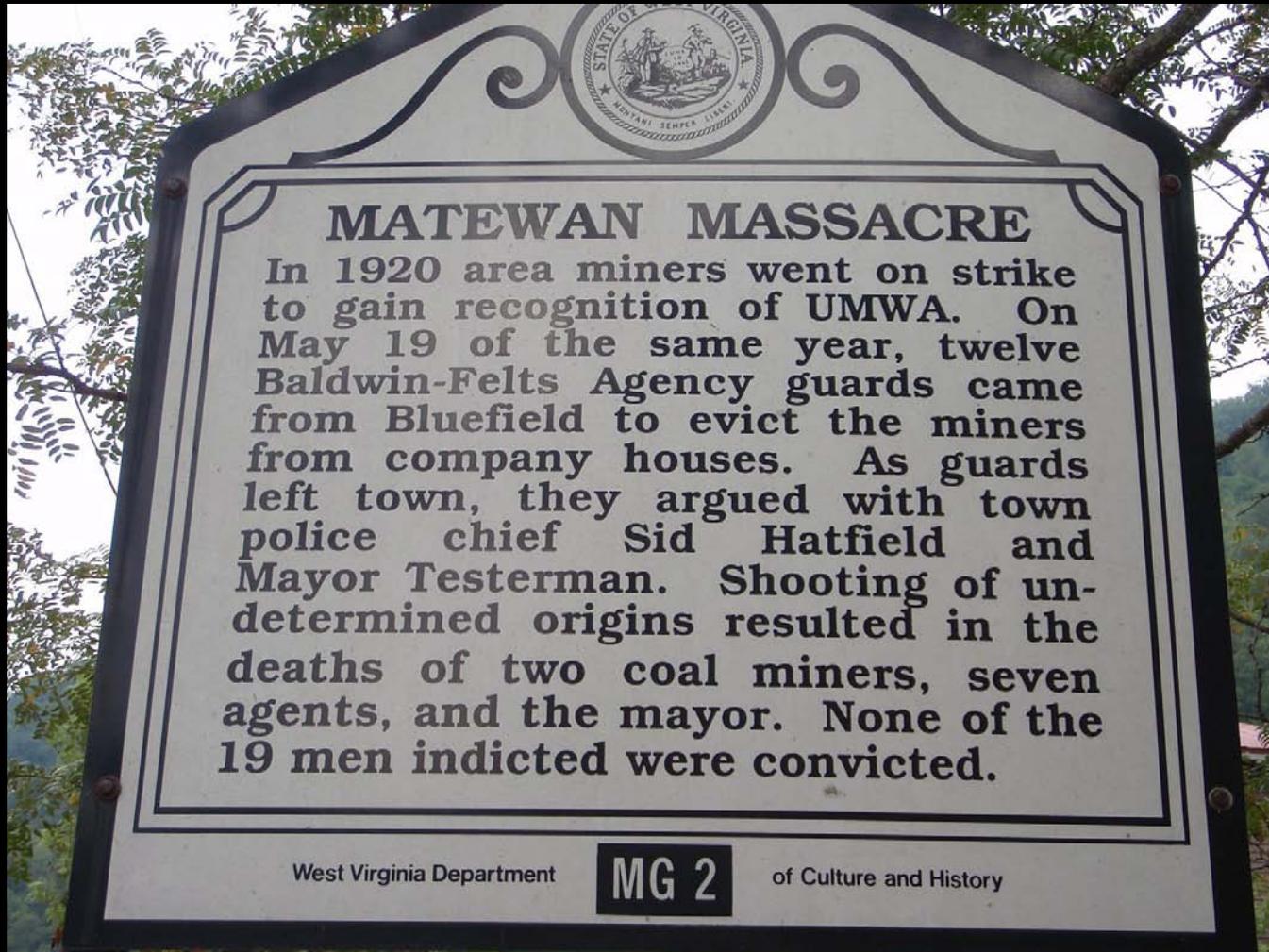


# National Park Service Harriet Beecher Stowe House



**Public Scoping Meeting**  
April 7, 2011



## Study Background

- *Matewan: A Time of Change* (1990)
- *A Coal Mining Heritage Study: Southern West Virginia* (1993)
- *Matewan: An Interpretive Plan* (1993)
- National Coal Heritage Area - November 12, 1996
- Matewan Historic District designated as a National Historic Landmark on February 18, 1997
  - Significant in the history of labor organization in America
- Summer 2010 - National Park Service Site Visit



## **Public Law 111-11 Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009**

- Authorized the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to evaluate the national significance of the sites and resources at Matewan and the suitability and feasibility of designating it as a unit of the National Park System.
- The study is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)



## Why a Study ?

Before Congress considers the potential establishment of a new park it needs information about the quality of the resource and whether it meets established criteria.



## Special Resource Study Criteria

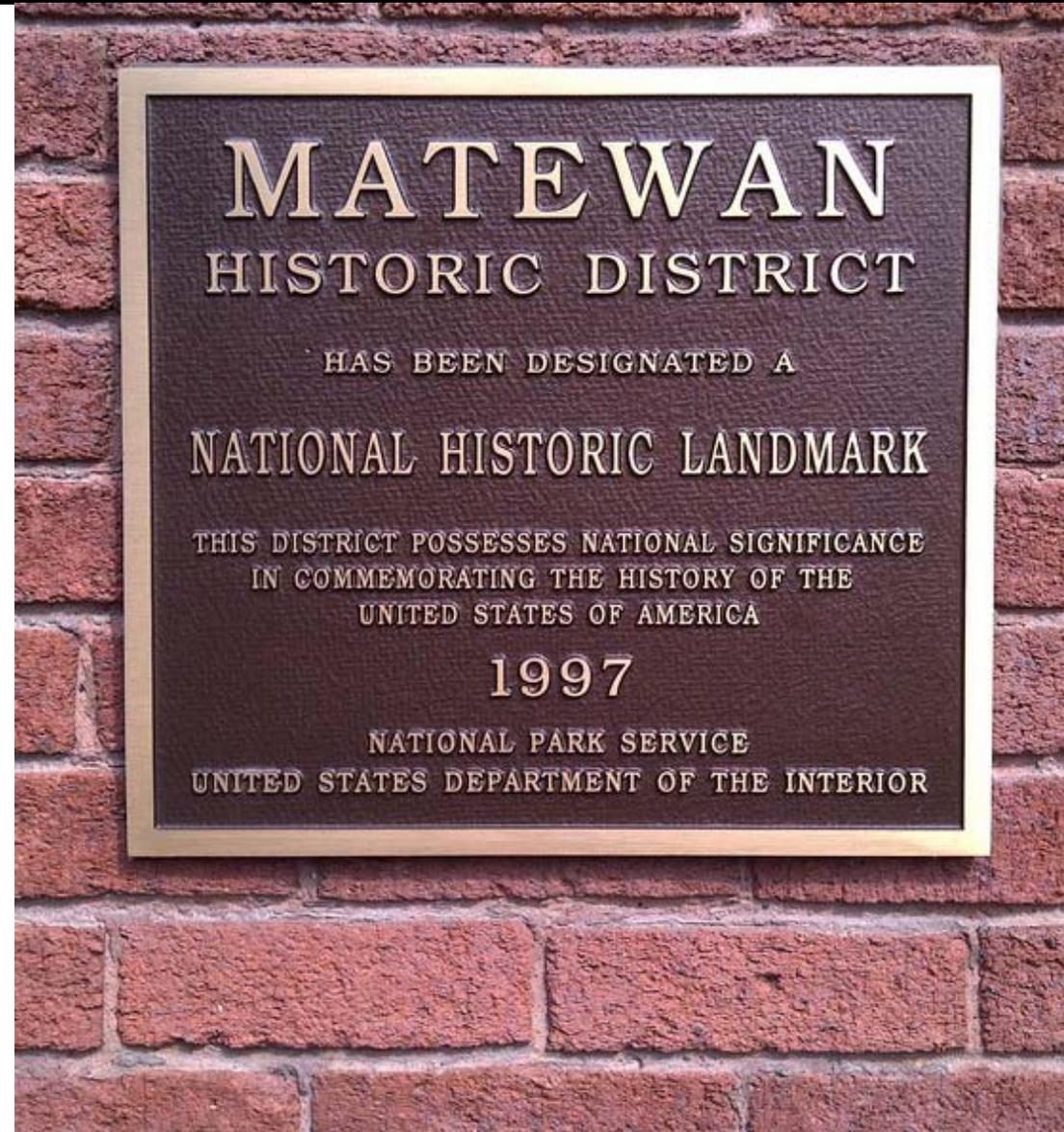
The study must meet these criteria:

- National Significance
- Suitability
- Feasibility
- Need for NPS Management



## National Significance

- The Matewan Historic District was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1997 by the Secretary of the Interior
- Special Resource Study includes an integrity analysis



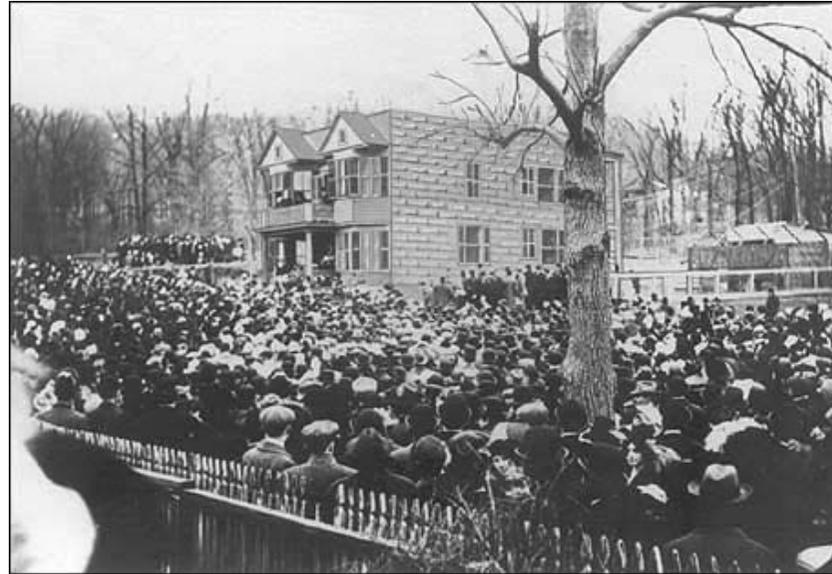


## Suitability

- An area must represent a natural or cultural resource type that is not already adequately represented in the National Park System, or
- Not comparably represented and protected for public enjoyment by others



## Suitability (cont.)





## Feasibility

- Be of sufficient size and appropriate configuration to ensure sustainable resource protection and visitor enjoyment, and
- Have potential for efficient administration by the NPS at a reasonable cost
- Feasibility factors include land ownership, acquisition costs, access, threats to the resource, and staff or development requirements



## Need for NPS Management

The study will evaluate if direct NPS management is required for long-term protection and visitor enjoyment or if other management arrangements are adequate.



## Study Termination

If a resource fails to meet any of the criteria, the study will be terminated.





## Draft Study Findings

Provided that an area meets the criteria for a new national park, the draft study may provide a range of management alternatives.

A close-up photograph of a red brick wall. Two brass plugs are visible, one above the other, with bullet holes in the bricks above them. A black plaque is mounted on the wall below the plugs.

**BRASS PLUGS ABOVE MARK  
BULLET HOLES LEFT BY  
MAY 19, 1920 BATTLE OF MATEWAN**



## Examples of Management Alternatives

- Continuation of current management (required)
- National Park designation
- Affiliated area





## Proposed Schedule

Internal Scoping.....	Fall 2010 – Winter 2011
Public Scoping Meeting .....	March 2011
Research & Writing.....	Spring – Fall 2011
Internal Review.....	Winter 2012
Release of Draft Report & Public Comment Period.....	Summer 2012
Final Report/EA Submitted to Secretary of Interior .....	Fall 2012 – Winter 2013



## Public Involvement Methods

- Public meetings
- Project publications
- Press releases
- Webpage and web-based communication
- Formal notifications





## How to Participate

You can continue to stay involved in the study process by:

- Participating in public meetings
- Responding to project newsletters
- Reviewing the study report
- Visiting online resources:  
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/bama>



## Contact Us

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**For project updates and to comment:**

**<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/bama>**