

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 972

To redesignate the Reconstruction Era National Monument as the Reconstruction Era National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2019

Mr. CLYBURN (for himself and Mr. CUNNINGHAM) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To redesignate the Reconstruction Era National Monument as the Reconstruction Era National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Reconstruction Era
5 National Historical Park Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. RECONSTRUCTION ERA NATIONAL HISTORICAL**
7 **PARK.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) HISTORICAL PARK.—The term “historical
2 park” means the Reconstruction Era National His-
3 torical Park.

4 (2) MAP.—The term “map” means the maps
5 entitled “Reconstruction Era National Monument
6 Old Beaufort Firehouse”, numbered 550/135,755
7 and dated January 2017; “Reconstruction Era Na-
8 tional Monument Darrah Hall and Brick Baptist
9 Church”, numbered 550/135,756 and dated January
10 2017; and “Reconstruction Era National Monument
11 Camp Saxton”, numbered 550/135,757 and dated
12 January 2017, collectively.

13 (3) NETWORK.—The term “Network” means
14 the Reconstruction Era National Historic Network
15 established pursuant to this Act.

16 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
17 the Secretary of the Interior.

18 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

19 (1) REDESIGNATION OF RECONSTRUCTION ERA
20 NATIONAL MONUMENT.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Reconstruction
22 Era National Monument is redesignated as the
23 Reconstruction Era National Historical Park,
24 as generally depicted on the map.

1 (B) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Any funds
2 available for the purposes of the Reconstruction
3 Era National Monument shall be available for
4 the purposes of the historical park.

5 (C) REFERENCES.—Any references in a
6 law, regulation, document, record, map, or
7 other paper of the United States to the Recon-
8 struction Era National Monument shall be con-
9 sidered to be a reference to the historical park.

10 (2) BOUNDARY EXPANSION.—

11 (A) BEAUFORT NATIONAL HISTORIC LAND-
12 MARK DISTRICT.—Subject to subparagraph (D),
13 the Secretary is authorized to acquire land or
14 interests in land within the Beaufort National
15 Historic Landmark District that has historic
16 connection to the Reconstruction Era. Upon fi-
17 nalizing an agreement to acquire land, the Sec-
18 retary shall expand the boundary of the histor-
19 ical park to encompass the property.

20 (B) ST. HELENA ISLAND.—Subject to sub-
21 paragraph (D), the Secretary is authorized to
22 acquire the following and shall expand the
23 boundary of the historical park to include ac-
24 quisitions under this authority:

1 (i) Land and interests in land adja-
2 cent to the existing boundary on St. Hel-
3 ena Island, South Carolina, as reflected on
4 the map.

5 (ii) Land or interests in land on St.
6 Helena Island, South Carolina, that has a
7 historic connection to the Reconstruction
8 Era.

9 (C) CAMP SAXTON.—Subject to subpara-
10 graph (D), the Secretary is authorized to accept
11 administrative jurisdiction of Federal land or
12 interests in Federal land adjacent to the exist-
13 ing boundary at Camp Saxton, as reflected on
14 the map. Upon finalizing an agreement to ac-
15 cept administrative jurisdiction of Federal land
16 or interests in Federal land, the Secretary shall
17 expand the boundary of the historical park to
18 encompass that Federal land or interests in
19 Federal land.

20 (D) LAND ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—The
21 Secretary may only acquire land under this Act
22 by donation, exchange or purchase with donated
23 funds.

24 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall admin-
2 ister the historical park in accordance with this Act
3 and with the laws generally applicable to units of the
4 National Park System.

5 (2) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—If the management
6 plan for the Reconstruction Era National Monu-
7 ment—

8 (A) has not been completed on or before
9 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
10 shall incorporate all provisions of this Act into
11 the planning process and complete a manage-
12 ment plan for the historical park within 3
13 years; and

14 (B) has been completed on or before the
15 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
16 shall update the plan incorporating the provi-
17 sions of this Act.

18 **SEC. 3. RECONSTRUCTION ERA NATIONAL HISTORIC NET-**
19 **WORK.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

21 (1) establish, within the National Park Service,
22 a program to be known as the “Reconstruction Era
23 National Historic Network”;

1 (2) not later than 1 year after the date of the
2 enactment of this Act, solicit proposals from sites in-
3 terested in being a part of the Network; and

4 (3) administer the Network through the Recon-
5 struction Era National Historical Park.

6 (b) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—In carrying out the
7 Network, the Secretary shall—

8 (1) review studies and reports to complement
9 and not duplicate studies of the historical impor-
10 tance of Reconstruction Era that may be underway
11 or completed, such as the National Park Service Re-
12 construction Handbook and the National Park Serv-
13 ice Theme Study on Reconstruction;

14 (2) produce and disseminate appropriate edu-
15 cational and promotional materials relating to the
16 Reconstruction Era and the sites in the network,
17 such as handbooks, maps, interpretive guides, or
18 electronic information;

19 (3) enter into appropriate cooperative agree-
20 ments and memoranda of understanding to provide
21 technical assistance;

22 (4)(A) create and adopt an official, uniform
23 symbol or device for the Network; and

24 (B) issue regulations for the use of the symbol
25 or device adopted under subparagraph (A); and

1 (5) conduct research relating to Reconstruction
2 and the Reconstruction Era.

3 (c) ELEMENTS.—The Network shall encompass the
4 following elements—

5 (1) all units and programs of the National Park
6 Service that are determined by the Secretary to re-
7 late to the Reconstruction Era;

8 (2) other Federal, State, local, and privately
9 owned properties that the Secretary determines—

10 (A) relate to the Reconstruction Era; and

11 (B) are included in, or determined by the
12 Secretary to be eligible for inclusion in, the Na-
13 tional Register of Historic Places; and

14 (3) other governmental and nongovernmental
15 sites, facilities, and programs of an educational, re-
16 search, or interpretive nature that are directly re-
17 lated to the Reconstruction Era.

18 (d) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND MEMORANDA
19 OF UNDERSTANDING.—To achieve the purposes of this
20 Act and to ensure effective coordination of the Federal
21 and non-Federal elements of the Network and units and
22 programs of the National Park Service, the Secretary may
23 enter into cooperative agreements and memoranda of un-
24 derstanding with, and provide technical assistance to, the
25 heads of other Federal agencies, States, units of local gov-

1 ernment, regional governmental bodies, and private enti-
2 ties.

3 (e) NETWORK DEFINED.—The term “Network”
4 means the Reconstruction Era National Historic Network
5 established pursuant to this Act.

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