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Army Support Ship Robert Smalls Commissioned

On 15 September 2007 the USAV MG Robert Smalls was commissioned at the Inner Harbor in Baltimore. Most of us think of the Navy when we think of ships, but the U.S. Army and Army Reserve have a significant inventory of vessels to support waterborne operations in both "brown water" (near shore) and "blue water" (off shore) operations. The U.S. Army Logistical Support Vessel Major General Robert Smalls (LSV8) was launched 21 April 2004 at Moss Point, Mississippi, and became the first vessel to bear the name of an African American and the first to be named for a Civil War hero. It is also the Army's largest powered watercraft, designed to transport 2,000 short tons of cargo from strategic sealift ships to shore during operations. The Robert Smalls will be at home in Curtis Bay.

In the early morning hours of May 13, 1862, Robert Smalls, a 23-year old mulatto slave pilot, commandeered the Planter, a 147' Confederate transport steamer, from Charleston harbor. With his wife Hannah, his two children, and 12 other slaves aboard he gave the correct whistle signal as he passed the rebel forts in the harbor. He sailed to Onward, the nearest Union blockading vessel, and surrendered. It is said that as the ship came alongside, Robert Smalls, elegantly dressed, raised his hat and called out, "Good morning, sir! I've brought you some of the old United States guns, sir!"

A Congressional bill signed by President Lincoln awarded prize money to Smalls and his associates. In August, Maj. Gen. David Hunter,

commander of the Department of the South, and Brig. Gen. Rufus Saxton sent Smalls and missionary Mansfield French to meet Lincoln and Secretary of War Stanton. They were requesting permission to recruit 5,000 black troops; permission was soon granted. Abolitionists sent Smalls, his wife and son Robert, Jr., on a speaking tour of New York to raise support for the Union cause. There Smalls was presented an engraved gold medal "by the colored citizens of New York on October 2, 1862, as a token of their regard for his heroism, his love of liberty, and his patriotism". Because the Navy had difficulty supplying wood for the Planter's engines, the ship was transferred to the Army on September 10, 1862. Robert Smalls was transferred to the command of the Army as a civilian employee on March 1, 1863. On April 7, 1863, Union monitors attacked Fort Sumter. Smalls piloted the ironclad Keokuk, which engaged the fort for 30 minutes. Keokuk, within 600 yards of the fort, was hit 90 times, 19 at or below the waterline. It sank the next morning, moments after the crew was rescued by a tug. In December 1863 Smalls was piloting Planter when it came under intense crossfire. Capt. Nickerson ordered the ship beached and hid below. Smalls disobeyed the order and brought Planter to safety. Maj. Gen. Gilmore, who saw the action, dismissed Nickerson and appointed Smalls captain -- the first black captain of a vessel in the service of the United States.

Smalls served in the South Carolina House of Representatives 1868 - 70, and the State Senate 1870 - 74. From 1875 - 86 Smalls served five terms in the U.S. Congress. With one break in service, Smalls was U.S. Collector of Customs 1889 - 1911 in

Beaufort, SC. During that time he lived as owner in the house where he had been a slave. Born April 5, 1839, Smalls died February 23, 1915. The Robert Smalls House is now one of 1,200 National Historic Landmarks. --- with thanks to Lt. Col. (Ret) Kyle Leggs, USAR.



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How Ed Bearss Got Shot

Historian ED Bearss was severely wounded on the Island of New Britain during WWII. Ed is one of the speakers this month. In honor of his service and recognizing that Ken Burns "The War" is bringing new recognition to the veterans of that war, I have been encouraged to reprint the article below.

His life changed forever at a place in the Pacific dubbed "Suicide Creek." A Marine in World War II, Edwin C. Bearss went on to be one of the most respected historians and sought-after battlefield guides in the nation. He is credited with locating and helping to raise one of the most significant artifacts of the Civil War, the ironclad gunboat Cairo. Referred to by many as a national treasure and acclaimed as one of the stars of Ken Burns's award-winning PBS series, *The Civil War*, the historian emeritus of the National Park Service will address the Civil War Round Table March 14 on Gettysburg and New Britain Island: The Plight of Casualties in the Civil War and in the Pacific in World War II.

"Of course, what I remember most is the day I got shot. It was on 2 January in 1944. The 3d Battalion 7th Marines in which I was a member of L Company, 2d Platoon and the 3d Battalion 5th Marines were to do a sweep in front of the lines at Cape Gloucester on New Britain," said Bearss.

"The creek itself is probably 10-15 feet wide. We don't know at the time the Japanese have dug their pillboxes into the side of the bank, on the opposite side, just below the lip. We can see several Japanese soldiers. We don't know whether they're decoys or what, but they seem oblivious to our approach. We check with the squad leader, who says, "Open fire!" So we open fire on them. Within a minute or less, all hell breaks loose. They are using the heavy Hotchkiss type, 7.7, the same as the French Army used in World War I. It feeds by a clip of about 30 rounds, and it has a rather slow cyclic rate of fire. We start to move down off the lip and down the creek bank."

"The slope is probably about 45°. I'm on my haunches when all of a sudden the gun immediately opposite me, about 35 yards off, starts firing. He's firing to my left and already getting hits. The first bullet hits me in the left elbow. It feels like a sledgehammer. Probably fortunately, it pulls me somewhat to the left. The next round hits me in the right shoulder and lodges in my chest at about the tenth rib. In a matter of about five minutes, our squad alone is going to have five killed and six wounded, one of whom will subsequently die."



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Ed says, "How did I get out? I'm lying downhill on the creek bank, and I don't know whether I have a left arm below the elbow, because it's twisted around, and it's numb. I know the shoulder wound does no nerve damage, because I can see the bullet hole there. So I lay there a while. Corpsman Hartman inches around and gives me a shot of morphine. There, they put me on a stretcher and just like you see them doing in the stills from World War II. And then, assuming that everybody smoked, which I didn't, the poor corpsman sticks a cigarette in my mouth. So I have to spit it out. The stretcher bearers have to haul me probably a half-mile to the regimental aide station, they strip me. Since I'm shot in both the lower and upper extremities, I'm in the same condition as when I came into this world: nude."

"I stay in the regimental aide station for two-and-a-half days. By that time shock has set in and I have very little memory of it. Probably the worst smell I ever smelled in my life, some guys haven't had a bandage changed in two-and-a-half, three days, like me. Nothing stinks like blood. Then I go to an evac hospital, which would be like a division hospital in the Civil War under Union surgeon Jonathan Letterman's plan. There they clean me up and put me in plaster of Paris casts that they used at that time." Ed has since become interested in tracing how similar and how dissimilar the medical experience was between the Civil War and World War II. "First, in the Civil War I probably would have died of shock. But the plasma took care of that. To the lesser extreme, I would have lost my left arm in the Civil War and probably my right arm, too," says Bearss.

Antietam museum receives original Civil War medal

By Karen Gardner, Frederick News-Post, September 16, 2007
An original Medal of Honor given to a Vermont man for his actions during the Battle of South Mountain will be donated to the museum at Antietam National Battlefield.

The medal belonged to 1st Lt. George W. Hooker, 4th Vermont Infantry. He was given the country's highest honor for the single-handed capture of 116 Confederate soldiers and their colors at the Battle of Crampton's Gap on Sept. 14, 1862.

Henry Willard, a direct descendent of Hooker will present the medal to park superintendent John Howard.

Local author John Schildt will discuss the spirit of sacrifice of fighting service members in wars. Antietam historian Ted Alexander will speak on the Medal of Honor in the Civil War and the Maryland Campaign. His talk will cover the other medals awarded at Antietam.

Senator Byrd on board for preservation of battlefield

By BOB ZIMBEROFF / Martinsburg Journal, September 20, 2007

CHARLES TOWN — A battlefield preservation group's efforts received an important boost in June when legislation calling on the National Park Service to conduct a study of the Battle of Shepherdstown was put before Congress.

The announcement by Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va. came on Sept. 12, just eight days before the 145th anniversary of the Civil War battle that occurred Sept. 20, 1862 and

which closed the fighting of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's Maryland campaign that climaxed days earlier at Antietam.

The study will help determine the national significance of the Shepherdstown battlefield and is the first step in creating a National Civil War Battlefield Park.

"West Virginia is home to many great landmarks that are a significant part of our nation's history," Byrd stated in the news release. "I am pleased to be working with the Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association to help initiate this National Park Service study."

Edward Dunleavy is the president of SBPA, which has about 130 active members.

"To get someone of Sen. Byrd's stature to go to the effort to help us in doing what we're doing is immeasurable," Dunleavy said. "It certainly, from a political standpoint, gives us credibility, and that's an important factor in what we're trying to do."

In October 2004, the group that became SBPA got its start when about 35 people met in the kitchen of Dunleavy's home, which is on the site of the battlefield, to talk about plans by Maryland-based developer, Wind Song Homes, to build 152 homes on 122 acres at Faraway Farm, where the thick of the 1862 battle took place. The red brick, 200-year-old Faraway farmhouse still has a cannon ball lodged in its side. To date, SBPA has fought the development through various means and Dunleavy hopes to eventually purchase the property for preservation.

The Faraway Farm property lies within a 300-acre tract of land that the SBPA and other historical preservation organizations have



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targeted as the most important part of the battlefield.

"The battle took place over probably a square mile," Dunleavy said. "Most of the action took place on the west side of Trough Road."

Dunleavy estimates that there are probably seven homes on the 300 acres along Trough Road now. Since 2004, SBPA has raised \$644,000 and has secured 84 acres of the core battlefield property through conservation easements. Dunleavy said 18 more acres can't be developed any further and the Save Historic Antietam Foundation is attempting to purchase 13 acres of what was the Boteler Cement Mill. The Cement Mill property lies parallel to the Potomac near where Union troops crossed the river at Boteler's Ford, which is also known as Pack Horse Ford. The mill started operations in 1829 to provide natural cement for the construction of the C&O Canal.

Union troops deployed on the mill property to advance on the Confederate Army as it retreated from Antietam. Confederate forces eventually pushed the Union troops back, causing some of the Union soldiers to leap from high bluffs near the mill property and the river. Roughly 9,000 troops fought in the battle and about 640 were killed, wounded or missing.



Edward Dunleavy, president of the Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association, explains part of the 1862 Battle of Shepherdstown, Tuesday at the site of the old Boteler Cement Mill which was constructed in 1829. During the Civil War, Union troops advanced and retreated through the site. (Journal photo by [Bob Zimmeroff](#))

While the National Park Service will assess the land's historic value, Dunleavy has no doubt the battlefield is important.

"Dispatches that Robert E. Lee sent to (Confederate President) Jefferson Davis," Dunleavy said, "they clearly indicate that he intended to continue the Maryland campaign."

The Maryland campaign was the first Confederate attack on Union soil during the Civil War. After Antietam, Lee retreated back into Virginia with hopes of entering Maryland again. At Shepherdstown, which was still part of Virginia at the time, he saw the Union forces as unusually aggressive and decided to retreat farther into Virginia, changing the course of history.

Confederacy's past may be part of Fort Monroe's future

A Richmond-based museum proposes adding its branch to the fort's post-military site.

BY MATTHEW STURDEVANT, Daily Press.com, September 21, 2007

FORT MONROE - Plans for the future of Fort Monroe could include an 8,000-square-foot branch of the Museum of the Confederacy. S. Waite Rawls III, president of the Museum of the Confederacy, on Thursday unveiled a vision to expand the Richmond museum by opening branches at Appomattox, Chancellorsville and at Fort Monroe. He presented the proposal to the Fort Monroe Federal Area Development

Authority, the panel overseeing Fort Monroe's future after the Army leaves the post in 2011 as part of the military's Base Realignment and Closure plan. Rawls said the museum has misperceptions and its visitors are "not the redneck in the pickup truck with the T-shirt on that you might think of."

Visitors to the Confederacy museum are "well-educated, retired, married couples who are history buffs," Rawls said. About two-thirds of visitors come from outside Virginia, which means they typically spend money visiting restaurants and hotels - a tourism component that could be important to Fort Monroe's future. The Confederacy museum would have some artifacts permanently housed at Fort Monroe and some that would rotate with the other branches around the state. Artifacts include the anchor of the CSS Virginia and the flag of the CSS Shenandoah, a Confederate ship stationed off the Pacific coast whose crew was unaware that the Civil War had ended months before they attacked Massachusetts whaling ships near Alaska.

Before the Fort Monroe authority decides whether to bring in artifacts from various museums, it will hold a symposium - to be scheduled in the next six months - to make sure the fort's history is presented with balance and accuracy. The idea is to bring in experts in African-American history, Union history and Confederate history. The experts will collaborate at a symposium and offer a comprehensive plan for a museum campus, said Conover Hunt, the authority's interim executive director. "It's gonna take a big village to tell this story accurately," Hunt said. Hunt asked the board for permission to seek out experts for the



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symposium, likely eight to 10 people. "The key here is balance," Hunt said, adding that the African-American element must have a role equal to that of the Confederacy and the Union.

Experts could include professors and people working in public-history education. Hunt said she has spoken with University of Virginia professor Erwin L. Jordan Jr., who specializes in African-American history, about finding qualified experts for the symposium.

The history of Fort Monroe will be the primary draw for tourists once it is no longer an active military base, Hunt said. For this reason, it's important the authority consider teaming with groups that own the artifacts. War artifacts at Fort Monroe belong to the Army, and the Army will take them when it leaves. However, a museum at Fort Monroe could borrow Army artifacts and display them if it has proper curators and others to take care of the materials, said Charles H. Cureton, the Army's chief of museums and historic property. Cureton was at the authority's monthly meeting Thursday to talk about a partnership with the future museum, or museums, at Fort Monroe.

He gave an overview of the Army's mission and its artifacts, about 750,000 estimated at roughly \$1 billion. Cureton also spoke of the possibility that Fort Monroe could be a military historic site second only to Washington, D.C.

"What complex would be larger?" Cureton said.

Man's best friend went off to war, too

By SHIRLEY FARRIS JONES,
Murfreesboro Post, September 17,
2007

Ever since their domestication in very early times, dogs have been the companions of man nearly as long as there have been men. They have accompanied their masters in sport and play, at work, and off to war. We honor those we respect and admire by often times naming something in their honor – i.e., towns, roads, bridges and dogs. "Stonewall Jackson," a little mutt found on a battlefield in Virginia and adopted by Confederate troops, was a good example of this. My two Cairn Terriers are "Morgan" and "Mattie." And with my first dog, a little Spitz, I chose to share my middle name, but I was only 6 and less creative then. Although I could find no documented records of the canines of our county accompanying their masters onto the battlefield, there is no doubt that when the brave men of our area went off to war, many of them took their four-legged best friends along, – both for companionship and as a connection to home. They endured the hardships of war along with their masters, and were just as cold, just as hungry, just as thirsty, and just as scared as the men they followed so loyally. They were victims, and casualties, and experienced the horrors and suffering of war as did their human counterparts. Dogs have feelings, too! They suffered and bled and died on the battlefield -- but they knew not why.

Although there were official records kept as to the number of casualties of horses, over 1,000,000 of them!, there is no known record of canine casualties during this time. There is numerous mention of dogs in soldiers diaries and letters, and many are included along with soldiers in Civil War photographs, but few appear in any official war records and reports. Luckily, some of these heroic deeds

of dogs were noted and have survived the ages as legends and folklore.

Like the men and women of that most difficult time in our nation's history, dogs served in various ways and went far beyond their normal boundaries as pets and companions. Here are some of their stories, and as these extraordinary doggies accompanied their soldier buddies from one battlefield to another, it is altogether possible that perhaps one or more of them might have "walked the walk" at Stones River. And it is also possible that there are other stories yet untold, lost to history and time that are just as noteworthy as these.

DOGS WERE SPIES!

It took a very courageous man, woman or dog to undertake the very dangerous job of spying! Getting information behind enemy lines could result in death, or a fate equally as bad. One brave pair who defied the odds in supplying valuable information to the Confederates was a lady known only as "Mrs. M" and her "fat little dog."

Gen. Pierre Gustave T. Beauregard, CSA, had been eagerly and anxiously awaiting information regarding Union troop movements and positions. When the beautiful "Mrs. M." arrived, she was warmly greeted. As was her pet dog, following closely behind, which Beauregard stooped down and petted affectionately. The dog's fur was coarse and springy, and the fat little dog wagged its tail in gratitude at the General's touch.

"Mrs. M." said to the General, "I have the report with me but it was hard to get it through Union lines. Once I was stopped and they searched me thoroughly." The general knew the feisty "Mrs. M." would not readily submit to having her person or



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belongings searched, but she was obviously quite pleased with the success of her mission. She then asked the general to borrow his knife and Beauregard watched in horrified disbelief when she bent over her little pet and plunged the knife into the dog's side. But the dog was still wagging its tail, gazing with love into its mistress' face as "Mrs. M." sawed away at the fake fur skin she had sewn around the dog's middle. "Mrs. M." handed Gen. Beauregard the report ingeniously hidden underneath the dog's second coat of fur

DOGS DIED FOR THE CAUSE ALONG WITH THEIR MASTERS!

Confederate guns east of Gettysburg opened fire against the Union enemy on Culp's Hill. When the smoke cleared, the Union soldiers could see that their return fire had repulsed the Confederates, who had retired out of range. There were many Rebel dead and wounded scattered along the hillside, among them a small dog thought to be the mascot of the 1st Maryland. He was limping among them on three legs as though looking for his master or perhaps seeking an explanation for the tragedy he had just witnessed. Union Brigadier General Thomas Kane wrote of the scene: "He licked someone's hand after being perfectly riddled with bullets. Regarding him as the only Christian-minded being on either side, I ordered him to be honorably buried."

DOGS WERE REGIMENTAL MASCOTS!

The 104th Ohio Infantry was known as the "barking dog regiment" because the men had at least three canine mascots. Colonel, Teaser, and Harvey were all veteran soldier dogs in this regiment, but the bull terrier Harvey was a special favorite. Harvey's dog tag was inscribed with

the words, "I am Lieutenant D.M. Stearns dog. Whose dog are you?" According to Marcus S. McLemore, a descendant of a member of the 104th Ohio, Harvey was wounded at least twice, once in Virginia and then again in the Battle of Franklin in November of 1864.

Unlike so many brave Confederate soldiers, Harvey survived and recovered nicely from his wounds. On the battlefield, Harvey apparently had an ear for music. The men said that the dog swayed from side to side when they sang campfire songs. At one time, Harvey proudly posed with the regimental band.

After the war, the men of the 104th had Harvey's portrait painted for display at reunions and Harvey's image was also incorporated into keepsake buttons.



DOGS WERE GUARDIANS OF THEIR BELOVED MASTERS

Mrs. Louis PfiEFF, like many other widows of Union soldiers killed in the Battle of Shiloh, had traveled all the way from Chicago to Tennessee to find her dear husband's dead body and take it back home. Travel was hard in 1862, especially for a lady traveling alone, but Mrs. PfiEFF was

determined that her husband's remains should be returned to his home for reburial.

When she arrived at the battlefield, she searched tirelessly among the markers of the thousands of hastily dug graves of the Union troops who had died during the two days of fierce fighting on April 6 and 7. Casualties numbered 10,000 on each side, she had been told, but she cared about only one – that of Lieutenant Louis PfiEFF of the 3rd Illinois Infantry. At the end of the day, Mrs. PfiEFF was about to give up – no one had been able to direct her to the grave of her husband. Discouraged and grief stricken, the tired widow looked up from the burial field and saw a large dog coming toward her. As it approached, Mrs. PfiEFF recognized her own dog, the one that her husband had taken with him when he left Illinois. The dog seemed pleased to see her and she knelt and tearfully hugged it, burying her face in its fur. When at last Mrs. PfiEFF stood, the dog began to move away from her, looking back at her from time to time, wanting her to follow. The dog led the widow to a distant part of the burial field and stopped before a single unmarked grave that stood apart from the others. Trusting that the dog had led her to her husband, Mrs. PfiEFF requested that the grave be opened. Sure enough, the grave contained the remains of Lt. PfiEFF.

Later, the widow learned that the dog had been by PfiEFF's side when he was shot, and had remained at his master's burial site for 12 days, leaving his post only long enough to get food and drink.

DOGS WERE POWs

Among the photographs that hang in the Allegheny County Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh is a faded image of a black and white



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dog with a woebegone look that is not at all representative of his battlefield bravery. This feisty bull terrier named Jack became legend in his own time. Dog Jack raced across battlefields in Virginia and Maryland with his regiment, the Volunteer Firemen of Niagara, Pennsylvania. His comrades claimed that Jack understood bugle calls, and that after a battle he could be counted upon to help search out the dead and wounded of his regiment.

According to a regimental historian, Jack was wounded at the battle of Malvern Hill, but recovered and was captured by the Confederates at Savage's Station. Somehow, he escaped. Jack survived the battle of Antietam on Sept. 17, 1862, the bloodiest day of the war, in which over 23,000 were killed, missing or wounded.

Jack's luck appeared to be running out when he was severely wounded at Fredericksburg three months later, but his companions nursed him back to health. Then, at Salem Church, he was taken prisoner by the Confederates for the second time. Six months later, at Belle Isle, Jack was exchanged according to wartime protocol, Yankee prisoner traded for Confederate prisoner.

The spirited terrier rejoined his regiment and stayed with them through the Battle of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania campaigns and the siege of Petersburg. Jack's regiment was so grateful for his service and companionship that they collected enough money to purchase a beautiful silver collar, worth \$75, which they ceremoniously presented to their canine friend in tribute to Jack's indomitable spirit and scrappy character.

On the evening of Dec. 23, 1864, Jack disappeared from his regiment,

which was on furlough at Frederick, Md. His final disappearance, like his life, is also the stuff of legend, for although the men looked all over for their dog-gone mascot; Jack had simply vanished and was never seen or heard from again.

DOGS WERE WELL TRAINED MILITARY MUTTS!

During the summer of 1862, there was some pretty fierce fighting near and around Richmond, Virginia. During a lull in one such battle, a Confederate artillerist rubbed the smoke out of his eyes and when his vision cleared, he saw a small puppy waddling out of the woods, making its way to the line of cannoneers of the Richmond Howitzer Battalion. The frightened little puppy was white, with black spots mixed in its short hair, and it ran right up to the surprised artillerist, who scooped him up and out of harm's way. The puppy was almost immediately named "Stonewall Jackson" in honor of the beloved commanding general. Stonewall grew and thrived in the camp with the men of the artillery. He became especially attached to the chief of the gun crew, Sergeant Van, who taught Stonewall the fine points of soldiering. Van taught the dog to stand at attention clenching a little pipe between its teeth. Then, just before roll call, Van took the pipe from the dog's mouth and inserted it between the toes of the dog's forepaw. During roll call, Stonewall dropped his paw to his side and stood straight and stiff at attention, eyes front, until the company was dismissed.

Stonewall, like his namesake, was very brave during battle, dashing about wildly, barking whenever there was a lull in the shooting. But the men worried about the little dog's safety during battle, and quite often

when the artillery came under fire, someone would put him in an ammunition box out of danger. Stonewall was never wounded. Like his namesake, as well, canine Stonewall's reputation for intelligence and bravery spread through the Army of Northern Virginia. He was much loved by the men of both the Richmond Howitzer Battalion and the Louisianans of Brigadier Gen. Harry Hays. When the Louisiana troops were sent to a different theatre of war, they apparently "invited" Stonewall to accompany them.

Plan could derail historic Maryland railway

By Meg Burnhardt, Frederick News-Post, September 11, 2007

WALKERSVILLE -- A proposed interchange could cut off a quarter of the Walkersville Southern Railroad's scenic track.

The State Highway Administration is planning an interchange at Monocacy Boulevard and U.S. 15 which will connect the east and west sides of the City of Frederick.

Right now, it's too early to say whether the more than \$69 million project will result in SHA closing the railroad crossing over U.S. 15, said spokesman Chuck Gischlar.

"We are still investigating and evaluating that as part of the planning process," Gischlar said.

The tourist train crosses Monocacy Boulevard south of Walkersville on an at-grade crossing with the help of volunteers who flag to traffic to stop as the train comes to the intersection. More than 500 trips are made every year over the crossing, said Doe Horch, general administrator and chief of special events at the station.

The Frederick County Historic Preservation Commission recently reviewed the preliminary plans for the project and commissioners said it



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was not clear what would happen to the crossing.

"That is something that concerns me, if the state is planning on limiting further the active use of a historic railroad," said commissioner member Marc DeOcampo. "I can't tell what they are doing (from these plans)."

Other commission members agreed, and decided to send a letter to SHA which says they think the tracks should be eligible for the National Historic Register and the county's historic register.

The proposed interchange design calls for a diamond-shaped intersection that bridges over U.S. 15 and connects the east and west sides of the city with four-lane Monocacy Boulevard. Traffic signals will be positioned at both ends of the overpass, with a park-and-ride nearby.

The SHA has not estimated a completion date for the project because it is not funded for the rights-of-way or construction phases. SHA does anticipate it will go to the location and final design phase by early next year.



Walkersville Southern's Paul Bergdolt flags the Monocacy Boulevard Crossing as the 11 a.m. passenger excursion train crosses the four lane road. Photo by Doug Koontz

The Walkersville station and freight house was built by the Pennsylvania Railroad around 1900. The Pennsylvania Railroad Frederick Secondary track was built in 1869 following the Civil War during America's Reconstruction.

"Ride in vintage 1920s passenger cars or on an open flatcar as your rail excursion runs past a 100-year-old lime kiln, and then out into the picturesque Maryland farm country," the station's website boasts to prospective riders.

Horch said the railroad hopes to teach children about the history of railroading in the country and show them the local area.

The four-mile track is owned by the state, and the station leases it in five-year contracts, Horch said.

If the track was cut off at Monocacy Boulevard, Horch estimates it would reduce the trip from one and a quarter hour to 45 minutes.

The train offers dinners that take the entire hour and 15 minutes to serve and eat, and mystery plays are also timed with the length of the run.

"I don't know if it would affect our business, but there's a possibility it could," Horch said.

If the railroad was able to negotiate with the state to buy a five-mile stretch of track to the north of Walkersville, it might reduce the impact on the overall railroad if it is cut off on the southern end, she said.

If the crossing were to remain but the interchange increases traffic on Monocacy, Horch said the tracks would need a gate and lighted crossing.

But SHA hasn't contemplated what type of crossing it would provide, if any, because it's too early in the process, Gischlar said.

SHA has not been in contact with Walkersville Southern Railroad, so Horch was happy to hear the historic commission is looking out for the historic train.

She said she plans to look further into the plans.

The historic commission also recommended SHA place the

proposed park and ride in a place where it will not disturb the view of the area surrounding U.S. 15, which is designated a scenic byway.

The commission also asked SHA to consider the impact on the historic Richfield house, 8551 Catoclin Mountain Hwy., in the design phase of the project. The house borders the interchange project and the commission believes it should be eligible for the county's historic register, commissioners said.

Depression Might Have Derailed Lincoln's Recovery, Historian Says

By Matt Pueschel,
USMedicine.com, September 24,
2007

WASHINGTON-If Abraham Lincoln survived his head wound through modern trauma care, he would have retained his mental awareness, but likely been left inarticulate among other disabilities-which might have exacerbated his already existent depression.

"It would be more of a problem because he already suffered from depression," advised Steven Lee Carson, a Presidential historian from the Woodrow Wilson House in Washington, D.C., who spoke at the 13th annual Clinicopathological Conference in May about the social and historical implications had Lincoln lived in 1865. "[Dr. Scalea hypothesized that] he would have probably been dyslexic, and although he had reasoning abilities, he would not be able to communicate. He would be inarticulate and possibly blind in one eye or both eyes."

At the very least, had Lincoln survived, he would have required a long rehabilitation process. "Any patient who would suffer such



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grievous wounds as Lincoln would have had problems with depression," Carson advised. "Lincoln already suffered from massive depression long before [he was shot]. It's very well-known. So, he would have had the double-whammy of depression upon depression, plus his moods." Lincoln was well-known for his sense of humor, and once said that the reason he jokes 'is to keep from dying,' Carson said. But with his injury, he might not have been able to joke like he did because of the possibility of not being able to articulate his thoughts.

Carson gave numerous examples of Lincoln's humor, which at times was vaudevillian-like and other times witty and satirical to deflate difficult political situations.

Lincoln's already existing depression had also been affected by the deaths of two young sons. Before he became President, he lost a son who was just a few years old, and then he lost another son, Willie, in 1862 during his Presidential years. Willie was just 10-years-old when he died, and accounts show that Lincoln was deeply affected by it and would continue to talk about him years later. "Lincoln even went to the cemetery where his son was temporarily put after he died in 1862, and we know of at least two times when he opened up the casket," Carson said. "Willie was the favorite son. He died on a Thursday. After he died, for a month thereafter, every Thursday Lincoln would stop working and seclude himself, so [that] his male secretaries [had to call] a minister to talk Lincoln around."

But Lincoln had a job to do as President and he managed to occupy himself with that. "He galvanized the English language and it was not

equaled until (Winston) Churchill," Carson said.

Would History Have Changed With A Debilitated Lincoln?

Given the political climate in 1865, several issues would have been raised had Lincoln survived. For one, Carson pointed out that there was no 25th Amendment to the Constitution yet, so there was no provision for someone to take over in the event a President becomes too sick or injured to carry out his duties. Lincoln was shot and took nine hours to die, and for that time period until vice president Andrew Johnson was sworn in nearly four hours after he died, Lincoln's secretary of war Edwin M. Stanton ran the government, Carson advised. "Edwin Stanton was incorruptible and he had to do so much because it was really an attack on the government," he said. "At the same time that Lincoln was shot, one of Booth's accomplices [Lewis Powell] tried to assassinate the secretary of state William H. Seward [Powell attacked Seward in his home and stabbed him and several others, although Seward survived with disfiguring facial wounds. There was also a planned attack against Johnson, though it never came about because Booth's accomplice for that attack got drunk instead]."

Since the Civil War was just coming to a close when Lincoln was shot, it was a crucial time period. "Lee surrendered April 9. Lincoln was shot April 14. Jefferson Davis was [still] in flight and [not] caught [until] May 10, and the last Confederate Army general and warships surrendered in June," Carson said. "When Lincoln was shot, although Lee had surrendered, there was the real fear that there were still troops out there ready to start the war all over again, or indeed [who] maybe would not

have recognized Lee's surrender. Jefferson Davis, in fact, was in flight to try and rally the remaining troops and get the war going or have guerrilla warfare."

As Lincoln lay dying, Stanton took testimony from eyewitnesses, sent guards to the vice president and all of the cabinet members and other government leaders [there was no secret service then], ordered pursuit of the assassins through the telegraph lines and the provost marshals to close the country's borders, alerted the military to guard forts, cities, ammunition depots, military posts and transportation outlets, ordered the handling of Confederate troops caught in the field, and informed the public of what happened. "During that period before Lincoln died, Stanton is very much in control, but he really was for a period thereafter, also," said Carson.

Stanton, as war secretary, was possessed with greater power than usual since it was wartime, the secretary of state was out of action, and Congress was not in session at the time. He even preserved civilian control of the military in late April after General Sherman accepted both a military and civilian surrender of the Confederate Army in North Carolina. "Stanton, with Johnson's agreement and the others', had that rescinded and Sherman had to go back to the Confederate general and get a surrender on [only] the [military] terms that Grant gave Lee," Carson advised. "If Lincoln had survived but been so incapacitated, the problem is somebody would have to act in Lincoln's stead, and we have the evidence right there of Stanton."

After Lincoln died, Johnson, according to Carson, would go on to become one of the worst Presidents ever, despite being the only



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Democratic senator to have stayed with the Union when the country divided into the Civil War. Lincoln, a northern Republican, had brought Johnson into the government just a month before the assassination, as a symbol of unity in an effort to unify the country. "But he was so out of control, intemperate, vulgar, and I don't just mean in private, but in public," Carson said of Johnson. "He was intransigent, stubborn, [and] a veritable racist."

Furthermore, Lincoln's wife, First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln, was also an out of control person, according to Carson. "Mary Lincoln was mentally ill long before [Lincoln was killed]," he said. "She had no friends at all in Washington, D.C. She had alienated everybody and fought with everyone, and she was carrying on [after he was killed]."

Carson said he has great compassion and sympathy for Mary, who outlived three of her four sons, but she did not handle death well and her illness eventually led her to being committed to an asylum 10 years after Lincoln's death.

As an example of her erratic and sometimes unreasonable behavior, just weeks before the assassination, Mary jealously blew up at Lincoln and the wives of Grant and another general in front of a review of troops in Virginia, Carson said. This incident led to the Grants turning down an invitation to be with the Lincolns at Ford's Theater the night the President was killed there. When asked if there would have been more security at the theater had both Lincoln and Grant attended, Carson said there surely would have been.

So if Lincoln had survived in a disabled state, his wife and others likely would have struggled for control. "Mary Todd Lincoln would

have fought like a tiger," Carson said. "Mary Lincoln did everything of pure and total emotion. And because Mary had made enemies everywhere, she would not have succeeded. Mary would have been a major problem for Stanton and the others, especially given the fact there was not an amendment at that point making it very clear on who should take control because he would still be alive. [Plus] the fact that the war was still going on—Jefferson Davis was still in flight and other Confederate troops were still in the field and of course that there had been other attacks against members of the government. Mary, she would have carried on like a banshee, but nobody would have followed her because she had no friends, no associates, [and] she alienated everybody in the four years of the Lincoln Presidency. So, that would have been more of an emotional annoyance rather than anything else."

Carson gave examples of two past Presidents, James Garfield [who was shot] and Woodrow Wilson [who suffered a stroke], who were incapacitated for some time but remained in power. In Garfield's case, the secretaries of war and state unofficially ran the government until he died a couple of months later, while First Lady Edith Wilson quietly held Wilson's office together until he recovered.

The possibility that Stanton would have assumed power unofficially while Lincoln was recovering can also be attested to the close relationship the two had. "Stanton and Lincoln were very close, so it's not like they would be at odds with each other. They shared summer vacations together and they worked together, [and sometimes attended church together]," Carson said.

Changing

History

Had Lincoln lived, even in a disabled state, he still likely would have made a difference given that he would have retained his cognitive powers. With his death and Johnson assuming the Presidency in 1865, things took a step backward. "That's the aggravating thing, the terrible thing," Carson said. "For one thing, Johnson was a dyed-in-the-wool racist. So he didn't care a damn about the slaves, and so the Union, the Congress, the reconstruction were trying all sorts of things to raise the ex-slaves up such as the Freedmen's Bureau, and Johnson vetoed it. [Furthermore] southern states passed what are called the Black Codes [so] that blacks could not own land [and] could not leave their present employment, and he let that go by. He didn't stop that or try to do anything. And he vetoed the Civil Rights Act of 1866, and when he vetoed the three reconstruction acts designed to empower blacks with the right to vote, after that veto Congress responded and we got the 14th Amendment [in 1868]."

Johnson had been against the top Confederate leaders over the war and he did not share their Bourbon upper class backgrounds, but he tried to turn over state governments to other Confederate leaders after he became President. He also insisted that most of the alleged accomplices of Booth be hanged, including the controversial first U.S. execution of a woman. He even garnered the nickname "avenger" because of his lingering hatred for southern aristocrats. "The problem with Johnson was he was a totally out of control person, totally intemperate," Carson said. "He had no sense of diplomacy, whatsoever. He did not know how to get along or



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compromise, he had none of Lincoln's attributes. He was rock solid in stubbornness and worst of all he added fuel to that fire by publicly and repeatedly getting into all sorts of vulgar language, and calling various leaders 'traitors' and all that."

But Carson points out that even if Lincoln had lived, with Stanton sort of acting in his stead for a period, there still would have been rough times. "Because what actually did happen during reconstruction, there were great race riots in the south," he said. "Whites were making war upon blacks with the Black Codes and taking away the Freedmen's Bureau with Johnson's veto. So, I think if Lincoln had lived, we would have had a better set of race relations today, and it would have been quicker, much quicker than we had it. But we [still] would have had to go through the fires of hate and bigotry with the race riots that did occur and they still would have happened because basically it was an unrepentant south still acting as if they had won the Civil War. And that was the whole problem...without Lincoln's firm and careful guiding hand, the always impatient United States wanted to move on and they did, and they left the writing of the history books to the southerners.

"If Lincoln had lived, though incapacitated and he could reason and somehow get his thoughts across, the U.S. certainly would have been a better and more just nation, especially on matters of race and in a far quicker fashion, with his wisdom and gifts of diplomacy, humor and sense of timing and armed with the mantle of being a victorious war President. But the U.S. still would have gone through the fires and Lincoln would have had to toughen

his policies. Reconstruction was not radical enough."

However, despite Lincoln's untimely death, Carson said that what he accomplished did not die. He not only united the north and south, but the east and west when he authorized the transcontinental railroad. He also authorized the Homestead Act designed to allow people to settle land and own it after five years. He ended slavery, advocated for free public education and thus opened up the U.S. to others in the world.

In Touch With Lincoln's Last Hours

Bloodstained Clothes Packed Up for Storage During Ford's Theatre Renovation

By Michael Ruane, Washington Post, September 7, 2007

The square-toed, goatskin boots that Abraham Lincoln had on that night at Ford's Theater were worn down at the heels.

His long, black frock coat was unadorned. Its buttons were of plain gray metal.

And most of what he wore as he sat in the private box on Good Friday of 1865 comes down to us still stained with his blood.

Yesterday, under police escort, the National Park Service transported the assassinated president's clothing and other items from the Ford's Theatre museum to a Park Service storage center in Maryland, where they will remain while the theater undergoes an 18-month renovation.

But before the items went onto the shelves -- and out of public view for a year and a half -- curators provided an up-close glimpse of garments linked to one of the most tragic moments in American history.

One by one, Gloria Swift, a Civil War expert and the curator of the museum, opened the acid-free boxes

in which she and others had packed the clothes Lincoln was wearing when he was shot by actor John Wilkes Booth on April 14, 1865.

Wearing white cotton gloves, she carefully removed the layers of white tissue in which the articles were placed.

The president's black silk tie emerged, with the trim bow in front. "Isn't that incredible?" Swift said.

Then came his black cotton vest, with six buttons and four pockets.

And his shin-high boots. "Aren't these beautiful?" Swift said. "Lincoln has a modern-day size-14 shoe." The president stood about 6 feet 4 inches tall.

Swift had meticulously removed the clothes from the life-size mannequin on which they are displayed in the museum.

"It was really neat to get the clothing off and really look at it," she said. Of Lincoln's black broadcloth pants, she said: "I didn't notice, we've got some bloodstains here on the knees, and I never noticed that, as it was in the [display] case." The thinking is that the president slumped forward after being mortally wounded in the back of the head, she said.

There are bloodstains, too, on the black, double-breasted frockcoat he wore that evening as he sought to relax, with the four anguished years of the Civil War coming to a close. The coat buttons are plain. "There's no adornment," Swift said. "There's nothing presidential. This is your typical well-dressed man's suit of 1865."

And blood is on the overcoat that curators think was over the president's shoulders or the back of his chair. The coat was made for Lincoln's second inauguration, Swift said. Embroidered in the black lining



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are an eagle, shields and the words, "One Country, One Destiny."

"It's almost undecipherable," Swift said of touching Lincoln's clothing. "It is very chilling in some cases, knowing what you're handling."

"And it's also very exciting," she said. "Because to me the objects are a true connection to the past. . . . They're not just things. These are real items [linked] to a real story."

Pamela Beth West, director of the Park Service's 52,000-square-foot National Capital Region Museum Resource Center, where the artifacts will be kept, said: "We deal with this stuff day in and day out. And every once in a while you take that moment to pause, and you do something like this, and sometimes it's almost overwhelming."

Marius Horgos, a member of the moving crew from Interstate Worldwide Relocation and a native of Romania, said his palms were sweaty as he watched the clothing unboxed. "I've traveled a lot in Europe and the United States, too," he said. "But Lincoln is a very special figure. He freed the African American people. Even my voice is shaking."

Thomas Blichard, another member of the moving crew, said: "I've got two grandsons, and I'll be able to tell them both I've seen it with my own two eyes. This is a historical day for me."



Gloria Swift, a Civil War expert and Ford's Theatre museum curator, with the

greatcoat that Abraham Lincoln wore to the theater the night he was assassinated. "It is very chilling in some cases, knowing what you're handling," she said. **Photo Credit:** By Michael Williamson -- The Washington Post

Lincoln Penny to Get a Birthday Redesign

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER, AP Economics Writer, September 25, 2007

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

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

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

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

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

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

But the panel did not like any of the designs for Lincoln's presidency, some of which depicted various images of a half-completed Capitol

dome, evoking Lincoln's famous order that construction of the Capitol should continue during the Civil War as a symbol that the Union would continue.

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

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

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

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

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

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



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design at the Mint, told the advisory panel.

Mariners' Museum moving archives to Newport News, Va., campus

The Associated Press, September 20, 2007

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. - The Mariners' Museum, known for being home to artifacts from the famous Civil War ironclad USS Monitor, is moving its extensive archives to nearby Christopher Newport University, officials announced Wednesday.

"This partnership significantly strengthens the museum's obligation to preserve its collection," Timothy J. Sullivan, president and CEO of The Mariners' Museum, said in a statement. He described CNU's library as a world-class, technologically up-to-date facility.

"CNU and The Mariners' Museum will soon possess a library that is civic in its proportions, elegant in its architecture, 21st century in its technology and holds in combination a collection of more than 300,000 volumes," said Paul S. Tribble Jr., CNU's president.

International scholars and researchers use The Mariners' Museum Library, which is billed as the largest maritime collection in the western hemisphere. It has 78,000 volumes, 1 million manuscript items, 600,000 photographs and several thousand maps, charts, and ship plans.

The Paul and Rosemary Tribble Library at CNU houses 218,000 physical volumes and 198,744 microforms. Library users also have access to 22,000 electronic journals and abstract titles and numerous Internet resources. Construction of

the 100,400-square-foot library is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2007.

The Mariners' Museum collection will begin moving to CNU next summer. The museum will retain complete ownership and responsibility for the collection, which will occupy 23,000 square feet

smaller battles. Participating local jurisdictions, nonprofits, businesses and individuals are eligible for grants, loans, tax credits or other benefit programs available through the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.

Maryland Heritage area mini-grants available

Frederick News-Post, September 19, 2007

HAGERSTOWN — The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, encompassing parts of Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties, has announced its 2008 mini-grant program.

HCWHA offers competitive mini-grants of between \$500 and \$2,500 to heritage sites and organizations within the area to develop new and innovative programs, partnerships, exhibits, tours, events and other heritage tourism-related initiatives.

The three mini-grant deadlines are Sept. 30, Dec. 31 and March 30.

Guidelines and applications are at www.heartofthecivilwar.org.

Museums, municipalities and heritage groups are encouraged to apply.

Prospective mini-grant applicants are encouraged to contact the heritage area director, Elizabeth Scott Shatto, at info@heartofthecivilwar.org, or 301-600-4042 to discuss potential projects, or to request copies of the application and guidelines.

The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area encompasses the sites of three principal Civil War battles: Antietam, Monocacy and South Mountain, as well as the sites of numerous other