



HARDTACK

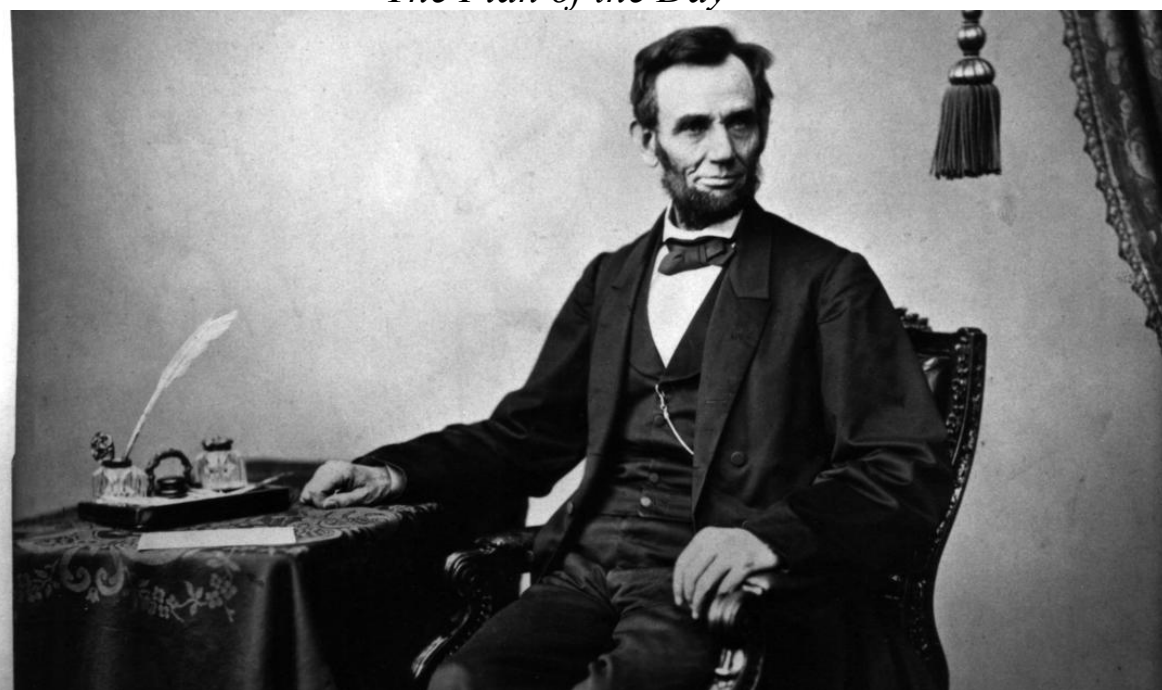


Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliswrt.org/>

Monday, February 12, 2024 at 6:45 p.m.
Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line
2370 W. 86th Street

The Plan of the Day



CBS News

“Lincoln’s Views on Death”

From multiple personal tragedies to the Civil War’s terrible carnage, death might stand alongside emancipation and saving the Union as one of the great central truths of Abraham Lincoln’s life. This was so even during his early days in Indiana and Illinois, and continued into the war with the deaths of several close friends and (most wrenchingly of all) his young son Willie in 1862. What exactly did he think of death and the afterlife? How did he approach grief and mourning? When confronted with the unprecedented number of battlefield casualties generated by the war, how did he react? We will explore the various political dimensions of Lincoln’s approach to death during the war, how he tried to explain the meaning of the war dead to the American people, and how he ultimately came to explain the war’s awful human toll in his own personal, psychological, and spiritual terms.

Our Guest Speaker



Dr. Brian Dirck

Brian Dirck is a Professor of History at Anderson University in Anderson, Indiana. He received his B.A. in history at the University of Central Arkansas, an M.A. in history at Rice University, and a Ph.D. in history at the University of Kansas. His scholarship has focused on the American Civil War era, in particular the life and career of Abraham Lincoln. His first book, *Lincoln and Davis: Imagining America, 1809-1865* offered a comparative analysis of the two Civil War presidents. He has since published *Lincoln the Lawyer*, a study of Lincoln's legal career which received the Barondess Award from the New York Civil War Roundtable as the best book on Abraham Lincoln published in 2007, and he has edited *Lincoln Emancipated: The President and the Politics of Race*. In 2012 he released two books, *Lincoln and the Constitution*, and *Abraham Lincoln and White America*. He has also written numerous articles, and spoken at Harvard University, the National Archives in Washington DC, the Lincoln Forum in Springfield, Illinois, and Gettysburg's Civil War Institute.

Dr. Dirck has served at Anderson University since 1998.

Remainder of the 2023-2024 Campaign

March 11, 2024 – Chris Burns - “The Life & Legacy of Ulysses Grant and the Women Who Molded the Man”

April 8, 2024 – Kent Brown - “General George G. Meade”

May 13, 2024 – Scott Britton – “But Not for My Children”

June 10, 2024 – Phil Spaugy - “19th Indiana & the Iron Brigade”

Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2023-2024 Campaign

Officers:

President: Pete Benner

Secretary: Eric Dove

Immediate Past President: Steven Magnusen

Vice President: Chris Smith

Treasurer: Pete Mohr

Committees:

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Program Selection: Chairman Steve Magnusen; Members: Bob Gottschalk, David Finney, & Tony Trimble

Publicity: Peg Bertelli

Website: Ed Pope

Quiz Master:

Tony Trimble

Book Raffle Master

Tony Roscetti

HARDTACK Newsletter:

Editor: Bob Gottschalk

Other Camp Activities

Hamilton County Civil War Roundtable: Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday each month, September through May (excluding December) in Carmel City Hall. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

Madison County Historical Society Civil War Roundtable: Meetings take place on the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Bowman Room at the Museum of Madison County History, 15 West 11th Street, Anderson, Indiana.

Official Records

November Attendance: 32

Alan T. Nolan Memorial Youth Scholarship Fund: The Executive Board of the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table has established this fund to provide membership dues, annual tour expenses or other worthwhile purpose for any full-time student of any age. Please see Tony Roscetti to donate to this fund.

Facebook: The Indianapolis Civil War Round Table is on Facebook. We invite you to join our group. Feel free to post Civil War related messages on our site.

Charitable Sponsors: In an effort to upgrade our speakers and programs, the board of ICWRT is asking members and organizations with which they are involved (companies or charitable organizations) to consider sponsoring one or more speakers. This could be done as a gift now, or a person could opt to make a bequest in a will for that purpose. Because of our limited membership, we can't bring in as many national speakers as we would like to. If you are interested or want more info, call Chris Smith at 450-7430.

Test Your Civil War Knowledge (with Trimble's Trivia)

by Tony Trimble

1. In February 1863, a Democratic convention was broken up by Federal authorities in Frankfort, Ky. Why?
2. What was the original name of the CSS Jamestown?
3. Who was "Pvt. J.A. White"?
4. What was "The Great Peppering"?
5. On December 1, 1861, there was a skirmish near Whippoorwill Creek. Where is it?



The Scuttled CSS Jamestown

Matthew Brady

AFTER ACTION REPORT

By Nikki Stoddard Schofield

At the January 8, 2024 meeting, twelve members participated in the 3rd annual “Show and Tell” program. John Gilmore told about Major General Quincy Gillmore, whose surname has one more “l” than his. Nikki Schofield shared her reprint of “The Burial of Latane,” and talked about the significance of the painting. David Hughes showed two bayonets and two German-made rifles from Philadelphia. Roy Agnew is writing about the Second Battle of Ream’s Station and showed a picture from June 1864. Charlotte Carmichael discussed the new museum to remember the Sultana disaster. Bruce Kolb showed a newspaper dated October 8, 1862 with news about Antietam, and the list of soldiers which included his ancestor. Dave McKay showed a first edition of a book purchased at a Mount Jackson antique store. Chris Smith critiqued two books, Elizabeth Varan’s new book Longstreet and End of the World is Just Beginning, both of which are really good. Tony Trimble showed a large picture of Turner Ashby who is buried in Winchester, Virginia, with his brother. Fred Schaefer demonstrated amputations and reported that 50,000 amputations took place during the Civil War. David Finney passed around pictures of men, ribbons, and horses of the 7th Michigan. Tom Slemons told about his ancestors who fought in the 14th Indiana Volunteers.



Bill Ghormley

David Hughes shows two bayonet holders.

• • •

Bernie Crispin of Westfield has three commemorative guns to sell. The George Washington pistol was made in 1989 and originally cost \$995. The two 1851 Navy Colts are labeled Grant and Lee, and originally cost \$1,190 for both. They were both made in 1971. If you are interested in more information or wish to purchase these guns, call Bernie at 480-284-1023.



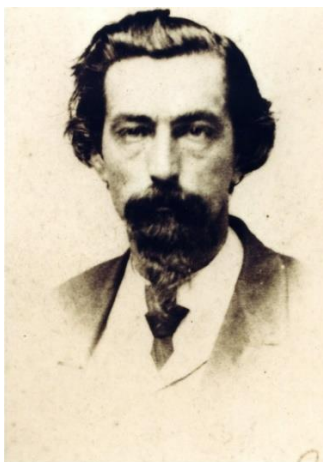
Major Lee's War against the Mossbacks

Robert S. Davis, August 21, 2023, blueandgrayeducation.org

It is a well-known fact that Georgia governor Joseph E. Brown clashed with the Confederate government. In early 1863, however, he asked Maj. George Washington Lee, the Confederate provost marshal of Atlanta, to lead an expedition into the mountains to subdue deserters (from both armies) and draft evaders. The latter were called hogbacks and mossbacks because they hid in caves and the woods, or "Tories" from the Americans who refused to support the original American Revolution.

There is little doubt that the fighting and terrible conditions in the army depleted the ranks. Men refused to comply with the Conscription Act of 1862. Persons of all backgrounds and associations, including former Confederate soldiers and even federal agents, stirred up dissent and organized sabotage. Sometime in late 1862, Lee learned about a wild plot to burn down Atlanta and railroad bridges going into and out of the city. In addition, local newspapers in north Georgia carried stories of robberies and murders committed by the war resisters.

Governor Brown provided Lee with 150 men and persuaded the Confederate government to add another 150 cavalymen for the campaign. Lee added local defense troops to make a force of 500 soldiers. On January 24, 1863, Lee and the first of his troops arrived in the city of Dahlonega in bitterly cold weather. Citizens of Lumpkin County's seat of government welcomed Lee's men. The mossbacks had recently made a prison break in an adjoining county and burned down most of the jails in the region. When they tried to assault Dahlonega, however, local people successfully defended their town.



Maj. George Washington Lee | courtesy of author

The campaign brought 1,000 men to the army, many voluntarily but 150 to 200 men in chains. The latter included 53 civilians opposing the Confederate war effort.

In September 1863, Lee led a second expedition into the Georgia mountains. While some 15 miles from Morganton, he and a lieutenant did a reconnaissance disguised as civilians. They joined 100 armed Unionists trying to flee, led by two federal officers.

Returning to his own camp, Lee set out in pursuit. In an ensuing violent exchange, Lee's men killed four Unionists and wounded several others; a federal officer and a local preacher were among the 30 to 40 men captured.

Furthermore, Lee also crossed state lines to squelch war resistance. He led 20 men into Cherokee County, North Carolina, where they captured five men, including a notorious mossback leader and two federal recruiting officers. Lee also sent detachments into Ducktown, Tennessee. This campaign captured 300 to 400 men and confiscated 75 heads of cattle and included Goldman Bryson, a known horse thief, serial murderer, and mossback leader with a commission in the federal army, being killed by two of Lee's Cherokee warriors.

Resistance continued as defeat and exploitation consolidated into mass discontent. Lee later led a campaign across South Georgia and even to the Okefenokee Swamp but found few men to return to the army.

Lee died on April 3, 1879, in Rome, Georgia.

Sign up for more free Blue and Gray Education Society dispatches or at our website: <https://blueandgrayeducation.org/>

• • •

American Battlefield Trust Joins Lawsuit to Protect Manassas Battlefield from Massive Data Center Project

Trust joins local citizens to fight controversial rezoning that places world's largest data center campus next to a nationally significant historic treasure

Jim Campi, (202) 376-1861 ext. 7205

Mary Koik, (202) 367-1861 ext. 7231

January 12, 2024

(Manassas Battlefield, Va.) — The American Battlefield Trust on Friday joined nine local citizens in taking legal action to **stop construction of the world's largest data center campus on more than 1,750 acres immediately adjacent to Manassas National Battlefield Park**. The land was rezoned without regard for the irreparable impact to the region's unique historic, natural and cultural resources. The lawsuit asks the Circuit Court for Prince William County to overturn the trio of rezonings granted in violation of Virginia Code by the lame duck County Board of Supervisors in December 2023.

"The Manassas Battlefield is a national treasure and the very definition of hallowed ground," remarked David Duncan, president of the American Battlefield Trust. "Hundreds of thousands of people visit this National Park every year, generating tourism dollars for the community and providing local residents with recreational trails and open space. It is reckless in the extreme to jeopardize this historic sanctuary over a development that could easily be built elsewhere in the state."

As the lawsuit recounts, **the American Battlefield Trust was formed nearly four decades ago in response to threats to Virginia's historic battlefields**, including one of the first major controversies over inappropriate development at Manassas. It has since collaborated with federal, state and local authorities and countless private citizens to preserve more than 58,000 acres at more than 150 sites in 25 states – and continues to fight, when necessary, to safeguard the soil on which Americans bled and died to forge the nation we are today. The proposed data center development, dubbed the Prince William Digital Gateway, is slated to become, at full build-out, the world's largest data center campus — and would overshadow famed Brawner Farm where, at the Second Battle of Manassas in August 1862, Union and Confederate forces faced off against one another in horrific combat. The fallow fields that were the **launching point for one of the most devastating and decisive assaults of the Civil War** could soon be blanketed with as many as thirty-seven data centers — eight-story, drab concrete-and-steel behemoths that would loom over the battlefield park. In December, the Prince William County Board of Supervisors approved, in a 4-3 vote, the three rezonings after a nearly unprecedented, 27-hour public hearing, despite overwhelming local opposition, over objections from the National Park Service and against the recommendation of both County staff and the County's Planning Commission. The known harms to the Manassas Battlefield and other cultural resources, the unanswered questions about the development's future impact and the parade of amendments right up

until the vote itself persuaded all but the Board of Supervisors of the inappropriate nature of the development.

“Even a month after the vote, it remains dumbfounding that Prince William County ignored its own professional staff, its planning commission, hundreds of concerned citizens, and pleas from the National Park Service and the historic preservation community to protect one of the County’s most famous and treasured landmarks,” noted Duncan.

The lawsuit cites an array of legal violations committed by Prince William County as grounds to overturn the rezonings. These range from the lack of required information about the development, inadequate public notice and hearings, unlawful waivers of key analyses, submissions and approvals, failure to consider key environmental and historical facts and unlawful delegation of rezoning power through failure to identify which of the more than 1,750 acres could be put to what uses.

The stakes involved, and the impacts of such an enormous and incompatible development on the Manassas Battlefield compelled the Trust to join the fight to protect this area. However, the Trust does not oppose data centers or properly planned development: “We are not against data centers when they are properly sited,” Duncan stated. “However, we cannot stand aside when hallowed ground vital to our understanding of the Civil War is placed at risk. To do so here would dishonor our mission and our history.”

In the 1980s, northern Virginia experienced tremendous development pressure. A contentious plan to develop 600 acres near Manassas National Battlefield Park, including land that was Robert E. Lee’s headquarters during the Second Battle of Manassas, made national headlines. Ultimately, the land was acquired by the National Park Service at great cost. In 1990, Congress responded by creating the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission to identify the nation’s historically significant sites, assess their condition and “recommend alternatives for preserving and interpreting them.” Concurrently, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior created a nonprofit partner to assist the Park Service in protection of battlefield land: the American Battlefield Protection Foundation, a predecessor organization of the modern American Battlefield Trust.

The passage of time and increase in development pressures has made protection of the Manassas Battlefield all the more critical. Since 2009, the Trust has taken action to acquire multiple parcels of historic significance in the area that will be impacted by the Prince William Digital Gateway, including properties contiguous to rezoned land. This includes 170 acres once part of Rock Hill Farm, an area that served as a field hospital during Second Manassas and likely the final resting place of many who did not survive the battle.

About the American Battlefield Trust: From a grassroots organization started by historians 30 years ago, the American Battlefield Trust has grown into one of the most successful private heritage land preservation organizations in the nation. The Trust is dedicated to preserving America’s hallowed battlegrounds and educating the public about what happened there and why it matters today. The nonprofit, nonpartisan organization has protected more than 58,000 acres associated with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and Civil War, representing more than 150 sites in 25 states. Its 350,000 members and supporters believe in the power of place and the continued relevance of history as a means to fully understand our rights and responsibilities as Americans. Learn more at www.battlefields.org.

This Month in Civil War Era History

February 22, 1860 - Organized baseball played in San Francisco for the first time between the Eagles and the Red Rovers.

February 18, 1861 - King Victor Emmanuel II of Sardinia became the first King of Italy.



February 1, 1862 - Ralph Waldo Emerson and Charles Sumner met with President Abraham Lincoln at The White House.

February 26, 1863 - Abraham Lincoln signed the National Currency Act, establishing a single national U.S. currency.



February 17, 1864 - The C.S.S. Hunley sank the U.S.S. Housatonic at Charleston, South Carolina in the world's first successful submarine attack.

February 17, 1865 - Columbia, South Carolina burned after its captured by Union forces under Major General William T. Sherman.

