

THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Gettysburg Cyclorama Going Off Display for Preliminary Restoration

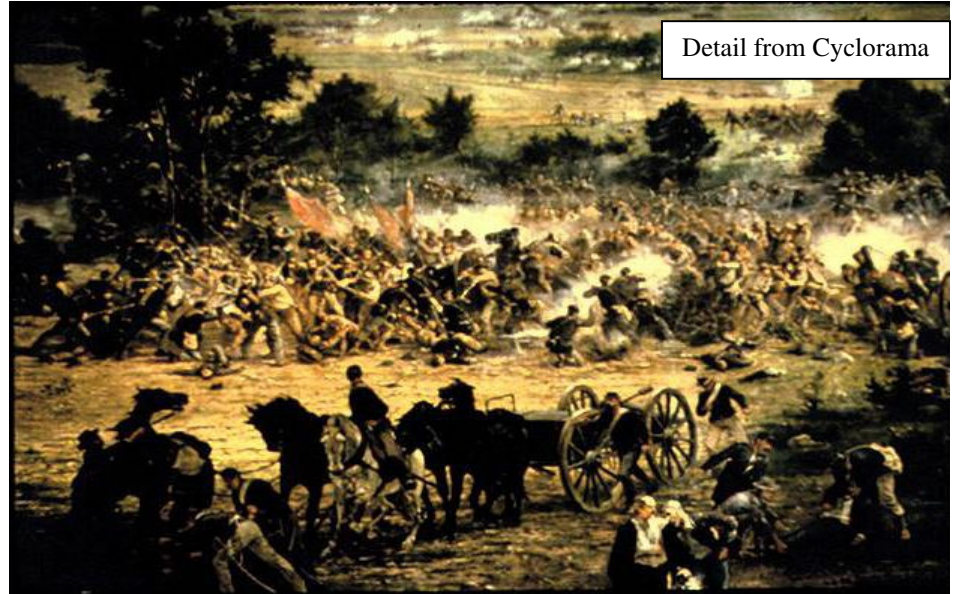
Oct. 10, 2003 –Courtesy CWI Premium- The Gettysburg Cyclorama painting will be closed to the public from Nov. 6 to Jan. 2, 2004, so that preliminary conservation work can be done in hopes of keeping the massive work from falling completely apart before its new home is even begun. After reopening in January, the painting will close again from Feb. 8 to March 2 for more work, a good portion of which involves removing previous attempts at restoration which have proved to be more harm than good for the work.

Park spokeswoman Katie Lawhon said conservation experts, Perry Huston and David Olin, will begin the preliminary restoration work of cleaning, consolidating any loose flakes of paint, and "facing" the painting at that time.

"Facing involves placing a surface on the two sections of the painting that will secure it and give it stability" while it's down for the intensive restoration and conservation work, Lawhon told the Gettysburg Times.

During the second part of the restoration the two sections will be removed from the painting and conservation experts will begin removing the wax lining from the reverse side of the work and replacing it. Adhesive applied during the last restoration, done in the early 1960's, has become unstable and is accelerating the deterioration of the canvas.

Aside from age and well-intentioned but misguided prior restorations, the primary cause of damage to the Cyclorama is the fact that the building in which it hangs was built to incorrect



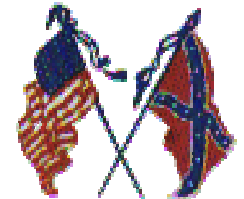
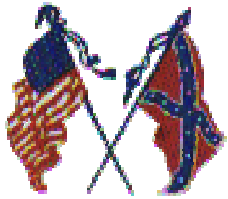
proportions. The painting, when properly displayed, is bigger around at the bottom than it is at the top and therefore needs a display area shaped something like a lampshade. The Cyclorama Building, designed specifically for the painting by a famous architect of the 1960s, is instead shaped like a cylinder, with straight sides. This allows the top of the painting to be hung properly, but the lower portions have had to be draped over each other to fit inside the space, like a large shower curtain surrounding a small bathtub. When first completed by artist Paul Philippoteaux in 1883-84 the painting was 400 feet by 50 feet and weighed more than three tons. In its current state the Cyclorama painting is missing some 18 feet of sky and the original diorama that existed when the painting was first displayed. If it can hold together just a little longer, the painting should be much more comfortably housed at the new Gettysburg Visitor Center complex slated to start construction in late 2004. There, designers hope to display the completely restored work

in a setting much closer to the one originally conceived by the artist, when it was said to be so emotionally moving that it brought some veterans of the Battle of Gettysburg to tears when they came to see it.

Wall Around Fredericksburg's Confederate Cemetery Collapses

Oct. 27, 2003 –Courtesy CWI Premium- A large portion of a brick wall surrounding the Confederate Cemetery on Fredericksburg's Washington Avenue collapsed Friday morning, apparently a victim of a combination of rain-soaked soil and recent tree damage that weakened a portion of the masonry. "It looks awful," said Barbara Crookshanks, president of the Ladies Memorial Association, which owns and maintains the cemetery. "But these things happen."

The wall dates to the aftermath of the Civil War, and many of the bricks used in it came originally from houses



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in downtown Fredericksburg which were damaged in the battles that raged through the town. Officials sent workers to reclaim the fallen bricks before they could be misappropriated by souvenir hunters.

The weakening of the wall apparently began when a nearby tree, weakened by Hurricane Isabel's wind, "leaned" into the structure, the Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star reported. Although it did not completely collapse, and was later removed by city cleanup crews, the nudge was apparently enough to unbalance the structure.

About 85 feet of the wall fell down, reports Friday indicated. The sound was loud enough to be heard by several local residents when the 6 a.m. event occurred.

Workers with the city's Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments closed off the section of sidewalk where the wall fell. They spent most of the day gathering up the historic bricks and moving them to a safe place.



"I don't know what we're going to do at this point, but one way or another it will be replaced," Crookshanks said. The Ladies Memorial Association has owned the cemetery land since its inception in 1867.

As happened at many places where Civil War battles occurred, the dead were initially buried in haste for reasons of decency and sanitation. After the conflict ended and social order was restored, bodies were

removed and relocated to official cemeteries.

Those which could be identified were often reclaimed by their families for burial. Those who could not be personally identified were moved to national cemeteries (for the Union dead) or Confederate ones, where they were laid under stones marked "unknown."

Four significant Civil War battles, resulting in thousands of Confederate dead, were fought in the Fredericksburg area between 1862 and 1864. Today, 3,353 Southern soldiers are buried in the cemetery.

US House Passes Appropriation to Fund Shenandoah Valley Park

Nov. 3, 2003 —Courtesy CWI Premium- The U.S. House of Representatives late last week voted to approve the conference report on Interior Appropriations which includes funding for the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District. If enacted into law, the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation is slated to receive \$1.5 million to protect, interpret and promote Civil War battlefields in the Shenandoah Valley. The foundation is the management entity for the National Historic District.

"We are extremely grateful to Representatives Wolf and Goodlatte for their hard work to procure this funding for the Shenandoah Valley," said Foundation Executive Director Howard J. Kittell in a press release.

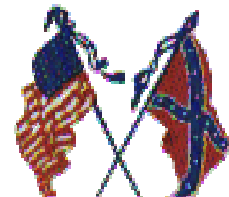
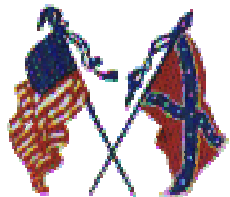
"This funding will enable the Foundation to continue to work with local partners to preserve and share the Valley's Civil War story for the region and the nation."

"We are also grateful to our

congressional delegation for including \$200,000 in funding for the restoration of the Mansion House in Highland County through the 'Save America's Treasures' program," continued Kittell.

"We were pleased to be able to provide assistance to the Highland Historical Society in their effort to secure this federal support. Once restored, the circa 1854 Mansion House will serve as the county's first visitor center and museum and it will be the Civil War orientation center for the McDowell battlefield."

The U.S. Department of the Interior and the National Park Service have joined with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Belle Grove Incorporated, the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, and the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation to preserve a nationally significant Civil War landscape and antebellum plantation as the 388th unit of the National Park System. The new park will share the story of Shenandoah Valley history from early settlement through the Civil War and beyond. One portion of it, Cedar Creek & Belle Grove National Historical Park, was described by the NPS as representing "the next generation of national parks." It is nested within the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District which is managed by the non-profit Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation. Within the park itself are nested Belle Grove, Inc. and the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation. All of these non-profit organizations will work in partnership with the National Park Service in the development and management of the park.



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South Mountain Gets North Carolina Monument

Oct. 20, 2003 –Courtesy CWI Premium- A monument honoring Confederate troops from North Carolina was installed this weekend at South Mountain battlefield in Maryland. The memorial may be one of the last to be placed at the battlefield now that it has become a state park.

South Mountain has always been a relatively little-studied battle considering the size of the forces involved and the number of casualties inflicted, some 4 to 6 thousand including killed, wounded, captured

and missing. The ferocity of the combat there has always been overshadowed by the climactic conflict of Antietam, which occurred three days later and ten miles away. The bronze statue, by Virginia-based artist Gary Casteel, depicts a life-sized Confederate soldier waving a battle flag. The sculpture was sponsored by the Living History Association of Mecklenburg, N.C. Set amid a clearing in Wise's Field, a privately owned section of the battlefield, it is meant to convey "the defiance of the Confederate soldier," association members said. A changed attitude toward South Mountain monuments could make North Carolina's the last, the Associated Press reported.

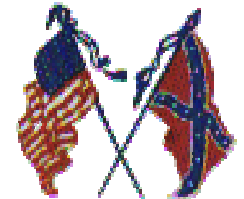
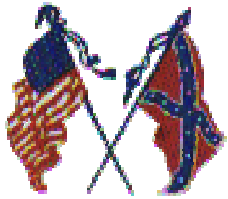
The North Carolina memorial was approved in 1998 by the Central Maryland Heritage League, which owned the land at that time. The League anticipated using donations from many monument sponsors for purchases of land and protective easements on the 25,000-acre battleground.

Then the state stepped in. It made South Mountain Maryland's first state-sponsored Civil War battlefield in 2000 and began writing a management plan in conjunction with the Heritage League, the National Park Service and the Appalachian Trail Conference. The Appalachian Trail crosses Maryland along the spine of South Mountain, about 300 yards from the new monument. "We're not going to favor construction of additional monuments associated with the battlefield," said Neal Welch, a state Department of Natural Resources planner.

Dean Considine, the new president of the Central Maryland Heritage League, said his group concurs and has rejected South Mountain monument requests from groups in Michigan and Wisconsin.

"They don't want this to become, as they say, another Antietam or another Gettysburg," Considine said. The new monument is in a woodland clearing near three other historic markers: an 8-foot granite obelisk dedicated in 1889 to Union Gen. Jesse Lee Reno; a tombstone-like monument to Confederate General Samuel Garland, placed in 1993; and an upright metal tablet erected in 1986 to honor the 17th Michigan Infantry. The 100 or so Civil War re-enactors and descendants of Confederate soldiers who gathered to dedicate the North Carolina monument were satisfied to have gotten their statue placed in time to beat the moratorium.





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Clyde Jones, a retired Sears, Roebuck and Co. salesman from Greensboro, N.C., was one who was pleased that the monument was allowed.

"We got one in here; great-grandad is recognized," he said His ancestor, Sgt. Giles W. Jones, was wounded at South Mountain while carrying a flag for the 13th North Carolina Infantry Regiment on Sept. 14, 1862. As long as it stands, "the memory of these men and the memory of the Confederacy will endure," said Rodney Williams of Reidsville, N.C., another Giles Jones descendant. Before helping to scatter 40 pounds of North Carolina soil around the black granite base, Williams asked God to protect the monument from "the ever-changing mind of mankind."

Bad Driver Brings Down Cannon Carriage, Fence at Gettysburg

Oct. 29 - 2003 Courtesy CWI Premium- The usual scenario for traffic accidents on Gettysburg's Emmitsburg Road is for a driver to hit something--another car, a deer, inattentive tourists--that was foolish enough to get into the road. A recent event reversed this rule, with a car charging off the road to take out a section of fence and a cannon carriage.

The cannon itself was undamaged, park officials said, but the carriage, a recently restored relic from the early years of the park, was smashed into little bits. Also found in the wreckage was a portion of the bumper of the offending vehicle, including, conveniently enough, its license plate.

The plate was promptly traced to a resident of Emmitsburg, Md. Police

have filed an extensive list of charges against the miscreant, including with unsafe operation of a vehicle, failing to report an accident, and damage to resources. Contrary to early reports from local sources, alcohol was apparently not a factor in the incident. Although fines for the various charges are reportedly only in the range of \$175-200, the National Park Service will seek damages to pay for the cost of repairs, which will almost certainly nick the driver and/or his insurance company for a good deal more. "This is a one-of-a-kind object. The cannon carriages were put here by the War Department in the early years of the park. They're about 100 years old. They'll cost at least \$10,000, if not close to \$13,000 to replace just the cannon carriage," said Katie Lawhon, with the National Park Service.

The cannon marks the position of Battery E of the 1st Rhode Island Light Artillery along the Union battle line on July 2, 1863.

Repairs to the carriage are impossible, Lawhon said. The park estimates that a new carriage will cost between \$10,000 and up to \$13,000, if replaced in cast aluminum or iron. The artillery piece itself, a bronze Napoleon that weighs 1,239 pounds, was not damaged, nor was the monument to Battery E and a second cannon and carriage. The park also estimates a cost of \$2,592 to repair 80 feet of historic ornamental plank fence. The damaged section is located near the Peach Orchard portion of the battlefield.

Round II of Fight Over Vanderbilt Dorm Starts As UDC Files Appeal

Oct. 23, 2003 -Courtesy CWI Premium- A battle to prevent Vanderbilt University in Nashville from removing the word "Confederate" from a dormitory building they would rather just call "Memorial Hall" moved into its second round this week as the United Daughters of the Confederacy announced they would appeal a ruling that went against their cause. The UDC told the Tennessee Court of Appeals it will ask the court to overturn Davidson County Chancellor Irvin Kilcrease's recent decision allowing Vanderbilt to change the name of Confederate Memorial Hall. The school said the name was offensive to black students and hampered their efforts to increase diversity of the student body, faculty and staff.

Bob Notestine, a UDC attorney, told the Nashville Tennessean that his clients were not required to explain its legal reasoning for the appeal yesterday and is still working out the best approach to take. However, Notestine said the appeal would probably focus on the enforceability of the UDC's contract with the former George Peabody College for Teachers, which was absorbed by Vanderbilt in 1979.

Recent photographs of the building have shown it with a piece of sheeting covering the word "Confederate."

Kilcrease ruled the contract was signed at a time when racial segregation was legal and the word "Confederate" was not so painful for some people to see or hear.