



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXX, Issue 7, JULY 2023

HISTORIAN AND RENOWNED TOUR GUIDE JAMES ANDERSON SPEAKS ON "THE IMPACT OF INTELLIGENCE ON THE GETTYS- BURG CAMPAIGN" AT THE JULY 13th MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Civil War authors spice the story about intelligence operations during the Civil War with topics focused more on the salacious aspects. This leaves out a very important underlying story about how intelligence information was gathered, analyzed and disseminated. Many of the lessons learned in the Civil War apply just as well today. Lacking a formal intelligence structure at the start of the war, both sides improvised with civilian detectives and recruited spies. As the war progressed, both sides adapted to incorporate new technologies with aerial reconnaissance and signals intelligence. Federals collected what we might consider today "human intelligence" from contraband, and through a system of "black telegrams" among those living in Confederate-held areas. The intelligence collected had impacts on many of the war's great battles. We are happy to have our speaker walk us through the evolution of intelligence operations in the war, and in particular look at the ways different commanders used their respective intelligence services.

James "Jim" Anderson is an expert on the military tactics and strategy of the American Civil War. He specializes in classes conducted on the battlefields of Gettysburg, Antietam and Manassas, with an emphasis on leadership, communications and intelligence.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING THURSDAY, July 13, 2023

**6 P.M. Social Hour
7 P.M. In-person at the
Centreville Regional Library &
Streamed on Zoom & Facebook
Live**

**GUEST SPEAKER:
James "Jim" Anderson**

**TOPIC:
"The Impact of Intelligence on
the Gettysburg Campaign"**

Mr. Anderson spent 27 years with the CIA, which included six overseas tours in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the Far East. He holds degrees in history from Rhodes College and the University of Memphis. He currently works as an independent contractor offering a rich and rewarding "trip into history" for Civil War enthusiasts of all ages and levels of knowledge. He also volunteers his time and expertise on the Civil War to local civic, youth and church organizations.

Come join us early at our July 13th 2023 Membership Meeting to have an opportunity to chat with Jim and your colleagues before the meeting begins. Doors open at 6:00 PM; hope to see you there.

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The **Bull Run Civil War Round Table** publishes the *Stone Wall*.

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For meeting dates and other information, please visit the Web site: <http://bullruncwrt.org>

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

August 10: Cory Pfarr - "Longstreet at Gettysburg: A Critical Reassessment"

September 14: Jeffery Hunt - "The Battle at Rappahannock Station, Nov 1863"

October 12 Kevin Pawlak & Kate Bitely - "The Battle of Bristoe Station, Oct 1863"

November 9 J. Nathan McDonald - "The Battle of Droop Mountain WV, Nov 1863"

December 14 John Quarstein - "Into The Ring of Fire, Federal Admiral DuPont's attack on Charleston SC, 1863"

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The President's Column by Mark Whitenton

Photos by Debbie Whitenton

Here's hoping you all enjoyed a great 4th of July weekend and are surviving the July heat and humidity. It is because of this traditional July weather that the Field Trip Committee will not be planning another tour until September. To find out what you may have missed the last couple of months, please peruse the excellent After-Action Reports for May's Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville tour and June's Brandy Station tour, beginning on pages 7 and 15.

At last month's General Membership meeting, we were honored to have Scott Mingus give us an entertaining talk on the Battle of Second Winchester, one of the stepping stones for Lee's second invasion of the North. Scott has written over 30 books on the Civil War and the Underground Railroad. His biography of Gen. William "Extra Billy" Smith won multiple awards and he was a friend of our past member, the late Dave Meisky, who portrayed Extra Billy Smith for many years.



At the same meeting, two members of our Scholarship Committee, Mark Knowles (left) and Mike Block made the presentation of our 2023 BRCWRT Scholarship award to Madison Kerr. Please read about this exciting high school senior starting on page 5.



We now have a confirmed date for our annual BBQ picnic! It will be on Sunday, September 17th. We again are fortunate to be at the Winery at Bull Run for this, our Seventh annual picnic. We again will have beef brisket and pork BBQ from The Bone. And, again this year, we will be under a big tent, so there will not need to be a rain date. Importantly, it is again free for active members! Please see the picnic ad on page 26. Starting in August, there will be registration available on our website.

Please join us live and in person next Thursday, July 13th, 7:00 PM at the Centreville Library, to hear Jim Anderson's insights into "The Impact of Intelligence on the Gettysburg Campaign." We will be open for our social hour starting at 6:00 at the side entrance. Hope to see you there.

Bull Run Civil War Round Table



Upcoming 2023 Program of Events

Date	Event
July 13	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Jim Anderson – “The Impact of Intelligence on the Gettysburg Campaign July 1863”
July 22	Civil War Hospital Weekend: Ben Lomond – BRCWRT book sales
August 10	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Cory Pfarr – “Longstreet at Gettysburg: A Critical Reassessment”
August 26	161st Commemoration of Battle of Kettle Run: Bristoe Station – BRCWRT book sales
September 14	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Jeffery Hunt – “The Battle at Rappahannock Station, November 1863”
September 16	Ben Lomond History Day: Ben Lomond – BRCWRT book sales
September 17	BRCWRT Annual Picnic: The Winery at Bull Run - 11:30 to 2:30
September 23	Sept. Field Trip: “Bristoe Campaign Oct 13-19, 1863” – Guided by Bill Backus
October 12	Monthly Meeting Speakers: Kevin Pawlak and Kate Bitely – “The Battle of Bristoe Station, October 14, 1863”
October 14	160th Commemoration of the Battle of Bristoe Station: BRCWRT book sales
October 21	October Field Trip: “Postscript to Gettysburg: The Mine Run Campaign” – Guided by Mike Block
November 9	Monthly Meeting Speaker: J. Nathan McDonald - “Battle of Droop Mountain WV, November 6, 1863”
November 11	November Field Trip: “Centreville Military Railroad (CMRR) Sites” - Guided by Blake Myers and Jim Lewis
December 14	Monthly Meeting Speaker: John Quarstein - “Into The Ring of Fire, Federal Admiral DuPont’s attack on Charleston SC, 1863”

Monthly Meetings in “Black” **Tours/Field Trips & Special RT Events in “Red”** County or outside sponsored events in “Green”

2023 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

By John Carter

Madison Kaitlin Kerr is a graduating senior from Osbourn Park High School in Manassas, Virginia. She is the daughter of Susan Kerr. Madison demonstrated a high level of academic achievement through her four years of high school. Taking advanced coursework, including Advanced Placement courses, she has earned a cumulative grade point average of 4.114, on a 4.0 scale. Madison is a member of the National History Honor Society, the National Honor Society, and the National Art Society; she served as President of all three organizations. She is a member of International Thespians and is the President of the Speech and Forensics teams, where she collected honors for Third Place in Forensics State, Second Place Super Regionals for Speech and Debate, First Place Regionals for Speech and Debate, and Fourth Place Debate Regionals. Madison is also a member of the Key Club, the captain of the marching band color guard, plays varsity tennis, and is a member of the Chamber Orchestra. Madison served as a leader in the Girl Scouts, where she won the Girl Scout Gold Award and the Girl Scout Silver Award. Other awards include the Congressional Award, Presidential Award (Gold), and the Academic Award 2019-2022.



Madison Kerr

Madison had a personal tutor throughout high school. Her tutor described her as “a woman of integrity who is committed to honesty ... one who genuinely models integrity for her peers. Ms. Kerr has a compassionate heart for serving her community and helps those in need ... she embodies the spirit of volunteerism and service. I have noted her eager commitment to history and her inquisitive mind and her curious attitude to understand diverse views of history ... she uses history to draw conclusions and applications for society today.”

She will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall, with a major in computer science. While her major may seem to be an illogical choice, considering her commitment to history, it fits perfectly into her future plans. In her scholarship application, Madison stated “in the future I plan to use my degree in computer science to create material to make learning and teaching history easier. Providing technology that tells the stories of those who are not well remembered is my goal.” During her interview with the committee, she constantly referred to the many “rabbit holes” that defined her research into new areas that she encountered while researching a different topic. This can be seen in her admonishment to her fellow students to be aware of your environment; to know what is going on around you.

Madison’s essay was titled “*Maj. Mosby’s Fairfax Court House Raid: Success Based on a Woman’s Help.*” Accurately relating the story of Mosby’s most well-known raid, she turned most of her attention to Antonia Ford, the Mosby-J.E.B. Stuart confidante and spy. She tackles the issue of whether Antonia was actually a spy who provided information to Mosby for the raid. The essay and her

(cont on page 6)

2023 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

subsequent interview with the committee clearly demonstrated her basic tenets for the use of history. In the closing sentence of her essay, Madison makes this point: "As a Black woman, I advocate for the importance of remembering all who participated regardless of race, gender or loyalty, to learn from the past and improve the future." For Madison, history is not to be used to establish right or wrong, but to be used as a blueprint to the future.

Madison's academic excellence, activities, leadership positions, and her many awards look great on paper. She is a great communicator. Meeting her and speaking with her, even for a short time, makes you aware that she possesses a lot more than "book smarts." She knows how to use information, how to get people involved in its use, and how to improve the way to collect and disseminate information. Her commitment to the inclusion of the many diverse groups who are often left out of traditional history shines through in discussions with her. At the end of the interview, all applicants are asked if they have any questions for the Committee. Madison had several, but her last question was unexpected. She asked: what could she do to help the Roundtable?

This is the eleventh year that the Bull Run Civil War Round Table has awarded a scholarship. The first winner was Taylor McConnell from West Springfield High School in 2002. Last year's winner was Aaryan Karan Rawai from Westfield High School. Applicants submitted official high school transcripts which showed their courses, grades, the level of those courses, and their cumulative grade point averages. They also submitted a description of their high school extra-curricular activities, their leadership roles, and any awards and honors they have received. A historical essay of their choice was required, along with an

adult's recommendation. We received seven completed applications for the scholarship, and after careful consideration, two candidates were selected for interviews via Zoom. The winner was then referred to the Executive Committee for their approval. Members of the Scholarship Committee include the chairman, John Carter, Mark Knowles, Kate Bitely, and Mike Block. Committee members were unanimous in their selection of two finalists to be interviewed. Going into the interview, all four committee members had both candidates evenly ranked. Committee members agreed that the interview was the determining factor in Madison's selection for the scholarship. We look forward to seeing how she will help the Bull Run Civil War Round Table as our latest ambassador.



BRCWRT BOOK DONATIONS

The Round Table conducts regular sales of donated Civil War history books to raise money for the \$2000 Annual Scholarship Fund; these books increase our members' understanding of the Civil War.

If you wish to donate Civil War history books, please contact our Marketing Committee Chair, Stephanie Vale (brcwrtmarketing@gmail.com) or our Preservation Committee Chair, Blake Myers (jb11thva@cox.net) to coordinate your book donation. Please do NOT bring books for donation to a Membership Meeting without prior coordination. Thank you!

Aldie/Middleburg/Upperville After-Action Report

By Sam Laudenslager

"Who ever saw a dead cavalryman?"

That frequent plaint of the Civil War "grunt" infantryman was literally buried in the fields of nearby Culpeper and Loudoun Counties during June 1863. Two pitched battles, plus several vicious "firefights", pitted Major Gen. J.E.B. Stuart's Confederate cavaliers against Federal troopers commanded by Major Gen. Alfred Pleasonton. Some 20,000 horsemen fought, resulting in combined casualties of 13% of the forces engaged.

On May 6th, 17 BRCWRT members retraced the hoofprints of Civil War cavalry with a driving tour of hallowed grounds where the cavalymen crossed sabers. Guided by BRCWRT member Kevin Pawlak, our caravan visited battlefields surrounding the towns of Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville, Virginia. Kevin provided a vivid description of five days of charges, countercharges, and counter-counter charges that raged across the Loudoun Valley during June 17th - 21st, 1863. He also provided graphic first-person/primary source accounts of the hardships and heroics of the troopers who fought there.



Kevin Pawlak (Jim Lewis)

As Frank O'Reilly noted in his presentation to the Round Table's May meeting, Chancellorsville was a stunning Confederate victory – tactically. But strategically . . . a draw. Lee and Stonewall Jackson had checked Joe Hooker's 1863 spring offensive plan. But the Army of the Potomac (AOP) was still in the same area near

Fredericksburg, and the overall casualties for both armies were nearly equal. In addition to the loss of Jackson, the Army of Northern Virginia (ANV) had sustained thousands of casualties that it could ill afford to lose.

Both the AOP and the ANV now faced a similar situation – they had to move, to engage the opposing army. And they also faced a similar problem – they had to defend their national capital cities. Lee chose a grand turning movement option, turning his main force west into the Shenandoah Valley to head north into Maryland and Pennsylvania, while dispatching MG J.E.B. Stuart, with the Confederate cavalry corps, east into the Loudoun Valley, to shield the movements of the ANV main force.

Meanwhile, Hooker called upon his AOP cavalry corps to scatter the build-up of Stuart's Confederate cavalry near Culpeper. The resulting Battle of Brandy Station (June 9th, 1863), the largest cavalry battle ever fought in North America, neither broke up Stuart's cavalry corps, nor yielded information about the Confederate main force or its objective. One week later, Hooker directed his Chief of Cavalry, MG Alfred Pleasonton: "The Commanding General relies upon you with your cavalry force to give him information of where the enemy is, his force, and his movements . . . Get us information. It is better that we should lose men than to be without knowledge of the enemy."

Pleasanton moved his troopers toward Manassas, and on the morning of June 17th, BG David Gregg's division moved west on the Little River Turnpike (today's US Route 50) towards the junction with the Old Carolina Road.

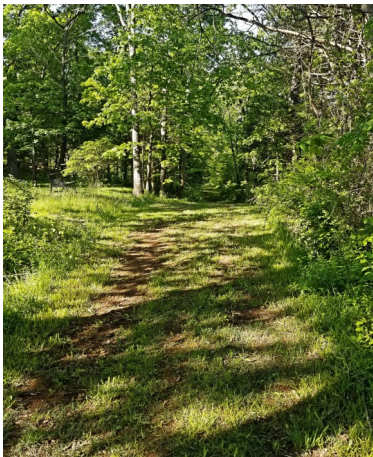
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Aldie/Middleburg/Upperville

Our BRCWRT caravan met at Mount Zion Church, Aldie. Built in 1851, Mount Zion is now a Northern Virginia Regional Parks historic site. A section of the original Old Carolina Road runs behind the church cemetery. The church would be used as a field hospital during the coming engagements at Aldie and Middleburg, and one year later (1864) the Old Carolina Road/Little River Turnpike crossroads, near the church, would be the site of a fight between Mosby's Rangers and a battalion of 2nd Massachusetts and 1st NY cavalrymen.



BRCWRT group in front of Mt. Zion Church (Jim Lewis)



Old Carolina Road at the Mt. Zion Church, Aldie (Jim Lewis)

Aldie was important at the time of the Civil War because the village sat at the juncture of the two main east-west roads connecting Providence Town (Fairfax) and Centreville with Winchester. The Little River

Turnpike/Ashby Gap Turnpike and the Snickersville Pike were both state-of-the-art macadam roads, ideal for heavy wagons (or for moving artillery). Both passed through gaps in the Bull Run mountains leading to Winchester, the Shenandoah Valley farmlands, and to Lee's army. Mid-June in 1863 was also very hot, with temperatures in the 90 degree range; thus, the Little River creek and the mill race at Aldie Mill were critical sources of water for parched troopers and thirsty mounts.



Sneden's sketch of Aldie town, 1863. Original in VA Historical Society, Richmond. Sneden was with the 40th NY, and was an engineer and cartographer for III Corps.

The Battle of Aldie was actually 3 skirmishes that took place in or near the town. The first took place at the Little River Bridge, where the Little River Turnpike crosses Little River Creek near the millrace. The Confederates reached the bridgehead first, but 2 regiments (1st VA, 5th VA) of dismounted cavalry, with only a creek bed for a trench, could not stand up to BG Judson Kilpatrick's 1200-man mounted division for long. Col. Thomas Munford, commanding, pulled the 1st and 5th back to the Adam farm beyond the Turnpike intersection. The firefight at the Adam farm lasted about 20 minutes to a half hour. The Virginians soon found themselves being outflanked by the 6th Ohio (left) and 2nd New York (right) and under artillery barrage by 2 batteries of

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Aldie/Middleburg/Upperville

artillery posted on a knoll near the intersection. Fifty Virginians under Capt. Reuben Boston remained to make a stand, taking cover behind Adam farm hay bales. Munford directed the remainder of the 1st and 5th VA up the hill that lies behind Aldie town. (Our BRCWRT caravan did not visit the Adam farm site).

Survivors of the 1st and 5th linked up with the remainder of Munford's brigade (2nd, 3rd, 4th VA Cavalry regiments) to man a stronger position behind a stone fence that lined Snickersville Pike at the Furr and Cobb farms' property line. Meanwhile, Judson "Kill-cavalry" had sent his brigade's remaining units (1st Massachusetts, 1st Maine, and 4th NY) to the right on the Snickersville Turnpike, up the Aldie Hill, and into a trap. Making Col. Munford's defensive position more challenging for the Federals was that the Snickersville Pike makes a "blind turn" at Furr Farm. Even now, 160 years later, on "modern" VA Rt. 734, the Furr Turn is still feared by local Loudoun drivers. And on 17 June 1863, the Furr Turn definitely was a "dead man's curve".

Kilpatrick's regiments made repeated assaults up the road and repeated "glorious" charges across the Cobb/Furr open fields. But the Furr Farm Fight became a "mounted Fredericksburg" and the blue troopers never reached the wall. Total Union and Confederate casualties at Aldie were about 420. The 1st Massachusetts regiment paid especially dearly, losing 198 of its 294 men that entered the fray.

While Munford's Virginia cavalymen reached Aldie first, J.E.B. Stuart rode into Middleburg, with Col. John Chambliss' (9th, 10th, 13th VA cavalry) and BG Beverly Robertson's (2nd, 4th, 5th NC cavalry) brigades. RHIP (Rank Has Its Privileges), and so, instead of dispatching Chambliss and/or Robertson to Munford's aid at Aldie, Stuart



1st Massachusetts Monument, Aldie (Jim Lewis)

made finding a "suitable" headquarters in Middleburg his first priority. Stuart selected Beveridge's Hotel for his dinner and Headquarters accommodations. (The "Beveridge" is today's "Red Fox Inn", and remains a "most suitable" location.)

Kevin Pawlak related to our BRCWRT group how Stuart's dally went awry and nearly spelled disaster for his command. As word spread through the community that the celebrity cavalier was in town, a "group of local belles" (or in 21st century wording, "groupies") mustered at Beveridge's. This inspired Stuart to call out his staff musicians and to host an impromptu dance party in the vacant lot across the street (now the site of "Oyster, Oyster"). Just as Stuart's party began "a-rocking", the Union 1st Rhode Island Cavalry (Col. Alfred Duffie) came "a-rolling" into the party from the south side of town, nearly capturing Stuart and his entire staff, and compelling Jeb to "make a retreat more rapid than was consistent with dignity and comfort!" Stuart rode (fled?) to Rector's Crossroads (now Atoka), where he reorganized the Chambliss/Robertson remnants to retake the town.

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Aldie/Middleburg/Upperville

The afternoon fighting see-sawed through Middleburg streets, as the six cavalry regiments of David Gregg's division each entered the town in turn via the Ashby/Little River turnpike, to charge - disperse the Confederate cavalry - get counterattacked - next regiment enters town, etc. As darkness fell, Stuart moved his cavalry to a defensive line on high ground at Mount Defiance, west of Middleburg.

While June 17 was the battle FOR Middleburg, June 18 was THE BATTLE of Middleburg. Union Col. Duffie's 1st Rhode Island got trapped on the Long Branch Road, south of town. Of 280 troopers sent into the fight, only 60 made it back to Union lines. Stuart, on Mount Defiance, was hard pressed during 12 hours of heavy fighting; his horse artillery fended off six regiments of Union cavalrymen. Among Stuart's 200 casualties, sustained at the blacksmith's shop and along the Zulla Road defensive line, was Stuart's own Adjutant and inspector general, Major Johann Heros von Borcke. The particular shot barely missed Stuart, but at 6-foot 4 or 5 inches and 300 pounds, Borcke was a mounted target of opportunity who was too big to miss. Borcke, shot in the neck, survived his wound, but was out of action for the duration of the Civil War.

That evening, Stuart's force abandoned Mount Defiance, falling back to Rector's Crossroads (now Atoka). It was at Rector House, where Atoka Road meets the Ashby Gap turnpike, that Major John S. Mosby officially formed his 43rd VA Cavalry Battalion ("Mosby's Rangers") on June 10th, 1863. Mosby's men quickly earned their reputation for daring feats; one week later, during the fighting at Middleburg, the Rangers captured Union cavalry commander Alfred Pleasonton's dispatches, revealing AOP plans for the coming campaign.

Stuart now sensed that the skirmishes at Aldie and Middleburg were not "just meeting engagements" of advanced cavalry detachments. He realized that the Federal cavalry riding toward the Ashby and Snickers gaps meant to locate, and perhaps pounce upon, Lee's Army of Northern Virginia while the ANV moved northwards on the other side of



Stuart's Horse Artillery position near the Blacksmith Shop on Zulla Road (Jim Lewis)



Rector House (Jim Lewis)

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Aldie/Middleburg/Upperville

the Blue Ridge. So after disengaging at Mount Defiance and moving west five miles to Rector's/Atoka, Stuart improvised successive defense lines across the ridge of Bittersweet Farm, on the high ground of Vineyard Hill, and in the sunken Trappe Road farm lane. His troopers would fight on foot, until it became necessary to ride back to the next defensive position. Stuart also placed his horse artillery batteries as a strong point on the hill overlooking the stone bridge that carried the Ashby Turnpike across Goose Creek.



Goose Creek Bridge (Jim Lewis)

[Historical Footnote: Our guide, Kevin Pawlak, provided an informative "sidenote" at our Goose Creek Bridge stop. The historic bridge was built in 1802-1803 and carried traffic on the Ashby Gap Turnpike (later Rt. 50) until 1957. Although it looks similar to stone bridges at Manassas and Antietam, those are 3-arch bridges. The Goose Creek Bridge may be the only remaining 4-arch stone bridge in the US.]

The previous week's engagements occurred during a typical Virginia June, with daily temperatures in the 90's. Stuart's move from Mount Defiance to a Goose Creek/Vineyard Hill line proved timely. The heat wave broke with a torrential downpour on the night of June 19th, followed by several heavy squalls on June 20th. Crossing

Goose Creek, even in good weather, would challenge the Federal cavalry, with Goose Creek's steep slope on the east bank, and marshy terrain on the west bank. Following the June 19-20 downpour, Goose Creek was now a wide moat between the opposing lines. And the only way to bring wagons and artillery across the creek was via the Ashby Pike bridge.

Now reinforced by an infantry brigade (four regiments from V Corps led by Col. Strong Vincent), the Federal cavalry commander, Pleasonton, and his Division commander, Kilpatrick, planned to force the Goose Creek bridge the next morning (the 21st). The 4th NY Cavalry led, only to encounter a heavy cannonade from Stuart's horse artillery on the west bank ridge, plugging up the bridge with killed and wounded horses and riders. Successive attempts by the 2nd NY and 6th Ohio Cavalry met a similar fate. After mid-day, Strong Vincent's infantry regiments were able to penetrate through the marsh, with the dismounted 4th NY clearing the bridge. Several more hours passed before the Federal cavalry corps was able to re-form for a grand push and the final charges across Vineyard Hill.



Vineyard Hill, Upperville (Jim Lewis)

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Aldie/Middleburg/Upperville

The afternoon of June 21st may have been the 2nd largest all-cavalry engagement of the Civil War (after Brandy Station), with as many as 10,000 combatants, several charges and counter-charges across Vineyard Hill, a last-minute escape by Stuart's wagon train down Trappe Road through Ashby Gap, a "nick-of-time" reinforcement by "Grumble" Jones' brigade, and J.E.B. Stuart's Corps escape through Ashby Gap to link up with the tail of the main Confederate force near Paris, VA. The fighting at Upperville had cost Stuart nearly 600 men, and about 1000 of Pleasanton's force.

That night (June 21st) Pleasanton's scouts reached Ashby Gap, and saw only open farmland. Pleasanton notified Gen. Hooker, commanding the Army of the Potomac, that Lee's army was not in the Loudoun Valley, and returned his own force to Aldie the next morning. That same evening, Union cavalry scouts from BG John Buford's division reached Snicker's Gap, and noticed in the distance campfires that may have been McLaw's division, the rear guard of the Army of Northern Virginia. Buford's vital information was ignored.

Joe Hooker's Army of the Potomac would not move from Fredericksburg for three more days (June 25th). On June 18th (the day of the fight at Aldie), the lead elements of Lt. Gen. Richard Ewell's corps reached Williamsport, MD. On June 22nd, (the day after Upperville), Gen. R.E. Lee ordered the entire Confederate Army of Northern Virginia to head North, to cross the Potomac River, to move on Maryland and Pennsylvania, and ... Gettysburg.

As BRCWRT members have become accustomed to, our tour group dined at the historic Hunter's Head Tavern (built circa 1750) in Upperville, VA. Given the size of the group, we arranged for outside dining, 'under tent', which seemed appropriate for our tour. Great food and excellent fellowship was had by all.



Hunter's Head Tavern (Jim Lewis)

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Aldie/Middleburg/Upperville



BRCWRT group on Goose Creek Bridge (Blake Myers)

Suggested Readings:

Kevin Pawlak, "Raised from Obscurity: Driving Tour of the Cavalry Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville" (Mosby Heritage Area Association)

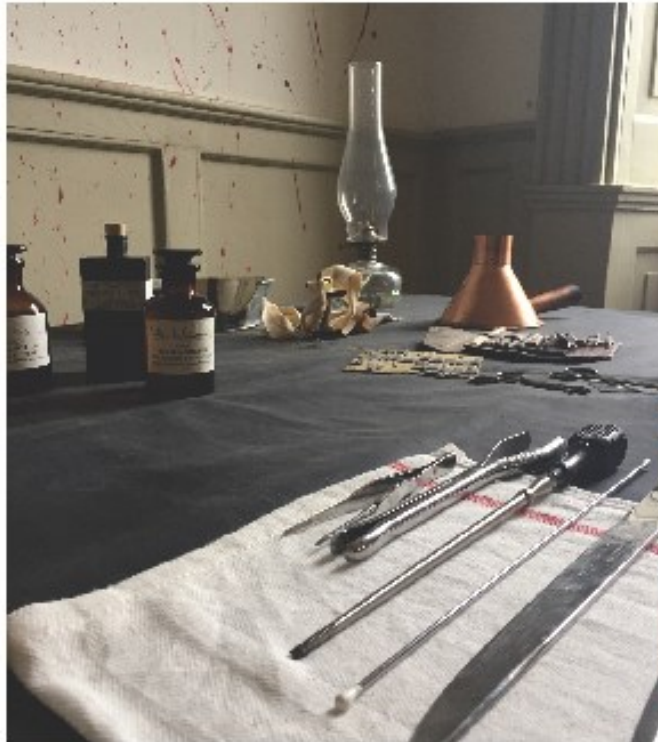
Robert O'Neill, "Small but Important Riots: The Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville" (Virginia Piedmont Heritage Association, 2023)

Robert O'Neill, "The Cavalry Battles of Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville" (H. E. Howard, 1993)

Rob Orrison & Dan Welch, "The Last Road North" (Savas Beattie, "Emerging Civil War" series). Chapter 1 is devoted to Brandy Station, Chapter 3 to Aldie-Middleburg-Upperville.



THE AFTERMATH OF BATTLE: The Pringle House Hospital by Lanternlight



July 22 ♦ 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Tours leave every 30 minutes
\$10 per person; advanced
registration encouraged

The lives of soldiers and civilians were forever changed after the Battle of First Manassas. Come to Ben Lomond and walk through the Pringle House General Hospital in the aftermath of battle. Talk to the soldiers and civilians who occupied the house at that time.

CIVIL WAR HOSPITAL WEEKEND

July 22 ♦ 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Free, donations encouraged

After the Battle of First Manassas, Ben Lomond served as a field hospital to treat the wounded. Visit Ben Lomond near the 162nd anniversary of the battle and learn from historians and Civil War living historians how soldiers were treated during the war and how the conditions of these hospitals differ from the hospitals we have today. The weekend will consist of demonstrations, tours, children's activities, and more.



PRINCE WILLIAM
Historic Preservation

Ben Lomond Historic Site
10321 Sudley Manor Drive
Manassas (703) 367-7872
www.pwcva.gov/history
HistoricPreservation@pwcgov.org

Connect with us on social media!
www.facebook.com/pwhistoric
Twitter: @PWHPF Instagram: PWC History
YouTube: Prince William Office of Historic Preservation



Brandy Station Tour Report

By Don Richardson

The BRCWRT Caravan Tour of the Graffiti House and the Brandy Station battlefield had its rendezvous at the Graffiti House at Brandy Station. We had 17 members in attendance for this tour that was set up by Sam Laudenslager. To start the day, we broke into two groups to tour the Graffiti House, getting the inside story on the writings left by both Union and Confederate troops on the walls upstairs.



Graffiti House (Debbie Whitenton)

Our guide, Richard Deardoff of the Brandy Station Foundation (assisted by guest presenter Greg Mertz, who led our November 2022 Fredericksburg field trip), discussed whether certain items were the "real thing" (George Custer's initials – quite possibly; J.E.B. Stuart's signature – probably written by an aide) and showed us drawings that indicated that some soldiers had artistic talent. Other items were of an adult nature. One large drawing is believed to be a cartoon mocking Jefferson Davis. We also learned that several phrases we still use today, including the word "cool", "put a cap in you", and "sock it to me", were in use during the Civil War. The Foundation has been cataloging as many of the signatures as possible, including the inscriber's photograph, service and pension records, and postwar biographies.



Jeff Davis "playing the bones" (Debbie Whitenton)



Portrait of a visiting lady (Sam Laudenslager)

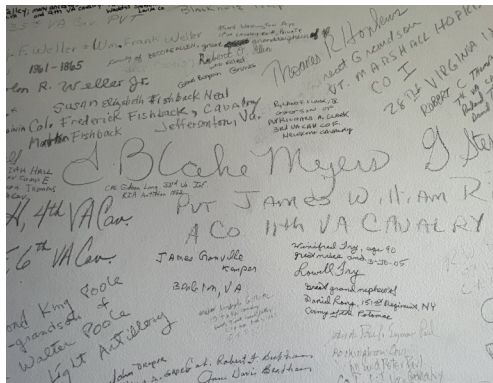
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Brandy Station Tour Report



Graffiti covered the walls (Sam Laudenslager)

Modern graffiti wall, including someone we know (Debbie Whitenton)



Following the house tour, it was time to drive out to the key locations of the Brandy Station battle itself, fought on June 9th 1863. Our guide, Richard Deardoff, led us with enthusiasm and many side stories. The largest cavalry action of the Civil War, it was an opening move in what became the Gettysburg Campaign. As Robert E. Lee began preparing to move north into Maryland, MG J.E.B. Stuart's cavalry division was stationed east of Culpeper to screen the rest of the Confederate army's movements from the Federals. Union Commander MG Joseph Hooker decided to take the offensive and attempt to destroy Stuart's command. The Union Cavalry Corps under the overall command of MG Alfred Pleasonton were ordered forward. BG John Buford's cavalry, with infantry under BG

Adelbert Ames, were to cross the Rappahannock at Beverly's Ford, while BG David M. Gregg's cavalry and an infantry brigade under BG David Russell would cross downstream at Kelly's Ford. Union forces totaled approximately 11,000 men. The two commands would envelop and attack Stuart, who had 9,500 troopers in five brigades.

It has been said that no plan survives first contact with the enemy, and that was certainly true at Brandy Station. Buford was supposed to cross the river at dawn, but getting large troops of horse across Beverly's Ford took a lot longer than expected. Then, the advance guard unexpectedly ran into Stuart's troopers at Buford's Knoll (our first tour stop). Richard Deardoff explained that the Confederates were able to hold up the Union advance long enough for Stuart to come down from his headquarters on Fleetwood Hill to organize a defensive line. Troopers from William "Grumble" Jones' brigade, partially dressed and some riding bareback, rode to the sound of gunfire and struck Buford's lead brigade at a bend in the Beverly Ford Road, while one gun from Stuart's Horse Artillery fired down the road and covered the withdrawal of the rest of the battery.

Richard Deardoff at Buford's Knoll (Debbie Whitenton)



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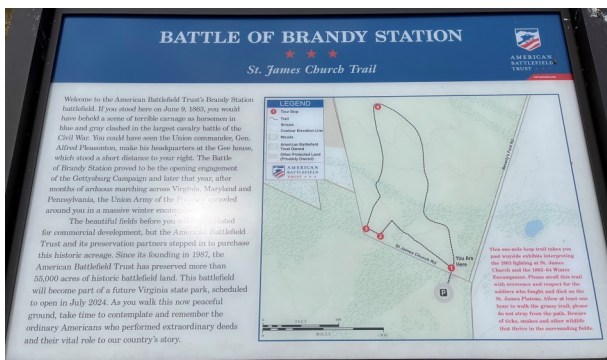
Brandy Station Tour Report

After a quick brownbag lunch at the local fire department’s picnic area, we moved on to the field near the old St. James Episcopal Church where Stuart established his defensive line. Believing that Buford was his only opposition, Stuart left only his Adjutant, Maj. Henry McClellan, to maintain the headquarters on Fleetwood Hill. Wade Hampton deployed his brigade to the right of the Beverly Ford Road, while Jones had his brigade to the left, anchored in front of the St. James Episcopal Church. Farther to the left, the brigade of Rooney Lee was dismounted on Yew Ridge behind a stone wall. The Confederate defense was stubborn, holding this strong position against repeated Union assaults until around noon. The Union troopers took heavy casualties, especially the 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry during its charge on the two Confederate guns at the church.

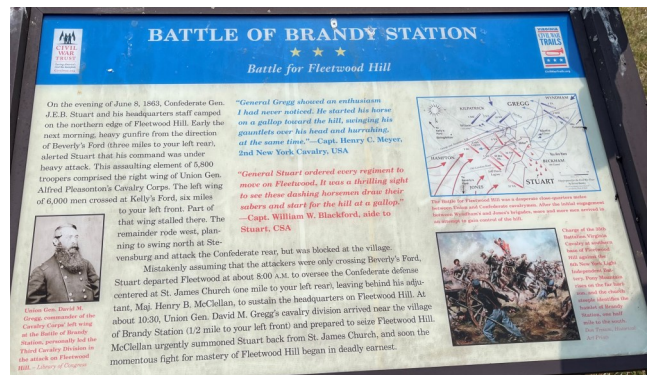
Our final tour stop was the summit of Fleetwood Hill, which was a reminder that one does not really understand a battle until you have walked the battlefield. It is easy to see why both sides tried to control such a commanding position. Richard vividly described the swirling chaos atop the hill as Union and Confederate troopers slashed at each other.



Richard describes the action atop Fleetwood Hill (Mark Whitenton)



Field Diagram, St. James Church (Mark Whitenton)



Setting the scene (Mark Whitenton)

That morning, Gregg’s troopers had paused for several hours on the west side of Kelly’s Ford, so the brigades of Lt. Col. Percy Wyndham and Col. Judson Kilpatrick did not arrive near Brandy Station until around 11:30 AM, after finding a way to bypass the Confederate brigade under Beverly Robertson. Wyndham prepared to assault Fleetwood Hill, a half-mile away,

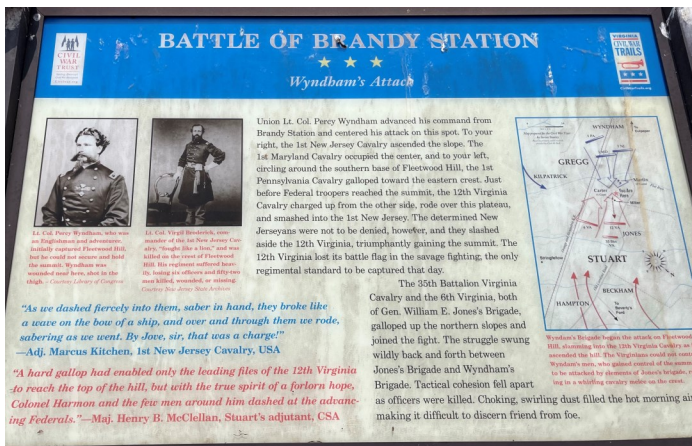
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Site of the St. James Church (Debbie Whitenton)

Brandy Station Tour Report

which was between him and the action at St. James Church. Adjutant McClellan sent a frantic message to Stuart to return to the hill, as he had only one artillery piece with limited ammunition to defend it. As Wyndham's Brigade (the 1st NJ, 1st MD, and 1st PA) assaulted Fleetwood Hill, Grumble Jones' 12th VA rode up from the opposite side and clashed with the 1st NJ at the top of the hill. The rest of Jones' brigade (6th VA and 35th VA Battalion) arrived and the fight was on.



Wyndham's attack (Mark Whitenton)

Kilpatrick's Union troopers now attacked the hill to the right of Wyndham, but the temporary Union advantage disappeared when Wade Hampton's brigade, which had fallen back from the St. James Church line, hit Kilpatrick's troopers on their flank, forcing two Union regiments off the hill. Because Wyndham's 1st MD kept riding over Fleetwood Hill in pursuit of Confederates (ironically, toward Gen. Lee's undefended headquarters at a house on a nearby hill), Fleetwood Hill now belonged to the Confederates, who occupied it with both troopers and artillery.

Meanwhile, Rooney Lee's brigade was still facing Buford at the northern end of Fleetwood Hill. As the day ended, Col. Thomas Munford (in temporary command of Fitzhugh Lee's brigade) reinforced Lee

and enabled him to counterattack Buford. At about that time, Pleasonton ordered a general withdrawal of Union forces across the Rappahannock. Ironically, Beverly Robertson's Confederate brigade, as well as Gregg's other division under Col. Alfred Duffie, had played no role in the fighting.



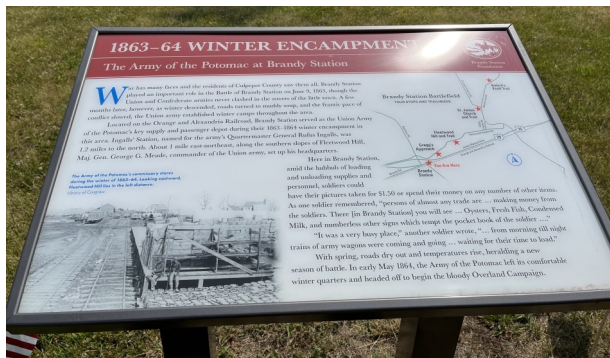
Robert E. Lee's HQ during the battle (Debbie Whitenton)

Opinions were divided as to the outcome. Stuart, not surprisingly, claimed the victory by virtue of possessing the ground at the end of the battle. Pleasonton would argue that his mission was only a reconnaissance in force and he had accomplished his goal. The Southern press and Pleasonton's subordinates criticized both men. Major McClellan (Stuart's adjutant) would pay tribute to his enemies by saying that Brandy Station "made the Federal Cavalry"; for the first time, they matched the Confederate horsemen on equal terms, and as the war proceeded, they were a lot more effective.

After Gettysburg, Lee's retreating army would pass through the area and his cavalry stayed atop Fleetwood Hill as a rear guard. In the fall, Union Gen. George Meade's headquarters briefly occupied the hill, before Lee returned and camped there. Finally, during the Union's winter camp of 1863-1864, the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac and Third Corps were located on Fleetwood Hill.

(cont on page 19)

Brandy Station Tour Report



Winter encampment, 1863-64 (Debbie Whitenton)



Summit of Fleetwood Hill (Debbie Whitenton)

Our guide, Richard Deardoff, was excellent, and gave us many stories of the battle and its participants. Perhaps in appreciation of the knowledge and friendliness of our tour members, Richard has joined the BRCWRT!

For those who would like to delve even further into Brandy Station, the following reading is suggested:

- Eric Wittenberg & Daniel Davis, "Out Flew the Sabres: The Battle of Brandy Station" (Savas Beatie "Emerging Civil War" series)
- Eric Wittenberg, "The Battle of Brandy Station" (The History Press)
- Dan Beattie, "Brandy Station, 1863" (Osprey Publishing)
- Stephen Sears, "Gettysburg" (Houghton Mifflin). Sears devotes a full chapter to Brandy Station and the battles of Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville.
- Daniel Sutherland, "Seasons of War: The Ordeal of a Confederate Community" (The Free Press) Sutherland's analysis of the impact of the war on the residents of Culpeper includes accounts of the four battles fought near Brandy Station and the Army of the Potomac's winter 1863-64 encampment.
- Jeffry Wert, "Cavalryman of the Lost Cause: A Biography of J. E. B. Stuart" (Simon & Schuster)

You will also enjoy this interview with Howard Lambert, the new chairman of the Brandy Station Foundation, on HistoryNet.

<https://www.historynet.com/howard-lambert-interview/>



Our tour group on the site once occupied by St. James Episcopal Church:

Mike Buckley, Virginia Hill, Dave Holland, Sam Laudenslager, Dan Lundeen, Andrew and Tanya Monahan, John Price, Don Richardson, Roy ShROUT, Charles Vannoy, Mark and Debbie Whitenton, and Brian Whitenton. Also on the tour: Gene Schmiel and Sandra & Doug Cox (Photo: Sam Laudenslager)

The Aldie Ruritan Club Presents

“Civil War History Where it Happened”

Hear historians and authors Don Hakenson and Carl Sell describe Mosby’s Flour Mill raid, Captain George Custer’s fall into the Little River and the Battle of Aldie right where it all happened.

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Contact Carl Sell at sellcarl@aol.com or 703-971-4716 or Don Hakenson at dhakenson@verizon.net or 703-971-4984



Preservation Corner by Blake Myers



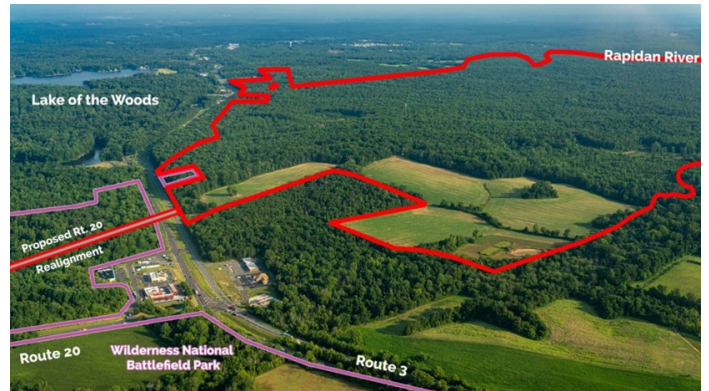
Greetings BRCWRT Members and Friends! This edition of *Preservation Corner* highlights a new threat to the Wilderness and Chancellorsville Battlefields, the Wilderness Crossing Development, and includes updates regarding the proposed Manassas Logistics Center (Chapel Springs) development project and the Prince William Digital Gateway (PWDG).

Wilderness Crossing (Wilderness Battlefield)

On May 24, 2023, together with local nonprofit organizations and private citizens, the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) filed a legal challenge in Orange County, Virginia against a mega-development that would blanket a historic landscape with more than 2,600 acres of residential, commercial, and industrial development, including data centers and distribution warehouses. The filing, made in Orange County Circuit Court, identifies a host of substantive and procedural flaws with the development project and the County's approval - requiring approval invalidation.

In its press release announcing the legal filing, ABT noted that Wilderness Crossing is a 2,600-acre rezoning and proposed development in Orange County near the intersection of Rt. 3 and Rt. 20 adjacent to the Wilderness Battlefield and across from Lake of the Woods. On April 25, 2023, the Orange County Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to approve the rezoning request, making it the largest land rezoning in County history. Plans envision

development on hundreds of acres of forested, undeveloped land adjacent to the Wilderness Battlefield for industrial, commercial, and residential uses. The rezoned area directly abuts battlefield land on which the May 1864 Battle of the Wilderness raged, includes hundreds of acres within the Battlefield Study Area where soldiers maneuvered and deployed, and where historic and archaeological resources exist.



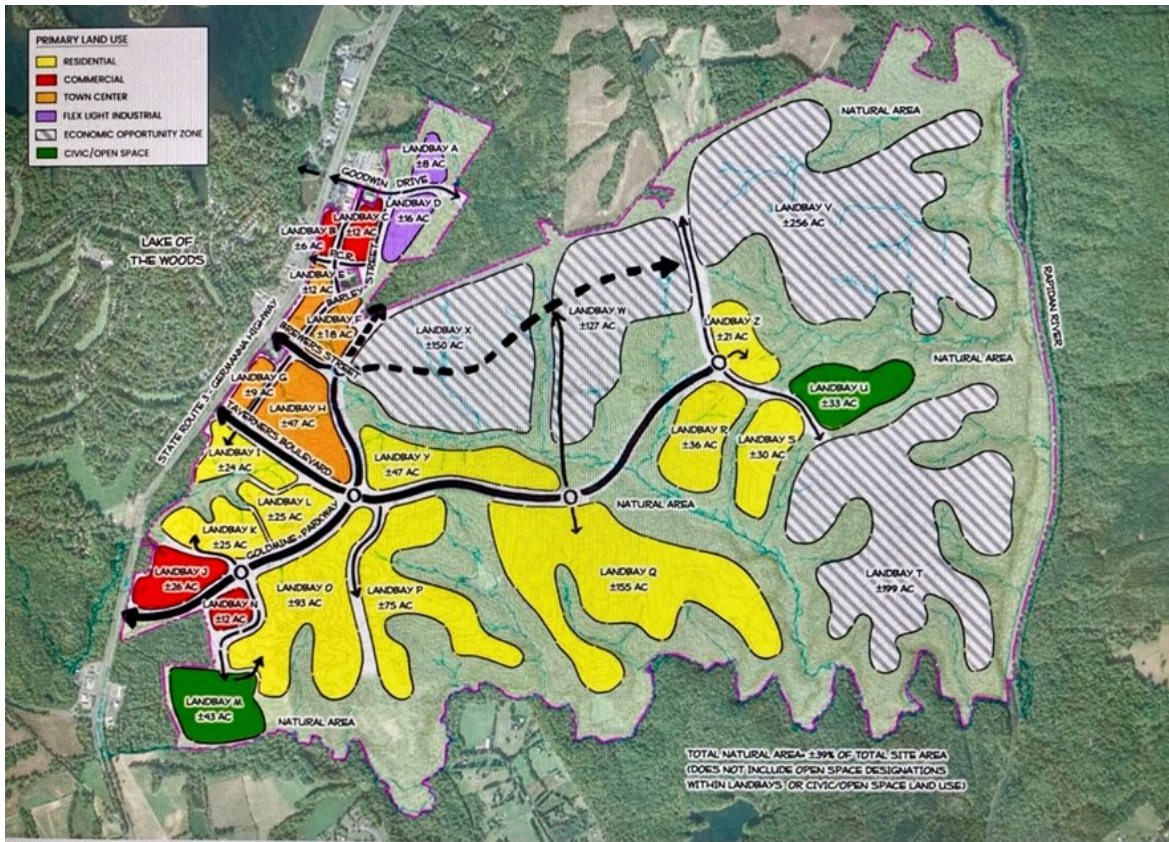
Aerial image of the Wilderness Crossing site across from the Sheetz and McDonald's at the Rt. 3/Rt. 20 intersection in Orange County (Photo by Hugh Kenny, PEC)

Approved despite overwhelming opposition expressed during the public comment hearing and voted on the same evening it first appeared on the Board's agenda, the project represents, by far, the largest rezoning in Orange County history. All told, it could result in up to 5,000 residential units, and more than 800 acres of commercial and industrial development, with as much as 750 acres designated as economic opportunity zones that could be developed as data centers and distribution warehouses (see diagram, below).

The plan also advances a long-envisioned realignment of the Route 3 and Route 20 interchange on the border with Spotsylvania County, which would have further detrimental impacts on the

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Preservation Corner



Wilderness Crossing Projected Land Use Designation (American Battlefield Trust)

Wilderness Battlefield, including battlefield core lands owned by ABT and other conservation organizations, as well as the adjacent Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park.

In ABT’s May 25, 2023, press release ABT President David Duncan stated, “To approve a project of this scale and magnitude without conducting analysis of the impacts to the hundreds of surrounding acres of protected historic landscape is unacceptable, as was the County’s complete lack of response to repeated requests by the preservation community and the National Park Service to meet and discuss our concerns. As we have before, the Trust and its members will take a stand on behalf of history at the Wilderness.”

Readers may recall a similar Wilderness Battlefield preservation effort, beginning in 2009, when preservationists

opposed a proposed development for a Walmart Supercenter to be built at the intersection of Route 3 and Route 20. Ultimately, a win-win result was achieved whereby the retailer donated the site for conservation and built the Supercenter further west on Route 3. Following this dispute, the Wilderness Battlefield Coalition produced the Wilderness Battlefield Gateway Study, a 2012 report envisioning a viable development path for the region. The Study was embraced by residents, park advocates, preservationists, and county officials alike, and many of its recommendations were adopted by Orange County in its Germanna-Wilderness Area Plan. Unfortunately, these mutually agreed upon development principles were ignored in the Wilderness Crossing development proposal.

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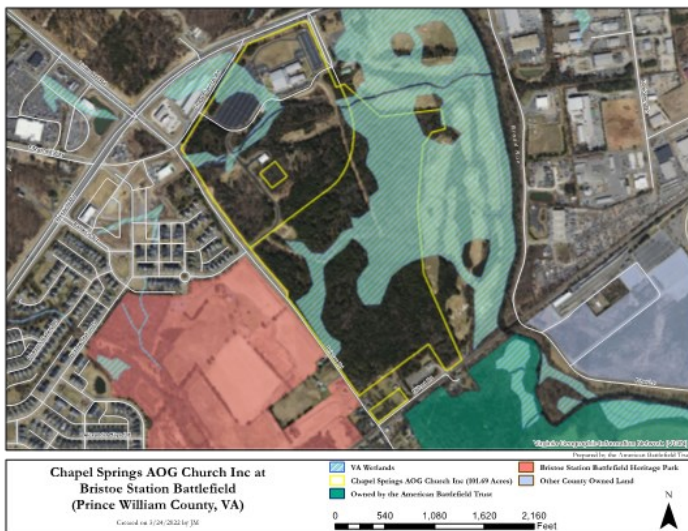
Preservation Corner

BRCWRT members and readers are strongly encouraged to support ABT’s legal challenge by urging officials to reconsider “Wilderness Crossing” and/or making a donation, and they may do so at <https://www.battlefields.org/preserve/speak-out/stop-largest-rezoning-orange-county-history>.

Manassas Logistics Center Development at Bristow/Chapel Springs (Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields)

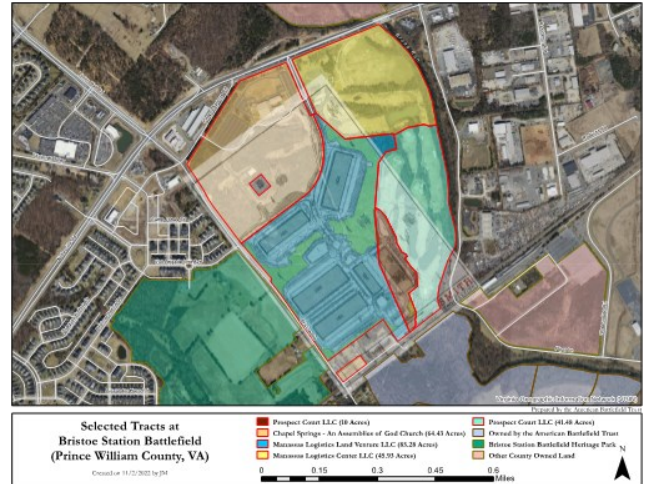
Recent documents from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) indicate that USACE may be preparing to initiate, as part of the wetlands permitting required for the proposed development project, the Section 106 Review (required by the National Historic Preservation Act) in the August - September 2023 time frame.

Recall that the proposed project by commercial real estate developer Trammell Crow Company (TCC) and its affiliate Manassas Logistics Land Venture, LLC is located along Bristow Road and adjacent to Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park and preserved battlefield land owned by the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) (see map, below).



Proposed Project Land, Formerly Chapel Springs Church Property, Adjacent to Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park

The proposed project includes six large warehouse and distribution buildings (772,400 square feet) and associated parking areas (see depiction, below).



Project Concept Overlaid on Property Map

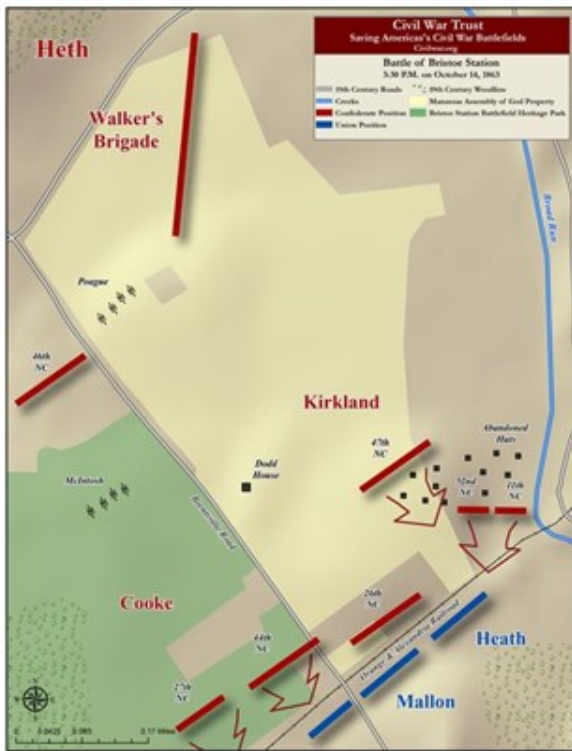
The documented Civil War historical significance of this land includes the following:

- Battle of Bristoe Station (October 14, 1863) (see battle map, below)
 - ◊ The Rockbridge Artillery’s (Poague’s Battery) key position from which the battery shelled Federal forces positioned along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad
 - ◊ The land over which Brigadier General William Kirkland’s NC Brigade (formerly Pettigrew’s Brigade) attacked federal forces positioned along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad
- Remnants of a Civil War era encampment with earthworks, and an associated cemetery containing military graves/burials (DHR-registered Archaeological Site 44PW0971 that has been deemed potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places [NHRP])

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Preservation Corner

- In 1864 Ferrero's Division of the U.S. 9th Corps, including two brigades composed of the 19th, 23rd, 27th, 30th, 31st, 39th, and 43rd USCTs, and the 30th Connecticut Colored Infantry camped here while guarding the Orange and Alexandria Railroad and the bridge across Broad Run in early May 1864. The division and its USCT brigades joined the Army of the Potomac near Spotsylvania Courthouse, from where they would fight in the Overland Campaign and subsequently in the Battle of the Crater in Petersburg on July 30, 1864.



*Civil War Trust (now American Battlefield Trust) Map –
Battle of Bristoe Station*

On June 21, 2023, Section 106 Review consulting parties received a revised Section 106 Coordination Form from USACE indicating USACE's extension of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the proposed project to include those portions of the Bristoe Station Battlefield that are

visible from the permit area, and USACE's determination that the project will have a direct and indirect adverse effect on Core areas of the Bristoe Station Battlefield and a direct adverse effect on archaeological resource 44PW0971. The Section 106 Coordination Form came with supporting documentation, and a request for consulting parties to provide any comments, questions and objections to USACE by July 24, 2023. Additional updates on this topic will be provided as available.

Prince William Digital Gateway (PWDG) Data Centers (Manassas National Battlefield Park and Manassas National Battlefield Historic District)

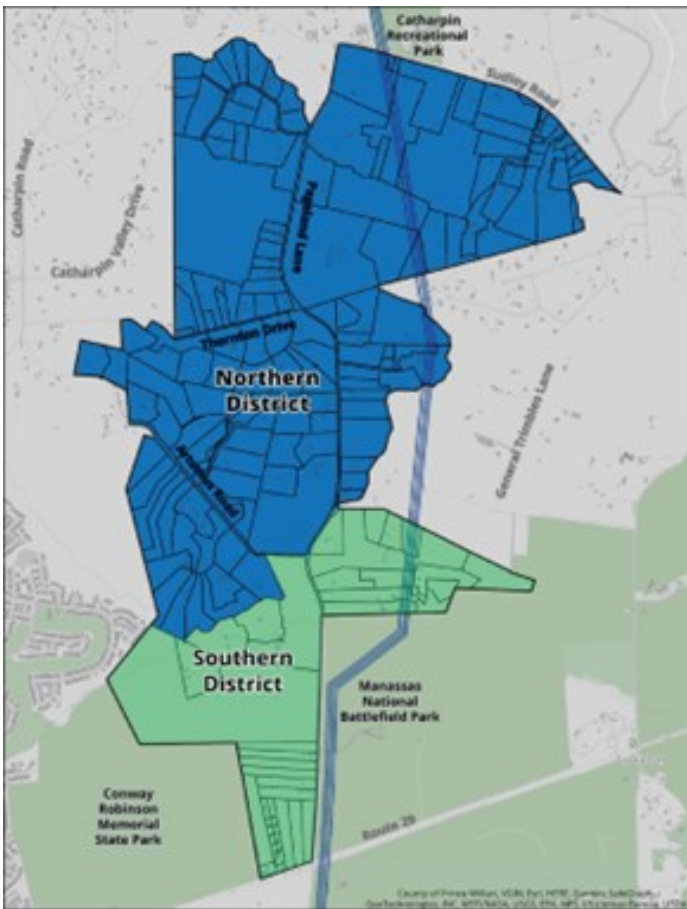
A short note on the potential impact of recent Primary Election results in Prince William County (PWC) on Data Center development in general and on the proposed PWDG data centers. A groundswell of public opposition to the large number of data center projects under consideration by PWC, the lack of transparency and accountability in the county's processes for developing the Comprehensive Plan Amendment establishing the PWDG, and the seeming dismissal by the Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) of resident, historic preservation, environmental, and energy concerns with proposed data center locations led to the defeat in the June 20, 2023 Democratic Primary of the BOCS Chair, a data center advocate, and narrow wins for several serving Supervisors, who have supported data center development.

Whether these election results and the strong message they send will have any impact on BOCS consideration of data center proposals currently under review remains to be seen. The November 7, 2023, General Election is 4 months

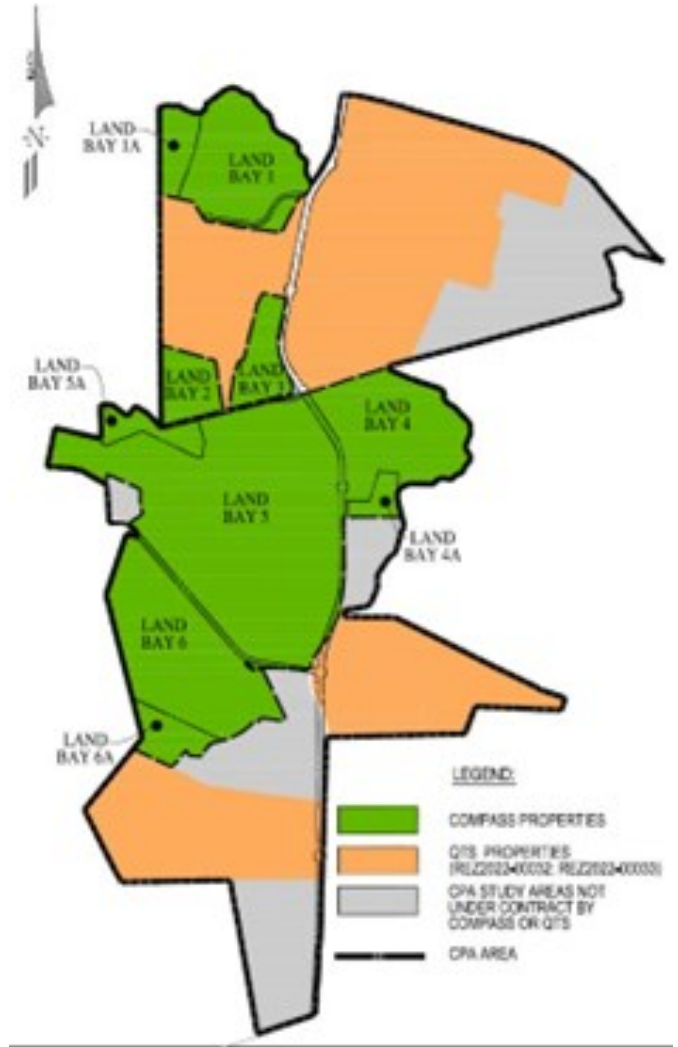
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Preservation Corner

away, but we hope and trust that sitting BOCS members take to heart the message delivered by PWC residents and reconsider any support for data center proposals that would negatively impact Manassas National Battlefield Park and other historic sites. Furthermore, that future PW BOCS ensure the process for considering data center development proposals is truly transparent, accounts for relevant resident, historic preservation, environmental and energy concerns, and is not driven by developer and political interests alone.



PW Digital Gateway Study Area and Subdistrict Map



PWDG Land Parcels Proposed for Data Centers

Thank you for your continued interest in, and support of, Civil War historic preservation in general and BRCWRT’s preservation projects, actions, and activities.

Blake Myers, BRCWRT Preservation Chair

Bull Run Civil War Roundtable

7th Annual Picnic

Sunday September 17, 2023

The Winery @ Bull Run

New Museum Tour 10 am – 11 am

BBQ Served 12-2 pm

Food Provided by...

THE BONE

hand-shredded pulled pork platter

(OR)

certified angus beef brisket platter

platter includes

*Sandwich + two homemade sides: cole slaw, potato salad, ranch beans
A drink (coke, diet coke, sprite, water)*

Individual Members @ No Cost

**Family Memberships (husband & wife or equivalents) plus children
@ No Cost**

All others will be considered as “guests”

Guests: Pork (or) Beef brisket platter @ \$16.00



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The 149th New York Volunteers at Culp's Hill

By Don Richardson

In the June issue of the *Stone Wall*, our own Ms. Rebelle profiled Confederate Brigadier General George H. "Maryland" Steuart, and described the assaults that his command made on Culp's Hill at Gettysburg on July 2nd and 3rd, 1863. The right wing of his command, composed of the 1st Maryland Battalion and the 1st and 3rd North Carolina, assaulted the section of the Union breastworks that was defended by the 149th NY Volunteers, a regiment that had already been bloodied at Chancellorsville and now valiantly helped stop the Confederate assault on Culp's Hill. Since two relatives of mine were there, in Company I of the 149th, we can see what Steuart's troops were up against from their perspective.

My great-great-grandmother, Josephine Hurlbut Richardson, grew up in Syracuse NY. She was close to her first cousin, George Knapp Collins, and mentioned him repeatedly in the journal she kept up to 1859. In September 1862, George was enrolled by Governor Morgan as a 1st Lieutenant and second-in-command of Company I of the 149th NY. George, in turn, enrolled his brother-in-law, George J. Sager, as a Sergeant. Collins was 25, and Sager 22 years old. The 5 sergeants, 8 corporals, and 62 privates of Company I received a \$25 enlistment bounty.

After some preliminary duty in the lower Shenandoah Valley, the regiment marched to Fredericksburg, arriving after the battle there, and then entered winter quarters. They suffered heavily in May at Chancellorsville (Collins was wounded), then embarked on the Gettysburg Campaign. Collins must not have been seriously wounded, because he was back on his feet in time for Gettysburg.

On July 2nd, elements of the US 12th Corps occupied Culp's Hill, the strategically important right flank of the Union line. They quickly threw up wooden breastworks that would prove crucial in fighting off subsequent Confederate attacks. Late in the day, some 12th Corps elements were moved to other parts of the battlefield, leaving the 1,400 men (five New York regiments) of BG George Greene's 3rd Brigade to defend the hill against 4,700 Confederates in four brigades. The Confederates attacked in the early evening. (The position of the 149th NY can be seen near the center of the map below.) After fierce fighting, the Confederates pulled back. The next morning, they tried again, but Union reinforcements had been brought back to Culp's Hill and that attack was also beaten off. Gen. Steuart and others thought the attack on July 3rd was madness; Steuart only had 900 effectives left of the 2,100 men he started with the day before. But they followed their orders.

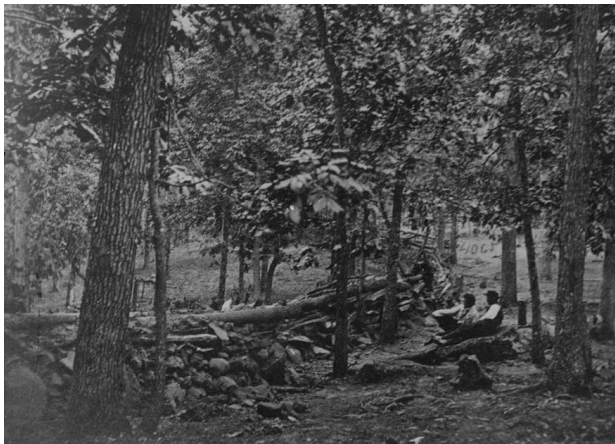


Assault on Culp's Hill, July 2nd, Evening

(cont on page 28)

The 149th NY at Culp's Hill

Confederate losses were huge; the Union's were much less. Compared to the bloodbath at Chancellorsville, the 149th's casualties at Gettysburg were relatively light: of the 319 men who came to the field, 12 enlisted men were killed or died of wounds, and 3 officers and 38 enlisted men were wounded but recovered. The log breastworks from which they fought, combined with the advantage of holding the high ground, made the difference. George Collins reported that 4 men of his company were wounded, only one of them seriously.



Breastworks on Culp's Hill



Edwin Forbes rendering of the defense of Culp's Hill

On the day after the battle, Collins wrote a letter to his wife describing the fighting and listing the casualties. Lt. Col. Charles Randall took command on July 2nd due to the illness of Col. Henry Barnum, but when he was wounded on July 3rd, command of the regiment passed to Capt. Nicholas Grumbach Jr.

Dear Kate,

This is a happy day for the Army of the Potomac and more especially for our Brigade and Regiment. This morning it was revealed to us that we had won one of the most decisive victories that has ever been won by the Army of the Potomac. I cannot in this short note give you any details but sufficient to say that the number of prisoners taken by us is large and we are in full possession of the Battle Field. The papers will give you a full account of the battle before you receive this. I have been over the ground contested between us and the "rebs" this morning. It is awful to see the evidences of destruction about us. I will try some other time to picture the [last line cut off] such a sight and never expect to again.

If things go on as they do now for a short time longer we shall annihilate the whole rebel army. Our Regimental flag has more than fifty bullet holes in it. The staff was once or twice shot away and is cut nearly through in several places. We have it now patched and splinted up as best we can. The flag of the old 12th was not more destroyed by shot. We feel justly proud of ourselves and our flag. No better and braver officer ever lived than Col Randal. I am sorry that he is so badly wounded. We all feel very sad in regard to him. In fact we all have learned to almost worship him. Too much cannot be said to his credit. The casualties in our company are small. They are as follows: Nelson Gilbert slightly wounded in the face (one eye), William Moon hand bruised (not badly), William Sharp badly wounded in hip, John Greer Jr slightly wounded in head. John Greer still continues to stay with the company and does his duty. He let me take the pencil I am writing with. Tell his mother if she enquires about him that she need not borrow any trouble about him, as he will get along without any difficulty.

Collins concluded his letter with a paragraph illustrating the degree to which rumor could run rampant on a battlefield. The Union army had not captured either James Longstreet or Richard

(cont on page 29)

The 149th NY at Culp's Hill

Ewell, and Longstreet departed from the battlefield alive and well. Ewell did get hit by fire during the fighting, but only in his left (wooden) leg.

It is reported that in addition to capturing Longstreet, we have taken Ewell. He is wounded. Longstreet died last night of wounds in our hands. The news of the capture of Ewell just reached me. Those stated in the note are all the casualties in our company, none serious except William Sharp. He is a Low Dutcher [descendant of immigrants from Holland] from near Albany. I am quite well but completely tired out. We are all well fatigued out. We are now digging trenches to bury our dead. We lost about 70 in our Brigade, mostly from the 137th NY. Very few wounded. Bridgeford [a sergeant in Company I] is all right.

Your husband
Geo

George Collins went on to participate in the Battle of Lookout Mountain in November 1863 and was wounded there. In the spring of 1864 he received his medical discharge and went home to Syracuse, where he began a long career as a prominent lawyer and author of local histories and genealogy works. He also played an important role in the placing of the monument to the 149th NY on the east side of Slocum Avenue at Culp's Hill in 1892.



At the dedication of the monument, Collins described the design of the bas-relief plaque on its base. It shows Color Sergeant William Lilly repairing the regiment's National Flag, which (along with its staff) had been pierced by as many as 80 Confederate bullets. Realizing the importance of keeping the colors flying on the

breastworks, Lilly used splints of wood from the tops of ammunition boxes and leather straps taken from his knapsack to repair the flagstaff, and raised it once more above the regimental line.

While he was not as literate as his brother-in-law, George Sager had artistic talent; in fact, his sketch of Lilly repairing the flagstaff was the inspiration for the plaque on the monument. Sager drew many other pictures depicting the life of an infantry regiment.



Sager's original drawing (Sager Hubbell Collection, Onondaga Historical Assoc.)



The finished plaque on the monument

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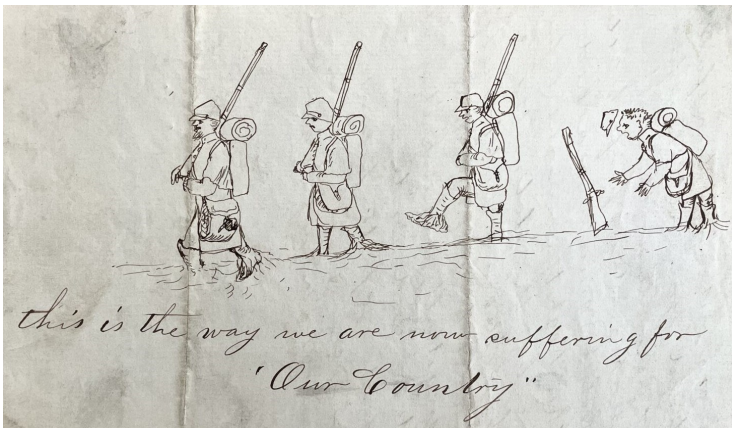
The 149th NY at Culp's Hill

The brave Sergeant Lilly, alas, did not survive the war. Later in 1863 he was mortally wounded at Wauhatchie in Alabama. His replacement as Color Sergeant, John Kiggins, carried the same flag at Lookout Mountain and earned the Medal of Honor by standing exposed on a stump and waving the flag to get his own batteries to stop firing on their position.



Sgt. Kiggins and the flag with its repaired staff

George Sager remained with the 149th for the rest of the war, finally being mustered out at Bladensburg, MD in June of 1865. He departed with the brevet rank of 2nd Lieutenant. Some of his artwork is included here.



*this is the way we are now suffering for
'Our Country'*

Sager's depiction of soldiers marching in mud



George Collins in later life



George Sager



Bristoe Station Campaign October 13 – 19, 1863
(BRCWRT Caravan Tour) +
Lunch @ Bristow Center
Saturday, September 23, 2023



Subject matter: Final week of the Bristoe Station Campaign, including the clash at Auburn, troop movements leading to the battle, the Battle of Bristoe Station and the Battle of Buckland Mills. 5 tour stops.

Tour Guide: Bill Backus – Preservationist/Prince William Office of Historic Preservation.

Assembly Time/Location: 8:30 AM parking lot at Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park (Iron Brigade Unit Ave, Bristow, VA)

Tour Start Time: 9:00 AM **Tour Duration:** Approx. 6 1/2 Hrs

Lunch: 12:30 PM Bristow Center Shopping Center: Choice of restaurant, Individual tabs

Mode of Transportation: Carpool caravan. We need to minimize number of cars due to limited parking at a couple of stops.

Uniform of the Day: Appropriate dress for local weather conditions. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Water & insect repellent advised. Walking stick if desired.

BRCWRT Contact: Gary Haskins – haskins_gary@yahoo.com / 703 850-2108

The tour is FREE! If interested in attending, please sign up via BRCWRT's website or at the August or September BRCWRT Membership meeting.

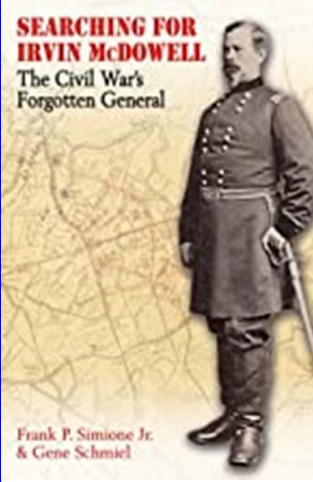
More Civil War Activities

If you are looking for Civil War activities to enjoy this summer, you may want to check out the latest calendar of events from the Civil War Roundtable Congress. Many of these events are within driving distance of our members, and they cover a variety of topics. Visit the listing at: <https://mailchi.mp/a700084d985b/cwrt-congress-news-events-13362540?e=9cc336a704>



The first biography of Union General Irvin McDowell, written by BRCWRT Members Frank P. Simione Jr. and Gene Schmiel, is now available for sale at:

<https://www.savasbeatie.com/searching-for-irvin-mcdowell-the-civil-wars-forgotten-general>



McDowell was chosen to command the largest army in American history to that date at First Bull Run, July 21, 1861. This long-overdue biography of the Union commander at that key battle assesses the general's life and personality, while providing new insights into the background of this

key battle and its implications for the remainder of the Civil War.

Contact Gene at geneofva@gmail.com, or at our meetings, to buy a signed copy.

Civil War Cavalry Equipment

- 1840 Heavy Cavalry Saber
- Trooper's forage bags — included coffee, sugar,hardtack, and mess gear
- Blanket roll — change of clothes wrapped around a wool blanket and covered with a rubber blanket
- Canteen
- 1859 McClellan saddle, designed by the general with the comfort of the horse in mind
- Uniform comprised of 1859 Forage cap, sack coat, cotton shirt, reinforced trousers, cotton underwear, braces (suspenders)

Not pictured: 1860 Colt Army revolver, primer and cartridge box (40 rounds of ammunition), horse rations (corn, oats), horse care items (brush, comb, pick), housewife kit (sewing kit with buttons, fabrics, needles), rifle/carbine (unit dependent)

More than 1,500,000 horses and mules were killed in the Civil War.
Pictured: Eve and Union cavalry reenactor Mark Dudrow.

Here at Goose Creek Bridge, Confederate mounted cavalry barely got to the spot before Union cavalry and their horse artillery got into position on the far side. Elements of the 1st South Carolina Cavalry, the best Confederate screen, were hit by artillery on the bridge; one went down from a single exploding shell.

The first Union forces trying to cross in pursuit were Illinois mounted troopers — from the 6th Ohio Cavalry. Like their Confederate counterparts, they were in perfect range of horse artillery. Shot at Hart's and Moonman's Batteries of J.E.B. Stuart's Horse Artillery positioned on the high ground you can see above the parking lot. Well-ensconced Confederate sharpshooters from Wade Hampton's Brigade were positioned just below them. The Ohioans were turned back.

Because horses and cavalry equipment were tremendously expensive and hard to replace, much of the fighting here was done by horse artillery, dismounted cavalry, sharpshooters, and infantry. The Union forces ultimately pushing across Goose Creek Bridge were from the 4th New York Cavalry assisted by the 16th Michigan Volunteer Infantry. It could not have been done without the simultaneous help of three additional infantry regiments, three additional infantry regiments, three additional infantry regiments, three additional infantry regiments, three additional infantry regiments, three additional infantry regiments, three additional infantry regiments, three additional infantry regiments, three additional infantry regiments, three additional infantry regiments.

In the cavalry battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville, both sides made considerable progress learning how to employ horse artillery, mounted cavalry, dismounted cavalry, and infantry together for maximum advantage.

Eagle Scout Project
Troop 1158
William Whitworth
September 2022

WEDNESDAY WALKS AT BRISTOE

May 3 The 2nd New York Infantry at
the Battle of Kettle Run

June 7 Stories from the 10th Alabama Cemetery

July 5 Civil War Battles along the O&A

August 2 The Federals' Response to
Jackson's Raid on Bristoe Station

September 6 The Spanish-American War at
Bristoe Station

October 4 Confederate Artillery at the
Battle of Bristoe Station

All tours are free and begin in the parking lot of
Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park at 7 pm

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park
Corner of Iron Brigade Unit Ave. and Tenth Alabama Way
Bristow, VA 20136
(703) 366-3049

PRINCE WILLIAM
Historic Preservation

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**THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
P.O. Box 2147, Centreville, VA 20122**

<http://www.bullruncwrt.org>

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Thank you for your continued interest in the BRCWRT!

Here are your payment options:

Annual Dues:

Individual: \$20.00

Family: \$25.00

Student (21 & under): FREE!

Three-Year Option:

\$55.00

\$65.00

You may use PayPal by going to http://brcwrt.org/?page_id=962 and then emailing this form to BRCWRTtreasurer@gmail.com. Note that \$1 is added to cover the PayPal fee.

-OR-

You may pay by check, made payable to: BRCWRT (Bull Run Civil War Round Table) and give the form and check to the President or Treasurer at a General Membership meeting.

-OR-

You may mail this form and the check to:

**BRCWRT Treasurer
P.O. Box 2147
Centreville, VA 20122**

NAME(S)_____

NAME(S) FOR BADGE (if different)_____

If there are any changes:

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP_____

PHONE_____ EMAIL_____

Are there any BRCWRT activities you would like to help with (tours, selling used books, member recruitment, newsletter articles, annual picnic)?

Do you have any suggestions for additional BRCWRT activities? _____