



SUN-TIMES photos/Jon Sell

228 new headstones replace those worn to illegibility at the graves of Union soldiers in Rosehill Cemetery.

Cemetery Pays Fresh Tribute to Union Dead

By Jim Ritter
Staff Writer

The 228 Union soldiers buried at Rosehill Cemetery on the Northwest Side died more than 125 years ago, but their tombstones are brand new.

On Sunday, Civil War memorial groups dedicated new headstones in a ceremony that mixed pageantry with patriotism.

The men wore Union Army uniforms, the women dressed in Civil War era gowns, the band played period music with original instruments and an Abe Lincoln look-alike said a memorial prayer.

The old headstones were so weatherbeaten the names had worn off. So the local chapter of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War obtained new headstones from the Veterans Affairs Department. Engraved on each marker is the name, rank, regiment

and date of death.

Rosehill Cemetery, 5800 N. Ravenswood, has more Union veterans than any other Chicago-area cemetery. (Oak Woods Cemetery on the South Side has about 4,275 Confederate soldiers who died at a prisoner-of-war camp in Chicago.)

Of the 350 Union soldiers at Rosehill, 228 are buried in tightly spaced straight rows. Their new white markers are similar to those at Arlington National Cemetery. The headstones cost taxpayers about \$150 apiece.

Well worth the cost, said Jim Muetting of Sons of Union Veterans, the successor to the original Union army veterans group. The organization has about 65 members in the Chicago area, most of whom are descendants of Union soldiers.

The headstones "remind us of our heritage, our freedom and our patriotic duty," Muetting said. "These people

died to preserve the Union, and we feel strongly about that."

Like more than half of the 360,000 Union troops who lost their lives, the 228 men honored Sunday fell to typhoid, gangrene and other diseases. They died in Chicago hospitals between 1861 and 1866.

About 120 other Union soldiers, including 14 generals, are buried in private plots throughout the cemetery.

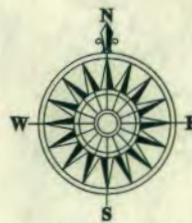
Perhaps the best known is Thomas Ransom, who was wounded four times in six major battles before dying from an infected wound near the end of the war. His monument is more than 20 feet high.

The new markers are made of the same type of marble as the old ones. About 125 years from now, they'll be replaced again, "if people of that time are as civic minded as we are now," said Rosehill Cemetery historian David Wendell.

May 4, 1861, fourteen volunteers from Wheeling went to join the Union Rifle Guards at Camp Fry. From the Amvets list as presented May 27, 1985, there are the following ten names.

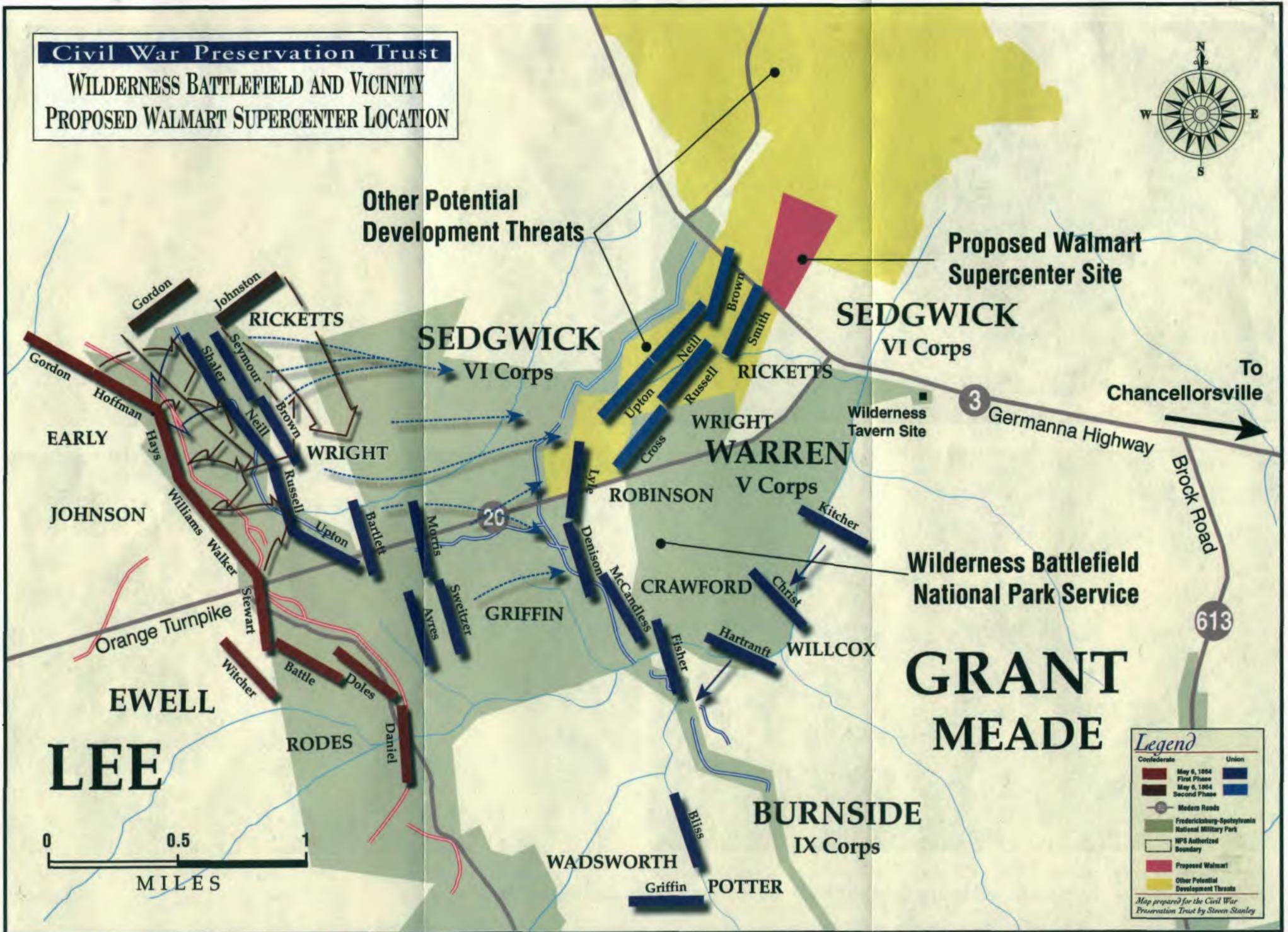
John D. Beach
Louis Fischer
Henry Hipp
George Huber
John J. Kesser
George Meather
Louis Metz
Fordyce Paine
Robert Periolat
Christian Zimmer

Civil War Preservation Trust
WILDERNESS BATTLEFIELD AND VICINITY
PROPOSED WALMART SUPERCENTER LOCATION



Other Potential Development Threats

Proposed Walmart Supercenter Site



SEDGWICK
VI Corps

WARREN
V Corps

Wilderness Battlefield National Park Service

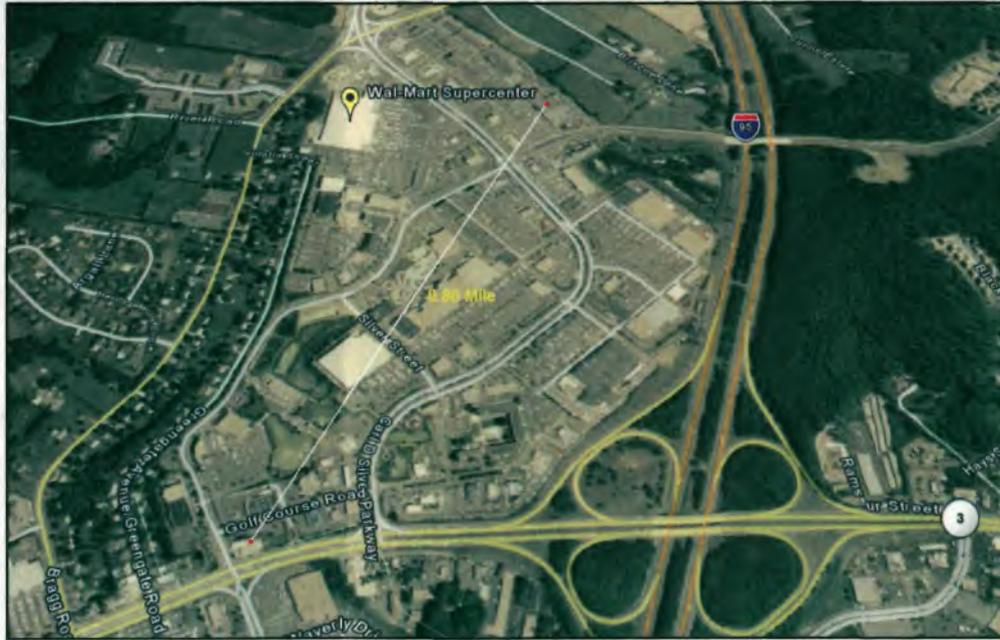
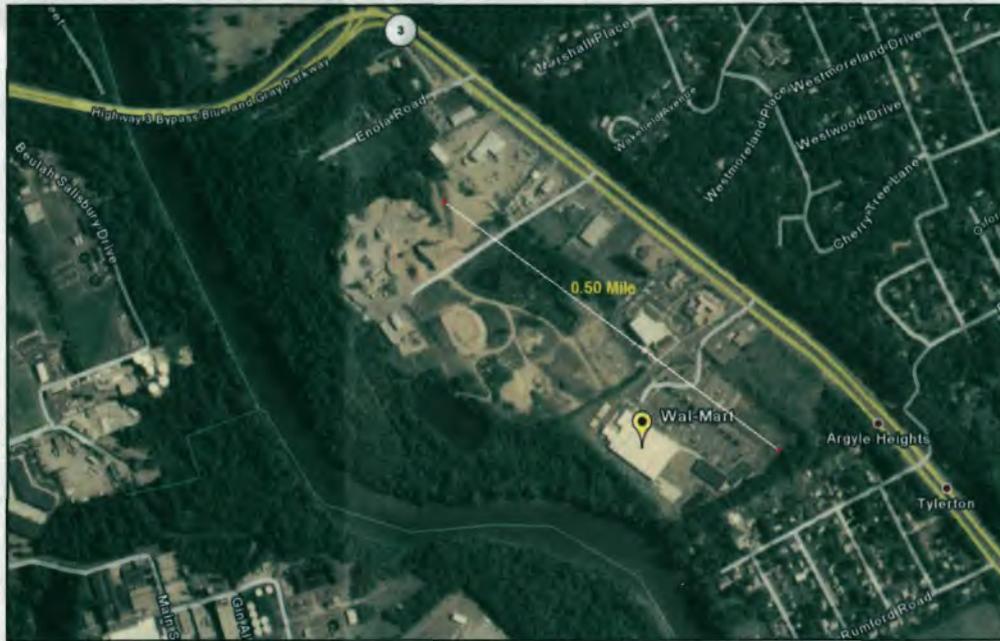
GRANT MEADE

BURNSIDE
IX Corps

Legend

Confederate	Union
May 6, 1864 First Phase	May 6, 1864 Second Phase
Modern Roads	
Fredericksburg-Spotylvania National Military Park	
NPS Authorized Boundary	
Proposed Walmart	
Other Potential Development Threats	

Map prepared for the Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

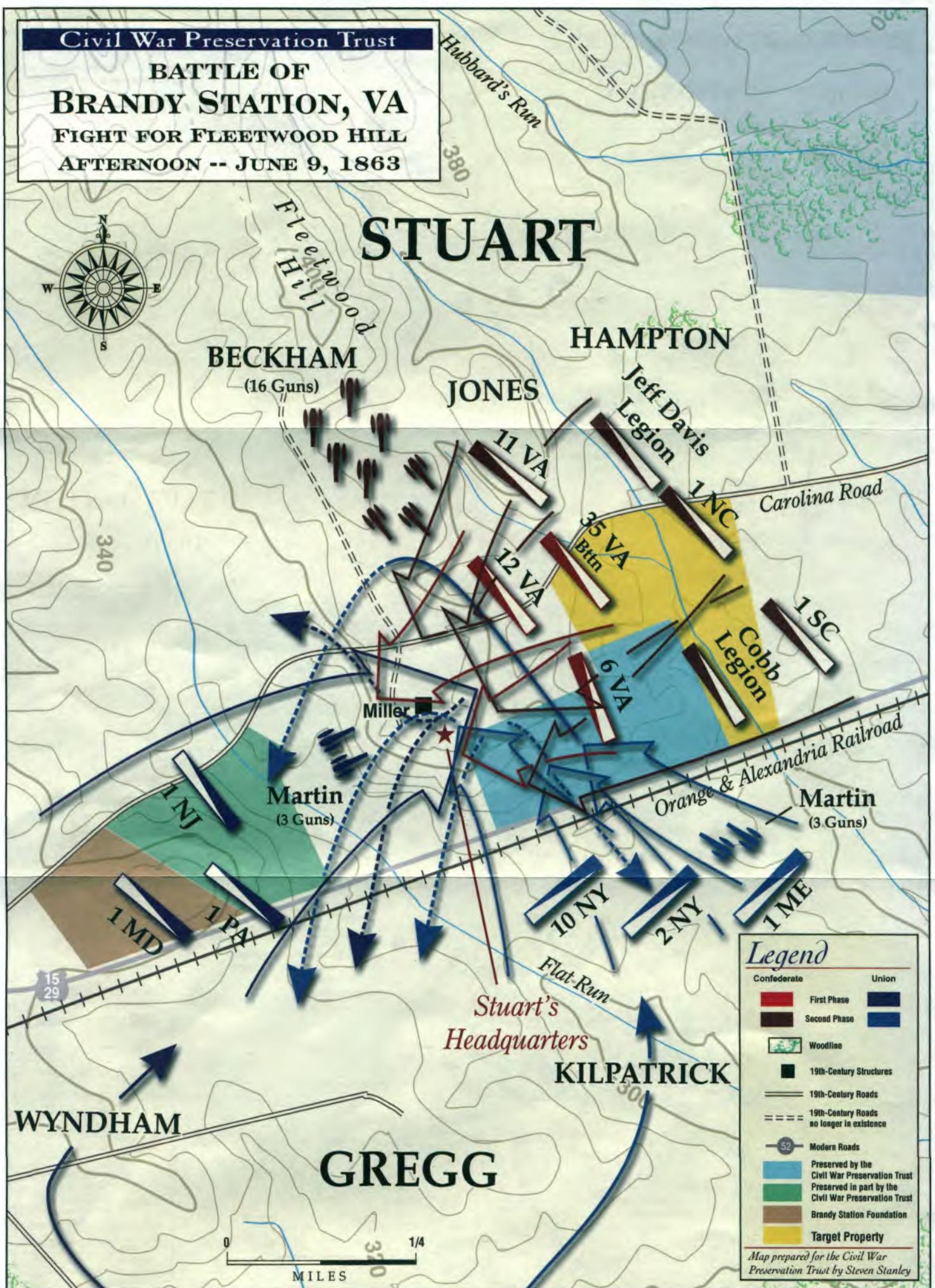


The photo in the upper left shows The Wilderness Battlefield as it currently appears; Wal-Mart proposes to build their "supercenter" just north of the divided highway Route 3. The other three photos show existing nearby Wal-Marts and the high-intensity development that surrounds them. Is this the future of The Wilderness Battlefield? (All photos acquired via GoogleEarth.)

Civil War Preservation Trust
**BATTLE OF
 BRANDY STATION, VA**
FIGHT FOR FLEETWOOD HILL
 AFTERNOON -- JUNE 9, 1863



STUART



BECKHAM
 (16 Guns)

JONES

HAMPTON

Martin
 (3 Guns)

Miller

Martin
 (3 Guns)

WYNDHAM

GREGG

KILPATRICK

*Stuart's
 Headquarters*

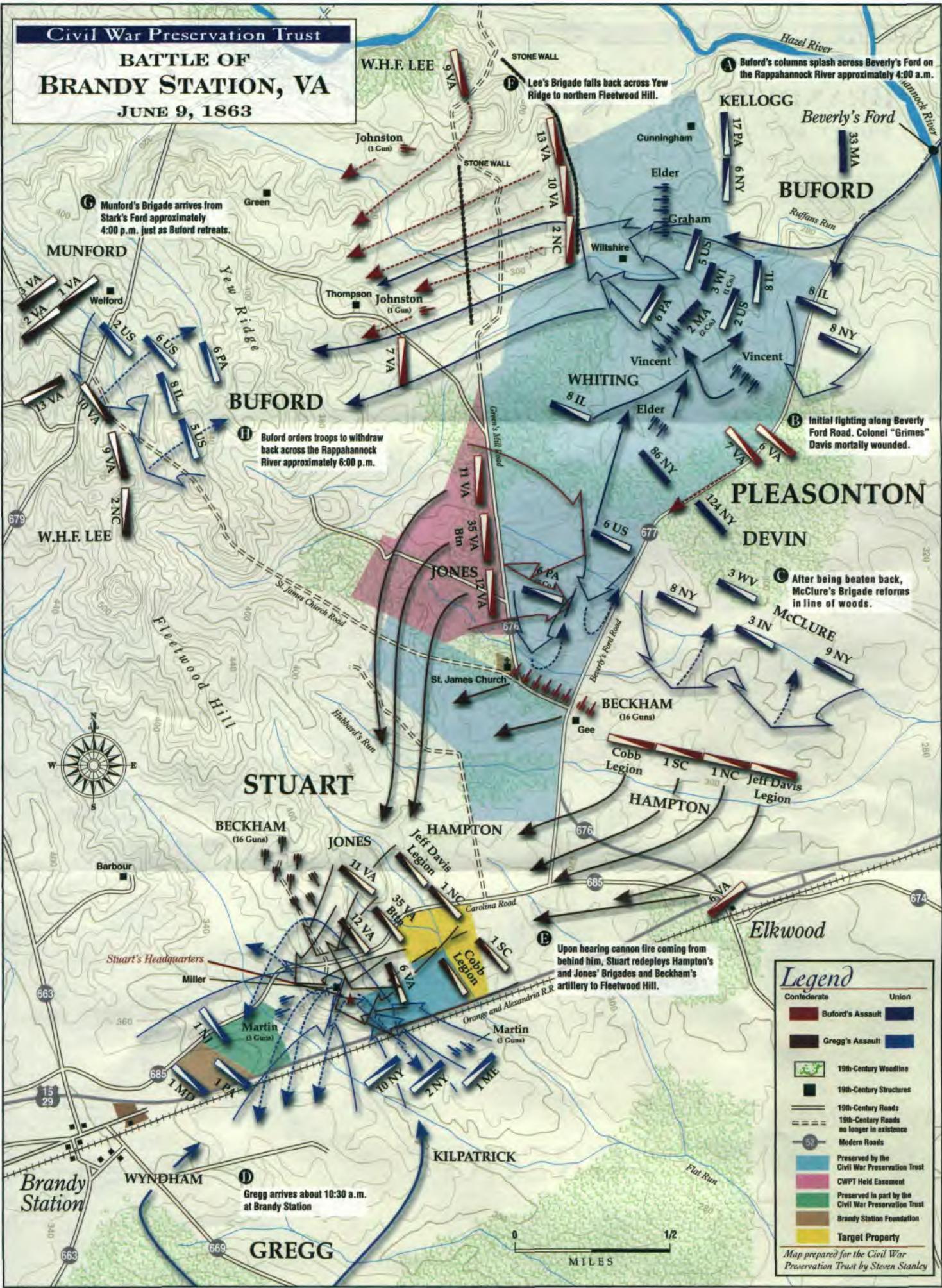
Legend

- | Confederate | Union |
|---|-------|
| First Phase | Union |
| Second Phase | Union |
| Woodline | |
| 19th-Century Structures | |
| 19th-Century Roads | |
| 19th-Century Roads no longer in existence | |
| Modern Roads | |
| Preserved by the Civil War Preservation Trust | |
| Preserved in part by the Civil War Preservation Trust | |
| Brandy Station Foundation | |
| Target Property | |



Map prepared for the Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

Civil War Preservation Trust
BATTLE OF
BRANDY STATION, VA
JUNE 9, 1863



A Buford's columns splash across Beverly's Ford on the Rappahannock River approximately 4:00 a.m.

B Lee's Brigade falls back across Yew Ridge to northern Fleetwood Hill.

C Munford's Brigade arrives from Stark's Ford approximately 4:00 p.m. just as Buford retreats.

B Initial fighting along Beverly Ford Road. Colonel "Grimes" Davis mortally wounded.

I Buford orders troops to withdraw back across the Rappahannock River approximately 6:00 p.m.

C After being beaten back, McClure's Brigade reforms in line of woods.

B Upon hearing cannon fire coming from behind him, Stuart redeploys Hampton's and Jones' Brigades and Beckham's artillery to Fleetwood Hill.

D Gregg arrives about 10:30 a.m. at Brandy Station

Legend

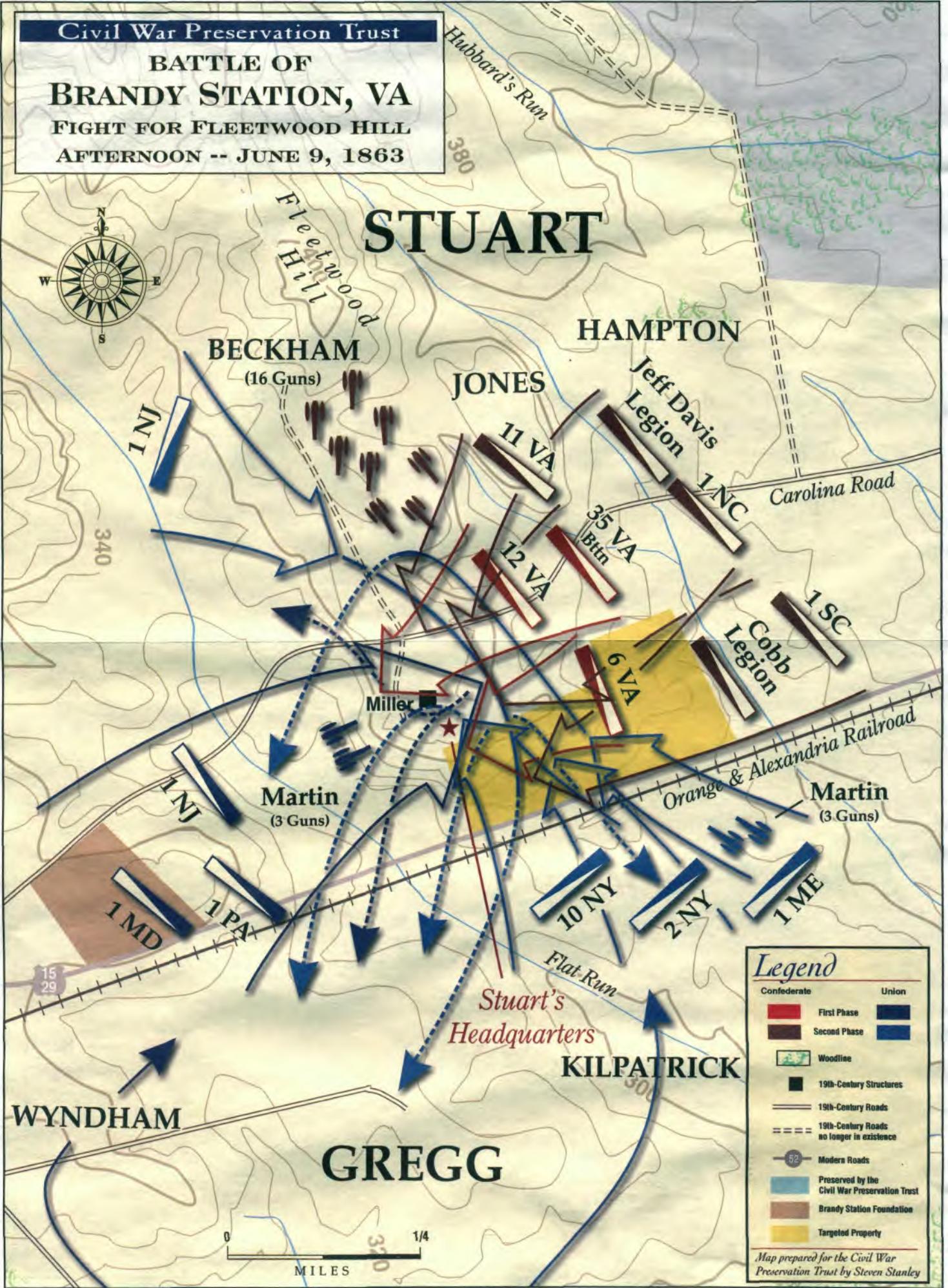
Confederate	Union
	19th-Century Woodline
	19th-Century Structures
	19th-Century Roads
	19th-Century Roads no longer in existence
	Modern Roads
	Preserved by the Civil War Preservation Trust
	CWPT Held Easement
	Preserved in part by the Civil War Preservation Trust
	Brandy Station Foundation
	Target Property

Map prepared for the Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

Civil War Preservation Trust
**BATTLE OF
 BRANDY STATION, VA**
 FIGHT FOR FLEETWOOD HILL
 AFTERNOON -- JUNE 9, 1863



STUART



Legend

Confederate		Union	
[Red Box]	First Phase	[Dark Blue Box]	
[Dark Red Box]	Second Phase	[Light Blue Box]	
[Green Box]	Woodline		
[Black Square]	19th-Century Structures		
[Solid Line]	19th-Century Roads		
[Dashed Line]	19th-Century Roads no longer in existence		
[Circle with 52]	Modern Roads		
[Light Blue Box]	Preserved by the Civil War Preservation Trust		
[Brown Box]	Brandy Station Foundation		
[Yellow Box]	Targeted Property		

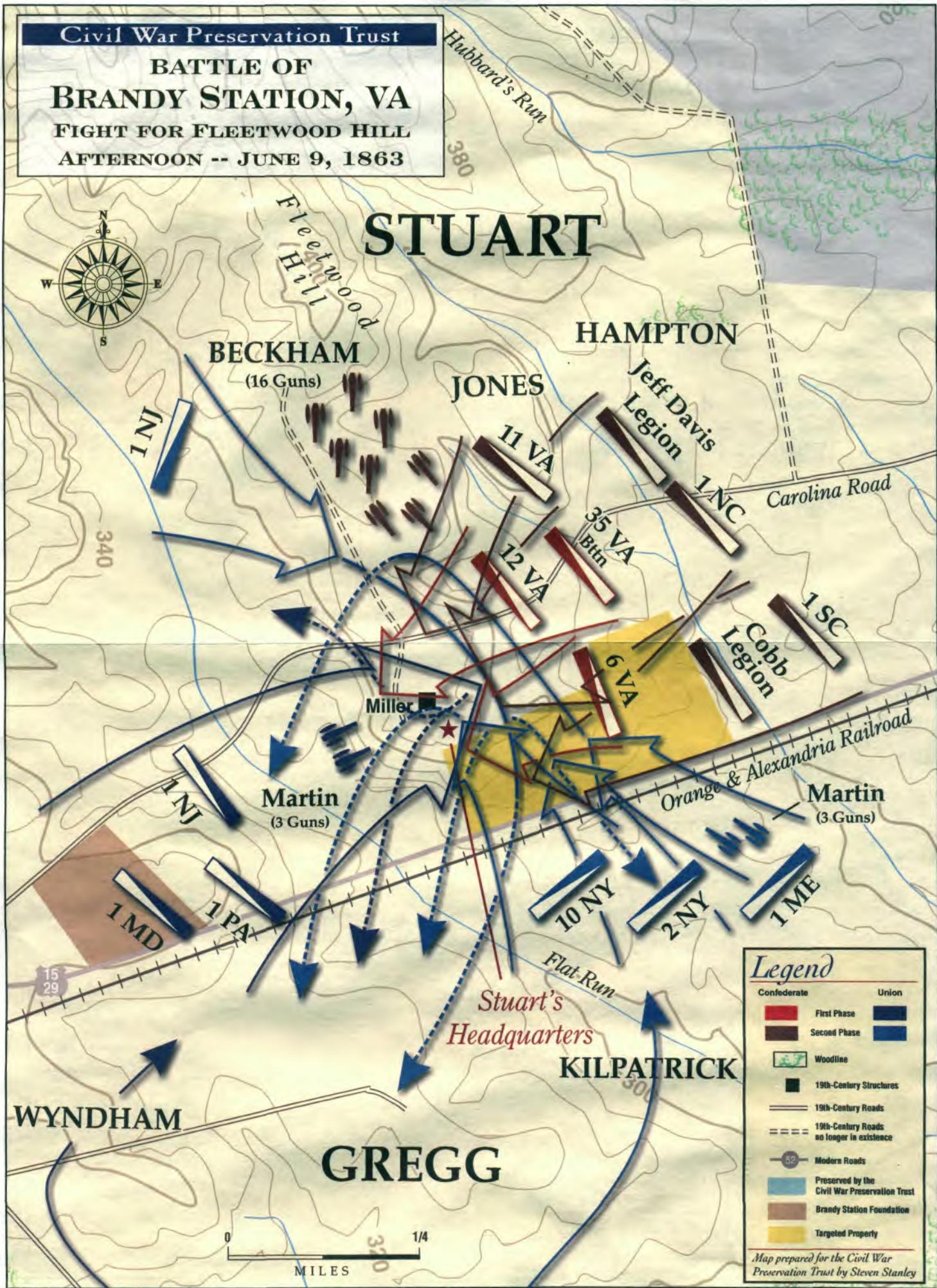


Map prepared for the Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

Civil War Preservation Trust
**BATTLE OF
 BRANDY STATION, VA**
 FIGHT FOR FLEETWOOD HILL
 AFTERNOON -- JUNE 9, 1863



STUART



Legend

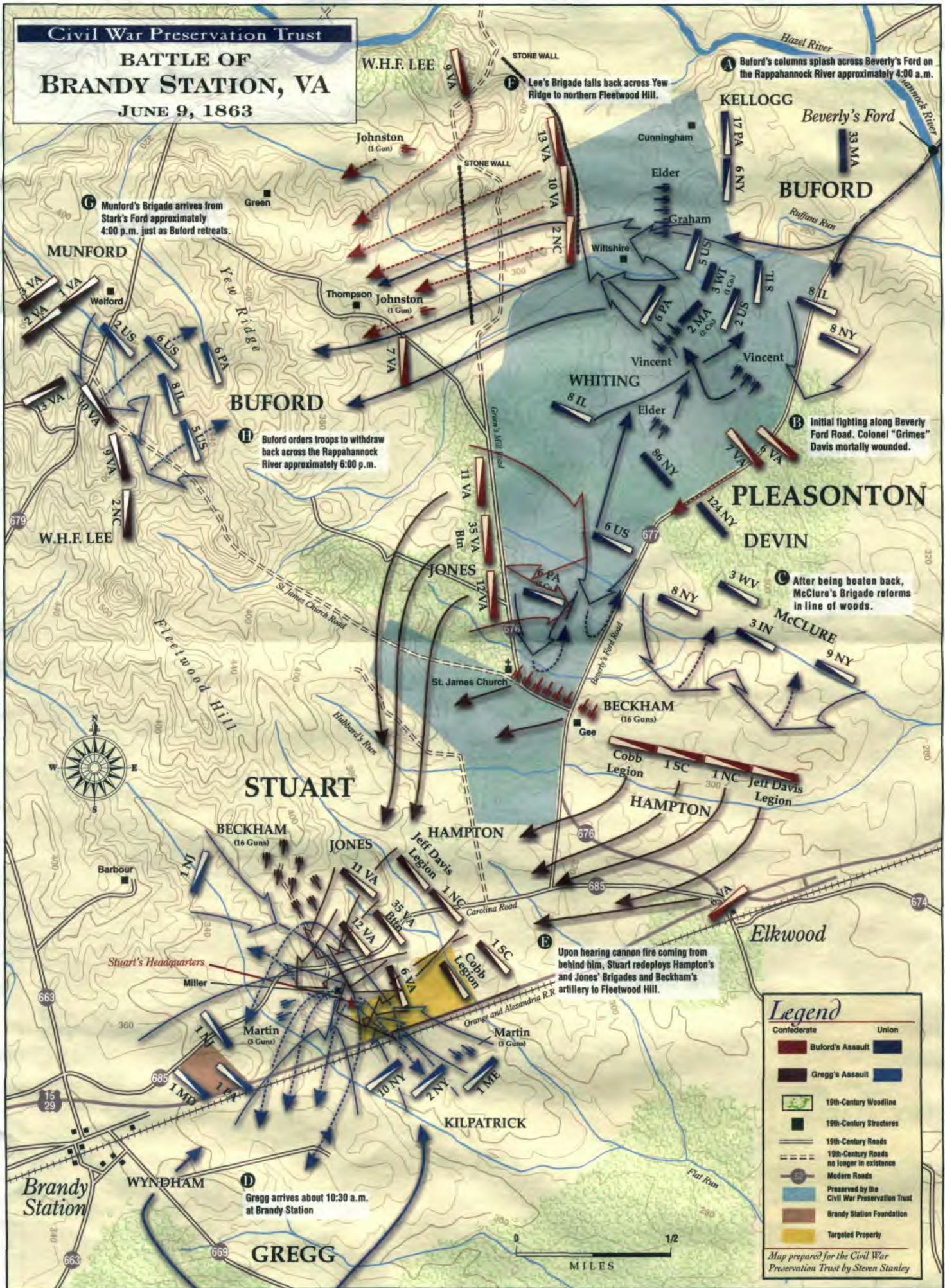
Confederate		Union	
[Red Box]	First Phase	[Dark Blue Box]	
[Dark Red Box]	Second Phase	[Light Blue Box]	
[Green Box]	Woodline		
[Black Square]	19th-Century Structures		
[Solid Line]	19th-Century Roads		
[Dashed Line]	19th-Century Roads no longer in existence		
[Circle with 52]	Modern Roads		
[Light Blue Box]	Preserved by the Civil War Preservation Trust		
[Brown Box]	Brandy Station Foundation		
[Yellow Box]	Targeted Property		

Map prepared for the Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

0 1/4
 MILES

Civil War Preservation Trust

**BATTLE OF
BRANDY STATION, VA**
JUNE 9, 1863



G Munford's Brigade arrives from Stark's Ford approximately 4:00 p.m. just as Buford retreats.

H Buford orders troops to withdraw back across the Rappahannock River approximately 6:00 p.m.

B Initial fighting along Beverly Ford Road. Colonel "Grimes" Davis mortally wounded.

C After being beaten back, McClure's Brigade reforms in line of woods.

E Upon hearing cannon fire coming from behind him, Stuart redeploys Hampton's and Jones' Brigades and Beckham's artillery to Fleetwood Hill.

D Gregg arrives about 10:30 a.m. at Brandy Station

Legend

Confederate	Union

Map prepared for the Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

Legend

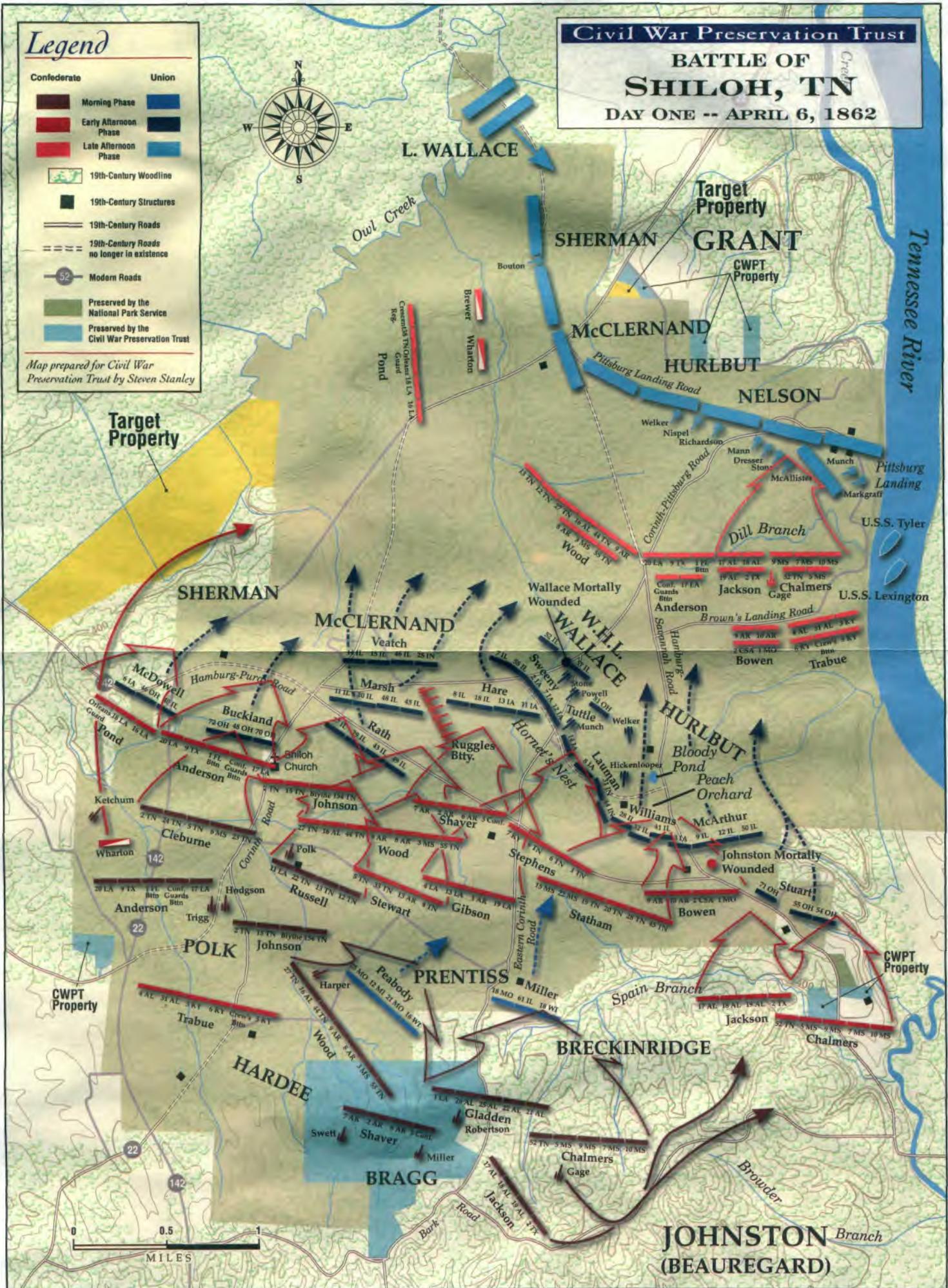
- | | |
|---|--------------|
| Confederate | Union |
| Morning Phase | Union |
| Early Afternoon Phase | Union |
| Late Afternoon Phase | Union |
| 19th-Century Woodline | |
| 19th-Century Structures | |
| 19th-Century Roads | |
| 19th-Century Roads no longer in existence | |
| Modern Roads | |
| Preserved by the National Park Service | |
| Preserved by the Civil War Preservation Trust | |

Map prepared for Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

Civil War Preservation Trust

BATTLE OF SHILOH, TN

DAY ONE -- APRIL 6, 1862



Target Property

SHERMAN

McCLERNAND

SHERMAN

GRANT

McCLERNAND

HURLBUT

NELSON

SHERMAN

McCLERNAND

W.H.L. WALLACE

HURLBUT

POLK

PRENTISS

BRECKINRIDGE

HARDEE

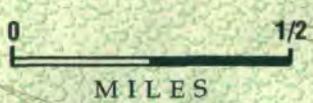
BRAGG

JOHNSTON
(BEAUREGARD)

Civil War Preservation Trust

BATTLE OF FORT DONELSON, TN

FEBRUARY 15, 1862



Legend

Confederate		Union	
	1st Position		1st Position
	2nd Position		2nd Position
	3rd Position		3rd Position

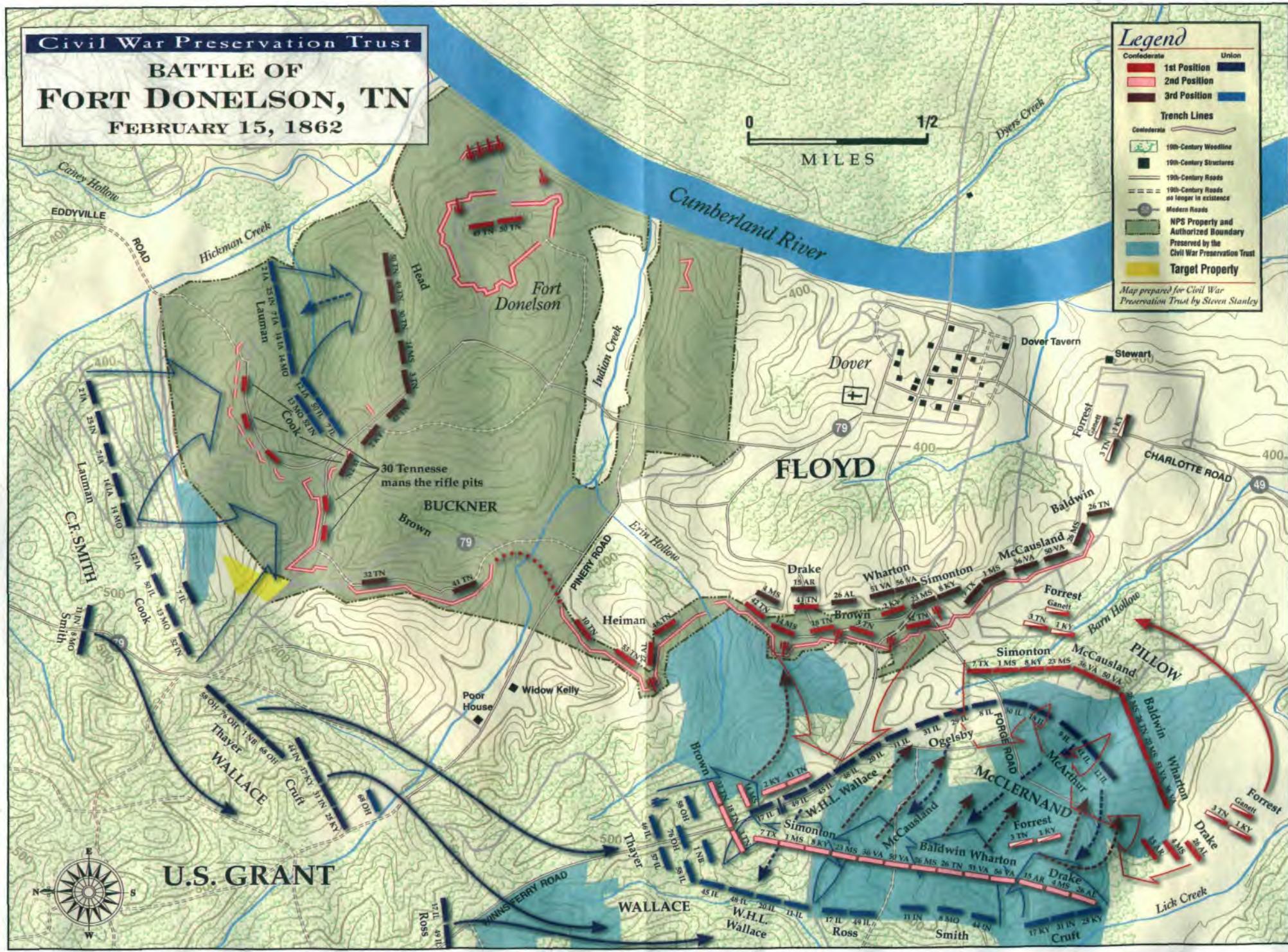
Trench Lines

	Confederate
	Union

Other Features

- 19th-Century Woodline
- 19th-Century Structures
- 19th-Century Roads
- 19th-Century Roads no longer in existence
- Modern Roads
- NPS Property and Authorized Boundary
- Preserved by the Civil War Preservation Trust
- Target Property

Map prepared for Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley



Civil War Preservation Trust

SIEGE OF HARPERS FERRY, VA

SEPTEMBER 12-15, 1862

JONES
Grigsby
Starke

McLAWS

WALKER

MILES

POTOMAC RIVER

HARPERS FERRY

SHENANDOAH RIVER

BOLIVAR HEIGHTS
D'Utassy
Union Skirmish Line

SCHOOL HOUSE RIDGE

Ford

Trimble

Early
Hays

Pender

Archer

Field

Branch

Gregg

Water and Sewer Lines

LAWTON

Walker

Douglas

Trimble

SCHOOL HOUSE RIDGE

A.P. HILL
Position on
September 15

JACKSON

A.P. HILL
Position on
September 14

Legend

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| Confederate | Union |
| | |
| | NPS lands saved by CWPT |
| | National Park Service |

Map prepared for the Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

- Union
- Woodline
- Structures
- Roads
- Country Lanes
- Property
- property
- Walls
- Adams
- Cleburne
- Granbury
- Strahl
- Rights Gist
- Carler



The Outrageous Destruction of Hallowed Ground! Please Help CWPT Fight Back Today!



Civil War Preservation Trust
BATTLE OF FRANKLIN, TN
 NOVEMBER 30, 1864

Franklin



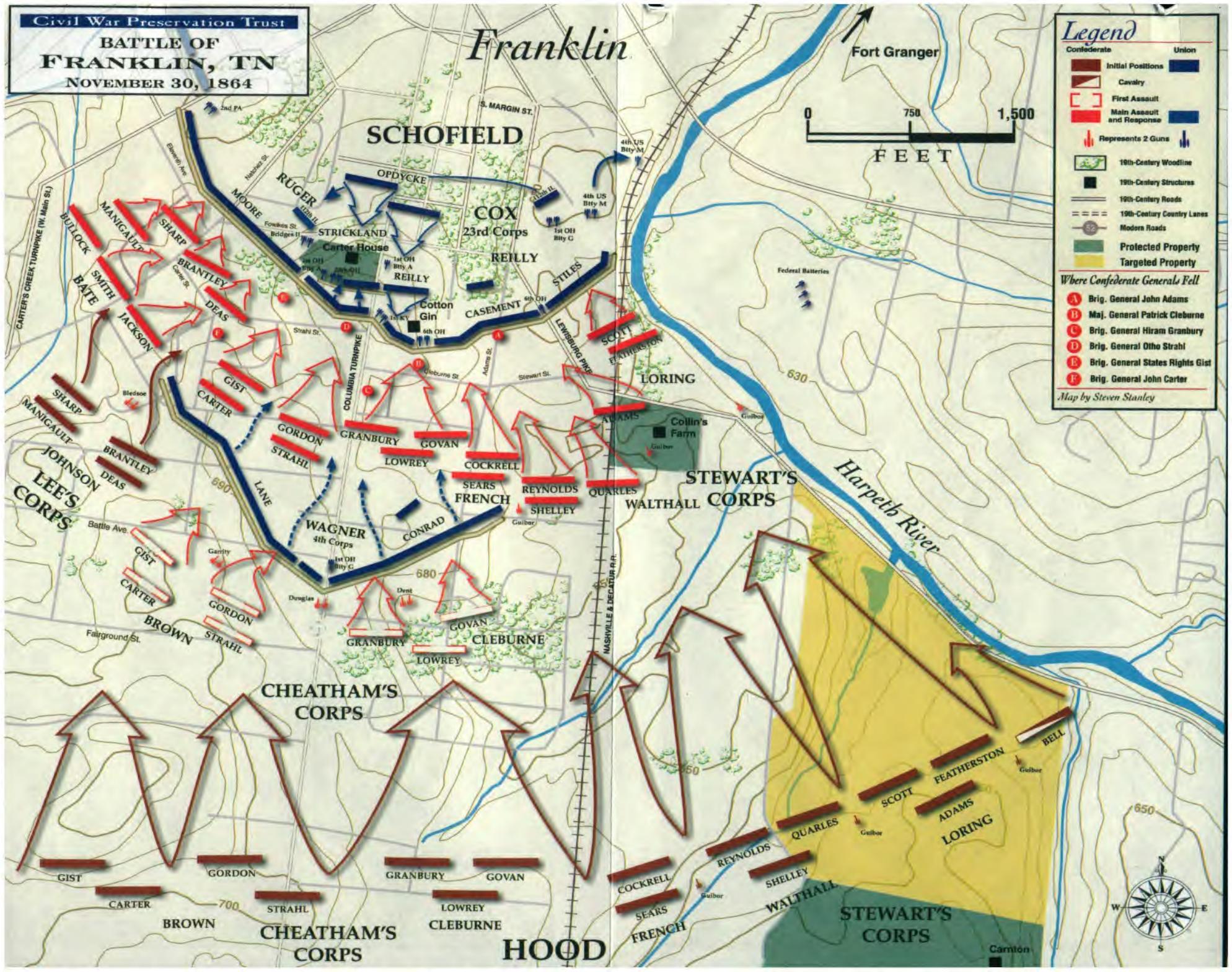
Legend

Confederate		Union
	Initial Positions	
	Cavalry	
	First Assault	
	Main Assault and Response	
	Represents 2 Guns	
	19th-Century Woodline	
	19th-Century Structures	
	19th-Century Roads	
	19th-Century Country Lanes	
	Modern Roads	
	Protected Property	
	Targeted Property	

Where Confederate Generals Fell

- A Brig. General John Adams
- B Maj. General Patrick Cleburne
- C Brig. General Hiram Granbury
- D Brig. General Otho Strahl
- E Brig. General States Rights Gist
- F Brig. General John Carter

Map by Steven Stanley





The photo above was taken from the second-floor balcony of the restored historic McGavock House at Carnton Plantation. This home served as a field hospital for weeks after the battle. The 112-acre golf course property is just beyond the near tree line – this is the ground over which the Confederates advanced.

The photo below shows what could happen to this land...is this any way to honor America's Civil War history? Please help CWPT save the Franklin battlefield today!



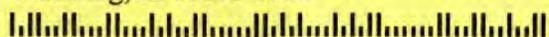


EMERGENCY ALERT

1331 H STREET, NW SUITE 1001 WASHINGTON, DC 20005 WWW.CIVILWAR.ORG
JIM LIGHTHIZER, PRESIDENT

September 22, 2006

Ms. Linda Reading
1113 Valley Stream Dr.
Wheeling, IL 60090-3950



Dear Ms. Reading,

I have some terrible news. I am so incensed that I can only hope to compose myself long enough to write this very important update to you.

Over the weekend of August 19-20, an apparent unlawful act occurred at Harpers Ferry with the desecration of School House Ridge by developers. The developers intentionally dug a large trench on battlefield land to lay water and sewer pipes without federally required permits or authority.

A representative of the National Park Service has told me, "The Department of the Interior and the U.S. Attorney's Office are looking at the most severe legal remedies permitted by law."

This official added one more devastating comment that you must hear. He said, "I believe that this rates as the worst violation of a battlefield national park in Park Service history."

As you can clearly see from the enclosed sheet of photographs, these developers brought in heavy digging and earth-moving equipment, and clear-cut a 45-foot-wide, 2,000-foot-long swath of battlefield on School House Ridge, land that you and I helped Harpers Ferry National Military Park buy last year, gouging out an enormous trench. All told, they dug up over two full acres of American hallowed ground.

That's bad enough...but when I tell you how they did it, I warn you, Ms. Reading, I suspect you will be as outraged as I am.

First, without alerting park officials to their intentions, workers and equipment arrived at the site before dawn on Saturday, August 19, and began digging at approximately 6:00 a.m.

There is much to suggest that the developers planned their assault on this part of the battlefield for a time when the National Park Service would be least able to respond. They picked the very same Saturday to begin their attack on the land that the Harpers Ferry National Military Park was hosting the 100th anniversary of a historic Civil Rights meeting, one of the most-attended events ever held at the park.

Do you think it is a mere coincidence that these developers picked the one weekend out of the entire year to launch their blitzkrieg when most of the park's rangers and other personnel had their hands full with large crowds and public safety? One could reasonably wonder, but please, read on...

Next, park officials tell us that once they discovered these interlopers tearing up our battlefield and vandalizing our

national heritage (can't you just imagine the rangers' absolutely dumbfounded disbelief at coming upon heavy digging equipment on Park Service land tearing up hallowed ground!), the Chief Ranger immediately demanded the work crew to cease and desist.

Suddenly, park employees say they were confronted not only by the developers (who were personally on-site), but also by an off-duty police officer who had been hired and – get this – three attorneys!

Now I ask you ...have you ever heard of an ordinary pipe-laying project that needs a small contingent of lawyers and hired muscle at that time on a West Virginia Saturday morning – unless, of course, they were expecting resistance from the start?! But it gets worse...

Once Park Service officials, who had been hastily summoned from the Civil Rights celebration nearby, told the workers to cease and desist, they said the developers' "legal eagles" swooped down and refused all demands to stop the machines, while admitting they did not have the proper permits for the work!

Of course, it being a summer Saturday, it was impossible for officials at Harpers Ferry to get a judge to issue an immediate injunction to stop them, so the unauthorized digging...the unlawful desecration... frankly, the rape of a significant site in America's history churned relentlessly on, foot by terrible foot.

Compounding this already surreal situation, according to Park Service and other sources, the interlopers also brought in high-powered lights, so that they could dig into the night! To most reasonable people, it sure looks like they might have been racing the clock, rushing to make sure that they would be done by Monday morning, when appropriate legal action could stop them.

Sadly, I must report to you that by 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 20, their devastation was complete. In what may be a world speed record for such a project, they laid waste to a nearly-half-mile-long, 45-foot-wide section of the heart of School House Ridge, near where Stonewall Jackson had his headquarters during the 1862 siege and battle. Those pipes are now, unfortunately, in the ground.

An enormous scar is now slashed into this once-beautiful landscape, hallowed ground that you and I had saved together for America.

Let me ask you again: how many valid water-pipe-laying or any other construction (or in this case "destruction") projects have you ever heard of that:

1. Start work at first light on a Saturday morning and go until after dark on Sunday, when one presumably has to pay time-and-a-half to get crews to work on a weekend;
2. Are directly supervised by the developers personally, on site;
3. Feel the need for off-duty police "security";
4. Are willing to pay THREE attorneys to hang around on a Saturday just in case, for goodness' sake!
5. And work nearly around the clock to do the deed and clear out in less than 48 hours!

Of course, the developers' story is that they didn't need federally required permits to violate national park land – land that belongs to every American – because they held an easement on the property from a previous owner (sold to them before CWPT helped buy the land last year).

The fact that they hold an easement is not the issue. Any developer who has been in business for more than a few months knows that even easement holders must secure the federally required permits before any construction can commence on land owned by the American people.

Fact: Any construction project on federal property – including national park land – must follow specific

guidelines set forth in a variety of long-established laws such as the National Historic Preservation Act, the National Environmental Protection Act and the Archeological Resources Protection Act.

What's truly amazing is that the Park Service had *already begun studying to determine if this project could proceed legally*, assuming that it satisfied the requirements under federal law! Park officials were moving forward in a timely fashion with the legally mandated review process in good faith.

This seemingly uncaring group of developers, however, apparently could not – or would not – be bothered to wait long enough to observe the law!

From all appearances, they rushed in their equipment, destroyed the people's land without the necessary legal permits or permission, and could now be facing enormous potential penalties.

You may be asking yourself, "Why would anyone be so bald-faced, shameless, brazen or just plain dumb to blatantly risk so much by ignoring federal law by chewing up a huge section of a National Park?" I cannot answer that because I cannot know what went on in the minds of "those people," as Robert E. Lee used to say. (And I hope you understand something: I must be very careful about what I say here, as it is possible "those people" will launch a counterattack against us, to attempt to intimidate CWPT.)

All I can tell you is that the pipes they could not wait another few weeks to put into the ground are now leading up to a piece of land that, if it were developed today, could yield approximately 200 homes. However, *if that land were ever to get county water and sewer lines to it*, a developer could apply for a re-zoning that could allow up to 3,400 homes (again, a reasonable person might be able to connect a few dots here). Many of those homes would lie within the boundary of the current national park.

Simple math shows that could lead to a potential seventeen-fold increase in someone's profit, and I imagine there are a few people out there who might be willing to risk quite a lot for that kind of financial return.

So, not only did these despoilers mar crucial, irreplaceable battlefield land, Ms. Reading, they may have also obliterated key artifacts buried in that soil (robbing the nation of future opportunities to properly excavate and learn from that ground), they also completely short-circuited the legal process where citizens could comment on proposed park construction projects and they have set a dangerous precedent for carnage that could be inflicted at the 390 other national parks as well.

And if you really want to see what one of those developers evidently thinks about protecting hallowed ground, then I encourage you to break the seal on the small envelope I have enclosed for you.

I sealed it up just in case you might be offended by such things, but let me describe it; the picture clearly shows one of the on-site developers making a "crude hand gesture" to a preservationist who came to the scene to document this travesty with his camera.

I would love to get in this bird-flipping developer's face to ask a few questions: "Is this universally offensive gesture your response to National Park Service officials when they tell you that you are desecrating hallowed ground where American soldiers fought and fell?"

"Is this what you think of the American people's right to enjoy this beautiful, meaningful land?"

"Is this your reply to those of us who reasonably request that you obey the law to protect America's history and heritage?!"

"You give us... the *finger*?!!"

Now you know why I am so outraged. If this arrogant gang had showed up on a Saturday morning and ripped up your property or mine without a permit, they would either be in jail or posting bail. But in a sense, they did

rip open more than two acres of our land, because CWPT helped Harpers Ferry NMP buy the 38-acre property, and it now belongs to every American, as well as all future generations.

It is up to you and me today to do everything in our power to make sure that all Americans – the true owners of that battlefield land – pursue the strictest and most severe remedies possible under the law.

I know you agree with me: This assault on America's historic and natural heritage cannot stand, and today, I ask for your help in fighting for Harpers Ferry and all of our national military parks and battlefields.

The first step is to register, in no uncertain terms, our shock, anger and disbelief over this unlawful despoiling of an American national military park. Then, we must insist that the proper authorities pursue every possible legal sanction against these @#*&+%! – that is, “innocent until proven guilty” – developers.

So please, right now while you are thinking about it, if you are as infuriated as I am, sign your name to the enclosed Citizens' National Petition to the Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne, the cabinet secretary who has authority over national parks. I want to create a tidal wave of national protest over what these people have done, so that there is no question in the Interior Secretary's mind how the American people truly feel about this apparent act of desecration, violation and devastation.

Please join me in telling Secretary Kempthorne that you are incensed over this assault on an American Civil War battlefield park, and that you join CWPT's call for an immediate and complete investigation and, if warranted, the strongest possible penalties against those who perpetrated this act.

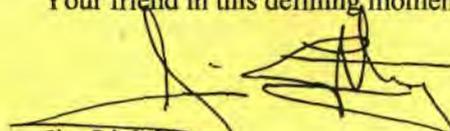
This case is receiving national attention, and you had better believe that other developers are watching closely to see what happens to the “Harpers Ferry Despoilers.” If they simply get a slap on the wrist, it may mean open season on battlefield parks all across the nation. But if they get the full penalties I believe they deserve (which could hopefully run into the millions of dollars in fines, the removal of the pipes and possibly the denial of any future permit to do this again), then we might be able to salvage something out of this disaster.

So please, sign your National Petition now. Get your family and friends to sign up, too. Perhaps your round table, book club or co-workers. There truly is power in all of us speaking in one voice.

The second step is for you to please also consider sending your most generous possible donation of \$1,000, \$500, \$250, \$100, \$50 or \$25 to help CWPT wage this fight, and possibly even expand this crucial petition drive to help us bring in new members and supporters who care about saving America's Civil War heritage.

Your generosity will help us continue our national campaign to expose this violation at Harpers Ferry, as well as our on-going efforts to beat back other threats such as the casino at Gettysburg, a mining operation that menaces the Cedar Creek battlefield in Virginia, and many other aggressive threats to our heritage. Please be as generous as you can. I really do need your help. Thank you for your passion, support and dedication.

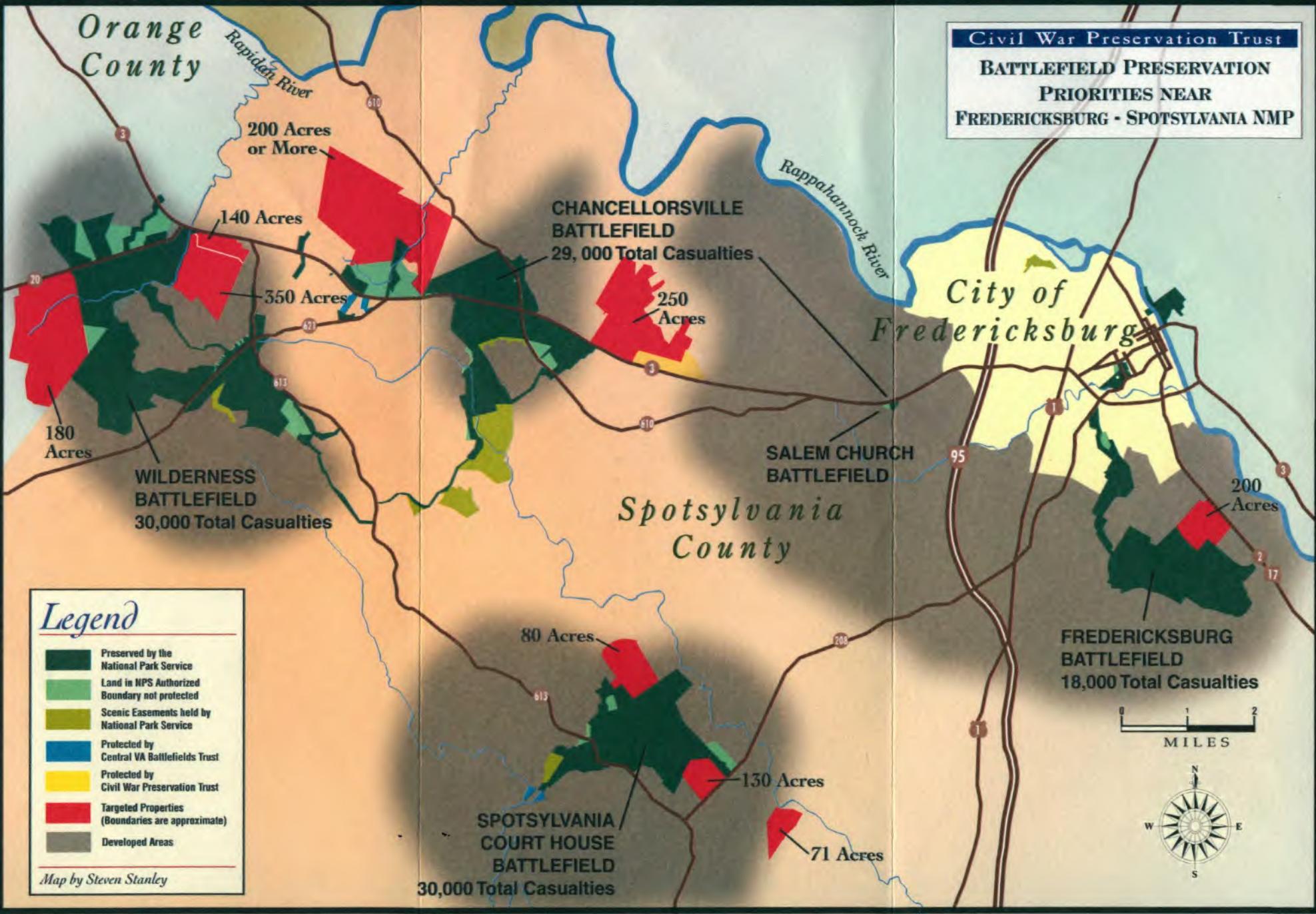
Your friend in this defining moment in our history,



Jim Lighthizer
President

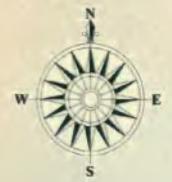
P.S. In closing, I'm sure you've heard the old saying, “Don't get mad; get even.” Well, I want to modify that slightly for you: Let's get mad and get even! Thank you again, and please reply as soon as possible!

Civil War Preservation Trust
**BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION
 PRIORITIES NEAR
 FREDERICKSBURG - SPOTSYLVANIA NMP**



- Legend**
- Preserved by the National Park Service
 - Land in NPS Authorized Boundary not protected
 - Scenic Easements held by National Park Service
 - Protected by Central VA Battlefields Trust
 - Protected by Civil War Preservation Trust
 - Targeted Properties (Boundaries are approximate)
 - Developed Areas

Map by Steven Stanley



Kyle Thompson

April 29, 2005

Dear Fellow CWPT Member,

I asked Jim Lighthizer if I could say a few words directly to you, from one Civil War buff and champion of battlefield preservation to another.

Yes, I have ALS, otherwise known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Yes, I can clearly see the end of my days. And yes, if I could wave a magic wand and instantly be well again, of course I would do it.

We both know that is not going to happen. I could wallow in pity and ask, "Why me?" or I can accept it and move on. All our times are coming. I firmly believe we have to accept that graciously. And even though I don't have "good days" any more, I have chosen to move on. I am working to turn this entire ordeal into something positive.

As I walked battlefields all across the country, I was appalled at the encroaching urban sprawl. Where men gave their lives, those souls and sacred grounds are being "memorialized" with pavement and strip malls, housing developments and golf courses.

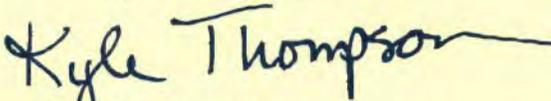
One measure of the living is how we remember the dead.

My songs, recorded on the battlefields, surrounded by the spirits of those who fought and died there, are part of a life-affirming journey that will hopefully help turn back the tide of desecration to our nation's history, so that this land can be preserved for future generations.

I consider it an honor to be working with the Civil War Preservation Trust and people like you. You are helping me to turn a very bad thing into a very good thing, and for that, I cannot thank you enough! It goes without saying that from this point on, as long as I am around, I will help the CWPT however I can.

My songs are dedicated to the preservation and protection of our nation's Civil War battlefields. They were recorded not in a studio... but on the sacred grounds that they aim to serve. They were conceived for one purpose only, remembrance. This is my homage. I thank you for allowing me to share it with you.

Very best regards,


Kyle Thompson

Musician Overlooks Illness to Leave Legacy

LEGACY, From B1

dream was launched Saturday night, when the group turned one of the Civil War's most famed sites into an impromptu studio, with a \$1,000 store-bought recorder set up on a card table in the foyer of the McLean House, mere feet from where Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant signed Lee's surrender, marking the beginning of the end of the war.

Tomorrow night, he heads to record at Old Salem Church, at the Battle of Chancellorsville site in Spotsylvania County, and then to sites north.

Thompson, in jeans and sneakers, began with a song he'd written about the war, a piece based on a diary of a Union soldier, while friends from California played guitar and violin. While Thompson had been writing songs about American history for years, playing them just for friends near his home in Orange County, Calif., his diagnosis with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis changed everything: Now the clock was ticking on his time to explore his own history, and the topic of fighting for your life had become real. He began devouring books about the Civil War.

"Before I would just write for my own therapy," said Thompson, a bear of a man at 6 foot 1, 220 pounds, who looks healthy and broad to the untrained eye—except for when he winces as he swallows. "But when I got diagnosed, I wanted to do something with it. I wanted to give a voice to all those unknowns." He paused and began to smile. "I'm like the unknown voice for the unknowns!"

Thompson grew up playing Bob Dylan and Bruce Springsteen, and he aspires to their lyric-oriented, soft folk style. His music is simple, like early country tunes or ballads. The words are haunting, though, particularly as they are infused with Thompson's newly charged connections with his past and his conviction about having a meaningful future.

"As I write to you dear, there is nothing I fear into battle tomorrow I'll go..." he sings in "A Letter From Shiloh."

"From the fields I hear them callin' From the fields, where they fell



Thompson listens to his recordings from the surrender room of the McLean House next to a photo depicting Robert E. Lee's surrender to Ulysses S. Grant.

...
From the fields there comes a' singin' From the fields, a mournful song From the fields I hear them callin' Grab your guitar boy and come along..." he writes in "From the Fields," the title track to the CD he's aiming to have on sale by next Memorial Day, hopefully in national park gift shops and Civil War-oriented magazines.

An aspect of Thompson's seven-day recording trip, which ends Friday at Gettysburg National Military Park, is his entourage—four friends who took off a week from work and their California lives to play music, schlep bags and simply be present for what they see as an inspiring, life-affirming journey. So while the basic premise of the journey can hardly be called light, the ambiance of the group is celebratory, like a bunch of kids who ran away from home and realized there was a big wide world out there.

There is little talk of illness and lots of laughing, with Thompson poking fun at West Coasters' cluelessness about the Civil War and them teasing him for bringing a bottle of Tabasco sauce with him on his road trip out, an effort to add more zing to fast food. They make do with their improvised "studio"—they brought beach chairs and will plug the recording equipment into the cigarette lighter of Thompson's van at every place after Appomattox because the sites don't have elec-



Thompson's hat hangs in the foyer of the McLean House, one of several historic sites where he is recording.

tricity.

"I'm in awe of him," said Tonnie Katz, 59, who retired as editor of the Orange County Register in 2002 and describes herself as "a groupie" on the trip. Her husband, Tad Korn, 63, is the violinist. "To

set this goal and to see his vision through—for anyone to do that, and especially for someone facing death," she said.

Thompson picked all four of the sites for this trip for historical reasons: the McLean House, the Old Salem Church, the Dunker Church at Antietam and the Lutheran Seminary Chapel at Gettysburg, although in March he and Korn went to the dome-shaped Illinois Monument at Vicksburg National Military Park in Mississippi and recorded some Civil War-era violin solos because of the acoustics in the marble-walled structure.

Thompson plans to produce the CD on his own and give all proceeds of any sales to the Civil War Preservation Trust, which buys battlefield land to keep it from being developed. According to the Washington-based group, 20 percent of the country's key 384 battlefields already are developed; 17 percent have been protected.

He's also written to the New York Yankees, asking if he could record a song he wrote about Lou Gehrig—whose fight with ALS attached the ballplayer's name to the disease—in Yankee Stadium, the proceeds of which he says he'd give for ALS research.

The quietest, most unassuming member of his party, Thompson is also reserving energy for what will be a grueling, if euphoric week for him. While he doesn't look sick, he said he physically "doesn't have good days anymore," as the degenerative disease attacks his brain and spinal cord and such minor chores as drying himself off after a shower can set off a series of cramps and twitches that leave him exhausted. "A bad day a year ago is a good day today," he said with no inflection.

"My view is, we all die of something; all our times are coming. We have to accept it graciously."

And that's what Thompson did about 9 p.m. Saturday night, after cutting short his recording session a bit early because his throat was tired. He'd just explained his song "A Soldier's Diary," in which a soldier far from home and tired from killing proclaims it "a fine day" because he was paid on time.

"I guess," Thompson said, "every day is a fine day when you're still alive."

The Washington Post

MD VA

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2004

V₂



BY PRESTON KERES—THE WASHINGTON POST

Kyle Thompson, who has Lou Gehrig's disease, is recording songs he wrote about Civil War soldiers at the battlefields where they died.

A Troubadour Pays Homage

APPOMATTOX, Va.—

As the last tourists were leaving Appomattox national park Saturday night, Kyle Thompson was just arriving, in his specially equipped van with the handicap tags and his tins of suckers and his recording equipment. They had come to mark the deaths of soldiers in the Civil War. He had come to mark his own.

When Thompson learned three years ago at age 37 that he had Lou Gehrig's disease, the California chef who grew up surfing in the Pacific saw his life rapidly narrow into a question: What was to be his legacy?

The disease, which often kills people in less than five years, already had left his arm muscles twitchy, too unreliable for pots of boiling water and sharp knives. Then the hand cramps took care of the guitar-playing he'd loved since he was a teenager. These days, the muscles in his throat sometimes fail, leaving him endlessly sucking butterscotch candies or Altoids to keep from gagging. And his doctors warned it could soon get worse: He could lose his ability to sing. That's what brought this great-great-grandson of three

Confederate soldiers back to a quiet Southern field on a Saturday night.

Accompanied by a motley crew of musician friends, a few groupies and a park employee being paid overtime to work off-hours, Thompson began putting his dream in motion: to use his music to honor those who served and died in the Civil War; to record songs he'd written about the soldiers at the battlefields where they died; and to give the proceeds to a national group that keeps the sites from becoming shopping centers. After months of planning and requests to park service superintendents throughout the East, that

See LEGACY, B7, Col. 3

By Michelle Boorstein ■ Washington Post Staff Writer

SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE

When the Sons of Veterans, U.S.A. became civilian in 1904, provision was made for a subordinate military branch. The SVR is the uniformed military element of the SUVCW. The National Military Department of the SVR consists of a General Staff and six military districts across the nation. SVR elements participate in ceremonies, parades, living history programs and re-enactments. All members and associates are welcome to join the SVR. To become a member of the SVR, however, you must first join the SUVCW.

RUDY HORCHER



GRAVE REGISTRAR

AUXILIARY TO THE SUVCW

The Auxiliary to the SUVCW was officially organized in 1887; however its roots go back to 1884 and its membership is open to female lineal or collateral descendants or Civil War Veterans, wives, mothers, daughters and widows of SUVCW members in good standing. Their purpose is to assist the SUVCW in their goals as well as a full line of patriotic and charity orientated activities of their own. They are also organized into local auxiliaries, departments and a national organization.

For information on becoming a member of the Auxiliary contact a local SUVCW Camp for further details.

For further information on the SUVCW, please contact:

GEORGE A. CUSTER CAMP # 1

NICK KAUP COM. WILMETTE IL. 60091

THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS



OF THE CIVIL WAR

Organized 1881

LEGAL HEIR TO AND REPRESENTING
THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

*Chartered and Incorporated by Act of Congress in
1954*

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SUVCW

The SUVCW was a creation of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) which was formed in 1866. Realizing the inevitable demise of the Grand Army of the Republic because of its membership requirements, several members of the GAR attempted to form organizations of their sons to carry on their work. The Sons of Veterans of the United States of America was formed by Major A.P. Davis in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on November 12, 1881. This organization grew rapidly and in 1883 was recognized by the GAR as the sole organization of Sons of Union Veterans. By resolution of the 1883 National Encampment the GAR ordered all posts to disband all other organizations and break all ties with any organization of sons except the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America. The Sons of Veterans U.S.A. Camps were military in nature. In 1904, they elected to become a civilian patriotic education society. In 1925 the name was changed to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to further identify their heritage. Prior to disbanding and before the death of its last member, the G.A.R. officially designated the SUVCW as legal heir to and representative of the Grand Army of the Republic. On August 20, 1954, the SUVCW was officially incorporated by an Act of Congress by the passage of Public Law 605 during the second session of the 83rd Congress.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTS OF THE SUVCW

To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and the men who saved the Union 1861 to 1865; to assist in every practicable way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members; to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war; to teach patriotism, and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our country, and the love and honor of our Flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impairment of our constitutional Union; and to inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, of equal rights, and of impartial justice for all.



ORGANIZATION

The SUVCW is structured into three constituted bodies.

The first level is the CAMP which is the backbone of the Order as the Camps contain the membership and this is where the purposes of our organization are carried out. Camps are located in the majority of the States.

The second level is the DEPARTMENT. Each state that contains three or more Camps has a Department which is considered the middle management of the Order. All of the Camps within a state are attached to that state's Department which acts as a liaison with the National Organization.

The third level is the NATIONAL ORGANIZATION which includes all national officers and the Council of Administration which serves as the Board of Directors.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Membership in the SUVCW is open to all male descendants, whether through lineal or collateral line and not less than 14 years of age who: (1) are a blood relative of a soldier, sailor, marine or member of the Revenue Cutter Service who was regularly mustered and served honorably in, was honorably discharged from or died in the service of the Army, Navy, marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America or in such state regiments called to active service and was subject to orders of United States general officers, between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865; (2) have never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime and (3) have, or whose ancestor through whom membership is claimed has, never voluntarily borne arms against the government of the United States.

Males who do not have the ancestry to qualify for hereditary membership, but who demonstrate a genuine interest in the Civil War, who are fourteen years of age or older and who can subscribe to the purpose and objects of the SUVCW may become Associates.

Camps may provide for Juniors provided that it is not prohibited by their respective Departments. Juniors shall be males at least eight but less than fourteen years of age who meet the qualifications for membership. They can become members at age fourteen.

Voters and Visitors Reject Proposed Gettysburg Casino

A July 2005 phone survey of 300 Adams County voters by Susquehanna Polling found:

- 54% oppose a casino in Adams County, while only 31% approve.
- 53% feel a casino would detract from the region's historic significance.

A July 2005 survey of heritage tourists by No Casino Gettysburg found:

- 96% oppose a casino in Adams County.
- 53% would not return if a casino were built, devastating our heritage tourism-based economy!

National Opposition to a Gettysburg Casino

The following national groups have publicly stated their opposition to the proposed Gettysburg casino:

The Civil War Preservation Trust
Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg
The National Council of Churches
The National Parks Conservation Association
The National Trust for Historic Preservation

How You Can Help

The investors may have money and muscle, but this is far from a done deal! We have voters, voices and the support of tens of thousands of Americans who have signed our petitions and expressed their belief that Gettysburg is the wrong location for a casino.

Please tell the decision makers on the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board not to gamble with Gettysburg. Contact them at:

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
PO Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106
Phone: 717-346-8300
e-mail: PGCB@state.pa.us

No Casino Gettysburg is a non-profit group dedicated to opposing a proposed slots facility in Adams County, Pennsylvania. We welcome volunteers and donations.

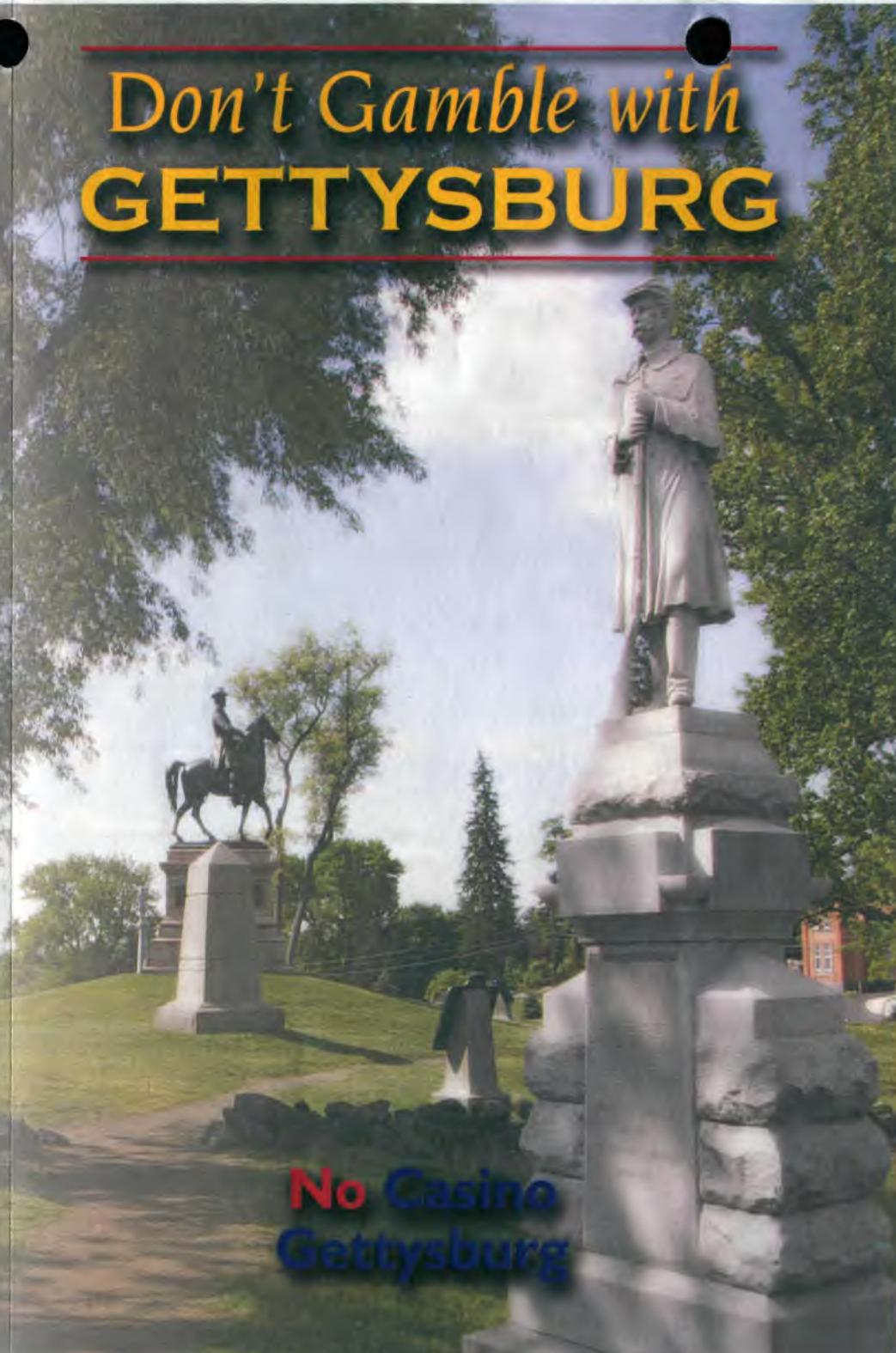
**No Casino
Gettysburg**

Box 3173
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Phone (717) 334-6333

www.NoCasinoGettysburg.com

This brochure paid for by the members of the Civil War Preservation Trust

Don't Gamble with GETTYSBURG



**No Casino
Gettysburg**

No Casino Gettysburg Wants You to Know the Real Facts

The casino investors claim:

The surrounding area would get \$10 million per year.

The only casino money guaranteed to Adams County under Act 71 is \$450,000 to Straban Township. After the state takes its share, remaining revenue must be split between Adams, Cumberland, Franklin and York counties. Smaller and with a stronger economy, Adams County will get a smaller cut of the profits, but will face the lion's share of the infrastructure expenses — casinos cost \$3 in services for every \$1 they make.¹

The Gettysburg area needs development to create jobs.

With thriving heritage tourism, agricultural and construction sectors, Adams County recently boasted an unemployment rate of only 3.7%, one of the lowest in the nation.²

An influx of 800–1000 jobs to the community.

While jobs during the construction phase would be plentiful, jobs at the finished casino would be mostly in hotel and food services. The wages and union status for these positions are dependent on the casino's management company, but table dealers earn a national average of only \$7.96 an hour.³ Moreover, nearly half of the communities hosting casinos lose jobs after the grand opening.⁴

A local investment group supports the casino.

Only one of the public investors in Chance Enterprises lives in Adams County.

Some of the money would go to local schools, lowering property taxes.

Only one school district in Adams County voted to accept Act 72, so unless the law is seriously overhauled, only Conewago will see property tax relief.

The casino would be "far removed from Gettysburg's historically important locations."

The proposed site is "within cannon range" of the Nation Military Park, even for Civil War era artillery. The casino would be less than a mile from East Cavalry Field and from Camp Letterman, site of the battle's largest field hospital.

Visitors who come to gamble would stay for the history.

Casinos attract gamblers, not tourists. For instance, retail sales in Iowa cities without casinos grew five times faster than those with them from 1996 to 2000.⁵

It's harder to lose large amounts of money on slot machines.

Some machines may take wagers as small as one cent, but their push-button design and ability to accept credit cards means that gamblers can lose in excess of \$30 per minute!

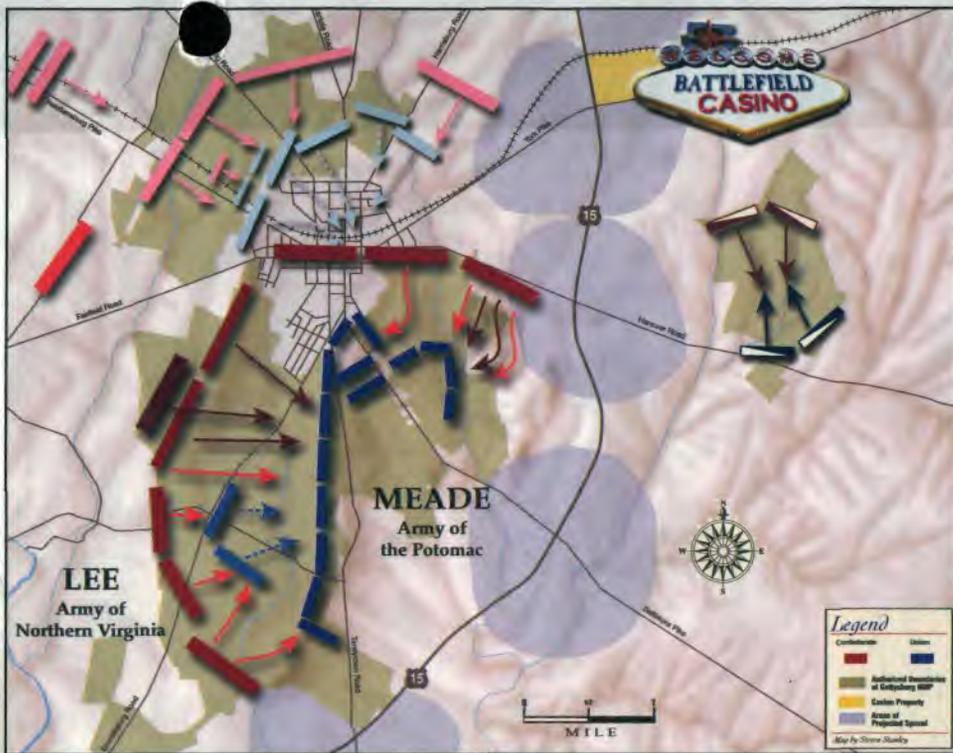
¹ Grinols, *Gambling in America*, 2004.

² PA Dept of Labor, June 2005.

³ intoCAREERS, University of Oregon, 2004

⁴ Goss and Morse, Creighton University, 2004.

⁵ Iowa State Dept. of Economics, 2002.



A casino at Gettysburg would not only desecrate Hallowed Ground, but would spur development that would choke the battlefield and surrounding communities.

Governor Rendell Weighs In

In an appearance on the program "Pennsylvania Newsmakers" on September 15, Governor Rendell said: "I wouldn't want a casino two blocks from the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia and, if it were my decision, I wouldn't want it anywhere close to the historic area of Gettysburg." Rendell went on to say, "You don't want to have young children seeing a casino next to a great historic shrine."

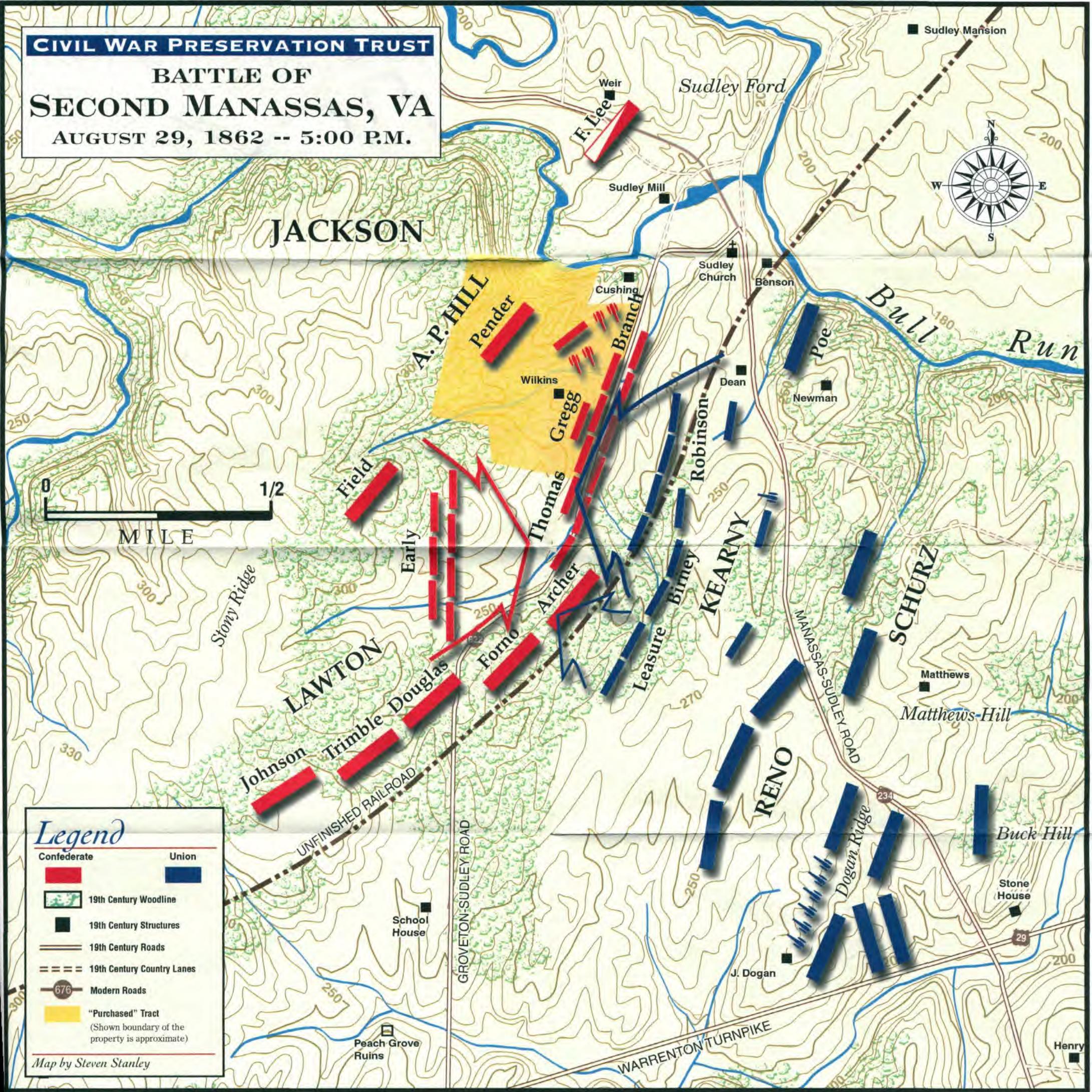
"Just a slots parlor"?

Caesar's Palace has 1,900 slots. Foxwoods, the largest casino in the U.S. has 5,500. The Gettysburg Gaming Resort and Spa would open with 2,500 slots and potentially expand to 5,000. Those numbers alone indicate a large facility, but legislation has already been introduced that could eventually allow table games at Pennsylvania casinos as well.

CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST

BATTLE OF SECOND MANASSAS, VA

AUGUST 29, 1862 -- 5:00 P.M.



Sudley Mansion

Weir

Sudley Ford

F. Lee

Sudley Mill

Sudley Church

Benson



JACKSON

A.P. HILL

Pender

Cushing

Wilkins

Gregg

Branch

Dean

Newman

Bull Run

Poe



MILE

Field

Early

Thomas

Archer

Leasure

Birney

KEARNY

RENO

SCHURZ

Matthews

Matthews Hill

Story Ridge

LAWTON

Johnson

Trimble

Douglas

Forno

MANASSAS-SUDLEY ROAD

Buck Hill

Stone House

J. Dogan

Dogan Ridge

School House

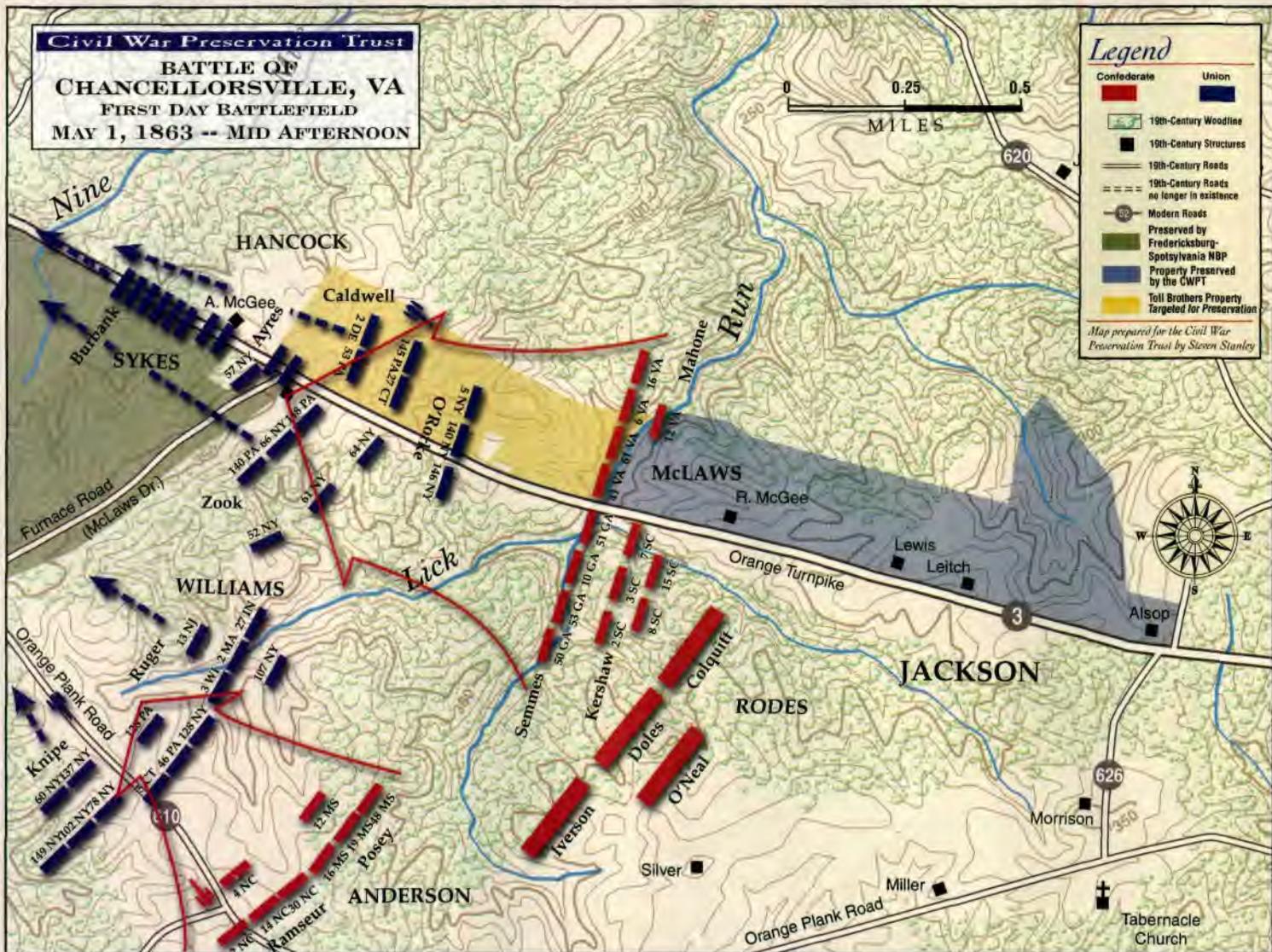
Peach Grove Ruins

Henry

Legend

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|-------|
| | Confederate | | Union |
| | 19th Century Woodline | | |
| | 19th Century Structures | | |
| | 19th Century Roads | | |
| | 19th Century Country Lanes | | |
| | Modern Roads | | |
| | "Purchased" Tract
(Shown boundary of the property is approximate) | | |

Map by Steven Stanley



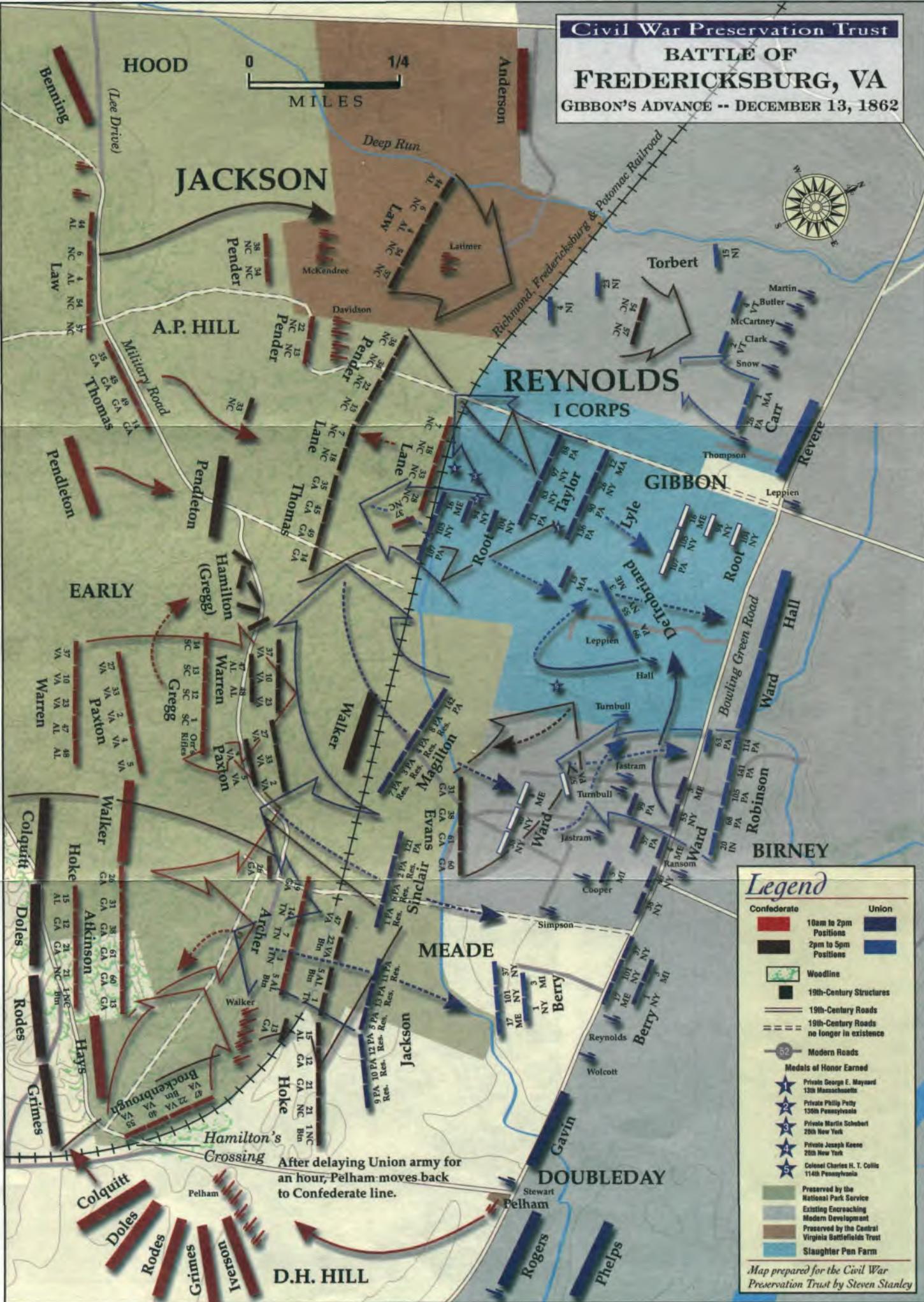
(First Day at Chancellorsville Preservation Campaign continued from inside cover)

By matching your gift dollar for dollar, CWPT can purchase this land for just 15 cents per square foot!



This is the view the Union soldiers in Sykes's Division would have had as they reached the battlefield on May 1, 1865. After intense fighting on the land CWPT saved in 2004 (in the distance, in front of the far tree line and marked by the farm buildings) the Southerners pressed the Union troops back over the sloping land shown in the foreground. The Union troops retired slowly, returning fire. The Confederates later slept on their arms in a field a short distance behind the camera position. Your generous support today will help preserve this land just as it is. (Photo by Garry Adelman)

Civil War Preservation Trust
**BATTLE OF
 FREDERICKSBURG, VA**
 GIBBON'S ADVANCE -- DECEMBER 13, 1862



Legend

	Confederate		Union
	10am to 2pm Positions		2pm to 5pm Positions
	Woodlines		
	19th-Century Structures		
	19th-Century Roads		
	19th-Century Roads no longer in existence		
	Modern Roads		
Medals of Honor Earned			
	Private George E. Maynard 15th Massachusetts		
	Private Philip Petty 150th Pennsylvania		
	Private Martin Schebart 26th New York		
	Private Joseph Keene 26th New York		
	Colonel Charles H. T. Collins 114th Pennsylvania		
	Preserved by the National Park Service		
	Existing Encroaching Modern Development		
	Preserved by the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust		
	Slaughter Pen Farm		

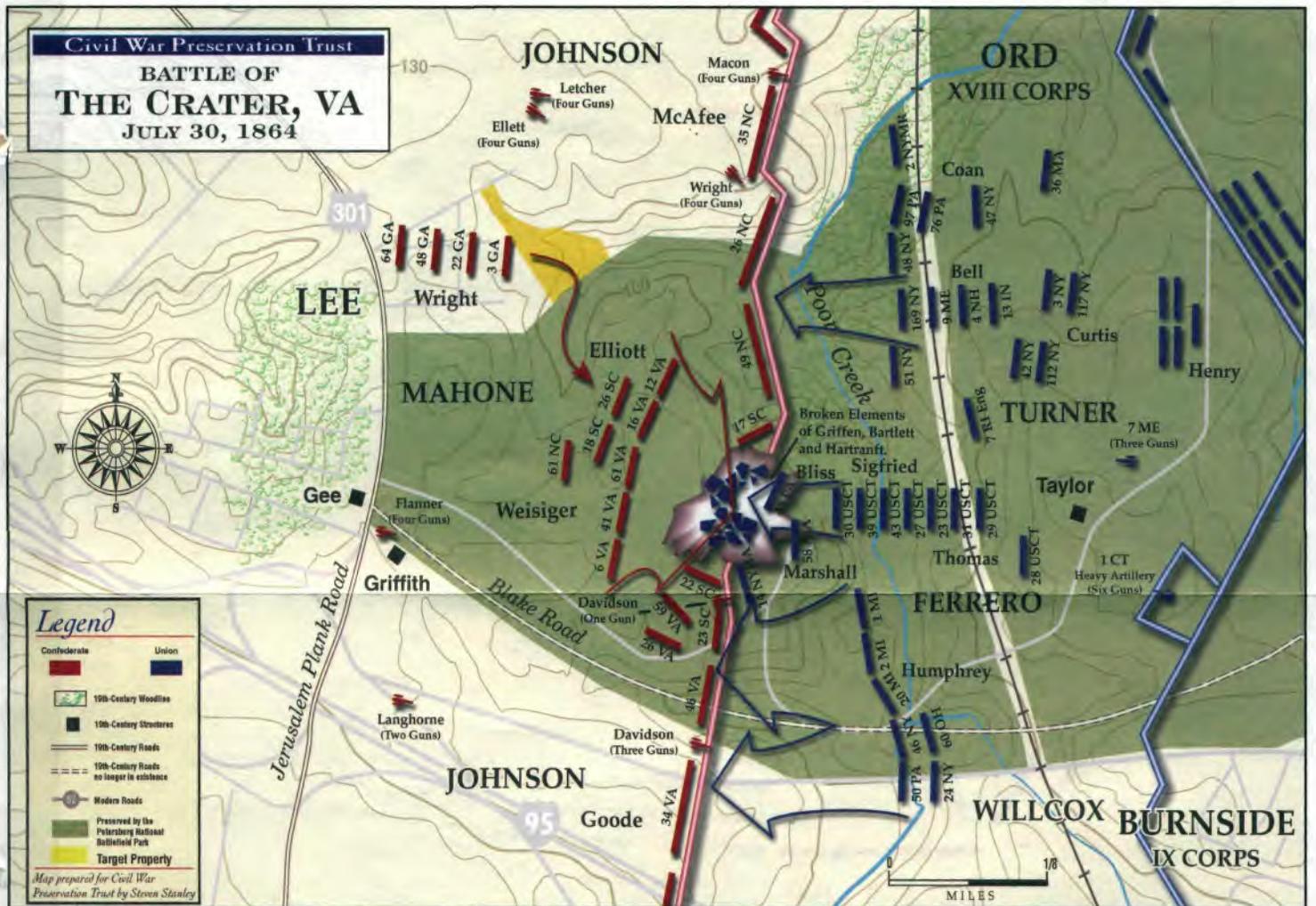
After delaying Union army for an hour, Pelham moves back to Confederate line.

Map prepared for the Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Civil War Preservation Trust
BATTLE OF THE CRATER, VA
 JULY 30, 1864

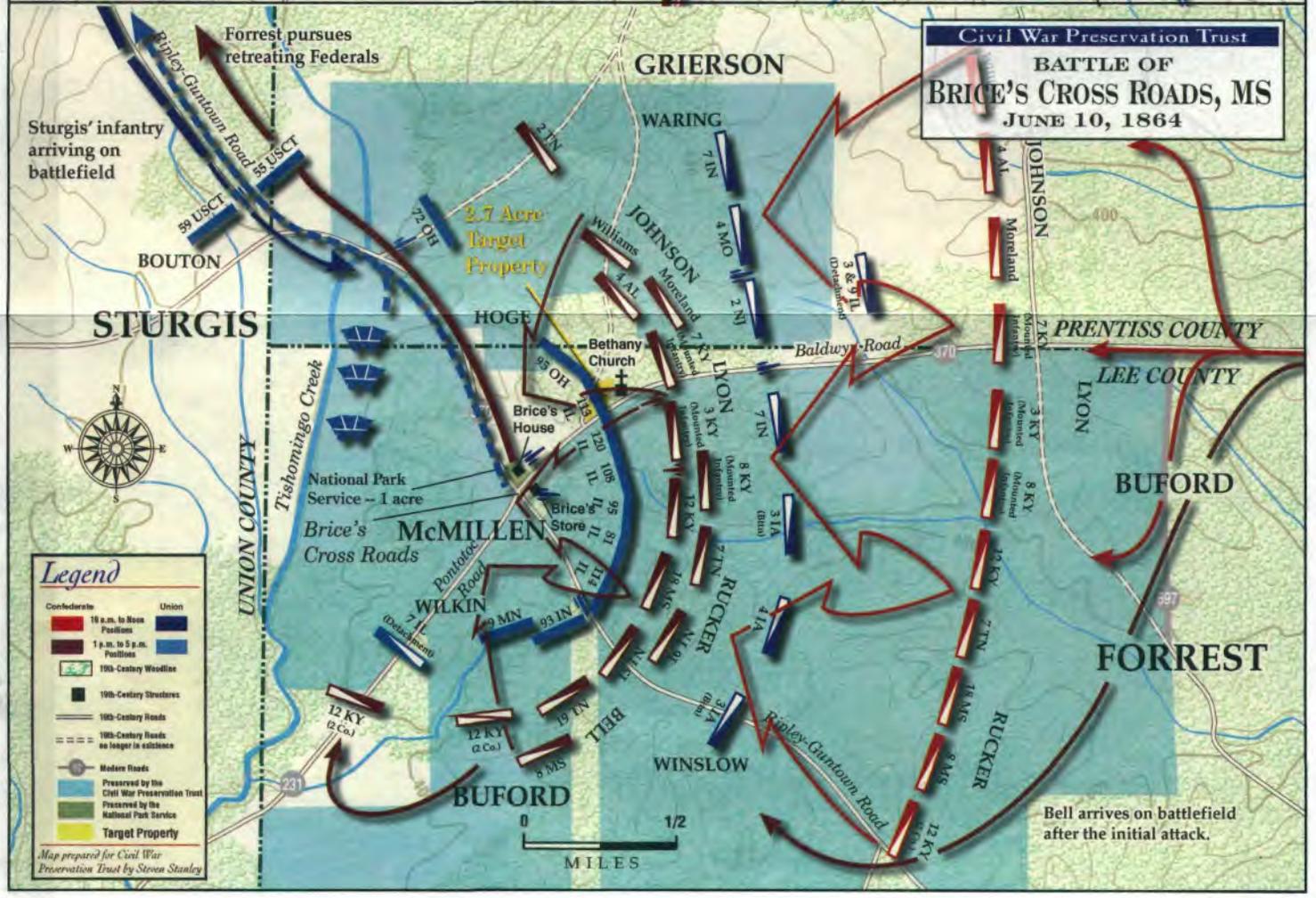


Legend

Confederate	Union
19th-Century Woodlines	
19th-Century Structures	
19th-Century Roads	
19th-Century Roads no longer in existence	
Modern Roads	
Preserved by the Petersburg National Battlefield Park	
Target Property	

Map prepared for Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

Civil War Preservation Trust
BATTLE OF BRICE'S CROSS ROADS, MS
 JUNE 10, 1864



Legend

Confederate	Union
18 a.m. to Noon Positions	1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Positions
19th-Century Woodlines	
19th-Century Structures	
19th-Century Roads	
19th-Century Roads no longer in existence	
Modern Roads	
Preserved by the Civil War Preservation Trust	
Preserved by the National Park Service	
Target Property	

Map prepared for Civil War Preservation Trust by Steven Stanley

