

Occupied Winchester



Winchester is in the northern, or lower, Shenandoah Valley. Formed by the Appalachians to the west and the Blue Ridge to the east, the Valley shelters the Shenandoah River on its journey down to the Potomac at Harpers Ferry.

The Valley's natural corridor formed by the river also spawned the 19th century Valley Pike (modern-day US 11), along which both commerce and armies traveled. In contemporary times, Interstate 81 has replaced the Pike as the principal transportation route, bringing both opportunities and challenges to the interpretation of Civil War history.

To the embattled and hard-pressed South, the Shenandoah Valley was a land of plenty—filled with grain, dotted with mills and linked by road and rail with a main theatre of war across the Blue Ridge. The Valley also had abundant strategic options to offer to Confederate generals. Indeed, as Gen. Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson said, “If this Valley is lost, Virginia is lost.”

As a gateway to the Valley, Winchester became a battleground from the very beginning. Despite its great importance—or because of it—Winchester proved impossible to defend. The number of times the town changed hands during the war—perhaps more than 72 times—is today a matter of local pride.

Today, vestiges of the Civil War remain in Winchester and Frederick and Clarke counties. The voices of wounded and captured soldiers echo

Fighting commenced quite early this morning and cannonading has been going on all day to the east of us on the Berryville Road, but a mile or two from town...

— Julia Chase, Winchester resident
September 19, 1864

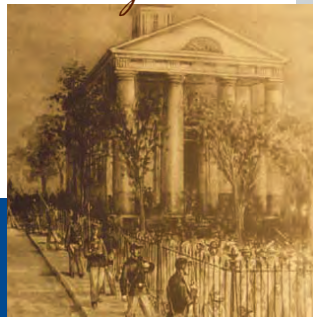
through the county courthouse, where their graffiti is still visible. The courthouse is now a museum open to the public, as is the house that served as Stonewall Jackson's Headquarters the winter before his famous 1862 Valley Campaign. Throughout the region, historic farms, homes, mills, and cemeteries, along with outstanding museums and interpreted sites, all help tell the powerful history and moving legacy of the war.

Visitors can walk the battlefields at Kernstown, Cool Spring, and Second and Third Winchester and learn how Jackson, Robert E. Lee, Jubal Early, and Philip Sheridan shaped the course of the war. Scattered throughout the region are the stories of the war's effect on the Valley's civilian population—how these families survived the personal and economic devastation that war brought, and how they rebuilt their lives in the years after the guns fell silent.

You may want to begin your visit at the National Historic District orientation center in the Winchester area (? on the map, next page), which can help guide you to the host of sites where you can experience the region's dramatic Civil War story today.

In the courtyard were two pieces of artillery, twelve pounders, taken from the enemy. In the vestibule lay thirteen dead bodies of United States soldiers and the courtroom was filled to its capacity with wounded...

— David Hunter Strother, Union staff officer
March 1862



Winchester Area Battlefields

First Kernstown

March 23, 1862
Jackson's Valley Campaign

First Winchester

May 25, 1862
Jackson's Valley Campaign

Second Winchester

June 13-15, 1863
Lee's Gettysburg Campaign

Cool Spring

July 17-18, 1864
Early's Maryland Campaign

Rutherford's Farm

July 20, 1864
Early's Maryland Campaign

Second Kernstown

July 24, 1864
Early's Maryland Campaign

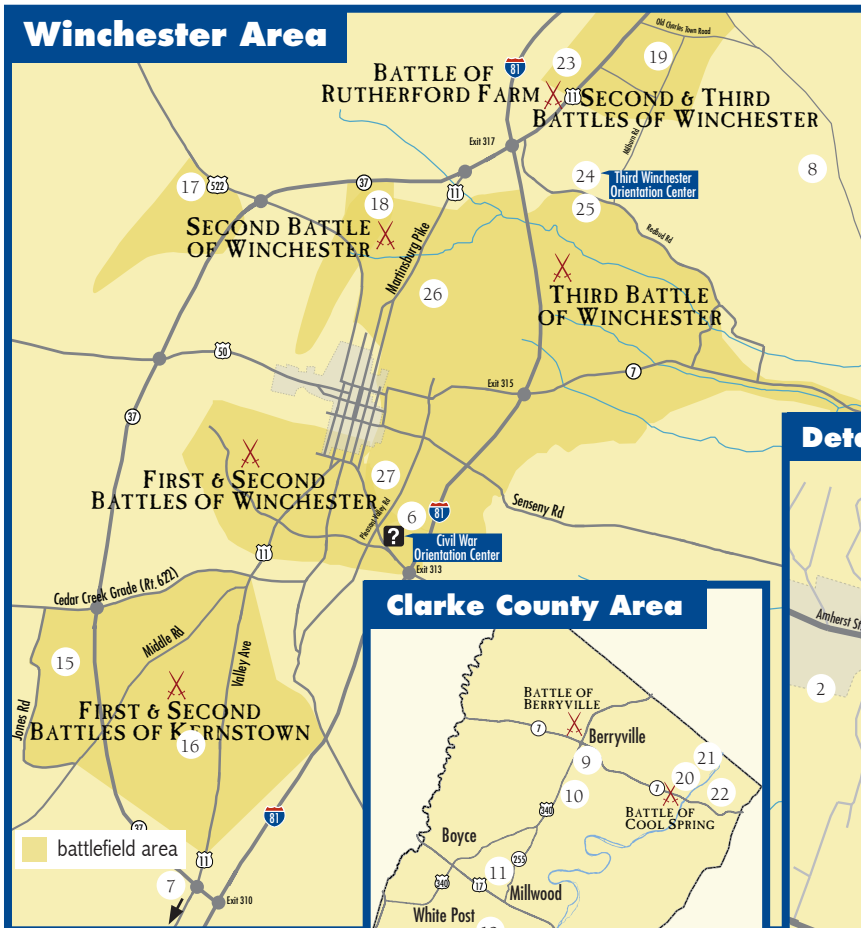
Berryville

September 3, 1864
Sheridan's Shenandoah Campaign

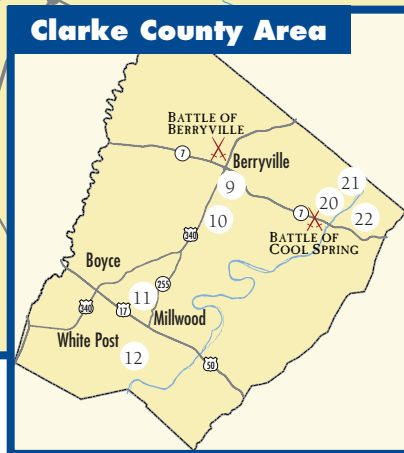
Third Winchester

September 19, 1864
Sheridan's Shenandoah Campaign

Winchester Area



Clarke County Area

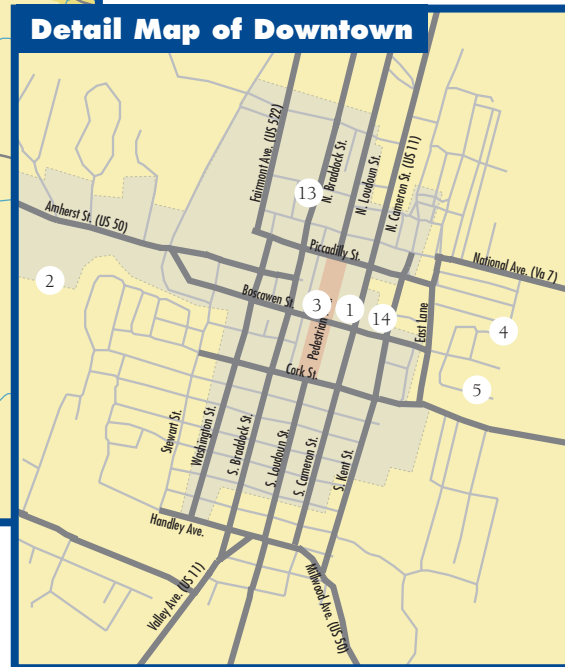


Visitor Information



Civil War Orientation Center &
Winchester-Frederick County
Visitor Center
1400 S. Pleasant Valley Road
Winchester, Virginia 22601
877-871-1326
Open daily – 9:00am to 5:00pm

Detail Map of Downtown



- ~ Civil War Trails Sites
- ~ Pet-Friendly Sites
- ~ Admission Fee
- ~ Group Tour Arrangements Available

1 ~ Old Court House Civil War Museum

Museum: 1840 courthouse used as prison and hospital during the Civil War. Exhibits include original soldiers' graffiti on the courthouse walls and more than 3,000 artifacts.

20 N. Loudon Street, Winchester • 540-542-1145
www.civilwarmuseum.org • Open Wed-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun 1-5pm

2 ~ Museum of the Shenandoah Valley

Museum: Complex that includes a historic house, six acres of spectacular gardens, and a museum that tells the story of the Shenandoah Valley's art, history and culture. Museum offers 11 gallery rooms—including a Civil War room—as well as a museum store and a café.

901 Amherst Street, Winchester • 888-556-5799
www.themsv.org • Open Tues-Sun, 10am-4pm (Museum year-round; house and gardens March-November)

3 ~ Historic Old Town Winchester

45-block National Register historic district and pedestrian walking mall filled with shops and cafes.

www.OldTownWinchesterVA.com • 540-535-3661

4 ~ National Cemetery

Cemetery: Final resting place for Union soldiers from the battles of Winchester, New Market, Front Royal, Cool Spring, Harper's Ferry, Martinsburg, and Romney.

401 National Avenue, Winchester • 540-825-0027
www.cem.va.gov/CEM/cems/nchp/winchester.asp
Open daily during daylight hours.

5 ~ Stonewall Cemetery, Mt. Hebron Complex

Cemetery: Historic cemetery with gravestones dating to the 1760s, including Civil War soldiers, generals, governors, and patriots.

305 E. Boscawen Street, Winchester • 540-662-4868
www.mthebroncemetery.org/history.html • Open during daylight hours.

6 ~ Abram's Delight

Interpretive Signage: Wartime experiences of the Hollingsworth family, who lived in Abram's Delight, the oldest dwelling in Winchester.

1340 S. Pleasant Valley Rd., Winchester • 540-662-6519 • Apr-Oct,
Mon-Sat 10am-4pm; Sun 12-4pm • www.winchesterhistory.org

7 ~ Newtown History Center

Museum: Interprets the history of this 250-year-old town: frontier settlement and growth, wagon industry and craftsmen, and Civil War conflicts. 5408 Main St, Stephens City • 540-869-1700 • www.newtownhistorycenter.org
Jun-Aug: Tues-Sat 10am - 4pm; Sun 1pm-5pm. Sept-Nov: Wed-Sat, 10am-4pm; Sun 1pm - 5pm (*Open by appointment in winter.)

8 ~ Jordan Springs

Interpretive Signage: Centered on the nearby spring waters, site of an early 1800s resort that occasionally served as a hospital during the war. Jordan Springs Road (VA 664), northeast of Winchester

9 ~ Clarke County Historical Association Museum

Museum: Features 'Our Land Is Our Legacy,' a multi-media exhibit telling 300 years of Clarke County history, land use and preservation, and rural culture. 32 East Main Street, Berryville • 540-955-2600 • www.clarkehistory.org
Open Tues-Fri 11am-4pm; Sat by appointment only • Free

10 ~ Josephine School Community Museum

Museum: Housed in an 1882 school built by former slaves and free colored people, the museum tells the stories of 270 years of African-American contributions to the county. 303 Josephine Street, Berryville • 540-955-5512 • www.jschoolmuseum.org
Open every Sunday 1-3 pm and by appointment

11 ~ The Burwell-Morgan Mill

Historic Site: Built in 1785, one of the oldest operating gristmills in the country, grinding corn and wheat every Saturday from May through November. 15 Tannery Lane, Millwood • 540-837-1799 • www.clarkehistory.org
Open May-Nov, Sat 10am-5pm, Fri and Sun 12-5pm.

12 ~ Long Branch Historic House and Farm

Historic Site: House begun ca. 1810, with interiors finished in the 1840's in elaborate Minard Lafeyer Egyptian-Revival style by Maj. Hugh M. Nelson, CSA. 400 acres, English gardens. Open May-November, Wednesday-Sunday 1-4
830 Long Branch Lane, Millwood • 540-837-1856 • www.visitlongbranch.com

Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign

First Battle of Kernstown and First Battle of Winchester Pages 6-9

13 ~ Stonewall Jackson Headquarters Museum

Museum: This home served as Jackson's headquarters during the winter of 1861-62; museum houses one of the largest collections of Jackson memorabilia. 415 N. Braddock St, Winchester • 540-667-5505 • www.winchesterhistory.org
Open Apr-Oct, Mon-Sat 10am-4pm; Sun 12-4pm

14 ~ Winchester - The Valley Campaigns

Interpretive Signage: Overview of Winchester's strategic importance during the war, and its role during the 1862 and 1864 campaigns
2 North Cameron St., Winchester

15 ~ Kernstown Battlefield - Rose Hill Farm

Battlefield Area: Site of the closing phases of First Kernstown; features one-mile walking tour with interpretive signs telling the battle's story
1850 Jones Road, Winchester • 888-556-5799 • www.firstkernstown.org/history/rose_hill.html • Site open on select days and by appointment

16 ~ Kernstown Battlefield - Pritchard Farm

Battlefield Area: 250-year-old, 315-acre farm was the center of the First and Second Battles of Kernstown. Visitor center, exhibits, and walking tours. 610 Battle Park Drive, Winchester • 540-869-2896
www.kernstownbattle.org • Open May-Oct, Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 12-4pm.

Lee's 1863 Gettysburg Campaign

Second Battle of Winchester Pages 10-11

17 ~ Second Battle of Winchester

Interpretive Signage: Describing action around three defensive forts northwest of the city.
US 522 (parking lot of the Virginia Farm Market), northwest of Winchester

18 ~ Star Fort

Battlefield Area: Site of one of the last remaining defensive forts ringing the city of Winchester. Walking trail with interpretive signage.
Fortress Drive and US 522, Winchester

19 ~ Stephenson's Depot

Interpretive Signage: Describing action at Stephenson's Depot during the Second and Third Battles of Winchester.
US 11 at Old Charles Town and Millburn Roads, north of Winchester

Early's Maryland Campaign

Battle of Cool Spring and Second Battle of Kernstown Pages 14-15

20 ~ Battle of Cool Spring

Interpretive Signage: Describes the July 18, 1864 Confederate victory when Union troops attacked Jubal Early's rearguard during his withdrawal back to the Valley after threatening Washington, D.C.
Intersection of Castleman's Road (Va. 603) and Va 7

21 ~ Holy Cross Abbey

Battlefield Area: Site of the Battle of Cool Spring. North of Va 7 on the west bank of the Shenandoah River in Clarke County • 540-995-1425
Abbey visitor center open year-round. Battlefield by appointment.

22 ~ Battle of Cool Spring - Walking Trail

Battlefield Area: Walking trail with interpretive markers. Take Parker Lane north for approximately 1.5 miles to the parking area.

23 ~ Battle of Rutherford's Farm

Interpretive Signage: Describing the Union victory in the July 20, 1864 battle north of Winchester. Pull-off for markers north of US 11.

16 ~ Kernstown Battlefield - Pritchard Farm*

Sheridan's 1864 Shenandoah Campaign

Third Battle of Winchester Pages 16-19

24 ~ Third Winchester Orientation Center

Battlefield Orientation: Interpretive panels and exhibits provide historical and visitor-related information for Third Winchester battlefield sites throughout Winchester, Frederick County, and Clarke County. • www.ShenandoahAtWar.org
Redbud Road, east of US11. (Across from parking lot.) • 540-740-4545

25 ~ Third Winchester Battlefield Park

Battlefield Area: Miles of interpretive trails take visitors through areas that saw some of the fiercest fighting of the battle - and the entire war - including Artillery Knoll, First Woods, and the Middle Field.
Parking lot on Redbud Rd, east of US11. 540-740-4545.
www.ShenandoahAtWar.org. Open dawn to dusk.

19 ~ Stephenson's Depot*

26 ~ Fort Collier Civil War Center

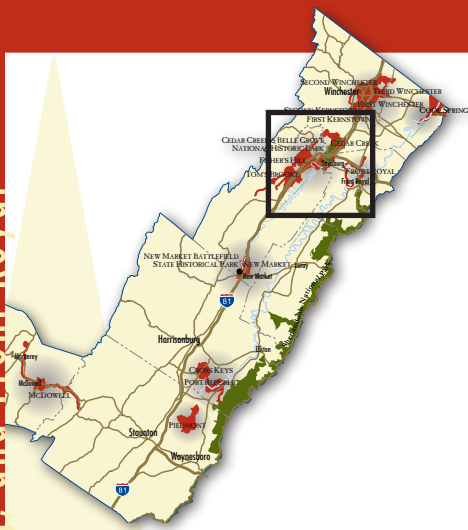
Battlefield Area: Focal point of one of the war's largest cavalry charges; 10-acre site includes interpretive signage, earthworks, and historic Stine House. 922 Martinsburg Pike, Winchester • 540-662-2281 • www.fortcollier.com
Site open dawn to dusk for self-guided tours. House open by appointment.

27 ~ Sheridan's Field Hospital at Shawnee Springs

Interpretive Signage: Site of the largest field hospital of the war; includes earthen remains of the state-of-the-art tent heating system.
Corner of Opequon Avenue and Hollingsworth Drive, Winchester
www.WinchesterGreenCircle.com

*Please see previous listing (same number) for site information.

Self-guided Tours Free printed driving tours of the First Battle of Kernstown, First Battle of Winchester, and the Third Battle of Winchester are available at the visitor center and other Civil War sites. Walking tours of the downtown area are also available.



Signal Knob

The Valley's Witness to Tragedy

Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park

Free self-guided tour brochures, interpretive materials, and Ranger Programs are available from the National Park Service (NPS). Start your visit at the NPS Visitor Contact Station (see listing #1 on page 26) at 7712 Main St., Middletown; call 540-869-3051 for more information. See listings for Belle Grove Plantation (#4) and Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation Headquarters (#29) for information about visiting partner-operated historic sites within the park. Contact the park at 540-869-3051 or website www.nps.gov/cebe for information, schedules and brochures.



Confederate observers on Signal Knob at the north tip of Massanutten Mountain were in a position to view battles and movements in three counties throughout the Civil War.

The Massanutten is a 60-mile-long, north-south range that splits the Shenandoah Valley along its spine from Strasburg to Harrisonburg. Front Royal on the east and Strasburg on the west are located at narrows formed by the mountain and the two forks of the Shenandoah River. These choke points channeled opposing armies' movements and influenced commanders' operational decisions throughout the war.

The terrain explains why some of the largest and most significant battles of the Valley's 1862 and 1864 campaigns occurred within sight of Signal Knob.

In 1862, Confederate Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson used the Massanutten to screen his movement northward, successfully attacking a small Union garrison that was stationed at Front Royal, disconnected from the larger Federal force at Strasburg. Weakened, the northerners lost to Jackson again at Winchester two days later.

In the fall of 1864, Confederates under Gen. Jubal Early made a futile stand at Fisher's Hill on the west side of Signal Knob after suffering a stinging defeat at Winchester just days earlier. After watching Union forces lay waste to the Valley's bounty, Early's cavalry attacked the Federals at Tom's Brook but was forced to retreat. Finally, Early used Signal Knob as a vantage point from which to plan a surprise attack on Union forces encamped around Cedar Creek—an assault that came

...every piece of artillery, every wagon and tent and supporting line of troops were in easy range of our vision.

—Confederate Gen. John B. Gordon
Observing from Signal Knob before the Battle of Cedar Creek
October 1864



Signal Knob Area Battlefields

Front Royal

May 23, 1862
Jackson's Valley Campaign

Manassas Gap

July 23, 1863
Lee's Gettysburg Campaign

Guard Hill

August 16, 1864
Sheridan's Shenandoah Campaign

Fisher's Hill

September 22, 1864
Sheridan's Shenandoah Campaign

Tom's Brook

October 9, 1864
Sheridan's Shenandoah Campaign

Cedar Creek

October 19, 1864
Sheridan's Shenandoah Campaign

very close to succeeding in one of the largest battles west of the Blue Ridge. The decisive Battle of Cedar Creek effectively ended the major Confederate war effort in the Shenandoah Valley.

Today, the road networks are much the same, and vestiges of these military events have survived sufficiently to allow modern visitors to retrace these famous campaigns.

Front Royal and the Cedar Creek battlefield each have visitor facilities that help explain Civil War events, while Belle Grove Plantation can tell you about life in the antebellum era. With information provided at these places about walking trails, driving tours, and interpretive signage, visitors can walk parts of these and other battlefields and explore the sites that tell this part of the Shenandoah Valley's Civil War story.

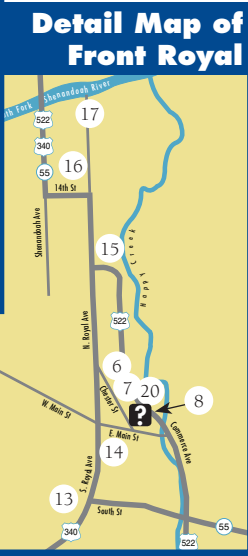
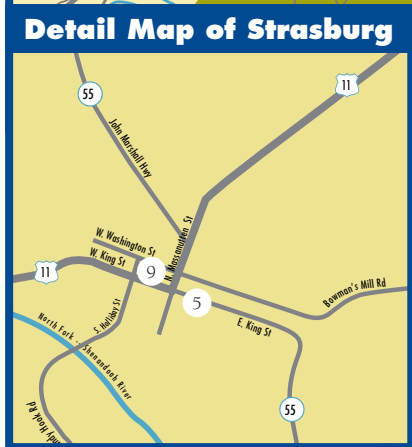
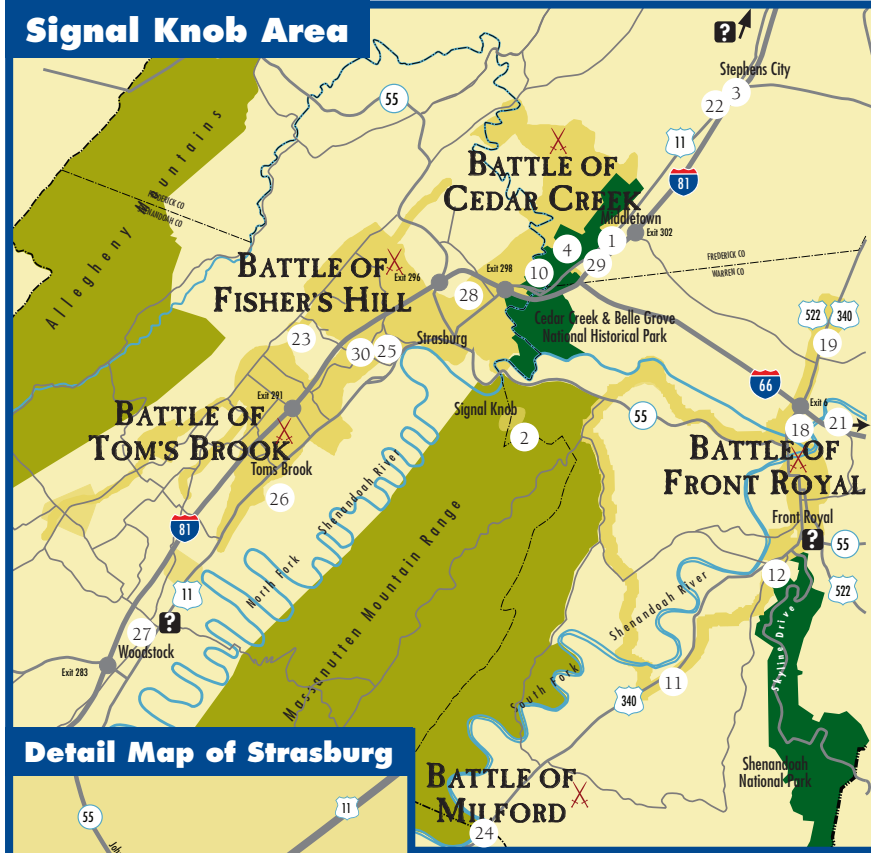
Self-guided Tours

Free printed driving tours of the Battles of Cedar Creek, Fisher's Hill, and Front Royal are available at the visitor centers in this area and other Civil War sites. Walking tours of Front Royal and Strasburg are also available. A podcast tour of the Battle of Cedar Creek is available at nps.gov/cebe and at civilwartraveler.com/ audio

Go back quick and tell him that the Yankee Force is very small, one regiment of Maryland infantry...Tell him I know, for I went through the camps and got it out of an officer.

—Belle Boyd, Resident of Front Royal
May 23, 1862





- ~ Civil War Trails Sites
- ~ Pet-Friendly Sites
- ~ Admission Fee

- ~ Group Tour Arrangements Available

Visitor Information

Civil War Orientation Center & Winchester-Frederick Co. Visitor Center
1400 S Pleasant Valley Rd, Winchester
877-871-1326
www.visitwinchesterva.com
Open daily – 9am to 5pm

Front Royal Visitor Center
414 E Main St, Front Royal
800-338-2576
www.DiscoverFrontRoyal.co
Open daily – 9am to 5pm

Shenandoah County Tourism
600 N Main St, Ste 101, Woodstock
888-367-3965
www.shenandoahtravel.org
Open Mon-Fri – 8:30am to 5pm

1 ~ NPS Visitor Contact Station

Museum: Interprets the history of the valley, concentrating on the Civil War and Cedar Creek. Includes fiber optic map. 7712 Main St, Middletown. 540-869-3051. www.nps.gov/cebe. Late Mar to early Nov, 9am-4:30pm; Nov-Mar, Wed-Sun 10am-4pm, closed Mon-Tue.

2 ~ Signal Knob Hiking Trail

Hiking trail: Rigorous ten-mile hike within the George Washington National Forest. Trailhead-Fort Valley Rd, south of Va 55. 540-984-4101 www.hikingupward.com/GWNF/SignalKnob

www.hikingupward.com/GWNF/SignalKnob

3 ~ Newtown History Center

Museum: Interprets the history of this 250-year-old town, now known as Stephens City; frontier settlement and growth, wagon industry and craftsmen, and Civil War conflicts. 5408 Main St, Stephens City 540-869-1700 • www.newtownhistorycenter.org
June-Aug: Tues-Sat 10am - 4pm; Sun 1pm-5pm. Sept-Nov: Wed-Sat, 10am-4pm; Sun 1pm - 5pm (*Open by appointment in winter.)

4 ~ Belle Grove Plantation

Historic house and farm: This 18th century farm and antebellum plantation reveal Shenandoah Valley life during the years prior to and during the Civil War. The Battle of Cedar Creek was fought on and around the plantation's ground. 336 Belle Grove Rd, Middletown, 540-869-2028 • www.bellegrove.org
Late March to early Nov: Mon-Sat: 10am-4pm; Sun 1pm-5pm; weekends only in Nov; Dec holiday tours; open by appt. Jan-March

5 ~ Strasburg Museum

Museum: Interprets local history, pre-settlement to 20th century. 1891 building originally used as a pottery factory and later as a train depot. 440 East King St, Strasburg • 540-465-3175 • csonner.net/museum.htm
May 1-Oct 31 10am-4pm Daily

6 ~ Warren Heritage Society

Museum: Historical home (Ivy Lodge), archives, and exhibits. 101 Chester St, Front Royal • www.warrenheritagesociety.org
540-636-1446 • Open year-round, M-F 10am-4pm; May-October open Saturdays 9:30am-4pm

7 ~ Warren Rifles Confederate Museum

Museum: Extensive collection of relics and records of the Civil War. \$ 🚗
95 Chester St, Front Royal • www.vaude.org/museum.html • 540-636-6962
or 540-635-3463 • Apr 15-Nov 1; (by appointment in winter);
Mon-Sat 9am-4pm; Sun 12pm-4pm

8 ~ Front Royal: Crossroads of War

Interpretive Signage: Wartime history of the “cross-roads town”. 🗣️
In front of Front Royal-Warren County Visitors Center, 414 East Main Street

Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign

Battle of Front Royal Pages 6-9

9 ~ Stonewall's Surprise: Bank's Fort

Interpretive Signage: Earthen fortification constructed during Valley Campaign. 🗣️
Intersection of West Washington Street and North Holliday Street, Strasburg

10 ~ Cedar Creek: Strategic Crossings 1862

Interpretive Signage (one of two signs at this site): Describes the burning of
the bridge by Jackson's army during the 1862 campaign. 🗣️
In the median of US 11, four-tenths of a mile north of Quarry Rd, Strasburg

6 ~ Belle Boyd Cottage

Historic home: Home of the famous Confederate spy Belle Boyd. \$ 🚗
101 Chester St, Front Royal • 540-636-1446 • www.warrenheritagesociety.org/
belleboyd.php • Open year-round, M-F 10am-4pm; May-Oct, Sat 10am-4pm

8 ~ Battle of Front Royal

Interpretive Signage: Overview of the May 23, 1862 battle. 🗣️
In front of Front Royal-Warren County Visitors Center, 414 East Main Street

11 ~ Asbury Chapel

Interpretive Signage: Stonewall Jackson and the advance to Front Royal. 🗣️
Intersection of U.S. 340 and Rocky Lane (Route 607), south of Front Royal

12 ~ Belle Boyd: Jackson Prepares for Battle

Interpretive Signage: Boyd's meeting with Jackson and Confederate advance.
7145 Browntown Road (Rt. 649) 🗣️

13 ~ Prospect Hill Cemetery

Interpretive Signage: Opening of the Battle of Front Royal and postwar
establishment of the Soldiers Circle to honor Confederate dead. 🗣️
Soldier's Circle, Prospect Hill Cemetery, 200 West Prospect St., Front Royal

14 ~ Front Royal Street Fighting

Interpretive Signage: Confederate Maryland troops vs. Union Maryland troops,
house to house fighting, and civilian reaction. 1 E. Main St., Front Royal 🗣️

15 ~ Rose Hill: Combat in the Front Yard

Interpretive Signage: Union resistance temporarily halts Confederate advance
and the story of the Richardson Family in Rose Hill. 🗣️
Intersection of N. Commonwealth Ave. (U.S. 522) & Warren Ave., Front Royal

16 ~ Richardson's Hill

Interpretive Signage: Final Union attempt to hold Front Royal and
Confederate flanking attack. North of N. Royal Ave. and 15th St., Front Royal 🗣️

17 ~ The Bridges

Interpretive Signage: Union retreat and attempts to burn the bridges over the
river ahead of Confederate pursuit. North end of N. Royal Ave., Front Royal 🗣️

18 ~ Guard Hill

Interpretive Signage: Union attempts to hold off Confederate forces north of
the River. South of intersection of Route 637 and U.S. 340/522, Front Royal 🗣️

19 ~ Fairview: Kenly's Last Stand

Interpretive Signage: Final Union stand and Confederate cavalry charge that
overwhelmed the defenders. North of Front Royal, 7085 US 340 🗣️

20 ~ Bel Air

Interpretive Signage: Diarist Lucy Buck's story of a visit to her home by Gen.
Robert E. Lee as his army withdrew southward. US 522 in Front Royal 🗣️

21 ~ Battle Wapping Heights (Manassas Gap)

Interpretive Signage: Describes the last Federal attempt to cut off Gen. Robert E.
Lee's withdrawal after Gettysburg. 🗣️

Sheridan's 1864 Shenandoah Campaign

Battles of Fisher's Hill/Overall, Tom's Brook, and Cedar Creek Pages 16-19

10 ~ Cedar Creek: Strategic Crossings 1864

Interpretive Signage: Second sign interprets the crossing's importance in 1864
and the nearby mill and residence. 🗣️
In the median of US 11, fourteenths of a mile north of Quarry Rd, Strasburg

18 ~ Battle of Guard Hill

Interpretive Signage: Describes the first battle of Sheridan's 1864 Campaign, an
inconclusive clash north of Front Royal. 🗣️

22 ~ Newtown

Interpretive Signage: Describes 1864 military actions and the dramatic effects of
the war on the town—now known as Stephens City—and its residents.
US 11 South of Stephens City 🗣️

23 ~ Fisher's Hill Battlefield - Ramseur's Hill

Battlefield Area: Interpreted one-mile walking trail over steep terrain.
Va 601 (Battlefield Rd), two miles west of US 11, Fishers Hill 🗣️ 🐾
Trail open during daylight hours.

24 ~ Battle of Milford

Interpretive Signage: Confederate victory prevented Union troops from
encircling Early after Fisher's Hill.
U.S. 340 and Overall Road, 11 miles SW of Front Royal 🗣️

16 ~ Execution of Mosby's Rangers

Interpretive Signage: Describes the execution without trial of six of Mosby's
Confederate Rangers by Union troops in late September 1864.
Just north of the intersection of North Royal Ave and 15th St, Front Royal 🗣️

25 ~ Valley Pike

Interpretive Signage: Tells the story of the role of the Turnpike during the war,
especially at this “choke point” of the Valley.
Intersection of US 11 and Va 601, (Battlefield Rd), Fishers Hill 🗣️

26 ~ Tom's Brook Battlefield - Shenandoah Co. Park

Interpretive Signage: Describes nearby events during the Battle of Tom's Brook.
Between Maurertown and Toms Brook on US 11, Toms Brook 🗣️ 🐾

27 ~ Woodstock: Execution and The Burning

Interpretive Signage: Describes tragic events in the town in fall 1864.
Intersection of W Court St & School St, Woodstock 🗣️

28 ~ Hupp's Hill Civil War Park

Museum: Interprets 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign (operated by the Cedar
Creek Battlefield Foundation.). 33229 Old Valley Pike, Strasburg 🗣️ \$ 🚗
540-465-5884 • www.ccbf.us • 9am-5pm daily

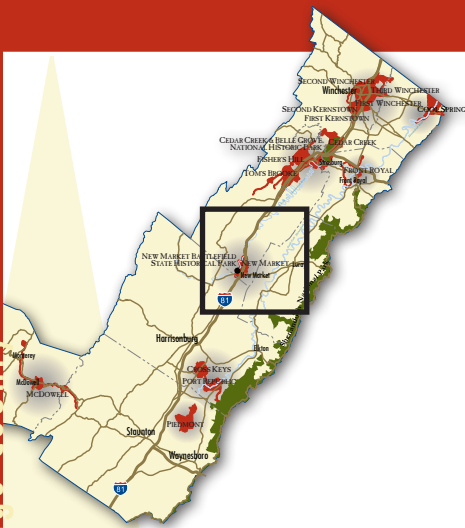
29 ~ Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation HQ

Battlefield Orientation Center: Interprets the Battle of Cedar Creek (operated by
the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation) 🗣️ 🚗
8437 Valley Pike, Middletown • 540-869-2064 • www.cedarcreekbattlefield.org
Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-4pm

30 ~ Veterans' Picnic Grounds

Interpretive Signage: Describes the reunion picnics that veterans from both sides
attended here from the 1880s until the 1930s. 🗣️
Intersection of Battlefield Rd (Va 601) and Tripplett Rd (Va 821), Fishers Hill

**Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National
Historical Park** This national park is a “partnership
park”. NPS ranger programs offered spring through fall.
540-869-3051. See page 24 for more information.



New Market

Crossroads of Destiny

The New Market-Luray area was at the crossroads of the Shenandoah Valley’s wartime campaigns. Its network of roadways – most notably the Valley Turnpike (modern US 11) – allowed armies to move with remarkable speed. And the New Market gap provided the only path across the 45-mile long Massanutten Mountain, an imposing ridgeline that bisects the Valley north to south, dividing it into the main Valley on the west and Luray Valley on the east.

Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson took brilliant advantage of this landscape throughout his famous Valley Campaign. In May 1862, with the bulk of the Union army waiting north on the Valley Turnpike, Jackson abruptly turned east and crossed the New Market gap into Luray Valley along the New Market-Sperryville Turnpike (modern-day US 211). He then used the natural screen of the Massanutten to conceal his army as he moved north along the Luray-Front Royal Turnpike (modern-day US 340) to surprise Union forces at Front Royal and Winchester, temporarily driving them from the Valley and sending the Union leadership into an uproar.

Two years later a Union army under the command of Gen. Franz Sigel collided with the hastily-assembled Confederate force of Gen. John C. Breckinridge at New Market. In the southern ranks were 257 cadets of the Virginia Military Institute, soon to experience their baptism of fire. The



Custer's Division retiring from Mount Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley, October 7, 1864
Alfred Waud (1828-1891)

*Put the boys in, and may God
forgive me for the order.*

– Confederate Gen. John C. Breckinridge
committing the VMI cadets to battle at New Market
May 15, 1864

New Market Area Battlefield

New Market
May 15, 1864
Lynchburg Campaign

Battle of New Market reached its climax in the afternoon amid the muddy wheat fields of Jacob Bushong's farm, as the cadets, surging forward in the final Confederate charge, not only helped win the battle, but forged a legacy that has inspired generations of cadets to the present day.

In the autumn of 1864, the fortunes of war turned. In what came to be known as The Burning, Gen. Philip Sheridan's Union army laid waste to the "Breadbasket of the Confederacy." Mills, barns, factories, and crops were burned, livestock destroyed and confiscated, and the agricultural bounty of the central Shenandoah Valley was left in ruins.

Today, the geography and beauty of the landscape remain much as they did in the 1860s, and interpretive signage, historic sites, and self-guided tours help you follow the story of what happened here during the war. You may want to start your journey at the award-winning Virginia Museum of the Civil War, administered by VMI, which interprets the Battle of New Market and the Civil War throughout the Commonwealth, and also hosts a Tourist Information Center for the Shenandoah Valley. Or begin your journey at the Civil War Orientation Center at the historic Strayer House. On the other side of Massanutten, the Luray Valley Museum interprets the history of the Valley, including the Civil War years, while Luray Caverns hosts a Civil War Orientation kiosk for the area.



*The rising sun greeted us as we reached
the tip of the mountain . . . The army in
the far off curves of the road looked like
a giant snake with a shining back,
twisting its sinuous path.*

– Pvt. Robert Barton, 1st Rockbridge Artillery
describing the passage of Jackson's army through the New Market Gap
May 21, 1862

New Market Area



- ~ Civil War Trails Sites
- ~ Pet-Friendly Sites
- ~ Admission Fee

- ~ Group Tour Arrangements Available

1 ~ Strayer House

Civil War Orientation Center: Historic house (c. 1808) serves as the headquarters for the National Historic District, and also features a Civil War Orientation Center, Visitor Information, café, NPS Passport Station, and more.

9386 S. Congress St., New Market • 540-740-4545
 www.ShenandoahAtWar.org • Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

2 ~ Confederate General Hospital

Interpretive signage: Site of a Confederate General Hospital (built in Sept. 1861) that accommodated up to 500 sick and wounded soldiers. US 11 in Mt. Jackson, across from “Our Soldiers Cemetery”

3 ~ Mt. Jackson Museum

Museum: This small town hosted a Confederate hospital complex established early in the war. A Confederate cemetery and monument honors those who died here.

5901 Main St, Mt Jackson • 540-477-3951 • mountjackson.com
 Thu-Fri 1pm-4pm; Sat 10am-4pm

4 ~ Summers-Koontz Monument

Interpretive signage: Site of the tragic post-Appomattox executions of Confederate veterans Capt. George W. Summers and Sgt. I. Newton Koontz.
 US 11 north of New Market

5 ~ Luray Caverns

Civil War Orientation Kiosk: provides information on Civil War sites in the New Market-Luray area.
 970 U.S. Hwy 211 West, Luray

Visitor Information

Civil War Orientation Center at Strayer House
 9386 S. Congress St., New Market
 540-740-4545
 Open Mon-Sat – 9am to 5pm

Shenandoah Valley Tourist Information Center
 Virginia Museum of the Civil War
 8895 George Collins Parkway, New Market
 866-515-1864
 Open daily – 9am to 5pm

Luray-Page County Chamber of Commerce
 46 E Main St, Luray
 888-743-3915
 www.visitluraypage.com
 Open daily – 9am to 5pm

Shenandoah County Tourism
 600 N Main St, Ste 101, Woodstock
 888-367-3965
 www.shenandoahtravel.org
 Open Mon-Fri – 8:30am to 5pm



White House
 in Page County

6 ~ Luray Valley Museum

Museum: Complex depicting Valley history from 1750s to 1920s includes Civil War exhibit, historic buildings restored to represent 19th century farming community, and meeting house with soldiers' signatures.

970 U.S. Hwy 211 West, Luray (Luray Caverns) \$ 🚗
540-743-6551 • www.luraycaverns.com

7 ~ Chapman-Ruffner House

Interpretive signage: Peter Ruffner built this house in 1739—signage describes his descendants who served with Confederate Col. John S. Mosby's Rangers.

US 340 north of Luray southeast of the US 211 intersection 🗺️

Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign Pages 6-9

8 ~ Stover-McGinnis House

Interpretive signage: Here in March 1862 Stonewall Jackson ordered his engineer Jedediah Hotchkiss to "make me a map of the Valley..." Hotchkiss would go on to be one of the most prolific and valuable mapmakers of the war—his maps are still studied by historians today.

US 11 south of Woodstock 🗺️

9 ~ Stony Creek Line

Interpretive signage: Confederate delaying actions led by Turner Ashby in March-April 1862 during Stonewall Jackson's withdrawal up the Valley after the First Battle of Kernstown.

214 South Main St. Edinburg (Edinburg Mill) 🗺️

10 ~ Jackson at Rude's Hill

Interpretive signage: Describes how Stonewall Jackson made his headquarters here from April 2-17, 1862 during his withdrawal after First Kernstown, and of Turner Ashby's defense of the Shenandoah River line just north of here on April 6-7.

US 11 north of New Market 🗺️

11 ~ Jackson's Second Corps Established

Interpretive signage: Describes Jackson's November 1862 announcement that his Army of the Valley had become the Second Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia and would soon be joining Robert E. Lee east of the Blue Ridge.

US 211 four miles east of New Market at the top of the New Market gap, in the parking lot of the now-closed National Forest Visitor Center. 🗺️

12 ~ White House Bridge

Interpretive signage: During his famous Valley Campaign, Stonewall Jackson used the Massanutten to shield his army's movements northward, crossing through the New Market Gap and then over the Shenandoah River here.

US 211 four miles west of Luray 🗺️

13 ~ Grave's Chapel 🗺️

Interpretive signage: Stonewall Jackson's army moved out of the Shenandoah Valley along this road in November 1862, his final departure from the Valley. He died after the Battle of Chancellorsville the following May.

Business US 340 on Va 611 between the towns of Stanley and Shenandoah



Lee's 1863 Gettysburg Campaign Pages 10-11

14 ~ Pass Run and Thornton Gap

Interpretive signage: Confederate units camped here following the retreat from Gettysburg.

US 211 on Va 674 (use westbound lanes of 211), east of Luray 🗺️

Lynchburg Campaign

Battle of New Market Pages 12-13

15 ~ Virginia Museum of the Civil War

This 300-acre battlefield park, 19th century Bushong farmstead, and museum interpret the history of the Civil War in Virginia and the Battle of New Market.

8895 George Collins Parkway, New Market 🗺️ \$ 🚗
866-515-1864 • www.vmi.edu/newmarket • Open daily 9am-5pm

16 ~ "The Bloody Cedars": 54th Pennsylvania Monument

Interpretive signage: Describes the unit's costly stand in the grove of cedar trees during the Battle of New Market and the 1905 monument that commemorates their actions.

US 11 North of New Market 🗺️

4 ~ DuPont at Rude's Hill

Interpretive signage: Describes the effort of Union Capt. Henry DuPont to protect the retreating army of Franz Sigel after the Battle of New Market.

US 11 north of New Market 🗺️

10 ~ Rude's Hill: Knoll of Refuge and Attack

Interpretive signage: Describes Confederate delaying action on May 11, 1864, as Union troops advanced towards New Market, Confederate shelling of Federals after the May 15 battle, and mortal wounding of Confederate partisan ranger John H. McNeil on October 3, 1864.

US 11 north of New Market 🗺️

Sheridan's 1864 Shenandoah Campaign

Military Maneuvers and "The Burning" Pages 16-19

9 ~ Edinburg Mill and Museum

Interpretive signage: This mill, opened in 1850, survived The Burning in late September and early October 1864 ordered by Union Gen. Philip Sheridan.

214 South Main St, Edinburg 🗺️
540-984-8400 • www.edinburgmill.com
Mon-Sat 9:30am-5:30pm; Sun 12pm-5pm

17 ~ Fisher's Hill and Yager's Mill

Interpretive Signage: As Union Gen. Sheridan pursued Confederates southward after the Third Battle of Winchester, his cavalry attempted but failed to use the Luray-Page Valley to get behind the Confederates and cut off their retreat.

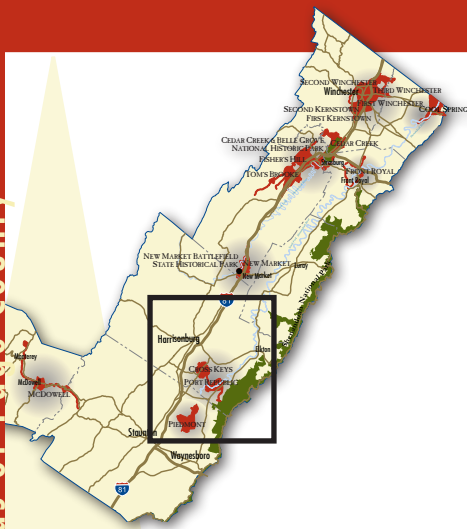
US 340 just north of Luray near the US 211 intersection 🗺️

18 ~ Willow Grove Mill

Interpretive signage: The mill here was destroyed during The Burning – the systematic destruction of the Valley's barns, mills, and crops by Sheridan's Union army in fall 1864.

Business US 340 one mile south of Luray 🗺️

The 19th century Bushong Farm lies at the center of the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park.



Cross Keys Battlefield

Conflict in the Breadbasket

Farming, Faith and Industry

The Rockingham Area, in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley, experienced the Civil War in all of its phases. Its position north of the huge Confederate rail and supply center at Staunton made it an inevitable battleground.

Two major highways crossed at the county seat in Harrisonburg. The Rockingham Turnpike (modern-day U.S. 33) connected Rockingham County, one of the most prosperous agricultural counties in the nation, to markets in eastern Virginia across the Blue Ridge. The other, the Valley Turnpike (modern-day U.S. 11), provided a north-south corridor for the movement of Confederate troops to threaten the heart of the North.

Rockingham County would be the scene of the last two battles of Confederate Gen. Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson’s famous 1862 Valley Campaign, the operation that would give him a permanent place in the chronicles of military history.

And in 1864, when Gen. Ulysses S. Grant changed the direction of the war, the Shenandoah Valley was recognized as one of the keys to Union victory. But a Federal win at Piedmont, east of Staunton, was one of the few northern successes that spring and summer. Finally, with the Union Army of the Potomac entrenched outside Petersburg in the late summer, U.S. victories in the Valley under Gen. Philip H. Sheridan in the fall brought renewed commitment by the North to the war effort and contributed to the reelection of Abraham Lincoln.



The Battle of Cross Keys

For a few minutes the 31st lay down in the ripening wheat and the sensation caused by the cutting of minie balls through the ripe grain was novel and not altogether pleasant.

– Lieutenant William R. Lyman
31st Virginia Infantry
June 1862

When Sheridan ordered the destruction of barns, mills, crops, factories, warehouses, and furnaces in a thirteen-day campaign to neutralize the bounty of the Valley, the central Shenandoah took a devastating blow. Hundreds of structures were burned. Tons of grain and thousands of farm animals were seized or destroyed. Sheridan's efforts reduced to a trickle the flow of crucial supplies to Southern armies.

What became known as The Burning did not distinguish between friend or foe. Unionists – including a large community of pacifist Mennonites and Brethren – suffered along with Confederate sympathizers. The remarkable renewal of the Shenandoah Valley following the close of hostilities is a tribute to the strength and character of her people.

During the war, this area experienced three significant battles, a score of cavalry actions, and repeated military operations that eventually devastated its civilian agricultural base. It had two renowned Confederate leaders die within its borders: Gen. Turner Ashby and partisan ranger chief Capt. John H. McNeill. These people and events, along with the area's association with Stonewall Jackson and Philip Sheridan, ensure its place in the annals of the war that defined us as a nation.

You may want to begin your visit at the Civil War Orientation Center in downtown Harrisonburg (Site #1 on the map on page 34), where you can get a fuller introduction to the Rockingham Area's Civil War history – and to the places you can visit to experience that story.

The Burning of the Valley



Rockingham Area Battlefields

Cross Keys

June 8, 1862
Jackson's Valley Campaign

Port Republic

June 9, 1862
Jackson's Valley Campaign

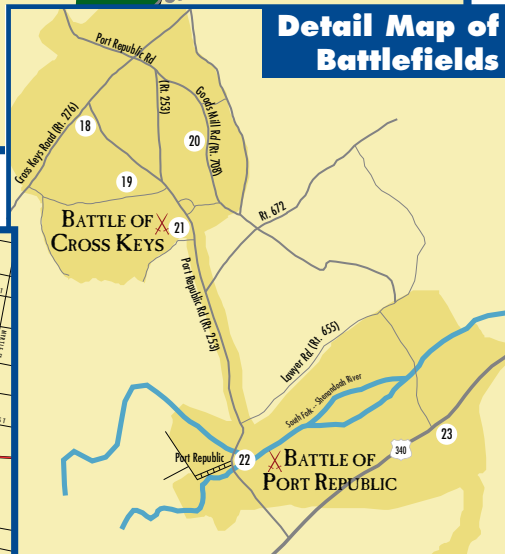
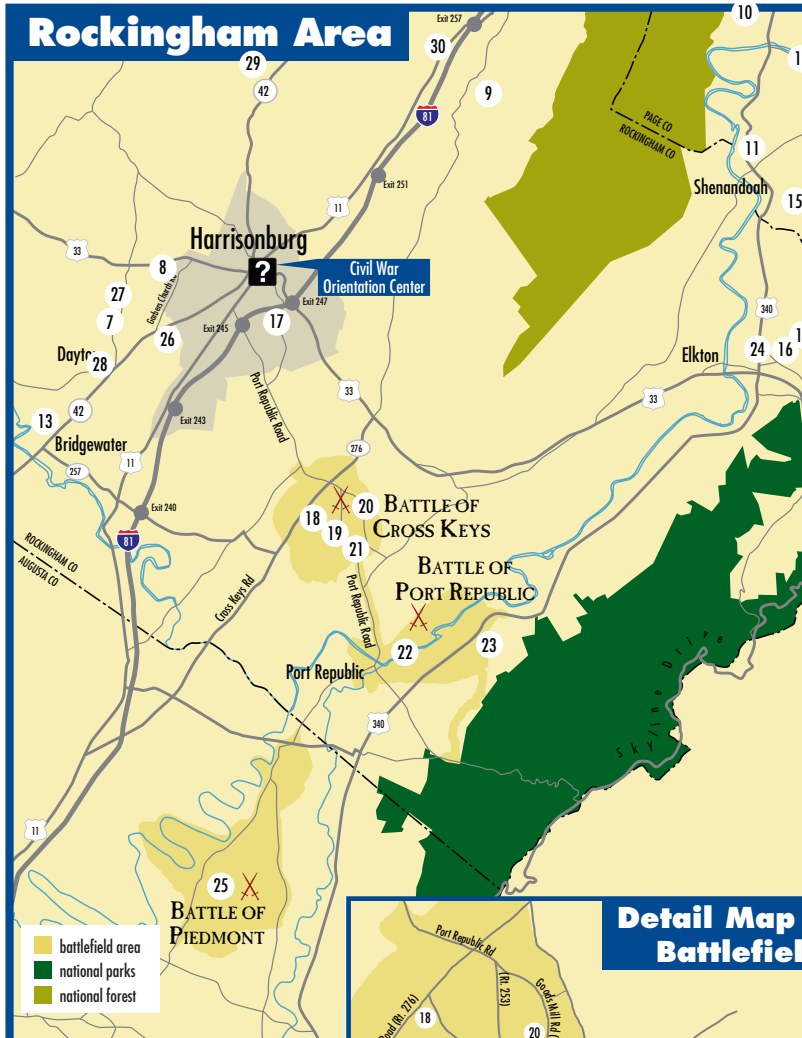
Piedmont

June 5, 1864
Lynchburg Campaign

Self-guided Tours A free printed driving tour of the Battles of Cross Keys and Port Republic is available at the Hardesty-Higgins House visitor center. Walking tours of Harrisonburg and Port Republic are also available. For information about guided walking tours, contact Harrisonburg Tourism & Visitor Services at 540-432-8935.

*Now the whole vale is red
with fire mile on mile, and
enveloped in smoke high
overhead, twisting and
writhing, dissolving. Is the
world being set on fire?*

– Newton Burkholder
Confederate soldier
October 1864



? Visitor Information

Civil War Orientation Center and
Harrisonburg Tourism & Visitor Services
212 S Main St, Harrisonburg
540-432-8935
www.harrisonburgtourism.com
Open daily 9am-5pm

1 ~ Hardesty-Higgins House Visitor Center

Valley Turnpike Museum • Civil War Orientation Center
Museum: Explores the road's history, including its role as an avenue for troops during the Civil War. The center also houses the Civil War Orientation Center for the Rockingham Area of the National Historic District.

212 S Main St, Harrisonburg 🚗 🚝
540-432-8935 (Group Tours: 540-432-8940)
www.visit Harrisonburg.com • Daily 9am-5pm

2 ~ Confederate General Hospital

Interpretive Signage: The Harrisonburg Female Academy and its use as a hospital during the war.

345 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg 🚗

3 ~ Virginia Quilt Museum

Museum: Civil War exhibit focuses on life in the family of Col. E.T.H. Warren, including family letters, Civil War era quilts, and period artifacts.

301 S Main St, Harrisonburg 🚗 💰 🚝
540-433-3818 • www.vaquiltmuseum.org
Open Tue-Sat 10am-4pm

4 ~ Court Square & Springhouse

Interpretive Signage: The court square during the Civil War, including its use as a temporary prison camp.

Court Square, intersection of US 11 and US 33 in downtown Harrisonburg 🚗

5 ~ McNeill's Rangers

Interpretive Signage: The story of the famed Confederate partisan unit led by John Hanson McNeill, who died here in 1864.

174 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg 🚗

6 ~ Woodbine Cemetery

Cemetery: Historic cemetery include Soldiers' Section, where over 250 Confederate soldiers are buried.

21 Reservoir St. off of US 33, Harrisonburg 🚗
Daily dawn to dusk

7 ~ The Heritage Museum

Museum: Exhibits feature a light map of Jackson's Valley Campaign. Home of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society.

382 High St, Dayton • 540-879-2616 • heritagecenter.com
Mon-Sat 10am-5pm; Sun. 1-5pm (Apr-Oct) 🚗 💰 🚝

🚗 ~ Group Tour Arrangements Available

💰 ~ Admission Fee

🚗 ~ Civil War Trails Sites

🐕 ~ Pet-Friendly Sites

8 ~ Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center

Museum: The story of a faith heritage, focusing on the Civil War—the pacifist response and the suffering during The Burning.

1921-A Heritage Center Way, (off Garbers Church Rd), Harrisonburg 
540-438-1275 • vbmhc.org • Open Wed-Sat 10am-5pm


9 ~ Long's Chapel at Zenda

Historic site: Historic black church that was the centerpiece of Zenda, a post-war community of newly-freed slaves.

1340 Fridleys Gap Road, Keezletown (Harrisonburg)
843-412-3590 or 540-383-6709 • Visitors welcome on the grounds.

10 ~ Catherine Furnace

Interpretive Signage: Interpreting Catherine Furnace during the war, including its role as an “underground railroad” for Union soldiers.

On Cub Run Rd near Newport Rd (Va 685), Town of Shenandoah 

11 ~ Shenandoah Iron Works

Interpretive signage: Page Valley Iron Industry during the Civil War.

West side of US 340 in the town of Shenandoah in Page County 

12 ~ Elk Run Cemetery

Cemetery: Fifty Confederate soldiers, including two who were killed during the Civil War, are buried in the cemetery.

100 Elk Run Dr, Elkton • 540-713-4062 • www.elktonva.gov
8:30am-4:30pm daily

Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign

Battles of Cross Keys and Port Republic Pages 6-9

13 ~ North River Interpretive Site

Interpretive signage: Bridgewater's Civil War story and Jackson's crossing of the North River between the battles of McDowell and Front Royal

Rt 42 – north bank of the North River, Bridgewater  

14 ~ Red Bridge & Somerville Heights

Interpretive signage: Jackson's Valley Campaign—Burning of the Red Bridge over the South Fork of the Shenandoah River and action at Somerville Heights.

Va 650 east of US 340, north of town of Shenandoah in Page County 

15 ~ Shields' Advance & Retreat

Interpretive signage: Burning of nearby bridges prevented Union Gens. James Shields and John C. Frémont from uniting against Jackson.

US 340, south of Town of Shenandoah 

16 ~ Miller-Kite House

Museum: Stonewall Jackson's headquarters for two weeks in 1862. Museum of Civil War artifacts, mostly Confederate: weapons, documents, uniforms.  

310 W. Spotswood Trail, Elkton • 540-578-3046 • Donations accepted
Open Sun 1pm-5pm from Memorial Day-Labor Day (and by appointment)

17 ~ Turner Ashby Monument

Historical monument: Site of the mortal wounding of Gen. Turner Ashby on June 6, 1862 during the Battle of Harrisonburg (includes battle diagram).  

Turner Ashby Lane off Port Republic Rd, Harrisonburg • 540-432-8935

18 ~ Union Church

Interpretive signage: Orientation kiosk for the battles of Cross Keys and Port Republic and interpretive signage focusing on action around the Union Church during the Battle of Cross Keys.

Cross Keys Rd and Battlefield Rd 

19 ~ Artillery Ridge

Interpretive signage: Confederate artillery positions during the Battle of Cross Keys

Bowtie Drive off of Artillery Road, Cross Keys 

20 ~ Goods Mill

Interpretive signage: Walker's flank attack during the Battle of Cross Keys.

Goods Mill Road east of Port Republic Road, Cross Keys 


21 ~ Mill Creek Church

Interpretive signage: The pacifist community during the Civil War.

7600 Port Republic Rd, Port Republic 

22 ~ Port Republic Museum

Museum: Interprets the history of this early river-port town and the events of the last four days of Jackson's Valley Campaign. Donations requested.

8691 Water St, Port Republic • 540-249-0040 
www.portrepublicmuseum.org • Open Sun 1:30pm-4pm from Apr-Oct

23 ~ The Coaling

Battlefield Area: Short, steep walking trail at the site the Union artillery emplacement taken by Confederates during the Battle of Port Republic.

US 340 and Rt 708, Port Republic 

24 ~ Jennings House: Confederate Hospital

Interpretive signage: 1840 home used as a hospital.

173 West Spotswood Ave, Elkton • 540-43-8935 

Lynchburg Campaign Battle of Piedmont Pages 12-13

25 ~ Battle of Piedmont

Interpretive signage: Describes the Union victory here on June 5, 1864, that enabled Federals to move south to Staunton and Lexington.

691 Battlefield Rd, Fort Defiance 

Sheridan's 1864 Shenandoah Campaign

Military Maneuvers and “The Burning” Pages 16-19

26 ~ Site of the Death of Lt. John Meigs

Interpretive signage: Meigs, eldest son of Montgomery Meigs, the U.S. Army quartermaster general, was shot and killed here Oct 3, 1864.

Va 713 (Meigs Lane) just off Va 42 between Harrisonburg and Dayton 

27 ~ Silver Lake Mill

Interpretive signage: Mills in the “Breadbasket of the Confederacy” – their contribution to local economy, Confederate war effort and final destruction.

2328 Silver Lake Rd, Dayton • 800-327-5532 

28 ~ Downtown Dayton

Interpretive signage: Fear and retaliation in the dark days of The Burning.

S Main St, Dayton 

29 ~ Breneman-Turner Mill

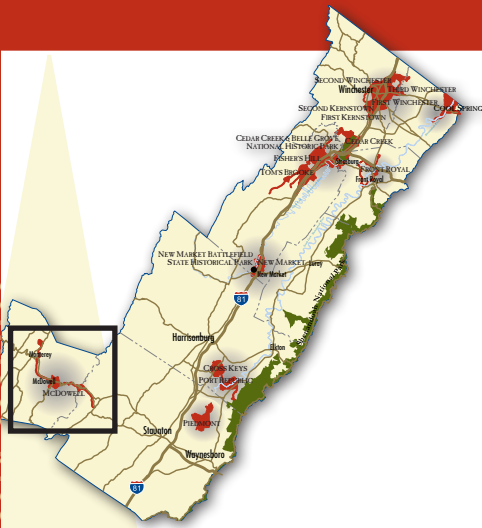
Historic site: Ca. 1800 mill that survived The Burning. The only pre-Civil War grist mill in Rockingham County with its original grist mill equipment.  

Breneman Church Road (off Hwy 42 north), Harrisonburg • 540-438-1275
www.vbmhc.org • Grounds and mill exterior open. Interior tours by appointment.

30 ~ Lacey Spring

Interpretive signage: Interpreting cavalry action between Union Gen. George Custer and Confederate Gen. Thomas Rosser at Lacey Spring in December 1864

8621 North Valley Pike, Harrisonburg 



...two acres...was almost mowed by the bullets. There was bushes six inches in diameter that was cut by bullets until they fell down.

— Confederate soldier
31st Virginia Infantry
May 1862

Mountain Highlands Protecting the Valley's Back Door

George Washington Hull represented Highland County in the Virginia Convention of 1861. His house now serves as the Highland County Museum and the Civil War Orientation Center for this area of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District.



McDowell lies amidst the remote and scenic mountain terrain of Highland County, in a region known locally as “Virginia’s Little Switzerland.” Thanks to its location along the Staunton-to-Parkersburg Turnpike (modern-day US 250), Union and Confederate armies used Highland as a “back door” to the Shenandoah Valley.

On the eve of the Civil War, Highland County was divided. While George Washington Hull consistently voted against secession at the 1861 Virginia State Convention, he chose to serve in the Confederate militia once Virginia seceded, and Highland County voted to join the Confederacy after Jackson’s victory at McDowell. Large numbers of the area’s young men were mustered into the Confederate army and ten Highland men joined the Federal troops.

Like the rest of the nation, the people of Highland County—remote as they were—experienced this wrenching conflict in very personal ways, from the rising tensions before the war’s first shots to the effort to recover from its devastation.

In May of 1862, the town of McDowell experienced the Civil War firsthand when armies clashed on the hills and byways in and around the village as Confederate Gen. Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson moved to prevent Union forces from entering the Valley from the west. Jackson’s victory at McDowell was one of the opening salvos of his famous Valley Campaign.



The hills east of
McDowell

McDowell Area Battlefield

McDowell

May 8, 1862

Jackson's Valley Campaign

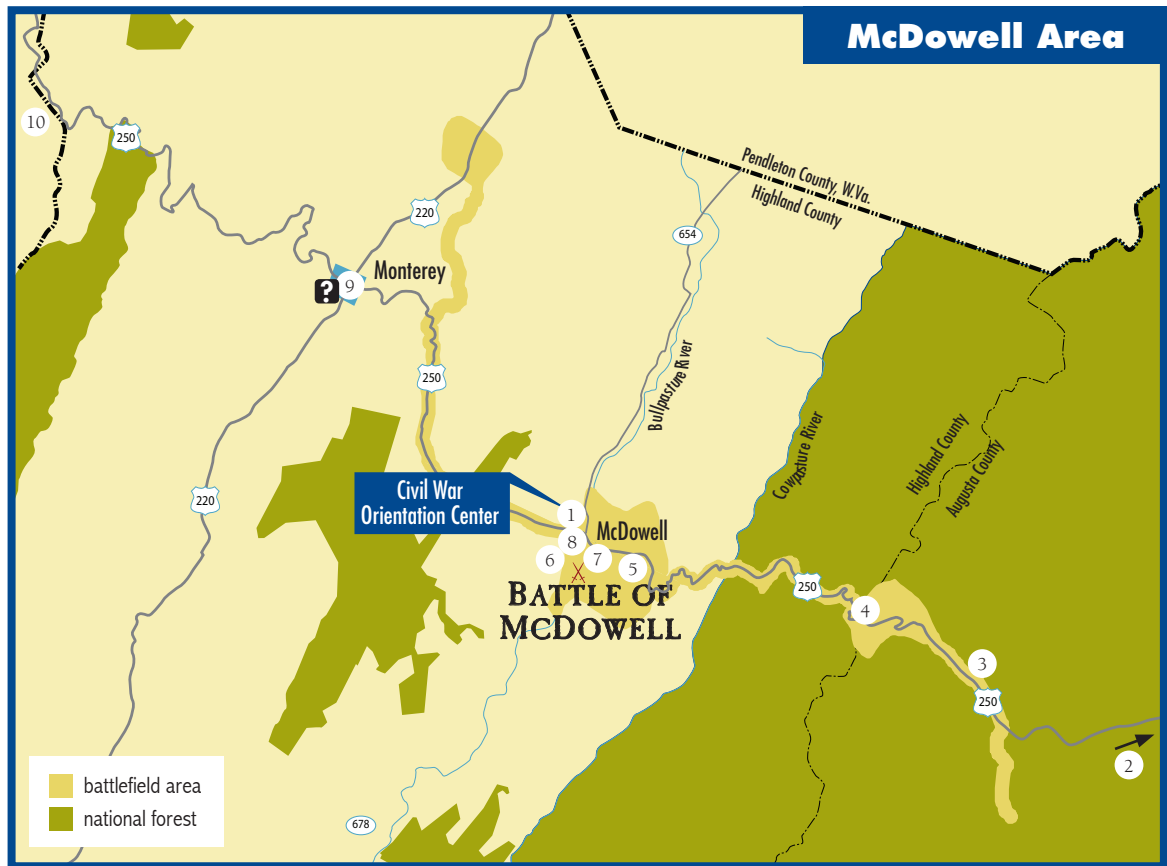
Since its creation in the early 1800s, Highland has been one of the least populated counties east of the Mississippi River. Its extraordinary landscape has been virtually untouched since the Civil War—indeed, the McDowell battlefield is considered one of the most pristine in the nation.

Today, visitors can explore the region's history at the Highland County Museum in McDowell, which also hosts a Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District Civil War Orientation Center. Serious hikers can scale the heights of Sitlington's Hill, east of the village, and see the battlefield as Confederate soldiers saw it on May 8, 1862. And Virginia Civil War Trails markers allow you to follow in the footsteps of the Confederates using the old Staunton-to-Parkersburg Turnpike to the battlefield.

*It is quite a small village; but has
an air of Old Virginia aristocracy
and display about it.*

— Union War Correspondent
writing about the village of McDowell





Looking west into Highland County from Fort Johnson

Visitor Information



Highland County Chamber of Commerce
Spruce St, Monterey
540-468-2550
www.highlandcounty.org
Open Mon-Fri 10 am-5pm

Visitor Center at The Highland Inn
Main Street, Monterey
540-468-2550
www.highlandcounty.org
Open 7 days 9 am-7pm

-  ~ Civil War Trails Sites
-  ~ Pet-Friendly Sites
-  ~ Admission Fee
-  ~ Group Tour Arrangements Available

Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign

Battle of McDowell

Pages 6-9

1 ~ Highland County Museum and Civil War Orientation Center

Museum: Located in one of the oldest buildings in the county, the center interprets the history of Highland County. The center also hosts the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District Civil War Orientation Center for the McDowell battlefield area.

161 Mansion House Rd, McDowell

540-396-4478

www.highlandcountyhistory.com 🚗

March 1 – Oct. 31 Thu-Sat 11am-4pm, Sun 1pm-4pm

Closed Nov. 1 to Feb. 28, except by appointment

2 ~ West View

Interpretive Signage: In the weeks prior to the Battle of McDowell, Confederates encamped here along the Civil War-era alignment of the Staunton-to-Parkersburg Turnpike (modern US 250).

Va 254 west of Staunton 🚗



3 ~ Ramsey's Draft (Jackson's March)

Interpretive Signage: Location of the first skirmishes between Union and Confederate forces leading up to the Battle of McDowell.

US 250 west of Churchville in the George Washington National Forest 🚗 🐾

4 ~ Fort Johnson

Interpretive Signage: Confederate trenchworks along the top of Shenandoah Mountain within the George Washington National Forest.

US 250 along the Highland/Augusta County line

5 ~ Sitlington's Hill

Battlefield Area: Rigorous hiking trail with interpretive signage. The worst of the fighting happened on this hill that towers just east of the village. Trailhead includes several interpretive signs and a parking area, located along US 250 east of McDowell. 🚗 🐾

6 ~ Cemetery Hill

Interpretive Signage: During the battle, Federal artillery was placed on this knoll just west of the Presbyterian Church in McDowell.

Located south of the Presbyterian Church, McDowell 🚗

7 ~ McDowell Cemetery

Interpretive Signage: This cemetery contains a monument and the graves of some of the soldiers who fought in the Battle of McDowell.

Located directly across from the Presbyterian Church, McDowell 🚗

8 ~ Presbyterian Church

Interpretive Signage: Constructed circa 1858, the McDowell Presbyterian Church was still a new addition to the community when it housed wounded and dying Federal soldiers after the Battle of McDowell. Also served as a headquarters for both armies at various times before, during and after the battle.

US 250, McDowell 🚗

9 ~ Monterey Courthouse

Interpretive Signage: Interprets more of the local war story.

US 250, Monterey 🚗

10 ~ Camp Allegheny

Interpretive Signage: Area was occupied first by Confederates and then Federals in the months and weeks before the Battle of McDowell.

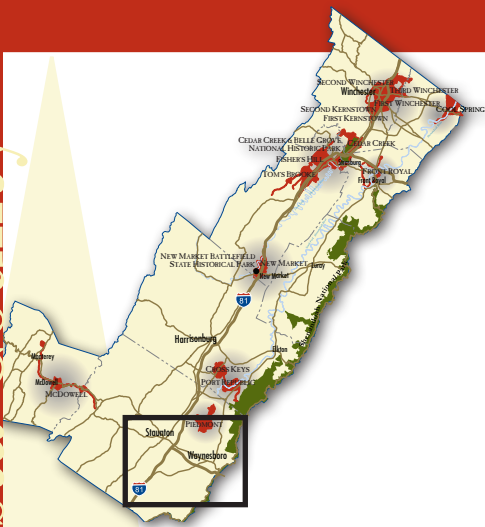
US 250 along the Virginia/West Virginia border 🚗 🐾

Staunton to Parkersburg Turnpike

Driving Tour (US 250 from Ramsey's Draft to Camp Allegheny): By the time of the Civil War, the Staunton-to-Parkersburg Pike had become such a strategic target that the Mountain Campaign of 1861, which ended at McDowell, was waged largely to determine who would control it. A free printed driving tour is available at the Highland County Museum and Civil War Orientation Center, the Highland County Chamber of Commerce, and the Visitor Center at The Highland Inn.



The view of McDowell from the top of Sitlington's Hill, the position of Jackson's troops during the Battle of McDowell.



Strategic Strongpoint

Preserving a Lifeline to Richmond

Visitor Information

Downtown Staunton Visitor Center
 35 South New Street
 540-332-3971
 Open daily 9:30am-5:30pm (November-March)
 9:00am-6:00pm (April-October)

Staunton/Augusta Travel Information Center
 1290 Richmond Rd, Staunton
 540-332-3972
 Open daily 9:00am-5:00pm
www.visitstaunton.com

Rockfish Gap Tourist Information Center
 130 Afton Circle, Afton
 540-943-5187
 Open daily: 9:00am-5:00pm
www.visitwaynesboro.net

-  ~ Civil War Trails Sites
-  ~ Pet-Friendly Sites
-  ~ Admission Fee
-  ~ Group Tour Arrangements Available

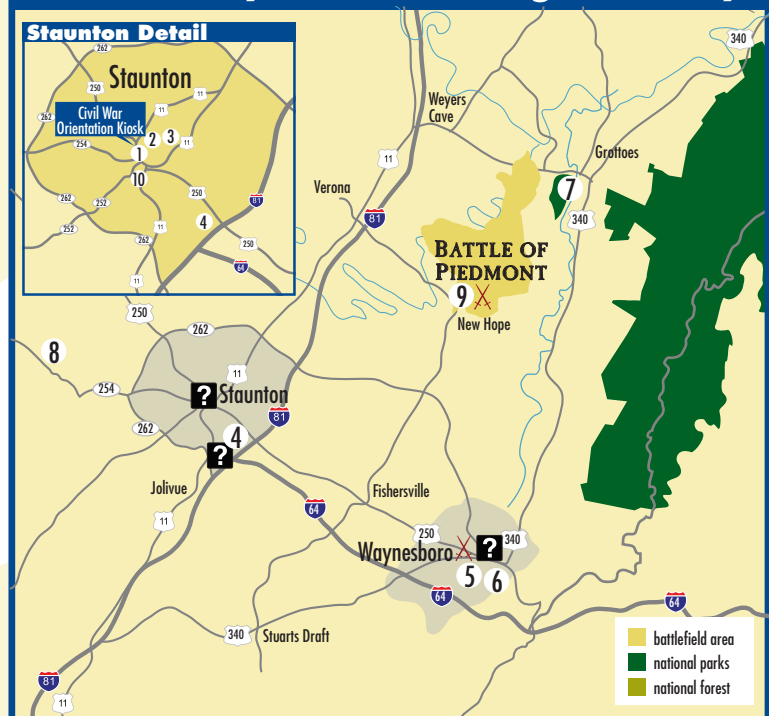
As part of the “Breadbasket of the Confederacy,” Augusta County and its two cities of Staunton and Waynesboro played a pivotal wartime role, supplying food, fodder, and iron for southern armies and civilians east of the Blue Ridge. While most battles were fought in other areas, the Virginia Central Railroad, with a depot in Staunton, provided a crucial supply link between the Valley and Richmond.



Beverley Street in historic downtown Staunton

During much of the war this area remained a haven for sick and wounded soldiers; following Gettysburg, the streets of Staunton filled with casualties. At least four times during the war, lines between battlefield and homefront blurred. In 1862, during Stonewall Jackson’s Valley Campaign, Jackson used the railroad to outmaneuver Union armies. That spring, western Augusta County became the staging area for the Battle of McDowell in Highland County.

Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta County



In June 1864, a Union victory at Piedmont opened the door to the occupation of Staunton. From there, Union Gen. David Hunter marched south to exact revenge on Lexington. While passing through southern Augusta County, he destroyed mills, barns, and ironworks. A few months later, northern Augusta felt the heavy hand of war during The Burning under Union Gen. Philip H. Sheridan.

The March 2, 1865, cavalry clash in Waynesboro closed the Valley fighting. Here Gen. Sheridan's forces destroyed the remnants of the Confederate forces under Gen. Jubal Early.

1 ~ R.R. Smith Center for History & Art

Housed in a converted 1890s railroad hotel, center includes an interpretive kiosk featuring touchscreen-activated vignettes about the wartime experiences of local residents, as well as a Civil War Orientation display for the area. Also includes history and art galleries, museum store, and history and genealogy research library.

Open Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-noon. Call or email (augustachs@ntelos) for research appointment.
20 S. New St., Staunton • 540-248-4151 • www.augustacountyhs.org

2 ~ Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum

Museum and Birthplace: President Wilson was born in 1856 in the elegant Presbyterian Manse, now restored to depict the family's life on the cusp of the Civil War. The museum highlights his career and presidency. Guided tours daily. A National Historic Landmark.

20 N. Coalter St., Staunton • 540-885-0897 • www.woodrowwilson.org
Mar-Oct: Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 12-5pm; Nov-Feb: Mon-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 12-4pm 🚌

3 ~ Jedediah Hotchkiss

Interpretive Signage: Describes the wartime exploits and postwar career of Stonewall Jackson's master mapmaker, who lived here in Staunton after the war.

Entrance to the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind, 🗨️
514 East Beverley St., Staunton

4 ~ Barger Farm/Frontier Culture Museum

Interpretive Signage (outside the museum): A typical Valley antebellum farmstead has been relocated to this site.

I-81 Route 250 exit at Staunton 🗨️ 🚌

5 ~ Plumb House Museum

Museum: The home of the Plumb family, this house was witness to the Battle of Waynesboro on March 2, 1865. Exhibits tell the story of the battle and feature documents and artifacts relative to the battle as well as the daily lives of the Plumb family.

1021 W Main St, Waynesboro
540-943-3WHF • www.waynesboroheritagefoundation.com
Open Thurs-Sat 10am-4pm 🗨️ 🚌

6 ~ Waynesboro Heritage Museum

Museum: The permanent exhibit galleries relate the city's history using wall panels and artifacts from the Waynesboro Heritage Foundation Collection. The fascinating story begins with the settlement of Waynesboro and encompasses the city's rich history.

420 W. Main St, Waynesboro, 540-943-3WHF
www.waynesboroheritagefoundation.com
Open Tues-Sat 9am-5pm 🗨️ 🚌

7 ~ Grand Caverns

Park/Cave: Known as Weyers Cave during the Civil War, caverns include over 230 signatures by Confederate and Union soldiers who were encamped along the South River during the war.

5 Grand Caverns Drive, Grottoes, Virginia 24441
1-888-430-CAVE www.grandcaverns.com
April-Oct: 9am-5 pm daily; Nov-March: 10am-4pm daily 🗨️

Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign

Battle of McDowell
Pages 6-9

8 ~ West View

Interpretive Signage: Confederate Gen. Edward "Alleghany" Johnson began his move west from his camps here on May 6, 1862, with Stonewall Jackson close behind. The Confederates would defeat Union Gen. Robert Milroy's troops two days later at McDowell.

7 miles west of Staunton on Va 254 🗨️

Lynchburg Campaign

Pages 12-13

9 ~ Battle of Piedmont

Interpretive signage: Describes the Union victory here on June 5, 1864, that enabled Federals to move south to Staunton and Lexington.

Va 608 north of New Hope, northeast of Staunton 🗨️

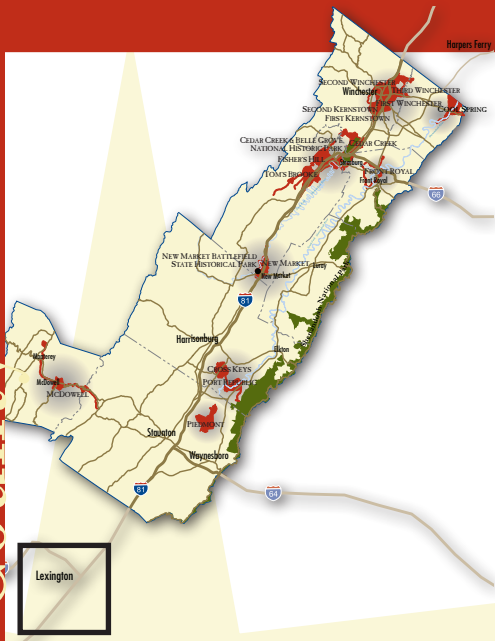
10 ~ Railroad Station

Interpretive Signage: Union Gen. David Hunter's troops entered town after the June 1864 Battle of Piedmont and burned warehouses and infrastructure related to the important Virginia Central Railroad that shipped Valley supplies to Richmond. The station on this site also was destroyed.

36 Middlebrook Ave, Staunton 🗨️



View of Piedmont Battlefield



Lexington VMI, Jackson and Lee

? Visitor Information

Lexington Visitor Center
106 E Washington St, Lexington
877-453-9822
Open daily 9am to 5pm
www.lexingtonvirginia.com

-  ~ Civil War Trails Sites
-  ~ Pet-Friendly Sites
-  ~ Admission Fee
-  ~ Group Tour Arrangements Available



**Stonewall Jackson
Cemetery**

Home to Stonewall Jackson before the Civil War and to Robert E. Lee after, Lexington (founded in 1778) retains much of its 19th century charm. Located near the southern end of the Shenandoah Valley, the small town produced many soldiers who would fight and die during the Civil War.

Jackson taught at the Virginia Military Institute, “West Point of the South,” for ten years prior to the war. In April of 1861 he led the VMI Cadets to Richmond to begin training. He would not return to Lexington until his burial in 1863.

In May 1864 the VMI Cadet Corps marched from Lexington to New Market to assist in the defeat of the Union army at the Battle of New Market. One month later, Union General David Hunter led the now infamous Hunter’s Raid through Lexington, burning and shelling VMI and ransacking nearby Washington College.

After the war, Robert E. Lee served as President of Washington College. After his death in 1870, the college was renamed Washington and Lee University in his honor.

Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson are both buried in Lexington, Lee in the Chapel that bears his name, and Jackson in Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery.

The burning of the Institute made a grand picture, a vast column of black smoke rolled above the flames and covered half the horizon.

– Union Col. David Strother
witnessing the burning of VMI
June 12, 1864

1 ~ Virginia Military Institute Museum

Museum: Stonewall Jackson taught at VMI before the war and the Institute was burned by Union Gen. David Hunter in 1864. The museum interprets this history as part of the larger VMI story, and features a number of Jackson-related artifacts illustrating the history and traditions of the Institute.

Jackson Memorial Hall, Virginia Military Institute. 🚗
540-464-7334. Open daily 9 am-5 pm. • www.vmi.edu/museum.

2 ~ Stonewall Jackson House

Historic site: This 1801 house was the only home ever owned by Confederate General Stonewall Jackson. He lived in the home with his second wife Mary Anna for two years before the war. Restored, it now contains many of Jackson's possessions and period pieces.

Open daily for guided tours. 8 East Washington Street, Lexington. 🚗
540-464-7704. Open Mon-Sat 9 am-5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm.
www.stonewalljackson.org

3 ~ Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery

Cemetery: Jackson lies among hundreds of his fellow Confederates, two Virginia governors, and Revolutionary War soldiers in this historic cemetery. The statue of Jackson above his grave was dedicated in 1891.

South Main Street, Lexington. Open dawn to dusk.

4 ~ Lee Chapel (Washington and Lee University)

Historic site: Built during Robert E. Lee's presidency at Washington College, the Chapel is now the final resting place of Lee and his family. The museum highlights Lee's entire career and houses the office he used during his presidency, still preserved as he left it.

100 North Jefferson Street, Lexington. 540-458-8768.
Open Mon-Sat 9am-5pm; Sun 1-5 pm; shortened hours November-March. • www.leechapel.wlu.edu



Lee Chapel

Lynchburg Campaign

Pages 12-13

5 ~ Jordan's Point Park on the Maury River

Interpretive signage: Union General David Hunter placed his artillery just north of Jordan's Point when his troops attacked Lexington. The Union soldiers burned the Virginia Military Institute and the home of Virginia Governor John Letcher.

The Park is located just off of US 11 on the Maury River, north of Lexington. 🗺️

6 ~ Hunter's Raid

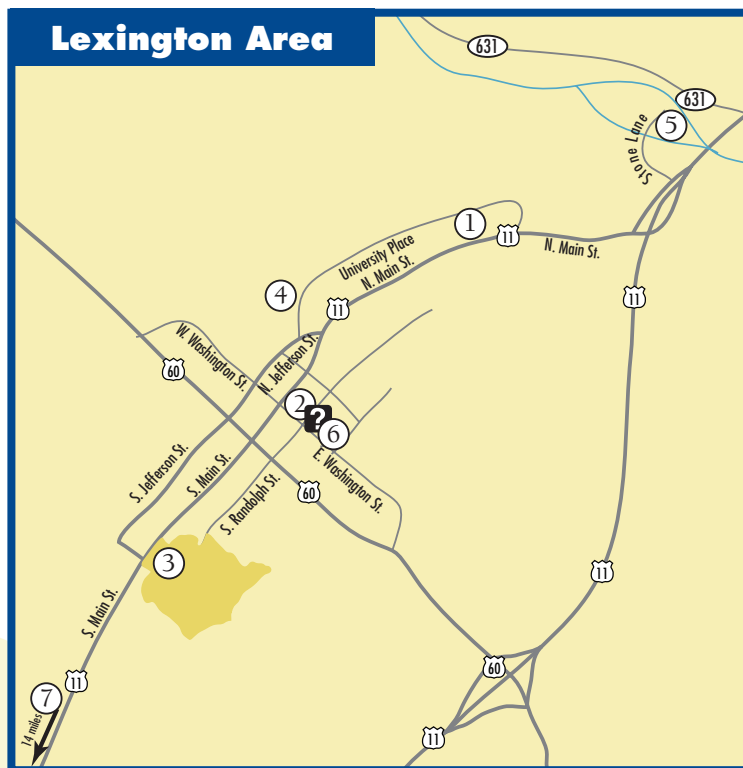
Interpretive signage: Union Gen. David Hunter's army shelled Lexington from the across the Maury River, then swept aside Confederate resistance and occupied the town. Union troops plundered homes, destroyed property, and burned the Virginia Military Institute, among other buildings, before departing for Lynchburg.

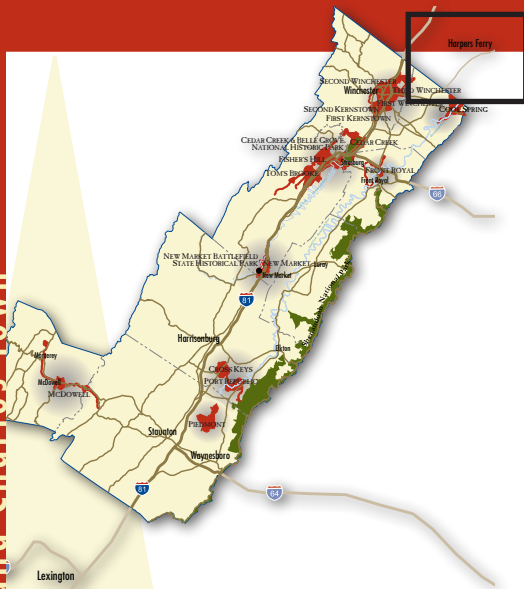
106 E Washington St, Lexington 🗺️

7 ~ The Natural Bridge of Virginia

Interpretive Signage: Some of Hunter's troops detoured to see this famous attraction on their march from Lexington to Lynchburg. Confederates did the same while moving north after the Battle of Lynchburg.

Located at the intersection of US 11 and Rt. 130 fourteen miles south of Lexington. Natural Bridge. 🗺️
540-291-2121. • www.naturalbridgeva.com





John Brown's "Fort" at Harpers Ferry

Harpers Ferry

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Battlefield Area: This park interprets the broad history of Harpers Ferry as a river town, as the site of John Brown's 1859 raid, and as a battlefield area during the course of the Civil War.

www.nps.gov/hafe

Martinsburg

Belle Boyd House

Historic site: Childhood home of Confederate spy Belle Boyd—as a young woman in Front Royal, Boyd provided Stonewall Jackson with information about Union forces in the town just before the Battle of Front Royal. www.bchs.org

Martinsburg Roundhouse

Historic site: The current roundhouse dates from 1866 (the original was destroyed during the war) but retains some of its Civil War-era features. www.martinsburgroundhouse.com

Charles Town

Jefferson County Courthouse

Historic site: This courthouse, which is still in use today, is where John Brown was tried for treason in 1859.

Washington St, Charles Town

Jefferson County Museum

Museum: Interprets the story of John Brown, including his trial and hanging. Washington St, Charles Town



Martinsburg Roundhouse



Jefferson County Courthouse

Events

From full-scale battle reenactments to enlightening living history displays to intriguing lectures and tours, and even kids camps that help our children understand our past—there are activities and events throughout the Shenandoah Valley that appeal to a wide range of interests.

Battle Reenactments

Including the annual reenactments of the Battles of New Market (each May) and Cedar Creek (each October).



Tours

Guided walking and driving tours that follow the path of battles and historic events.

Kids Camps

Camps give your child the chance to explore what life was like for soldiers and civilians during the Civil War.

Conferences and Lectures

Museums, historical societies, universities, and others present programs focusing on the region's Civil War and broader history.

Events Calendar Online

Historic sites throughout the region add new activities to the calendar each week. Visit the online events calendar for more information about these and other activities taking place soon. www.ShenandoahAtWar.org

E-Newsletter

Receive our monthly e-newsletter about events and programs in the Valley by emailing info@svbf.net.



Virginia Civil War Trails

The Civil War Trails program has installed more than 1,000 interpretive markers at Civil War sites in Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia. As you travel throughout the region, the logo at left will help you find these markers in its historic towns and along its byways. Driving tours following major campaigns have been created, and a series of regional brochures is available. You can pick up printed Trails information at visitor centers throughout the states with Trails signs. You can also visit www.CivilWarTrails.org for a complete listing of Trails sites, or download pdf versions of the Trails maps from CivilWarTraveler.com/maps.

Where to stay? What to eat? What else to do?

The Shenandoah Valley offers a wide variety of experiences for all ages and interests.

History & Heritage – The Civil War is only one chapter in the region's remarkable history. From colonial times to the 20th century, explore history at sites throughout the Valley.

Natural wonders – Scenic vistas, waterways, caverns – and national, regional, and local parks that offer countless opportunities for outdoor activities.

Arts and culture – The Valley offers world-class theatres, music festivals, and arts and crafts venues.

Dining and shopping – The region's charming, historic towns offer a variety of shopping and dining experiences.

Lodging – Whether you like to sleep under the stars or prefer premier accommodations, a wide range of lodgings are available throughout the Valley.

The tourism offices below can help you plan your adventure.

For More Information...

Shenandoah Valley Travel Association

800-VISIT-SV • www.visitshenandoah.org

Winchester-Frederick County Convention & Visitors Bureau

877-871-1326 • www.visitwinchesterva.com

Shenandoah County Tourism

888-367-3965 • www.shenandoahtravel.org

Front Royal-Warren County Visitors Center

800-338-2576 • www.DiscoverFrontRoyal.com

Luray-Page County Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center

888-743-3915 • www.visitluraypage.com

Harrisonburg Tourism & Visitor Services

540-432-8935 • www.harrisonburgtourism.com

Staunton Convention & Visitors Bureau

800-3427982 • www.visitstaunton.com

Waynesboro Tourism

540-942-6512 • www.visitwaynesboro.net

Highland County Chamber of Commerce

540-468-2550 • www.highlandcounty.org

Lexington-Rockbridge Tourism

877-453-9822 • www.lexingtonvirginia.com



What is the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District?

If you've made it this far along in this guide, you know that modern visitors are able to view the Shenandoah Valley's landscape much as it was seen by soldiers and civilians during the region's important Civil War campaigns, mostly thanks to the agricultural economy that has thrived in the Valley since before the Civil War.

But this historic landscape is increasingly threatened.

In 1996 the United States Congress created the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District to protect this national resource and to ensure that future generations would be able to explore the Valley's Civil War story and more fully understand its impact on the American experience.

As approved by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation serves as the non-profit manager of the National Historic District and is responsible for implementing the District's legislated mission to work with partners to preserve the Shenandoah Valley's Civil War battlefields, coordinate the interpretation of the region's Civil War story, and promote the Valley as a visitor destination. The Battlefields Foundation and its partners have collectively protected thousands of battlefield acres and are collaborating to share this history with visitors from across the country and around the world.

Thank you for visiting the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District!



National Heritage Areas

The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District is a congressionally-designated National Heritage Area.

National Heritage Areas are parts of our country's landscape that have been recognized by the United States Congress for their unique contributions to the American experience. A heritage area may be developed around a common theme or an industry that influenced the culture and history of that region and our country. More information about National Heritage Areas is available online at www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas.

Acknowledgments

This guide was developed through a partnership between the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

In addition, historic sites, museums, battlefield organizations, tourism offices, and local, state, and federal agencies have provided funding, technical assistance, and valuable input to make this guide as comprehensive and accurate as possible. Nonetheless, future printed editions of this publication will benefit from corrections, ideas, and new information offered by partners and others. In the meantime, updated digital editions will be available on the National Historic District website (www.ShenandoahAtWar.org).

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Harrisonburg Tourism & Visitor Services, Staunton Convention & Visitors Bureau, Waynesboro Tourism, Highland County Chamber of Commerce, and Lexington-Rockbridge Tourism.

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Supporting Preservation— What You Can Do

You can help preserve the irreplaceable battlefields and historic sites of the Shenandoah Valley as a legacy for future generations

Come visit the Shenandoah Valley and experience its unique Civil War heritage. Explore the region's dramatic history through orientation centers, trails, historical sites, and other attractions. Immerse yourself in the stories, relive the history, and develop a deeper understanding of the war's impact on the Shenandoah Valley and the nation.



Become a partner in this important work. The District's federal funding does much to preserve and promote the Valley's rich Civil War story. But private support is a vital part of the formula. With the help of committed partners and friends, these magnificent landscapes and unique sites can continue to tell their stories.

Contribute to the Foundation's work and the efforts of its partners—when you visit their sites, inquire about how you can donate to their organizations or volunteer.



The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation is a non-profit organization. To make a tax-deductible donation to our work, please complete the form at right and return it along with your donation to the address below.

PO Box 897 • 9386 S. Congress St.
New Market, Virginia 22844
540-740-4545 • 888-689-4545

The Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation is a nonprofit organization

SVBF's financial statement is available from the Virginia State Office of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services upon request.

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Save a battlefield. Create a legacy.

We need your help to preserve and interpret the Civil War history of the Shenandoah Valley.

Please accept my gift of:

- \$1,000 \$250 \$35
 \$500 \$100 Other \$ _____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

- Enclosed is my check to the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation.
 Please charge \$ _____ to:
 Visa MasterCard American Express Discover.

Account Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CCV Code _____

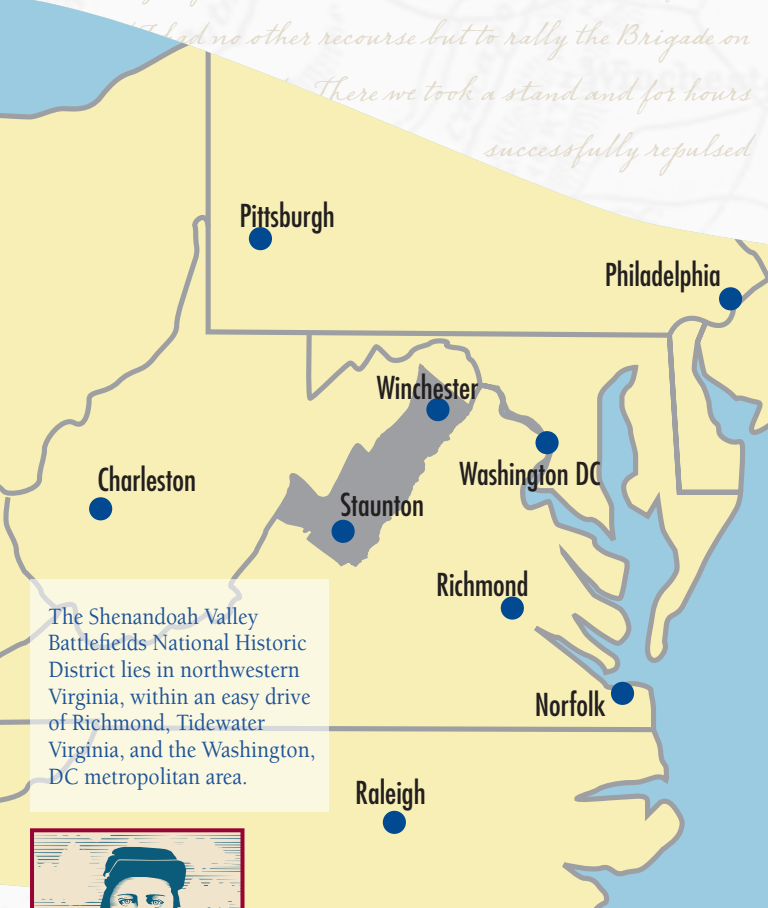
Signature: _____

- Please send me periodic updates about Civil War-related events in the Shenandoah Valley via email.

Privacy note: The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation does not share donor information with any other organization. If you would prefer not to receive updates about work and activities, please let us know.

Donate online at ShenandoahAtWar.org

Shenandoah AT WAR



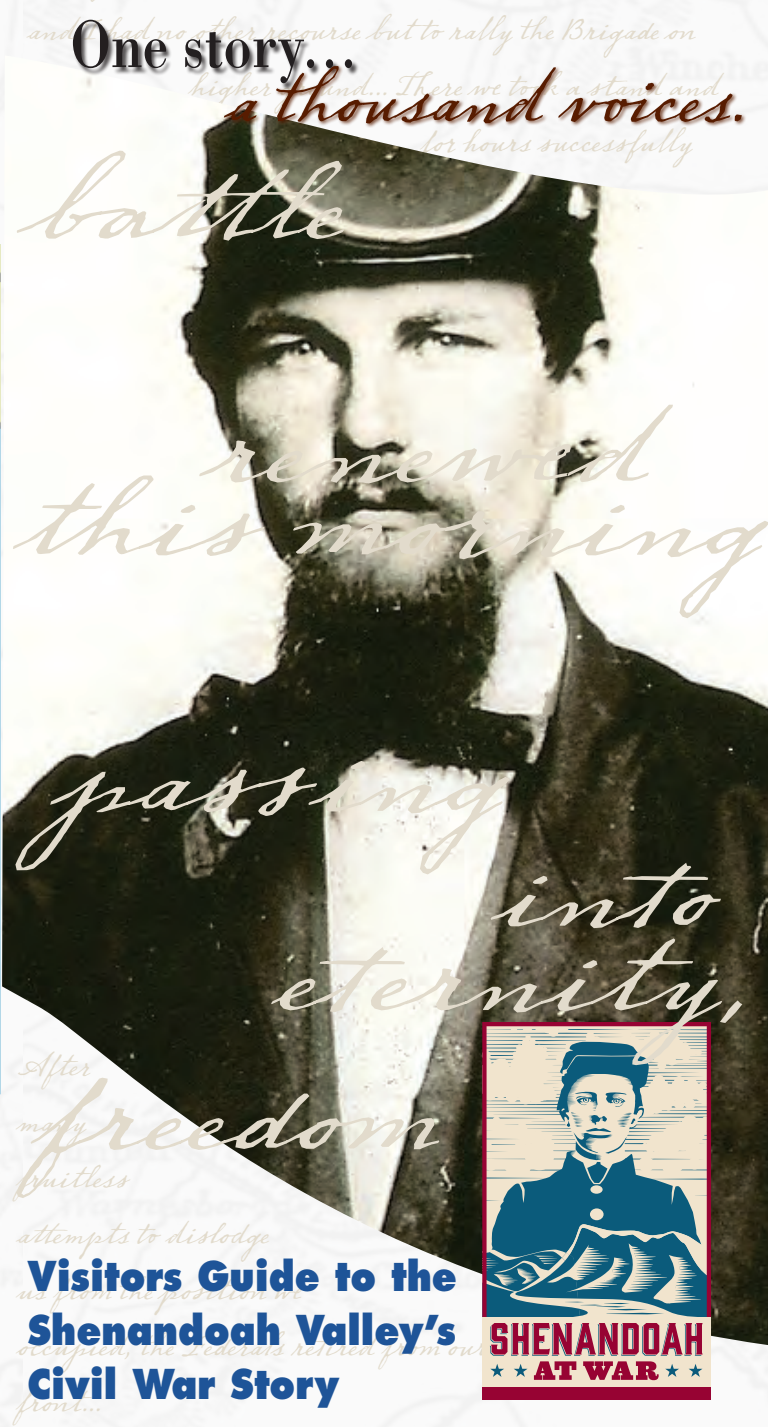
The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District lies in northwestern Virginia, within an easy drive of Richmond, Tidewater Virginia, and the Washington, DC metropolitan area.



VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS
www.Virginia.org

www.ShenandoahAtWar.org

Shenandoah AT WAR



One story... a thousand voices.

renewed this morning

passing into eternity, freedom

Visitors Guide to the Shenandoah Valley's Civil War Story

