

Civil War News Roundup - 02/20/2007
Courtesy of the Civil War Preservation Trust

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**Owners hope donation may seed battlefield preservation
Thompson's Station farm placed in trust; leaders hope neighbors will follow
By RACHEL STULTS, Staff Writer**

02/20/2007

Nashville Tennessean (TN)

<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070220/COUNTY090101/702200314/1356/COUNTY0901>

THOMPSON'S STATION — Town leaders applauded a local couple for choosing to keep their 47 acres of historic battlefield property green in the wake of rapid development.

In a ceremony Monday, The Land Trust for Tennessee celebrated its newest section of conserved Tennessee countryside at Battlefield Farm at Homestead Manor in Thompson's Station.

Local preservationists, along with Homestead Manor owner Jay Franks, also announced they are hoping to put those 47 acres toward a proposed Civil War battlefield park in Thompson's Station — a project that could result in an undeveloped area larger than Franklin's 110-acre battlefield park on the eastern flank.

Other land in the battle area is privately owned and the battlefield conservation plan is in only the talking stage at this point.

Franks, a developer, and his wife, Marcia, a prominent local real estate agent, signed the voluntary conservation agreement with The Land Trust for Tennessee to protect their historic home and surrounding property, which they bought three years ago.

"The more we learned about the property, the more we realized how important it is to preserve it," Franks said.

House linked to two wars

Homestead Manor was built by Francis Giddens between 1809 and 1819 after he and his family settled here on a Revolutionary War grant awarded to him for his service as a gunsmith. The house was the first large brick manor home in the area, and one of the few that has three stories. Homestead Manor was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

The land the manor sits on was the site of the Battle of Thompson's Station on March 5, 1863, where the Confederate Army, led by Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest clashed with Union troops. It was the county's second-largest military engagement during the Civil War.

The home served as a hospital for those wounded during the battle, and as a place of refuge for area residents who hid in the manor's cellar.

Land considered key

"For a long time in historic preservation we talked about the buildings, but really the landscape they're on really gives the context of the building. It's not just the structure, it's the land around it.

And particularly this one, because it's battlefield land, it's even more important," said Eileen Hennessy, director of land protection for The Land Trust for Tennessee. "When people go back it won't be, 'Wow, I don't recognize anything.' They'll say, 'I'll remember.' This is a great way to do things as towns are tested by growth and change."

The goal is to create a contiguous stretch of preserved historic areas, from Franklin to Thompson's Station and one day on in to Spring Hill, preservationists say.

"We want to see what it can do to knit the fabric of this community together," said Jean C. Nelson, president and executive director of The Land Trust for Tennessee.

The nonprofit Land Trust for Tennessee was founded in 1999. Its mission is to preserve the unique character of Tennessee for future generations. To date nearly 17,000 acres of land has been put in trust, mostly through voluntary conservation easements given by private landowners.

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**Civil War museum to change name?
Center may drop the word 'Confederacy' after move; perception problem cited
BY JANET CAGGIANO**

02/20/2007

Richmond Times-Dispatch (VA)

http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FMGArticle%2FRTD_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1149193287672&path=%21news&s=1045855934842

The Museum of the Confederacy will likely drop the word "Confederacy" from its name when it moves its collection to a new home.

"One of our challenges is a gap between the public's perception of who we are and the role we play, and the reality of who we are and the role we play," Waite Rawls, the museum's president and CEO, said yesterday.

"The repositioning we have done over the past 30 years is to be more of a modern education institution and less of a memorial . . . to the Confederacy."

The museum dates to Feb. 22, 1896, when The Confederate Museum opened in the former home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

The new name, Rawls said, would depend on the location of the museum. Lexington took a step closer to becoming that place last week when its City Council voted unanimously to enter into nonbinding talks with the Richmond institution.

"It would be a boom to tourism and in increasing the vitality of downtown," Lexington Mayor John Knapp Sr. said yesterday. "But we've really just begun the process."

In January, Rawls and three members of the museum's board toured a possible site in Lexington, the historic Rockbridge County courthouse complex on Main Street. The complex also includes the old jail, which dates to 1841, the First American Bank building and the "lawyer's row" building. All are vacant and would require renovation.

"To me, the Confederate flag symbolizes slavery, oppression and denying people their rights," Lexington Councilwoman Mimi Elrod said yesterday in a phone interview. "I have a problem with a museum that celebrates that being in our city. If you have a museum that looks at all aspects of the Civil War, that's very different to me."

After discussing a possible name change with Rawls, Elrod said she welcomes more talks. Lexington City Council has appointed a committee to look into the best uses for its courthouse complex.

"This may all work out very nicely," Elrod said.

Not everyone agrees.

"Moving the museum would be a bad administrative move," said Darryl Starnes, the Sons of Confederate Veterans commander of the Edmund Ruffin Camp in Mechanicsville. "Richmond was the capital of the Confederacy. That's the place the Museum of the Confederacy should be."

He's even more concerned about a name change.

"I think it would dilute the integrity of the museum," he said.

A group of about 10 historians, grant writers and preservationists don't think so. The committee studied the museum's health last year and released its findings in October. The report states that the word "Confederacy" carries "enormous, intransigent and negative intellectual baggage with many. For them, the Confederacy, and by association the Museum of the Confederacy, now symbolize racism."

The museum is seeking a new home for its Civil War collection, the world's largest, to escape the sprawling medical campus of Virginia Commonwealth University. About 140 miles west of downtown Richmond in Rockbridge County, Lexington could be a good fit for the museum's collection of artifacts, manuscripts and photographs. Confederate Gens. Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson are buried there, and the city is home to Washington and Lee University as well as Virginia Military Institute.

In October, Rawls announced that the museum at 12th and East Clay streets would relocate its collection but that the adjacent White House of the Confederacy would stay put.

Although museum officials may be interested in Lexington, Rawls said other sites will be considered as well. He hopes the relocation is complete by 2011, the beginning of the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War.

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Ready to move on
By MEG BERNHARDT, Evening Sun Reporter

02/18/2007

Hanover Evening Sun

http://www.eveningsun.com/localnews/ci_5254878

Long before a casino was proposed for Gettysburg, before a group of people met to oppose it, before she agreed to chair the group, before it took over her life, Susan Star Paddock's life was about rooting for the underdog.

It didn't have to be that way. Paddock was born in Dallas and her father was the vice president of advertising for Macy's. Like many people in the 1950s, her parents placed priority on what was beautiful, glamorous, trendy.

But Paddock soon decided she wanted to "understand at a deeper level what is important in life."

She began reading about Martin Luther King Jr. In 1965, she did a summer internship at the Henry Street settlement on the Lower East side of New York City, a very poor neighborhood.

As a social work student at Temple University (and pregnant with her daughter), she armed herself with a "Make Love, Not War" sign and marched in Washington to protest the Vietnam War.

"We definitely learned to question authority," Paddock said. "It was important to not just go along, but to really ask ourselves what is important. (In that time period), I think a lot of people started a search. Became seekers."

Though she would ultimately become simultaneously one of the most loved and most hated people in Adams County, Paddock came to Gettysburg without grand aspirations.

Her husband's father had Alzheimers and needed care, but they didn't want to move him from his Cumberland Township farm. So they left Columbia, Md., and settled at the farm in 1993.

Now 62, Paddock has a patch of gray hair and three grandchildren. And she's become known in Civil War circles worldwide for leading a successful battle against Crossroads Gaming Resort and Spa, a casino proposed by a group of investors led by Gettysburg native David LeVan.

Paddock put her counseling career on hold while organizing the effort, credited by many as one of the best-run grassroots organizations in the nation. Its single task was to lobby the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board not to grant a slots license to Crossroads.

The group united historians and preservationists with church leaders and small business owners worried about losing customers to the casino or other casino-free historic destinations. But it also drew fire from locals hoping the casino would bring more jobs and economic development on major roads and designated for commercial development.

The gaming board gave licenses to two other casinos in December, and this month released a written statement about its decisions.

With that, No Casino Gettysburg disbanded.

Applying her skills

It will never be clear just how much sway No Casino had over the board, but the opposition against Crossroads was especially noted by the board in the decision, as well as other concerns that had been raised by No Casino as well.

Though she has been an activist all her life, this battle was different for Paddock.

"Everything else that I did fit within the rest of my life," she said. "This took over my life."

Paddock earned her master's degree in 1979 and started out as a child welfare social worker. Later, she became more interested in psychotherapy and also started branching into organization development for businesses, coaching managers and executives in relationship skills and facilitating discussions.

That's how she was elected chairwoman of No Casino Gettysburg.

She'd volunteered to lead a meeting to set goals for the just-forming group in spring 2005.

The other members liked her approach so much they suggested she be the leader.

"Well I had never done anything like that before," Paddock said. "I had never thought about gambling or casinos. I knew very little about the state law. I just didn't know, but I did pray about it, and I felt called to help with it."

Her husband, Jim, helped her lead the group. They'd get up every morning and start talking about it. They created a Web site with a comment board where people could post news and thoughts.

Paddock checked her e-mail constantly – sometimes getting 100 messages a day – and installed a separate phone line for the casino.

She and other volunteers went to Harrisburg every two weeks to sit in at gaming board meetings. The only other people who showed up were lawyers for the casino applicants or journalists.

People power

Many people thought the group couldn't combat wealthy investors. But every time Paddock began to get discouraged, she said, a new person would stop her at the grocery store or during an errand to thank her for what she was doing.

"When people say it's a done deal, they are saying that whatever clique has decided that something shall be, that that clique has control over the life of the rest of the citizens," Paddock said. "We proved in this case that there is no done deal."

Paddock was interviewed by reporters from around the world and helped circulate petitions which would ultimately get more than 65,000 signatures against the casino.

Their 1872 farmhouse became headquarters and activists from out of town would often stay with them on frequent trips to Gettysburg.

Most of the Paddock's farm is protected from future development by an easement they put into place in January 2005 through the Adams County Land Conservancy, of which Susan's husband Jim was a founding member. A trail runs through their property for Land Conservancy members to use and she calls it an "oasis" from the encroaching development which will one day completely surround it.

"There is a pull that people have here that many people don't understand," Paddock said. "People feel a very deep spiritual connection to this place. This world needs places where people can breathe freer air and reflect on their history and the history of this nation. And that is a strength that is so essential to the health of our society."

Paddock approached her group as she would any of her therapy clients. They established a vision, they agreed to be open with communication, they established "relationships," and they even had a process of "self-examination."

That might sound like therapy couch jibberish, but Paddock believes many of these things are the reason the group was successful as it was. That's because the group relied on information to refute the claims of Crossroads and connect people across the nation in a unified effort – things that might not have happened without Paddock's approach.

And she also felt the group had spiritual help and guidance. A Catholic, Paddock meditates every morning and tries to focus their life on values rather than superficiality.

As a testament to modest values, they compost everything and grow their own vegetables in a garden.

And she's decorated their farmhouse simply. A few sheets and blankets cover old couches in the living room, and they heat it only with a wood-burning stove.

And lately it's become a shrine to their victory, a victory Paddock says is a victory of the people.

She has a Boyd's Bear dressed in a No Casino T-shirt sitting on a shelf next to photos and framed newspaper clippings of the group.

"I think it was just an incredibly compelling more-than-full-time job for both Jim and I and what the people did, what these volunteers did, is very inspiring to me," Paddock said. "And I think that inspires others and so I want to remember it."

Positive thinking

There are parts of the 20-month saga she does not want to relive.

For instance, there were the threatening e-mails sent to her and other members of the group between July 2005 and May 2006. The e-mails contained death threats and lewd language directed at Paddock, police said.

Police eventually charged a 24-year-old Gettysburg area man with harassment and terroristic threats, but Paddock doesn't like talking about the case. It was upsetting, she said, and scary.

"But we had already come so far, we couldn't give up," Paddock said. "Too many people were counting on us."

And she always tries to think positively, even toward the investors of Crossroads, an idea she hated.

"I try to see the good in everybody. I don't think the investors were bad people," Paddock said. "I don't think they fully grasped who they might be hurting. People don't always think things out clearly."

Characterized as a rabble-rouser by many in Adams County, Paddock's critics have said she created controversy where none had to exist. After all, the massive Gateway Gettysburg complex just across the street from the proposed casino was built without a peep from preservationists.

And Paddock didn't shy away from calling the project "divisive" throughout the fight. But as she sees it, the casino was a "bad idea" bound to draw complaints. That's why people got upset, she says, not because of her. Her group merely gave those people an organized group.

She doesn't want there to be hard feelings, though, and is ready to move on.

And she is positive about the future of Gettysburg as well, including its economy.

"I think our economy is freed up by the defeat of this terrible idea," Paddock said the day the casino was rejected. "We are on the verge of a renaissance and I believe we can really build on our strengths now."

She's not planning on leading a preservationist charge now. She's ready to return to private practice and quiet gardening, she said.

But she does believe she's helped other local groups by showing them sometimes underdogs can succeed.

"It was a good call to have and it was a good call to be done with," she said.

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OPINION

Fort Monroe: A solution is at hand, but not to the big problem

02/16/2007

Hampton Roads Daily Press

<http://www.dailypress.com/news/opinion/dp-56417sy0feb16,0,4758728.story?coll=dp-opinion-editorials>

Within the next two weeks, if the two houses can agree, the General Assembly will change the way decisions will be made about Fort Monroe.

It may choose one of two paths before it: one proposed by Sen. Marty Williams, at the behest of Gov. Tim Kaine, and one by Del. Tom Gear. Both legislators represent the area in which Fort Monroe is located.

Their approaches have this in common: They change the composition of the body that will officially take the lead in planning for Monroe's civilian afterlife. By expanding the Federal Area Development Authority created by Hampton (in Williams' bill) or creating a new, bigger Fort Monroe Reuse Authority (Gear's bill), they would strip the small group anointed by Hampton of the autonomy and authority it now enjoys. Williams would give it power to develop a final reuse plan; Gear would limit it to recommending a plan to the governor and General Assembly. But by different approaches, both bills address one of the problems with planning for Monroe: The current FADA lacks the depth and experience the job demands.

They have this in common, too: Neither solves the fundamental problem that must be faced. And that is this: The state of Virginia must retain at least a significant part of 392 acres at Fort Monroe that will revert to it when the Army leaves. It must not hand that land over to the city, because the city is simply the wrong structure for a project of this scope.

This cannot be said too many times or too plainly: When it comes to the historically significant areas of the base, there can be no question of the state stepping away from a responsibility not just to plan for but also to oversee, implement and fund their long-term preservation, interpretation and operation. It will take considerable resources, the kind the state has and that the city does not. For the governor to hand that off - that land or that job to another body, to a FADA or the city of Hampton - is wrong.

Unless that body is the National Park Service. Gear's bill requires that the option of a national park at Fort Monroe be pursued. Success would require that the state inspire the congressional delegation to push for it, and the Congress or the National Park Service to make it happen. Given the lack of enthusiasm on the part of all those parties, that seems like a pipe dream. Still, it's worth pursuing in a parallel track, but not to the exclusion of moving forward with an approach that retains the state's long-term obligations.

And besides, the national park option could be one whose realization we could come to regret. It will be necessary to preserve the historic and natural parts of Monroe. But turning the entire base into a park would get in the way of one of the objectives that cannot be ducked: using some of Monroe - imaginatively, sensitively, wonderfully - to generate economic output. Hampton will

lose thousands of jobs and millions in tax revenue. It must be able to salvage that economic sustenance from the base's reuse.

That goal is not incompatible with protection of the historic and environmentally sensitive areas.

The problem with Williams' bill is that it goes much further toward inviting the solution-that-must-not-be. It specifically gives the governor permission to hand over to the FADA the land at Monroe claimed by the state. As far as the historic core is concerned, that must not happen. As far as the adjacent, developable areas are concerned, that should happen only after it is clear these conditions are met: There is a plan in place for a fabulous use of those areas, and there is a designated body with the resources and commitment to implement that plan. That is not the case now.

Which brings us to something else the two competing bills share: They concentrate on who will do the planning for the reincarnated Fort Monroe, but pay insufficient attention to who will implement that plan.

The likelihood of a successful implementation at Fort Monroe is higher if the state retains title to its land. Turning it over to a FADA, of whatever stripe, opens the door for the state to sidestep any future obligation to carry out the plan. Implementation would devolve, by default, onto the city of Hampton, which will have the most to lose if the reuse is not the success it could be.

There is another element the two bills have in common. Both allocate seats on the new and improved FADA to key state officials, but neither includes key Hampton officials, such as the mayor and city manager. Both bills include some Hampton citizens, but none who is accountable to citizens or has authority to deliver on promises. The city and the state must work together to make Fort Monroe a success, and they must have chairs at the same table. Gear's bill actually goes deep into anti-Hampton territory (a sad commentary on their relationship), denying the city the right to appoint to the new FADA any of the people it had previously tapped for the job and put on its own FADA. That's simply hostile and inappropriate.

The General Assembly will be challenged to find a solution that will work. One that puts the right people on the FADA. One that anticipates who should be involved in and responsible for implementation as well as in planning. One that makes sure Virginia does not divest its obligations along with its land.

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**Time to reconcile two bills on fort
Lawmakers will try to negotiate an agreement about a panel to guide the transfer of
Fort Monroe.
BY KIMBALL PAYNE**

02/15/2007

Hampton Roads Daily Press

<http://www.dailypress.com/news/local/dp-56606sy0feb15,1,5428986.story?ctrack=1&cset=true>

RICHMOND -- State lawmakers are getting ready to try to negotiate an agreement on a pair of bills aimed at guiding the future of Fort Monroe after the Army leaves in 2011.

Sen. Marty Williams, R-Newport News, and Del. Tom Gear, R-Hampton, both have legislation altering the local panel tagged by the Department of Defense to oversee the transition to a post-Army future.

The closing of Monroe is unique because the military post dates to the early 1600s, houses numerous historic buildings, and much of the 570-acre waterfront property reverts back to the state when the Army leaves. Gear is hoping to get a lot of the players into the same room to hash out differences before the General Assembly moves on either proposal. His invitation list includes Williams, Gov. Timothy M. Kaine, U.S. Rep. Thelma Drake, R-Norfolk, the attorney general's office and Citizens for a Fort Monroe National Park. Kaine spokeswoman Delacey Skinner said every one of those groups has been talking about Monroe for months and "we'll continue to have those conversations." But the primary negotiations will be between Gear and Williams, who consistently disagree.

"That's why we're going to have a lot of people in that room," Gear said. "This isn't about me and Marty."

Williams acknowledged frequent differences with a caveat. On Monroe, "Tom and I probably agree on 90 percent of things," he said. Both bills would expand the seven-member local panel, but the two ideas contain fundamental discrepancies, which could make negotiations tough.

Williams' bill - which is supported by Kaine and the city of Hampton - would double the size of the local committee, adding Gear, Williams and five members of the governor's Cabinet. Williams' proposal also requires the support of 75 percent of the committee, which would essentially give the governor's office veto power over plans for the base. Perhaps the most controversial element of Williams' proposal would allow the governor to deed the state's portion of the base over to the local committee, which critics say gives too much control to Hampton.

Williams said early transfer could help officials cleanse the fort of military ordnance.

"We've got to start cleaning it up as soon as we can," he said.

Gear would like to triple the size of the Monroe committee, adding seats reserved for people with expertise in historical preservation and environmental protection. "I'm not convinced that the seven members of the Hampton (panel) and the folks from the governor's office have the expertise to figure out what to do with Fort Monroe," Gear said.

Gear's proposal also asks the state's congressional delegation to request an official study on Monroe from the National Park Service.

"There's no hidden agenda here," Gear said. "And I don't think there are other people who can say that."

Williams is concerned that requiring such a study could slow the transition and endanger the speed of federal funding.

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Park ranger highlighted role of women

By Meg Bernhardt

02/15/2007

Hanover Evening Sun (PA)

http://www.eveningsun.com/localnews/ci_5232671

Becky Lyons' programs at the Gettysburg National Military Park told stories about the lives of people forgotten by history; the women, the civilians, the nurses, the surgeons.

As a park ranger for 32 years before her retirement, Lyons led visitors through the familiar battlefields and told them about the people who farmed those fields before soldiers ever arrived. She described the difficulties women faced and the heroics of nurses and doctors.

Lyons died at Gettysburg Hospital last week at the age of 60. Park Service employees remember her as a premier historian who paved the way for scholarship on the role of women in the war, and as a caring friend.

"She really had a human side about her," said Ranger Terry Latschar, a close friend and co-worker of Lyons. "She could really help you put yourself in the shoes of the soldiers, or the doctors and nurses."

Lyons told visitors how the farmers earned about \$12 for a ton of hay or \$2 for an acre of oats. She told them how they tried to mind their own business before the colossal battle fell on the town. Then in a complementary program, Latschar would describe the devastation after the battle and the shattered dreams of the townspeople.

"The (visitors) knew the battle, knew the war, and came here often and listened to all the other programs, but they just hadn't thought about those aspects," Latschar said.

Lyons taught teenage girls about the hundreds of women who disguised themselves as men and joined the ranks of soldiers during the war.

"I think it was important to her when she did student programs for the girls, that they know the women were just as courageous (as the men)," Latschar said.

Lyons did not have siblings, children, or a spouse, and her parents passed away long ago, so she considered the people with the National Park Service, along with the licensed guides, and others who love Gettysburg, as her family. She called Latschar her sister, and another former co-worker, Janet Bucklew, described Lyons as an important mentor.

Lyons and Latschar in 1999 created an annual women's history symposium at the park that has covered themes such as the homefront, women who wrote children's books about the Civil War and women's role in medical history. The symposiums energized historians nationally to look at other aspects of the war.

Lyons earned degrees in history from Adrian College in Michigan and Fort Hays University in Kansas. She studied medieval history and wrote a thesis about the tactics of the Gettysburg battle.

She also served as an instructor for Harrisburg Area Community College and as a guest lecturer at Gettysburg College, Ford's Theater, George Washington University and numerous Civil War roundtables.

But the serious demeanor with which she approached her job as park ranger was only part of Lyons' personality, Latschar and Bucklew said.

"She had the demeanor of being a park ranger and being very strict and authoritarian, she was also a child at heart who collected Disney memorabilia and loved to go to Boyds Bears and loved to play computer and arcade games," Bucklew said.

Lyons went to Disney World three times a year and traveled frequently.

Latschar will always remember one thing Lyons said about history. It touched Latschar so much she wrote it down: "My aim as an historian is not to confuse people with dates but to take an event, expand it and examine it to find not only that the event occurred, but why and how and what it affected. There is more to history than a date or a name.

"There is a people who write and react – who live through it. That is history."

Becky will be laid to rest beside her parents in Evergreen Cemetery on Saturday, March 31, at 2 p.m. The service, originally scheduled for Saturday, was postponed because of the weather.

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Medals claimed by rightful owners

02/15/2007

Coshocton Tribune (WV)

<http://www.coshoctontribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070214/NEWS01/702140308/1002/NEWS01>

Orval Dulaney and Harley Dakin of the Newcomerstown area applied their genealogy research knowledge to claim Civil War-era medals. These medals were among the 26,099 minted by authority of the state for Union veterans of West Virginia military units. Authorized by the West Virginia legislature by Joint Resolution No. 11 in 1866, many of the medals minted for West Virginia troops failed to be claimed because of the state's inability to establish contact with the veterans, many of whom originated from adjacent states or left the region following the war.

Dakin claimed his medal in 1988 and Dulaney received his medal in early January 2007. These medals were part of the inventory of the almost 4,000 medals remaining and were stored in the Department of Culture and History's Archives and History Library in Charleston, W.Va. Dakin and Dulaney are avid genealogy hobbyists and were able to provide birth records, death records and other documents as evidence the Civil War soldiers were their great-grandfathers.

Dulaney's medal was claimed for his great-grandfather, Henry W. Baker, son of Morton Baker, born in Beaver County, Pa. He enlisted in Co. F, 11th West Virginia Infantry Volunteers of the Union Army by 2nd Lt. Levi Campbell at Parkersburg, Wood County, W.Va., March, 13, 1864. By order of Major General Gibbon on April 5, 1864 he was transferred to Co K 10th WV Infantry in Wheeling, W.Va. At the time of enlistment, he was a 27-year-old farmer. Henry lived a long life after the Civil War, raising a family in Wirt County, W.Va., where he ultimately died and is buried.

Dakin's medal was claimed for his great-great-grandfather, William Dakin, who was the son of English-born immigrant George Dakin and his mother; Ellen Dakin, was an American born in Maryland. William was born in Allegheny County, Pa. In 1850 at age 14, William and his 16-year-old brother John, worked in their father George's box manufacturing business at 27 Cherry Alley in Pittsburgh. By 1852, the family business was a carpentry shop located on Liberty Street. Sometime after this, the family left Pittsburgh and headed west. William ended up in Wood and Wirt counties, Va., and by this time was a farmer in the fertile Kanawha Valley. In his early 20s, he married and fathered two children around the time of the Civil War; these children were named George and Nancy Dakin.

At age 23, William joined the Union Army as a private. On Oct. 31, he mustered into service at Parkersburg, W.Va., under the command of Capt. William Mattingly. Private Dakin was a member of company G, 6th West Virginia volunteers. This regiment was organized with 14 companies formed with 100 men each with the expressed purpose of railroad guard duty. William Dakin died July 13, 1864, near Cumberland, Md. He was killed in a train accident on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The medal claimed for Dakin is Class III, indicating he died of battle-related injuries. Dulaney's medal is Class I, indicating he survived the war and was awarded the medal for his service. Class

II medals are awarded for those West Virginia soldiers who died in combat. Orval Dulaney and Harley Dakin are members of the Newcomerstown Genealogy Roundtable.

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**Distant replay: Coble to 'surrender' the city
City officials will help re-enact key scene in Sherman's march on Columbia**
By GINA SMITH

02/15/2007

The State (Columbia, SC)

<http://www.thestate.com/mld/thestate/news/16700057.htm?source=syn>

Once again, the city of Columbia will succumb to Union forces. But this time, Mayor Bob Coble will wave the white flag.

On Saturday morning — to mark the 142nd anniversary of the city's surrender during the Civil War — Coble and council member Anne Sinclair will ride up River Drive in a horse-drawn carriage, following the route taken by war-era Mayor Thomas Goodwyn and a city alderman.

The two, dressed in period clothes, will then surrender the city to a re-enactor playing Col. George Stone, before about 30 to 40 Union troops. Coble will read aloud the statement as documented in Goodwyn's diary.

The Greater Columbia Civil War Alliance, composed of historic preservation organizations, including the Historic Columbia Foundation, is putting on the event. It's part of a full weekend of activities that will feature a military ball, bazaar and a re-enactment of cannons firing on the State House.

Coble said he's never attended or participated in a re-enactment. He was talked into it.

"I try to be a good sport," Coble said. "But it's not what I typically do. I usually concentrate on the city's future."

Organizers say they hope to educate Columbia residents about the city's historical past.

"Everything changed after that day," said Frank Knapp of the alliance, who created a documentary about the surrender.

"People who had property, no longer had it. Homes were lost when one-third of the city was burned. South Carolinians were no longer in charge. No matter who you were, a slave, a free black, a moneyed person or someone without much money, everything changed that day," he said.

Sinclair said she's just hoping she doesn't break her neck while wearing a hoop skirt.

"I've never worn anything like that," she said. "Still, I'm happy to participate. It's part of our history, although not one of our more shining moments."

Is it a good idea for city leaders in the New South to give a nod to its sometimes egregious past?

“From a purely historical context, I think it’s fine that a mayor and councilwoman take part,” Coble said. “I know some people would prefer that I not surrender the city, but I have to be historically accurate.”

Most residents know at least part of the surrender story, whether they cheer for the Union or Confederate forces:

As Sherman reached the Congaree River on Feb. 15, 1865, a refugee-swollen Columbia was on the verge of chaos, according to Walter Edgar’s “South Carolina: A History.”

Buildings were crammed with women, children and the elderly. Those who lived along the coast had sent their silver, paintings, books and other valuables to Columbia because “everyone thought that Columbia was one of the safest places in the Confederacy,” Edgar writes.

After beleaguered Confederate forces evacuated the city on the morning of Feb. 17, Mayor Goodwyn made the historic ride to surrender to the advancing Union soldiers. The dignitaries received assurances that the city would be unharmed.

But by dusk the next day, drunken revelry was under way, loitering was rampant and fires had broken out around the city. In the end, 36 square blocks or about one-third of the city were burned.

While historians disagree on who started the fire, everyone agrees on the impact.

“It was something that Columbia and S.C. did not recover from for a very long time,” Knapp said.

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Archaeologist reveals Nash Farm artifacts

By BILL BANKS

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Atlanta Journal-Constitution (GA)

<http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/henry/stories/2007/02/14/0214clxdig.html>

Archaeologist Dan Elliott has a pickup truck, a bulging, warped briefcase and several large boxes jammed with hundreds of brown paper bags.

They look like those old-time school lunch bags. But instead of peanut butter sandwiches, each holds maybe a single iron canister shot, or an Enfield rifle bullet, or possibly a cannonball fragment, items that have been buried for at least 140 years.

This old spur from a Civil War soldier is one of the items discovered on the Nash Farm Battlefield.

"I tell you what," Elliott said, slipping yet another rubber band over a bag, "I'm thrilled with what we've found out here. We've dug up way more than what I thought we would."

An archaeologist for 30 years and president of the Lamar Institute, a nonprofit research firm based in Savannah, Elliott spent the first 11 days of February poring over terrain throughout the Nash Farm Civil War Battlefield site in southwestern Henry County, near Lovejoy.

His work was paid for mostly by a \$10,000 grant the county received from the Georgia Department of Community Services.

In the past year, Nash Farm has become one of the more riveting historical sites in metro Atlanta, and also one of the better civic feel-good stories.

Its 205 acres were slated to become a subdivision before the county intervened.

In a move that surprised, and even stunned a number of veteran observers, Henry commissioners seized the tract through eminent domain and now have plans to transform it into a gleaming county park.

The move not only enervated local Civil War buffs, but has drawn admiration from regional historians along with officials of the Civil War Preservation Trust in Washington.

Now, through the recent work of Elliott and his associates Dan Battle and Mike Benton, Nash Farm received its first thorough archaeological assessment ever.

"Battlefield archaeology is a fairly new discipline," Elliott said. "Our model is basically the excavations they did at Little Big Horn in the late [1980s]."

"We dig up the artifacts, just like a relic hunter would do," he said. "We give each artifact a number, bag it, then map it. I don't have an exact count yet, but I guess we've found close to 1,000 items.

"Next thing we do," Elliott said, "we look for specific patterns, of where ammunition exploded, or where troops were located, or where equipment was dropped. I won't complete my report until August, but by then we should know a whole lot more about what happened here."

It's long been known that on Aug. 20, 1864, Union Brig. Gen. Hugh Judson Kilpatrick hurled his cavalry into and through Confederate cavalry implanted throughout the farm's cornfields.

There was also a short though violent infantry engagement on this same ground two weeks later. Then, for 13 days in September, a sizable portion of the Confederate Army's western arm camped throughout the farm's ponds, hills, and scalloped-out terrain.

After the war and up until just five years ago, the area remained an active farm.

"I'm not saying this is pristine land," Dan Battle said. "But for archaeologists, it's about as good as it gets. We've only covered about 10 percent of the property. There's still a lot under the ground."

Meantime, Elliott pulled out a few select paper bags, whose contents — some of which will go into a future on-site museum — revealed, among other things:

- A ring, possibly a wedding band, once gold-plated, likely belonging to a husband who never returned home.
- A Confederate cavalry spur, badly bent. "Judging by the way this thing looks," Elliott said, "the guy wearing this was probably blown right out of his boots."
- An eerie, tiny skull, made of cast pewter. "Wicked-looking, huh?" Elliott said. "Maybe it was on a necklace or it was watch fob. We need to research this one. I don't really know what it is, except it's old."
- Assorted Spencer rifle bullets, a jagged piece of cannonball and a U.S. 4th Calvary button.

"Saving this site was huge," said Elliott. "It will not only be one of the great Civil War sites, but for archaeologists it could be a gold mine. "We're laying the groundwork now," he said. "I think you could spend the next 15 years studying this place."

A signature document

By Larry Eichel, Inquirer Senior Writer

02/09/2007

Philadelphia Inquirer (PA)

http://www.philly.com/mld/philly/news/special_packages/pdn_pcom/16657338.htm?source=syn

The National Constitution Center has obtained a rare copy of the Emancipation Proclamation, signed by Abraham Lincoln, that will go on display next week and be part of the center's collection for the next 10 years.

The printing is one of the so-called Leland-Boker editions of the proclamation, produced in 1864 for sale at the Philadelphia Great Central Sanitary Fair to raise money for sick and wounded Union soldiers.

Forty-eight copies were made; 22 are known to be still in existence, with four held by other institutions in the city. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has two, the University of Pennsylvania and the Union League, one each.

"Most of those are collecting, research institutions where an ordinary person can't walk in and see the proclamation," said Joseph M. Torsella, president and CEO of the Constitution Center. "Our mission is for kids to be able to see it, ask questions about it, wonder about it and be inspired by it."

The original proclamation resides at the National Archives in Washington. Issued by President Lincoln during the Civil War on Jan. 1, 1863, it freed the slaves in the states that were then part of the Confederacy.

In a statement, the center's chairman, former President George H. W. Bush, called the proclamation "one of the most important presidential acts in American history."

Torsella said officials at the center began thinking last year that exhibiting some of the "touchstone" documents of the Constitution's story would enrich the visitor experience.

In addition to the proclamation, he said, the center hopes to acquire early copies of such documents as the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the three Reconstruction Era constitutional amendments (13, 14 and 15) and the amendment (19) that gave women the right to vote. The center already has an original newspaper copy of the Constitution itself.

The Emancipation Proclamation will be on display inside the center's main exhibition from Feb. 16 through the end of February, Black History Month, and is included in the regular price of admission.

It will return to public view in July and will be displayed on a regular basis through 2017. In the interest of preservation, such documents typically are not displayed year-round.

A member of the center's board of trustees, Steven Galbraith of New York, bought the document for the purpose of having it displayed there.

David Moltke-Hansen, president and CEO of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, said that the most recent, auction price for a Leland-Boker printing was close to \$700,000. He added that the price in the Galbraith deal, which was done privately, could have been higher.

Torsella declined to reveal the price. He did note that in 1864 you could have bought a printing for \$10.

See a history of the Emancipation Proclamation, and more from the National Constitution Center, via <http://go.philly.com/document>

**National park status possible for county's Civil War sites
Franklin mayor wants former country club land to be focal point
By KEVIN WALTERS**

02/02/2007

Nashville Tennessean (TN)

<http://tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/.../1356/COUNTY09>

FRANKLIN — National Park Service officials could soon begin a study to determine whether Williamson County's Civil War sites are deserving of national park status.

Franklin Mayor Tom Miller and a park service spokesman both confirmed that an agreement to conduct a study of countywide historic sites is being finalized between federal and city officials.

Once that agreement is in place, the study could begin within the next few months.

"It will begin probably — I'm going to hedge — before summer," Miller said earlier this week. "It may even be before that. ... It's done. They are going to do it."

Launching the study would be a crucial step in local officials' plans to lure more history-minded tourists to Williamson County while preserving local history.

The study, which won congressional support in late 2005, would include all of Williamson County's Civil War sites including those found in Brentwood, Spring Hill, Thompson's Station and Triune.

"It appears that everybody is optimistic that is going to be finalized pretty soon," said Bill Reynolds, a park service spokesman.

Costs and a timeline for what is likely a multi-year study have yet to be determined, Reynolds said. Earlier reports put the study's price tag at \$300,000.

Franklin officials, such as Miller, are among the study's strongest advocates, as he and others want to make the city's 110-acre property off Lewisburg Pike into the hub for any proposed countywide Civil War park.

Last year, city officials finalized the \$5 million purchase of the former Country Club of Franklin, which they intend to re-create as a battlefield park to memorialize the Battle of Franklin.

Miller said that the city's earlier studies about the battlefield park helped move the project higher up in terms of importance.

Details still to come

Miller recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with National Park Service officials to apprise them of the city's plans for the battlefield park.

Those plans took a more definite shape this week after city aldermen gave initial approval to a plan to develop the golf course into the battlefield park.

Aldermen will vote again Feb. 13 on approving that plan's further development.

Meantime, Reynolds outlined how the study might progress, including:

- Determining the national significance of Williamson County's sites compared to other National Park Service sites such as those at Shiloh or Antietam.
- Deciding what about a Williamson County park might be distinctive and unique.
- Spelling out a park's financial feasibility, including acquisition of land, maintenance costs and consideration of visitor access.

The study will also include public meetings about the plan, Reynolds said.

A curious affair: The Battle of Morton's Ford **By Clark "Bud" Hall**

02/01/2007

Culpeper Star-Exponent (VA)

http://www.starexponent.com/servlet/Satellite?c=MGArticle&cid=1149192965445&pagename=CSE/MGArticle/CSE_MGArticle&path=!features

Proceeding south on Batna Road (Rt. 663), one observes an isolated hillock to the west. Called "Stony Point" in the Civil War, this knoll was home during the winter encampment of the Army of the Potomac to 2,000 soldiers of the 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division of the 2nd Army Corps. In early February 1864, little did these peacefully reposed troops realize they would soon help initiate one of the strangest and least known of all military actions occurring in and about Culpeper County.

In order to support a planned cavalry-infantry raid on Richmond, Union strategists in Washington instructed the Army of the Potomac to initiate a diversionary attack against entrenched Confederates south of the Rapidan. Although stoutly opposed to the impending assault against the enemy's "strongly entrenched line," Federal commander Gen. John Sedgwick selected Morton's Ford as the avenue of attack.

On the morning of Feb. 6, 8,000 soldiers of the 3rd Division secretly amassed north of Stony Point. Once his ranks were formed, Gen. Alexander Hays ordered his division to move out quickly toward Morton's Ford, located just over a mile south. As it turned out, this stealthy advance would be the only positive thing the Yankees accomplished for the remainder of a long and bloody day.

Crossing in front of Powhatan Robertson's house, Struan, the 3rd Division rushed toward Morton's Ford. Near the head of the assaulting force rode Hays, who "had added two or three extra fingers to his morning dram." Actually, this was a polite way of revealing that Hays was stone drunk. As his advancing soldiers leaped into the icy river, Hays followed closely behind swinging an ax high over his head at tree branches while shouting, "We will cast them down as I do this brush!" Ignoring Rebel musket fire, Hays' men dived for cover to escape their "reckless and incoherent" commander's wildly heaving blade. With inebriated leadership at the fore, the dubious operation kicked off.

Over on the Southern side, one artillerist described a "rather sudden transition from peace to war." Undaunted, the famed Richmond Howitzers opened up on the Yankees now pouring across the river. Riding up quickly, Gen. Richard Ewell asked in amazement, "What on earth is the matter here?" Convinced his corps was under attack, Ewell focused the plunging fire of his big command on the soon outnumbered attackers.

"We crossed the river to feel the enemy," one bluecoat wrote, "and we got the feel badly." Another Yank pointed out the obvious, "The enemy was not badly scared."

Under direct fire from Rebel works located a mile back of the ford, the courageous but poorly led Federals withered and their "attack" grinded to a halt. One Federal officer theorized the "purpose

of our attack was to draw a force of enemy to our front.” The Federals achieved that objective as the cool Southerners responded “in a deadly focus of fire.” Northerners fell dead by the dozens.

Late in the day, things only got worse for the besieged Federals as the Confederates initiated a bold counterattack. One Union officer-obviously a future politician-artfully described this Rebel thrust as the “enemy retreating toward us.”

Disingenuous semantics aside, the Yankees withdrew after dark over the river, losing near 300 casualties in the process while Dick Ewell’s corps incurred about 55 casualties. R.E. Lee’s great biographer accurately termed the daylong battle a “curious affair.” And also stupid in the extreme, one might offer, as this pointless action accomplished nothing but death and misery.

Following the battle, General Sedgwick complained bitterly that Washington authorities should not have initiated orders resulting in the disastrous Battle of Morton’s Ford. But with Sedgwick’s castigations of higher-ups noted, this debacle on the Rapidan would not represent the last time American warriors entered a battle with an ill-defined mission, while engaged in an action counseled against by generals in the field, and also fighting in a locale wherein they were not wanted to begin with.

Clark “Bud” Hall is the leading authority on Culpeper’s role in the Civil War.