



General Robert E. Rodes Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #262 Tuscaloosa, Alabama



*I Salute The Confederate Flag; With Affection, Reverence,
And Undying Devotion To The Cause For Which It Stands.*



The Sons of Confederate Veterans is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and is the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896; the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved. Membership is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate

Commander :

David Allen

1st Lieutenant Cdr:

John Harris

2nd Lieutenant Cdr &

Adjutant :

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From The Adjutant

Gen. Robert E. Rodes Camp 262, Sons of Confederate Veterans,
will not meet
on Thursday night, January 12, 2012.

We will resume our monthly meeting in February.

Gen. Robert E. Rodes Camp 262, Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the Gen. Gorgas Chapter of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars will hold the 23rd annual Lee-Jackson Banquet at 7 PM January 19th, 2012, at the Circlewood Baptist Church on Loop Road in Tuscaloosa, AL.

Our guest speaker will be our Brigade Commander Carl Jones, and the Fifth Alabama Infantry Regiment Band will present a brief musical program. The meal will be catered with your choice of chicken or beef. Tickets will be \$20 per person.

Please make your reservations by contacting Adjutant Frank Delbridge Jr. at either his e-mail address of reb41st@aol.com or by mail at: Gen. RE Rodes Camp 262, SCV PO Box 1417 Tuscaloosa, AL 35403

The following reservation form must reach me by January 10th, 2012.

I plan to attend the Lee-Jackson Banquet Jan. 19th, 2012. Payment for people attending @ \$20 per person is enclosed. My choice of entree is beef, or chicken.....

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Upcoming Events 2012



19 January - Lee / Jackson
Dinner

22-26 April 2012 **(TBD)** -
Confederate Memorial Day
Ceremony

9 February - Camp Meeting

10 May - Camp Meeting

8 March - Camp Meeting

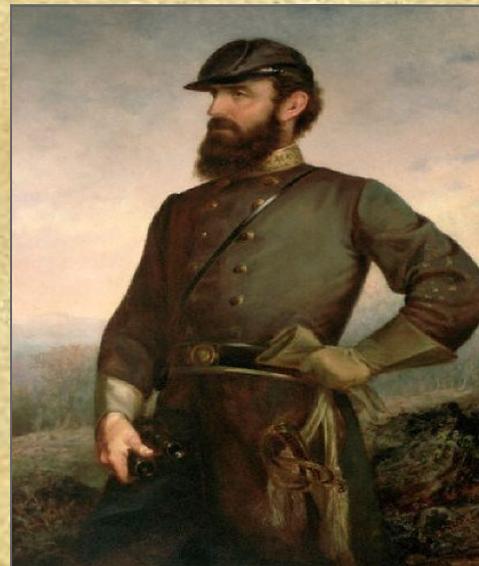
14 June - Camp Meeting

7 April - JCC Sanders Lecture

12 July - Camp Meeting

12 April - Camp Meeting

Lee-Jackson Dinner January 19, 2012 7 PM Circlewood Baptist Church



The Twenty Third Annual Lee Jackson Banquet
Circlewood Baptist Church
Tuscaloosa, Alabama
Thursday-7 PM
January 19, 2012

The General Robert E. Rodes Camp No. 262, Sons of Confederate Veterans, welcomes you to our Twenty Third Annual Lee Jackson Banquet. Whether you are affiliated with the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the Military Order of the Stars and Bars, the United Daughters of the Confederacy or not yet affiliated with these organization, we hope you will have an enjoyable and meaningful evening as we meet to honor the memory of General Robert E. Lee, born January 19, 1807, and Lt. General Thomas J. Jackson, born January 21, 1824, and the thousands of Soldiers, Sailors, Civil Servants, and devoted Women of the Confederacy who endured unimaginable hardships during four long years of war in their valiant effort to preserve for themselves and posterity those blessings of freedom won by their forefathers in the American Revolution.

May the evening's celebration inspire all of us to keep the memory of the Confederacy alive as each of us honors the memory of our own ancestors who devotedly struggled for the cause of local self-government.

Period music is provided by the Fifth Alabama Infantry Regiment Band. This band of dedicated musicians have played at hundreds of concerts, both locally and around the South. Please support the band and purchase a tape or CD.

The Rodes Brigade Report is a monthly publication by the Robert E. Rodes SCV Camp #262 to preserve the history and legacy of the citizen-soldiers who, in fighting for the Confederacy, personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the Second American Revolution. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

Edited by James B. Simms; non-member subscriptions are available for \$15. Please send information, comments, or inquiries to Robert E. Rodes Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #262, PO Box 1417, Tuscaloosa, AL 34501; or to James Simms at jbsimms@comcast.net.

General Robert Emmet Rodes (1829-1864)

The Robert E. Rodes Camp #262 is named in memory of Robert Emmet Rodes. General Rodes was born in Lynchburg, Virginia, on March 30, 1829; the son of General David Rodes and Martha Yancey. Attending Virginia Military Institute, he graduated in July 1848, standing 10th in a class of 24 graduates; Assistant Professor (Physical Science, Chemistry, Tactics) at VMI, 1848-1850. He married Virginia Hortense Woodruff (1833-1907), of Tuscaloosa, Alabama in September 1857. They had 2 children: Robert Emmet Rodes, Jr. (1863-1925) and a daughter, Bell Yancey Rodes (1865-1931). He taught at VMI as an assistant professor until 1851. He left when a promotion he wanted to full professor was given instead to Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, a future Confederate general and commander of his. Rodes used his civil engineering skills to become chief engineer for the Alabama & Chattanooga Railroad in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He held this position until the start of the Civil War. Although born a Virginian, he chose to serve his adopted state of Alabama.

He started his Confederate service as a Colonel in command of the 5th Alabama Infantry regiment, in the brigade commanded by Major General Richard S. Ewell, with which he first saw combat at the 1st Bull Run. He was promoted to Brigadier General on October 21, 1861, and commanded a brigade under Major General Daniel H. Hill. In the Peninsula Campaign, Rodes was wounded in the arm at Seven Pines and was assigned to light duty in the defenses of Richmond, Virginia while he recuperated.

He recovered in time for General Robert E. Lee's first invasion of the north in September, 1862, fighting at South Mountain and Sharpsburg. At Sharpsburg, he commanded one of two brigades that held out so long against the Union assault on the sunken road, or "Bloody Lane", at the center of the Confederate line, suffering heavy casualties. Rodes was lightly wounded by shell fragments.

At Chancellorsville, Rodes was a division commander in Stonewall Jackson's corps. He was the only division-level commander in Lee's army who had not graduated from West Point. He was temporarily placed in command of the corps on May 2, 1863, when Jackson was mortally wounded and Lieutenant General A.P. Hill was also wounded, but Lee quickly replaced him with the more experienced Major General J.E.B. Stuart. Jackson on his deathbed recommended that Rodes be promoted to Major General and this promotion was back-dated to be effective May 2nd.

When Lee reorganized the Army of Northern Virginia to compensate for the loss of Jackson, Rodes joined the II Corps under Ewell. At Gettysburg, on July 1, Rodes led the assault south from Oak Hill against the right flank of the Union I Corps. Although he successfully routed the division of Major Gen. John C. Robinson and drove it back through the town, the attack was not as well coordinated or pursued as aggressively as his reputation would have implied. His division sat mostly idle for the remaining two days of the battle. After performing poorly at Gettysburg, and recovered his reputation somewhat by performing better at Spotsylvania Court House.

Rodes continued to fight with Ewell's corps through the Overland Campaign of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. Ewell was replaced by Major General Jubal A. Early and his corps was sent by Lee to the Shenandoah Valley to draw Union forces away from the Siege of Petersburg, in the Valley Campaign. They conducted a long and successful raid down the Valley, into Maryland, and reached the outskirts of Washington, D.C., before turning back. Major Gen. Philip Sheridan was sent by Grant to drive Early from the Valley.

On September 19, 1864, Sheridan attacked the Confederates at Opequon/3rd Winchester. Several wives of Confederate officers were chased from town during the attack and Rodes managed to save Major Gen. John B. Gordon's wife from capture. Rodes and Gordon prepared to attack Sheridan's forces when Rodes was struck in the back of his head by a Union shell fragment. He died on the field outside Winchester.

Rodes was a modest but inspiring leader. He was mourned by the Confederacy as a promising, brave, and aggressive officer killed before he could achieve greatness. Lee and other high-ranking officers wrote sympathetic statements. He was buried at Spring Hill Cemetery in Lynchburg, Virginia next to his brother, Virginius Hudson Rodes; and his parents. His wife Virginia Hortense is buried in Alabama, her home state.

His Major Commands included Rodes's Brigade/D.H. Hill's Division and Rodes Division/II Corps.

Replace your regular Alabama car Tag with an Alabama SCV specialty car Tag!!



Remember: 1. The SCV Specialty Tag is an **OFFICIAL, LEGALLY RECOGNIZED LICENSE PLATE** as established by an act of the Alabama Legislature. The Battle Flag exhibited in this manner can NOT be discriminated against or removed by any government entity, corporation, employer or person without violating the law. IMAGINE! While politicians remove our flag from public view, one at a time, we will be displaying our Flag by the thousands to the public, furthering Confederate Pride and Loyalty.

2. You may personalize this tag with up to 5 letters and/or numbers, AT NO EXTRA CHARGE. (ALDIV, ALREB, 33ALA, 5THAL, CSSAL, etc.). Ask the Tag clerk when ordering.

How to buy:

1. When your current regular tag expires, go to the County's Probate Judge's Office or County Tag Office and say, "I want to order the Specialty Car Tag of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in place of my regular car tag."

2. You may **personalize (*)** this tag with up to 5 letters / numbers. Ask the Tag Clerk when ordering. **(AT No EXTRA CHARGE.)**

This cost is \$50.00 (in addition to the regular cost of an Alabama car tag), of which \$41.25 goes to the Alabama Division, SCV to promote and protect our Confederate Heritage and History.

You may reserve your choice before you go by going to:
<https://www.alabamainteractive.org/dorpt/UserHome.str>

ALABAMA REGISTRATION (TAG) FEE SCHEDULE
<http://www.revenue.alabama.gov/motorvehicle/mvforms/feeschedule.htm>

Be sure to select the SCV tag! The cost of reserving a personalized plate is \$2 and payment must be made online using either VISA or MASTERCARD. Once approved, the reservation will be valid for five business days. You will not be charged if DOR rejects your request.

Alabama SCV Car Tag T-Shirt



Most of you are aware that the Alabama Division has a new t-shirt that promotes the SCV car tag approved for sale in the State of Alabama.

Pictured is Morgan Strain wearing the new shirt. The front of the shirt has an Alabama state flag on it with Alabama Division above the flag. Please contact Northeast Brigade Commander Tom Strain at tom@ssnurseries.com or at 729-8501 to order the shirts. Order blank here:

<http://www.aladivscv.com/forms/OrderBlank.pdf>

Historical Markers of the Tuscaloosa Area

Home Guard Defended Covered Bridge

3 April 1865 – Brig Gen John T. Croxton's Cavalry Brigade departed camp at Johnson's Ferry (Old Lock 17 area) to the Watermelon Road ending in Northport. As the Union troops entered Northport, the Methodist Church bell was rung as a prearranged warning alarm. Armed with 7-shot carbines, 150 troopers of the 2nd Michigan Cav Regt rushed the covered bridge which was defended by about a dozen old men and young boys led by 53-year-old Capt Benjamin F. Eddins. This Home Guard removed 30 feet of the bridge's flooring in a delaying action as they retreated, returning fire with their single-shot weapons. Capt Eddins was seriously wounded and died a week later; 15-year-old John Carson was crippled for life by a bullet. Union casualties of the 2nd Mich Cav Regt numbered 23.

4 April – Croxton's raiders skirmished with the Alabama Corps of Cadets near Greensboro Ave and University Blvd and the brow of River Hill. After the mayor, accompanied by a Catholic priest, surrendered the town, the Union troops burned the main buildings of the State University, the foundry, factories, warehouses and over 2,000 bales of cotton.

5 April – Burning the covered bridge and destroying two captured cannon, Croxton's cavalry departed Tuscaloosa and Northport by way of the Columbus Road (old Highway 82 W).

Website Report For December 2011

There was not a report available for December 2011 at this time.

Confederate Generals Birthdays for January

General Robert Edward Lee - 19 Jan. 1807- Westmoreland, Va.

Lt. General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson - 21 Jan. 1824 - Clarksburg, Va.

Commodore Matthew Fontaine Maury - 14 Jan. 1806 - Spotsylvania Co., Va.

Lt. General James Longstreet - 8 Jan. 1821 - Edgefield Dist, S.C.

Lt. General Richard Taylor - 27 Jan. 1826 - Louisville, Ky.

Maj. General John Cabell Breckenridge - 15 Jan. 1821 - Lexington, Ky.

Maj. General John Calvin Brown - 6 Jan. 1827 - Giles County, Tenn.

Maj. General Franklin Gardner - 29 Jan. 1823 - New York City, N.Y.

Maj. General Thomas Carmichael Hindman - 28 Jan. 1828 - Knoxville, Tenn.

Maj. General Joseph Brevard Kershaw - 5 Jan. 1822 - Camden, S.C.

Maj. General Lafayette McLaws - 15 Jan. 1821 - Augusta, Ga.

Maj. General George Edward Pickett - 28 Jan. 1825 - Richmond, Va.

Maj. General Jones Mitchell Withers - 12 Jan. 1814 - Madison Co., Ala.

Brig. General Abraham Buford - 18 Jan. 1820 - Woodford Co., Ky.

Brig. General William Lewis Cabell - 1 Jan. 1827 - Danville, Va.

Brig. General James Ronald Chalmers - 11 Jan. 1831 - Halifax Co., Va.

Brig. General John Randolph Chambliss Jr. - 23 Jan. 1833 - Greenville Co., Va.

Brig. General James Chestnut Jr. - 18 Jan. 1815 - Camden, S.C.

Brig. General James Holt Clanton - 8 Jan. 1827 - Columbia Co., Ga.

Brig. General John Bullock Clark Jr. - 14 Jan. 1831 - Fayette, Missouri

Brig. General George Blake Cosby - 19 Jan. 1830 - Louisville, Ky.

Brig. General Alfred Cummings - 30 Jan. 1829 - Augusta, Ga.

Brig. General Henry Brevard Davidson - 28 Jan. 1831 - Shelbyville, Tenn.

Brig. General Joseph Robert Davis - 12 Jan. 1825 - Woodville, Maine

Brig. General John Wesley Frazer - 6 Jan. 1827 - Hardin Co., Tenn.

Brig. General Lucius Jeremiah Gartell - 7 Jan. 1821 - Wilkes Co., Ga.

Brig. General Richard Caswell Gatlin - 18 Jan. 1809 - Lenior, N.C.

Brig. General Henry Gray - 19 Jan. 1816 - Laurens District, S.C.

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Confederate Generals Birthdays (Continued):

Brig. General Thomas Green - 8 Jan. 1814 - Amelia Co., Va.
 Brig. General Richard Griffith - 11 Jan. 1814 - Philadelphia, Pa.
 Brig. General James Morrison Hawes - 7 Jan. 1824 - Lexington, Ky.
Brig. General Alexander Travis Hawthorne - 10 Jan. 1825 - Conecuh Co., Ala.
 Brig. General Alfred Eugene Jackson - 11 Jan. 1807 - Davidson Co., Tenn.
 Brig. General John Doby Kennedy - 5 Jan. 1840 - Camden, S.C.
 Brig. General William Whedbee Kirkland - 13 Jan. 1833 - Hillsborough, N.C.
 Brig. General Robert Doak Lilley - 28 Jan. 1836 - Greenville, Va.
 Brig. General William Whann Mackall - 18 Jan. 1817 - Cecil Co., Md.
 Brig. General Humphrey Marshall - 13 Jan 1812 - Frankfort, Ky.
 Brig. General William Henry Fitzhugh Payne - 27 Jan. 1830 - Fauquier Co., Va.
 Brig. General William Raine Peck - 31 Jan. 1818 - Jefferson Co., Tenn.
 Brig. General John Pegram - 24 Jan. 1832 - Petersburg, Va.
 Brig. General John Seldon Roane - 8 Jan. 1817 - Wilson Co., Tenn.
 Brig. General Daniel Ruggles - 31 Jan. 1810 - Barrie, Mass.
 Brig. General James Phillip Simms - 16 Jan. 1837 - Covington, Ga.
 Brig. General Merriwether Jeff Thompson - 22 Jan. 1826 - Harpers Ferry, Va.
 Brig. General Lloyd Tilghman - 18 Jan. 1816 - Claiborne, Md.
 Brig. General Richard Waterhouse - 12 Jan. 1832 - Rhea Co., Tenn.
 Brig. General Thomas Neville Waul - 5 Jan. 1813 - Sumter Dist., S.C.
 Brig. General William Hugh Young - 1 Jan. 1838 - Boonville, Missouri

Alabama Civil War Units**Waters' Battery**

This command was organized at Mobile city, in October 1861, and the men and officers were from there. The battery remained in the defence of that city till the spring of '62, when it moved to Corinth. It was in the Kentucky campaign losing lightly at Mumfordsville, and none at Perryville. It suffered severely at Murfreesboro, where it was in Manigault's brigade. At Chocomauga the battery was engaged without loss; but at Mission Ridge it lost three guns and half its force were captured. The other half were distributed in Cobb's (Kentucky) and Mayberry's (Tennessee) battery, and served till the end.

Captains -- David Waters; promoted.

Lieutenants -- Wm. Hamilton. Charles Watkins. Samuel Battle. James M. Muldon; resigned. ...

Gage's Battery

This battery was organized at Mobile, October 1861, and was composed of Mobilians. It remained in the defences of the city during the winter. It was then sent to Tennessee, and suffered severely at Shiloh. The battery was then sent back to Mobile, and remained in garrison there till the city was evacuated. It was surrendered with the department at Meridian.

Captains--Charles P. Gage; resigned. James Hill; resigned. James H. Hutchisson.

Lieutenants--James Hill; promoted. Daniel Geary; till re-organized. George Johnson; till re-organized. Francis Titcomb; till re-organized. James H. Hutchisson; promoted. Richard H. Wilkins; resigned. Thomas H. Shaw. Cleveland King; resigned. John T. Ellison. John S. Treat. F. H. Stanard.

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Alabama Civil War Units (Continued):

Waddell's Battery

This battery was organized in February 1862 by an order allowing 20 men to be taken from each company of the Sixth Alabama. Equipped with eight guns, the battery was in the Kentucky campaign. Sent to Mississippi with Stevenson's division, the battery was badly cut up and lost nearly all of its guns at Baker's Creek. It lost quite a number during the siege of Vicksburg, and was there captured. Exchanged, the battery was divided into the two that follow.

Captains -- James F. Waddell of Russell.

Lieutenants -- W. D. Emery of Montgomery; wounded at Vicksburg. R. H. Bellamy, Alonzo O'Neal, A. H. Burch. Jefferson Bates, and Robert Harvey, all of Russell.

Emery's Battery

This was part of "Waddell's Battery," and was organized at Columbus, Georgia, in November 1863. Ordered to Dalton, the record of the battery is blended with that of the Army of Tennessee during the memorable campaign of 1864. It was part of Major Waddell's battalion-- Emery's, Barrett's, and Bellamy's batteries. The battery sternly confronted Wilson at Girard, and there the guns and two-thirds of the men were captured.

Captains-- W. D. Emery of Montgomery.

Lieutenants -- A. H. Burch, Jefferson Bates, M. M. Allen, R. H. Boykin, all of Russell.

Bellamy's Battery

This command was the other half of Waddell's battery, and was organized at Columbus, Ga., November 1863. Sent to Dalton, the battery participated in the almost incessant battle back to Atlanta, but its loss was not severe. Ordered to Columbus, the battery fought Wilson at Girard, and the men were dispersed or captured, and the guns abandoned.

Captains.-R. H. Bellamy of Russell.

Lieutenants.-Alonzo O'Neal of Russell; killed at Marietta. Robert Harvey, and J. T. Holland of Russell.

Selden's-Lovelace's"-Battery

The men of this command were chiefly from Marengo, Perry, Dallas, and Shelby, and it was organized at Uniontown in the spring of 1862. After a short time passed at Columbus, Miss., the battery went to Mobile, and remained there nearly two years. Having joined the main army, the battery was engaged at Resaca, Cassville, Kennesa, New Hope, Peachtree, losing lightly in each, and was complimented on the field at the latter place by Gen. Reynolds. At Jonesboro the battery lost four killed, and several wounded. It was engaged in the further operations of that army, and at Nashville lost several killed and had its guns captured. The remainder surrendered at Meridian.

Captains -- Joseph Selden of Perry. Charles W. Lovelace of Dallas; captured at Nashville.

Lieutenants -- R. H. Jones; resigned. ... Murfree; resigned. C. W. Lovelace; promoted. E. C. England of Marengo; relieved. L. W. Duggar of Marengo. C. C. Smoot of Shelby. W. M. Selden of Perry.

Eufaula Light Artillery

This command was organized at Eufaula, Feb. 26, 1862, and was composed of men from Barbour and adjoining counties--262 rank and file. Equipped with six guns, the battery joined the Army of Tennessee, and participated in its campaigns and operations till the end, losing 48 men killed and wounded, and 36 by disease, during its service. It was surrendered at Meridian, Miss.

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Alabama Civil War Units (Continued):

Captains--John W. Clark; resigned. W. A. McTyere; resigned. M. D. Oliver; killed at Atlanta. William J. McKenzie.

Lieutenants--W. A. McTyere; promoted. M. D. Oliver; promoted. W. J. McKenzie; promoted. W. H. Woods; F. M. Caldwell.

Sengstak's-Barrett's Battery

This company was organized at Mobile, December 1861 and remained there and at Columbus, Miss., till September 1862. The battery was engaged at Corinth and Hatchee, with small loss at the latter. During the winter that followed, the battery operated in north Mississippi. It was part of the ill-fated garrison of Vicksburg, where it lost largely in casualties, and was captured. When exchanged, the men were assigned to Barrett's, (Missouri) battery, and joined the Army of Tennessee. During the Dalton-Atlanta campaign, Barrett's battery in a battalion commanded by Major Waddell of Russell—was constantly engaged, and lost considerably. Ordered to Columbus, it took part in the battle of Girard, and most of the men, and all the guns, were there captured.

Captains -- Hermann H. Sengstak of Mobile; transferred.

Lieutenants -- Wm. P. Leslie of Monroe; resigned. A. P. St. John of Mobile; transferred. Stanley H. Bell of Greene; wounded at Vicksburg; transferred.

Fowler's-Phelan's Battery

This battery was as organized in January 1862, at Tuscaloosa. It was composed chiefly of men who had served a year in Virginia as a company in the Fifth Alabama Infantry, having volunteered with R. E. Rodes as captain. The company was the first organization that re-enlisted "for the war." The battery was on duty at Mobile for about a year. Having joined the main army, at Tullahoma, the battery was part of Walthall's brigade at Chickamauga, and there lost 10 killed, and 18 wounded, and 16 horses. At Mission Ridge the battery had several wounded. Placed in Cheatham's division, the battery lost 6 killed and 9 wounded. On the retreat from Dalton, the guns were served almost daily, and suffered considerably. Moving with Gen. Hood into Tennessee, the battery was engaged at Franklin and Nashville, losing 8 killed and wounded at the latter battle. The battery was stationed at Mobile till the close of the war, and surrendered with 130 men.

Captains--Wm. H. Fowler of Tuscaloosa; transferred. John Phelan of Montgomery, wounded at Resaca.

Lieutenants-- John Phelan; promoted. Robert O. Perrin of Greene; resigned. N. Venable of Tuscaloosa. Wm. Dailey of Tuscaloosa; killed at Resaca. A. P. Hinton of Perry. Samuel W. Reeves of Tuscaloosa.

"Andrews"- "Lee's"-Battery.

This company was organized at Norfolk, Va., January 1862, and the men were from Montgomery. The majority of the men had served a year as a company in the Third Alabama Infantry. Some months later, the battery was sent to North Carolina, and was on garrison duty on the coast. It assisted in the capture of Plymouth with small loss, and blew up Fort Branch when the Confederate line at Petersburg was broken, and tried to join Gen. Johnston. The battery disbanded at Ridgeway, N. C., April 1865.

Captains.- W. G. Andrews; relieved. Edgar J. Lee of Montgomery.

Lieutenants.- E. R. Spalding; resigned. E. J. Lee; promoted. J. E. Davis. Wm. F. Williams. Sid. S. McWhorter.

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Alabama Civil War Units (Continued):

Haynie's Battery

This was also a Mobile battery, and was organized in that city, October 1861. It remained there till May 1862, then tarried at Columbus, several months. Sent to Corinth unequipped, the men served with other batteries till the siege of Vicksburg, when the battery was organized, and suffered in casualties while in charge of the heavy guns. Captured and paroled, the battery was on garrison duty at Mobile, and one or two other points, till the struggle closed.

Captains--John D. Haynie.

Lieutenants--John G. Cleveland; resigned. Thomas Emanuel; killed at Vicksburg. Morris John Schlater.

Charpentier's Battery

The men and officers of this company were from Mobile, and organized for light artillery service in October 1861. The battery remained in the defences of Mobile city till June 1863, when it was sent to Mississippi. Placed in Featherston's brigade, the battery fought at Jackson with light loss. Ordered to Dalton, it was in the first part of the retrograde movement of the army from Dalton, losing horses by one shell at Resaca. The battery then proceeded to Selma to re-equip. It went thence as flying artillery with Gen. Forrest, and fought at Rome, Ga. Having returned to Selma, the battery participated in the defence of the place, and was there captured.

Captains.- Stephen Charpentier; resigned. John Jenks.

Lieutenants.- John Jenks; promoted. L. H. Goodman. William Lee. Samuel Miller.

Lumsden's Battery

This company was recruited at Tuskalooza, and reported for duty at Mobile, November 1861, 125 strong. Stationed at Fort Gaines till, after Shiloh, the battery relieved Gage's at Tupelo, and were given six guns. The battery skirmished at Farmington, and in the Kentucky campaign fought at Perryville with small loss. At Chicamauga there were several casualties, and the battery lost a gun. Its pieces moved down the road from Dalton to Atlanta, and 5 killed and 2.5 wounded was the number of its casualties. The battery's loss was small around Atlanta; but, having marched with the army into Tennessee, it was overwhelmed at Nashville, losing its guns, six men killed, and 22 captured. Placed in Spanish Fort, the garrison was under fire for two weeks, with some loss. Moving up to Marion Station, (Miss.), the battery was surrendered with the department.

Captains -- C. L. Lumsden.

Lieutenants -- George Vaughan; made surgeon. H. H. Cribbs; resigned. G. H. Hargrove; wounded at Nashville. Ed. Tarrant; resigned. A. C. Hargrove; wounded at Spanish Fort. John A. Caldwell; wounded at Spanish Fort.

Semple's Battery

This command was organized at Montgomery, in March 1862, and the officers and men were nearly all from Montgomery County. Ordered to Mobile, it soon after joined the Arms of Tennessee. It marched into Kentucky, and was engaged at Perryville with light loss. Two sections fought in the last day's battle at Murfreesboro, losing a third of the men, two guns, and nearly every horse. At Dug Gap the loss was inconsiderable, but serious at Chickamauga. The battery was engaged at Mission Ridge without loss, and one section suffered severely at Ringgold Gap. The loss of men and horses at Resaca was considerable, and the battery was fully occupied with the work of death on the retreat to Atlanta. In the battle of July 22, and at Jonesboro, the loss was quite severe. The guns of the battery were the first that opened at Franklin, but its loss there and at Nashville was comparatively light. Ordered to North Carolina, the battery reached Augusta, and there surrendered.

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Alabama Civil War Units (Continued):

Captains -- Henry C. Semple; promoted. R. W. Goldthwaite.

Lieutenants -- Elmore F. Fitzpatrick; detached. John B. Scott; resigned. R. W. Goldthwaite; promoted. E. G. McClellan; killed at Resaca. Charles Dowd ;* wounded at Resaca. Joseph Pollard; killed at Murfreesboro. Derrill M. Hart. Henry Armstrong.

*This officer was from Mobile; the others from Montgomery.

Kolb's Battery

In April 1862, the " Barbour Light Artillery " was organized at Eufaula with about 325 officers and men, and with W. N. Reeves as captain, and R. F. Kolb, F. D. McLennan, Robert Cherry, and Pat Powers as lieutenants. Proceeding to Montgomery, the company was divided into two, and with two other companies, organized as the artillery battalion of Hilliard's legion, with W. N. Reeves as major. Having reached Chattanooga, only one of the companies was equipped as artillery—the others continuing with the legion as infantry.

This company, under Capt. R. F. Kolb, was in the Kentucky campaign, and in east Tennessee for some time. It then shared the fortunes of the Army of Tennessee, fighting at Chickamauga, on the Dalton-Atlanta campaign, and in Hood's Tennessee movement. Ordered to North Carolina, the battery got as far as Augusta when the surrender occurred. Of the men of the company, about 45 died of disease in the service, and about 70 were killed or wounded.

Tarrant's Battery

This command was organized in June 1863, and the men were from the western counties of the State. It remained at Pollard for some months, and joined the Army of Tennessee at Dalton. The battery participated in the battles of Resaca, Cassville, Lost Mountain, New Hope, Kennesa, Peach-tree, and Atlanta, and suffered more or less in each. It then moved towards Tennessee, and was under fire at Decatur from the gunboats. At Nashville one section of the battery was captured entire, after hard fighting, and so many men and horses killed in the other that the guns could not be drawn off. Ordered to Blakeley, the men there manned eight heavy pieces, endured the perils of that siege, fired the last gun at the victor foe, and was there surrendered.

Captains -- Ed. Tarrant of Tuscaloosa; captured at Blakeley.

Lieutenants -- Seth Shepard of Perry; captured at Nashville. B. B. Hardwick of Tuscaloosa; wounded at Kennesa; at Nashville. E. W. Tarrant of Tuscaloosa; captured at Blakeley.

Clanton's Battery

This command was organized at Pine Level, in Montgomery, June 1863, and composed of men from that and adjoining counties. Attached to Gen. Clanton's brigade, the battery was at Pollard and Mobile for some time, then in northeast Alabama and north Georgia. One section was engaged in a fight at Rome, and the battery fought at Girard, where the guns were captured. The surrender of the men soon followed.

Captains-- N. H. Clanton of Macon.

Lieutenants -- R. J. Swearingen of Macon. Henry Goldthwaite of Montgomery. Charles Howard of Macon.

Ward's-Cruise's Battery

This command was recruited in Madison, and served in the Army of Tennessee. Capt. Ward was succeeded in the command of it by Capt. S. R. Cruise of Madison.*

*After diligent effort, no satisfactory information was obtained of this battery.

(Continued Next Page)

Alabama Civil War Units (Continued):

Miscellaneous Commands

There were two companies of mounted Alabamians in the "Jeff Davis Legion," an organization that served in Virginia throughout the war. One of the companies was from Sumter, under Capt. Wm. M. Stone, who was promoted, and succeeded by A. K. Ramsey as captain. The other was from Marengo, Capt. Tayloe, who was succeeded by Ivey Lewis as captain.

In the regiment recruited by Col. (afterwards Gen.) Wirt Adams of Mississippi there were two Alabama companies. One was from Clarke, under Stephen B. Cleveland as captain, who was promoted, and succeeded by John Y. Kilpatrick. The other company was from Lowndes, with S. J. Fagg as captain, who resigned, and was succeeded by M. B. Bowie.

There were three or four companies from the State in Georgia and Tennessee regiments, from counties bordering on those States.

Thirty or forty men of Pelham's battery were from Talladega and Calhoun, under Lieut. Wm. McGregor of the former county.

A number of Alabamians were also in the battery of Capt. C.: B. Farrell of Georgia. They were from Chambers and Randolph, under Lieut. Nathan Davis.

There were others in the battery of Capt. S. H. Dent of Barbour, and in that of Capt. Thrall of Forrest's corps.

There were also several regiments of "reserves" or militia towards the close of the war. A detachment of them was engaged at Montevallo with Wilson, but they were mostly assembled at Mobile.

News Of The Rodes Camp

Definition of a Gentleman: Robert E. Lee

The forbearing use of power does not form a touchstone, but the manner in which an individual enjoys certain advantages over others is a test of a true Gentleman. The power which the strong have over the weak, the employer over the employed, they educated over the unlettered, the experienced over the confiding, even the clever over the silly – the forbearing use or inoffensive use of all this power or authority, or a total abstinence from it when the case admits it; will show the Gentleman in a plain light.

The Gentleman does not unnecessarily or reminds an offender of a wrong he may have committed against him. He cannot only forgive, he can forget; and strives for that nobleness of self and mindless of character, which imparts sufficient strength to let the past be but the past. A true man of honor feels humbled himself when he cannot help humbling others.

Southern Chivalry

Thou shalt follow the dictates of moral conscience.

Thou shalt be willing to defend your values.

Thou shalt have respect & pity for all weakness & steadfastness in defending them.

Thou shalt love thy country.

Thou shalt refuse to retreat before the enemy.

Thou shalt wage unceasing & merciless war against all that is evil.

Thou shalt obey the orders of those appointed above you, as long as those orders do not conflict with what you know to be just & true.

Thou shalt show loyalty to truth & your pledged word.

Thou shalt be generous & giving of one's self.

Thou shalt be champion of the right & good at all times; & at all times oppose the forces of evil.

CWT News (Continued):

December 2011 From the President

Dear Civil War Preservationist,

In this final month of a remarkable 2011, I need your help. Please consider making a year-end gift to help support the Civil War Trust's new, incredible opportunity to save 267 acres of hallowed ground at the Fallen Timbers battlefield at Shiloh! With this incredible transaction -- years in the making -- we are preserving nearly 75% of the entire battlefield in one fell swoop, where not one single acre was protected before! With your help I know that we can add this important, unprotected battlefield land to the saved column.

I know that many of our iPhone-toting members have downloaded one or all of our Civil War Battle Apps. Well now we have our first Battle App ready for you Android smartphone owners. Our new Bull Run Battle App for Android will be the first of many for this fast growing platform.

<p>BULL RUN BATTLE APP FOR ANDROID: Exciting news! Our popular Bull Run Battle App is now available for Android-powered smartphones. Download our free app today. Learn More »</p>
<p>VIEW OUR 2011 YEAR END VIDEO: 2011 was a year filled with great accomplishments, events, and new, exciting battlefield preservation campaigns. Watch our online video and relive the many highlights from 2011. Watch the Video »</p>
<p>FALLEN TIMBERS: THEN & NOW: Learn more about the final chapter at Shiloh and the state of the Fallen Timbers battlefield today from Chief Park Ranger, Stacy Allen. Read More »</p>
<p>150TH ANNIVERSARY: BATTLE OF DRANESVILLE: On December 20, 1861, Union forces battled JEB Stuart and his Confederate soldiers near Dranesville. Learn more about this small, but important battle. Read the Article »</p>
<p>TEACHER FEATURE: AN INTERVIEW WITH JIM PERCOCO: Read our interview with teacher Jim Percoco. Learn more about the state of history education today and Jim's love of the Civil War. Read More »</p>
<p>GIFT MEMBERSHIPS: Why not give the gift of history this holiday season? Give your friends, relatives, or colleagues a Civil War Trust gift membership. Each new member will receive our award winning Hallowed Ground magazine. Learn More »</p>
<p>"GIVE AN ACRE": Want to give a unique gift to someone who loves history? Use our "Give an Acre" system to acquire battlefield land in another's name. Learn More »</p>
<p>CIVIL WAR TRUST APPAREL: Show your support of Civil War battlefield preservation. Find Civil War Trust branded products from hoodies to mugs to messenger bags. Visit our Store »</p>
<p>DECEMBER CIVIL WAR BATTLES: Expand your knowledge of the Civil War by learning more about some of the great Civil War battles that occurred this month. Access our history articles, photos, maps, and links for the battles listed below: Dranesville » Prairie Grove » Fredericksburg » Stones River » Nashville »</p>

Civil War preservation news from around the country

[Ball's Bluff Reenactment Provides Economic Boost for Region \(Leesburg Patch\)](#)

[Spielberg's "Lincoln" Takes Richmond \(Hamptonroads.com\)](#)

[Civil War Naval Museum Sails into Uncharted Waters \(Ledger-Enquirer\)](#)

[Power's Hill Tree Removal Update \(Gettysburg Daily\)](#)

(Continued Next Page)

CWT News (Continued):

[Not Your Grandfather's Civil War Commemoration \(The Atlantic\)](#)

[A Quiet 149th Anniversary at the Fredericksburg Battlefield \(Spotsylvania Blog\)](#)

[Private Sam Watkins Describes Franklin Action \(Battle of Franklin\)](#)

[The Confederates Return to Dranesville \(All Not So Quiet..\)](#)

[Favorite 2011 Civil War Books \(CWBA\)](#)

- Jim Lighthizer, *Civil War Trust President*



[Civil War Trust Battle Apps for iPhone and Android](#)

[Download the Bull Run Battle App from the Android Market](#)

CIVIL WAR TRUST LAUNCHES FIRST APP FOR ANDROID PHONES

Popular GPS-enabled battlefield tour series expands into world's largest smartphone market

(Washington, D.C.) – The Civil War Trust, the nation's largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization, and technology partner NeoTreks, Inc., an industry leader in GPS-based touring, are pleased to announce the debut of their first Battle App optimized for performance on Android phones. Previous iterations of these free, multimedia and GPS-enabled smartphone tours of historic sites had been created for use on Apple devices.

Android users who visit the Android Market will now have the option of downloading the Trust's "Bull Run Battle App," which features a 13-stop GPS-guided tour with "virtual signs" and additional points of interest that can be accessed with a few simple clicks. Each stop along the way contains a rich description of the historical significance of the site, along with photos, video commentary from battlefield experts and audio accounts from the soldiers and civilians who trod this ground during the Civil War.

"We firmly believe that the innovate approach of our Battle Apps brings the past alive like never before," said Trust president James Lighthizer, "And we're thrilled that tens of millions more individuals with an interest in Civil War history will now have the opportunity to take advantage of this unique resource. With their unique combination of primary source material and the commentary of respected historians, plus the convenience of independent study, our Battle Apps offer users the best of all worlds."

While this is the first Android product the Trust has released, to date, more than 30,000 users have downloaded Battle Apps to their Apple devices. Now that the "Bull Run Battle App," which is designed for Android operating system 2.3 and higher, has been successfully launched, versions of the Trust's other offerings — covering fighting on the Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg and Gettysburg battlefields — will follow. In addition to providing a wealth of location-based historical accounts, the apps also contain a wide variety of resource material, including complete orders of battle, chronologies, overviews and at-a-glance facts. Thanks in part to the support of the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Civil War Trust is working to develop even more Battle App offerings in the coming months and years. Next in the development pipeline are Battle Apps for the Malvern Hill, Cedar Creek and Petersburg battlefields.

For more information about the content, use and availability of GPS-enable Civil War Trust Battle Apps for Apple devices and Android phones, please visit www.civilwar.org/battleapps.

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SESSQUICENTENNIAL'S FIRST YEAR BRINGS CIVIL WAR TRUST SUCCESS ON MANY FRONTS

Nonprofit protected 2,042 acres, defeated major threats at Gettysburg and the Wilderness, made significant strides in education and interpretation, while kicking off ambitious multi-year fundraising campaign

(Washington, D.C.) – The first year of the American Civil War's sesquicentennial commemoration was an exceptional one for the Civil War Trust, the nation's largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization, which was able to save 2,042 acres of hallowed ground before ringing in 2012.

[Video: 2011 Year in Review](#)

[Saved Land Index](#)

“Interest in the history of this pivotal period in American history is at its highest point in a generation or more,” said Trust president James Lighthizer. “The results are tangible, as institutions and individuals alike seek to leave a lasting legacy through preservation of Civil War battlefield land.”

In 2011, often working with regional partner groups and utilizing a variety of matching grant programs, the organization closed 39 separate transactions at 25 individual battlefields in 12 states. The battlefields where land was preserved in 2011 are: Day's Gap, Ala.; Natural Bridge, Fla.; Resaca, Ga.; Perryville, Ky.; Fort DeRussy, La.; Wood Lake, Minn.; Bentonville, N.C.; Cabin Creek, Okla.; Gettysburg, Pa.; Fort Donelson, Fort Sanders/Knoxville, Franklin, Parker's Cross Roads and Shiloh, Tenn.; Chancellorsville, Cold Harbor, Gaines' Mill, Glendale, Manassas, Petersburg, Thoroughfare Gap, Tom's Brook, Trevilian Station and the Wilderness, Va.; and Shepherdstown, W.Va. These successful ventures have helped the organization reach an all-time tally of more than 32,000 acres of hallowed ground saved forever.

“While the protection of battlefield land where the Civil War was fought will always remain at the heart of our mission,” said Lighthizer, “we also seek to promote appreciation and understanding of American history through a variety of advocacy, education and interpretation projects. We hope that these efforts will help inspire the future generations of Americans to study their heritage.”

Early in the year, the Trust unveiled a new logo intended to better capture the dynamism and spirit of the sesquicentennial era, and in the spring published its second book, *The Civil War 150: An Essential To-Do List for the 150th Anniversary*, designed to promote a variety of means to experience history. During a June 30, news conference in Gettysburg, the organization announced an ambitious preservation initiative for the sesquicentennial period. Entitled Campaign 150, the effort will seek to raise \$40 million during the course of the commemoration, enabling the Trust to save 20,000 acres. Also during the summer, the organization introduced a text-to-give option that allows for small donations to be made anywhere you have cell phone service — including the floor of a concert starring country music legend Trace Adkins, who joined the group's board of trustees.

The year also saw major victories for the battlefield preservation movement, as two high-profile threats to major battlefields were resolved. On January 26, Walmart announced that it would cease to pursue construction of a supercenter on a portion of Virginia's Wilderness battlefield, instead preserving the site because it was “the right thing to do.” The Civil War Trust and its partners in the Wilderness Battlefield Coalition had long advocated that a mutually agreeable site could be found, with local residents and the Friends of Wilderness Battlefield organization bringing the issue to court. Then, on April 14, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board denied an application to open a casino within a hotel on the fringes of Gettysburg National Military Park — the second time that such an attempt has failed, in no small part due to the efforts of the preservation community.

On the interpretation front, the Trust created a physical trail with historic markers at the Mine Run Battlefield in central Virginia, and greatly expanded its acclaimed digital interpretation offerings. Over the course of the year, three new Battle Apps — GPS-enabled mobile battlefield tours designed for use on smartphones — made their debut. To date more than 35,000 people have downloaded the Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg and Bull Run titles for iPhone or the Bull Run version for Android.

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CWT News (Continued): Trust Education initiatives also made great strides in 2011. In March, the organization released a new curriculum guide for teachers seeking innovative ways to bring history alive in the classroom, making it available free of charge to all educators through its website. In addition to hosting its 10th annual summer Teacher Institute in Nashville, the Trust also began expanding its on-site continuing education offerings with Regional Institutes held throughout the school year in Gettysburg and Boston.

While 2011 brought many successes, the Civil War Trust is eager for the milestones that 2012 will undoubtedly bring. In addition to the being the second year of the sesquicentennial — with major commemorative activities planned at Fort Donelson National Battlefield, Shiloh National Military Park, Richmond National Battlefield and Antietam National Battlefield, to name just a few — 2012 will also mark the organization's 25th anniversary. The modern Civil War Trust traces its origins to the founding of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites in 1987, in response to the rapid development experienced at many Northern Virginia battlefields, particularly Chantilly.

A Last Bastion of Civility, the South, Sees Manners Decline

By KIM SEVERSON *new york times* November 1, 2011

ATLANTA — One August night, two men walked into a popular restaurant attached to this city's fanciest shopping mall. They sat at the bar, ordered drinks and pondered the menu. Two women stood behind them. A bartender asked if they would mind offering their seats to the ladies. Yes, they would mind. Very much.

Angry words came next, then a federal court date and a claim for more than \$3 million in damages.

The men, a former professional basketball player and a lawyer, also happen to be black. The women are white. The men's lawyers argued that the Tavern at Phipps used a policy wrapped in chivalry as a cloak for discriminatory racial practices.

After a week's worth of testimony in September, a jury decided in favor of the bar. Certainly, the owners conceded, filling the bar with women offers an economic advantage because it attracts more men. But in the South, they said, giving up a seat to a lady is also part of a culture of civility.

At least, it used to be. The Tavern at Phipps case, and a growing portfolio of examples of personal and political behavior that belies a traditional code of gentility, have scholars of Southern culture and Southerners themselves wondering if civility in the South is dead, or at least wounded.

"Manners are one of many things that are central to a Southerner's identity, but they are not primary anymore. Things have eroded," said Charles Reagan Wilson, a professor of history and Southern culture at the University of Mississippi.

To be sure, strict rules regarding courtesy and deference to others have historically been used as a way to enforce a social order in which women and blacks were considered less than full citizens.

In the Jim Crow era, blacks and whites lived with a code of hyper-politeness as a way to smooth the edges of a harsh racial system and, of course, keep it in place, scholars of Southern culture say.

As those issues faded, proper manners remained an important cultural marker that Southerners have worked to maintain. Since the Civil War, any decline in Southern civility has largely been blamed on those damn Yankees.

Newcomers still get much of the blame. In the past decade, the South has seen an unprecedented influx of immigrants from other states and countries. The population in the South grew by 14.3 percent from 2000 to 2010, making it the fastest-growing region in the country.

But there is more behind the social shift, scholars say. Digital communication and globalization have conspired to make many parts of the South less insular. Couple that with a political climate as contentious as anyone can remember and a wave of economic insecurity rolling across the region, and you have a situation where saying "thank you, ma'am" isn't good enough anymore.

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Decline of Manners (Continued): “There are just so many more complexities,” Professor Wilson said. “Manners and a code of civility can’t help you negotiate everything.” Some say the South’s great cities seem to be losing civility faster than country communities, where stopping to ask for directions can still end in an invitation to supper.

Too many outsiders trying to escape the pressures of life in bigger cities have migrated to Atlanta and Birmingham, said Saahara Glaude, a media specialist whose clients include some members of the Martin Luther King Jr. family.

As a result, reliable affinities once based on race or religion are gone. “It used to be that an African-American could trust an African-American down here,” she said. “Those days are long gone.” Dana Mason, who teaches second grade in Birmingham, says manners have been at the lowest level she has seen in her 36 years in the classroom. Parents who move South tell her they don’t want their children to learn to say “yes, sir” or “yes, ma’am.” Too demeaning, they say.

But she and others point out that manners are on the slide everywhere. Mrs. Mason blames a faster pace of life and the demise of the home-cooked family meal. “You don’t need to know all your social graces to sit down at McDonald’s and eat a burger and fries,” she said.

Civility is also waning at that most civil of events, the Southern wedding. How comfortable a bride made guests feel was once the mark of a successful event. Now, weddings are more selfish affairs, said Barbara S. Clark, the owner of An Elegant Affair in Raleigh, N.C., and a graduate of the Emily Post Institute. “It’s more about the bride and groom and what are we going to get out of it,” she said.

The ability to pour Southern charm over the political process has served many politicians well as they rose to national prominence, among them Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton and, more recently, the presidential hopeful Herman Cain, said Todd Shields, director of the Diane D. Blair Center of Southern Politics and Society at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

Manners also helped create the South’s famous “bless your heart” culture — a powerful way of seeming to be polite without being genuine.

“Manners are often a way of distancing and maintaining space,” said William Ferris, a University of North Carolina folklorist who edited the Encyclopedia of Southern Culture with Professor Wilson. “If someone is polite, you better be careful and consider what that politeness veils.”

But it is no longer as effective as it once was, he said. The nation’s political discourse has become more aggressive. When played out in the South, it just seems more shocking.

In the South Carolina Statehouse, Gov. Nikki R. Haley has been regularly criticized for not offering long-established lawmakers the deference they have come to expect.

The governor kept 10 state lawmakers whom she perceived as political enemies off the guest list for an end-of-session cookout, and senior legislators have grumbled privately that members of her young staff don’t stand up when one of them enters a meeting.

Of course, many believe that busting through a system that has been used to keep power in the hands of a few and limit public debate is not necessarily a bad thing.

“We are not as oblique as we used to be and perhaps that was interpreted as civility,” said Nathalie Dupree, the Southern cooking expert who last year waged a fanciful campaign against Senator Jim DeMint, Republican of South Carolina, with the slogan “Cream DeMint.”

“As a whole, we are now more willing to say what we think,” she said. “And that is a good thing for the South.” The country will have a chance to see Southern civility on display next September, when Charlotte, N.C., hosts the Democratic National Convention.

Life in Charlotte is not as pleasant as it once was. Like many other American cities, it has its share of road rage and rudeness. And although crime rates have dropped, in May the city called out its Civil Emergency Unit and arrested 70 people who rioted two hours after the end of a Nascar event.

But in the best of Southern tradition, the city will try to lead with its manners come September. “It’ll be all sweet tea and hush puppies,” says Michael Ballard, a writer and lifelong Southerner. Keepers of Southern civility maintain that manners will always be a defining characteristic of the region.

Decline of Manners (Continued): One of them is Dorothy McLeod, 70, of Augusta, Ga., who has spent decades teaching thousands of children ballroom dance and etiquette through her program, Social Inc. Mrs. McLeod attributes the slide of civility on the stress of families with two working parents and children who have not been held accountable for their actions. But she is undaunted.

"I will not give up," she said, firm in her belief that Southerners still want to raise children who are kind and well-mannered. "They must," she said, "or my classes wouldn't be full."

On The Web: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/02/us/southern-manners-on-decline-some-say.html?_r=2&emc=eta1

Huntsville official backtracks on Lee school renaming

The (Athens, AL) News-Courier Associated Press November 4, 2011

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP) — Huntsville's superintendent is abandoning his proposal to change the name of Lee High School after a day of protest by students, parents and alumni.

The Huntsville Times reported Thursday that Casey Wardynski announced the high school's name would not be changed hundreds spoke out against the change. The school opened in 1958 and got its name from Lee Highway, a busy route that was named after Confederate General Robert E. Lee.



About 250 students marched from the school Thursday morning, some carrying signs boasting of "General Pride." Alumni and parents peppered school board members to block the name change.

Wardynski told the crowd he felt the pressure from officials who told him he was making a "gargantuan mistake." The crowd cheered when he announced he was dropping the proposal.

On The Web: <http://enewscourier.com/local/x471032797/Huntsville-official-backtracks-on-Lee-school-renaming>

Black student calls Confederate battle flag a symbol of pride, not bigotry

Follow-up to last Month's story: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDiajZXeUkl>

The Civil War is Over. Let the Battle Flag Be

Steven Simpson *The American Thinker* December 13, 2011

Over the past several months, the NAACP has launched a campaign against the Confederate Battle Flag by protesting its presence at the South Carolina statehouse. Governor Nikki Haley did not respond to the demands of the NAACP to remove it. In a similar matter, black protesters have called for the removal of the Battle Flag from a Georgian cemetery that happens to have interred the bones of Confederate soldiers. And now, most recently, Republican presidential candidate Governor Rick Perry of Texas has become the newest target of the NAACP over whether the Battle Flag should appear on license plates. In the end, Perry decided against the idea.

Facts remain: there was indeed a Civil War, and one cannot just simply wish it -- or its symbols -- away. Yet it seems that the NAACP and their friends wish to delete a symbol that, while controversial and complex in what it does or does not stand for, is still seen by many Southerners as a cultural symbol with no racial overtones.

Do the NAACP and their allies also wish to blacklist Robert E. Lee and everyone else who, from the standpoint of the South, fought for the rights of Southern states to be free from a federal government



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Battle Flag (Continued): that they saw as tyrannical, and that transcended just the issue of slavery? And if the Battle Flag is deemed as a "Southern Swastika" that should be banned, will Stone Mountain -- the memorial for Confederate war veterans -- be the next symbol removed?

It is hard not to see the battle to do away with Southern symbols from the Civil War as nothing more than the first step in an all-out deconstruction of America in toto. It should be remembered that it was under the Stars and Stripes that Africans were taken here as slaves -- not the 1861-1865 Southern flags. Perhaps we should ban "Old Glory" as a racist symbol as well?

The destruction of Stone Mountain, should it come to pass -- and it should not be unthinkable in today's America -- would be no different from the Taliban's destruction of the Buddhist statues ten years ago at Bamiyan. The Civil War ended over a century and a half ago, yet the NAACP and other groups seem incapable of coming to terms with that.

Will Southerners and other Americans ever say "enough is enough"? When will the time come for Americans of all colors and creeds to finally say, "It is over, and let's get over it"?

Yet in spite of the passage of over 150 years, it appears that America is still fighting the Civil War de facto, if not de jure. Many Southern people feel that the Battle Flag and the Stars and Bars are part of American history. This is not to say that "the Flag" does not conjure deep emotions on both sides. However, to view the tortured and complex history of the Civil War as simply a war to end slavery would be naïve. The story of a chivalrous North fighting against a racist South to end slavery is seen by many in the South as hypocritical. Indeed, if the war was fought exclusively to end slavery, why did the North have its own slave states?

Ironically, men like Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan all held racist views against blacks, Jews, and American Indians. As for Grant, he did not free his slaves until December of 1865, after the Thirteenth Amendment had been ratified. However, Robert E. Lee freed the slaves living on his plantation in 1862. It was Lee who said that slavery was an "evil." Yet, whether apocryphal or true, it has been written that Grant, when confronted as to why he did not free his slaves until the end of 1865, stated that "good help is hard to come by these days." And all this says nothing of Grant's anti-Semitic "General Order Number 11." Meanwhile, even Lincoln stated that his main goal was the preservation of the Union, with or without slavery.

It is long overdue for people of goodwill and fairness to address the real racial and other issues plaguing this once-great country without pandering to those who have nothing else on their minds but a flag that to many people represents heritage and not racism. This is not to say that America has been a paragon of virtue when it comes to race or that hate groups have never used the Battle Flag for their own nefarious purposes. But it should be emphasized that racism is a two-way street. Black people can -- and do -- hate white people as much as the reverse. Indeed, while American officialdom is loath to admit it, most racial crimes are committed by blacks against whites. Why is this issue never raised by any presidential or other political candidate?

Attorney General Eric Holder has said that "we are a nation of cowards" when it comes to race. Indeed, regarding many people, he is correct. However, some may argue that it is white people who are a nation of cowards when it comes to racial issues. For if they raise the issues of discrimination against whites (e.g., "affirmative action"), black-on-white crime, or even bilingualism, they will certainly fear being called the worst word in the English language: "racist."

Instead of automatically trashing the Battle Flag and everything Southern, let us address the above issues forthrightly. If not, America will continue toward a state of chaos that may well spell the dissolution of this country. It is past time to have a true and honest discussion on race and other issues, and how they have affected the moral fiber of this country in many ways -- not just regarding a flag that hasn't been officially used in over a century and a half (and then only on a battlefield).

There are pros and cons on both sides of this issue. However, for racial healing to finally and truly begin, people have to engage in a civilized dialogue and not let their emotions rule. Until that day arrives -- if ever -- America will continue to be plagued by demagogues, cowards, and anarchists who live only to stoke the flames and fires of racial, economic, and class hatred.

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On The Web: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/the_civil_war_is_over_let_the_battle_flag_be.html

CFP - Symposium on the Mobile Campaign and Civil War, 2-4 March 2012

Location: Alabama

Date: 2012-01-20

Description: Historic Blakeley Park, **Spanish Fort**, AL, will host a symposium on the Civil War, offering a wide-ranging program with a special focus on the 1864-1865 campaign to capture Mobile, Alabama. Papers, presentations, workshops, demonstrations, and exhibits will cover the home front and memory/commemorati ...

Contact: 1oldhistorian@bellsouth.net

URL: www.facebook.com/pages/Blakeley-Symposium-on-Mobile-Campaign-and-Civil-War/286268741396322

Announcement ID: 190603

<http://www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=190603>

Audio Book Released Today by the Sons of Confederate Veterans

(Atlanta - December 21, 2011) The Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans has just released their first audio book in conjunction with the Sesquicentennial commemoration of the War Between the States. Available to middle and high school history teachers in Georgia for the past several years as supplemental written curriculum material, *The Other Side of the Coin: A Southern View of the War for Southern Independence* has now been produced as an audio book available to the general public.

The Georgia Division has become the leading organization in America for supplying historically accurate information on the Southern role during the War Between the States. On the reason behind the release of the audio book version of *The Other Side of the Coin*, Georgia Division Commander Jack Bridwell said, "It has been our goal to provide an accurate version of the facts and motives surrounding the South's participation in the War. So many of the history textbooks currently being used in high schools and colleges have adopted a revisionist view of history that is quite different than the traditional version of history taught for generations throughout America. It is merely a symptom of the same attack going on against everything that is good about America's past -- an attempt to denigrate traditional American values and heroes. There was a time when all American school children were taught that Robert E. Lee and the South were great examples of our Christian American heritage; now our children are taught that they should be ashamed of their own heritage. Consequently, our young people today have no sense of who they are and are turning to drugs, gangs, and other types of dysfunctional lifestyles. We are excited about the effectiveness already of *The Other Side of the Coin* in presenting an alternative to the revisionist history presented in so many of the textbooks, and we are happy to make the audio version of it available to the general public."

In keeping with other work of the Georgia Division, *The Other Side of the Coin* is being offered free of charge to the public as an immediate mp3 download on the Division website at www.GeorgiaSCV.org. The audio book is also in production on CD and will be available to the public in the near future. Teachers, parents, and homeschool families can download a free printed copy of the curriculum online, as well. This project comes after the Georgia Division recently announced the sale of 100,000 copies of the CD "The Truth About the Confederate Battle Flag," which is also available free of charge online.

To obtain a free download of *The Other Side of the Coin* as an audio book or printed curriculum, please visit www.GeorgiaSCV.org. Interviews regarding this or other projects by the Sons of Confederate Veterans in commemoration of the Sesquicentennial of the War may be arranged by calling Georgia Division Commander Jack Bridwell at 1-866-SCV-in-GA or online at www.GeorgiaSCV.org.

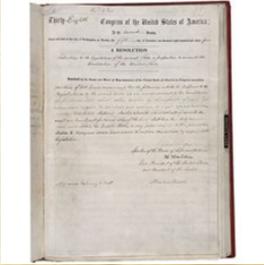
END RELEASE

History That Gets Left Out—On Purpose

Al Benson Jr [WordPress](#) December 3, 2011

Quite often the “history” books in public schools are “interesting” as much for what they leave out as for what they include.

Over the years many of us have seen “history” books that talk about Abraham Lincoln, the “great emancipator.”



This was supposedly the man who “freed” the slaves (he didn’t). This was the man who supposedly had a fond spot in his heart for all black folks (actually he was a flaming racist). Even today, blacks continue to revere his name as those he were Moses leading them through the Red Sea. Actually, Lincoln did lead them (and most of the rest of us), through the Red Sea. We just don’t have the sense yet to realize that he drowned us all in the process.

Actually, Lincoln cared not about the slaves one way or the other. His statements showed that. His main concern was “preserving the Union” in such a way that the individual states had no real say, except as allowed by Washington. He didn’t care a flip one way or the other whether slavery flourished or not. As proof of this, witness his support for the Corwin Amendment. “What’s that?” you say. You mean you never read about it in your public school “history” books? Guess it must have been one of those little things the public school “educators” and their friends in the book publishing industry determined you would be better off not knowing about. After all, you can’t ask embarrassing questions if you don’t know, can you?

The Corwin Amendment was introduced into Congress in March of 1861. Its sponsor was Ohio Representative Thomas Corwin. That’s right, folks, he was from Ohio, not Georgia or Alabama. Some reports have stated that the Corwin Amendment was introduced to prevent the “Civil War.” It was presented to the Congress in the form of House (Joint) Resolution No. 80. The entire idea of the Corwin Amendment was to prohibit Congress from trying to ban slavery in whatever states there were that permitted it. The Corwin Amendment would have stopped Congress from “abolishing or interfering with the ‘domestic institutions’ including ‘persons held to labor or service’ (a reference to slavery).” Interestingly enough, a parallel resolution to that was introduced into the Senate by William H. Seward of New York, (not Georgia, but New York). Wikipedia even notes: “However, the newly formed Confederate States of America was totally committed to independence, and so ignored the proposed Corwin Amendment.” Interesting. Our so-called “historians” (and I use that term rather loosely here) continue to inform us that the sole reason the Southern states seceded was so they could keep their slaves. Here was a golden opportunity for them to keep their slaves and get back into the Union if slavery was all it was all about, and they passed it up. Which shows that there were other reasons for secession than slavery. Now the historians would never admit that, no matter what.

The House approved the legislation by a vote of 133-65 and later in March the Senate approved it by a vote of 24-12. The seven slave-holding states that had already seceded from the Union did not bother to vote on the issue, leading to the inescapable conclusion that, for them, slavery was not the sole issue. Had it been the sole issue, no doubt they could have petitioned Washington to get back into the Union so they could have voted to keep their slaves.

Interestingly enough, the “Great Emancipator” did not oppose the Corwin Amendment. He said, in his first inaugural address: “(H)olding such a provision to now be implied Constitutional law, I have no objection to its being made express and irrevocable.” In other words, an amendment that made slavery for life the rule of law didn’t bother Mr. Lincoln one iota.

According to <http://www.indopedia.org> “A young Henry Adams observed that the measure narrowly passed both houses due to the lobbying efforts of Abraham Lincoln, the President-Elect.”

So Lincoln lobbied to get this amendment through both houses of Congress. Something else your history books didn’t bother to inform you of.

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History (Continued): After all, it wouldn't fit the image of the "Great Emancipator" that people in both government schools and government wanted to present to the "great unwashed" (and under-educated) masses—so just leave it out. It appears that Mr. Lincoln was not really the great emancipator we have been told he was. His "Emancipation Proclamation" which was really a war and propaganda measure, notwithstanding, freed no one. The slaves were not officially freed until the 13th Amendment, late in 1865, after Lincoln had passed from the scene.

Maybe we all need to start asking a few questions about those government school "history" books we were brought up with and that they have been foisting on our kids ever since—embarrassing questions—the kind they don't want asked.

On The Web: <http://revisedhistory.wordpress.com/2011/12/03/history-that-gets-left-out-on-purpose/>

Additional Links:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corwin_Amendment

<http://www.lib.niu.edu/2006/ih060934.html>

<http://ghostamendment.com/>

Ed Bearss: The man who can inspire us all

Gregg Clemmer *DC Civil War Heritage Examiner* December 14, 2011

If you visit the battlefields that dot our land, you will surely hear of him. You see, Arlington resident Edwin Cole Bearss is America's foremost military field historian. Having visited virtually every battlefield in North America—many, numerous times—Ed walks the ground to tell the story, leading dozens of battlefield tours for the Smithsonian and other tour organizers every year.

Joining the National Park Service in 1955 as park historian for Vicksburg National Military Park, Ed was instrumental in the discovery, raising, and preservation of the ironclad gunboat U. S. S. Cairo, the first vessel ever sunk by mines. With the approach of the Civil War Centennial, Ed piloted the development and inclusion of the Pea Ridge and Wilson's Creek battlefields into the NPS, a preservation expertise he would employ again and again, from historic military sites such as Tennessee's Fort Donelson, South Carolina's Fort Moultrie, and Arkansas' Fort Smith to presidential properties like LBJ's ranch in Texas, the Eisenhower Farm in Pennsylvania, and William Howard Taft's home in Ohio. But Ed did more than this.

In addition to serving as NPS Chief Historian from 1981 to 1994, he authored more than 18 books, including *Hardluck Ironclad: The Sinking and Salvage of the Cairo*, the definitive trilogy on the Vicksburg Campaign, and *Fields of Honor: Pivotal Battles of the Civil War*. Since 1989, he has served as assistant editor of *Gettysburg Magazine*. But it seems after retiring from the NPS, Ed was only getting started.

"He's the least-boring historian you could ever run into," states Robert E. L. Krick, a leading Civil War author and historian with Richmond National Battlefield Park.

Len Riedel, executive director of the Blue and Gray Education Society in Danville, Virginia, concurs. "The guy is a priceless treasure. We'll not see his like again in our lifetime." Indeed, Ed Bearss was spearheading the saving of historic sites a half century ago, way before he helped defeat gambling at Gettysburg and deny a Walmarted Wilderness. It is no wonder Riedel considers Bearss "the father of the modern battlefield-preservation movement."

Now in his golden years as NPS Chief Historian Emeritus, Ed continues to pursue his passion for America's military past. Blessed with an encyclopedic memory and fueled by a curiosity that is only sated by his lust to read and explore, Ed leads tours more than 200 days a year—that's right, you read it correctly—not only to historic sites across America, but to those storied fields beyond our shores. Yes, he's just as knowledgeable pointing out the highlights of Waterloo and Omaha Beach as he is guiding folks through Fort Necessity and Fort McHenry or striding the storied slopes up Little Round Top and Little Bighorn. Indeed, to encompass Ed Bearss' vast interpretative talents, think not only Valley Forge and Vicksburg, but also Verdun. But also know that this man is more than that.

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Ed Bearss (Continued): He is a prodigious storyteller. Indeed, for those who teach ... especially those who strive to bring the past alive ... storytelling is the foremost of necessary talents. And when Ed Bearss is where it happened, he goes vivid, coloring his detailed backstory with enticingly arcane, yet accurate anecdotes. Afire on site, his voice swells into a commanding growl, punctuated by anticipatory, visceral pauses, yet all presented without notes, with eyes closed, so—as he once confided to this writer, “I can see it better.”

“It’s about real events, real people,” he confided one afternoon in Gettysburg, “it’s the story of people ... and their trials and tribulations. It’s far more interesting than a novel, I find.” Ed Bearss has been styled “a cross between a good-natured platoon sergeant and Walter Cronkite,” which means he will candidly speak his mind ... and you will believe him. “We’re in an age of Teflon people now,” he will tell you. “People years ago were more original, more Individual.” As an approaching nonagenarian, historian Bearss easily makes his point, striding across Pickett’s Charge faster than half the folks who’ve just gotten off the bus.

Yet in the tours he leads, Ed himself has become a source of inspiration. At Gettysburg, his tour will be booked full at 42, but once he gets started, the curious and attentive will triple the numbers. Although he has won a number of awards over the years, posterity will remember him for the award that bears his name, given by the Civil War Trust for outstanding achievement in historic preservation. In showing and teaching Americans about war, he has spent his career bringing to life the stories of the young soldiers who sacrificed so much for the rest of us, decades, even centuries before we were born.

So, where does our Northern Virginia neighbor get such passion for his purpose? Why is he so good at it?

Seventy years ago, when 18-year-old Edwin Cole Bearss first heard of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, he resolved to serve his country. The following spring he left the family ranch in Sarpy, Montana, to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. Three months later he was on his way into the Pacific, seeing action first at Guadacanal, then in the Russell Islands. Then on 2 January 1944, while advancing across Suicide Creek near Point Gloucester in New Britain, he was hit four times by Japanese machine gun fire. He would spend the next 26 months recovering in various hospitals ... and to fill the hours he began reading Douglas Southall Freeman’s just released *Lee’s Lieutenants*.

Ed Bearss has never stopped learning and sharing. He is a soaring example of what made (and continues to make) our greatest generation just that. Semper Fi.

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On The Web: <http://www.examiner.com/civil-war-heritage-in-washington-dc/ed-bearss-the-man-who-can-inspire-us-all>

Civil War's 150th Stirs a Trove of Memories

Associated Press December 26, 2011

RICHMOND, Va. – A diary with a lifesaving bullet hole from Gettysburg. An intricate valentine crafted by a Confederate soldier for the wife he would never see again. A slave's desperate escape to freedom.



This photograph provided by the Library of Virginia William Henry Taylor, left, and Stephen Stewart, members of the 11th Virginia Infantry

From New England to the South, state archivists are using the sesquicentennial of the Civil War to collect a trove of wartime letters, diaries, documents and mementoes that have gathered dust in attics and basements.

This still-unfolding call will help states expand existing collections on the Civil War and provide new insights into an era that violently wrenched a nation apart, leaving 600,000 dead. Much of the Civil War has been told primarily through the eyes of battlefield and political leaders.

These documents are adding a new narrative to the Civil War's story, offering insights into the home front and of soldiers, their spouses and African-Americans, often in their own words.

Historians, who will have access to the centralized digital collections, are excited by the prospect of what the states are finding and will ultimately share.

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Civil War 150th (Continued): "I think now we're broadening the story to include everybody -- not just a soldier, not a general or a president -- just somebody who found themselves swept up in the biggest drama in American life," says University of Richmond President Edward Ayers, a Civil War expert. "That's what's so cool."

In Virginia, archivists have borrowed from the popular PBS series "*Antiques Roadshow*," traveling weekends throughout the state and asking residents to share family collections, which are scanned and added to the already vast collection at the Library of Virginia.

Started in September 2010, the Civil War 150 Legacy Project has collected 25,000 images. Virginians have been generous, knowing they can share their long-held mementos without surrendering them, said Laura Drake Davis and Renee Savits, the Library of Virginia archivists who have divided the state for their on-the-road collection campaign. "They think someone can learn from them rather than just sitting in their cupboards," Savits said of the family possessions. "And they're proud to share their family's experience."

Patricia Bangs heeded the call when a friend told her about the project. She had inherited 400 letters passed down through the years between Cecil A. Burleigh to his wife, Caroline, in Mount Carmel, Connecticut. "I felt this would be useful to researchers, a treasure to somebody," said Bangs, who works for the library system in Fairfax, Virginia. In one letter, she said, Cecil writes of Union troops traveling from Connecticut to Washington, crowds cheering them along the way.

The letters, like many collected by archivists, are difficult to read. Many are spelled phonetically, and the penmanship can be hard to decipher. Typically, they tell of the story of the home front and its daily deprivations.

Researchers in Tennessee, a battleground state in the war, teamed up with Virginia archivists earlier this year in the border town of Bristol. Both states have seen their share of bullets, swords and other military hardware. "We have grandmothers dragging in swords and muskets," said Chuck Sherrill, Tennessee state librarian and archivist. Documents are fished from attics, pressed between the pages of family bibles and stored in trunks.

Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and many other states have similar programs, or at least are trying to gather materials for use by scholars and regular folks.

Pennsylvania has been especially ambitious in adding new layers to the state's deep links to the Civil War, including a traveling exhibit called the "PA Civil War Road Show." The 53-foot museum on wheels also invites visitors to share their ancestors' stories and artifacts in a recording booth. The remembrances will be uploaded on the website www.PACivilWar150.com.

One visitor brought in a bugle that an ancestor was blowing when he was fatally shot at the Battle of Gettysburg. "He wouldn't let anyone touch it," said John Seitter, project manager of the Pennsylvania Civil War project. "It shows you how deeply these artifacts connect people with the Civil War. There's some serious memorialization going on here." Some people are even donating items unsolicited.

In Maine, for instance, some residents have submitted letters from ancestors who served in the war, but the sesquicentennial also saw an unusual submission from James R. Hosmer. Hosmer's mother, Mary Ruth Hosmer, died in 2005. He was going through her possessions in Kittery, Maine, when he made a discovery: dozens of carte de viste, small photographs carried by some Union troops, an early version of dog tags. They were stored in a suitcase in an attic. "The state archives was quite thrilled with it," Hosmer said.

The Virginia archivists said they were especially pleased by a submission from the family of an escaped slave who wrote of his love for a woman named Julia at the same time he fled his master for an outpost on the Chesapeake Bay, where Union ships were known to pick up men seeking their freedom. David Harris found his freedom in 1861, serving as a cook for Union troops.

"I love to read the sweet letters that come from you, dear love," David Harris wrote to Julia. "I cannot eat for thought of you." A valentine made of pink paper and shaped into a heart using an intricate basket weave was addressed to Confederate soldier Robert H. King to his wife Louiza. He was killed in 1862.

As for the diary tucked in a soldier's breast pocket that shielded him from death at Gettysburg, "He kept using the diary," Savits said. "He just wrote around it."

Read more: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/12/26/civil-wars-150th-stirs-trove-memories-1858474246/?test=faces#ixzz1hiBldw8p>
www.PACivilWar150.com.

Diligence marks renovation of UA's historic Gorgas House

Wayne Grayson *The Tuscaloosa News* December 28, 2011

TUSCALOOSA | Seated at the heart of the University of Alabama campus, the Gorgas House has served the school in many capacities in its 182-year history.



Renovations to the University of Alabama Gorgas House museum, above, have been recognized nationally with awards from Associated Builders and Contractors and the Associated General Contractors of America. *Staff photo | Michelle Lepianka Carter*

Built in 1829, two years before the university was established, the house first served as a hotel. Gorgas House was one of the few buildings left standing after Union soldiers burned most of the campus to the ground on April 4, 1865.

Since then, the building has served as a guest house for UA professors, a dining hall for students, a faculty residence and the home of the Gorgas family. Confederate Gen. Josiah Gorgas retired and moved into the home in 1879 and a member of the Gorgas family lived at the home until 1953.

Now the house is a museum that gives visitors a glimpse into the Gorgas family's home life. But over the years, elements of the structure — including the roof, parts of the brick and mortar, windows and doors — were weakened.

So when it came time to renovate the house, project manager Rob Cooper and Tim Leopard, UA's assistant vice president of construction, said the university was intent on giving painstaking attention to the delicate process. The renovation began in 2010 and was completed in the spring of this year.

The attention to detail has apparently already paid dividends. Brice Construction, contractor of record for the project, received two awards for top historical renovation project.

The first award was given by Associated Builders and contractors for the top project under \$2 million. The second award came from the Associated General Contractors of America for the top renovation project under \$5 million.

The \$1.1 million project included the efforts of the contractor, UA's construction administration, campus planning and UA facilities and grounds. Exterior renovation improvements were made to the masonry, roofing, gutters and downspouts, as well as the landscaping.

Cooper said he felt that the awards were earned by the care taken to protect the home from the elements during the renovation. "The wood and paint inside is extremely sensitive and we had to rip the roof off at one point. So if any water had gotten in, a lot could have been ruined."

Attention to the historical elements of the project included installing custom wood windows with restoration-style glass and creating a historically accurate wooden picket fence. Leopard said it is rare for a project to receive both awards. "As a manager looking at it from 30,000 feet, I'm just proud of all the hard work these guys put into the project," he said. "We spent two years prior to the actual renovation just trying to properly match the mortar between the bricks."

Cooper said that when the house was built, the mortar was made by going down to the Black Warrior River and collecting sand and silt. Leopard pointed out some white specks in the mortar.

"Those are pieces of oyster shells," Leopard said. "So matching the look of this wasn't easy." Much of the mortar was raked out and replaced. Cooper said the contractor worked with a company, Virginia Lime Works, to formulate and match the color of the mortar.

In addition, three out of the four chimneys in the house were in danger of collapsing. So Brice rebuilt the chimneys to remedy those structural concerns. The rebuilding also helped solve a moisture problem the house was having upstairs.

But the finishing touch to the renovation isn't even attached to the house proper. From the house's construction in the 19th century and into the early 20th century, a wooden picket fence marked the boundary of the property. But in the 1950s, a brick fence was built in its place. The brick fence eventually fell into disrepair.

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Gorgas Home (Continued): Based on a picture of the house from the 19th century, Brice built a new picket fence around the house that is historically accurate and reinforced. “The picture makes me laugh,” Leopard said. “You can see near the fence a plowed field, so that fence was originally meant to keep the animals out.

“Now it keeps the animals on football game days out. In the past, we’ve had people tying tents to the fence and even trying to walk on it, so we wanted to make sure it was sturdy enough.”

<http://www.tuscaloosaneews.com/article/20111228/NEWS/111229832/1007/news?Title=Diligence-marks-renovation-of-UA-s-historic-Gorgas-House>

News From The SCV Blog

Announcements and statements from the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Texas SCV Files Suit For Tag

PRESS RELEASE TEXAS DIVISION SCV

Today, December 8th, 2011 a complaint is being filed in pursuant of 42 U.S.C. §1983 to vindicate the rights secured to the “Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans” by the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution.



The Texas SCV is a non-profit organization that works diligently to preserve the memory and reputation of the Confederate soldiers, emphasizing the virtues of their fight for the preservation of liberty and freedom. Like many other non-profit organizations in Texas, the Texas SCV sought from the State of Texas, through the Department Motor

Vehicles Board, approval of a specialty license plate, both to raise awareness of their endeavors and to raise additional money to fund their activities.

This action is in regards to the recent denial by the of the specialty license application presented to the Department of Motor Vehicles Board by the Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Currently, the SCV has specialty automobile license plates available to vehicle drivers in Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Maryland, Mississippi, Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The Texas SCV initially applied for a specialty license plate in Texas with the Department of Transportation, the proper agency at the time, in August 2009. That application was denied by the Department of Transportation. In 2009, the Texas Legislature amended the Transportation Code to provide that the Department of Motor Vehicles, rather than the Department of Transportation, was charged with issuing specialty license plates. The license plate function moved to the new Department of Motor Vehicles on November 1, 2009. At the time the Texas SCV reapplied with the new governing department, to hopefully have a specialty plate in advance of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, April 12, 2011.

The official public comments were heavily in favor of the Texas SCV’s application for a specialty plate. Following commentary by both proponents and opponents, the Board rejected the SCV plate at the hearing by an 8-0 vote without any discussion. At the same hearing, the Buffalo Soldiers plate, without any discussion, was approved by a 5-3 vote.

Since the Department of Motor Vehicle Board has been charged with issuing specialty license plates, the Sons of the Confederate Veterans plate is the first, and only, to be rejected. Through the members of the Department of Motor Vehicles Board, the State of Texas has discriminated against the Texas SCV based on the ideas and message that the Texas SCV supports, in clear violation of the First Amendment.

The Board seeks to bar the Texas SCV from expressing their viewpoint while allowing all other groups to express their viewpoint: this type of restriction is exactly the type which the First Amendment is designed to erase.

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TX SCV Plate (Continued): The only guideline that the Transportation Code has to offer, which the Board referenced as its reason for rejecting the plate, is that the Board can reject a plate “if the design might be offensive to any member of the public...” This, however, cannot be the standard. It is vague and indeterminable. Essentially, it is no standard at all to say that the Board can discriminate based upon a viewpoint if such speech is offensive to anyone.

The First Amendment clearly protects controversial speech. Additionally, even if simply being “offensive to any member of the public” was sufficient to allow for rejection, the State has approved numerous plates that are “offensive to any member of the public.” In fact, the plate approved the very same day as the Texas SCV plate was rejected – the Buffalo Soldier plate – is offensive to Native Americans because the all-black cavalry helped fight Native Americans in the Indian Wars from 1867-1888. Accordingly, the Texas SCV seeks appropriate injunctive relief, requiring the State of Texas to approve the Texas SCV’s application and implement the specialty plate.

Granvel J. Block
Commander Texas Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/12/11/group-files-free-speech-lawsuit-to-get-confederate-flag-license-plate/>

Additional Links:

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/12/11/group-files-free-speech-lawsuit-to-get-confederate-flag-license-plate/>

<http://www.newschannel10.com/story/16228031/texas-board-sued-for-rejecting-confederate-plate>

<http://www.newschannel10.com/story/16228031/texas-board-sued-for-rejecting-confederate-plate>

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/state&id=8460234&rss=rss-ktrk-article-8460234>

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/nationnow/2011/12/texas-sons-of-confederate-veterans-sue-over-license-plates.html>

Tenth Alabama Regiment cemetery in Virginia uncovered 150 years later

Mary Orndorff *The Birmingham News* December 29, 2011



Brian Smith, right, and his son Dane consult as volunteers help clean up part of a Civil War camp site where soldiers from Alabama are buried. The work is part of the project Dane Smith embarked upon to earn Eagle Scout status. (The Birmingham News/Mary Orndorff)

BRISTOW, Va. -- About an hour west of Washington, D.C., on a scrubby plot of land overrun by pricker bushes and in the shadow of dense modern townhouse developments, an Alabama cemetery was born.

Civil War preservationists with no personal links to Alabama admit to muttering a "Roll Tide" or two as they walked across the newly cleared land, the final resting place of between 75 and 90 soldiers with the Tenth Alabama Infantry Regiment.

Historical documents and archeological study pinpointed the burial grounds, a desperate place in the late summer of 1861, when rampant disease claimed up to five or six Confederate soldiers a day at what was known as Camp Jones.

There are other signs. The area is devoid of stones, except for five large rocks dug deeply into the dirt, each cut on at least one side by a man-made tool. And the area is pockmarked by man-sized depressions, not in rows, but

haphazardly, as if soldiers were buried right where they died.

That level of detail, however, was unknown until Dec. 3, when a crew of about 40 volunteers, led by a 16-year-old Eagle Scout candidate, descended with chain saws and strong arms and gave sunlight and a defined boundary to the cemetery.

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Tenth Alabama (Continued): There are other signs. The area is devoid of stones, except for five large rocks dug deeply into the dirt, each cut on at least one side by a man-made tool. And the area is pockmarked by man-sized depressions, not in rows, but haphazardly, as if soldiers were buried right where they died.

That level of detail, however, was unknown until Dec. 3, when a crew of about 40 volunteers, led by a 16-year-old Eagle Scout candidate, descended with chain saws and strong arms and gave sunlight and a defined boundary to the cemetery.



A muddy trail leads to the section of Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park being cleaned up as part of Dane Smith's Eagle Scout project. (Photo by Mary Orndorff)

Smith's father, Brian, recalls hearing the details about the project. "When I heard it was an Alabama regiment, I was like, 'Great, I work for an Alabama bank,'" Brian Smith said on his second straight chilly December Saturday at the site. He is the lead Washington lobbyist for Regions Financial Corp.

The volunteers, under Dane Smith's direction, cleared the underbrush, cut down trees, put up a split-rail fence and built a bridge over a creek. Their work was approved by Orrison, who told them which trees to remove and how not to disturb the ground. Tree stumps were left intact. The stone grave markers -- three of which Orrison knew were there plus two others uncovered during the work -- were marked with bright pink tape. The park had earlier used radar to detect the disturbed dirt of the gravesites so they could estimate a cemetery boundary.

Soldiers marching by a nearby road in 1862 wrote of the row of cedar trees leading toward a clearing with wooden grave markers engraved with the names of the dead. Several years later, someone else wrote that the markers were in stone. "Who knows when they were changed?" Orrison said. Old pictures indicate that some of the stones were engraved, but they are missing.

Eventually, mulch will be placed on the path to the cemetery, and Orrison wants to raise the money to pay for a memorial plaque at the entrance, listing names of the 40 or so soldiers known to be buried there. He's hoping to have that work done in time for a September dedication ceremony. The gravesites will be mapped and the site open to tourists.

Park officials hope that by registering the cemetery, genealogists and historians will help them fill in the blanks of who else might be buried there, and descendants will visit their ancestors. "It is a little sad that we won't be able to tell them exactly where they are," Orrison said.

The Tenth Alabama Infantry Regiment included companies from Jefferson, Shelby, Calhoun, Talladega, St. Clair, Calhoun, DeKalb and Talladega counties, according to the Alabama Department of Archives and History.

A second overgrown plot across the pasture is believed to be where Mississippi soldiers are buried.

morndorff@bhamnews.com

http://blog.al.com/sweethome/2011/12/tenth_alabama_regiment_cemeter.html

Audemus jura nostra defendere



We Dare Defend Our Rights

To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish.



Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations. Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us the undeniable birthright of our Southern Heritage and the vision, desire, and courage to see it perpetuated.

"The Principle for which we contend is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form."
President Jefferson Davis, CSA

You can know a man in all his depth or shallowness by his attitude toward the Southern Banner.

A People Without Pride in Their Heritage, Is a Nation Without Purpose." - Walter E. Dockery



LEST WE FORGET
Our quest shall ever be
That we shall again see
The Battle Flag of Lee
Returned to the dome of the
First Capital of the
Confederacy