

## Chancellorsville project gaining some ground

With Corps of Engineers decision, plans to develop part of Chancellorsville land moves closer to reality.

By RUSTY DENNEN

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has taken the unusual step of ending consultations on a permit connected with John Mullins' plan to develop land along the Chancellorsville battlefield.

The consultations involve preservation groups and other interested parties that have weighed in on the project.

The decision means that the Mullins' plan for up to 225 homes on the land moves one step closer to reality.

In a letter last week to John M. Fowler, executive director of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, George S. Dunlop, deputy assistant secretary of the Army, said the corps made the decision after the parties were unable to agree on the scope of the permit and whether more archaeological investigation of the site near the scene of first day of fighting during the 1863 Civil War battle is justified.

The project requires a corps permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for six road crossings of streams on the property associated with Mullins' proposed residential subdivision off State Route 3.

Spotsylvania County has signed off on Mullins' plans; all he needs now to proceed is the corps permit.

For more on this story, see tomorrow's Free Lance-Star.

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