



The Sentinel

Volume II - No. 1 Spring 2012

Getting Ready for a Civil War
Sesquicentennial Summer

The 150th Anniversary of Emancipation Day
in the District of Columbia

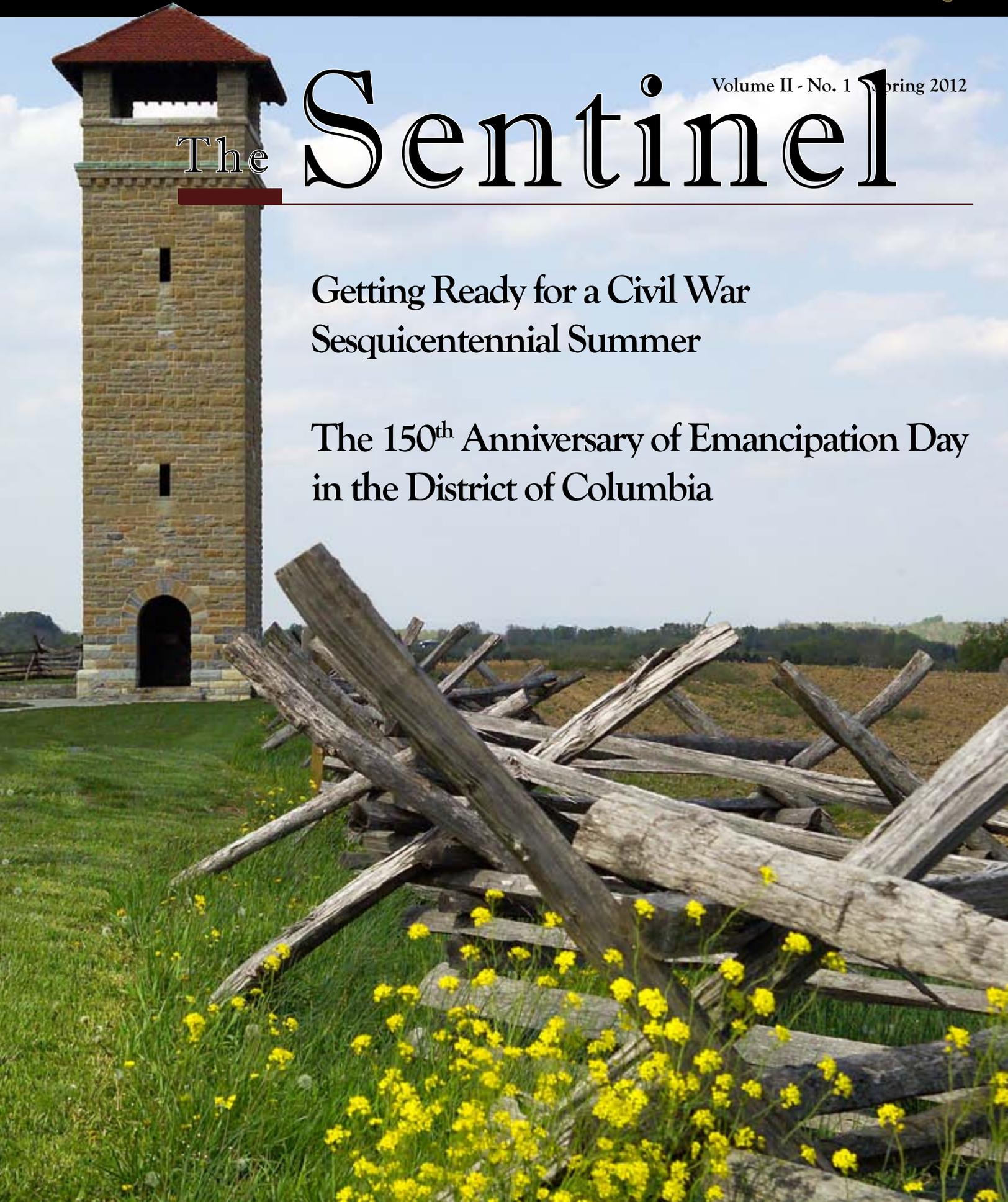


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The Sentinel

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National Park Service

Volume II, No. 1 Spring 2012

Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

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Discover Civil War history at these National and State Parks

- 
Antietam National Battlefield
 5831 Dunker Church Road
 Sharpsburg, MD 21782
 301-432-5124
www.nps.gov/anti

- 
Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park
 1850 Dual Highway, Suite 100
 Hagerstown, MD 21740
 301-739-4200
www.nps.gov/choh

- 
Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
 171 Shoreline Drive
 Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
 304-535-6029
www.nps.gov/hafe

- 
Manassas National Battlefield Park
 6511 Sudley Road
 Manassas, VA 20109
 703-361-1339
www.nps.gov/mana

- 
Monocacy National Battlefield
 4801 Urbana Pike
 Frederick, MD 21704
 301-662-3515
www.nps.gov/mono

- 
South Mountain State Battlefield
 6620 Zittlestown Road
 Middletown, MD 21769
 301-791-4767
www.dnr.state.md.us

- 
Other National Parks in the National Capital Region

The National Park Service is proud to offer our virtual visitors outstanding information and interpretation at these Social Media sites. Like us, follow us, and become a fan of NPS Civil War sites online!



Facebook



Twitter



Youtube



Flickr

Between the Battles:

Manassas *in the* Spring

By Ranger Maureen Santelli, Manassas National Battlefield Park

The horrors of war arrived in Prince William County long before the Union army occupied the region in the spring of 1862. Confederate troops had encamped in the area for months – commandeering homes and outbuildings, damaging farms, and confiscating property.

While many residents appreciated the protection southern soldiers provided against the encroaching enemy, northern sympathizers living in the

area feared recriminations and harassment. These hardships did not end when Confederates left the area in March of 1862, moving south to defend Richmond. With the arrival of Federal troops, county residents continued to bear the burden of residing in the path of two embattled armies.

Confederates tested any good relations established with northern Virginians as

they withdrew south. Exiting soldiers burned Centreville and Manassas, leaving anything that might prove useful to the coming Federal army in ruin, including the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. The retreating soldiers demolished machine shops, station houses,

Thornberry, accused by Union troops of being a Confederate spy. Thornberry's daughter Laura recalled the scene years later: "Ten Federal soldiers came to our home and burst the front door down. A piece of it struck my mother in the face and disfigured her very badly as well as hurting her." The

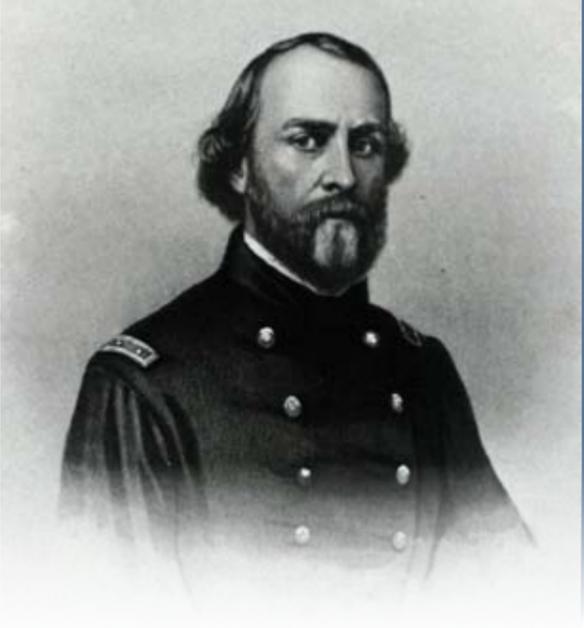
next morning the northern soldiers dragged Thornberry from his home and prepared to hang him from a nearby tree. At the last moment, the Federals searched

Thornberry's pockets and discovered his personal diary, which described his whereabouts on the days in question. The diary entries saved him.

While in control of the area, the Union army hoped to reclaim the bodies of fallen comrades buried on and near the First Manassas battlefield. Perhaps one of the more horrific recovery stories involved the

and storehouses as well as any food and supplies they could not carry away. Troops destroyed the Stone Bridge, site of the opening shots of the First Battle of Manassas, as well as a railroad bridge above Mitchell's Ford.

While Unionists welcomed Federal soldiers to the area, Confederate sympathizers greeted their arrival with less enthusiasm. One such example involved local resident John



Major Sullivan Ballou fought with the 2nd Rhode Island Infantry at the First Battle of Manassas. However, it was what he did the week before marching into combat that made him famous. Reflecting on the meaning of the war and all he held dear, Ballou wrote a letter to his wife, Sarah, on July 14th, 1861. Moving and prophetic, the words still touch us today.

"Sarah, my love for you is deathless, it seems to bind me to you with mighty cables that nothing but Omnipotence could break; and yet my love of Country comes over me like a strong wind and bears me irresistibly on with all these chains to the battlefield..."

body of Maj. Sullivan Ballou, the author of a now famous romantic letter written to his wife. Ballou served with the 2nd Rhode Island Infantry at the First Battle of Manassas and fell mortally wounded in action. Governor William Sprague of Rhode Island, who accompanied some of the state troops into battle at First Manassas, desired to recover Ballou's body with the assistance of a 70-person search party. Upon arriving at the burial site, they discovered that soldiers from the 21st Georgia had exhumed Major Ballou's body. Local witnesses related to the

northerners that the Georgians had desecrated Ballou's body by severing the head and burning the corpse in an effort to use the bones and skull as trophies. According to some accounts, Union soldiers later vandalized the no longer extant monument to Confederate Col. Francis Bartow on Henry Hill in an effort to seek revenge.

One group of northerners who visited the Manassas battlefield came with the intention of documenting the devastations of war on the landscape. Famous Civil War photographer Matthew Brady sent George

Barnard to the battlefield and surrounding area in March 1862. Barnard's work included depictions of the Stone Bridge, the Orange and Alexandria Railroad in Manassas, the remnants of Judith Henry's home, and the innocent Thornberry children standing beside Union cavalry at Sudley Springs Ford. Each of these photographs provides a lasting record of the deep impact war made on Prince William County.

See war-time Manassas in 3-D at a special exhibit of Civil War stereotypes on display at Manassas National Battlefield Park.



Park Passes

The America the Beautiful - National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass covers recreation opportunities on public lands managed by four Department of the Interior (DOI) agencies – the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Reclamation, and by the Department of Agriculture’s U.S. Forest Service.

Annual Interagency Pass - \$80

The pass offers unlimited coverage of entrance and standard amenity recreation fees for a specific period of time, typically a year, beginning from the month of purchase.

Senior Pass - \$10

U.S. citizens 62 or older can purchase a \$10 lifetime Senior Pass.

Access Pass - FREE

Citizens with permanent disabilities can receive a free lifetime Access Pass.

Volunteer Pass - FREE

The Volunteer Pass is for volunteers who accumulate 500 hours of service.

Volunteer

The National Park Service owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to our volunteers. Volunteers work at Visitor Center information desks, lead interpretive programs, and do vital work on natural and cultural resource projects. If you’re interested in joining our team, we have a diverse array of volunteer opportunities available to both individuals and groups.

For more information, contact the Volunteer Coordinator at your favorite park.

To view additional volunteer opportunities available nationwide, go to www.volunteer.gov/gov.



Volunteer Fred Brems at Manassas National Battlefield Park

HEART OF THE CIVIL WAR HERITAGE AREA

The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, a certified Maryland heritage area, includes portions of Carroll, Frederick, and Washington counties. The heritage area is ideally positioned to serve as a “base camp” for driving popular Maryland Civil War Trails and visiting the battlefields and sites of Antietam, Gettysburg, Monocacy, South Mountain, Harpers Ferry, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.

A great resource for visitors is the historic Newcomer House at Antietam National Battlefield, location of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area Exhibit and Visitor Center. The house was built in the 1780s as part of a prosperous mill complex and is one of the few original homes on the battlefield that is open to the public. During its open season, the house is staffed by knowledgeable National Park Service volunteers and offers resources to help plan your visit to Washington, Frederick, and Carroll counties in Maryland. Exhibits interpret the major themes of the heritage area: In the Heat of Battle, On the Home Front, and Beyond the Battlefield.

Hours:

11 am – 5 pm

April, November – weekends only

First Saturday in December

(Antietam Memorial Illumination)

May-October – daily

Location:

The Newcomer House is located approximately 1/2 mile east of Sharpsburg along Maryland Route 34 on the western edge of the Antietam Creek.



National Museum of Civil War Medicine

The National Museum of Civil War Medicine highlights the challenges faced by the doctors and surgeons of the Civil War era. Innovations of the period, and how they led to the modern military medical system, are featured. Visitors to the Downtown Frederick location are guided through a century and a half of medical history, as well as Civil War camp life, hospital life, African American life, Women’s and children’s roles during the war, and much more.

Frederick Hours: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sun.

Location: 48 E. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD

The Pry Field Hospital Museum occupies the historic Philip Pry Farm on Antietam National Battlefield. Operated by the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, the museum allows visitors to experience the Battle of Antietam and a range of historically-based programs and activities. A field hospital exhibit in the house and barn help visitors discover the early concepts of medical care and evacuation, and the ways the war affected the community surrounding the battlefield.

Pry Hours: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

May, November – weekends only

First Saturday in December

(Antietam Memorial Illumination)

Memorial Day weekend – October - daily

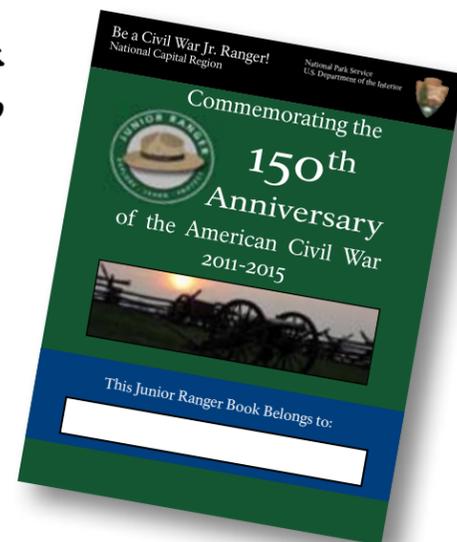
Location: 18906 Shepherdstown Pike (MD Rt. 34)

Keedysville, MD



Just for the kids!

Pick up a Junior Ranger book from any park staff member, complete the required activities, and become an official Civil War Junior Ranger! It contains fun activities and projects to learn more about the battles, the parks, and the people who were there.



SPRING 2012

Join us at these special events...

For more information, contact the host park. Thank You!

April 14



Monocacy National Battlefield - Gail Stephens, author of *Shadow of Shiloh*, will talk about "the first big bloody battle of the Civil War," ironically named Shiloh, which means "Place of Peace." The Battle of Shiloh, April 6-7, 1862, pitted U.S. Grant against A.S. Johnston, the great military hope of the Confederacy.

April 28



Antietam National Battlefield - African American History Speakers/ Tolson's Chapel Programming: "The Dignity of Free Men": Pathways to Freedom through the Civil War and Beyond, part of a series of guest lectures and panel discussions in the park throughout 2012.

May 19



South Mountain State Battlefield - The official opening of two new museum exhibits at Gathland State Park and one at Washington Monument State Park. The ribbon cutting event is at Washington Monument State Park and could feature period music, food, and historic displays.

May 19



Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park - 1:00 pm ceremony for the opening of a new exhibit at the Douglas Ferry Hill Plantation. Near Pack Horse Ford and Lock 38, Ferry Hill has witnessed more than 200 years of American innovation and social change.

May 26-28



Harpers Ferry National Historical Park- Stonewall Stopped: Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign. This event will focus on Gen. Rufus B. Saxton's successful defense of Harpers Ferry during Jackson's Valley Campaign in the spring of 1862. Activities will include, living history, ranger conducted programs and youth activities.

May 26-28



Manassas National Battlefield Park - Memorial Day Weekend Living History programs. Soldier life and musketry demonstrations over the weekend and observances at the Groveton Confederate Cemetery and New York Avenue on Monday the 28th.

June 16-17



Hagerstown City Park - The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area's First Call Weekend will generate enthusiasm for activities commemorating the 1862 Maryland Campaign. Living historians, Civil War music, and activities at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts are just a few activities that will be featured.

June 30



Arlington House - Grand Re-Opening and Re-Dedication of Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial. After six years of restoration the work is complete and the house will be opened to visitors. The program will include talks and tours, period music and dancing and a ceremony marking the occasion.

1862 + 150 = 2012

Getting Ready for a Sesquicentennial Summer

In 2011, the National Park Service marked the 150th anniversary of the first year of the Civil War by hosting commemorative events at Fort Sumter National Monument in South Carolina and Manassas National Battlefield Park in Virginia. By preserving the memory of historic events on the very ground on which they occurred, the National Park Service is continuing to fulfil its mission to use its resources “for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.” In 2012, NPS Civil War sites will continue this important work as we commemorate the anniversaries of critical moments of the second year of the Civil War.

1862 saw a massive Union campaign on the James River Peninsula in an attempt to take

the Confederate capital at Richmond, Virginia and end the war. Its failure led to the rise of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee and his stunning victory at the Second Battle of Manassas. Confident, Lee then invaded the North. The resulting Maryland Campaign culminated in the Battle of Antietam, the bloodiest day in American history. The Union success in Maryland gave President Abraham Lincoln an opportunity to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, changing the meaning and direction of the war.

These and other fascinating stories are part of who we are as a nation and a people. We hope that you will join us this summer as we explore the places and people who changed our history.



For information on events relating to the Sesquicentennial of the Maryland Campaign, visit: www.nps.gov/civilwar

Fields of Dreams

By Ranger Mannie Gentile, Antietam National Battlefield

For the past twenty years one of the most common questions at Antietam National Battlefield has been inspired by the replanting of the battlefield's historic woods. People look out of their cars or across fields and pointing over, they ask, "what are those tube thingys?" The "tube thingys" are white, green, and blue corrugated tubes, which appear to sprout by the dozens from the soil of the battlefield. To walk up to and peek into those tubes solves the mystery immediately. Within each tube resides a sapling. After being planted by park staff and volunteers, each baby tree is given its own colorful plastic home. The tubes allow the little trees to get a good start, protected from snacking deer and rabbits. As the tree grows and develops robust bark, it will break through the biodegradable tube, shedding its protective shell, and be on its own.

This simple tube enabled Battlefield staff and volunteers to restore the West Woods from what was mostly pastureland only twenty years ago. Similarly, the much smaller North Woods, replanted within the last few years, has taken hold and is doing very well. The East Woods, much of which is still intact and contains mature trees, is being expanded to its 1862 footprint.

When rangers answer that often asked visitor question, they usually add a cheery "When you come back in eighty years it'll look fantastic!"



Strategically planted saplings will allow Antietam National Battlefield to return to a landscape similar to what it was at the time of the battle in 1862, as seen in Captain James Hope's period paintings.



Faithful Companions

By Ranger Steve Robertson, South Mountain State Battlefield

Just as many people today enjoy the company of pets, Civil War soldiers also found comfort in the friendship they give. Often pets were adopted by entire regiments as mascots. These ranged from a tame black bear to an eagle. During the Maryland Campaign at least three dogs accompanied regiments of the Army of the Potomac as mascots.

The 11th Pennsylvania Volunteers of the First Corps marched through Maryland along with Sallie, a brindle bull terrier given to the regiment in 1861. During battle Sallie could be found on the front line of the regiment providing encouragement to the men, and barking at the Confederates. This she did on September 14 at Turner's Gap in South Mountain and again on September 17 at Antietam. Sallie survived both battles without harm. Wounded at Spotsylvania, Sallie was killed in action by a Rebel bullet at Hatcher's Run on February 6, 1865.

Another Pennsylvania regiment, the 102nd Volunteers of Couch's Division of the Fourth Corps, was accompanied by Jack, a black and white bull terrier. Before the war Jack was the mascot of the Niagara Volunteer Fire Company, and when these men enlisted in the army, they brought Jack along. Earlier in 1862 he had been "captured" at Savage Station, but escaped, only to be wounded at Malvern Hill. Jack is reported to

have understood the bugle calls of his regiment, and at the battle of Antietam his barking was heard above the sound of battle. After the battle he aided with searching out the dead and wounded of his regiment. Following the Maryland Campaign Jack was wounded twice and captured once again, later being "exchanged" to remain with the 102nd until December, 1864.



"Jack"

Perhaps the most dramatic story of a mascot involves the 6th Wisconsin, the famous "Iron Brigade." During the summer of 1862 a Newfoundland wandered into camp and was befriended by Captain Werner von Bachelles, who taught him to perform military salutes. At the battle of South Mountain the dog was at his side. In the early morning fighting at Antietam, von Bachelles was struck by several Confederate bullets while leading his Company into battle. Knowing his wounds were mortal, von Bachelles lay in the roadway while his company withdrew.



To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Maryland Campaign, the National Park Service is proud to partner with South Mountain State Battlefield of the Maryland State Park System. By working together on the federal and state level, we will be able to provide our visitors with the highest level of interpretive services. Follow the events and battles of the Maryland Campaign as we move from park to park, exploring this important turning point in the Civil War.

However, his trusted canine friend refused to withdraw, and remained with him as the Rebels advanced. After the battle, a burial detail found von Bachelles's body, the Newfoundland who refused to give ground lying dead on top of him. They were buried together with full military honors.



The Post of Freedom

By Ranger Braden Paynter, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site

This April 16th is the 150th anniversary of the act that ended slavery in the nation's capital. This landmark legislation was the first act of its kind by the federal government, but it is as notable for how it differed from future legislation as in how it pointed the way. There was great disagreement surrounding emancipation during the war. Should it happen? Should slave holders be paid? Were freed slaves citizens? Did they have a place and a future in the United States? Emancipation in the District of Columbia was President Abraham Lincoln's first attempt to answer these questions.

The D.C. Compensated Emancipation Act, signed April 16th, 1862 and was far more cautious than the more famous Emancipation Proclamation nine months later.

The difference between the two documents demonstrates clearly the growth in Lincoln's thinking over the period. D.C. emancipation was "compensated." One million dollars was set aside by the federal government to pay slave owners up to three hundred dollars per slave. Slave owners were also required to take an oath of loyalty to the United States to receive payment, a hard decision for some Confederate sympathizers. D.C. emancipation also endorsed "colonization," the "returning" African Americans to Africa, the Caribbean, or South America. One hundred thousand dollars was set aside to encourage African Americans to leave D.C., making available up to one hundred dollars a person if they promised to emigrate. This collection of money was available to all African American residents

of the District, not just those newly freed.

In the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1st, 1863, national emancipation reversed these two positions. Slave owners were not to be compensated and the newly free were not to be pushed out of the country. In the space between the two documents it is possible to see Abraham Lincoln groping his way towards a new personal and national understanding of what the country would be after the war, a country where slavery was recognized as wrong and where all Americans were citizens.



CIVIL WAR THROUGH CIVIL RIGHTS: OUR NATION'S JOURNEY



This special video presentation was created by the National Park Service to link two important historical time periods together and help people better understand our nation's troubled past. With the abolition of slavery being a direct result of the Civil War, African Americans found themselves no longer slaves, but still not equal citizens. One hundred years later, in the 1960s, people again clashed over what it meant to truly be an American. Through the crucibles of these tumultuous times, we emerged as a better, stronger, and more united nation.

Filmed at a variety of National Park Service sites, narrated by local schoolchildren, and set to sweeping music, this video evokes an emotional connection and honors those who have shaped our history.

Watch it online at:

www.youtube.com/manassasnps



The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Gettysburg to Monticello

Within the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area lies the single largest concentration of Civil War battle sites in the country. Not only places like Manassas, Antietam, Harpers Ferry, C & O Canal, Monocacy, Gettysburg, and Appomattox Court House, but places like South Mountain, Balls Bluff, Brandy Station and so much more. To better understand the story of the Civil War, walk on its battlefields, explore the area's 30 historic downtown communities, taste the vibrancy of its farms and vineyards; for it's by visiting these remarkable places that the stories of these heroic men and women become real. *Take the Journey to Where America Happened.* Visit www.HallowedGround.org today.



Word Search! Find the words hidden in the box. Can you get them all?



- ANTIETAM
- BATTLE
- CANAL
- CANNON
- CIVIL WAR
- CLARA BARTON
- CONFEDERATE
- EMANCIPATION
- HARPERS FERRY
- HORSE
- JACKSON
- LEE
- LINCOLN
- MANASSAS
- MARYLAND
- MCCLELLAN
- MONOCACY
- POTOMAC
- RETREAT
- SOLDIER
- UNION
- VICTORY
- VIRGINIA

Imagine you are no longer a student. You have joined the army as a private in the artillery. As a private in the Confederate army, you will be paid \$132 a year, or \$11 each month. You will be paid \$156 a year, or \$13 each month, if you are a Union soldier. Your enlistment (membership) in the army will last for three years.

Shortly after enlisting you are sent to a place called the Camp of Instruction (basic training). At the camp you are issued a uniform. This uniform includes the following items: a wool coat, wool trousers with suspenders, wool socks, leather shoes, a cotton shirt (and a wool shirt to wear in the winter), ankle-length drawers (long Johns or underwear), a kepi ["KEP-E"] (hat), and a great coat (winter overcoat). Be careful and take good care of your uniform. If you don't, the army can make you pay for any clothing or equipment issued to you that is lost or damaged.



A Day in the Life of a Civil War Soldier

As a soldier, you are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Monday through Saturday your day will generally go like this:

5:00 a.m. A bugler will sound (play) "reveille" on a bugle. Everyone must get up, get dressed and prepare (wash your face and shave) for morning roll call. In the winter "reveille" is played at 6:00 a.m.

5:15 a.m. The bugler sounds "assembly" and everyone (except those who are sick or on guard duty) falls in for roll call. When the sergeant calls your name, you answer, "Here, Sergeant!" After roll call, announcements, assignments, and instructions for the day are issued. Once this is completed you are dismissed.

6:00 a.m. The next bugle call is "breakfast call." You will have one hour to eat.

7:00 a.m. "Fatigue call" is played telling the soldiers to prepare for inspection. You must make sure your musket, uniform, bunk, and barracks are clean.

8:00 a.m. After inspection, the bugler plays "drill call." For the next four hours, until noon, you will practice all the things you learned at the Camp of Instruction.

12:00 p.m. "Dinner call" is sounded and you are allowed to eat your lunch.

1:00 p.m. "Drill call" is sounded again. Until 4:00 p.m. you drill, drill, and drill.

4:00 p.m. You will spend this time cleaning your equipment, barracks, cannons, and fort.

6:00 p.m. "Attention" is called to give you a few minutes to get ready for roll call. Next, the bugler plays "assembly" and everyone falls in for dress parade roll call. This means everyone is in full uniform. You are carrying your musket and wearing all your equipment. After answering to roll call, the guard duty assignments are made and then you are dismissed.

7:00 p.m. The bugler now plays "assembly of the guard." Those soldiers assigned to guarding the fort begin performing this duty. The remaining soldiers eat their evening meal and relax.

8:30 p.m. "Attention" is played followed by "assembly." At this time roll call is taken and you are dismissed.

9:00 p.m. "Tattoo" is sounded. This means everyone must go to bed. Your day is finally over.

On Sunday the routine is the same except for drill. In the place of drill, everyone spends the morning hours polishing and cleaning everything, and then attends church services. In the afternoon, everyone prepares for a dress parade. Everyone wears their best uniform and marches back and forth on the fort's parade ground (like you see in a parade today). After doing this for a couple of hours, you are dismissed and have the rest of the day as free time.

Now that you know what a soldier's life is like, would you want to join the army? _____

If you were a soldier, what would you miss most about your life now? _____



STONEWALL STOPPED: MAY 1862

By Ranger Kim Biggs, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

In early 1862, General Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson, commander of Confederate forces in the Shenandoah Valley, was ordered to prevent Union forces in the Valley from moving east to join Union General George B. McClellan’s push on Richmond, Virginia. In one of military history’s most studied campaigns, Jackson kept three Union armies at bay, helping to save the capital of the Confederacy from falling into enemy hands. Jackson drove his troops hard and fast, often outpacing and outsmarting an

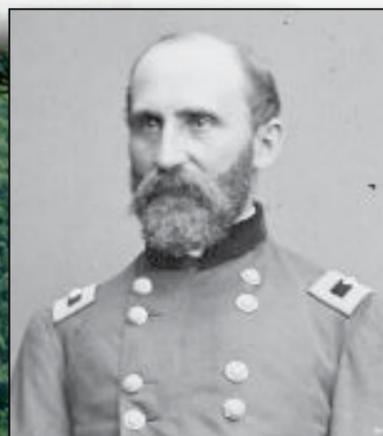
array of Union generals, except for one: Brigadier General Rufus B. Saxton.

In May of 1862, after defeating Federal forces under General Nathaniel Banks at Front Royal (May 23) and Winchester (May 25), “Stonewall” Jackson pursued Banks north. Reaching Harpers Ferry on the 30th, Jackson found the town, only 60 miles from Washington, D.C., defended by Rufus Saxton and the U.S. Volunteers. Saxton later wrote, “Jackson, the commander of the rebel forces, having given

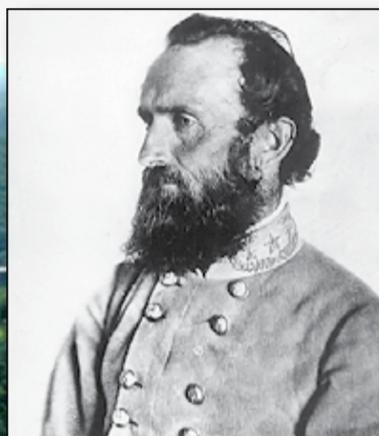
the order to his army to storm our position, they advanced beyond Bolivar Heights in force to attack us, about dark on Friday evening, in the storm.” By daylight the Confederates had retreated.

In 1893, General Saxton was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions at Harpers Ferry, where he displayed “distinguished gallantry and good conduct in the defense.” He is the only Harpers Ferry commander to achieve such an honor.

Saxton



Jackson



On May 26 and 27, 2012, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park will host the 150th Civil War Commemorative event, “Stonewall Stopped: Jackson’s 1862 Valley Campaign. This two day event will focus on General Rufus B. Saxton’s successful defense of Harpers Ferry against Jackson during the 1862 Valley Campaign. Activities will include, living history, ranger conducted programs and family/youth activities.

For more information, please contact Harpers Ferry NHP at 304-535-6029 or www.nps.gov/hafe

The “Lost Orders” are Coming!

By Ranger Tracy Evans, Monocacy National Battlefield

Monocacy National Battlefield is literally in a crossroads of the Civil War, located along the Georgetown Pike (historically the main road from Frederick to Washington), the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad junction and bridge, and the Monocacy River. Union and Confederate armies traveled through the area throughout the war; most notably the Confederate Army camped on the Best Farm in 1862, now part Monocacy National Battlefield.

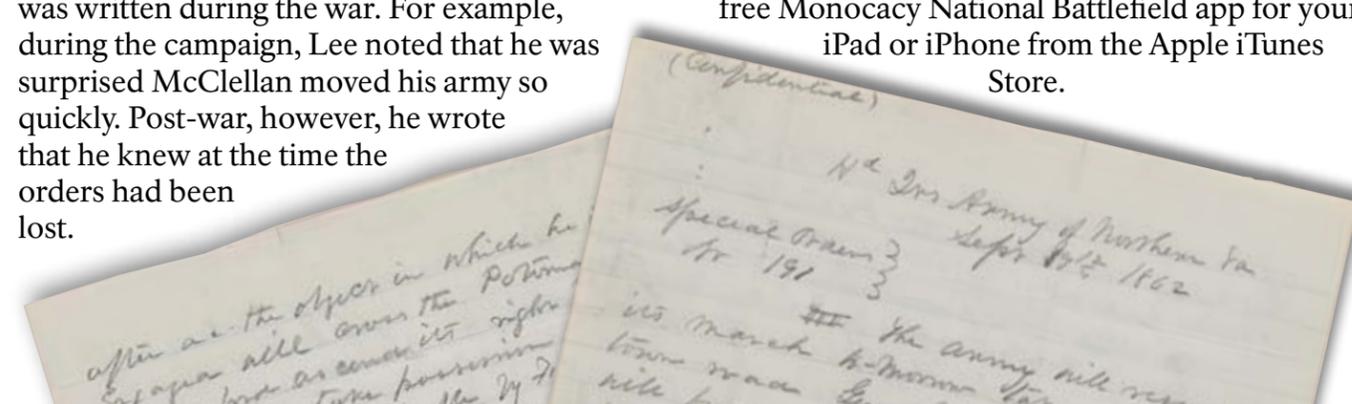
We are frequently asked about Special Orders 191, orders that were written by Confederate General Robert E. Lee and delivered to his generals while camped at the Best Farm in September 1862. The orders provided instructions on how Lee planned to divide his army over the next few days, and reconsolidate in Hagerstown. One of the copies of the orders was lost, and then discovered in a field several days later by Union soldiers from Company F, 27th Indiana. The orders were sent to Union commander, General George B. McClellan, who up to that point was unsure of Lee’s location and intentions in the north. McClellan used the information to his advantage, moving his army quicker than Lee anticipated. This, compounded with Harpers Ferry taking longer to fall than the Confederates had planned, led to the Battles of South Mountain and Antietam.

There was no inquiry during the war about the circumstances surrounding the loss of the orders. After the war, however, many questions began to arise; such as who lost the orders, who found them, and at what point the Confederates knew the orders had been lost. Unfortunately, post-war accounts sometimes conflict with what was written during the war. For example, during the campaign, Lee noted that he was surprised McClellan moved his army so quickly. Post-war, however, he wrote that he knew at the time the orders had been lost.

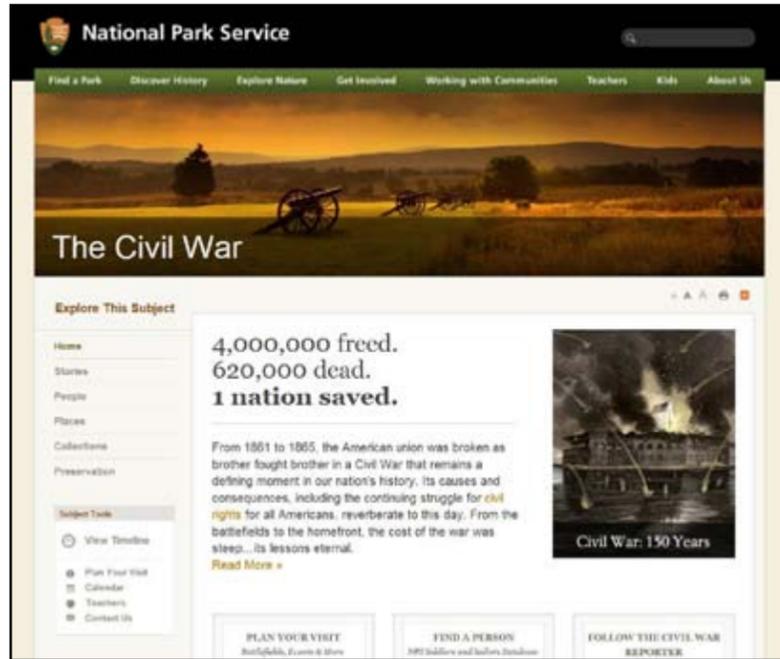
Excerpts of interviews, such as Union General Colgrove’s 1880s interview with Century Magazine in which he said the orders were found wrapped around cigars, have been repeated by secondary sources up to present day. The orders were actually found in an envelope, which was likely discarded by the time it made its way to the Colonel.

Using primary sources, rangers at Monocacy National Battlefield tasked themselves with unraveling the myths surrounding the lost orders. The 27th Indiana’s movements were tracked using maps long overlooked in the Library of Congress, along with letters, diary entries, and the regimental history, in order to determine where the orders was found. Similar methods were used to answer numerous other questions surrounding the orders, many of which may not affect the significance of the orders to the campaign, but are questions that have long intrigued those with an interest in the lost orders, for example, how many cigars were with the papers?

This research will be included in a new Special Orders 191 booklet that will be available at museum stores throughout the National Capital Region of the National Park Service. In addition, beginning August 1 through October 31, 2012, Monocacy National Battlefield will host a special temporary exhibit about the Lost Orders, featuring the original copy of Special Orders 191 that was lost by the Confederate Army, and found by the Union. Information on programs and events related to Special Orders 191 can be found at www.nps.gov/mono, and on the battlefield’s Facebook and Twitter. You can also download the free Monocacy National Battlefield app for your iPad or iPhone from the Apple iTunes Store.



The Civil War Online



Do you want to learn more about the Civil War? Visit the new National Park Service Civil War Page online. Follow the detailed time line, see images and collection items from related parks, read biographies of influential people, and explore the stories behind the events that shaped our history during this critical period. You can also search our Soldiers and Sailors database containing over 6.3 million records. There's so much to learn about.

Go to: www.nps.gov/civilwar

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, JON JARVIS

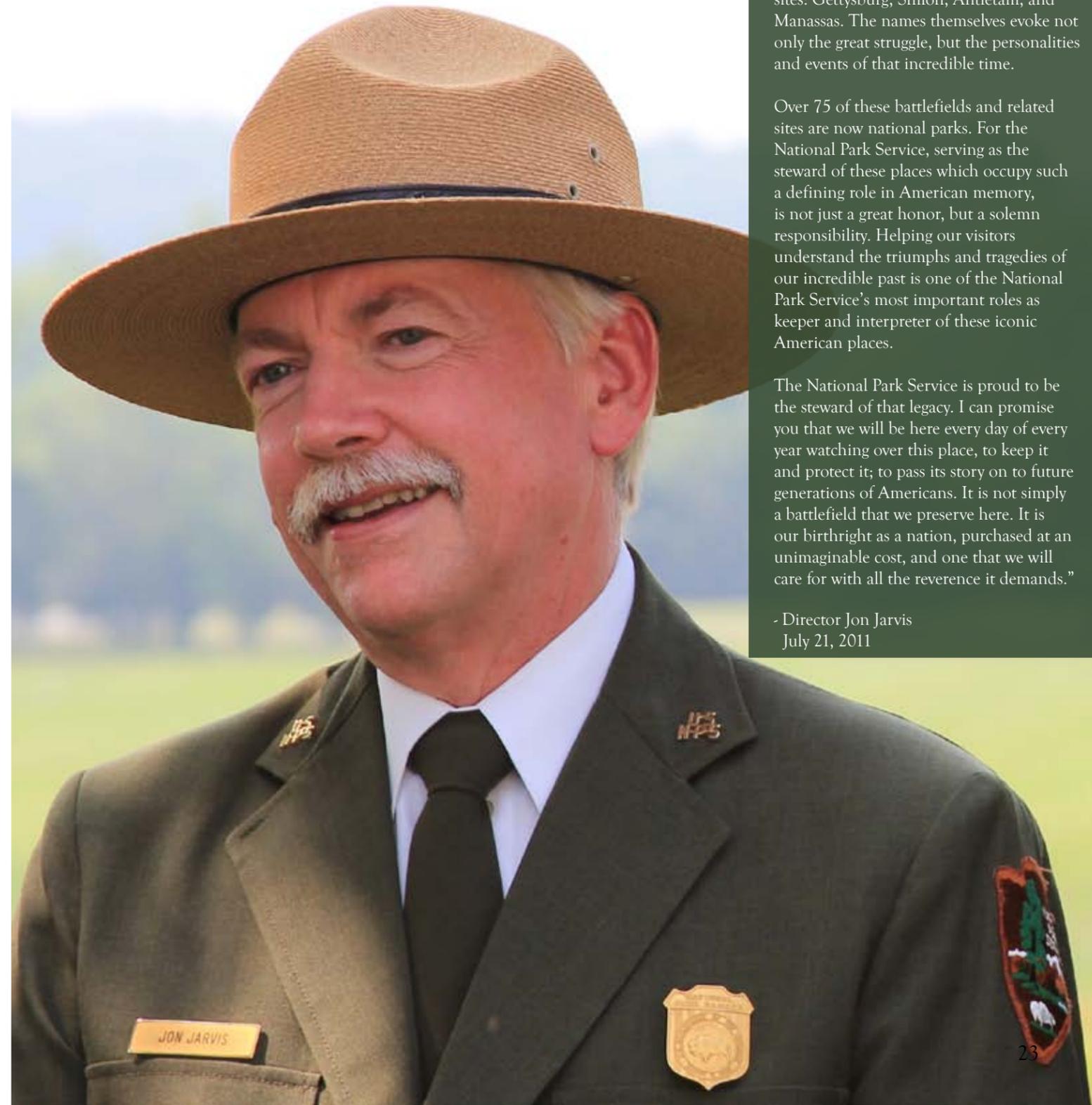
"The Civil War's social, political, and economic effects were profound as the nation divorced itself—with great violence—from an institution that reduced human beings to property. The war transformed our conceptions of race and freedom. It changed ideas about death and religion. It remains to this day our greatest national upheaval.

The places where the war was fought are among our nation's most sacred sites: Gettysburg, Shiloh, Antietam, and Manassas. The names themselves evoke not only the great struggle, but the personalities and events of that incredible time.

Over 75 of these battlefields and related sites are now national parks. For the National Park Service, serving as the steward of these places which occupy such a defining role in American memory, is not just a great honor, but a solemn responsibility. Helping our visitors understand the triumphs and tragedies of our incredible past is one of the National Park Service's most important roles as keeper and interpreter of these iconic American places.

The National Park Service is proud to be the steward of that legacy. I can promise you that we will be here every day of every year watching over this place, to keep it and protect it; to pass its story on to future generations of Americans. It is not simply a battlefield that we preserve here. It is our birthright as a nation, purchased at an unimaginable cost, and one that we will care for with all the reverence it demands."

- Director Jon Jarvis
July 21, 2011



Bookstores: Partners in Education and Interpretation

When you visit a National Park, you often have an opportunity to go to a bookshop to buy a souvenir, an interpretive item, or a book. These shops, run by partner organizations, serve an important purpose. Inspiring our visitors to learn more and seek out their own opinions and perspectives is one of the core missions of the National Park Service. Also, a percentage of the proceeds goes back to the host park, so when you quench your own thirst for knowledge, you are also supporting your National Parks!



To help us commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Maryland Campaign, our partner bookstores will be selling a series of seven booklets, focusing on significant themes of this historic period. These booklets, written and designed by NPS rangers, tell stories beyond the battlefield and encourage a deeper understanding of the events that shaped our history.



Thank you for supporting your
National Parks!



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA