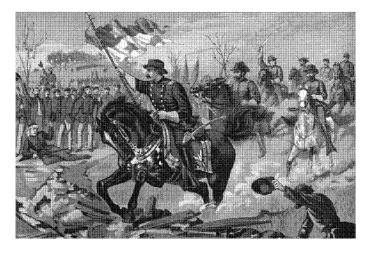
150th Anniversary of the Civil War



Cape May County Civil War Round Table July 2011 Newsletter

If you end up missing a copy of the newsletter, or the post office tears your copy up, digital copies are posted on the Round Table website (cmccwrt.com).

I apologize for this newsletter running so late. I was in California for a funeral the first week this month.

2011 Meeting Schedule

21 July: Park Ranger Laura Lee from Fort Delaware will be making a presentation on the Fort and its importance in the Civil War. She will be bringing along artifacts from the Fort for the membership to experience. **Refreshments:** Pat Munson-Siter

18 August: Hank Heacock will be telling us about the Presidential Election of 1860, and discussing all the cross currents that were factors in the outbreak of the Civil War.

Refreshments: Judy & John

15 September: Refreshments: John Burke 20 October: Refreshments: Judy & John

17 November

December date to be determined

CMCCWRT Officers for 2010 - 2011

President: Andy Lolli 17 Delaware Ave, Del Haven, NJ 08251 609-889-0061 Email: andylolli@comcast.net

1st Vice President: Suzanne Gibson 214 Exton Rd., Sommers Point, NJ 08244 609-927-9484 susiegirl618@msn.com

2nd Vice President: Lou Bishop Jr.

21 Schoolhouse Ln, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210 609-463-9277 or 741-5438 Email: sothwilriseagain@aol.com

Secretary: Pat Munson-Siter 42 Franklin Ave., Villas, NJ 08251 609-287-5097 / ladysymitar@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Jim Marshall
202 Bartram Lane, Ocean City, NJ 08226
609-398-6924/jim@jimocnj.com
Or James.Marshall@prufoxroach.com

Reminder:

Dues are Due. Mail them to Jim Marshall. \$20 individual, \$25 families

Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Cape May Civil War Round Table 16 June 2011

President Lolli opened the meeting. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence to honor those serving our country.

Treasurer Bishop gave his report. Motion made to accept it and file for audit; seconded and approved.

Reminder that no one has volunteered to bring refreshments for the meeting in November. Also, it is preferred that we have 2 people bringing refreshments each meeting, but in several months we only have one person signed up.

The secretary has a number of extra copies of old newsletters on hand. If anyone is going to a Civil War related event where there will be 'freebie tables' and would like to take along copies of our old newsletters to give out, please let her know and she'll make those copies available to you.

A suggestion was made to try to put out an email version of the newsletter. Those who elect to receive the digital version would have it emailed to them by Jim Marshall. If you prefer a hard copy, you can elect to continue to receive it rather than email. Other groups have tried this and found that it not only saves money as copy and mailing costs go up, but the delivery is faster and you don't have to worry about the post office chewing up your copy. Anyone interested in getting the email only copy should give your email address to Jim Marshall. The July newsletter (this one) will still go out to all members, as well as the email version being sent out to those who gave

Jim their email addresses in the June meeting. The August newsletter will be eNewsletter only to those who have elected to proceed with that version, and snail mail version to those who still want a tree version.

There being no more old or new business, the meeting was adjourned so the presentation could begin.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Munson-Siter Secretary

Civil War Milestones = August

1861

10	Battle of Wilson's Creek (MO)
11	Union soldiers occupy Hatteras Island
	(NC)

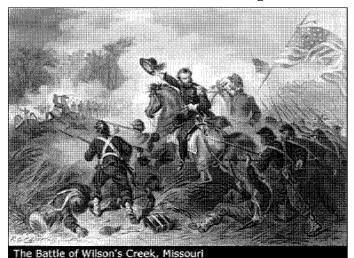
			1862	2						
9	Battle o	of Cedar	Mount	ain (VA)					
29-30		battle o				n) (VA)		
			1863	3						

Lawrence (KS) burned by Quantrill

1864

Battle of Mobile Bay (AL)

Civil War Related Events in August 2011



2 VA

Walking tour, "General McClellan's 1862 Civil War Headquarters at Harrison's Landing," at Berkeley Plantation, 12602 Harrison Landing Road, Charles

- Gallery Walk, "The Civil War in Virginia: Why the Battle of Kernstown?" at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond. Noon. \$6/adult. www.vahistorical.org.
- VA Living history, "Sewing Circle," the way it was done 150 years ago at the New Market State Historical Park in New Market. 10 am-4 pm. Free with admission. www.vmi.edu/newmarket or 866-515-1864.
- 5 Walking tour, guided Civil War tour of downtown Winchester. Meets at 2 N Cameron St at 6 pm. \$5. 540-542-1326.
- 5 VA Walking tour, "Building a Battlefield: The Civilian Conservation Corps and Spotsylvania Battlefield." Park on Anderson Drive near Tour Stop 4, Spotsylvania. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/frsp or 540-373-6122.
- VA5-7 Theater, "Stonewall Country," a musical about the life and death of Stonewall Jackson at the Theater at Lime Kiln near Lexington. More info, reservations: www.theateratlimekiln.com or 540-463-7088.
 - 6 MD Campfire program with artillery talk and demonstrations at Greenbrier State Park near Boonsboro. 7 pm. 301-432-8065.
 - PA 6 "Stories and Songs of a Civil War Hospital," a candlelight program at Christ Church, 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 8 pm. Free. 717-334-5212.
 - PA "An Evening with the Painting," special look at the 6 Cyclorama at the Gettysburg National Military Park visitor center. 5-6:30 pm. \$30. Reservations: 877-874-2478 or www.gettysburgfoundation.org.
 - VA Tour, "Butler's Offensive at Point of Rocks," at Point of Rocks Park, 201 Enon Church Road, Chesterfield (south of Richmond). 10 am-noon, \$8. 804-751-4946 or www.chesterfieldhistory.com.

6 V A	Car-caravan tour, "Battle of Brandy Station (Kelly's Ford & Stevensburg)" begins at the Graffiti House Visitor Center, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station. 10 am. \$10. www.brandystationfoundation.com.	
6 V A	Living history, "Cavaliers, Courage and Coffee," first-person stories from the Mosby Heritage Area, at the Rector House, 4161 Atoka Road, Marshall (4 miles west of Middleburg on Route 50). 7:30 pm. \$5. www.mosbyheritagearea.org.	6 VA Living history, "Cavaliers, Courage and Coffee," first-person stories from the Mosby Heritage Area, at the Rector House, 4161 Atoka Road, Marshall (4 miles west of Middleburg on Route 50). 7:30 pm. \$5. www.mosbyheritagearea.org.
6 V z	Living history, "Family Night at Chapman/Beverley Mill," near Haymarket. Includes Civil War camp life demonstration, music and tours. 4-7:30 pm. \$15/family, \$5/person. Details, directions: www.chapmansmill.org.	6 VA Living history, "Family Night at Chapman/Beverley Mill," near Haymarket. Includes Civil War camp life demonstration, music and tours. 4-7:30 pm. \$15/family, \$5/person. Details, directions: www.chapmansmill.org.
6-7 M	Living history, "Technology of War," weapons, flags and more at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Free with park admission. Free Saturday evening signal flag and torch demonstration at 8:30 pm. www.nps.gov/anti.	6-7 MD Living history, "Technology of War," weapons, flags and more at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Free with park admission. Free Saturday evening signal flag and torch demonstration at 8:30 pm. www.nps.gov/anti.
6-7 M	Living history, "Signal Corps Weekend," camp and demonstrations at the Pry House Field Hospital Museum near Keedysville (part of the Antietam National Battlefield). 11 am-5 pm. Free with admission. www.civilwarmed.org.	6-7 MD Living history, "Signal Corps Weekend," camp and demonstrations at the Pry House Field Hospital Museum near Keedysville (part of the Antietam National Battlefield). 11 am-5 pm. Free with admission. www.civilwarmed.org.
6-7 PA	Living history, camps and demonstrations at several locations in the Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.	6-7 PA Living history, camps and demonstrations at several locations in the Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
7 V	Lecture and "reenactment" of the Burning of Hampton at St. John's Church in downtown Hampton. 6-8 pm. Free. 757-879-3420.	7 VA Lecture and "reenactment" of the Burning of Hampton at St. John's Church in downtown Hampton. 6-8 pm. Free. 757-879-3420.
10 😯	"Civil War Conversation: Blockade" at Baine's Books and Coffee, 205 Main St, Appomattox. 12:15 pm. Free. 804-649-1861 or www.moc.org.	10 VA "Civil War Conversation: Blockade" at Baine's Books and Coffee, 205 Main St, Appomattox. 12:15 pm. Free. 804-649-1861 or www.moc.org.
12 V	Walking tour, "War Comes Home: An Exploration of Lower Caroline Street." Meets at the City Dock on Sofia Street in Fredericksburg. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/frsp or 540-373-6122.	Walking tour, "War Comes Home: An Exploration of Lower Caroline Street." Meets at the City Dock on Sofia Street in Fredericksburg. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/frsp or 540-373-6122.

13 MD Lecture, "Fort Delaware: Water, Waste and

MD

Lecture, "Fort Delaware: Water, Waste and

Healthcare," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 11 am. Free with admission.

19 150	VA	Lunch talk, "Battle of Wilson's Creek," at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. Noon. Free with admission. www.moc.org or 804-649-1861.			
19	VA	Walking tour, guided Civil War tour of downtown Winchester. Meets at 2 N Cameron St at 6 pm. \$5. 540-542-1326.	19	VA	Walking tour, guided Civil War tour of downtown Winchester. Meets at 2 N Cameron St at 6 pm. \$5. 540-542-1326.
19-20	PA	Annual Civil War Music Muster, daytime performances at the Gettysburg National Military Park visitor center, evening concerts at the Pennsylvania Memorial. Free. www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.	19-20	PA	Annual Civil War Music Muster, daytime performances at the Gettysburg National Military Park visitor center, evening concerts at the Pennsylvania Memorial. Free. www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
19-21	VA	Living history, Civil War Weekend at Montpelier, home of James Madison in Orange County. Summer camp and demonstrations across the street from Montpelier railroad station. Free with admission. www.montpelier.org or 540-672-2728 extension 100.	19-21	VA	Living history, Civil War Weekend at Montpelier, home of James Madison in Orange County. Summer camp and demonstrations across the street from Montpelier railroad station. Free with admission. www.montpelier.org or 540-672-2728 extension 100.
20 150	VA	Walking tour, "Antebellum Richmond: On the Eve of the Civil War," begins at the Main Street Station in Shockoe Bottom in Richmond. 10:30 am. \$9. Reservations required: 804-649-1861 extension 22.	20 * 150	VA	Walking tour, "Antebellum Richmond: On the Eve of the Civil War," begins at the Main Street Station in Shockoe Bottom in Richmond. 10:30 am. \$9. Reservations required: 804-649-1861 extension 22.
20	VA	Walking tour, "Middletown in the Civil War," NPS ranger-guided tour begins at the Farmer's Market 11 am. Free. www.nps,gov/cebe or 540-860-3051.	20	VA	Walking tour, "Middletown in the Civil War," NPS ranger-guided tour begins at the Farmer's Market 11 am. Free. www.nps,gov/cebe or 540-860-3051.
20	VA	Walking tour, "Fort Huger," Confederate fort on the James River (15080 Talcott Terrace, Smithfield, follow signs from Route 10). 10 am. Free. 757-357-0115.	20	VA	Walking tour, "Fort Huger," Confederate fort on the James River (15080 Talcott Terrace, Smithfield, follow signs from Route 10). 10 am. Free. 757-357-0115.
20	VA	Special tours, "Citizens Under Siege," at the Siege Museum, 15 W Bank St, Petersburg. 10 am, 11 am, noon, and 2, 3 and 4 pm. Free with museum admission. 804-733-2396.	20	VA	Special tours, "Citizens Under Siege," at the Siege Museum, 15 W Bank St, Petersburg. 10 am, 11 am, noon, and 2, 3 and 4 pm. Free with museum admission. 804-733-2396.
20	VA	Living history "Jacob Bushong's Birthday Party," a 19th-century celebration with refreshments and music, at the New Market State Historical Park in New Market. 11 am-3:30 pm. Free with admission. www.vmi.edu/newmarket or 866-515-1864.	20	VA	Living history "Jacob Bushong's Birthday Party," a 19th-century celebration with refreshments and music, at the New Market State Historical Park in New Market. 11 am-3:30 pm. Free with admission. www.vmi.edu/newmarket or 866-515-1864.
20	VA	Car-caravan tour, "Battle of Brandy Station (Fleetwood Hill)" begins at the Graffiti House Visitor Center, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station.	20	VA	Car-caravan tour, "Battle of Brandy Station (Fleetwood Hill)" begins at the Graffiti House Visitor Center, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station.

27	MD	Living history, "Union Artillery at Antietam," at the
		Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Free
		with park admission. www.nps.gov/anti.

- 27 VA Living history and tours, "Battle of Thoroughfare Gap (1862) Commemoration at Chapman/Beverley Mill" near Haymarket. 9 am-6 pm. Free. chapmansmill.org or 540-253-5888.
- 27 VA Walking tours, "Battle of Kettle Run (1862)," special anniversary tours at the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, 10708 Bristow Road, Bristow (near Manassas). 9 am-noon. \$5/adult. 703-792-5546.
- 27 VA Lecture and demonstrations, "The Military Bugle during the Civil War and the Origin of the Call 'Taps," at Historic Blenheim in Fairfax. 2 pm. Free. 703-591-0560.
- Walking tour, guided Civil War tour of Stephens City. Begins at 10:30 am at 5408 Main St. \$5. 540-869-1700.
- 27-28 MD Living history, "The United States Sanitary
 Commission at Antietam," at the Antietam National
 Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Free with park
 admission. www.nps.gov/anti.
- 27-28 PA Living history, camps and demonstrations at several locations in the Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
- 27-28 VA Walking tours, "Bristoe Station Battlefields," at the battlefield park, 10708 Bristow Road, Bristow (near Manassas). 11 am-3 pm. \$5/adult. 703-792-5546.
- 27-28 VA Living history and special tours commemorating the Second Battle of Manassas (1862) at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. 10 am-4 pm. Free with admission. www.nps.gov/mana or 703-361-1339.
 - 28 MD Book talk and signing, "Antietam Farmsteads," the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. 2 pm. Free with park admission. www.nps.gov/anti.
 - 28 VA Lecture, "24 Hours at Manassas Junction, August 27, 1862," at the Graffiti House Visitor Center, 19484
 Brandy Road, Brandy Station. 2 pm. Free (donations

What the North Got Wrong

By JOHN ASHWORTH

In the years and months preceding the Civil War, the Republicans in general and Abraham Lincoln in particular made many mistakes or misjudgments. And these errors were vitally important in bringing on the war. But this is not to say that defective statesmanship was the problem. For the mistakes made were rooted in Republican ideology, and that ideology was, in turn, rooted in the social and economic conditions of the antebellum North.

The first error that the Republicans made was to underestimate the danger of secession. In the presidential contest of 1860, southerners warned again and again that a Republican victory would mean secession. Again and again the Republicans dismissed the warning. Hamilton Fish of New York declared that the "jails and lunatic asylums" would be "of sufficient capacity to accommodate all the disunionists in the land." Lincoln for his part dismissed all talk of secession as "humbug."

A second major error, closely related to the first, was to underestimate the danger, and the cost, of war, if and when it did come. The New York Tribune announced that in the event of war "a small fleet of seagoing steamers and an army of 20,000 or 30,000 men" would be enough "to hold the entire South in perpetual check," while The Times believed that a month would be sufficient time to quell this "local commotion." These were ill-fated predictions indeed, when one considers that the war would ultimately claim some 600,000 casualties on both sides.

A third error was more subtle, but equally momentous. The Republicans were a new party. They had sprung into existence in the mid-1850s to combat the spread of slavery. Most Republicans believed, with Lincoln, that preventing the extension of slavery would ultimately consign it to deaththough most were vague about the timing and the details of this process. But however recent the party's birth, its leaders insisted that its antislavery principles were coeval with the nation itself. They were the principles of 1776 and of 1787 and the new party was seeking merely to restore the Republic's true, time-honored character.

Library of CongressA satire on the 1860 presidential contest. Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln, right, and Democrat Stephen A. Douglas, left, appear as boxers squaring off in a ring before a small crowd of onlookers.

This assumption was enormously important in the aftermath of Lincoln's election in 1860. Historians have debated the new

president's motives when he assumed office. Was maintaining the union his top priority or was opposition to slavery uppermost? Lincoln himself can be quoted both ways and some scholars have even accused him of duplicity. In fact neither motive was uppermost. The reality was that maintaining the union and containing slavery (with a view to destroying it ultimately) were not distinct goals; they were in Lincoln's eyes the same goal, since the union was itself an antislavery entity. To be true to the union was to oppose slavery. To accept the permanent existence of slavery was to betray the union.

This view of the Founding Fathers, it should be noted, was the antithesis of that of the secessionists, who were equally confident that they had the Constitution entirely on their side and that they alone were true to the spirit of 1776.

Who was right? Not surprisingly, the truth was somewhere in the middle. Most of the Founding Fathers disliked slavery and probably assumed that it would die out. But the Federal Constitution made provision for the enhanced representation of slaveholding states as well as the return of fugitive slaves (though without at any point mentioning the word "slavery.") Nor did it prohibit the creation of new slaveholding states. Although the Republicans were fond of citing Thomas Jefferson as an early enemy of the spread of slavery, his stance had actually been far more equivocal than they claimed.

Yet these Republican errors – underestimating the danger of secession or the cost of war and exaggerating the Founding Fathers' opposition to slavery – should not lead us to pin the blame for war on Lincoln or indeed on any other individuals. It is not the case that wiser statesmanship could have averted the conflict. Lincoln had more than his fair share of wisdom and political sagacity.

The misjudgments stemmed instead from a belief that formed an essential component of Republican ideology: the northern social order, unlike the southern, was "natural," in accordance with the needs not merely of northerners but of humanity itself. It catered to the deepest aspirations of human nature. In a fair contest it would always triumph over slavery.

But here was the rub: contests had not been fair. The slave South, the "Slave Power" as Republicans derisively termed it, had thrived because northerners had been afraid to confront it. William Seward, Lincoln's secretary of state and until 1860 the most prominent Republican in the land, made this point clearly. According to Seward there had not been "one day from 1787 until now when slavery had any power in the government," other than what it had derived from "buying up" some northerners and "terrifying" others.

So southerners needed the union desperately. Slavery could scarcely function unaided. The white non-slaveholders of the South, in this view, were not truly loyal to a system that was so clearly contrary to their interests. Hence they would not put up much resistance if war did come and the northern social order would easily and quickly triumph. These were among the key

Republican assumptions. And they underlay most Republican misperceptions.

What was it about slavery that made it so manifestly inferior to free labor? Lincoln was explicit on this point. The northern social order inspired all men to improve themselves. They would start as employees, then become independent, finally become employers in their turn. And this process, with wage labor at its core, was what, according to the president, the union and the Constitution had been created to facilitate.

But a slave system was contrary to human nature. It destroyed incentives, thus arresting a community's economic development, to the detriment of most whites as well as blacks. It could survive the resulting unpopularity only by denying free men the right of free speech (on the subject of slavery itself). Slavery was weak. Southerners would not secede. If they did, they would soon give up the fight. A Republican victory would then return the nation to the path from which it had recently deviated. It would then fulfill its glorious antislavery, free-labor destiny.

These were misperceptions, vitally important misperceptions. But they were also the product of current northern social conditions. And they bore the imprint of the interests that were thriving in the free-labor North in the final years and months of the antebellum Republic.

John Ashworth is a professor of American history at the University of Nottingham and the author of "Slavery, Capitalism, and Politics in the Antebellum Republic."

Stolen Civil War Weapon Finally Found

RICHMOND —

A gun used in the Civil War, then stolen from the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond has been recovered more than three decades after the theft.

The museum considered the .36 caliber Spiller and Burr revolver used by General George Washington Rains one of its most prized possessions.

"This is one of the very first and one of the only Confederate manufactured handguns," said Museum of the Confederacy Collections Manager Catherine Wright.

Wright says only 1,450 of the guns were made. That is one reason why the museum called the FBI when the gun, with an estimated value of \$50,000, disappeared from the collection in 1975. Wright says the gun was stolen when the museum collection was moved out of the White House of the Confederacy and into a new museum building.

"It may have been a casualty of some sort of opportunistic thief who saw a loose case or a door which may have been standing ajar. The security measures were lax in those days," said Wright.

Flash forward 35 years.

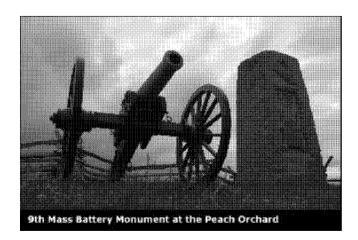
In December 2010, Wright says a Knoxville, Tennessee woman found the revolver in her late father's belongings. When she tried to sell the weapon to an Ohio antique dealer she learned of the revolver's true identity.

The antique dealer looked up the weapon in a Confederate firearms book, traced it back to the Museum of the Confederacy and contacted the museum.

The woman who found the gun will not face charges. It remains a mystery as to how her father got his hands on the gun. We are told he never lived in Richmond, but was a collector of Civil War items.

The revolver will go on display at the museum in February.

Civil War Traveler Podcasts



The Peach Orchard at Gettysburg

Confederate attackers had a real chance to cut the Union line in half in and around the Peach Orchard July 2, 1863. Gettysburg park historian Eric Campbell tells the story of that attack and a heroic stand by Union artillery that day.

6-stop walking tour, approximately 90 minutes

Narration: Eric Campbell, Gettysburg National Military Park

Introduction: John Fieseler

Music: Wayne Erbsen (Native Ground Music) Production: CivilWarTraveler.com and Gettysburg

National Military Park Playing time: 50:42 minutes

File size: 12.6 MB

Harpers Ferry: John Brown's Raid

Late in the evening on Oct. 16, 1859, John Brown and a small band of insurgents entered Harpers Ferry (then Virginia), planning to ignite and arm a slave insurrection. This tour covers raid-related sites in the national park at Harpers Ferry (now West Virginia).



Harpers Ferry

7-stop walking tour, approximately 45 minutes

Narration: Dennis Frye, chief historian, Harpers Ferry NHP

Introduction: John Fieseler

Music: Al Neale

Production: CivilWarTraveler.com and the Harpers Ferry

National Historical Park Playing time: 28:02 minutes

File size: 6.9 MB

The Final Assault: Beyond Burnside Bridge, Antietam

Following the capture of Burnside Bridge over the Antietam Creek Sept. 17, 1862, the Union 9th Corps still had its work cut out. This tour covers the final Federal attack that day and the dramatic Confederate counterattack that saved the day for Lee's army.



Area of Union attack

9-stop walking tour, about 90

minutes

Narration: Keith Snyder, NPS historian/ranger

Introduction: Marc Ramsey (Owens and Ramsey Books)

Music: Wayne Erbsen (Native Ground Music)

Production: CivilWarTraveler.com and Antietam National

Battlefield

Playing time: 47:09 minutes

File Size: 11.5 MB

New Market Battlefield

In May 1864, new overall Union commander U.S. Grant ordered a Federal army under Gen. Franz Sigel to march south in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley to destroy transportation hubs and deprive the Confederacy of an important source of food. On May 15,



1864, Confederate Gen. John C. Breckinridge's small force
— including 257 cadets from the Virginia Military Institute
— met Sigel's advance in the small crossroads town of New
Market. The battle here halted the Union advance and gave
the Confederacy much-needed breathing space in the Valley.

This walking tour through the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park covers the Confederate advance and the charge by the VMI cadets.

9-stop walking tour, approximately 90 minutes

Narration: Scott Harris, park director

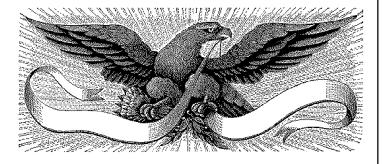
Introduction: Marc Ramsey (Owens and Ramsey Books)

Music: Al Neale

Production: CivilWarTraveler.com and New Market

Battlefield State Historical Site Playing time: 26:08 minutes

File Size: 6.0 MB



Cape May County Civil War Round Table c/o

