



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXXIII, Issue 6, JUNE 2026

HISTORIAN AND REENACTOR PATRICK FALCI SPEAKS ON "THE 30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAKING OF THE GETTYSBURG MOVIE" AT THE JUNE 18th, 2026 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

By Mark Trbovich

The Battle of Gettysburg movie premiered in 1993 throughout the country. This war drama depicted one of the biggest events of the American Civil War. The massive three-day conflict begins as Confederate General Robert E. Lee (Martin Sheen) presses his troops north into Pennsylvania, leading to confrontations with Union forces, including the regiment of Colonel Joshua Chamberlain (Jeff Daniels). As the battle rages on and casualties mount, the film follows both the front lines and the strategic maneuvering behind the scenes. We are happy to have the man who played General A.P. Hill in the movie visit us again at our June 18th, 2026 general membership meeting.

For over 30 years, Patrick Falci has been the face of Confederate General Ambrose Powell Hill. Before that, he was a Civil War reenactor with the 14th Tennessee, Archer's Brigade. Pat gained fame not only for his role as A.P. Hill in the feature movie *Gettysburg*, but also as director Ron Maxwell's historical advisor for both that movie and the later *Gods and Generals*. He has thrice served as president of the Civil War Round Table of New York; he travels across the country to lecture at other Civil War Round Tables, historical organizations

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, June 18, 2026

6 P.M. Social Hour

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

GUEST SPEAKER:

Patrick Falci

TOPIC:

"30th Anniversary of the Making of the Gettysburg Movie"

and schools, and gives presentations on a wide variety of Civil War subjects, including keynote speeches at the Grant's Tomb birthday celebration (2003), R.E. Lee Bicentennial Celebration (2007), and Arlington National Cemetery (Confederate Memorial).

Come join us early at our June 18th, 2026 Membership Meeting to have an opportunity to chat with Patrick and your colleagues before the meeting begins. Doors open at 6:00 PM; hope to see you there. [NOTE: this is a week later than we usually meet.]

It's not too late to sign up for our Spring tour to Harper's Ferry, this coming Saturday, June 13th. See the signup link at the top of our webpage:

<https://www.bullruncwrt.org/>

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE Executive Committee

President: Melissa A. Winn,
melissaannwinn@gmail.com

Vice-President: Mark Whitenton,
mark.whitenton@gmail.com, 703-795-8759

Treasurer: Joe Young,
BRCWRTTreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary: Debbie Whitenton, debd509@aol.com

At Large: Jeff Joyce, Mark Trbovich, Jim Lewis,
Drew Pallo

Past President: Kim Brace, kbrace@aol.com
202-607-5857

Education: (vacant)

Field Trips: Sam Laudenslager,
kapel-meister1@hotmail.com

Fundraising: (vacant)

Graphic Design: Drew Pallo,
dpallo3@verizon.net

Marketing: (vacant)

Membership: Mark Whitenton,
mark.whitenton@gmail.com

Newsletter: Don Richardson,
don.richardson@erols.com

Preservation: Melissa A. Winn,
melissaannwinn@gmail.com

Scholarship: John Carter, johnca2@yahoo.com

Webmaster: Alan Day,
webmaster@bullruncwrt.org

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

Newsletter Team: Sandra Cox, Janet Green-tree, Melissa Winn, Debbie and Mark Whitenton.

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

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **July 2026 issue**, e-mail articles by **June 29th** to the editor, Don Richardson, at:
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ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

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and e-mail ads by **June 29th** to Don Richardson at: don.richardson@erols.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 18 Patrick Falci - "30th Anniversary of the Making of the Gettysburg Movie"

July 9 Scott Mingus - "Human Interest Stories from the Gettysburg Campaign"

August 13 Frank O'Reilly - "Last Days of Stonewall Jackson"

September 10 Bill Backus - "Opening Manassas: The Iron Brigade, Stonewall Jackson, and the Battle of Brawner Farm, 28 August 1862"

October 8 Bryan Cheeseboro - "Early Days of the Civil War Defenses of Washington, from Fort Sumter to 1st Bull Run"

November 19 Lisa Samia - "Nameless & Faceless of Manassas & Gettysburg"

December 10 Jonathan Jones - "Opium Slavery: Civil War Veterans And America's First Opioid Crisis"

January 14, 2027 Jared Peatman - "Hell of a Regiment: The Twentieth Maine"

February 11, 2027 Edward J. Hagerty - "Soldier of the South: Lt. Gen. Richard H. Anderson At War And Peace"

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Melissa A. Winn

Happy June! Summer is finally here and I'm looking forward to spending some of my summer on the battlefields. Hope you are, too!

One of the greatest privileges of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table is supporting the next generation of scholars, preservationists, and engaged citizens who will carry history forward. So it's a great honor to showcase our scholarship winner at the June membership meeting. The 2026 BRCWRT scholarship recipient is Kaiely Morales.

Kaiely, a graduating senior from West Springfield High School, will attend the University of Virginia this fall to study Civil Engineering with a minor in Environmental Engineering. Her award-winning essay "Fairfax Station: A Lifeline and Strategic Crossroads in the Civil War" explored the railroad's role in transportation, logistics, and the evacuation of wounded soldiers during the war. What especially impressed the Scholarship committee was Kaiely's ability to connect history with the modern world through infrastructure, preservation, and community impact.

On behalf of the Round Table, congratulations to Kaiely and her family! We will also be joined at the meeting by Patrick Falci, sharing memories of his time on the set of *Gettysburg*, the movie. Falci portrayed A.P. Hill in the movie.

Our May Membership meeting featured an up-and-coming young historian, Rich Condon, who traced the process by which enslaved people emancipated them-

selves by moving into the Union's Department of the South along the South Carolina coast.



Our May speaker, Rich Condon, with Mark Whitenton (Janet Greentree)

As we move into another summer season for the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, I also want to take a moment to reflect on something that keeps organizations like ours strong: volunteers.

The BRCWRT continues to grow because of the dedication, enthusiasm, and generosity of members willing to step forward and share their time. Whether it's helping organize programs, greeting attendees, supporting preservation efforts, assisting with social media and marketing, or helping coordinate field trips, volunteers are the backbone of everything we do.

One of our biggest opportunities right now is working on our field trip offerings and outreach efforts. Members consistently tell us how much they value visiting historic sites together and learning directly on the ground where history unfolded. These programs take planning, coordination, and promotion, and we cannot do it without additional help. If you have an interest in organizing tours,

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

researching destinations, communicating with members, photographing events, or helping spread the word online, we would love to have you involved.

Marketing and outreach are also increasingly important as we work to attract new members and connect with younger audiences interested in Civil War history. Even a small contribution - designing flyers or assisting with event attendance and promotion - can make a tremendous difference. Fresh ideas and new energy help ensure the BRCWRT remains vibrant for years to come.

The future of organizations like ours depends not only on preserving history, but on building a strong community around it. I encourage each of you to consider how you might help, whether through a one-time project or ongoing support.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming programs and events.

Huzzah!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The BRCWRT **PICNIC** will be held on **September 20th** at the Winery at Bull Run. More information coming soon!

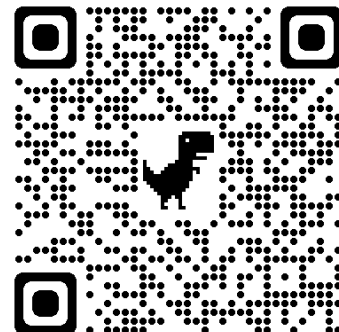


SUPPORT BRCWRT ACTIVITIES

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that relies on your donations to continue our excellent programs and initiatives throughout the year. There are many programs to donate to, including the BRCWRT Scholarship Fund, Preservation efforts, Civil War Trails sign preservation and maintenance, educational programs, and of course the General donation category (which the Round Table uses as a fund to offset various expenses, to help keep our membership dues at a reasonable rate). Please consider your Round Table for tax-deductible donations every year. (We also accept donated Civil War prints to auction for the benefit of the Scholarship Fund.) We appreciate our members very much.

There are a number of ways to make a donation. On the BRCWRT website, click the link labelled "Renew/Donate" and select the link at the bottom of that page. Alternatively, you can give a check to our Treasurer at a membership meeting, or mail it to: BRCWRT Treasurer, PO Box 2147, Centreville VA 20122. Make checks payable to BRCWRT, and be sure to note whether it is for the Scholarship Fund, Preservation Fund, or the General Fund.

Finally, you can scan this QR code with the camera on your smartphone to make a donation.



Bull Run Civil War Round Table



Upcoming 2026-2027 Program of Events

Date	Event
June 13, 2026	Spring Tour 2: "Harpers Ferry: Bolivar Heights Battleground & Kennedy Farm" Tour leader Kevin Pawlak (rain date June 20th)
June 18, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Patrick Falci - "30th Anniversary of the Making of the Gettysburg Movie"
July 9, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Scott Mings - "Human Interest Stories from the Gettysburg Campaign"
August 13, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Frank O'Reilly - "Last Days of Stonewall Jackson"
September 10, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Bill Backus - "Opening Manassas: The Iron Brigade, Stonewall Jackson, and the Battle of Brawner Farm, 28 August 1862"
October 8, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Bryan Cheeseboro - "The Early Days of the Civil War Defenses of Washington, from Fort Sumter to 1st Bull Run"
October 17, 2026	Fall Tour: "Civil War Alexandria (AM) / Fort Ward (PM)" Tour leaders Don Hakenson and Chuck Mauro (rain date October 24th)
November 19, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Lisa Samia - "Nameless and Faceless of Manassas And Gettysburg"
December 10, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Jonathan Jones - "Opium Slavery: Civil War Veterans And America's First Opioid Crisis"
January 14, 2027	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Jared Peatman - "Hell of a Regiment: The 20th Maine"
February 11, 2027	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Edward J. Hagerty - "Soldier of the South: Lieutenant General Richard H Anderson at War and Peace"
March 11, 2027	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Theodore Savas - "Handshakes, Gambling, & Gunpowder: How George W. Rains and Jefferson Davis Changed the Course of the Civil War"
April 8, 2027	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Dr. Chris Mackowski - "Moments of Contingency And The Rise of U.S. Grant"
May 13, 2027	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Dean Calbreath - "The Sergeant: Nicholas Said, a Union Army Sergeant"
June 10, 2027	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Erica Uszak - "Controversies on the Early Gettysburg Battlefield"
June 22, 2027	EXTRA Monthly Meeting Speaker: Damian Shiels - "The Irish in the Civil War" (Extra meeting via Zoom from Ireland)
July 8, 2027	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Shelby Harriel-Hidlebaugh - "Forbidden, Hidden, and Forgotten: Women Soldiers of the Civil War"
Monthly Meetings in "Black" Tours/Field Trips & Special RT Events in "Red" <u>County or outside sponsored events in "Green"</u>	

Harpers Ferry “Beyond the Raid”

(BRCWRT Caravan Tour)

Saturday, June 13, 2026

(Rain Date Saturday, June 20, 2026)



TOUR STOPS:

- September 1862 Battle of Harpers Ferry – Confederate positions at Bolivar Heights, Schoolhouse Ridge and Murphy House.
- Allstadt House – raided by John Brown (time permitting).
- Kennedy Farm and farmhouse – John Brown raid headquarters.
- Harpers Ferry Brewery.

TOUR GUIDE: Kevin Pawlak – Historic Site Manager, PWC Office of Historic Preservation. Member, Bull Run Civil War Round Table.

COST: Up to four passengers per vehicle free with NPS America the Beautiful pass, Harpers Ferry standard or annual vehicle pass, or \$20. No cash accepted.

MAXIMUM ATTENDEES: 25

MEET: 8:00 AM at Centreville Library or self transport. Arrive at Harpers Ferry 9:45. (See Marching Orders for location address.) Tour starts at 10:15 AM.

TRANSPORTATION: Caravan from Centreville or self transport to Harpers Ferry main gate parking.

DRESS: Appropriate dress for local weather conditions. Wear comfortable walking shoes, minimal walking required.

LUNCH: 2:15 PM Harpers Ferry Brewery - pizza and beer. Individual tabs. No outside food or beverage allowed.

TOUR DURATION: Approximately 8 hours including lunch and drive from and to Centreville. Arrive back to Centreville at approximately 4:30 PM.

SIGN UP ONLINE: **SEE THE LINK AT TOP OF THE BRCWRT WEBPAGE, <https://brcwrt.org>**

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

KUNSTLER GETTYSBURG PRINT FOR SALE

By Mark Whitenton

At the Membership Meeting on June 18th, we will be offering for sale a famous Mort Kunstler print titled "Follow Me". It depicts one of the final moments of Pickett's Charge on July 3rd, 1863. Confederate Brigadier General Lewis Armistead (waving his sword on which his hat has slid down almost to the hilt) leads the remnants of his brigade across the stone wall at The Angle, prior to his being mortally wounded.



The print is new, unopened in its original packaging, unframed, signed, with a Certificate of Authenticity and numbered 0922 out of a Limited Edition of 1750. A similar print is being offered on eBay for \$385. However, we are asking only \$150 for it. Sales of donated prints are an important source of income to support our Bull Run Civil War Round Table activities.

The Round Table is grateful to member Gwen Wytenbach for her generous donation of this print.

IMAGE OF THE MONTH AN AREA DIVIDED

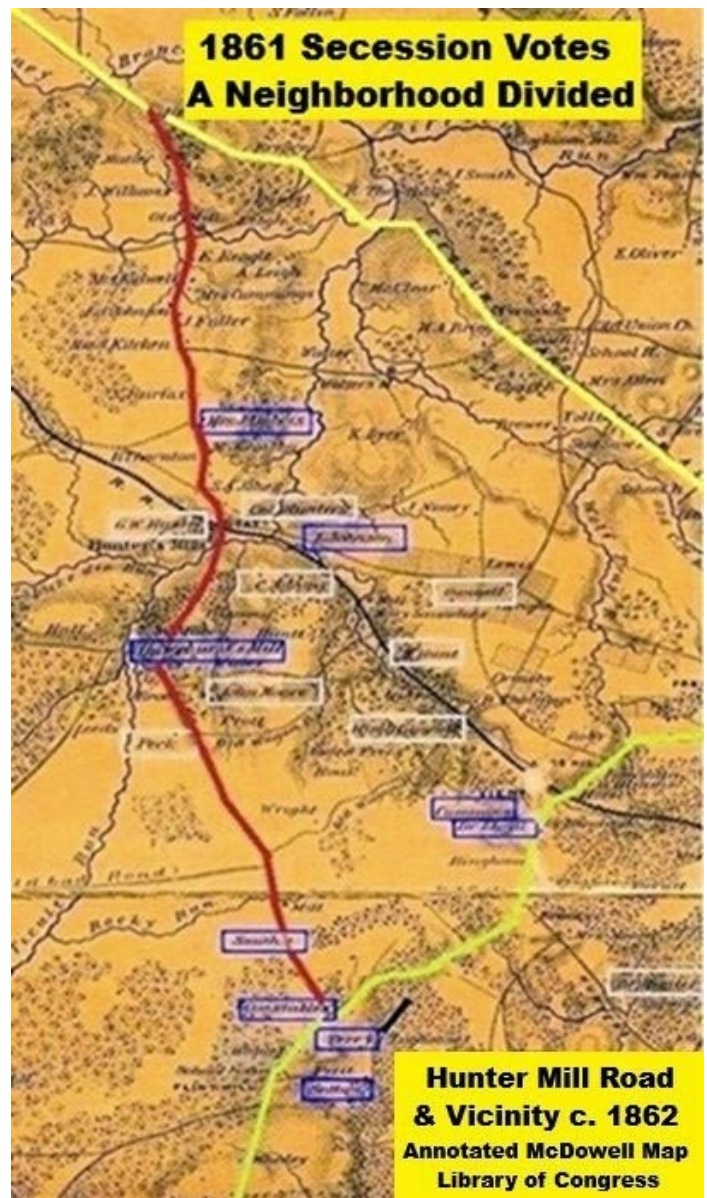
By Don Richardson & Jim Lewis

Last month we featured an old map that was annotated to show the home areas of the members of the Virginia Secession Convention, colored blue for those voting “No” on secession and yellow for those voting “Yes”. This month Jim Lewis has annotated a copy of the old McDowell map to show how the actual votes were split among neighbors in one relatively small section of northern Virginia: the Hunter Mill Road corridor. While it is hard to read, the area is bounded by Hunter Mill Road (red), Old Georgetown Road - today’s Courthouse/Chain Bridge Road (light green), and the old Leesburg and Alexandria Turnpike - today’s Route 7 (yellow). Households opposed to secession are boxed in blue and those favoring it are boxed in gray (appropriately).

The Hunter Mill Road corridor and its immediate surroundings was an area of different persuasions during the American Civil War. This was the result of the influx of New Englanders into Ayr Hill (Vienna) and Flint Hill (Oakton) in the 1840-50s. They had migrated south looking for cheaper land and a mild climate, thereby enabling a longer growing season. Their value system was different than that of the old-line Virginia families, creating great angst amongst neighbors as a result of the statewide “secession” referendum on May 23, 1861.

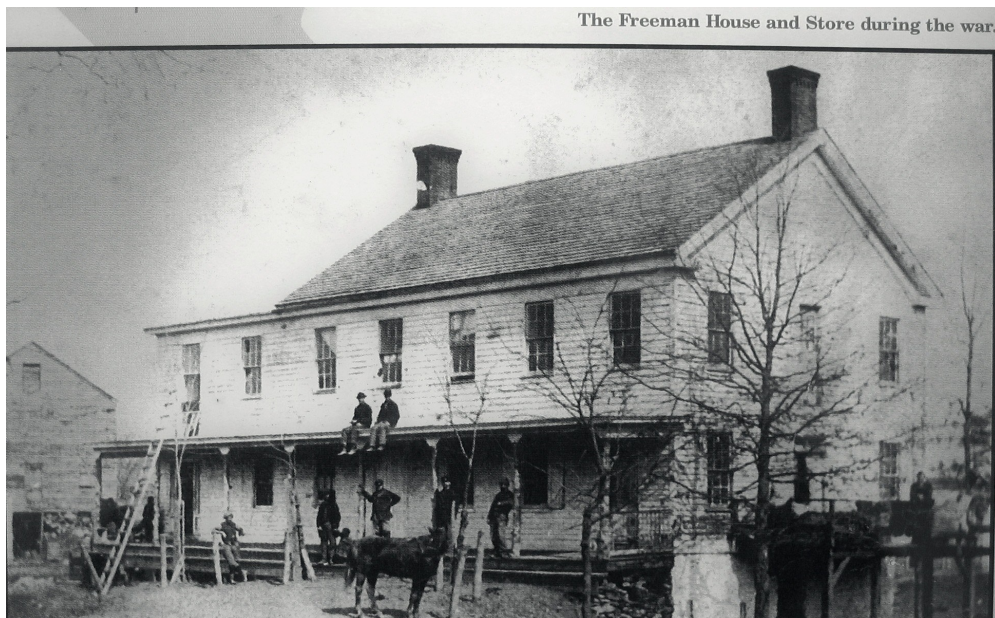
The Vienna poll was just one of three precincts in Fairfax County that voted “against” secession (78-44), the other two being Lewinsville and Accotink. All but 49 of the county’s “no” votes came from these precincts. With all of the back-and-forth occupation of the area in the early years of the war and Mosby affecting everyone’s psyche afterwards, neighbors had to be guarded for any number of reasons, including to avoid being sent to jail, which many endured.

See the following page for a view of the Vienna polling place (known as Lydecker’s) with some Union troops in 1864, and its current incarnation as the Freeman Store.



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AN AREA DIVIDED



Known as Lydecker's during the war, it served as a polling place for the secession referendum.
Note the Union soldiers in front in 1864.



The Freeman Store today.



CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

By Janet Greentree

Brigadier General James Jay Archer, CSA (a.k.a. "Sally" and "The Little Gamecock")

Brigadier General James J. Archer was the first Confederate Civil War general to be captured during the first day's battle at Gettysburg on July 1, 1863. He commanded Archer's Brigade in Heth's Division and A.P. Hill's Corps.

Archer came from a wealthy family who were mostly doctors and lawyers. He was born on December 19, 1817 at Stafford (the Carter-Archer mansion), his family's ancestral estate near Havre de Grace, Maryland. His father was Dr. John Alexander Archer and his mother was Ann Stump. He was described when he was young as slight with a frail build, and a high-pitched voice. Archer's family being wealthy was able to give their son a good education. He was nicknamed Sally when he went to Princeton (then known as the College of New Jersey). When he started college, he had no beard and was very thin and delicate. Mary Chesnut, whose future husband James was a classmate, said "Archer was so pretty when he entered." He was often teased at Princeton and felt uncomfortable around women. James Jay Archer never married. He graduated in 1835 from Princeton at the age of 17. Future Confederate General James Chesnut, Jr. also graduated in the class of 1835. Archer then studied at Bacon College in Georgetown, Kentucky. He decided he wanted to be an attorney, so he came back to Maryland and studied law at the University of Maryland. After passing the bar, he opened a law practice in Maryland.



The Carter-Archer mansion

Archer was the 8th child of 11. His siblings were George Washington (died from yellow fever as a midshipman at the Naval Academy), Hannah, Mary, Catherine (died at less than a year), Catherine Cassandra, Henry Wilson (prominent attorney in MD), John Stump (died at 19), Robert Harris (attended St. John's College in Annapolis and was aide-de-camp for Gen. John Bell Hood as well as his brother James in the Civil War), Ann (Nannie) Herman, and Marion (he died at less than 3 years old). Archer's grandfather was Dr. John Archer, the first man to receive a medical degree in America, who also graduated from Princeton. He was a colonel in the Revolutionary War and served as aide-de-camp to General Anthony Wayne. He later served in the U.S. Congress. Archer's uncle Stevenson Archer was a U.S. Congressman and was appointed as a United States Judge in Mississippi by President James Madison. Stevenson was one of nine children and four of his brothers became doctors. Archer's grandmother was Catherine Harris. Her father Thomas Harris ran the Sign of the Bear Tavern in Elizabethtown PA, which is still standing. It is now an architect's office and is

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located at 56 North Market Street. The tavern was built in 1745, before the Revolutionary War. Thomas Harris came to this country from Ireland in 1726. He was born in Raphoe Diocese, County Donegal, Ireland.

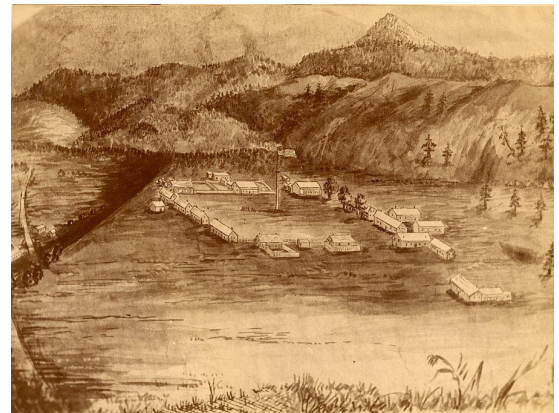


Sign of the Bear Tavern

Archer decided to forego his law practice and signed up for the Mexican War as a captain. He was in charge of the Regiment of Voltigeurs, a highly specialized light infantry unit. After the battle of Chapultepec he was promoted to major for his gallantry. He moved to Texas after the Mexican War in 1848. Somehow he got into a duel with Andrew Porter. Archer's second was the future Stonewall Jackson. Archer was wounded in the duel. Andrew Porter later became a Civil War general for the Union. I have tried and tried to find the reason for the duel but have had no luck. Both Archer and Porter were attorneys, which could have had something to do with the duel. Archer came back to Maryland again to practice law but quickly grew tired of it. In 1855 he went back in the Army as a captain in the 9th U.S. Infantry. He was sent to the Pacific Northwest, serving at Fort Walla Walla and Fort Colville. Both forts were in Washington state.

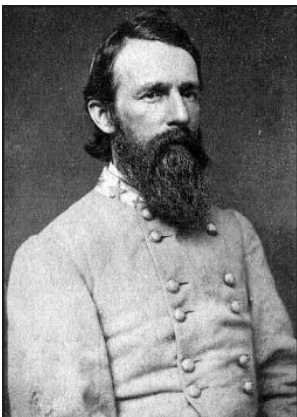


Fort Walla Walla



Fort Colville

Archer again resigned his commission in the U.S. Army on May 14, 1861 to join the Confederacy in the Civil War. He received his commission in Richmond, VA as a captain. Archer was named commander of the 5th Texas Infantry Regiment in September, 1861 by President Jefferson Davis, under Gen. John Bell Hood. Being an Old Army disciplinarian he stuck to old army rules, which his young Texas Infantry were not fond of. He was appointed brigadier general in June, 1862, having command of several Tennessee regiments. The Tennessee boys liked him better than the Texans. This is when he was nicknamed "The Little Gamecock" since he was small in size and had tenacity. He was also called a martinet. Archer had command of several different regiments, including the 1st, 7th, and 14th Tennessee infantry, the 13th Alabama, and the 5th Alabama Battalion. At this time Archer and his men were in Gen. A.P. Hill's Corps.

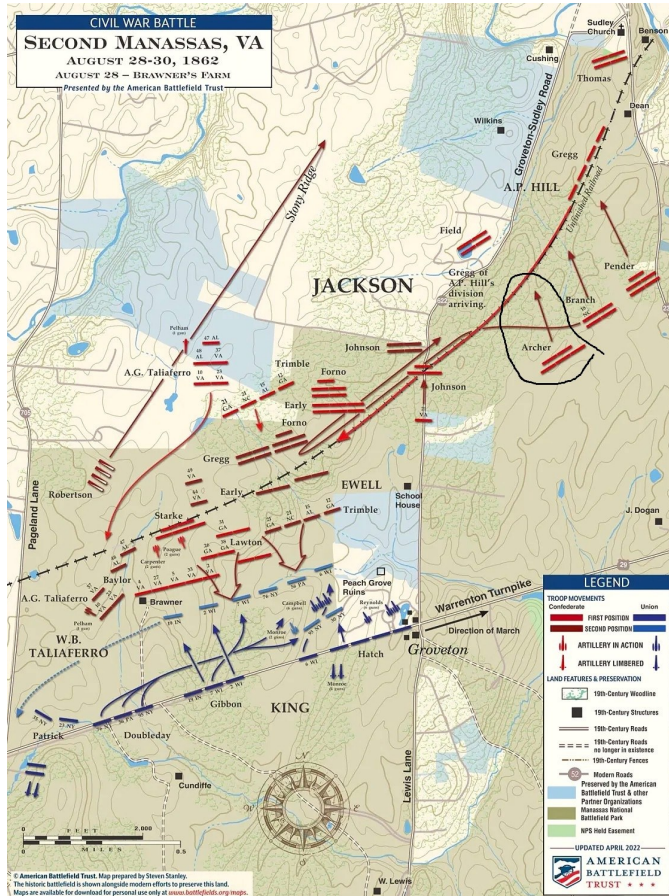


James J. Archer

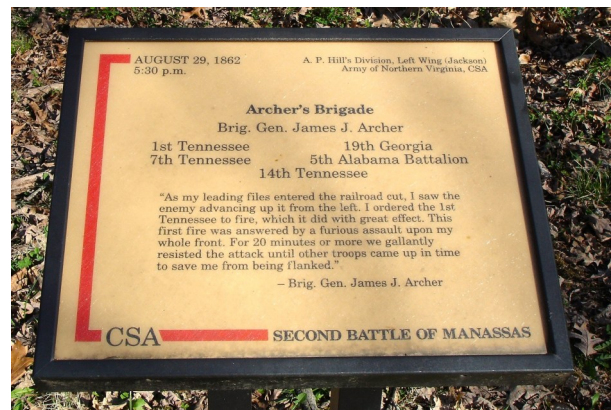
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At the Battle of 2nd Manassas, Archer and his men were in the Brawner Farm fight on August 28, 1862 alongside Generals Lawrence O'Brien Branch and William Dorsey Pender. His horse was shot from under him. On August 29th he fought at the Deep Cut of the unfinished railroad. Archer has a marker at the top of the hill on the Unfinished Railroad Loop Trail. Archer's men endured heavy fire from the Union troops. His men suffered many casualties defending the railroad cut.



Second Manassas (Archer's position circled)

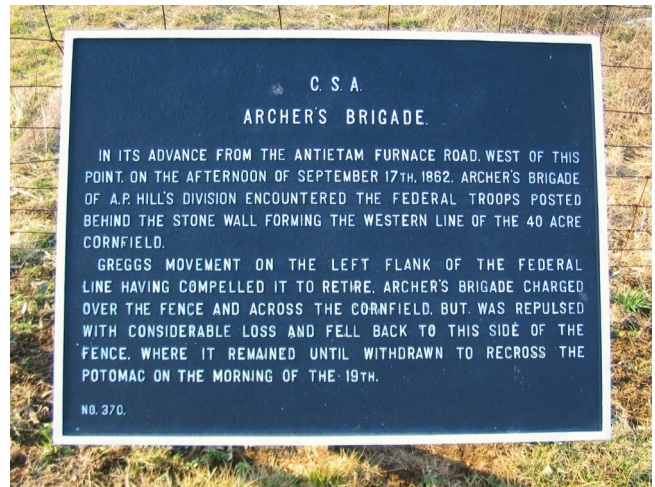
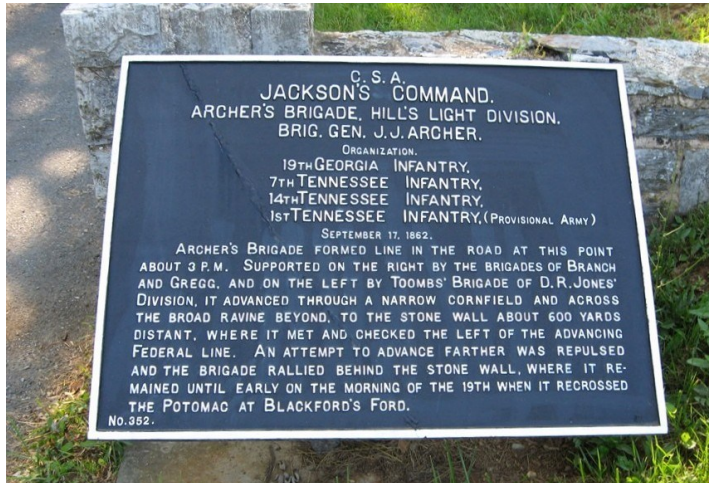


The Deep Cut (top) and Archer's Brigade marker

Additionally, Archer fought in the following battles: the Peninsula Campaign, the Seven Days Battles, Cedar Mountain (where he had his horse shot under him again), the Maryland Campaign (including Harpers Ferry, Antietam, Sharpsburg, and Shepherdstown), Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and the siege of Petersburg, but did not participate the whole time at Petersburg due to illness. During the Maryland Campaign Archer was suffering from illness and was unable to ride his horse, so he rode in an ambulance 17 miles from Harper's Ferry to Sharpsburg. Once there he refused to be sidelined and took command of his brigade. Archer has two markers on Branch Avenue South at Sharpsburg and one on Harper's Ferry Road and Davidson Drive not too far from the National Cemetery.

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Antietam Markers

On to Gettysburg. Archer's Brigade was in Heth's Division, A.P. Hill's Corps. Archer was in charge of the 5th Battalion and 13th Alabama, 1st, 7th, and 14th Tennessee Infantry. He had about 1,200 men in his brigade. He has a shield marker in Herbst Woods above Willoughby Run where they encountered Union soldiers under Gen. John Buford. His marker reads in part "July 1. The Brigade moved from Cashtown early in the morning towards Gettysburg. After a march of six miles came in view of the Union forces. The Brigade was deployed on the west side of Willoughby Run and at about 10 A.M., advanced, encountered 1st Brigade, First Division beyond the run. The firing continued for a short time when a large force appearing on the right flank and opening a crossfire, the position became untenable, the brigade was forced back across the run but advanced with the Division later in the day. The advance in the morning reached this position."



Marker in Herbst Woods
(Janet Greentree)



Willoughby Run
(Lisa Greentree Tully)

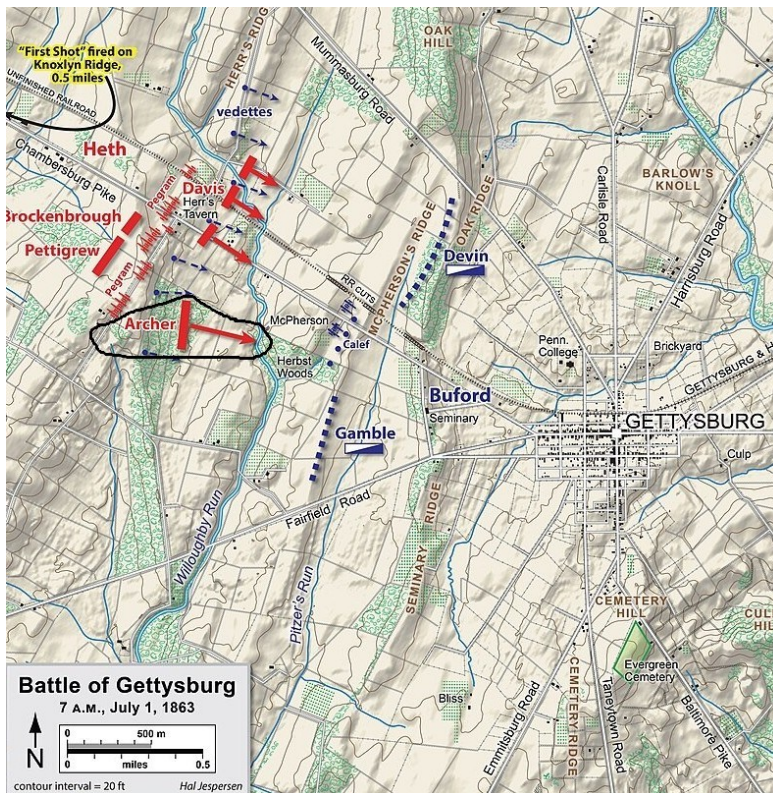
It is possible that Archer's Brigade was responsible for the killing of Union Gen. John F. Reynolds. Archer's Brigade was very close to where Gen. Reynolds was killed. However, it has never been proven.

Archer's health had deteriorated due to long marches in the summer heat and humidity. When the Union started attacking, Archer was down the hill at the bank of Willoughby Run a short distance from where his marker is situated on Stone & Meredith Avenues. The 19th Indiana and the rest of the Iron Brigade surprised Archer. He and his men went back over Willoughby Run. He was slightly wounded and took cover in a thicket 30 paces west of Willoughby Run. Private Patrick Maloney, a 28 year old

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Irishman of Co. G of the 2nd Wisconsin (the Iron Brigade) spotted Archer and his men trying to get away. The 2nd Wisconsin had just pushed the Tennesseans back across Willoughby Run. Maloney dashed ahead and seized Archer, who resisted capture. Due to Archer's small size, Maloney was able to put his arms around him and carry him off. Maloney unfortunately was killed later in the day. He did receive the Medal of Honor for his efforts. Several of General Solomon Meredith's men helped in the capture. Gen. Meredith was known as Long Sol; he was 6' 7".



Archer at Gettysburg, Day One



Iron Brigade monument
(Lisa Greentree Tully)

Archer was turned over to Major John Mansfield, who in turn gave him to Meredith's aide-de-camp Dennis B. Dailey of Co. B. Dailey took Archer's sword, sword belt, and pistol. He then threw away his own sword and buckled on the Archer sword. Archer surrendered, but with great reluctance, telling Dailey that he was permitted to keep his pistol. At this point, the sword took on a life of its own. Later in the afternoon when the Confederates were taking over the town, Dailey was wounded. He was able to get to the house of John and Martha Scott at 43 Chambersburg Street across from Christ Lutheran Church. Martha's sister Mary McAllister also lived in the house. Dailey gave Archer's sword to Mary for safekeeping. She hid it in a kitchen box with some newspapers



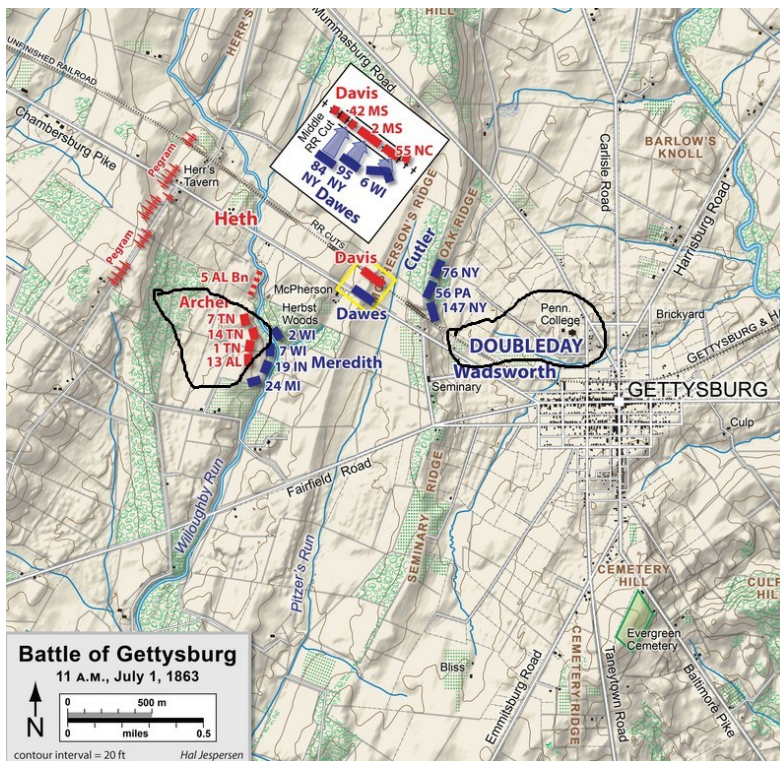
Scott-McAllister House

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and logs on top of it. The Confederates took Dailey, and he was sent with many other prisoners on the route to South Mountain. He was then taken to Monterey Springs where he and others escaped in the evening of July 5th. The guards had been distracted by the heavy rain, mud, and darkness. He then went back to Mary McAllister's house. She had already given the sword to Col. Henry Morrow. Dailey met up with Morrow at South Mountain and retrieved Archer's sword. In the fall of 1863, Dailey gave the sword to General Solomon Meredith. After the death of Meredith in 1881, the sword was again given to Dailey.

Archer's brother Robert Harris Archer was captured too, as well as many other Confederate prisoners. Dailey took Archer to General Abner Doubleday's HQ at the Gettysburg Seminary. When confronting Gen. Doubleday, who Archer knew from Old Army days, the general said: "Good morning, Archer! How are you? I am glad to see you!" Archer responded: "Well, I am not glad to see you by a damned sight" and refused to shake his hand. Gen. Doubleday turned over the prisoners to the 19th Indiana for transport to Fort Delaware for processing. Archer's men who were not captured did fight on West Confederate Avenue on the 3rd day of the battle with Pickett's Charge under Colonel Birkett Fry. Archer's men went on to fight many more battles.



Doubleday's HQ, Day One



Indiana monument
(Lisa Greentree Tully)

James and Robert Archer were taken by Col. William Gamble's Cavalry Brigade, Calef's Battery A, 2nd U.S. Artillery, under Gen. John Buford. The unit was in charge of high profile officers. Both Archers were kept at the McPherson Farm initially. They were then most likely moved by the Provost Marshal to Westminster, MD, where they could

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take the train to Baltimore. They then had to walk through the streets of Baltimore to Fort McHenry, a distance of 3-4 miles. After a short time both Archers were sent by boat to Fort Delaware on the Delaware River. After a few weeks, he and his brother were both sent to Johnson's Island Military Prison on Lake Erie in Ohio. James, who had been sickly, got even worse at Johnson's Island. Robert became his caretaker. At one point Archer tried to escape on the frozen Lake Erie by walking three miles on the ice towards Sandusky. Unfortunately, he had to return when the ice got too thin to walk on. Several men fell into the icy water, and the noise alerted the guards. Still trying to get away, he tried to bribe a guard with \$200.00 and a gold watch. The guard took both items but did not release him. He also wrote a letter to the Confederate War Department asking for help to overthrow the guards. The Confederates had no resources to help him and his fellow prisoners. He and Robert, after a year at Johnson's Island, were taken south to Fort Delaware again.



Fort Delaware



Johnson's Island

The Yankees were going to transfer 600 of their prisoners (the Immortal Six Hundred) from around the country to Morris Island, which was being shelled constantly by the Confederates. Due to Archer's sickness he was not sent to Morris Island. His brother was not sent either, since he was the caretaker for his brother. Both were finally exchanged in August, 1864. Mary Chesnut saw Archer just after he was released and described him as "abstracted, weary looking in mind and body, and deadened by long imprisonment." James was ordered to report to the Army of the Tennessee under Gen. John Bell Hood. The order was rescinded after 10 days due to Archer's bad health. He did resume his command and fought briefly at the Siege of Petersburg. He got out of a sick bed to fight, but collapsed at the battle of Peebles Farm on July 31st.

Gen. James Jay Archer died in Richmond on October 24, 1864 at the age of 46, at the home of his friend Gen. Joseph R. Anderson at 113 West Franklin Street. The house is no longer standing; it was torn down to build the Jefferson Hotel. Most likely his death was the result of physical prostration and his suffering at Johnson's Island Prison. Archer lay in state at the Richmond Capitol. The funeral was held on October 26th at 12:00 p.m. at the Capitol. Archer is buried at Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond in Section N, Plot 42, Memorial ID – 9854. GPS Latitude – 37-5340881, Longitude: 77-45565303.

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The *National Intelligencer* in Washington, D.C. wrote the following obituary about Gen. Archer on November 1, 1864: "Death of the Rebel Gen. Archer. Died, at the residence of Gen. Joseph R. Anderson, in Richmond, on Monday night, Brig. Gen. James J. Archer, of Maryland. The *Enquirer* says: "Brig. Gen. J.J. Archer, taken prisoner at Gettysburg while leading his brigade in the thickest of that bloody fight, returned to the city only a few days ago, after a long and debilitating confinement on Johnson's Island. Though exchanged because he was sick, he persisted, against the earnest protestations of friends, in going at once to the front. The result was that in a few days he was compelled to abandon his post of duty, for which his enfeebled constitution utterly unfitted him, and reluctantly sent to the home of his friend, Gen. Joseph R. Anderson, of Richmond, a more fitting abode for a worn-out invalid. Though kind friends and skillful physicians ministered to his wants, all proved unavailing, and he breathed his last on Monday night."

The *Buffalo News* in Buffalo, NY wrote on November 9th 1863: "As Brig. Gen. James J. Archer's skirmish line approached the Marsh Creek bridge, a shot rang out. That was the first shot of the Battle of Gettysburg. It is credited to both Corp. Alpheus Hodges of Ashville in Chautauqua County and to Lt. Marcellus E. Jones of DuPage County, Ill." The house was owned by Ephraim Wisler; several other people owned the house later. It is located at 1495 Chambersburg Pike, going west out of Gettysburg. Later research concluded that Lt. Marcellus Jones of the 8th Illinois Cavalry was the one who fired over the fence at Wisler's house at 7:30 a.m. on July 1, 1863.

My longtime friend Patrick Falci (Gen. A.P. Hill) told me about his interest in General Archer. In 1979 he and his wife Joan went to their first reenactment at Gettysburg. They walked around the Confederate camp and Patrick started talking to a Major Heffner. Patrick took the oath to be a reenactor and was assigned to the 14th Tennessee in Archer's Brigade. He reenacted until 1993, when he became involved with the production and history of the film *Gettysburg*. He and Joan have visited Archer's home in Maryland, took a trip to Princeton where Archer went to college, and went everywhere in Gettysburg where Gen. Archer had been.



Wisler House



Archer's Grave, Hollywood Cemetery



First Shot Marker

NOTE: Ms. Rebelle's hobby is traveling the country finding and honoring the graves of our 1,008 Civil War generals. So far she has located and photographed 427 - 169 Confederate and 258 Union. You may contact her at jlgrtree@erols.com.



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January 22

Desegregation in Northern Virginia Libraries

Chris Barbuschak and Suzanne S. LaPierre
 Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave, Manassas

March 26

Shipwreck on the Potomac: Disaster in Pursuit of Lincoln's Killer

Karen E. Stone
 Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave, Manassas

May 28

'Better Known than Acknowledged': The Lees of Stratford and the Cause of Liberty

Dr. Gordon Blaine Steffey
 Williams Ordinary, 17674 Main St, Dumfries

July 23

Opening Manassas: The Iron Brigade, Stonewall Jackson, and the Battle on Brawner's Farm, August 28, 1862

Bill Backus
 Pat White Center at Ben Lomond
 10501 Copeland Dr, Manassas

September 24

Cold War Virginia

Francis Gary Powers Jr. and Christopher Sturdevant
 Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave, Manassas

November 19

True Crime Prince William County in the 1950s

Zachary G. Ford
 Occoquan Town Hall, 314 Mill St, Occoquan
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