## VLR Listed: 9/9/1969 | NRHP Listed: 10/15/1966 | NHL Listed: 12/19/1960

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE:	·····
Virginia	
COUNTY:	
Dinwiddie	
FOR NPS USE ON	LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

		Dinwiddie					
	INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM	FOR NPS	USE ONLY	<i>′</i>			
	(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)	ENTRY NUMBE	R	DATE			
1	NAME						
	COMMON:						
	FIVE FORKS BATTLEFIELD	. :	·				
	AND/OR HISTORIC:						
9	LOCATION						
	STREET AND NUMBER:						
	Five miles north of Dinwiddie		:				
	CITY OR TOWN:						
	Dinwiddie   CODE   COUNTY:		<del></del>	CODE			
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3.	CLASSIFICATION			1 523			
	CATEGORY OWNERSHIP	STATUS	1	SSIBLE			
	(Check One)  District Building Public Public Acquisition:		Yes:	PUBLIC			
	District Building Public Public Acquisition:  Site Structure Public Public Acquisition:	Occupied Unoccupied	⊠ Res				
	Object Both Being Considered		rki —	stricted			
		in progress	□ No				
	PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)						
	Agricultura! Government Park Transportation Comments						
			Comm	ents			
	Commercial Industrial X Private Residence		Comm	ents			
	Commercial Industrial Educational Military Religious		Comm	ents			
	□ Commercial       □ Industrial       ■ Private Residence         □ Educational       □ Military       □ Religious         □ Entertainment       □ Museum       □ Scientific		Comm	ents			
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DESCRIPTION							
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DESCRIBE THE	PRESENT AND OR	GINAL (II kno	wn) PHYSICA	L APPEARANCE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

a. BACKGROUND INFORMATION: At a bare crossroads in Dinwiddie County, 12 miles west of Petersburg and two miles beyond the right flank of the thin Confederate defense line, Grant, on April 1, 1865, finally achieved the object he had pursued during nearly 11 months of campaigning against the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. Here, in an overwhelming onslaught by cavalry and artillery, he swept aside a weak Confederate force to outflank the Confederate army and force Lee from the Richmond-Petersburg defenses.

On March 25, Lee, realizing that his position was untenable, attacked the Union siege line at Fort Stedman, hoping to break out and join Joseph E. Johnston in North Carolina. When Lee's attack failed, Grant seized the initiative and began shifting forces westward to outflank the Confederate line. Lee, unable to extend his thin line any farther, sent a scratch force under George E. Pickett and Fitzhugh Lee to Five Forks to keep the Union forces from the Southside Railroad, his last supply line. On April 1, the Confederates were attacked by a Union force of cavalry and infantry under Philip Sheridan. The resistless Union attack swept forward to cut the railroad and force the abandonment of the Confederate defense lines.

Status: Most of the land on the battlefield is held in private tracts of varying sizes by descendants of the Gilliam family, which owned the land at the time of the war. The crossroads itself still exists, with one corner occupied by a recently constructed general store. Not far from the crossroads is the Gilliam mansion, "Burnt Quarter," built in the late 18th century and occupied by Union soldiers after the battle. Of the light breastworks thrown up by the Confederates on March 31-April 1, only a small portion remains, the rest having been destroyed by cultivation. The battlefield probably looks much as it did during the war.

b. BOUNDARIES: The Five Forks Battlefield, consisting of approximately 600 acres, is partly delineated on U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle map "Church Road" and the remainder on "Sutherland." The area consists of a 431 acre Gilliam tract, 82 acres Continental Can tract, 50 acre Miller tract, 31 acres Gilliam tract, and 5 acre Hill tract. The boundaries, when sketched on paper, gives the appearance of a high-top boot.

Route 627 runs in a north-south direction and Route 613 runs in an east-west direction through the battlefield. Also, Route 645 runs south from the junctions of Routes 627 and 613.

It may be noted that the southern boundary of the battlefield is 600 feet south of and parallel with Route 613. It may also be noted that the western boundary of the battlefield is 600 feet west of and parallel with Route 627.

Form 19-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES OFFARING OF THE COLER

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

Virginia	
COUNTY	
Dinwiddie	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7 b. CONT'D.

Beginning on Route 627 at a point about 2700 feet north of the junction of Routes 627, 613 and 645, proceed west for 600 feet; thence south for about 2700 feet; thence southwest for about 1500 feet; thence in a south-southwest direction for about 2500 feet; thence southeast for about 1800 feet; thence in a general northerly direction for about 1800 feet; thence northeast for about 1500 feet to Route 645; thence in a north-northeast direction for about 1300 feet to a point 600 feet south of Route 613; thence east (parallel with and 600 feet south of Route 613) for about 3300 feet; thence northeast for about 800 feet; thence southeast for about 250 feet; thence northeast for about 420 feet to Route 613; thence north for about 2400 feet; thence west for about 5100 feet to point of beginning.

PERIOD <i>(Check One or More as A</i> Pre-Columbian)  15th Century	16th Century 17th Century	☐ 18th Century 図 19th Century	20th Century
SPECIFIC DATE(5) (If Applicable	end Known) Apri	1 1, 1865	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Chec	k One or More as Appropri	ate)	•
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Conservation	Music	Transportation	
TATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
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	As the designated State Liaison Officer for the Na-				I hereby certify that this property is included in the						
t .	tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion				National Register.						
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level of significance of this nomination is:  National State Local State											
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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

