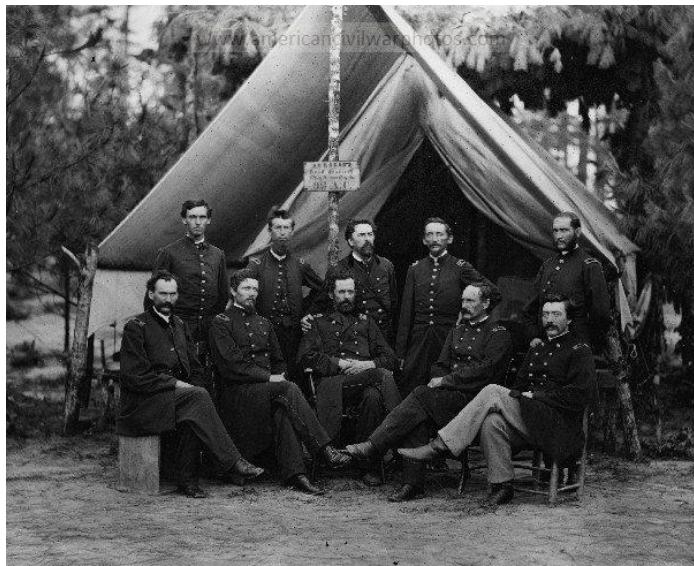


150th Anniversary of the End of the American Civil War



Petersburg, Virginia. Surgeons of 3d Division 9th Army Corps. Date Created/Published: 1864 Aug. LOC original medium: 1 negative : glass, wet collodion.

Cape May County Civil War Round Table Newsletter = April 2015 Meeting Schedule

NOTE::: Meetings are now at the Military Room in the Barn at the Cape May County Historical Society on Route 9 just south of the Zoo!!! Time is 7pm

2015 Meeting Dates

16 April: Program will be on the Siege of Petersburg, and will be given by Grant Gates from the Petersburg National Park Service. **Refreshments:** Andy Lolli

21 May: Brian Blake will be presenting on *George Pickett = Patriot or Criminal?* **Refreshments:** Matt Bruce

18 June: *The Field of Shoes: The Battle of New Market* **Refreshments:**

16 July: To Be Announced **Refreshments:** Lisa & Wendy

20 August: John Michael Priest will be telling us about *The Battles of South Mountain*. **Refreshments:**

17 September: Tracy Evans will be telling us about *The Lost Orders of General Lee*. **Refreshments:** Tim Keely

15 October: Craig Caba will be discussing the J Howard Worth Collection of Civil War Artifacts from Gettysburg as well as anti-slavery efforts in Gettysburg.

19 November: To Be Announced

?? December (date for Christmas dinner meeting to be determined)

LIST OF LOCAL EVENTS!!!

Members are encouraged to participate; if you have Civil War garb / uniforms, please feel free to wear it! We would also appreciate members attending helping by handing out flyers as well as telling folks about our group. MAC says we can have people at non-Civil War oriented events too, and some of them are listed herein.

6 April: Cape May County Historical Museum opens for the season. Seasonal hours and tours resume.

25 April: Avalon History Faire at field across from Avalon Historical Society.

2 May: History Fair/Spring Festival at the Cape May County Historical Society. There should be a large number of Civil War related books donated by the Union League up for auction, USSC/Civil War Medicine displays, and New Jersey re-enactment groups will be participating. *The Historical Society is supporting our Round Table; please support them in turn!*

30 May – MAC = Jazz at the Estate

13 June, 10am – 4pm: MAC Civil War event (Physic Estate)

20 – 21 June: *Military Time Line* at Cold Spring Village

16 – 18 July: 4H Faire at Cape May County Park

8 Aug: MAC *Craft Beer and Crab Festival*

12 – 13 Sept: Civil War Weekend at Cold Spring Village

19 Sep: MAC = *Harvst Brew Festival*

11 Oct: MAC = Special Family Event at end of Victorian Week

16 Oct: Cape May County Historical Museum begins winter hours, tours only by appointment.

12 & 19 Dec: Christmas Open House at the Cape May Historical Society Museum

The County Historical Society and Museum would like us to add that they are looking for volunteers to help with many aspects of their work – from helping in the library, working in the gardens, to acting as tour guides/docents in the museum.

Round Table Officers

President: Marty Runner
1402 Rt 9 South, Lot 193, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
609-536-8235
pat_mar1136@yahoo.com

Vice President: Lou Bishop Jr.
21 Schoolhouse Ln, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
609-463-9277 or 741-5438
southwilriseagain@aol.com

Secretary: Pat Munson-Siter
42 Franklin Ave., Villas, NJ 08251-2407
609-287-5097
patms1766@outlook.com

Treasurer: Jim Marshall
202 Bartram Ln., Ocean City, NJ 08226
609-602-3243
jim@jimocnj.com

REMINDER: Dues are Now Due, and have gone up to \$30 a year; \$35 if you want a hard copy of the newsletter mailed to you. Copy costs have gone up to \$.10 a page, so it's a lot more expensive to print the newsletter than it was even a few years ago! And you all know how more expensive it is to mail a letter, too... Send your dues to Jim Marshall!!!

Minutes of the Business Meeting, 19 Mar 2015

This meeting was held in the meeting room of the Cape May Historical Society as the Military Room in the barn was not yet ready for us. I would also like to note that we had a WONDERFUL turnout this meeting, including several guests who hopefully will be joining us as members in the future.

President Runner brought the meeting to order. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence for those of our members who are fighting health problems, as well as for our country's troops, past and present.

Marty introduced Donna Matalucci, new director of the Cape May County Historical Genealogy Society & Museum. She told us the Military Room was in the process of getting the wood for the new display cases stained and protected, and the glass installed. It should be ready for our next meeting. The Historical Society and our Round Table are hoping to work closely together in the future and support each others' projects.

Treasurer Marshall gave his report; reports are now going to be from first of previous month to first of previous month as that is the way the bank reports are now formatted. Motion made and passed to accept report and file for audit.

There is a Civil War display at the Villas library at present; it will appear in several local libraries over the next few months. Marty is in charge of it; if you have any items you think might be worth adding to the display, please contact him.

New business = we now have our meetings listed in the events section of the *Cape May County Herald*. One of the guests pointed out there is no contact phone # in the listing; that will be corrected for next month's listing.

Refreshment list for members to sign up to bring in food/drink for meetings is on the display table and will be available for sign ups at all meetings.

On 13 Jun the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table will be hosting a 2 hour cemetery tour; call Marty for information.

In the fall, date to be determined, the Round Table and the Historical Society will put on a joint bus tour to Philadelphia to visit the Union League and tour Laurel Hill Cemetery; lunch will be included. Estimated cost will be \$75.

One of our goals for this year is to build our membership. We need to be involved in local events where our members can pass out information flyers on the Round Table, talk to potential members about what we do, and so on. The local events listing on page one of the newsletter are all events we would like to have members attend, even if you can only be there for an hour or so. Bob Heinly, who works for MAC as well as being a Round Table member, says that MAC will be happy for us to show up at non-Civil War events to publicize our group, including some of their most popular events like the beer and crab festivals. You do NOT have to wear Civil War period garb to participate in any of these events.

We will be looking at participating in some of the events at the Cape May County Airport as well, like their Oktoberfest.

Marty and Donna then talked about the May 2nd Civil War event the Historical Society will be hosting. All members who can attend are encouraged to do so.

There being no more business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned so the presentation on *Grant's Canal at Vicksburg* could begin.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia A Munson-Siter
Secretary

Civil War Timeline for April

1860

No Major Events

1861

6	Arkansas secedes
7	Tennessee negotiates alliance with Confederacy
20	North Carolina secedes
21	Confederate legislators vote to move capital to Richmond
23	Virginia secedes (after popular vote)
24	Union soldiers occupy Alexandria (VA)
6	Arkansas secedes
1862	
4	Confederates evacuate Yorktown
5	Battle of Williamsburg (VA)
8	Battle of McDowell (VA)

15	Battle of Drewry's Bluff (VA)
23	Battle of Front Royal (VA)
25	Battle of Winchester (VA)
31	Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks) (VA)
1863	
1-4	Battle of Chancellorsville
10	Stonewall Jackson dies
16	Battle of Champion's Hill (MS)
1864	
5-6	Battle of the Wilderness (VA)
6	Atlanta Campaign opens
7-19	Battle of Spotsylvania (VA)
11	Battle of Yellow Tavern (VA)
12-13	Second Battle of Drewry's Bluff (VA)
15	Battle of New Market (VA)
24	Battle of the North Anna River (VA)
25-27	Battle of New Hope (GA)
1865	
10	Confederate president Davis captured in Georgia
26	Smith surrenders Trans-Mississippi Confederate army

Civil War Related Events

Most of these are from the Civil War Traveler website. Unfortunately the state of New Jersey still does not participate in this program, so you won't find any New Jersey events listed here. Those we know about will be listed in the "local events" section on page one.

2 **MD** Bus tour, "John Wilkes Booth Escape Route," sponsored by the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 7:15 am-7 pm. \$85. Reservations: 301-868-1121. surrattmuseum.org

2 **MD** Talk, "Confederate Medical Service," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 10:30 am. Free. <http://www.civilwarmed.org/>

2 **VA** Walking tour, "Point of Rocks." Visit Union hospital site, earthworks, site of Lincoln visit. Meets at Dodd Park, 201 Enon Church Road, Chester. 10 am-noon. \$8. Registration: www.chesterfieldhistory.com

2 **VA** Living history walking tour, "Battle of Smithfield," begins at the Isle of Wight Museum, 103 Main St, Smithfield. 2 pm. Free. historicisleofwight.com

2 **VA** Walking tour, "Fort Huger," 17146 Monument Circle, Isle of Wight County near Smithfield. 10 am. Free. historicisleofwight.com

2-3 **MD** Living history, "Homecoming — Soldiers Return from War," camps and demonstrations at the Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster. Opens at 10 am each day. Free with museum admission. 410-386-3880.

3 **DC** Seminar, "USS Monitor: Symbol, Landmark, and Sanctuary," a Smithsonian event at the Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Drive SW, Washington. 10 am-4:30 pm. \$139. smithsonianassociates.org (click Civil War).

7 **VA** Lecture, "Rebel Yell: The Violence, Passion, and Redemption of Stonewall Jackson," at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond. Noon. \$6. vahistorical.org

9 **DC/MD** Tour, "Lincoln Assassination," begins at Ford's Theatre and continues into Maryland with stops at the Surratt Tavern and Mudd House. 9 am-5 pm. \$125. Reservations, more info: dccivilwartours.com

9 **VA** Tour, "Dam No. 1 and Endview Plantation," Peninsula Campaign site tour begins at Endview in Newport News. \$25 includes admission to Endview and transportation to Dam No. 1. 9:30 am-noon. Reservations: 757-888-3371.

9 **VA** Boat tour, "Potomac River Blockade," see preserved Confederate batteries along the river, plus lunch. Cruises based in Leesylvania State Park in Woodbridge. \$45. 703-366-3049 for details.

9-10 **VA** Living history, "Brentsville Civil War Weekend," commemorates 1865 camp of Sherman's army on the way to DC for Grand Review, at the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Road, Bristow. 11 am-4 pm. \$5/donation. 703-365-7895.

14-16 **VA** Play, "Civil War Letters," the Danville Museum of Fine Arts in Danville. More info: 434-793-5644.

15-17 **VA** Living history, North-South Skirmish Association semi-annual live fire competition at Fort Shenandoah, 480 Chalybeate Springs Road, near Winchester. Free. nssa.org

15-17 **PA** Seminar and tour, "On the Trail of Those Damn Black Hats: A Weekend with Lance Herdegen and the Iron Brigade," based in Chambersburg. Speakers plus tours of South Mountain, Antietam and Gettysburg. \$395/entire weekend. civilwarseminars.org

16 **VA** Symposium, "After the War," at the Old Manassas Courthouse in Manassas. \$10. Reservations: 703-792-4754.

16 **VA** Walking tours of the Kernstown battlefields at the KBA property off Route 11, south of Winchester. 11 am and 1 pm. Free, donations welcome. www.kernstownbattle.org

16 **VA** Tour, "USCTs at the Siege of Petersburg," meets at the Petersburg National Battlefield visitor center. 10 am-2 pm. Free with park admission. nps.gov/pete

16 **VA** Van tour, “The Fall of Richmond,” leaves from Lee Hall Mansion in Newport News. 8 am-4 pm. \$50. Reservations: 757-888-3371 extension 306.

16 **MD** Guided tour of the “The War Came by Train,” exhibit at the B&O Railroad Museum in Baltimore. Noon. Free with admission. www.borail.org

16 **DC/MD** Tour, “Lincoln Assassination,” begins at Ford’s Theatre and continues into Maryland with stops at the Surratt Tavern and Mudd House. 9 am-5 pm. \$125. Reservations, more info: dccivilwartours.com

16-17 **VA** Reenactment, “Fort Pocahontas,” off Route 5, on the James River between Richmond and Williamsburg. Living history camps and demonstrations with battles at 1 pm each day. \$10/adult. fortpocahontas.org

16-17 **VA** Reenactment, “Battle of New Market,” at the battlefield park and the Virginia Museum of the Civil War in New Market. Camps and demonstrations all weekend with battles each day. vmi.edu/vmcw

17 **PA** “1865: Lincoln’s Assassination and the End of the Civil War,” exhibit opening and walking tour at Laurel Hill Cemetery, 3822 Ridge Ave, Philadelphia. 1 pm. Registration: 215-228-8200. thelaurelhilccemetery.org

17 **VA** Book talk, “Bloody Autumn: Hurricane from the Heavens,” at the Manassas Museum. 2 pm. Free. manassasmuseum.org

19 **DC** Seminar and book signing, “Women of the Civil War,” with Cokie Roberts,” a Smithsonian event. Location TBA. 6:45-8:45 pm. \$42. smithsonianassociates.org (click Civil War).

22 **PA** “An Evening with the Painting,” an “after-hours” experience with the Gettysburg Cyclorama at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 6 pm. \$20/adult. gettysburgfoundation.org/18

23 **DC/MD** Tour, “Lincoln Assassination,” begins at Ford’s Theatre and continues into Maryland with stops at the Surratt Tavern and Mudd House. 9 am-5 pm. \$125. Reservations, more info: dccivilwartours.com

23 **MD** Living history, Confederate medical service at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 11 am-4 pm. Free with admission. <http://www.civilwarmed.org/>

23 **VA** Illustrated talk, “Guarding the Railroad,” at the B&O Railroad Museum in Baltimore. Noon. Free with admission. borail.org

23 **VA** Car-caravan tour, “...a perfect waste’: Destruction and Reconstruction of the Land and People,” begins at the Grant’s HQ at City Point, part of the Petersburg National Battlefield in Hopewell. 1-4 pm. Free. nps.gov/pete

23-25 **MD** Memorial Day activities at the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg. Ranger and cemetery tours and living history. Memorial 11 am Monday at the National Cemetery. nps.gov/anti

23-25 **MD** Special flag program, “Last Full Measure of Devotion,” flag display and other special Memorial Day programs at the Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick. Free. nps.gov/mono

24 **VA** Living history and tours, “Eyewitness to War,” at the Mt. Zion Historic Park, 40309 John Mosby Highway, Aldie. 1-5 pm. Free. 703-327-9777.

24-25 **VA** Talks, “Sacred Ground: A History of Our National Cemeteries,” at Poplar Grove National Cemetery, part of the Petersburg National Battlefield Park. 10 am and 2 pm. Free. nps.gov/pete

24-29 **VA** Seminar, “Campaigning with Lee,” includes lectures, some meals and tour. Based in Richmond, sponsored by Virginia Tech. civilwar.vt.edu

25 **VA** Concert, “Sesquicentennial Finale Concert,” with narration by Dr. James I Robertson, at the Carpenter Theatre in Richmond. 7 pm. Free but reservations required. virginiacivilwar.org/finale.php

30 **DC/VA** Tour, “The Women of Fredericksburg,” a Smithsonian tour leaves 9 am from 550 C St SW, Washington, then travels to Fredericksburg. \$184. smithsonianassociates.org (click Civil War).

30 **VA** Lecture, “‘Extra Billy’ Smith: The Governor’s Odyssey,” at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 2 pm. Free. 703-591-0560.

30-31 **MD** Living history, “Artillery Weekend” at the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg. Camp and demonstrations. Free with park admission. nps.gov/anti

30-31 **PA** Living history, “Civil War Reunion,” at Pennypacker Mills, 5 Haldeman Road, Schwenksville. Camps,

exhibits, and demonstrations. Camps open 10 am-5 pm Saturday and 10 am-4 pm Sunday. Free. civilwarreunion.org



Petersburg Podcasts from www.civilwartraveler.com

The Breakthrough at Petersburg, April 2, 1865 Pamplin Historical Park

After more than nine months of trench warfare around Petersburg, Virginia, Union commander U.S. Grant ordered an all-out attack against Robert E. Lee's lines at dawn April 2, 1865. This walking tour of Pamplin Historical Park's Breakthrough Trail covers a critical area of that assault and offers a good look at part of the well-preserved Confederate defensive line.



6-stop walking tour, approximately 60 minutes
Narration, Will Greene, president of Pamplin Historical Park
Introduction: Marc Ramsey, [Owens and Ramsey Books](#)
Music: [Al Neale](#)
Production: CivilWarTraveler.com and [Pamplin Historical Park](#)
Playing time: 29:20 minutes
File size: 6.9MB

The Crater, Petersburg

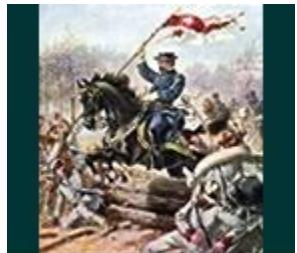
Explore one of the most dramatic events of the Civil War — the explosion of tons of gunpowder under part of the Confederate line at Petersburg, July 30, 1864.



7-stop walking tour
Narration: Tracy Chernault, NPS historian/ranger
Introduction: Marc Ramsey of [Owens & Ramsey Historical Booksellers](#)
Music: [Southern Horizon](#)
Production: CivilWarTraveler.com and [Petersburg National Battlefield](#)
Playing time: 43:16 minutes
File size: 10.2MB

Five Forks Battlefield Petersburg National Battlefield, Virginia

The Five Forks intersection was critical to the Confederate defense of Petersburg and ultimately Richmond in the spring of 1865. Learn about the decisive battle here on April 1.



Sheridan at Five Forks

5-stop driving tour
Narration: Tracy Chernault, NPS historian/ranger

Introduction: Marc Ramsey of [Owens & Ramsey Historical Booksellers](#)

Music: [Southern Horizon](#)

Production: CivilWarTraveler.com and [Petersburg National Battlefield](#)

Playing time: 22:15 minutes

File size: 5.3MB



Civil War Trust Joins Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to Celebrate Preservation Achievements at Appomattox

SECRETARY JEWELL TRAVELS TO APPOMATTOX ON 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEE'S SURRENDER TO HAIL USE OF LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND MONIES FOR BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION

(Appomattox, Va.) — On the eve of the 150th anniversary of Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell joined with the Civil

War Trust and other conservation leaders at a news conference today to celebrate the remarkable battlefield preservation accomplishments achieved here using federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) monies.

"Our Civil War and other battlefields are hallowed places where we honor the fallen and come to better understand the forces and events that shaped the course of our nation," Secretary Jewell said. "In partnership with states, non-profit organizations like the Civil War Trust, and other stakeholders, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has made it possible to permanently protect and interpret these places for generations of American people. I ask Congress for their support for full-funding and reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund to preserve our history while boosting tourism that has an important economic impact on communities across Virginia and around the country."

LWCF funding, through its American Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant program, has been responsible for the protection of 45 acres at Appomattox Station and 63.6 acres at Appomattox Court House – the last battlefields of the Civil War in Virginia. More than 1,200 men in blue and gray fell in these two battles, seeing their duty through to the very end.

"The 108 acres saved on these last battlefields of the Civil War exemplifies the success of our long-standing collaboration with the Department of the Interior and the Civil War Trust," remarked Danette Poole, Director of Planning and Recreation Resources for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. The Commonwealth of Virginia has been an active partner in battlefield preservation at Appomattox, contributing \$1.3 million in state funds since 2008."

The battle at Appomattox Station occurred on April 8, 1865, as Union cavalry attacked Confederate supply trains after a sharp fight, captured the trains and 25 guns of the fleeing southern army. The next morning, a sunny Palm Sunday, Confederate Gen. Lee made a final attack at Appomattox Court House in a futile effort to break through the Federal forces in front of his army. With no other alternative except annihilation, Lee surrendered to Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant on the afternoon of April 9 in the parlor of Wilmer McLean's home in the court house village. Grant's lenient surrender terms, which allowed officers to keep their side arms and men to keep their horses, set the tone for reconciliation between North and South.

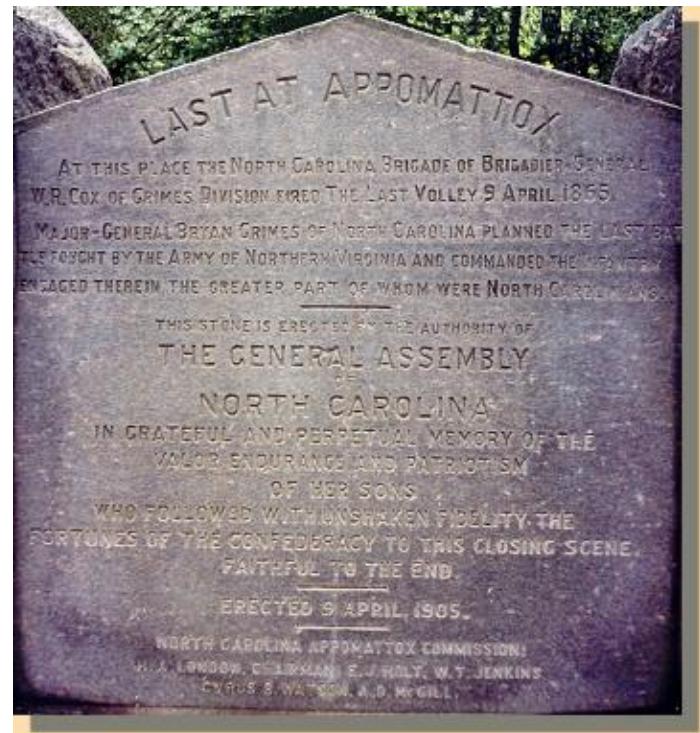
"As the sun sets on the sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War, I am proud of the strong partnership we have forged with the federal government and Virginia to preserve battlefield land and leave a lasting legacy for the future," stated Civil War Trust President James Lighthizer. "Of the nearly 41,000 acres the Trust has saved in its 37-year history, funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund has been essential in saving more than half of that land. State funds have been crucial in this effort as well, along with the generous contributions of Civil War Trust members."

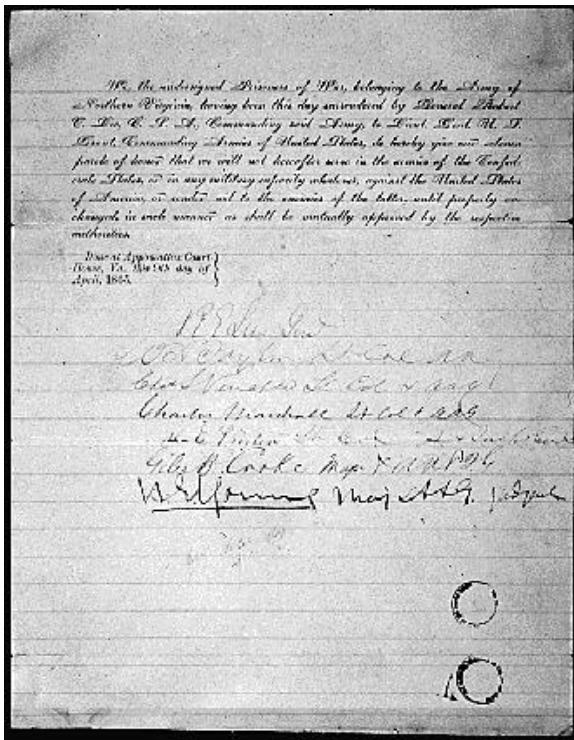
The 108 acres preserved with LWCF funds by the Civil War Trust at Appomattox Station and Appomattox Court House were purchased as the result of six separate transactions between 2008 and 2014, totaling \$2.6 million. Trust currently owns the properties, with easements on three of the properties held by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (easements on the three other tracts are pending). The Appomattox Station property will be transferred to the non-profit Appomattox 1865 Foundation later this year to manage as a battlefield park.

The LWCF American Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants program is a matching grants program that encourages state and private sector investment in battlefield preservation. The program has been used to protect 24,000 acres of battlefield land in 17 states. The program is administered by the American Battlefield Protection Program, an agency within the National Park Service.

In December 2014, President Barack Obama signed into law legislation reauthorizing the American Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants program, expanding its mission to include protection of Civil War, Revolutionary War, and War of 1812 battlefields. Congress appropriated \$8.9 million for the program for FY2015; the White House included the same amount in its FY2016 budget request.

"The continued bipartisan support from both the Obama Administration and Congress for the Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants program ensures that our mission to preserve America's battlefields will continue long after the 150th anniversary of the Civil War comes to a close," Lighthizer said. "We thank Secretary Jewell for her enthusiasm for this successful LWCF program."





LEE'S REPORT OF THE SURRENDER Near Appomattox Court House, Virginia April 12, 1865

To: Jefferson Davis

Mr. President:

It is with pain that I announce to Your Excellency the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia.

The operations which preceded this result will be reported in full. I will therefore only now state that upon arriving at Amelia Court House on the morning of the 4th with the advance of the army, on the retreat from the lines in front of Richmond and Petersburg, and not finding the supplies ordered to be placed there, nearly twenty-four hours were lost in endeavoring to collect in the country subsistence for men and horses. This delay was fatal, and could not be retrieved.

The troops, wearied by continual fighting and marching for several days and nights, obtained neither rest nor refreshment; and on moving on the 5th, on the Richmond and Danville railroad, I found at Jetersville the enemy's cavalry, and learned of the approach of his infantry and the general advance of his army toward Burkeville.

This deprived us of the use of the railroad, and rendered it impracticable to procure from Danville the supplies ordered to meet us at points of our march. Nothing could be obtained from the adjacent country. Our route to the Roanoke was therefore changed, and the march directed upon Farmville, where supplies were ordered from Lynchburg.

The change of route threw the troops on the roads pursued by the artillery and wagon trains west of the railroad, which impeded our advance and embarrassed our movements. On the morning of the 6th General Longstreet's corps reached Rice's station on the Lynchburg railroad. It was followed by the commands of Generals R.H. Anderson, Ewell, and Gordon, with orders to close upon it as fast as the progress of the trains would permit or as they could be directed (diverted) on roads farther west.

General Anderson, commanding Pickett's and B.R. Johnson's divisions, became disconnected with Mahone's division, forming the rear of Longstreet. The enemy's cavalry penetrated the line of march through the interval thus left, and attacked the wagon train moving toward Farmville. This caused serious delay in the march of the center and rear of the column, and enabled the enemy to mass upon their flank. After successive attacks Anderson's and Ewell's corps were captured or driven from their position. The latter General, with both of his division commanders, Kershaw and Custis Lee, and his brigadiers, were taken prisoners.

Gordon, who all the morning, aided by General W.F. Lee's cavalry, had checked the advance of the enemy on the road from Amelia Springs and protected the trains, became exposed to his combined assaults, which he bravely resisted and twice repulsed; but the cavalry having been withdrawn to another part of the line of march, and the enemy, massing heavily on his (Gordon's) front and both flanks, renewed the attack about 6 P.M., and drove him from the field in much confusion.

The army continued its march during the night, and every effort was made to reorganize the divisions which had been shattered by the day's operations. But the men being depressed by fatigue and hunger, many threw away their arms, while others followed the wagon trains and embarrassed their progress.

On the morning of the 7th rations were issued to the troops as they passed Farmville, but the safety of the trains requiring their removal upon the approach of the enemy all could not be supplied. The army, reduced to two corps under Longstreet and Gordon, moved steadily on the road to Appomattox Court House. Thence its march was ordered by Campbell Court House, through Pittsylvania, toward Danville. The roads were wretched and the progress of the trains slow.

By great efforts the head of the column reached Appomattox Court House on the evening of the 8th, and the troops were halted for rest. The march was ordered to be resumed at 1 A.M. on the 9th. Fitz Lee, with the cavalry, supported by Gordon, was ordered to drive the enemy from his front, wheel to the left, and cover the passage of the trains, while Longstreet, who from Rice's Station had formed the rear-guard, should close up and hold the position. Two battalions of artillery and the ammunition wagons were directed to accompany the army, the rest of the artillery and wagons to move toward Lynchburg.

In the early part of the night the enemy attacked Walker's artillery train near Appomattox Station on the Lynchburg

railroad, and were repelled. Shortly afterward their cavalry dashed toward the Court House, till halted by our line.

During the night there were indications of a large force massing on our left and front. Fitz Lee was directed to ascertain its strength, and to suspend his advance till daylight if necessary. About 5 A.M., on the 9th, with Gordon on his left, he moved forward and opened the way. A heavy force of the enemy was discovered opposite Gordon's right, which, moving in the direction of Appomattox Court House, drove back the left of the cavalry and threatened to cut off Gordon from Longstreet. His cavalry at the same time threatening to envelop his left flank, Gordon withdrew across the Appomattox River, and the cavalry advanced on the Lynchburg road and became separated from the army.

Learning the condition of affairs on the lines, where I had gone under the expectation of meeting General Grant to learn definitely the terms he proposed in a communication received from him on the 8th, in the event of the surrender of the army, I requested a suspension of hostilities until these terms could be arranged. In the interview which occurred with General Grant in compliance with my request, terms having been agreed on, I surrendered that portion of the Army of Northern Virginia which was on the field, with its arms, artillery, and wagon-trains, the officers and men to be paroled, retaining their side-arms and private effects. I deemed this course the best under all the circumstances by which we were surrounded.

On the morning of the 9th, according to the reports of the ordnance officers, there were 7892 organized infantry with arms, with an average of 75 rounds ammunition per man; the artillery, though reduced to 63 pieces with 93 rounds of ammunition, was sufficient. These comprised all the supplies of ordnance that could be relied on in the State of Virginia. I have no accurate report of the cavalry, but believe it did not exceed 2100 effective men. The enemy was more than five times our numbers. If we could have forced our way one day longer it would have been at a great sacrifice of life, and at its end I did not see how a surrender could have been avoided. We had no subsistence for man or horse, and it could not be gathered in the country. The supplies ordered to Pamplin's Station from Lynchburg could not reach us, and the men, deprived of food and sleep for many days, were worn out and exhausted.

With Great Respect
Your Obedient Servant
R.E. Lee
Genl.

[In an April 20, 1865 letter from Richmond, Lee reported to Davis that when stragglers and others heard of the surrender they turned themselves in, increasing the number surrendering to 26,018. -Ed.]

(Source: "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War"; "The Written Papers of Robert E. Lee", edited by Clifford Dowdy and Louis H. Manarin; and others.)

Cape May County Civil War Round Table
www.cmccwrt.com





ULYSSES S. GRANT.