



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Notes from the President 10/2017

BCWRT Community:

On Tuesday, October 24, the BCWRT will take a different approach to viewing the Civil War. Diocese of Maryland Archivist Mary Klein will introduce many of you to the Right Rev. Dr. William Rollinson Whittingham, Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland (Episcopal) from 1840 to 1879. Bishop Whittingham had a major impact on the Episcopal Church during and after the Civil War. Considering that the majority of U. S. Presidents (from George Washington to George H. W. Bush) and several CW leaders (R E Lee, Jefferson Davis, Leonidas Polk, etc.) were Episcopalian, you will find Bishop Whittingham an interesting figure.

November 28 will feature retired NPS employee and re-enactor Mel Reid in a living history interpretation of becoming a soldier in the 54th Massachusett- from "Plantation to Battlefield". Our December 12 meeting (*note our usual date change for December*) will feature author and Frederick County Civil War Roundtable member Gary Dyson discussing his work "The Ambush of the Isaac P. Smith, Family Ties and the Battle on the Stono, January 30, 1863".

We are putting together a panel debating the pros and cons of removing Baltimore's Confederate monuments for our January meeting. Look for information about that debate in the future.

Did you know there were female troopers fighting during the Civil War. Historian and reenactor Anita

Henderson will introduce you to a special trooper during our February 27, 2018 meeting. Author, historian Bob O'Connor will have a "first person" presentation on Ward Hill Lamon, Lincoln's friend and self-appointed bodyguard, on March 27, 2018.

We have committees working on future BCWRT trips and our Annual Banquet (scheduled for April 24, 2018). Please contact Bill Rixham at WFRIXHAM@msn.com. The banquet will be held at a new site since the Parkville Heritage Gardens have ceased operation.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Remember, we are always looking for new members. Invite a friend to our meetings. The BCWRT has many good things happening. Please spread the word.

Robert L. Ford,
President

'We wanted to send a message': Re-enactors stage Civil War battle despite threat

By Dan Morse and Michael E. Miller, Washington Post, October 15, 2017
MIDDLETOWN, Va. — Late Sunday morning, hundreds of Civil War re-enactors concluded their battle on a rolling patch of grass 80 miles west of Washington.

In normal years, taps would be played and each side would march back to its tent encampments. But this was hardly a normal year. Last week, organizers announced they had received a letter threatening "bodily harm" to attendees. And Saturday, the battlefield had to be

temporarily cleared because a suspicious device, possibly a pipe bomb, was found.

"U.S.A! U.S.A! U.S.A.!" the re-enactors began shouting, underscoring not just their sense of patriotism but the umbrage many felt at having their hobby dragged into the national debate over race and Confederate-era symbolism.

"We wanted to send a message," said Keith MacGregor, 56, from Lebanon, Pa., who was playing the role of a Union infantry captain for the reenactment of the Battle of Cedar Creek, held not far from here. "We wanted to show the U.S. that we aren't going to let some terrorist, or some nut, stop the event. I was never prouder of people in our hobby."

Before and after the minute-long "U.S.A." chant, the two sides who acted out the battle came together and thanked each other for coming — and for staying. "The Star-Spangled Banner" was played and sung. So was "Dixie."

"You did not see any re-enactors in Charlottesville," said Confederate re-enactor Terry Shelton, referring to the gathering of white supremacists in the Virginia city in August. The event turned violent and led to three deaths. The public was not allowed onto the battlefield or into the re-enactor camps Sunday, but could watch the battle from a distance.

Local and federal law enforcement officials declined Sunday to describe the "suspicious item" found at the battlefield here about 4 p.m. Saturday, which prompted law enforcement to evacuate the immediate area. Several re-enactors said they were told it looked like a pipe bomb.

In a statement Sunday, the FBI said that "the device was located during an annual reenactment of the Battle



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of Cedar Creek. No persons were harmed and the device was rendered safe by the Virginia State Police." said Sunday that the bureau "was not elaborating on the device."

The FBI is investigating the incident, along with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the Virginia State Police; the Frederick County Sheriff's Office; and the Middletown Police Department.

The battle reenacted Sunday took place on Oct. 19, 1864, and was a Union victory.

In August, a two-day reenactment in Manassas — meant to show how Union and Confederate soldiers lived during the Civil War — was canceled. Though there were no plans to reenact a battle, several organizers were worried about possible trouble, given the racially charged atmosphere nationwide over whether to remove Civil War monuments.

Last week, organizers of the Cedar Creek event posted a warning on the group's website.

"We would like to make everyone aware that the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation has received a letter threatening bodily harm to attendants of this event," the foundation said in the statement.

"With this in mind security has been increased and we ask that everyone work with us for a safe and enjoyable event."

The two-day event started Saturday morning. Frederick County sheriff's deputies — some on four-wheelers — stood sentry at the staging grounds.

All the trappings of previous years' events were on display. There were tent encampments, where the uniformed soldiers would spend the night. Other reenactors played the parts of surgeons, embalmers and priests. There were horses and cannons and lots of flags.

But as the day progressed, and reenactments began, spectator George Rust, from Winchester, Va., said he thought the threat had dissuaded people from coming out.

"There's not near the spectators," Rust said. "Usually, on Saturday, you can't walk around here."

The 66-year-old construction worker, who wore a "Pride of the South" hat featuring Robert E. Lee and a Confederate flag, worried he might have come to the last reenactment of the Battle of Cedar Creek. He said that history is under attack and that it's important, especially for younger people, to be learning about it.

"Take that girl there," he said, pointing to a grade-schooler in pink shorts playing with her mom. "She's learning. She's picking it up."

"The Confederate camp looked to me only half-strength of what it was last year," said Mark Corley, 58, a former co-worker and friend of Rust's from Cumberland, Md.



Participants stand together following a reenactment of the Battle of Cedar Creek on Sunday in Middletown, Va. Reenactors chanted "U.S.A." after their mock battle. (Photo by Matt McClain/The Washington Post)

"You have to understand, a lot of this is family-oriented," said Corley, who is retired. "So whether it's going to materialize or not, whenever there is a threat like that made, of course your first concerns have to be for your wife, your children."

"It's really sad that it's gotten to this point where you have organizations

or people who are threatening violence," said Robert Bailey, 62, a retired D.C. police officer who said he has been coming to the Cedar Creek reenactments for 21 years.

Bailey said he had heard the letter sent to the foundation threatened that excrement would be thrown or weapons fired at the re-enactors.

"I understand why people want to bring the statues down, why they want to get rid of the flag," he said, watching the battle from the rear because of a heart attack a year ago, a huge feather drooping from his officer's cap. "But even if you do ... the history is still there."

He said he and other re-enactors didn't hesitate to play the role of Union troops and were mostly focused on re-creating the battle as accurately as possible.

Karla Macias and her two daughters stood at an embalming tent, watching as a white actor "operated" on an African American mannequin draped in an American flag.

Macias, a 43-year-old teacher at a Christian academy in Inwood, W.Va., said protesters had "blown things out of proportion." She said she and her daughters, who are Mexican American, don't take offense at the Confederate flag.

"I have a hard time with people trying to erase our history," she said. "A country can't be a country without a past."

"This is exciting," said her elder daughter, Elizabette, 16. "I wish they'd advertise this more."

Yoly Harrell, wearing a long brown dress and holding a parasol, said she had spent the morning making oatmeal, eggs and sausage patties for soldiers. A 55-year-old nurse in Fredericksburg, Harrell said she came to the United States years ago from El Salvador.



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She said she wasn't put off by her history-teacher husband dressing up as a Confederate soldier. "We had our own war," she said of El Salvador. "History stays there, no matter what people say."

Hazardous trees to be removed from Soldiers' National Cemetery

Gettysburg NMP, September 27, 2017

Gettysburg National Military Park (NMP) has contracted with Bartlett Tree Experts to remove several trees from the Soldiers' National Cemetery that have been identified as potentially hazardous. This is one phase in a multi-phase project to ensure that the trees in the National Cemetery are preserved for as many years as possible. The ten trees identified for removal have aged beyond the point where they can be preserved and must be removed to ensure the safety of visitors, staff, cemetery infrastructure such as structures, walls, and fences, adjoining power lines, roads, and vehicular traffic. Work will begin on *Monday, October 2, 2017* and will conclude by *Friday, October 6, 2017*. The initial assessment and inventory took place in May, 2017. This work included –
identifying trees and assigning each a number
identifying the trees' condition, health, and vigor
recommending risk evaluations and removals of appropriate trees
recommending tree care, soil care and fertilization, structural support, and pest management treatments to promote tree safety, health, appearance, and longevity

mapping the trees using GPS hardware and Geographic Information System (GIS).

The next phase (likely in late November, 2017) will include cabling of branches in several trees, pruning and thinning of canopies, and the repair and installation of lightning protection in several of the larger trees.



This Fraser Fir is one of the trees that will be removed from the Soldiers' National Cemetery due to safety concerns. It has a hollow trunk and there is a vertical crack that is further weakening the trunk.

Plans to possibly plant new trees in the National Cemetery will be determined at a later date once the park's Cultural Landscape Report is complete.

Interpretive programs in the National Cemetery will not be affected. Additionally, the honey locust witness tree, located near the southeast corner of the cemetery, was not part of this study and will continue to be cared for by park staff.

Civil War Trust adds 391 acres to sites preserved at Cedar Mountain, Cold Harbor and Gaines' Mill

CW Trust News Release, August 4, 2017

(Washington, D.C.) - The Civil War Trust today announced a trio of battlefield preservation victories across Virginia — from Cedar Mountain in Culpeper County to Gaines' Mill and Cold Harbor in

Hanover County, just outside Richmond.

The national nonprofit group added significantly to the 514 acres it had already saved at the three sites, for a grand total of more than 900 acres of hallowed ground.

"The Civil War Trust has built on its previous successes at these three Virginia battlefields," Trust President Jim Lighthizer said. "We continue to seize opportunities to honor Civil War soldiers' memories by saving the land where they sacrificed everything for us."

At least 32,000 Americans were killed, wounded or went missing at the three battlegrounds.

At Cedar Mountain, a 333-acre conservation easement secured by the Land Trust of Virginia in collaboration with the Civil War Trust on the battlefield's eastern flank was the site of a major Union artillery platform during the August 9, 1862, battle. It also was the scene of a late, rearguard action that enabled part of the Union army to escape.

This preservation success triples the acreage saved at Cedar Mountain, and protects ground along U.S. 15 where the Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield already welcomes visitors and provides on-site assistance. On Aug. 5 and 6, the friends group will host living history activities commemorating the battle's 155th anniversary.

At Gaines' Mill, the Trust has saved an eight-acre portion of Griffin's Woods, which dominated the battlefield's center and figured in the charge that broke the Union line on June 27, 1862. Its acquisition adds another link to the growing assemblage of land the Trust has protected at Gaines' Mill over the past five years.



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Robert E. Lee's first major victory of the Civil War resulted from the successful Confederate assault at Gaines' Mill. Made by about 40,000 soldiers late in a day of brutal fighting, it was the biggest charge of the Civil War — three times the size of Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg and two times larger than the Confederate assault at Franklin. At the time, Gaines' Mill was the second deadliest battle in American history, after Shiloh.



Cannons guard the old Culpeper Road on the Cedar Mountain battlefield in Culpeper County, Virginia. Buddy Secor photo

The Battles of Gaines' Mill in 1862 and Cold Harbor in 1864 were fought on much of the same ground, doubling the impact of the Trust's preservation action there.

At Cold Harbor, the Trust has saved 50 acres inclusive of Fletcher's Redoubt, a large Union fort that still stands in the woods. This ground also holds a trace of what is believed to be the wartime road trod by 30,000 men under Confederate Generals D.H. Hill and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson to reach the Gaines' Mill battlefield in 1862. The site was a few hundred feet behind the center of the Confederate line during the Battle of Cold Harbor.

The Civil War Trust will transfer the parcels at Cold Harbor and Gaines' Mill to Richmond National Battlefield Park. The tracts lie within the

congressionally authorized boundary of the park.

These latest victories would not have been possible without the support of the Trust's partners at the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond National Battlefield Park, the Land Trust of Virginia and Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield.

The Civil War Trust is the premier nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of America's hallowed battlegrounds. Although primarily focused on the protection of Civil War battlefields, through its Campaign 1776 initiative, the Trust also seeks to save the battlefields connected to the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. To date, the Trust has preserved more than 46,000 acres of battlefield land in 24 states, including 24,359 acres in Virginia.

The Lees Are Complex': Descendants Grapple With a Rebel General's Legacy

By Simon Romero, New York Times, August 22, 2017

Few American families are as deeply embedded in the nation's history as the Lees of Virginia. Members of the clan signed the Declaration of Independence, served the new nation as judges and generals, lawmakers and governors, and one, Zachary Taylor, even became president.

For decades, the family appeared to be united in promoting the adulation of its best-known member, the pre-eminent Confederate general Robert E. Lee. But now, as tempers flare around the country over Confederate monuments and what they stand for, the Lees are grappling anew with the

general's checkered legacy. And along with many other families, they are divided over what to do about public statues of a famous forebear.

"Like so much else in this world, the Lees are complex," said Blair Lee IV, 72, a retired real estate developer from Maryland who describes Robert E. Lee as a "distant cousin."

"The war pitted brother against brother and cousin against cousin," he said, "and we're still at this today."

Some of the Lees have issued public calls for the statues to come down, and want to distance the family from the white supremacists who marched in Charlottesville, Va., to protest the proposed removal of a Lee statue there.

But others want the monuments to the general to remain where they are, and Blair Lee is among them, even though he is descended from a branch of the family that sided with the Union in the Civil War.

"I don't understand how tearing down Confederate monuments advances the cause of racial harmony in this country," said Mr. Lee, whose father was governor of Maryland in the 1970s. "If we're looking for people to be angry about, why not erase the names of English monarchs from many places?"

The statue debate provides a glimpse into how the Lees of today are reacting to what historians say has been a masterful propaganda campaign aimed at restoring and bolstering white supremacy in the South through the mythology of the "Lost Cause."

White southerners appropriated the term from Sir Walter Scott's description of the failed 18th century struggle for Scottish independence, and used it to soften and romanticize the Confederate rebellion, according to James C. Cobb, a historian.



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Robert E. Lee himself opposed building public memorials to the rebellion, saying they would just keep open the war's many wounds. But after his death in 1870, admirers in the South made him the centerpiece of the Lost Cause campaign. His remains are kept in a Virginia mausoleum near those of his wife, their seven children and even his horse, Traveller — an echo of the reverence some Latin American nations lavish on their national heroes. The propagandists insisted that under General Lee, the South had fought nobly for the principles of self-determination and states' rights, despite having little hope of defeating the more industrialized North. Slavery, in their telling, was a side issue, and had been a fairly benign institution that offered blacks a better life than they would have had otherwise.

By glossing over the maintenance of slavery as the South's overriding war aim, the proponents of what came to be called the Lee cult diverted attention from General Lee's own record as a slave owner, and from any discussion of how the Lee family tree came to include African-Americans.

"There was a rebranding campaign that promoted a total fallacy about what the Civil War was about," said Karen Finney, 50, a great-great-grandniece of Robert E. Lee. Her mother, Mildred Lee, a social worker, is white; her father, Jim Finney, a civil rights lawyer, was black.

"It's simple: my ancestor was a slave owner who fought to preserve slavery," said Ms. Finney, who worked as a spokeswoman for Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign. "If his side had won, that system of enslavement would have included me as well. Supporters of the statues still want to persuade people they're not

about white supremacy. It's time to bring the statues down."

Though they are on different sides of the statue debate, what Ms. Finney and Blair Lee IV have in common, along with hundreds of other close and distant relatives, is their ancestral connection to Richard Lee, an early settler of Virginia in the 17th century who is thought to have come from Shropshire in England's West Midlands.

Over the decades, that ancestry came to confer considerable prestige, abetted by the creation in 1921 of the Society of the Lees of Virginia, an organization to "promote a better knowledge of the patriotic services of the Lee Family."

Carter B. Refo, the society's membership secretary, declined to discuss the statue issue or the Lee family's long association with slavery before the Civil War. "The Society has a policy of not making public statements, so I am unable to help in that regard," he said.

Lee descendants maintain a tradition of curating the family's place in history. Edmund Jennings Lee compiled a genealogical tome in 1895 that remains an important reference work on the family. Today, one of the descendants who helps organize and edit the family's papers is Robert E.L. DeButts Jr., who works in the financial crime compliance group at Goldman Sachs.

Much of the admiration for Robert E. Lee centers on his long and distinguished military career, on his opposition to secession, on claims that he disliked slavery and on his postwar years, when he supported reconciliation between North and South as president of Washington College (now Washington and Lee University) in Lexington, Va.

"There was this promotion of the general as a Christian gentlemen who only fought to side with his homeland, the Commonwealth of Virginia," said Glenn LaFantasie, a professor of Civil War history at Western Kentucky University. "Of course, Lee was much more than that, an owner of slaves and a man who sought the capture of his runaway slaves. He fought to perpetuate slavery."

When his command, the Army of Northern Virginia, invaded Pennsylvania in 1863, some units went on a spree, kidnapping fugitive slaves for their Confederate former masters. Lee urged his soldiers to avoid "the perpetuation of barbarous outrages upon the unarmed," but did not stop the kidnappings.

Slavery's importance in forging the fortunes of the Lee family has gained greater attention through the work of Elise Harding-Davis, 70, a prominent African-Canadian historian who says that she, too, is a relative of Lee's.

Ms. Harding-Davis said that Lee family documents had corroborated oral history in her family that Kizzie, her enslaved great-great-great-great-grandmother, was a daughter of Lee's father, Henry Lee III, known as Light-Horse Harry, a Revolutionary War cavalry commander. That would make Kizzie the Confederate general's half sister.

"We don't take pride in being Lees, but in being pioneers of North America," Ms. Harding-Davis said, emphasizing that her ancestors moved to Ontario generations ago in search of freedom. "When you understand the ugliness of the Civil War, and what Robert E. Lee fought for, you know that the statues must come down."

Researchers at Stratford Hall, the historic plantation in Virginia where Lee was born, have described the



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kinship claim by Kizzie's descendants as "tantaling" and offered the hope that with further research, "maybe their journey will indeed lead to the Lees of Stratford."

Other descendants remain proud of Robert E. Lee, while rejecting what the far right of today would have him symbolize.

"There are a lot of wonderful things General Lee is known to have done, and this is the antithesis of what he wanted," Tracy Lee Crittenberger, 58, said of the violence in Charlottesville, where white supremacists and their opponents brawled in the streets and a man plowed his speeding car into a crowd of counterprotesters, killing one woman.

"But we have to acknowledge we're not living in General Lee's time period any more," said Ms. Crittenberger, an admissions official at the Madeira School, a private boarding school for girls in McLean, Va. "If communities decide to take the statue down," she said, "then I'm not against it."

The Provisional Army of the Confederate States

By John Tucker, August 18, 2017

The Army of the Confederate States of America was established by the Provisional Congress in March 1861 but NEVER really came into existence. There was never an officially recognized Federal centralized government Confederate Army. Even so a rank structure for the regular Army was established (as per the CS Army Regulations of 1863) differing from that of the Provisional Army in the event a Federal Army was organized.

The Army that fought the war was the volunteer or Provisional Army and NOT the Federal Confederate Army. Under Congressional Acts President Davis assumed control of all military

operations and received state forces and 1000,000 volunteers for a one year term of service (same time as Lincoln's call to the states for 75,000 but for a lesser term)

By May of 61 the Confederate Congress then voted to extend such terms for the duration of the war; with many exceptions making this a Rich man's war and poor man's fight.

A month before the Civil War broke out, the Confederate government took steps to raise 3 district armies. In time, 2 of these-militia enlisted for 12 months service and volunteers recruited for the duration of the conflict-became inextricable entwined, organizationally and administratively. Although only the militia was originally designated by the term, both forces became known as the Provisional Army of the Confederate States. The act of 6 mar. 1861 that organized these forces also provided for the establishment of the Army of the Confederate States of America, a counterpart to the U.S. Regular Army. At the outset, Confederate officials projected this Regular force to number about 10,000 officers and men, a figure that President Jefferson Davis later cited as proof that "the wish and policy" of his government "was peace." Early legislation called for this force to consist of a corps of engineers, 1 regiment of cavalry, 6 regiments of infantry, a corps of artillery (which would also handle ordinance duties) and 4 staff bureaus: the adjutant and inspector general's, the quartermaster general's, the commissary general's, and the medical departments. Later laws increased the number of cavalry and infantry regiments, one of the foot units being designated a Zouave outfit, as well as the size of the engineer corps and each staff bureau. No officer above the rank of brigadier

general would be assigned to the combat arms, while each staff department was to be headed by a colonel.

The chief value of this force was as an administrative arm into which former U.S. Army officers were accepted just before the shooting started. Intended as a peacetime establishment, it lost much of its utility once it became evident that militia and volunteers would carry the bulk of the South's combat burden and when new laws permitted Regular officers to hold the rank in the Provisional Army as well. When money appropriated for the raising, organizing, and equipping of Regular units was diverted to the Provisional, the recruiting of Regulars declined sharply. In consequence, that army attained a fraction of its intended size. Although the Official Records mention numerous Regular units (1 battery, 12 cavalry and 7 infantry regiments, and various independent companies of line and support troops), other sources indicate that only 750 officers and 1,000 enlisted men served in the Confederate Regular Army and that only 5 companies remained in existence through most of the war.

Because of its political philosophy, the Confederacy could not easily form an effective field army. Confederate officials, though supporting state sovereignty, believed the new nation required a military establishment controlled by the central government to ensure organizational stability and facilitate recruitment, supply, and training. Even before the war broke out, they sought a small army of about 10,000, roughly equivalent to the Regular Army of the U.S. (previously mentioned), to be raised, maintained, and employed by the authorities in Richmond. Soon, however, it became clear that war



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would come before so complex a force could be formed.

Officially, the troops composing the Provisional Army of the Confederate states were made available to the government by consent of the southern governors, who retained authority over the raising, organizing, and maintaining of units, including the appointment of their officers. But in May 1861 President Jefferson Davis was granted the authority to accept volunteer units without state consent, to appoint their field officers, and to form and staff brigades and larger formations. Additional legislation, increasing the central government's authority over the army, lengthened enlistment terms to cover the duration of the war, implemented conscription, and organized government bureaus that effectively transferred unit recruiting and organization from the state capitals to Richmond.

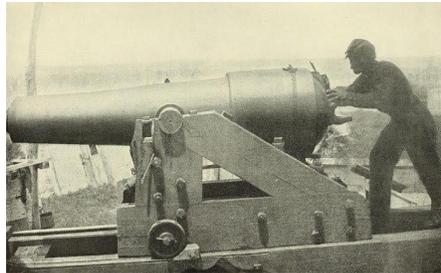
In April 62 The Confederate Congress conscripted men from the ages 18 thru 35. These making it the first time men were drafted directly into the Provisional Army. Confederate territory was organized into departments and generally given names by the locations they originated.

In effect, this army, designed to be an interim expedient became the virtually the sole Confederate fighting force.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE CIVIL WAR CANNON WHISTLING DICK

By Danny W. Harrelson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development, The Geological Society of America
Whistling Dick was a banded and rifled 18-pound Confederate siege and garrison cannon that was

originally cast as a Model 1839 smoothbore. It earned its name by a peculiar whistling sound made by projectiles fired from the gun.



The cannon was an integral part of the confederate defenses protecting Vicksburg and the Mississippi River during the 1863 siege of Vicksburg and is credited with sinking the Union gunboat Cincinnati. The cannon believed to be Whistling Dick fell into Union hands with the July 4th surrender of Vicksburg and it was soon shipped to trophy point at the Unites States Military Academy West Point, New York. During the ensuing decades, questions about the authenticity of the cannon were raised; chief among them was a story as told by one of the former gun-crew that surfaced in 1900. He claimed that on the night of July 3rd 1863 a detail of 14 confederate soldiers moved the cannon from its firing position on Wymans Hill to the old Vicksburg waterfront. There it was transferred to a coal barge, paddled into the main channel of the Mississippi River and dumped overboard. Finally, some 100 years later, it was discovered that the cannon shipped to West Point was not Whistling Dick, but actually a similar cannon known as the Widow Blakely. Geological analysis and other historic information indicates two possible locations for Whistling Dick, Centennial Lake or a cave on Wymans Hill. In 1863 the Mississippi

River did flow in front of Vicksburg, but in 1876 a cutoff occurred (Centennial Cutoff) isolating Vicksburg from the river and forming a shallow oxbow lake, located just west of Vicksburg. Whistling Dick weighted about 2.5 tons and while the logistics of movement might have been difficult, a river location is plausible. Alternately, burial of the cannon in a cave on or near Wymans Hill is another possibility. Although numerous caves were known to exist in this area, there is no documentation either substantiated or unsubstantiated indicating such a fate for the cannon. In conclusion, neither hypothesis adequately explains the disappearance of Whistling Dick. However, given the size of the cannon, advanced geophysical techniques may be able to locate a magnetic or gravity anomaly produced by the cannon.