



W.Va. planners reject subdivision near Harpers Ferry historical area

by DAVE McMILLION, Charlestown Herald-Mail.

CHARLES TOWN, W.VA. –July 5, 2005 - Citing concerns about how the project could affect nearby historical areas and a federal firearms training facility, the Jefferson County Planning Commission on Tuesday night rejected plans for a 42-lot subdivision near Harpers Ferry, W.Va.

Planning commission members rejected final plat approval for the Benview subdivision by a 5-4 vote after a lengthy public hearing in which speaker after speaker spoke against the subdivision, which developers want to build near the intersection of Bloomery Road and U.S. 340.

An attorney representing the developer said after the meeting he will pursue approval for the Benview subdivision in court.

Attorney Jim Campbell said previously it had been more than 100 days since the developer had submitted some materials for the project

Failure to take action on the project within 60 days after such materials are provided shall result in approval from the planning commission, Campbell said in a suit he filed against the planning commission in Jefferson County Circuit Court.

Campbell said he filed the suit in case the planning commission turned down the project, and now he intends to prove in court that the planning commission should be compelled to approve the subdivision.

"We will proceed accordingly," Campbell said.

Planning commission members who voted against final plat approval were

worried about nearby historical sites that could be "forever damaged" if the subdivision is approved, traffic that would be added to an already congested area around Bakerton Road and concerns about the subdivision that were raised by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

The federal agency is building a firearms training facility near the property and a U.S. Customs and Border Protection official had told a county planning official that he was concerned about "potential security issues" that could arise if the subdivision is built.

Speakers at the public hearing said the firearms training facility will have a security level of 5, the highest security level, and they expressed concern about children entering the property.

"People are going to complain about the same things that Summit Point complained about," said Harpers Ferry resident Paul Rosa, referring to anti-terrorist training that is conducted at the Summit Point Raceway.

Planning Commission member Todd Baldau said he could not see approving the subdivision when the federal and state government had urged county officials not to vote for it.

The project is within an area designated as part of a possible boundary increase for Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Susan Pierce said in a letter to a planning commission official that approval of the subdivision would be "another step toward the possible destruction of this historic landscape." "This is as black and white as I've seen it," Baldau said.

The site of the subdivision is associated with School House Ridge, the location of a siege conducted by Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson's troops in the Civil War, Pierce said.

"I think it would be irresponsible to our heritage if you approve this," said Bob DuBose, a member of the Harpers Ferry Town Council.

Dig hopes to uncover Harpers Ferry Arsenal

WAVY.COM, June 20, 2005 HARPERS FERRY,

HARPERS FERRY, W.Va. Archaeologists have begun a threeyear project unearthing the ruins of the U-S Armory and Arsenal at Harpers Ferry, in West Virginia.

They hope to find artifacts from buildings leveled after the Civil War.

Marsha Wassel is a spokeswoman for the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. She says the armory employed some 400 people in two rows of buildings divided by a 70-footwide street.

Between 1801 and the start of the Civil War in 1861, it produced more than 600-thousand muskets, rifles and pistols.

Antietam Farm Greets Retired Caisson Horses

Hagerstown Herald-Mail, June 23, 2005

Sgt. Tom has been named the June Horse of the Month at the Ranger Foundation of Greenbriar Farm in Keedysville. He is the most recent retiree to the farm, arriving in early June from the South Carolina National Guard Caisson Detachment. At 17 hands high and 2,400 pounds, the 21-year-old Percheron is the largest Ranger horse.

The retirement of Sgt. Tom to Greenbriar Farm is very fitting. The farm is part of Antietam National Battlefield, which saw about 1,000 caisson horses during the Civil War's Battle of Antietam.



Sgt. Tom had a long career as the wheel horse for caisson units in the military. Prior to the South Carolina National Guard, he was part of The Old Guard at Arlington National Cemetery in the Caisson Platoon of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment at Fort Myer, Va.

Sgt. Tom participated in the burial of the crew of the H.L. Hunley After the vessel was raised, the crew was given a final burial with full military honors. Horse-drawn caissons led the procession four miles through downtown Charleston to Magnolia Cemetery, where the first two crews of the Hunley were buried.

The Ranger Foundation is a nonprofit organization that takes in horses that have spent their lives in service to the public but can no longer perform their jobs. It is operated by volunteers and donations.

Greenbriar Farm is at the intersection of Md. 34 and Porterstown Road near Sharpsburg.

Learn more about The Ranger Foundation on the Web at www.rangerhorse.org.

Hearings set on moving key Confederate sites

Squeezed by VCU, museum and White House seek options

Βv Janet Caggiano, Richmond TimesDispatch, June 14, 2005 The Museum and White House of the Confederacy, under siege in Richmond from downtown the relentless development of Virginia Commonwealth University, may be getting a new home by the end of the year. But before a decision is made, a series of meetings will be held.

The Virginia House of Delegates set up a joint subcommittee a few months ago to study the cost and feasibility of relocating the White House, a National Historic Landmark, and the 108-year-old museum. The first meeting, which is open to the public, will be held July 22 at 10 a.m. on the first floor of the General Assembly Building near Capitol Square.

"We are a private institution, but this is a public asset," said Waite Rawls, the museum's executive director. "We exist for the public, so we want to hear what the public has to say."

Visitation at the museum and White House has declined steadily, from a high of 92,000 in the early 1990s to fewer than 54,000 in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2004. The museum ended last fiscal year with a deficit of about \$393,000.

Things will only get worse, Rawls said, as VCU continues to grow. The institution has all but swallowed up the area immediately surrounding the White House and museum, with the current project - a 16-story critical-care building, part of VCU's medical campus - under way.

"We have to consider ways to turn the museum into a productive institution again," Rawls said.

Local historians want to keep the White House where it is. The building has stood at the corner of 12th and East Clay streets since 1818. It served as the Executive Mansion of the Confederate States of America from 1861 to 1865 and was the official residence of President Jefferson Davis and his family.

"I'm certainly sympathetic to their plight, but I think it's a terrible mistake to detach a house from its original location - especially one with so much history," said Jennie Dotts, executive director of the Alliance to Conserve Old Richmond Neighborhoods. "So many pivotal moments in American history took place on this site."

Should the White House move, it would lose its designation as a National Historic Landmark.

Monument to N.H. soldiers planned at Antietam

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) June 29, 2005 — The House has approved a measure to erect a monument to New Hampshire's Civil War soldiers at Antietam National Battlefield in Maryland.

Members of Congress passed the resolution on Monday. It was sponsored by New Hampshire Reps. Charles Bass and Jeb Bradley, both Republicans.

The memorial will honor soldiers of the 5th, 6th and 9th New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry and the 1st New Hampshire Light Artillery Battery, who fought at Antietam during the Civil War.

In 2000, the state Legislature established a commission for the construction and maintenance of New Hampshire monuments and memorials at certain Civil War sites. The commission has chosen a design for the Antietam memorial, as well as an artist to sculpt it. Funding will come from private donors.

"Although there are over 400 monuments, tablets and markers at the historic site, New Hampshire does not have a marker commemorating the bravery of our fallen heroes. Antietam was one of the deadliest battles in American history, and this memorial will appropriately honor the sacrifices of our New Hampshire soldiers." Bradley said. The legislation "guarantees that their valiant deeds will finally gain due recognition." Bass said. Sen. Judd Gregg has introduced a companion bill in the Senate, cosponsored by Sen. John Sununu.





Scientists Discover New Stealth Feature on H.L. Hunley

By Raegan Quinn, Naval Hisorical Center Public Affairs, June 21, 2005 CHARLESTON. S.C. (NNS) Conservators of the Civil War submarine H. L. Hunley, working with the Naval Historical Center (NHC), discovered a previously unknown stealth feature called a deadlight while removing the concretion on one of the 10 glass ports, June 15. The deadlight, which served like skylights that run along the top of the submarine, served as both a stealth and safety feature on Hunley, by stopping light from getting out and water from getting into the submarine.

"The Hunley truly is a technological aspect of the marvel. Everv submarine's design is thought out to maximize her ability as a stealth and functional weapon," said Sen. Glenn McConnell, chairman of the Hunley Commission. "She is literally 50 years ahead of her time." The skylight is covered by a hinged iron plate, or deadlight. A pin could be removed from one hinge, allowing the iron plate to drop down and let light in to the otherwise dark vessel. To cover the skylight, a crew member would push the iron plate up and reinsert the pin. When the deadlight was closed, it would block light from exiting the submarine through the skylight, increasing the Hunley's ability to approach her target unnoticed.

The deadlights also served as an important safety feature of the sub's construction. During combat, if the glass of the skylight was broken, it could cause a dangerous flow of water into the submarine. Scientists think the two hinges holding the iron

plate in place may have been fitted with rubber gaskets, which would make the skylight watertight when the iron plate was closed. If the glass on the skylight was damaged, the crew could lock the iron plates in place and stop water from overtaking the sub. Hunley scientists discovered the deadlight was in the shut position and the skylight remained covered. "Every discovery is a clue that we will ultimately use to solve the mystery of the Hunley's disappearance. In the crew's last moments, they chose to leave this skylight closed, perhaps because they believed they would be returning home and wanted to remain undetected," McConnell said. "This is another piece of the puzzle that will lead us to the ultimate answer." On the evening of Feb. 17, 1864, H.L. Hunley became the world's first successful combat submarine by sinking USS Housatonic. After signaling to shore that the mission had been accomplished. the

Expert Outflanks Swindler Of History

Va. Collector Looted National Archives

Bv Michael E. Ruane

vanished.

Washington Post Staff Writer Monday, June 13, 2005

submarine and her crew of eight

The old letter contained an obscure Army officer's report about bandits on the California frontier in the winter of 1861. It was the signature at the end that grabbed the attention of Wayne E. Motts.

The three-page, handwritten document was signed by Lewis A. Armistead, then a lowly U.S. Army officer, but later the Confederate general who died leading a famous doomed charge in the Battle of Gettysburg. Motts knew that the letter, which was being offered for sale on eBay, was rare. Few "Armisteads" reached the collectors' market.

He knew that letter particularly well. Ten years earlier, he examined it himself -- at the National Archives in Washington. And he knew there was only one way it could be offered on eBay: It had been stolen.

Motts's realization one night last year, as he sat at his computer in his home outside Gettysburg, Pa., sparked an investigation that led to the discovery of scores of stolen archives documents and the conviction of a reclusive Virginia researcher who was sentenced to prison last month for taking them.

The thefts sent a wave of anxiety through the nation's beleaguered historical repositories, as well as the usually staid but often high-stakes market in which historical documents are bought and sold.

Motts, 38, the director of Gettysburg's Adams County Historical Society, was honored at the National Archives for alerting authorities to the pilfered Armistead letter.

Howard Harner, 68, a relic hunter and collector from Staunton who admitted to stealing more than 100 documents and selling many of them, was sentenced last month to two years in prison. He pleaded guilty in March.

Harner, a history buff since the 1960s, said in a telephone interview last week that his stealing occurred over the past few years. "My problem is of recent vintage," he said. And though investigators said he netted more than \$47,000, he said money wasn't the object at first.

"It wasn't initiated that way," he said. "It was the interest in the individual composition, and [the author's] importance later on during the Civil War. It began that way, then



economic necessity forced disposal gradually."

Harner is believed to have taken the documents between 1996 and 2002, said Paul Brachfeld, the archives inspector general. Harner might have taken more than the authorities know, Brachfeld said last week. Only 42 documents have been recovered. Investigators are trying to track the rest, some of which might be in the hands of collectors who don't know the documents are stolen.

Harner, who hid the papers in his clothing while researching in the archives' downtown Washington headquarters, took letters signed by such figures as Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee, Confederate President Jefferson Davis and Union generals Ulysses S. Grant and George A. Custer.

But authorities said he also stole documents bearing the less wellknown but still highly marketable signatures of such people as Armistead and the Confederate generals George Pickett and Ambrose P. Hill.

Brachfeld said the National Archives, which has since beefed up its security, does not keep an "item level" inventory of everything in its holdings. "It's not like a car dealership, where you arrive in the morning and you notice a car's missing from the lot," he said.

Brachfeld said that in several cases, Harner appears to have cut the signatures off the documents and sold the signatures by themselves to autograph collectors. Harner sold many of his documents to a reputable collector in nearby Lexington, according to authorities, and others to a prominent auction house and individuals.

Those buyers often resold them to others who then sold them again.

Often, the price went up with each sale. In some cases, the item's value more than doubled, and in a few cases the items were purchased by aficionados with extensive collections who paid top dollar.

Another letter written by Armistead, in which he resigned from the Army to join the Confederates, was purchased five years ago for \$40,000 by the Pearce Collections at Navarro College, outside Dallas. The college bought it from a dealer in California, and authorities indicated that Harner originally sold it for \$18,000 to Jim Putbrese, the collector in Lexington.

The letter has been returned to the archives, and the college was reimbursed by the seller, said Darrell Beauchamp, the school's dean of libraries and special collections.

Two other valuable letters, one from Pickett and another from Confederate Gen. Richard B. Garnett, were purchased for \$20,000 each by John L. Nau III, a wealthy Houston collector and University of Virginia benefactor.

"I applaud the federal authorities for taking the firm action as quickly as they did," said Nau, who chairs the federal government's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. "The fact that the authorities, when given information, will immediately act on it, that's the good news. The bad news is, we've got people that will steal" such things.

Nau said he returned the letters to the archives and was reimbursed in full by Putbrese, who had sold him the letters.

Putbrese, the original buyer of many Harner documents, said in a telephone interview that he had known Harner for about four years.

He described Harner as a smart, intense and reclusive researcher who once grew his beard down to his waist, haunted Civil War sites with a metal detector and worked at home at a table cluttered with maps and papers. "The guy looked like he was from 100 years ago," Putbrese said. Putbrese said that he helped investigators locate many of the stolen documents and that he has reimbursed everyone who bought a document from him. As "the last one in line," he said he is seeking reimbursement from Harner, who has offered him antigues as restitution.

He said Harner, in the past, sold antique firearms and was well-known in collector circles as eccentric but upstanding.

"Whenever he needed money, I would get a call from him and he would have a document for sale," Putbrese said.

Investigators said last week that Harner's thefts probably would have continued had it not been for the fascination Motts has with the tragic life of Armistead.

"I could not believe it," Motts said when he realized the general's letter was stolen. "I just could not accept it. To me . . . it's sort of like the ultimate sin to take the historic document. It's there for public view."



Gettysburg historian Wayne E. Motts will be honored at the National Archives for alerting authorities to a stolen 1861 military letter he spotted on eBay. (By Katherine Frey -- The Washington Post)





Historian known for 'Civil War' dies at 88

BY CHRIS KALTENBACH

BALTIMORE SUN STAFF

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JUNE 29, 2005 Whether his words were spoken or written, no 20th-century storyteller could bring the American Civil War to life like Shelby Foote, the novelist and reluctant television star who died June 27 in Memphis, Tenn., at age 88.

As a writer, Mr. Foote spent 20 years, 1954 to 1974, crafting The Civil War: A Narrative, three volumes and 3,000 pages that the Modern Library, in 1999, ranked No. 15 among the century's best English-language works of nonfiction. Though popular, the books did not make Mr. Foote a household name. That would come in 1990, when Ken Burns' 11-hour documentary The Civil War aired on PBS.

Though a half-dozen experts were interviewed on-camera for the series. none appeared more often than Mr. greater Foote. nor made а impression. Speaking in a mellifluous Southern drawl that sounded like it could have been lifted straight off an antebellum plantation, Mr. Foote spoke of brave soldiers being scared by runaway rabbits, of deluded politicians in 1860 who promised that all the blood shed in the coming war could be mopped up with a pocket handkerchief, of descendants of Confederate Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, who did not exactly embrace Mr. Foote's view that the war produced two geniuses, their kin and Abraham Lincoln.

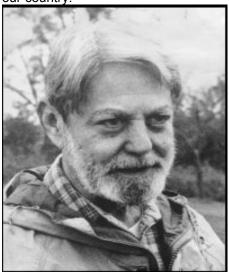
"We never have taken kindly to Mr. Lincoln," Mr. Foote would recall being told, chuckling softly at century-old grudges that refused to die. Mr. Burns, currently at work on a series about America's involvement in World War II, said he approached Mr. Foote for the Civil War series at the suggestion of poet Robert Penn Warren. Mr. Foote, who was interviewed three times for the series, would be featured 89 times over its 11-hour run, some 80 times more than any other historian.

The human touch

Born Nov. 7, 1916, in the Mississippi Delta town of Greenville, Mr. Foote made friends with Walker Percy, worked as a journalist and got to know fellow Mississippian William Faulkner (who, in 1958, identified Mr. Foote as a novelist "that shows great promise"). Mr. Foote attended the University of North Carolina for two years and served in the Army during World War II, attaining the rank of captain. While based in Northern Ireland, he was court-martialed and dismissed from the Army for using a military vehicle without authorization to visit a female friend. He returned to the States and enlisted in the Marines. but never returned overseas.

He started his first novel, Tournament, before the war. Based on the life of his grandfather, who had lost the family fortune through gambling, the book was published in 1949. Several other works followed, including Follow Me Down (1950), Love in a Dry Season (1951), Shiloh (1952) and Jordan County (1954).

With his latest book on the stands, Random House in 1954 asked Mr. Foote to write a one-volume history of the Civil War. The project soon took off, however: Vol. 1, Fort Sumter to Perryville, was published in 1958, followed by Vol. 2, Fredericksburg to Meridian, in 1963, and Vol. 3, Red River to Appomattox, in 1974. "His Narrative was one of the great works of historical literature in the English-speaking world," Mr. Burns said. "He wrote from a Southern perspective without a Southern bias. He was able to make real and human and palpable these human figures who were there for the most important moment in the history of our country."



Shelby Foote – photo courtesy of Mississippi Writers Association

No racist

Although a Southerner by birth, Mr. Foote did not mourn the "lost cause" so dear to many Southern historians. He spoke against segregationist politicians, publicly decided against moving to the Alabama coast in the 1960s after being alarmed by the racism there, and once wrote to a friend complaining about the racist policies of some Southern leaders, calling them "soft-talking instruments of real evil."

Mr. Foote is survived by his third wife, Gwyn, whom he married in 1956; a daughter, Margaret Shelby, and a son, Huger Lee.





Brian Pohanka Dies; Civil War Historian, Film Adviser

By Patricia Sullivan Washington Post Friday, June 17, 2005

Brian C. Pohanka, 50, a Civil War historian who advised filmmakers, preserved battlefields, reenacted troop movements and dressed the part, died of cancer June 15 at his home in Alexandria.

As an adviser and military coordinator on major motion pictures, including "Glory" (1989) and "Cold Mountain" (2003), he ensured the historical accuracy of films that would be seen by millions in theaters and on television.

His expertise stemmed, in part, from his work as the senior researcher, writer and adviser on the 27-volume Civil War series by Time-Life Books. He also was series consultant for the History Channel's "Civil War Journal." So immersed was he in the Civil War era that he trimmed his beard in a style called the Imperial, popular in the 1860s. One of the legions of Civil War reenactors in the area, Mr. Pohanka served as captain of the 5th New York Infantry. When he donned its red-and-gold trimmed Zouave, or French-style, uniforms, the dapper historian looked as if he had stepped out of history.

Mr. Pohanka also engaged in contemporary political activism, resisting a number of development projects on the sites of Civil War battles in Northern Virginia.

"Some kid a hundred years from now is going to get interested in the Civil War and want to see these places. He's going to go down there and be standing in a parking lot. I'm fighting for that kid," Mr. Pohanka said during a 1990 demonstration in Culpeper County. At 12, Mr. Pohanka was doing research at the National Archives, thanks to a friendly employee who waived the minimum age requirement. Years later, when he became editor of the Time-Life series, some of the correspondence and other first-person artifacts he found as a youth proved handy.

Mr. Pohanka was born in Washington. He was a graduate of Sidwell Friends School and received a degree in history from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa.

In 1988, he recruited and instructed actors portraying the soldiers in the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, the first black regiment in the Union Army, for the movie "Glory."

"There were 300,000 blacks in that war. We think their role has been badly neglected, and we hope this picture will encourage more black people to take an interest in the history," he told The Washington Post while the movie was being made.

Mr. Pohanka enlisted two other veteran reenactors to help him teach 1,000 Romanian soldiers, who portrayed the Union and Confederate troops in "Cold Mountain," how to wear their uniforms, carry their weapons and perform their duties.

"We were struck by their lean and hungry look," he told the Dickinson College alumni magazine. "Their physical build is much closer to the way Americans looked back then."

Mr. Pohanka was pleased with how the film turned out, especially the opening scene of the 1864 Battle of the Crater, when the Union Army tunneled explosives under a Confederate fort, then ordered its untrained troops to charge the pit. A massacre ensued.

"I was glad that the battle scene was graphic, violent and gory," he said. "That's what war is. It's not a bunch of people in costume. If it's not as violent and horrible as it really is, it's not being true to reality."

He wrote and edited about a dozen books, including "Mapping the Civil War" (1992), "Distant Thunder: A Photographic Essay on the Civil War" (1988) and "Myles Keough: An Irish Dragoon in the 7th Cavalry" (1991). He even met his wife, a costume historian, through "living history" reenactment activities. They lived in an 1880s-era home near Mount Vernon, once owned by a veteran of the 10th New York Cavalry.

Mr. Pohanka served on the boards of several local preservation associations, and he was named Battlefield Preservationist of the Year in 2004 by the Civil War Preservation Trust and the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust.

Survivors include his wife of seven years, Cricket Pohanka of Alexandria; his father, John Pohanka of Washington; a brother, Geoffrey Pohanka of Vienna; and a sister, Susan Pohanka of Bryn Mawr, Pa.



Brian Pohanka – Photo courtesy Pohanka family





Charles Albert Earp Jr., 88, Author of Books on Civil War, Genealogist

BY FREDERICK RASSMUSSEN

BALTIMORE SUN STAFF

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JUNE 22, 2005 Charles Albert Earp Jr., a Baltimore author and genealogist who wrote widely about the Civil War and spent 50 years researching distant cousin Wyatt Earp, a hero of the shootout at the OK Corral, died of a pulmonary embolism Thursday at St. Agnes HealthCare. He was 88.

Born in Baltimore and raised on Fulton Avenue, Mr. Earp was a graduate of Forest Park High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in American history in 1938 from the Johns Hopkins University and a master's degree in 1940. Halfway through his doctoral thesis on the Civil War, he had to leave Hopkins and go to work.

Mr. Earp worked in the human resources department of Glenn L. Martin Co. and successor company Martin Marietta Corp. until 1972, when he became manager of compensation and benefits at Franklin Square Hospital Center. He retired in 1982.

He was a member of the Baltimore Civil War Roundtable and wrote more than 20 published articles. He also enjoyed lecturing on the war.

In retirement, he had the time to research and write books - on a manual typewriter - that he had long postponed because of professional responsibilities.

His interest in the Civil War began early in life. His grandfather, William A. Chalk, fought with the 8th Maryland Infantry, U.S. Volunteers. Five other members of his family fought in the Union Army. His grandmother, as an active member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic, took him to the organization's meetings, and he soaked up participants' memories of the war.

In 1938, at age 21, he traveled to Gettysburg, Pa., to attend the final reunion of Union and Confederate veterans who had fought in the historic battle 75 years earlier.

Mr. Earp spent several days wandering through the tent city that housed the 1,845 veterans who had converged at Gettysburg for the ceremonies, interviewing and photographing the participants.

Sixty-five years passed before Mr. Earp's account, *The 75th Reunion at Gettysburg: My Interviews with the Veterans*, was published by Toomey Press.

"The veterans were the main attraction," he wrote. "They were, on average, well into their nineties, some over one hundred years old. They were gray, if they still had hair to gray, bearded, feeble, garrulous and carefully tended by their relatives or escorts."

One of his favorite profiles was one of J.H. Paul, a former Confederate soldier who, at 105, was the oldest to attend the reunion.

The old warrior - who served for four years and fought in three major Virginia battles - was described by Mr. Earp as having "perfect sight and hearing" and speaking "clearly and coherently."

"It will always remain as one of the most significant events of my life," Mr. Earp wrote in the book's introduction. "Never again would this historic little army pitch its tents on the now famous battlefield."

Mr. Earp discovered and edited the handwritten journal of C. Marion Dodson, an Eastern Shore native, in the archives of the Maryland Historical Society. The book, Yellow Flag: The Civil War Journal of Surgeon's Steward C. Marion Dodson, was published by the historical society in 2002.

He was also the author of *These* Honored Dead: A Roster of Over 2,500 Maryland Union Soldiers Buried in National Cemeteries and co-author with Daniel Carroll Toomey of Marylanders in Blue: The Artillery and The Cavalry.

"Charlie was in his 80s when he began writing books," said Mr. Toomey. "He was very industrious, intelligent and a great researcher. His death is my last personal link with the Civil War. Through him I could touch it and hear the voices of the veterans."

Mr. Earp, who lived on Dunkirk Road in Anneslie for many years, moved to Timonium and since 2001 had been a resident of the Charlestown Retirement Community in Catonsville. Among his many other interests, Mr. Earp had been an amateur radio operator since 1934, when he received his license and operated with call letters W3DKT.

In May, Mr. Earp told a Sun reporter that Wyatt Earp, who took on the Clanton gang with two of his brothers and Doc Holliday in the fabled 1881 gunfight in Tombstone, Ariz., had faded from the public imagination until he became famous again in recent years because of a weekly television show in the 1950s and movies of the 1990s.

"My name used to be hard to catch or to spell," Mr. Earp said, "but since Wyatt's name came to fame again due to the movies, the minute I say my name's Earp ... the standard question is, 'Are you related to Wyatt?' and they're surprised when I say, yes."