

## **Civil War News Roundup - 10/04/2007**

### **Courtesy of the Civil War Preservation Trust**

- (1) County Preparing for Civil War Battle, Again - Clayton News Daily
- (2) General Lee's Letters Sell at Auction – Associated Press
- (3) Brief History of the Civil War in Arizona - Prescott Daily Courier
- (4) Students Get Lesson at Bristoe Station – Manassas Journal Messenger
- (5) Civil War Anniversary Group Meets – Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star
- (6) Ringgold to Get Historic Statue - Catoosa County News
- (7) Lincoln Penny to Get a Birthday Redesign – Associated Press
- (8) Guides for Hire Customize Civil War Battlefield Visits – USA Today
- (9) Site Preserves Town Built for Ex-Slaves - Kentucky Post
- (10) Unknown Soldiers Identified at Oakwood Cemetery – WRAL-TV Raleigh
- (11) Confederate Museum Picks Site - Richmond Times-Dispatch
- (12) State Wants Ideas for Anniversary - Charleston Post and Courier
- (13) Editorial: Prepare Now for Sesquicentennial - Harrisburg Patriot-News

--(1)-----

County Preparing for Civil War Battle, Again  
By Daniel Silliman

10/01/2007

Clayton News Daily (GA)

<http://www.news-daily.com/main.asp?SectionID=2&SubSectionID=&ArticleID=22249>

Everybody knows how the Battle of Jonesborough will end this year.

It will end the way the battle ended in 1864, and the way it ends in every reenactment: The canons will fire, the Southern forces will be split and the supply lines will be cut, again, allowing General William T. Sherman to march into Atlanta.

Even though everyone knows how it ends, about 5,000 people are expected to come to Jonesboro to watch the battle and see the Confederate re-enactors try to take the day.

"They keep trying to win it every year, they keep trying every year," said Carol Cook, the event planner for Historical Jonesboro. "You cannot change history. You cannot change it, but what you can do is learn from it and move forward."

Education is one of the things that keeps people coming back to the fall festival, Cook said.

This year, Historical Jonesboro is increasing the education aspect of the four-day Autumn Oaks Festival and Battle of Jonesborough.

On Thursday, Oct. 11, there will be an education day for elementary and middle school students. On Friday, there will be a panel of educators and historians speaking to educators on the Civil War.

"There is going to be so much to learn," Cook said. "We need our kids to understand our heritage, not just our history, but our heritage. I feel like, if we can get to our kids and help their teachers teach these kids about our heritage, they'll have a little more respect."

Pat Duncan, president of the Clayton County Visitors Bureau, said the annual event is successful, in part, because it brings children in to see the "living history," and it becomes a family tradition.

"Of course," he said, "it's like an amusement park or a theme park -- you've got to add something new every once in a while to keep new people coming."

Interest in Civil War battles and re-enactments has been ramping up, recently, he said.

The Jonesboro event likely will bring in visitors interested in all things related to the four-year war, and locals who are interested in learning more about the area's past. It will bring people who are interested in the Southern side of the war and amateur historians who want

to know why the battle -- which was "little more than a skirmish," Duncan said, "when compared to some battles" -- brought about the fall of Atlanta.

Those 5,000 people will bring in the historical society's major funding for the year. Cook hopes the 2007 event will raise between \$15,000 and \$20,000, which will be used to maintain, preserve and restore the historical properties owned by the group.

The event also serves as an annual economic boost to modern-day Jonesboro, Duncan said, with each visitor spending about \$173. If half of the visitors are from out of town, the autumn festival and battle reenactment might bring \$423,500 into the county.

The money is spent mostly on retail products, but also on lodging, transportation, food and amusement, Duncan said.

"That's really important to the county," he said.

--(2)-----

Confederate Gen. Lee's Letters Sell for \$61,000 at Auction  
By Jim Davenport

09/29/2007

Associated Press

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/575/story/203509.html>

COLUMBIA, S.C. -- Three letters written by Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee during the Civil War sold at auction for \$61,000 Saturday.

The sales prices were far off the record \$630,000 a Lee item sold for in 2002. But two letters from the general who ended the war with surrender in 1865 sold last year for \$5,000 and \$1,900, said Patrick Scott, director of rare books and special collections at the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library.

The letters were among more than 400 documents Thomas Willcox put up for auction after a protracted fight with the state, which claimed ownership of the documents that had been in Willcox's family for years. Willcox had carried them stuffed in 11 manilla folders in the back of his SUV until one day about six years ago when he got bored, looked through them and found the three letters signed by Lee.

Neither Willcox nor the auction house had specific figures, but estimates placed the total sales at less than \$400,000.

Willcox said he was disappointed. He said he's sure he at least broke even after spending money on legal fees and \$70,000 for a detailed appraisal of the documents. "I thought it would have gone better," he said. "At the end of the day, it's over," he said.

Two of the Lee letters sold to an out-of-state collector bidding by phone who would not immediately agree to be interviewed. One - selling for \$20,000 - was written to South Carolina Gov. Francis Wilkinson Pickens talking about troop strength and conditions along the state's coast.

"The strength of the enemy, as far as I am able to judge, exceeds the whole force that we have in the state," Lee wrote to Pickens on Dec. 27, 1861. "It can be thrown with great celerity against any point, and far outnumbers any force we can bring against it in the field."

Another letter about troop strength from Lee to Pickens dated two days later sold for \$14,000.

David Ellison of Columbia spent \$27,000 for a Lee letter that talked about using slave labor to build defenses. Ellison hadn't read the letter and bought it based on the description in the auction catalog as a piece of history. "I'm not sure what his letter says. But to put General Lee and slave labor in the same" letter, he said, "convinced me that that had to be a document of some historical importance."

But Ellison also was bidding on and winning letters from his great-great-grandfather, Civil War Gov. Milledge Luke Bonham. Those, he said would be something important to give to his sons. He said he would think of making the Lee letter available to a museum or some other institution.

At least two dozen of the letters mentioned slaves, from their medical treatment to use as labor.

For instance, a letter from Gen. Pierre Gustave Toutant de Beauregard protested discharging of slaves from their work when "the enemy is throwing at our works more than 500 projectiles an hour."

Fewer than 50 people gathered to hear auctioneer Bill Mishoe work his way through notebooks filled with the old correspondence, telegrams, bills and receipts held up in plastic sleeves for bidders to see.

The issues addressed in the letters ranged from defense to the mundane.

For instance, Pickens wrote to Brig. Gen. Arthur Middleton Manigault on Oct. 3, 1861, about receiving and disposing of Enfield muskets. The letter sold for \$300. And a \$75 bid bought a bill of sale for bags of flour.

Cal Packard drove down from Mansfield, Ohio, and left after spending more than \$100,000. He said his biggest prize was walking away with original documents tied to South Carolina's secession convention in Charleston - including Pickens' copies.

That's "really cool," the former teacher said. "There's just a tremendous amount of historical significance."

--(3)-----

Days Past: A Brief History of the Civil War in Arizona

By Al Bates

09/29/2007

Prescott Daily Courier (AZ)

<http://www.dcourier.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=48179&TM=5331.785>

To the true Civil War buff, the small part of that terrible war that was carried out in the West was just a short-lived sideshow. To the people who lived in Arizona it was real and often deadly, even though there were no major battles between North and South in Arizona.

To understand what happened in Arizona during the two key years of 1861 and 1862 we need to go back and review some important events of the preceding quarter-century.

First, Mexico lost Texas to a group of insurgent Americans in 1836. Nine years later, the breakaway Republic of Texas joined the United States. Then, following the Mexican-American War, the United States gained California, Nevada, Utah and New Mexico, including most of the area that would become today's Arizona.

By the time New Mexico formally became a United States territory, it contained all of what would become Arizona, plus part of today's Nevada. Of particular importance is the Gadsden Purchase that became a part of the United States in 1854. That area soon was being called "Arizona" by its residents in reference to a truly fabulous Spanish-era silver discovery southwest of Nogales.

Americans quickly began coming into this "Arizona," drawn by the lure of mineral riches and by the farming and ranching potential. Except along the Colorado River, the lands to the north of the Gila River remained the exclusive domain of various Indian tribes.

The first "Arizona" is created

The residents of the Gadsden Purchase quickly tired of dealing with the New Mexico Territorial government at far-distant Santa Fe and began petitioning Congress for separate territorial status for "Arizona." When Congress ignored that request, they formed a provisional government for "Arizona" which Congress also ignored.

By 1861 the Anglo-American influence was well established at Arizona City (Yuma), Tucson, Tubac, Pinos Altos and Mesilla

- all in "Arizona." The fragile thread that held it all together was the Butterfield Overland mail and passenger service. Without that service, there would be little communication with the rest of the United States, leaving the area in almost complete isolation.

And that's what did happen in the summer of 1861 when the Butterfield Line ceased service and then the U.S. Army began pulling out. The Apache Indians took this as a sign of victory

over the white invaders and began increasing their depredations against the settlers. The result was a mass exodus from the already sparsely populated area.

Some prominent settlers and how they fared

Charles Debrille Poston was running a large mining operation backed by Eastern money and headquartered at the one-time Spanish presidio of Tubac when the escalated Apache onslaught began. He withdrew to Washington, D.C., where he lobbied President Lincoln for the establishment of a separate Arizona Territory.

William and Missouri Ann Kirkland were forced to abandon their isolated ranch for the safety of California. By then, nearby Tubac had ceased to exist and the remaining citizens of Tucson lived under a continuing threat of Apache attack.

The only non-Indian establishment above the Gila was King S. Woolsey's Agua Caliente ranch and hot springs just above the river near the Stanwix Stage Station. With his well-deserved reputation as an effective Apache fighter, Woolsey chose to arm and to remain.

A prominent but isolated settlement was Ammi White's flourmill and store at the Pima Villages. Since he had protection from Apache raids provided by the friendly Pima and Maricopa tribes, White also stayed.

Pinos Altos, near today's Silver City, N.M., but then in "Arizona," was not only isolated, but was located near the home turf for Mangas Coloradas known as the deadliest of Apache leaders. The miners decided to stay and formed a militia they called the "Arizona Guards" to provide protection.

The South secedes from the Union

The secession of Southern states had started soon after Abraham Lincoln's election as president. The residents of provisional "Arizona" quickly changed their allegiance to the Southern cause.

The Civil War arrived in "Arizona" in July 1861 when Confederate Col. John R. Baylor led a force of mounted Texans to meet and defeat Union infantry under Major Isaac Lynde at the battle of Mesilla. Major Lynde had fallen heir to command of the entire Seventh Infantry Regiment, normally a full colonel's job, only because all his superiors had either defected to the Rebel cause or had left for Washington looking for more promising assignments.

Burdened with conflicting orders, Major Lynde had only two alternatives: Stay and fight, or withdraw and save his men and equipment for a later day. He chose to withdraw.

Unfortunately, he chose to withdraw his infantry regiment to the east and north over a steep and waterless mountain pass en route to Fort Stanton. Caught by the mounted Texans on the hot and dry trail before they reached water, the entire contingent from Fort Fillmore surrendered without a fight.

Col. Baylor now took charge of the political side of things. He divided New Mexico Territory along the 34th parallel and established the southern portion as the Confederate States Territory of Arizona.

The Arizona Guard militia immediately offered their services to the Confederate Army. This was over objections of some Union loyalists in the group who were allowed to resign. The guard then returned to Pinos Altos to continue their important role protecting the miners and merchants from Apache incursions.

It is well that they did because Mangas Coloradas joined with his son-in-law Cochise to lead a force of several hundred Apaches that attacked Pinos Altos with the intent of wiping it off the map. It was close, but the defenders prevailed. A turning point came when six plucky women, aided by one man, muscled a mountain howitzer out from storage, loaded it, and fired it at the Indians with demoralizing effect.

The Rebels move north Confederate General

H.H. Sibley arrived at Mesilla with a much larger force of Texans and soon moved his forces up the Rio Grande River to do battle with the Union army.

Sibley's expedition started well with a victory over Union forces at Valverde, but things fell apart at the Battle of Glorietta Pass when the loss of the Confederate supply train forced them to retreat in disorder back to the Mesilla Valley.

The Union forces, not wanting the responsibility for housing and feeding hundreds of hungry prisoners, just let them straggle by without interference.

Meanwhile, in "Arizona"

Before moving north, Gen. Sibley sent Confederate Captain Sherrod Hunter and his company (plus a detachment from the Arizona Guards) to the west to take control of "Arizona." Hunter occupied Tucson to the relief of its residents who were sick of raids by Apaches, Mexican bandits and other desperados, and he did succeed in destroying several caches of military stores that had been accumulated for the Union army, but finally he would be forced to withdraw to Mesilla in the face of the Union army's advance.

Unfortunately for Captain Hunter's tiny force, Union General James Carleton and his force of volunteers called the Column from California already were moving efficiently from the California coast across the Arizona desert.

There were a couple of minor brushes with the

rebels before Hunter withdrew, the first occurring at Ammi White's flourmill and store. Captain Hunter captured the mill and its owner just before Union Captain James McCleave arrived with a small unit in advance of the main force.

Passing himself off as Mr. White, Hunter got the drop on McCleave, who was forced to surrender without a shot fired.

Hunter's troops later were involved in skirmishes at Stanwix (the westernmost incident of the Civil War) and more famously at Picacho Pass.

Carleton's army was having no trouble with the rebels, but Mangas and Cochise popped up again with another large force of warriors, this time at Apache Pass. And once again, mountain howitzers made the difference in driving the Apache ambushers away.

Meanwhile, the remnants of Gen. Sibley's army, decimated after their disastrous campaign in northern New Mexico, were preparing to withdraw to south-central Texas. In order to supply their army for a 700-mile retreat to San Antonio, they attempted to buy provisions with locally printed Confederate scrip. The local residents rejected that idea, and resisted vigorously when the Southerners tried to take livestock by force.

Most of the Arizonans in the Rebel army either earned medical discharges at this time or deserted with the intention to return home. For many, that trip in small groups became fatal when Apaches ambushed them along the way. Apache Pass was a particularly deadly passageway.

The war in the West ends and recovery begins

With the U.S. Army back, the Kirklands and others who had fled "Arizona" began to return. Charles Poston returned as Territorial Indian Agent, and then served as Arizona Territory's first representative to the United States Congress. Poston's traveling party included Ammi White who had been in California arranging for new equipment for his establishment at the Pima Villages. In time, these original settlers were joined by newcomers, many of whom had first seen Arizona as soldiers with Carleton's Column from California.

A new Arizona now began to emerge. Six months after the withdrawal of the Texan troops from Arizona and New Mexico, President Lincoln signed the act creating Arizona Territory, splitting it from New Mexico vertically, thus leaving Mesilla and Pinos Altos behind. Surely more than one Arizonan was wondering

what to do with all that unsettled area north of the Gila comprised of nothing but rocks and hostiles.

That question was answered quickly when Joseph R. Walker, with Jack Swilling as guide, led the first group of prospectors to seek gold north of the Gila River. Their findings on the Hassayampa River in the spring of 1863 started a gold rush that opened the central Arizona highlands to civilization and led to the founding of Prescott.

When Governor John N. Goodwin and his party of newly-appointed territorial officers arrived at Santa Fe, N.M., several months later he learned of the gold discovery and changed their intended destination from Tucson to Fort Whipple, then at Chino Valley, and a few months later to the newly minted town of Prescott.

For Arizonans the negative impacts of the Civil War were behind them. Unfortunately, some of the most turbulent years of the western Indian Wars were just beginning.

Al Bates is author of the biography "Jack Swilling, Forgotten Founder of Phoenix, Arizona," which is scheduled for publication in January 2008.

--(4)-----

Students Get Lesson at Bristoe Station  
By Amanda Stewart, Staff Writer

09/28/2007

Manassas Journal Messenger (VA)

[http://www.manassasjm.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=MJM%2FMSGArticle%2FWPN\\_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1173352905261&path=!news](http://www.manassasjm.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=MJM%2FMSGArticle%2FWPN_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1173352905261&path=!news)

At the Bristoe Station Battlefield Park on Wednesday morning, a group of volunteers pried rotted boards and rusted sheet metal from a dilapidated barn standing just off Bristow Road.

For the workers from the Prince William County Historic Preservation Office, this was a day of work to prepare the battlefield site for the public in a few weeks.

For the Osbourn Park High School students who made up the group of volunteers, this was history class.

About 30 students in Osbourn Park's "Prince William County History" class traveled to the Bristoe Battlefield site to help do restoration work and to learn about the history of the site in the process.

"I'm very excited about this because it's the first time we've really been able to do a hands-on project," said Mike Feldman, who teaches the class.

The class, which focuses on the past and present of Prince William County, has been offered at Osbourn Park for three years, Feldman said. According to the 2007-2008 High School Course Catalog, it is also offered at Woodbridge and Forest Park high schools.

In past years, the class has used guest speakers to bring the history of the county, and current events, to life for the students.

"We study what happened 200 years ago and we study what happened 20 minutes ago," Feldman said. "We're trying to give the students a different kind of experience. And a lot of them gain an appreciation for history and the area around them in the process," Feldman said.

Many of the students have lived in Prince William County, and within miles of Civil War battlefields and other historical sites for all of their lives, Feldman and the students said.

"Growing up, I've always seen historical places around here and didn't know anything about them," said senior Amy Via, 17.

Most of the students said their curiosity about their surroundings inspired them to take the class.

"We wanted to know about where we live," said senior Matt Pfifer, 17.

At Bristoe Station on Wednesday, students got a chance to learn about the site's history, and to participate in efforts to restore it.

Wielding hammers, sledgehammers and crowbars -- and wearing hard hats and protective gloves -- the students pried rotting boards off a barn at the edge of the battlefield.

Most of the barn's structure will remain, but the boards that are too rotten will be replaced with newer boards, said site manager David Born.

"As much as we can, we're going to save the integrity of the structure while replacing the sides," Born said, as he supervised the teenagers' efforts.

Some of the students worked to pry some the original 19th century nails from the wood. Those nails, identified by their square shape, will be saved, Born said.

At the other end of the 133-acre site, other students spread hay and grass seed along a trail at the park.

Students also learned about the Battle of Bristoe Station, which took place on Oct. 14, 1863. The county recently acquired the park and it is scheduled to open to the public on Oct. 12, Born said.

The students said they enjoyed the opportunity to help get the historic site ready for the public.

"It's kind of cool to be a part of something like this," said Amy.

"It's nice to be out doing something, and not stuck in a classroom," said Sydney Lang, 17.

--(5)-----

Historians Push for Preservation; Civil War Anniversary Group Visits Region  
By Clint Schemmer, Staff Writer

9/27/2007

Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star (VA)

<http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2007/092007/09272007/320636>

If those planning Virginia's commemoration of the Civil War's 150th anniversary had any doubt of the importance of their work, their visit here yesterday should have erased it.

In Falmouth, where the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission met, and at every turn in a 2 1/2-hour bus tour its members took of Fredericksburg, Stafford and Spotsylvania counties, there was a gripping Civil War story to be told.

The 15 commissioners saw battlefield tracts lost to development and heard National Park Service officials explain how those losses crippled their ability to foster understanding of America's deadliest conflict.

"This is our last best chance to preserve battlefields and restore their landscapes," Russ Smith, superintendent of Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park, said of the sesquicentennial.

Virginia is already well along in preparing for the four-year observance, which begins in 2011, having formed the nation's first commission to mark the big anniversary. That's only fitting, members said, given that more Civil War battles were fought on Virginia soil than anywhere else.

The panel, appointed by the General Assembly, is led by House Speaker Bill Howell, R-Stafford, and Senate president pro tempore John Chichester, R-Northumberland. It is meeting in communities across the state to ensure the 150th reflects the breadth of the war's impacts and benefits local economies by boosting tourism.

Leaders of the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, which has saved 700 acres on the area's four battlefields from development, and the national Civil War Preservation Trust urged the panel to do everything possible to preserve the historic sites that are left.

"What is not bought and saved in the next five years, by the time of the sesquicentennial, will be lost forever," CVBT executive director Linda Wandres warned.

Preservation Trust President James Lighthizer proposed preservation be one of the commemoration's primary goals and that state legislators spend \$5 million a year to protect threatened battlefield sites before the sesquicentennial ends in 2015. The trust would match the contribution 2-to-1, tripling the investment.

"The war happened everywhere in Virginia, and everywhere in Virginia would benefit from this initiative," Lighthizer said, noting that heritage tourism puts money in local pockets.

Robert K. Krick, the national park's former chief historian, led the commissioners on a whirlwind tour of the Fredericksburg battlefield.

He ended the tour at Slaughter Pen Farm off Tidewater Trail in Spotsylvania, which he noted was narrowly saved from the development now occurring all around it.

The 208-acre farm, where the Union army briefly broke through Confederate defenses, has been called the heart and soul of the 1862 Battle of Fredericksburg.

Krick recalled that in the mid-1970s, the Park Service bought two small pieces of farmland where the most intense fighting occurred. Those 26 acres cost about \$1,000 apiece; now, the Preservation Trust is paying about 57 times that much for every acre it's preserving at Slaughter Pen.

"I don't know why we didn't do more," he said with obvious regret. "All of us need to do whatever we can, while we can, for preservation."

--(6)-----

Ringgold Company Will Help Fund Historic Statue; Cleburne Statue Slated for Ringgold Gap Battlefield  
By Randal Franks

09/26/2007

The Catoosa County News (GA)

[http://news.mywebpal.com/news\\_tool\\_v2.cfm?show=localnews&pnpID=724&NewsID=840650&CategoryID=3418&on=1](http://news.mywebpal.com/news_tool_v2.cfm?show=localnews&pnpID=724&NewsID=840650&CategoryID=3418&on=1)

The proposed statue of Confederate hero Gen. Patrick Cleburne slated to be placed at Ringgold Gap may finally be getting what it needs to win the battle for its completion — the funding.

Ringgold Telephone Co. committed \$50,000 to the project as a gift to the community honoring its upcoming 100th Anniversary in 2012.

“It’s a bit early,” said Phil Erli, Ringgold Telephone Co. executive vice president. “We didn’t think it could wait until 2012 and wanted to get it here and put it in place.”

The Patrick Cleburne Society started the fundraising project in 2001 to place a life-size statue honoring the hero at the site of his greatest military victory during the Battle of Ringgold Gap in Nov. 27, 1863.

The society commissioned Ron Tunison, one of America’s premier historical sculptors of military art, to sculpt the Cleburne statue. The sculpture depicts Cleburne, with field glasses in hand, leaning forward, gazing in the direction of Col. David Ireland’s advancing New York regiment.

Tunison’s work is also on display at Gettysburg National Military Park, Antietam National Battlefield, and Pamplin Historical Park in Virginia.

According to John Culpepper, Georgia Civil War Commission chairman, through the years the cost of completing the project has continued to rise as fundraising efforts continued.

He told Ringgold council members in July that the Cleburne Society had raised \$60,841 and paid to the sculptor thus far. He said approximately \$60,000 was needed to complete the project and moving forward on it is vital because the materials created by the sculptor for the casting process will soon begin deteriorating.

The state of Georgia provided Ringgold a grant of \$10,000 towards the project recently, but still approximately \$50,000 is required to complete the project.

Additional funds are needed from the community because the statue does not yet have a base to stand on.

“The statue should help highlight the complete history of the Battle of Ringgold,” said Mayor Joe Barger. “This will be one more step towards developing Ringgold Gap into a tourism site that will depict the story of our community.”

Erling said he hopes the community will help bring about an annual Cleburne Festival, centering the first one on the unveiling.

--(7)-----

## Lincoln Penny to Get a Birthday Redesign

By Martin Crutsinger

09/25/2007

Associated Press

<http://www.dailysouthtown.com/news/573494,BC-LincolnPenny.article>

Washington – A penny for your thoughts will have extra meaning in 2009 - the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth and the 100th anniversary of the introduction of the Lincoln penny.

To commemorate the event, the U.S. Mint, at the direction of Congress, will introduce four rotating designs on the 1-cent coin for that year depicting different aspects of Lincoln's life.

Those designs will replace the engraving of the Lincoln Memorial on the "tails" side of the coin. The famous profile of Lincoln will remain on the "heads" side of the coin.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee, which provides recommendations on such matters, met Tuesday and got into a lively debate over what those rotating images should be.

They chose a log cabin depicting where Lincoln was born in 1809 for the first image, although two separate but similar drawings of the cabin received an equal number of votes.

Lincoln as a young man reading a book and taking notes with a quill pen was the panel's choice for Lincoln's early years, and Lincoln on the floor of the Illinois legislature won out for the best design of Lincoln in early adulthood.

But the panel did not like any of the designs for Lincoln's presidency, some of which depicted various images of a half-completed Capitol dome, evoking Lincoln's famous order that construction of the Capitol should continue during the Civil War as a symbol that the Union would continue.

Instead, the committee voted to request the Mint designers and engravers come back with depictions of Lincoln as a war president, perhaps visiting the troops. However, this provoked disagreement because some panel members believed instead of Lincoln as a military commander, the final image should depict Lincoln as the "Great Emancipator" who signed the Emancipation Proclamation freeing the slaves.

"The Emancipation Proclamation is so significant to leave it off ... would be a terrible mistake," said Rita Laws, a former school teacher and a member of the advisory panel.

Other members said it was more important to emphasize Lincoln's role as commander in chief during the Civil War.

"We need to emphasize that his presidency coincided with the Civil War," said John Alexander, a history professor at the University of Cincinnati. That viewpoint prevailed on an 8-2 vote.

The coinage advisory panel is one of three groups making recommendations to the Mint on what the final designs should look like. Also taking part are the Commission of Fine Arts and the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. The Mint will review all the recommendations before sending advice to Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, who by law gets to pick the final designs.

"Some of the concepts may be better suited for a bigger palate ... a larger-size coin," Kaarina Budow, supervisory program manager for design at the Mint, told the advisory panel.

--(8)-----

## Guides For Hire Customize Civil War Battlefield Visits By David Dishneau, Associated Press Writer

09/25/2007

USA Today (National)

[http://www.usatoday.com/travel/destinations/2007-09-25-battlefield-guides\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/destinations/2007-09-25-battlefield-guides_N.htm)

SHARPSBURG, Md. — Would you like your Civil War history seasoned with baseball trivia? Spritzed up with a winery tour? Do you long to dissect the Battle of Antietam with a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian?

Hire a guide.

As the 150th anniversary of the war between the states approaches, starting with John Brown's 1859 prewar raid at Harpers Ferry, W.Va., customized tours for people fascinated by the conflict are multiplying.

As little as \$50 buys a two-hour, private guided tour of Antietam, site of the bloodiest day of the war, or Gettysburg National Military Park, the high-water mark of the Confederacy, in neighboring Pennsylvania.

Those thirsting for more knowledge can join multistate bus tours of up to six days led by scholars including James McPherson, whose 1988 book *Battle Cry of Freedom* won a Pulitzer and helped rekindle interest in the conflict. The cost of the marathon trek, offered by Civil War Tours of Winchester, Conn.: \$950, excluding hotel lodging.

"We interpret the events of the battle as they unfolded, which the average guy can't do standing there reading the park brochure by the wayside," tour operator David A. Ward said.

Between these extremes are an assortment of tours tailored for virtually every taste. All-In-One Tours and Cruises of Lancaster, Pa., blends visits to Virginia battlefields with wine tastings, plantation house tours and Shakespeare plays. Company co-owner Cathy Strite said the leisurely Civil War packages appeal to history-loving "new seniors" — baby boomers who wouldn't dream of taking a tour bus to Branson, Mo.

"They say, 'I want education, I want to keep living, I want to keep learning, I want to keep my mind active,'" Strite said. "All that will absolutely explode as we approach the 150th."

The Battle of Antietam was fought near the western Maryland hamlet of Sharpsburg on Sept. 17, 1862, leaving more than 23,000 dead, wounded or missing on the bloodiest day of the war. Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's retreat from Antietam gave President Abraham Lincoln the political strength to issue the Emancipation Proclamation five days later.

Those are the basics. But if you hire guide Randy Buchman of the Antietam Battlefield Guides, you'll likely hear about Gen. Abner Doubleday, who commanded a Union division at Antietam and is popularly known as having invented the game of baseball. Buchman, who

is writing a book about Doubleday, said the baseball story is false, since Doubleday was a West Point cadet when he supposedly invented the game in Cooperstown, N.Y., in 1839.

But Buchman said Doubleday did throw out the first metaphorical pitch of the Civil War by firing the first Union shot in defense of Fort Sumter, in Charleston, S.C., in 1861.

Buchman, an evangelical church pastor, is in his first year of Civil War guiding. Jeff Driscoll has been doing it since the 1970s. His clients have ranged from Boy Scout troops and British tourists to individuals like Wayne Rowe, a Naval War College librarian from Tiverton, R.I., whose hobby is studying the Richmond Howitzers, a Confederate artillery company.

On Rowe's last visit to Antietam in May, he hired Driscoll to retrace the unit's movements, from their Potomac River crossing near Sharpsburg to their battle positions throughout the day, documented on time-sequenced maps that most casual visitors to the battlefield headquarters never see.

Rowe said he was thrilled to be able to walk where the Richmond Howitzers marched.

"I didn't have much time, and he kind of did the work for me. It was the best money and time I could have spent," he said.

Driscoll said boning up on arcane requests is part of the fun of guiding.

"You just continue to learn more and more and more about not just the battle, but the whole campaign. It's expected and it's necessary," he said.

The Antietam guide service is run by the Western Maryland Interpretive Association, a private, non-profit group that also owns the battlefield bookstore. But the rigorous training regimen — including a 25-book reading list and written and oral exams — is based on the requirements of the Gettysburg-based Association of Battlefield Guides.

The 155 Gettysburg guides are licensed by the National Park Service and are the only people allowed to give paid tours of the Gettysburg battlefield.

Park rangers at Gettysburg and Antietam also give programs on the battles, but their offerings are restricted by their numbers — just 18 year-round rangers at Gettysburg and six at Antietam.

"We're limited by the fact that we have to respond to everybody and kind of give a general overview of the battle," Antietam Superintendent John W. Howard said. "Now we have an option; we can say, 'Get hold of the guide service.'"

Antietam guide Thomas G. Clemens, a history professor at nearby Hagerstown Community College, said the service follows the National Park Service mission of public education.

"We're really fulfilling the purpose of what the park is all about," he said. "It's meant to teach people lessons."

Copyright 2007 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

--(9)-----

Site Preserves Town Built for Ex-Slaves  
Associated Press

09/24/2007

Kentucky Post (KY)

<http://news.cincypost.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070924/NEWS02/709240364/1014/NEWS02>

PERRYVILLE - One of 30 communities built for former slaves after the Civil War is now part of a historic battlefield site.

The state purchased the site of what was Sleettown earlier this year for \$324,000. The money came from a Transportation Enhancement grant. The Civil War Preservation Trust donated another \$107,000 to match the grant.

The town existed from 1865 until 1931 and was set up by Kentucky natives Henry, Preston and George Sleet. The property bought by the state ties two sections of the 570-acre park where the Battle of Perryville was fought in October 1862.

Lyda Sleet Smalley of Perryville, the great-great-granddaughter of George Sleet, had heard about the namesake town while growing up in Perryville, but didn't know of her family's connection or a cemetery where her ancestors are buried. There are no visible markers on the gravesites.

Smalley said the descendants of Sleettown residents still populate the area.

"Most of the descendants still live in the Perryville community where they moved after all people in the once thriving community left in the 1930s for bigger towns and cities," Smalley said.

Marking the site and making it part of the battlefield park has been in the works for several years, said Mary Quinn Ramer of Danville.

Ramer began research on Sleettown while she still was in college, and hoped for years the state would buy the land. Ramer, the former head of the Danville/Boyle County Convention and Visitors Bureau, helped write the grant application to buy 97 of the original 150 acres where the town once was.

"We didn't know a few years ago if this would happen," Ramer said.

Ron Bryant, historian for the state parks system, said Sleettown and other former freed slave encampments made their mark on Kentucky.

"You have inherited a better world through the work of your grand- and great-grandparents," he said. "They taught values that went beyond racial discord."

--(10)-----

## Three Unknown Soldiers Identified at Oakwood Cemetery

By Beau Minnick

09/23/2007

WRAL-TV Raleigh (NC)

<http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/1852452/>

Raleigh — Hundreds of history buffs came to Oakwood Cemetery on Sunday for a rare ceremony. Historians have identified three unknown soldiers buried there from the Civil War.

Private John Dolson of Minnesota, a member of Company A, 2nd U.S. Sharpshooters, was wounded in the second day of battle and died two months later. Before he was buried, his unit identification somehow was changed to 2nd North Carolina Infantry, and for more than 130 years, he has been the only Union soldier there buried in the Raleigh cemetery, surrounded by nearly 1,400 Confederates.

The two Confederate soldiers were wounded, captured and later died in the U.S. Corps hospital at Gettysburg. Private William P. Wallace of Company C, 23rd North Carolina Infantry, was taken on the first day of the battle, while Private Drury Scruggs of Company D, 16th North Carolina Infantry was missing after Pickett's charge on the third and final day of the battle.

The Confederate Cemetery, located on the original two and a half acres of Oakwood Cemetery, was established in 1867. The historic cemetery is a short walking distance from the state capitol.

Charles Purser has dedicated 19 years of his life to studying the Confederacy. Never did he think he would get a phone call about a Union soldier buried with Confederate soldiers.

"He says, I think you have a Yankee down there in your cemetery," said Charles Purser with the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Purser talked to a Civil War buff from New York state. He found records of a John Dobson from North Carolina and a John Dolson from Minnesota. Turned out it was the union Minnesotan soldier that was buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

"It's a good piece of history," said Travis Gorshe.

Gorshe drove 22 hours to bring Dolson's Confederate grave marker to Minnesota.

"He gave the ultimate price, the sacrifice of his life for his duty and his job. They should have the proper recognition," said Gorshe.

That recognition also came Sunday for two Confederate soldiers buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Hospital records were recently found, identifying Privates William Wallace and Drury Scruggs. There are still 231 unknown Confederate graves in the cemetery.

“All of them should get their identities and, hopefully, their recognition as American soldiers,” said Purser.

All three of the soldiers recently identified fought in the battle at Gettysburg. The two Confederate soldiers were North Carolina natives; one soldier was from Rutherford County and the other from Montgomery County.

## Confederate Museum Picks Site

Fort Monroe completes system of 3 locations to house Civil War artifacts

By Janet Caggiano, Staff Writer

09/21/2007

Richmond Times-Dispatch (VA)

<http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/news.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2007-09-21-0222.html>

Fort Monroe is the final piece of the puzzle in the Museum of the Confederacy's plan for the future.

Waite Rawls, the museum's president and CEO, announced last night that the historic Army base in Hampton will be renovated by 2012 to become the third site in a museum system. The system will replace the single institution that has stood at 12th and East Clay streets in downtown Richmond since 1976.

"We are psyched," Rawls said. "This rounds the system out. We will cover most of Virginia."

The other sites, announced this month, are the Appomattox Court House National Park and the Chancellorsville Battlefield Visitor Center near Fredericksburg.

The museum headquarters, including the library and research center, collections storage, administration and a small exhibit space, will remain in Richmond at a yet undetermined site.

The White House of the Confederacy, the home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis during the Civil War, also will stay put.

Fort Monroe, at the tip of the Virginia Peninsula, was built between 1819 and 1834. The six-sided stone fort, named in honor of President James Monroe, is the last of its kind in the United States.

It has been home to the Training and Doctrine Command since 1973. But in 2011, the command, which recruits, trains and educates the Army's soldiers, will move to Fort Eustis. After it departs, Army officials will continue to work with museum staff on the project.

"The history of this site is incredible," Rawls said. "People know what you are talking about as soon as you say Fort Monroe because of the history."

During the Civil War, Fort Monroe served as the home of the Union Army of the James. Several land operations against Confederate forces were mounted from the site.

It is there that Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler decided that escaping slaves reaching Union lines would not be returned to bondage. After the war, Davis was a prisoner at Fort Monroe for two years.

The Army already runs a museum there, the Casemate Museum, which focuses on the history of Fort Monroe. It attracts about 50,000 people a year.

That's not an impressive number, Rawls said. But access can be difficult because the fort is an active military site. Once the command moves, there won't be such high security.

"There is tremendous raw potential here," Rawls said. "It can become a major attraction because of the history and the way it lays out."

The campus includes other buildings, including offices that once served as barracks. Robert E. Lee stayed in one of them in 1831. "Not only was Fort Monroe important during the Civil War, but before as well," Rawls said. "We are pretty excited about all the sites."

The museum system plan calls for an 8,000-square-foot museum at each site, Rawls said, with about 5,000 square feet of exhibit space. The project will cost about \$17 million. Rawls is hoping that a capital campaign, as well as local, state and federal funding, will cover the costs.

Fort Monroe will be the last structure completed, Rawls said. Chancellorsville and Appomattox are expected to open in 2011, the beginning of the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War.

Each site will exhibit artifacts relevant to that area. For example, Fort Monroe will showcase the museum's Confederate Naval exhibit.

The museum is relocating the world's largest collection of Civil War artifacts to escape the growing medical campus of Virginia Commonwealth University. Visitation continues to fall, from about 92,000 in the early 1990s to 44,000 in the last budget year. Contact Janet Caggiano at (804) 649-6157 or [jcaggiano@timesdispatch.com](mailto:jcaggiano@timesdispatch.com).

--(12)-----

## State Wants Ideas for Anniversary

By Robert Behre

09/21/2007

Charleston Post and Courier (SC)

[http://www.charleston.net/news/2007/sep/21/state\\_wants\\_ideas\\_anniversary16702](http://www.charleston.net/news/2007/sep/21/state_wants_ideas_anniversary16702)

Observances of start of Civil War coming in 2010, 2011

South Carolina's plans for observing the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Ordinance of Secession and the start of the Civil War — which began in Charleston Harbor — are very much up in the air, and those in charge want to hear from you.

The S.C. Civil War Advisory Board is holding hearings around the state to give people an opportunity to voice their ideas about marking this historical milestone in 2010 and 2011.

South Carolina lags behind Virginia, where most Civil War battles were fought, in making plans for the Civil War sesquicentennial, said Ben Hornsby of the S.C. Department of Archives and History.

"We've got a few years, but if we don't get started, it won't work," he said.

The Charleston hearing will be Oct. 3 in the Charleston Museum. Later hearings are set for Columbia, Beaufort, York, Florence and Greenville.

Hornsby said about 30 people, including those from historical societies and the Sons of Confederate Veterans, attended the first hearing this week, in Aiken.

One idea that emerged was creating a Web site that would teach people about the state's role in the conflict. "That can reach a lot more people than a parade or historical marker," he said.

The General Assembly has pending legislation to create a state commission to coordinate the Sesquicentennial observance, and it could pass next year. Likewise, Congress is considering taking a similar step on the federal level.

December 2010 will mark the 150th anniversary of the convention in Charleston that ultimately led to South Carolina becoming the first state to secede from the nation; April 12, 2011, will mark the 150th anniversary of the firing on Fort Sumter and the start of the war.

EDITORIAL

Civil War at 150: Prepare now for teaching opportunity in 2011

09/13/2007

Harrisburg Patriot-News (PA)

<http://www.pennlive.com/editorials/patriotnews/index.ssf?/base/opinion/118963420638940.xml&coll=1>

The Civil War was one of this country's saddest periods, but it is a significant piece of U.S. history that still manifests itself today.

As the 150th anniversary approaches of the Confederate bombardment of Fort Sumter, Congress should set up a commission that will use 2011 as a teaching opportunity about the issues that led to the war, its gruesome fighting and, more important, the lessons and principles this country took from it.

As Rick Beard, director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, told Cox News Service, "There are still some folks who are still fighting the war."

That's evidenced by observances with varying historical interpretations that are springing up among individual groups and states.

It's all the more reason Congress shouldn't shy away from a national observance that puts the war into its proper perspective. But that's what appears to be happening. Only 10 representatives in the 435-member House have expressed support for a bill introduced seven months ago to set up a Civil War 150th anniversary commission.

By comparison, a commission to observe last May's 400th anniversary of the settlement at Jamestown was up and running almost five years ahead of time.

The cruel and barbaric enslavement of blacks was a bleak part of American history, and is at the heart of some of the uneasiness about an official national observance of the Civil War.

But slavery can't and shouldn't be swept under the rug. The good thing is the war ended it and preserved the union. The Underground Railroad, the Emancipation Proclamation and Reconstruction were all aspects of the war that started a movement toward equality and civil rights for all citizens of this country that is still a work in progress today.

This is an opportunity, through a national observance, to advance those causes. Congress shouldn't squander it.