Gen. John J. Pershing Boyhood Home State Historic Site CDP Survey Final Report



n = 89

Proposed Development Survey Results:

- 1. Formally Designate the building known as Pershing Memorial Museum and Leadership Archives as the new Visitor Center Area
- 2. Improvements to the Visitor Center Including exterior updates and foundation recovery.
 - 3. Improve parking across the site (ADA parking, overflow parking & bus turnaround, and mill and overlay on leased parking area).
 - 4. Construct a new maintenance shop with attached public ADA restroom.
 - 5. Designate as a Special Event Area for outdoor programming, events, and performances.

6. Impriove walking paths and bulding access across the historic site (to preserve the historic landscape, no new paths will be developed south of the Hall House).

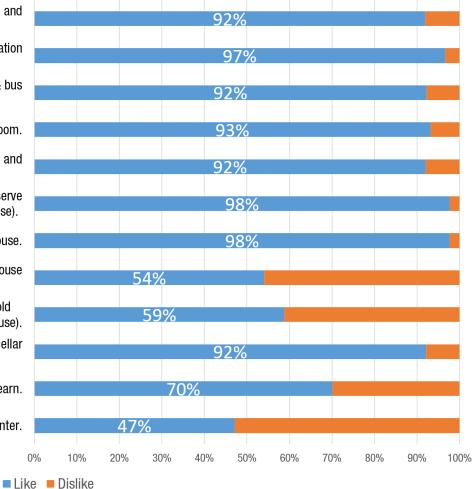
7. Restore the Prairie Mound School House to a one room school house.

8. Relocate the statue and wall of honor (secondary location where Hall House resides).

9. Demolish unused and non-significant structures across the site (old maintenance shed, garage/shed, chicken coop, outhouse, and Hall House).

- 10. Rehabilitate the Pershing Boyhood Home (Foundation repair, root cellar rebuild, HVAC improvements, paint, etc.)
 - 11. Develop a themed activity area for children to play and learn.

12. Install an EV charging station at the Visitor Center.



Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding Gen. John J. Pershing Boyhood Home State Historic Site?

- 1. Very well maintained and people are very knowledgeable about Pershing.
- 2. We love this site!
- **3.** Hire more help. War mothers.
- 4. Should be open 7 days a week.
- 5. #9: Restore NOT demolish. #10: Leave historically accurate. #11: No playgrounds kids have enough.
- Improve parking lots. Better display for cannon. More staffing so site can be open 7 days per week. Water fountains.
- The [statue's] current location is appropriate. The outhouse and coop were how people lived in the 1870's. [EV Station] Could tie up parking space for other vehicles. It takes 40 minutes to charge an EV.
- 8. Don't remove or relocate Pershing statue.
- Better signs on 29 35 HWY and 36. Inclusion with MO military sites program as a stamp in passport. Find Pershing/Military naval items.
- **10.** Need more employees to stay open on Sunday-Monday. Would like to see the poppy garden better maintained. Would like to see the war mother monument moved from Pershing Park to Laclede.
- **11.** Evaluate moving the war mother statue in Pershing Park to the visitor center.
- **12.** Don't move the statue.
- 13. Well done!
- **14.** Keep statue. Move war mothers memorial.
- **15.** Great that this is being proposed for additional development!
- 16. Leave the statue and wall of honor alone! Never let the exterior first impression get as run down as it was before painting in 2023. It was an embarrassment to the community.
- 17. Thanks for all you are doing!
- **18.** I think you already have an exceptional plan.
- **19.** Seems like a giant waste of money.

- 20. The exhibits I've seen are excellent. I think we have enough one room school house exhibits and restorations--that space would be better served as unique exhibit space. I can't remember where the exhibits were that weren't in the house--but more of the ww1 museum style exhibits would be great.
- **21.** Keep it as original as possible, connect with local or regional military units to suggest potential uses for ceremonies, etc.
- **22.** Never really hear that much about the site
- **23.** Do not clutter any Historic Site with EV charging.
- **24.** Instead of demolishing the Hall House, offer it for free to someone who will relocate and restore it.
- **25.** Preserve chicken coop and out house if these were part of Gen Pershing's childhood experience. Adding live animals, if true to the narrative, would be awesome. Also need a public restroom with water fountain closer to the house.
- 26. Preservation not modification.
- 27. Paint the home
- **28.** If the neighbor's house was there when he was young please keep it.
- **29.** I don't have enough information about the "Hall house" to know if it warrants being tore down.
- **30.** Just do a great job on the remodel! Something similar to Mount Vernon in Virginia, sure at a smaller scale
- **31.** Please preserve it for future generations to learn about Missouri's connection to WWI.
- **32.** Fix the house first! Make it more accurate to the Pershing family. There is potential there.
- **33.** Have information regarding additional local soldiers who served with John J. Pershing. JD Molley is an example.
- **34.** Incorporate more living history events and camps in conjunction with the annual festival. This would encourage

attendees to visit that site, learn more history, and enjoy the other activities (car show, music, etc) too.

- **35.** Try to keep the house and grounds to appear as original as possible, and fill with period correct antiques
- **36.** Take the best possible care of this historic site as possible! He is, in my opinion, the greatest general in the history of the United States, and we must preserve his boyhood home.
- **37.** Love the idea of the school being changed back into a school. My great grandmother attended school there
- **38.** Purchase additional land buffer zones around park and structures

Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding Missouri state parks and historic sites?

- **1.** Needs Handrails at steps.
- **2.** Hope to see them continue to be open for future generations.
- 3. Always enjoy visiting.
- **4.** Move Locus Creek covered bridge to Pershing Boyhood Home campus.
- 5. Move the War Mothers statue to site.
- 6. Good job! Bring the covered bridge. More interpretive personnel. Pay attention to the war mothers monument in P.S.P.
- 7. Move war mothers statue. Add site to military halls program. Move covered bridge.
- **8.** I don't live here. I don't feel I can comment.
- **9.** Funding for 7-day staffing. Relocate War Mothers memorial to Laclede.
- 10. Open Pershing home 7 days a week
- **11.** Need to open 7 days a week. Move war mothers statue to Pershing park
- **12.** This is a special place.
- **13.** Denzil Heaney is a wonderful asset to the Pershing Site!

- **14.** Move covered bridge to Laclede Pershing Campus.
- **15.** Move war mothers statue to Pershing site. Move Bridge to Boyhood home.
- **16.** More employees 7 days. Help with gardens poppy field.
- **17.** Need more personnel to man 7 day a week.
- **18.** Keep them in good condition.
- **19.** Expand camping facilities in State Parks.
- **20.** War Mothers memorial needs to be done soon!
- **21.** Move the War Mothers statue at the Park campgrounds to the boyhood home campus where it would enhance the visitor usage experience.
- **22.** Keep promoting these valuable historic sites.
- 23. I have moved to Kansas but still enjoy the State Parks in Missouri. I appreciate the State making sure that the State Parks continue to be taken care of.
- 24. Great job being done
- 25. Bathroom updates
- 26. My wife and I love visiting Missouri state parks and historic sites.We're grateful to have free access to them through the dedicated taxes.
- **27.** Add more full hookups at camp grounds throughout the system.
- 28. No electric chargers
- **29.** I truly enjoy everything you all do.
- **30.** Keep doing good work
- **31.** Keep them going.
- **32.** Improvements should also include the Pershing birthplace home located in Sumner.
- **33.** Missouri has a lot of great parks and historic sites keep up the good work!
- **34.** Have the covered bridge and Pershing Park information featured.

- **35.** Having events that encourage people to set up displays and wear period clothing to enhance public learning and participation (at notable sites) is encouraged.
- **36.** The more artifacts and displays the better