



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

EDITOR'S NOTE:

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Gettysburg undergoes major renovation

By Stevenson Swanson, Chicago Tribune, September 2, 2007
 GETTYSBURG, Pa. - Stacks of recently cut tree trunks wait to be hauled away from the area around Devil's Den. A modern building on Cemetery Ridge that sits close to the scene of Pickett's Charge stands empty, facing demolition. On another part of the battlefield, construction workers are building a large structure shaped like a round barn. With an estimated \$131 million in projects under way, the fields and farms around this small town in southern Pennsylvania probably haven't seen this much sustained activity since the three crucial days in July 1863 when 165,000 Union and Confederate troops clashed here in what is widely considered the turning point of the Civil War. Gettysburg is at the forefront of an effort to restore many Civil War battlefields to something more closely

IN MEMORIAM

Harry Dorsey

12/9/43 – 8/29/07

On August 29, 2007, the Baltimore Civil War Roundtable's long-serving Treasurer passed away. Harry Dorsey had been active in the BCWRT almost since the group's inception. His dedication and interest helped to make the Roundtable what it is today. On behalf of the members of the Baltimore Civil War Roundtable, The Board of Directors and I offer deep condolences to Harry's family. He will be missed.

He is survived by his wife Ruth and his brother Joe Dorsey.

resembling their appearance when they were the scenes of bloody struggles between the forces of North and South. "If you can think of an historic landscape the same way that we're used to thinking of historic structures, the whole reason for doing this follows suit," said John Latschar, superintendent of the 6,000-acre Gettysburg National Military Park. "It's as important at Gettysburg as not adding stucco to Independence Hall." At the heart of these rehabilitation projects is a task that would seem an odd undertaking for the National Park Service, which administers many of the battlefields: cutting down hundreds of acres of trees. In the 142 years since the war's end, fields that were once farmed have fallen fallow, allowing trees to grow and obscure what were clear lines of fire in 1863. At Gettysburg, where Civil War cannon are placed in the locations that artillery occupied during the battle, that has given rise to some odd juxtapositions.

"We had batteries of artillery pointing straight into mature stands of trees," said Gettysburg spokeswoman Katie Lawhon. "And over the years, we had lost a lot of fences. At Gettysburg, a fence could be the difference between life and death." Under a 1999 restoration plan, the park service will cut down 576 acres of woodland at Gettysburg that did not

exist at the time of the battle, and replant 115 acres of trees that were there but have since disappeared. This year, work is focusing on clearing out trees around Devil's Den, a rocky outcropping that saw bitter fighting, and along a section of the Confederate line on Seminary Ridge. In the course of the project, foresters are working to preserve "witness" trees, which were present on the gently rolling Pennsylvania hills when the forces of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee and Union commander Gen. George Meade collided. The ambitious plan also calls for rehabilitating or reconstructing nearly 10 miles of historic farm lanes and roads and restoring 39 miles of fences, hedgerows and other field boundaries. And one of the most pervasive anachronisms on the battlefield--overhead power lines--are being buried.

Similar but smaller efforts have been undertaken at many other Civil War battlefields, including Antietam in Maryland, Chancellorsville and the Wilderness in Virginia, Chickamauga in Georgia and Vicksburg in Mississippi.

"It's much more difficult to explain the events that occurred on these battlefields if they don't look like they did during the Civil War," said Jim Campi of the Civil War Preservation Trust, a non-profit group that works to



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preserve Civil War battlefields. "If people can't see what decision-makers could see, they can't grasp what happened." But the park service and the non-profit Gettysburg Foundation, which is raising \$125 million toward the project's overall cost, are doing more than restoring the landscape at Gettysburg. A new \$103 million museum and visitors center, designed to resemble a Pennsylvania farm to help it blend into the historic landscape, is under construction to replace the park service's cramped and outdated facility, which sits across the road from the national cemetery where Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address later in 1863. The new building, which will open in April, will contain more extensive and updated exhibits, telling the story of the battle from the standpoint of the commanders, the common soldiers, the citizens of Gettysburg and the war correspondents who covered the battle.

Among the highlights of the new museum will be the newly restored Gettysburg cyclorama, a 360-degree painting that depicts the key moment of the battle, Pickett's Charge, when Rebel soldiers came close to breaking through the center of the Union army's position on July 3, the last day of the battle. The massive 1884 painting, by Paul Philippoteaux, measures nearly 360 feet long and 27 feet high, and it weighs more than three tons. A team of conservators is repairing extensive damage and adding a missing 14-foot strip to the top of the cyclorama. Foundation spokeswoman Dru Anne Neil said the \$11.2 million project, which will be finished in September of 2008, is the largest art conservation project in America.

On such a historic site, controversy is almost bound to accompany any change. A group of architectural preservationists has sued the park service over its plans to demolish the building that used to house the cyclorama, a striking 1962 concrete structure designed by famed Modernist architect Richard Neutra. The building is on the National Register of Historic Places. "It's too important a structure to demolish and just throw away," said Christine Madrid French, president of the Recent Past Preservation Network, the Arlington, Va., group that filed suit, charging that the park service did not study alternatives such as moving the building. "The building has a lot of life left in it, and a lot to give to people in terms of helping them understand the architecture of the time." But park service officials say the Neutra building never functioned well, citing a leaky roof and inadequate temperature and humidity controls that contributed to the cyclorama's deterioration.

Latschar, the Gettysburg superintendent, said about 970 Union soldiers were killed, captured, or wounded in the area around Neutra's cyclorama building and the current visitor's center, adding to the importance of returning that part of the battlefield to its 1863 condition. No major action took place at the site of the new museum and visitor's center.

Latschar said moving the cyclorama building would be prohibitively expensive, but French said she is getting more detailed proposals from companies that specialize in relocating large buildings. Despite the effort and expense that is being devoted to preserving the battlefield, Gettysburg was included

on the Civil War Preservation Trust's list of the top 10 endangered Civil War sites earlier this year because of what's happening outside the battlefield's boundaries. Housing development is threatening the region's rural character as more people move to the area who commute to Baltimore or Washington.

Saving survivors from the field of battle at Gettysburg

CWi, August 12, 2007

The field desk looked as if it had been cobbled together without much thought of making it attractive. It was strictly functional and probably would not draw much attention at an antique shop. But at the Harpers Ferry conservation lab for the National Park Service, it was treated as a treasured icon: It had belonged to Gen. Robert E. Lee and was most likely used at the Battle of Gettysburg.

Larry Bowers, who specializes in conserving wooden objects, was in charge of the desk.

"It is very modest and fairly crude, but it is what a soldier would have wanted in the field," Bowers said. "It is not high style. The coolest thing about it is that General Lee used it."

The worn and chipped black desk, with its interior pigeonholes for notes and writing paper, will ascend to star status next year when it is prominently displayed in the \$103 million Museum and Visitor Center at Gettysburg National Military Park, scheduled to open in April. The complex will also house the park's 365-foot cyclorama painting and its collection of more than 300,000 objects and artifacts and 700,000 documents.



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National Park Service/The Washington Post

Gen. Robert E. Lee's desk will be on display when the Gettysburg Museum opens next April. The desk recently was restored at the National Park Service's Harpers Ferry conservation lab.

The Gettysburg Foundation, a private, nonprofit educational organization, is raising the funds for the complex, in partnership with the Park Service. Foundation President Robert Wilburn said the museum galleries will be arranged so that a visitor sees the exhibits in the context of the war. The planned galleries include causes of the Civil War, approach to the war, the three days of battle and the Gettysburg Address. "The objects will be displayed in the period in which the event occurred," Wilburn said. "At present, there is no context. Things are just grouped together. We are changing that to help the visitor."

Lee's battered, ink-stained desk will be in Gallery 5, the exhibit area themed "Campaign to Pennsylvania: Testing Whether That Nation Can Long Endure." The gallery names are

taken from phrases Abraham Lincoln used in his famous address.

Bowers said that when conserving the desk and other objects, the plan is never to make them look new or even particularly tidy.

"The idea is to do as little as possible, to be as unobtrusive as possible," he said.

Bowers is used to working with delicate old wood. In his spare time, he is a violin maker.

The desk had been in storage since 1971, when the Park Service purchased the building in Gettysburg — now its museum — and the contents of a private collection housed there. The desk was built in two pieces so it could travel easily in wagons. Bowers gently cleaned the desk, removing dead bugs and old nests but leaving the ink stains and chipped paint. He removed all the metal pieces, cleaned them and coated them with hot microcrystalline wax, a synthetic material, that will keep them from tarnishing.

The desk is ready for exhibit, and Bowers has moved on to conserving a chest of drawers that came from a Gettysburg home and was hit twice by bullets during the battle.

Elsewhere in the lab, conservation on other star attractions for the new museum is taking place. They include the litter that carried the wounded Lt. Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson off the Chancellorsville battlefield, a 34-star flag missing most of its stripes, a decorative apron resembling the U.S. flag and a wooden bed used by Lee in the field. None has been displayed before.

A pocket-size, leather-bound prayer book, which had been exhibited at the Gettysburg museum, also received attention. Pvt. John Cassidy of the 69th Pennsylvania Infantry was defending the Union line along a

stone wall, known now as the Angle, during Pickett's Charge on July 3 when a bullet slammed into the book and his chest, killing him.

Park Service records are not clear about how the little book ended up at the Gettysburg museum, but it is one of the prized possessions. Its cover is darkened by much handling and some edges are worn away. The bullet struck just above the middle, leaving a tunnel in the leather and paper.

Cassidy's prayer book, similar to religious books sold by sutlers at campsites, will have a prominent position in the gallery devoted to the third day of the battle. Nearby will be the spurs Gen. George Pickett wore at Gettysburg.

Excavation of Monitor turret completed at Va. museum

Associated Press, August 7, 2007
NEWPORT NEWS, Va. - Conservators have finished chiseling concreted sand and rust from the inside of the USS Monitor gun turret, which was salvaged from the Civil War shipwreck off Cape Hatteras, N.C., in August 2000.

This summer's final stage of the five-year excavation at The Mariners Museum turned up more than a dozen unexpected artifacts — including silverware, bullets and gun-sight covers—hidden inside the last few inches of concretion.

It also revealed several previously unknown features of the historic turret, including brass fittings for the sight holes drilled through its thick armored walls. "We've literally removed tons of sediment and concretion over the past few years. So, while we expected to make a few finds, we didn't foresee anything like this," museum conservator Dave



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Krop said Friday. "The amount of new information we discovered was really astounding." The 21.5-foot-wide turret is the hallmark feature of the Union ironclad, which made naval history when it clashed with the CSS Virginia--also known as the Merrimack--in the March 9, 1862, Battle of Hampton Roads. Several excavation campaigns have resulted in the removal of not only tons of sediment and concretion but also a set of human remains, hundreds of artifacts and the Monitor's two cannons. The next step is subjecting the walls and roof of the upside-down turret to a long period of anticorrosion treatment with a low-ampere electrical current. "Ideally, you'd like to excavate something like this from start to finish," Krop said. "But for a variety of conservation reasons we had to do it in stages."

Among those reasons was the potentially dangerous structural state of the corroded iron roof, which had to be carefully reinforced, as well as the threat posed by the precariously perched 17,000-pound cannons before they were removed in late 2004.

Unlike most archaeological digs on land, this project required the time-consuming use of hammers and chisels.

"You have to hammer through everything to get at the artifacts. It's very slow and tedious--and sometimes even painful," said Tiffany James, a Monitor National Marine Sanctuary intern who worked inside the turret this summer and in 2006. "But it's really great when you finally get them out and you get to touch something that no one has held in their hands for 145 years." Often stooped over on her hands and

knees, James chiseled away at the rocklike substance for hours, recovering such artifacts as a mechanic's hammer, two gun-sight covers, a hog's hair brush, a small silver spoon and a long steel file. She also exposed numerous previously unseen features of the turret, including two sight holes and their meticulously crafted brass covers.

A Battle Scene's Full Circle

Torched, Torn, Tattered and Trimmed, Massive Painting of Gettysburg Enjoys Restoration and Return to Prominence

By Michael E. Ruane
Washington Post Staff Writer
Sunday, August 12, 2007; C01
Gettysburg, Pa. "Everybody ready?" asks the chief art conservator, David L. Olin.

He pauses for a second, then starts the hoist. With the drone of machinery, a segment of the legendary Gettysburg cyclorama, four stories tall, begins to rise up the wall and back to life.

There, in a corner of the painting, is the famous black dog howling eternally over the body of a slain soldier. Nearby, two men with a stretcher again carry a wounded comrade, whose right arm dangles over the side. In the center, horsemen gallop in the perpetual shadow of battle smoke.

As the canvas clears the floor, it falls into place with a soft whoosh. Applause breaks out among the art conservators and bystanders. There are tears, hugs, whoops and handshakes.

"It's up," says senior conservator Debra Selden of this Gilded Age wonder, an IMAX of its time.

"At last."

The depiction of the Battle of Gettysburg's climactic moment has begun the final stages of its return. The circular oil painting survived 124 years of use and abuse. It has been restored in an \$11.2 million, four-year conservation program and will be the showpiece of a new \$7.5 million building at Gettysburg National Military Park.

Last week, a Great Falls-based firm, Olin Conservation Inc., assisted by a team of Polish cyclorama experts, raised the first of 14 sections of the painting inside the huge new circular structure that will house it.

A gang of conservators -- shoeless to avoid damaging the canvas -- spent all day Wednesday preparing and maneuvering the 26-foot-wide, 950-pound section into place.

At one point, it had to be flipped from its face-down position with a big aluminum roller. It was then hauled up a kind of launching ramp and clamped into the curved steel and oak bracket, or cornice, from which it would hang. Bracket and painting were hoisted to the ceiling with cables and chains.

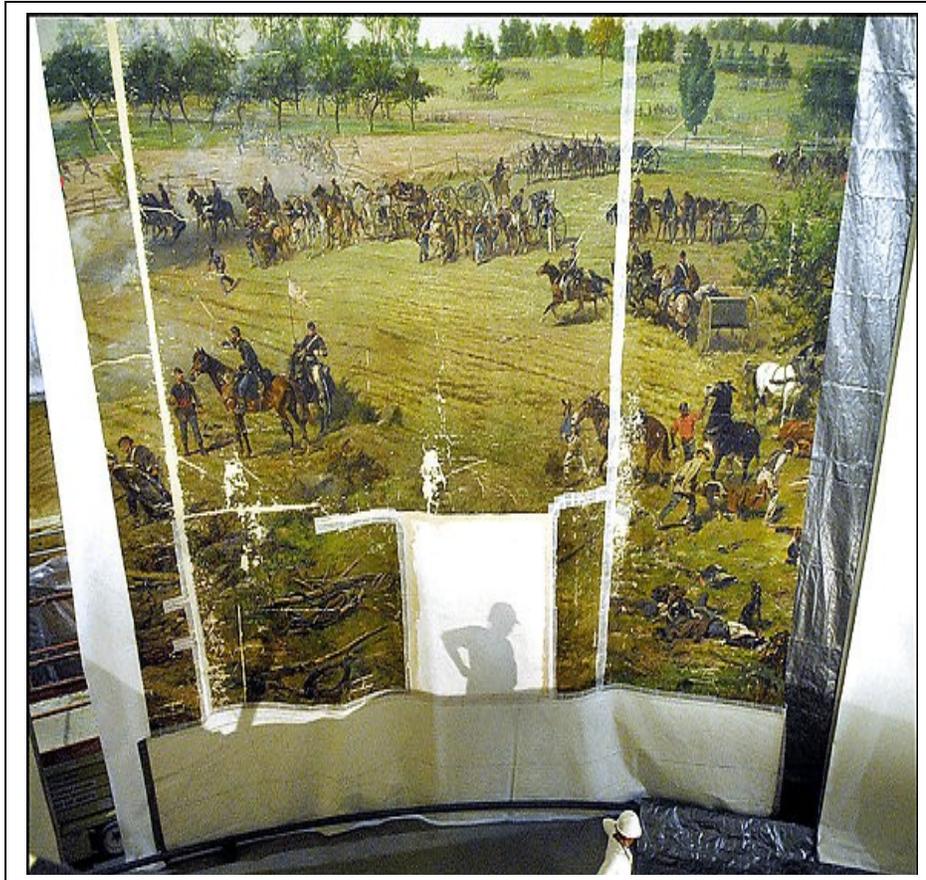
The project is the work of a partnership between the National Park Service, which oversees the battlefield, and a private, nonprofit fundraising organization called the Gettysburg Foundation. The aim is to build a modern museum and visitor complex, restore and re-house the cyclorama, tear down the old visitor buildings nearby and return that landscape to its Civil War-era appearance.

The new \$103 million, barn-red visitor complex, designed to suggest a Pennsylvania farm, is scheduled to open next spring, project officials said.

Work on the cyclorama, including preparation, hanging and assembly of



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the remaining 13 segments, will keep the roughly 377-foot-long canvas closed to the public until fall 2008.

The 1884 painting, executed by French artist Paul Philippoteaux, once hung in pieces in a Newark department store. And until 2005, when it was closed to the public, it had been on display for more than 40 years in the old 1960s-era cyclorama building here.

Last week was a milestone in its often hazardous journey across history.

"This is absolutely incredible," senior paintings conservator Maura Duffy said as the first section was readied for its resurrection. "It's a dream come true."

Maura Duffy walks by the first of the Gettysburg cyclorama's 14 panels to be hung in the battle site's new facility, set to open next year. **Photo Credit:** By Katherine Frey -- The Washington Post

The paintings were big moneymakers and so popular that season tickets were available.

Washington had at least two panorama buildings. One, a round structure about five stories tall, was on 15th Street NW, two blocks south of the Treasury Building. In the 1880s and '90s, crowds gathered there to visit cycloramas of the battles of Gettysburg and Shiloh and the Second Battle of Bull Run.

An old photograph of the building, with the Washington Monument in the distance, shows it emblazoned with

advertisements for the Bull Run painting.

Nine "Gettysburgs" once were on the cyclorama circuit, according to Susan Boardman, museum coordinator for the Gettysburg Foundation and historical consultant on the cyclorama project.

Four were executed by Philippoteaux, she said. The first was installed in Chicago. The one now at Gettysburg was his second and was originally created for Boston.

Philippoteaux did others in 1886 for New York and Philadelphia. The New York version was displayed in Washington's panorama building, according to Boardman.

Philippoteaux's cycloramas were considered fairly accurate and emotionally effective at the time.

"It is simply wonderful," Union Gen. John Gibbon, who had fought in the battle, wrote after seeing the one in Chicago in 1884. "I never before had an idea that the eye could be so deceived by paint (and) canvas."

The cyclorama in Gettysburg includes several historical figures, along with a self-portrait of Philippoteaux, who is shown leaning against a tree with a saber in his hand.

The artist was first hired to produce a Gettysburg cyclorama by Chicago businessman Charles Willoughby, Boardman said. Such paintings were usually executed by teams of artists with certain specialties. One, for example, might be good at painting horses, Boardman said. Another might excel at landscapes or people or faces.

She said in 1881 and 1882, Philippoteaux, then in his mid-30s, visited Gettysburg and hired local photographer William H. Tipton to take pictures of the battlefield. Many of the photographs survive, she said, and depict a pristine battlefield before



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"the monumentation craze" of a few years later.

Philippoteaux also came to Washington to research the battle and examine maps.

He returned to France to start work. Philippoteaux painted a small version of the painting, which shows Pickett's Charge, the main Confederate attack on the last day of the battle, July 3, 1863. Then he set his team to painting a hugely expanded copy.

Boardman said the version now in Gettysburg might have been painted, or at least completed, inside the Boston building where it was to be displayed. "No one knows for sure," she said. His remaining two were painted in the United States.

Only two of the Gettysburg cycloramas are believed to still exist. Besides the one at the battle site, Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC, recently announced the sale to anonymous buyers of what it said was Philippoteaux's first "Gettysburg." The university said a local artist left it to the school when he died in 1996. The artist, Joseph Wallace King, said he had found the painting in 1965 behind a wall in a burned-out Chicago warehouse.

The painting now in Gettysburg has a tangled history. It was taken off exhibit in Boston in 1890. Later it fell on hard times, doomed by the arrival of movies.

It was cut into 27 sections and placed in a 50-foot-long wooden crate in a vacant lot in Boston. There, vandals twice set it afire, and it was exposed to the elements, Boardman said.

In the early 1900s, Albert Hahne, the Newark department store owner, acquired the painting and displayed much of it in his store. Then came the move to Pennsylvania. In 1913, the 50th anniversary of the battle, Hahne and other investors built an unheated,

tile-covered building on Cemetery Hill in Gettysburg and put the painting on display. "And it never left," Boardman said.

The National Park Service, realizing the painting's cultural value, acquired it in 1942 and, with the approach of the 100th battle anniversary in 1963, had it restored and installed in a then-new ultra-modern visitor center/cyclorama building. The 1913 structure on Cemetery Hill was demolished.

But that was nearly a half-century ago. Now the 1960s building has grown ragged and outdated, and it is due to be torn down.

Throughout, the painting has survived -- battered, patched, trimmed, carved up, touched up and now getting new life.

With all that, as conservator Mary Wootton said last week: "It really is a treasure."

Judge OKs Mo. school's ban on clothes with Confederate flag

Ruling: Fears of disruption were reasonable given previous racial incidents

Student Press Law Center,
August 13, 2007

MISSOURI — A federal district court on Friday dismissed a lawsuit filed by three high school students who were punished for wearing Confederate symbols to school. Farmington High School student Bryce Archambo wore a hat in September with a picture of the Confederate flag and the words "C.S.A., Rebel Pride, 1861." School officials made him take off the hat, but Archambo returned the next day wearing a T-shirt and belt buckle with a Confederate flag image and the words "Dixie Classic." He was sent

home after refusing to remove or cover the images. His mother withdrew him from the school that day, and he filed suit against the school district in November.

In January, two other students — identified in the suit only by their initials — also were punished for wearing clothes that contained Confederate images and statements of support for Archambo. Both students joined the suit in March. All three students argued that wearing the Confederate flag is protected expression under the First Amendment.

Officials from the school district argued that the clothes violated the school's dress code, which bans "[d]ress that materially disrupts the educational environment." That language mirrors the legal standard set in *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District*, a 1969 Supreme Court ruling that prohibits public school administrators from suppressing student expression unless the expression would materially disrupt school operations or invade the rights of others.

In dismissing the suit, U.S. District Judge Jean C. Hamilton ruled it was reasonable for Farmington administrators to fear that allowing the students to wear images of the Confederate flag would increase racial tensions and thus materially disrupt the school environment. The decision took note of several racially motivated incidents in the school district the previous year.

"Against this backdrop, the Court cannot conclude that Defendants banned the Confederate flag because of nothing more than 'undifferentiated fear or apprehension of disturbance,'" Hamilton wrote.



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A boom looms for Civil War tourism

The coming 150th anniversary sparks a range of tours that venture beyond the battlefields.

By David Dishneau, Associated Press, August 14, 2007

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 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 Prize 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 is an assortment of tours tailored for virtually every taste. All-In-One Tours and Cruises of Lancaster 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."

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

At the Antietam National Battlefield, just outside the western Maryland hamlet of Sharpsburg, guides are gearing up for next month's 145th anniversary of a clash that left more than 23,000 dead, wounded or missing on Sept. 17, 1862.

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 thought to have invented 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.

Monitor cannon now upright

By Mark St. John Erickson, Newport News Daily Press, August 8, 2007

NEWPORT NEWS - Conservators used two 20-ton hoists and an ingenious doughnut-shaped turning cradle Wednesday to right one of the massive upside-down cannons recovered from the wreck of the USS Monitor in 2000.

The 13-foot-long Dahlgren gun, which weighs about 17,000 pounds, helped the famous Civil War ironclad make naval history when it squared off with the armored CSS Virginia - also known as the Merrimack - in the March 9, 1862 Battle of Hampton Roads.

But not since the ship sank and landed upside down off Cape Hatteras, N.C. at the end of 1862 has either of its two guns lain upright, enabling onlookers to inspect the commemorative post-battle engraving on the top of the barrel.

"It's nice to see it over on the right side," said Gary Paden, an artifact handler at The Mariners' Museum, who helped design the turning rig. "It's been a good long while."



Jeff Johnston, historian of the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, chisels concreted sediment from the roof of the turret. Joe Fudae/Dailv Press photo.



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145th Anniversary Of Historic Battle Of South Mountain

South Mountain State Battlefield Presents "In The Footsteps Of Soldiers"

MD Dept of Natural Resources press release, August 31, 2007

BOONSBORO, MD - For three days in September, South Mountain State Battlefield in Washington County will present "In The Footsteps Of Soldiers", a series of tours and special programming to commemorate the 145th anniversary of the Battle of South Mountain. Each tour focuses on a particular regiment or brigade and guides visitors to positions occupied by troops on the battlefield.

The Battle of South Mountain was the first major battle of the Civil War to take place in Maryland. Fought on September 14, 1862, it happened three days before the more well-known Battle of Antietam fought on September 17, and resulted in more than 6,000 casualties. The one-day battle became a pivotal point in the Maryland Campaign, setting the stage for the Battle of Antietam, the bloodiest single day battle in American history.

"Without South Mountain, there would not have been a Battle of Antietam," said Al Preston, Manager of the South Mountain State Battlefield. "South Mountain State Battlefield was Maryland's first battlefield state park." Several events and tours are scheduled in conjunction with the nearby town of Boonsboro's "Boonsboro Days" celebration and the 145th anniversary re-enactment, entitled "September Storm."

"This is a big weekend for Washington County," said Hagerstown-Washington County

Convention and Visitors Bureau President Tom Riford. "The events happening in Boonsboro and at South Mountain will attract over 10,000 people, and the number of re-enactors alone total over 2,500 people. Our hats are off to the staff and management of South Mountain Battlefield, who are helping bring the entire historical perspective of the weekend together.

South Mountain State Battlefield Anniversary Programs

Saturday, September 8, 2007

9 a.m.

Museum Opens, Cannon Demonstration at Reenactment Site 10 a.m.

Walking Tour to Monument at the Washington Monument State Park 11 a.m.

Battle Overview Talk at the Museum 12 a.m.

Civil War Medical Museum Presentation at the Museum

1 p.m.

Civil War Artillery Demonstration on the Field in Front of Museum 1 p.m.

"Death of a Brigade," Afternoon Battle Tour of Fox's Gap.

(Meet at the parking lot at Fox's Gap.) 2 p.m.

Battle Overview Talk at the Museum 3 p.m.

Sunday, September 9, 2007

10 a.m.

Walking Tour to Monument at the Washington Monument State Park 11 a.m.

Civil War Artillery Demonstration on the Field in Front of Museum 12 a.m.

Battle Overview Talk at the Museum 1 p.m.

Civil War Artillery Demonstration at the Field in Front of Museum

Details emerge on Harrisburg Museum's deal with Google

BY JERRY L. GLEASON, The Patriot-News, August 27, 2007

When Gen. Robert E. Lee's Confederate army invaded Pennsylvania in 1863, the military campaign touched the lives of hundreds of Pennsylvania residents in small towns, in their homes and on their farms.

Their stories will be told in two tourism projects involving the Google Earth Project -- the Pennsylvania Tourism Office and The National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg.

"This is a deeper immersion into the Civil War, beyond battlefields and generals and into the lives of the people living in Pennsylvania at the time," said Lenwood Sloan of the Pennsylvania Tourism Office.

"People know what happened on the battlefield in Gettysburg, but they don't know about the civilian experience.

"This program, which we are calling 'The Pennsylvania Civil War Trail: Prelude to Gettysburg,' is for the casual traveler who likes history ... and cultural explorers who travel through small towns and on back roads as well as the serious Civil War enthusiast," Sloan said.

Historical markers, including Civil War period photos and a narrative, will be placed at 56 locations from Waynesboro to Harrisburg.

The Google Earth part, which combines the power of an Internet search with satellite imagery and maps, will provide panoramic images and detailed closeup views of the sites.

James Schmick, a Civil War buff who is a member of the Camp Curtin



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Historical Society and Civil War Round Table and owner of a Mechanicsburg bookstore, "Civil War and More," said the project can only be a plus for Pennsylvania. The society has assisted with research for the project, he said.

"The Pennsylvania trail will hook up with Civil War trails in Virginia and Maryland, and let people know what is available in Pennsylvania," Schmick said.

Jeb Stuart, secretary of the National Civil War Museum, said the museum is providing the Civil War period imaging and stories for the markers.

Many of the sites are unmarked, making them difficult to find for anyone other than serious Civil War buffs, Stuart said.

"The purpose is to promote Civil War sites north of the Mason-Dixon Line," Stuart said. "We will capture the every-day life stories of what happened in Pennsylvania during this period in American history."

Markers will be placed in places such as Fleming Farm, just outside Greencastle, where Confederate and Union soldiers first clashed in Pennsylvania; Mary Ritner's Boarding House in Chambersburg, where John Brown stayed in 1859 before his raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Va.; and Monterey Pass near Waynesboro, where the second-largest battle of the campaign was fought by 10,000 soldiers during the Confederate retreat.

The Civil War museum will work with the Ben Franklin Technology Partners to provide the photographic and imaging technology on Google Earth. The museum has received \$350,000 for the project, with \$285,000 coming from the Ben Franklin Technology Partners and the remainder from the state's Pennsylvania Dutch Country Roads tourism promotion initiative.

Local images on Google Earth will include Civil War sites, such as Camp Curtin and the Broad Street Market, which provided food to soldiers at the camp. It will also show the city skyline, baseball stadium, Market Square, Reservoir Park, and other sites.

"The first marker is already in place, in Market Square in downtown Harrisburg," Stuart said. "This is an introductory marker, introducing the Civil War trail."

Lexington comes up short in race to relocate Confederate museum

Proposals to the Museum of the Confederacy appear to have revealed several other tourism possibilities.

By Jay Conley, Roanoke Times, August 24, 2007

Despite months of trying to lure the world's largest collection of Civil War artifacts to town, Lexington is not at the top of a list of localities being considered for the Museum of the Confederacy's relocation.

"They are on the short list but not at the top of the short list," said Waite Rawls, the museum's executive director.

Since January, Lexington and Rockbridge County officials have worked to broker a deal to renovate the old Rockbridge County Courthouse in historic downtown Lexington as a new home for the museum.

The museum announced in October that it wants to move from its cramped quarters in downtown Richmond in order to build a larger facility and avoid further expansion of the neighboring Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine.

Initially, museum officials indicated that Lexington, home to the burial sites of Confederate Gens. Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, as well as Washington and Lee University and Virginia Military Institute, would be a good location. The city's proximity to Interstate 81 and a range of other Civil War sites in central Virginia were considered assets that would help draw tourists to Lexington and make the museum successful if it were to locate there.

In April, the museum sought relocation proposals from about 10 localities, including Lexington. The museum wanted to know what facilities and financial incentives the localities would be willing to offer to attract the museum and its promise of tourism dollars.

That information apparently has opened the eyes of museum officials to a range of tourism possibilities throughout the state.

Rawls won't say which localities are being considered or which one is the top contender. Lexington is the only community that has publicly acknowledged an interest in attracting the museum. The other localities have preferred to negotiate privately with the museum.

"We're continuing to have conversations with a whole bunch of people, learning a lot more than we knew before about various visitation patterns in the state of Virginia," Rawls said. "Most of which are pretty encouraging."

Rawls said the museum's board of directors is still on track to negotiate an agreement for a new site by fall.

Lexington's proposal was submitted by the Rockbridge Area Tourism Board after being approved by both the Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors and the Lexington City Council. It spelled out how the



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museum could locate its collection of 14,000 artifacts in the old courthouse and surrounding buildings on Main Street.

The proposal laid out a scenario for renovating the courthouse and creating a public-private partnership to get tax incentives to attract the museum.

Supporters of the museum say Lexington and the Rockbridge County area stand to collect an estimated \$1 million annually in tax revenue from the tourist spending that the museum is expected to generate.

Others say the Confederate-themed museum is synonymous with promoting slavery and would be unwelcome in Lexington.

The museum's cramped quarters in Richmond can only display about 10 percent of the collection at a time. A lack of parking and nearby restaurants also has been a concern.

Lincoln may have had facial defect

By CARLA K. JOHNSON, Associated Press, Aug 13, 2007

CHICAGO - Artists, sculptors and photographers knew Abraham Lincoln's face had a good side. Now it's confirmed by science. Laser scans of two life masks, made from plaster casts of Lincoln's face, reveal the 16th president's unusual degree of facial asymmetry, according to a new study.

The left side of Lincoln's face was much smaller than the right, an aberration called cranial facial microsomia. The defect joins a long list of ailments — including smallpox, heart illness and depression — that modern doctors have diagnosed in Lincoln.

Lincoln's contemporaries noted his left eye at times drifted upward independently of his right eye, a

condition now termed strabismus. Lincoln's smaller left eye socket may have displaced a muscle controlling vertical movement, said Dr. Ronald Fishman, who led the study published in the August issue of the Archives of Ophthalmology.

Severe strabismus leads to double vision and can be treated today by surgery.

"Lincoln noticed double vision only occasionally and it did not bother him a great deal," said Fishman, a retired Washington, D.C., ophthalmologist and history buff.

Most people's faces are asymmetrical, Fishman said, but Lincoln's case was extreme, with the bony ridge over his left eye rounder and thinner than the right side, and set backward.

Lincoln's appearance was mocked by his political enemies, historians say. The author Nathaniel Hawthorne, a Lincoln fan, wrote of the president's "homely sagacity" and his "sallow, queer, sagacious visage." Hawthorne's description was deemed disrespectful and deleted by a magazine editor, said Daniel Weinberg, owner of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop in Chicago.

Mount Rushmore sculptor Gutzon Borglum described the left side of Lincoln's face as primitive, immature and unfinished.

When Lincoln was a boy, he was kicked in the head by a horse. Laser scans can't settle whether the kick or a developmental defect — or neither — contributed to Lincoln's lopsided face, Fishman said.

The scanning technique is usually used to create 3-D images of children with cleft lip and palate before and after surgery. Fishman teamed up with Dr. Adriana Da Silveira, an Austin, Texas, orthodontist who specializes in children with facial

defects, to scan a bronze and a plaster copy of two life masks, owned by the Chicago History Museum.

Life masks were in vogue in the 1860s, said James Cornelius, curator at the Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Ill.

Lincoln cooperated with sculptors to make them twice, in 1860 before his first presidential nomination, and in 1865, two months before his assassination. Lincoln probably did it for political purposes more than posterity, Cornelius said.

"It's the equivalent of TV face time now," Cornelius said.

One-ton Lincoln bust to stay in Gettysburg

By MATT CASEY, Hanover Evening Sun, August 18, 2007

A bust of Abraham Lincoln will not be making a journey to the train station where the president changed trains on the way to Gettysburg, but will instead make a shorter trip to the station where he arrived in town.

The National Park Service had offered the nearly one-ton stone bust to York County because the Park Service is restoring the Wills House as a museum, and plans have visitors enter through the York Street door where the Lincoln bust stood.

Lincoln slept at the Wills House the night before delivering the Gettysburg Address.

York County officials thought it would be appropriate to place the bust at Hanover Junction in North Codorus Township, where Lincoln changed trains.

But the 70-inch statue carved by York sculptor Joe Kelly will instead move to Gettysburg's recently restored Lincoln Train Station.

Tina Grim, a board member of the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, said the fellowship bought the bust for the Wills House in 1981, and it stood



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there until the Park Service removed it for the renovation.

The Park Service thought the statue was abandoned property, Grim said, but the fellowship still technically owns it.

When members of the fellowship read that the Park Service planned to ship the bust to York County, they decided to assert their ownership.

"We really wanted to keep the bust in Gettysburg," Grim said.

Grim said the fellowship is in the process of transferring ownership of the bust to the National Trust for Historic Gettysburg, which has its office at the train station.

The trust will display the bust at the train station, Grim said, which is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Grim said Tuesday that the officials handling the transfer in York County had not yet been informed, but that she visited Hanover Junction and discovered that it already has a bust of Lincoln.

Philadelphia Civil War museum moving to new historic location

By RUBINA MADAN, Associated Press, August 8, 2007

PHILADELPHIA - The oldest Civil War museum in the country will be moving from a downtown row house to a classic colonial building close to Independence Hall, museum officials announced Tuesday.

The Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum of Philadelphia is slated to reopen in 2010 at its new location, the site of the former First Bank of the United States.

The museum was founded in 1888 and has been tucked away in a four-story house since 1922. Formerly known as the Civil War Library and Museum, it was reborn in 2003 with

an emphasis on the Underground Railroad.

Mayor John F. Street presented museum officials with a check for \$1.2 million, putting them closer to their goal of raising \$25 million for its relocation.

The museum's board had been trying to secure a new home for years. In 2003, it failed to get a spot in the 131-year-old Memorial Hall, which is being renovated to house a children's museum.

The move follows years of litigation and funding woes. At one point, there was a possibility parts of the museum's collection would be moved to Richmond, Va., the former capital of the Confederacy.

Abraham Lincoln impersonator Christian Johnson began Tuesday's ceremony in the high-ceiling atrium of the former bank with re-enactors from the Third U.S. Colored Infantry Regiment.

"What a historic day this is," Johnson said. "I'm pleased to see the Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum ... will move here in just a few years to this majestic building."

The First Bank of the United States, built in the 1790s, is much closer to the city's well-known tourist sites, such as Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, than the museum's cramped building near Rittenhouse Square. The National Park Service describes the bank building on its Web site as "probably the first important building with a classic facade of marble to be erected in the United States."

The museum says it has the largest Civil War collection in private hands, including about 3,000 artifacts, 7,000 photographs, hundreds of pieces of art and a 10,000-volume library.

Its board of governors had reorganized and expanded in 2003

with the vision to develop a larger, more visible location for the museum, said E. Harris Baum, chairman of the board.

"We're going to have a different kind of museum that isn't just about Gettysburg or Antietam," Baum said. "This museum is going to be about people, Philadelphians, living in this area during the Civil War."