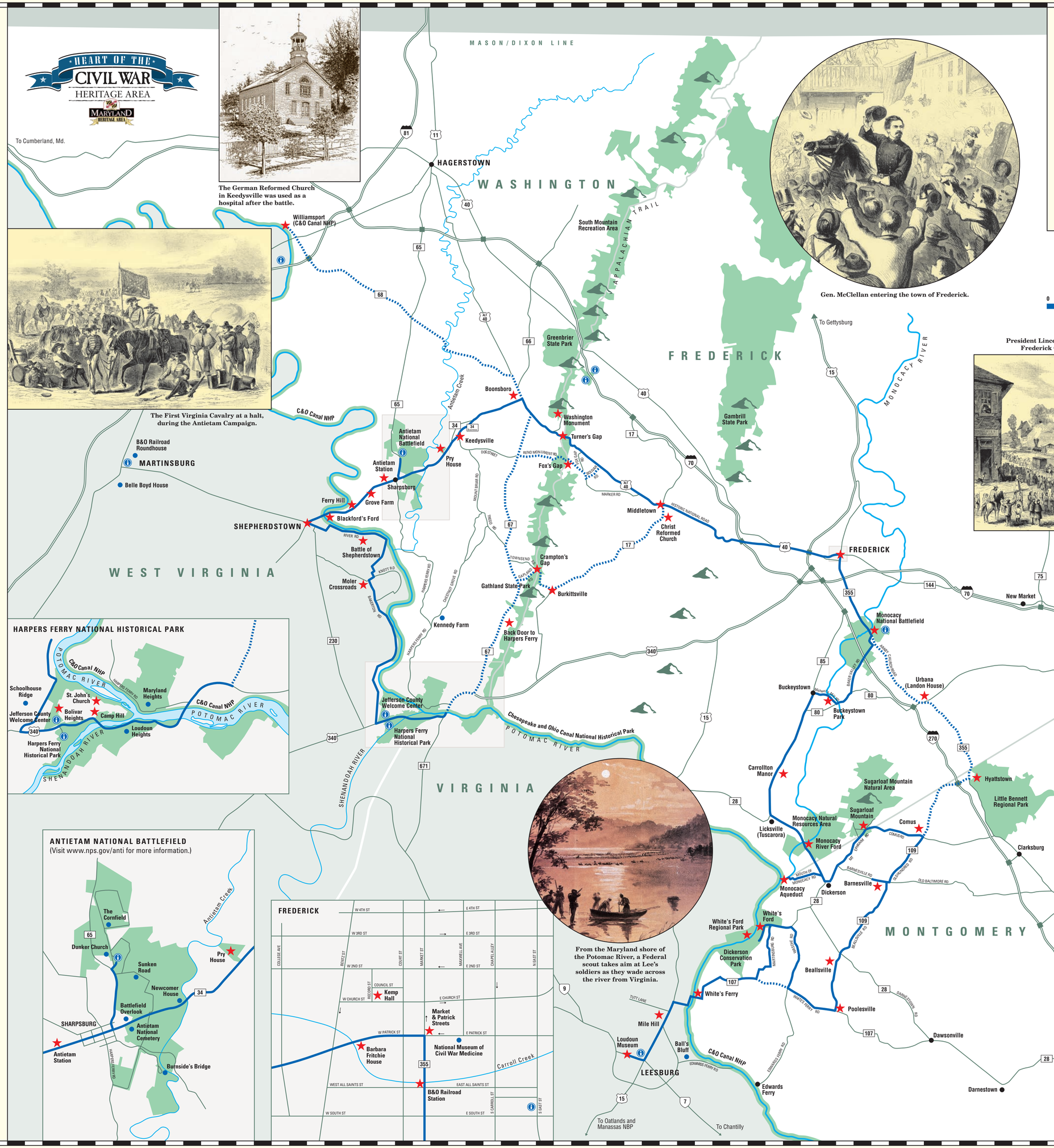
★ ANTIETAM CAMPAIGN SITES ★

- ★ **Leesburg (Loudoun Museum)** – Antietam Campaign Tour begins here, where Lee rested the Army of Northern Virginia before invading Maryland.
- ★ **Mile Hill** – A surprise attack led by Confederate Col. Thomas Munford on Sept. 2, 1862, routed Federal forces.
- ★ **White's Ferry (C&O Canal NHP)** – A major part of Lee's army forded the Potomac River two miles north of this modern ferry crossing, at White's Ford.
- ★ **White's Ford (C&O Canal NHP)** – Here the major part of the Army of Northern Virginia forded the Potomac River into Maryland on September 5-6, 1862, while a Confederate band played "Maryland! My Maryland!"
- ★ **Poolesville** – Site of cavalry skirmishes on September 5 and 8, 1862.
- ★ **Beallsville** – A running cavalry fight passed through town on September 9, 1862.
- ★ **Barnesville** – On September 9, 1862, opposing cavalry units chased each other through town several times.
- ★ **Comus (Mt. Ephraim Crossroads)** – Confederate cavalry fought a successful rearguard action here, September 9-11, 1862, to protect the infantry at Frederick.
- ★ **Sugarloaf Mountain** – At different times, Union and Confederate signalmen atop the mountain watched the opposing army.
- ★ **Monocacy Aqueduct (C&O Canal NHP)** – Confederate troops tried and failed to destroy or damage the aqueduct on September 4 and 9, 1862.
- ★ **Monocacy River Ford** – The Confederate army encountered many sympathizers before they crossed the river here, but few on the other side.
- ★ **Carrollton Manor** – The landscape has changed little since the Confederate army camped here on September 5-6, 1862, and devoured fields full of green corn.
- ★ **Buckeystown Park** – Hungry Confederates ate freshly baked bread made with flour milled here.
- ★ **Hyattstown** – Several cavalry engagements occurred here, September 8-11, 1862.
- ★ **Urbana (Landon House)** – The site of a ball held by Gen. J.E.B. Stuart on September 8, 1862, this girls' school also served as a hospital to treat the wounded from a cavalry action at Hyattstown.
- ★ **Monocacy National Battlefield (Best Farm)** – This is the likely site where the famous Lost Order (Special Orders No. 191) was found, containing Gen. Robert E. Lee's campaign strategy.
- ★ **Westminster** – Confederate Col. Thomas L. Rosser, 5th Virginia Cavalry, occupied the town overnight on September 11, 1862, before rejoining the army at South Mountain.
- ★ **B&O Railroad Station** – Here President Abraham Lincoln spoke from a railroad car platform to Frederick residents on October 4, 1862.
- ★ **Kemp Hall** – Pro-secession legislators were prevented from attending a special session here in 1861.
- ★ **Market & Patrick Streets** – The only known photograph of Confederate troops marching under arms was taken near here in 1862 as they passed en route to the Battles of South Mountain and Antietam.
- ★ **Barbara Fritchie House** – In John Greenleaf Whittier's famous ballad, a loyal old lady waved the Stars and Stripes here and shamed Stonewall Jackson.
- ★ **Middletown** – The Confederate army received a chilly reception from the town's strongly pro-Union citizens when it marched through on September 10-11, 1862.
- ★ **Middletown (Christ Reformed Church)** – The church steeple served as a Union observation post during the Battle of South Mountain on September 14, 1862.
- ★ **Turner's Gap** – The Confederates still held the gap at the end of the day on September 14, 1862.
- ★ **Washington Monument** – The Union army used this stone tower as a signal station during the Antietam Campaign.
- ★ **Fox's Gap** – Two generals—one Federal, one Confederate—died fighting for the gap.
- ★ **Crampton's Gap** – Although a Union division forced its way through the gap, the commander called a halt instead of routing the Confederates here.
- ★ **Burkittsville** – After the Battle of Crampton's Gap on September 14, 1862, this picturesque village became a blood-soaked hospital center.
- ★ **Back Door to Harpers Ferry** – Following the Battle of South Mountain, CS Gen. Lafayette McLaws delayed the Union advance by stretching his forces across the valley at the foot of Elk Ridge.
- ★ **Boonsboro** – Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee had his headquarters here during the Battle of South Mountain.
- ★ **Keedysville** – The town became a vast Union hospital after the Battle of Antietam.
- ★ **Antietam National Battlefield** – The scene of the bloodiest one-day battle in American history on September l7, 1862.
- ★ **Antietam Station** – Veterans disembarked from trains here to revisit the battlefield and attend reunions.
- ★ **Grove Farm** – Here President Abraham Lincoln visited the Army of the Potomac and its commander, Gen. George B. McClellan.
- ★ **Ferry Hill** – This was the home of Henry Kyd Douglas, Stonewall Jackson's youngest staff officer.
- ★ **Williamsport (C&O Canal NHP)** – Stonewall Jackson's command crossed into Virginia here en route to capturing Harpers Ferry.
- ★ **Blackford's (Boteler's) Ford (C&O Canal NHP)** – Jackson crossed into Maryland to rejoin Lee on September 16, 1862, after capturing Harper's Ferry. The Confederates also used the ford to retreat after Gettysburg in 1863, and during Early's raid in 1864.
- ★ **Shepherdstown** – This place became a Confederate hospital center after the Battle of Antietam and nearby the scene of the last engagement of the campaign on September 20, 1862.
- ★ **Battle of Shepherdstown** – Site of fierce fighting on September 19-20, as Lee's army crossed back into Virginia and Union forces struck the Confederate rear guard.
- ★ **Moler Crossroads** – Elements of the Confederate army marched near here en route to Sharpsburg.
- ★ **Harpers Ferry National Historical Park** – Strategic communication and supply depot at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers.

★ OTHER CIVIL WAR SITES ★

- **Monocacy National Battlefield** – On July 9, 1864, Union Gen. Lewis Wallace's stubborn defense delayed for two days Confederate Gen. Jubal A. Early's advance on Washington, D.C.
- **National Museum of Civil War Medicine** – Tells the story of medical practices during the war, when Frederick had many hospitals.
- **Kennedy Farm** – In this simple log house leased by abolitionist John Brown in the summer of 1859, he laid his plans, gathered his associates, and launched his raid on Harpers Ferry on Oct. 16.
- **B&O Railroad Roundhouse** – Important Martinsburg facility destroyed by Stonewall Jackson's troops in 1862. Rebuilt after the war.
- **Belle Boyd House** – Restored circa 1853 home of the famous Confederate spy. It is now home to the Berkeley Co. Historical Society and Historic Landmarks Commission.
- **Ball's Bluff Battlefield & National Cemetery** – On Oct. 21, 1861, Confederates routed Union forces here and drove them over the bluff into the Potomac River.
- **Manassas National Battlefield Park** – The site of two major battles: the first large-scale fight of the war (July 21, 1861) and one of Lee's greatest victories (Aug. 29–30, 1862), after which he decided to invade the North.
- **Chantilly** – After the Second Battle of Manassas, Jackson attacked the retreating Federal army here. In a confused engagement during a thunderstorm, Union Gens. Philip Kearney and Isaac Stevens were killed.



The German Reformed Church in Keedysville was used as a hospital after the battle.

The First Virginia Cavalry at a halt, during the Antietam Campaign.

Gen. McClellan entering the town of Frederick.

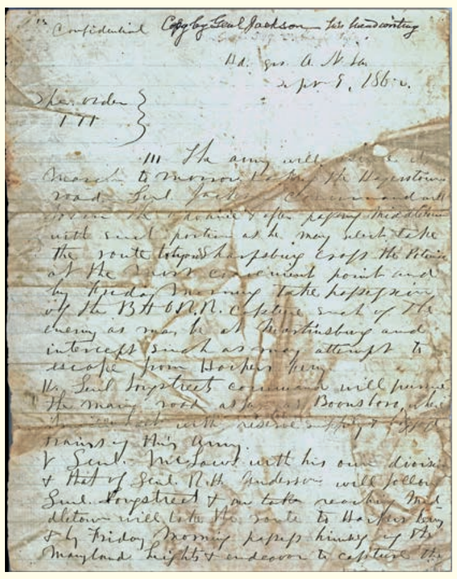
President Lincoln arrived at the B&O Railroad Station in Frederick City to visit the Army of the Potomac.

From the Maryland shore of the Potomac River, a Federal scout takes aim at Lee's soldiers as they wade across the river from Virginia.

LEE INVADES MARYLAND

The Battle of Antietam, on September 17, 1862, was the culmination of Gen. Robert E. Lee's first invasion of the North. As Lee's Army of Northern Virginia (about 40,000 men) advanced into Maryland, other Confederate forces moved into Kentucky, northern Mississippi, and the Kanawha River valley of western Virginia. Never again during the war would so many Confederate armies be on the offensive at the same time.

After Lee's victory at the Second Battle of Manassas (Bull Run), he wrote to Confederate President Jefferson Davis on September 3, "The present seems to be the most propitious time since the commencement of the war for the Confederate Army to enter Maryland." Lee also wrote, "The army is not properly equipped for an invasion of an enemy's territory. It lacks much of the material of war, is feeble in transportation, the animals being much reduced, and the men are poorly provided with clothes, and in thousands of instances are destitute of shoes. Still, we cannot afford to be idle." Meanwhile, Union Gen. George B. McClellan was preparing his 85,000-man Army of the Potomac to oppose Lee.

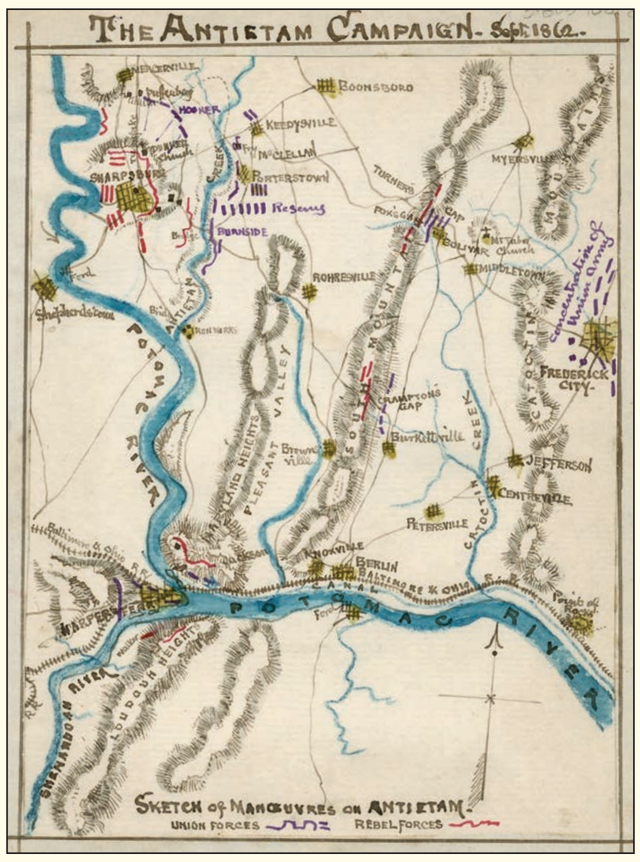


D.H. Hill's copy, Special Orders 191, first page
Courtesy National Park Service

While camped in Frederick, Maryland, a few days later, Lee realized that the 12,000-man Federal garrison at Harpers Ferry threatened his lines of supply, communication, and retreat. To operate safely north of the Potomac River, Lee divided his army into four parts to neutralize the threat. He directed Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson to envelop Harpers Ferry with more than 25,000 men, assigned Gen. D.H. Hill's division to guard Turner's Gap near Boonsboro, and ordered Gen. James Longstreet to lead the rest of the army, about 10,000 strong, to Hagerstown, Maryland, near the Mason-Dixon Line and Pennsylvania.

Lee outlined his plan in Special Orders 191 and had copies distributed to his senior subordinates. When the army marched to South Mountain the next day, a copy addressed to Hill was left behind, wrapped around three cigars. On September 13, a Union soldier found it and presumably enjoyed the cigars. The wrapper soon reached McClellan, who exclaimed that he held the Confederate battle plan in his hands! Hill forever after denied having received or lost the "Lost Orders." He produced his own set, in Jackson's handwriting, as proof.

McClellan forced the Confederates into holding actions in the South Mountain gaps. Lee concentrated his forces at Sharpsburg, northeast of town on Sharpsburg ridge. Two days later the armies met in the bloodiest one-day battle in U.S. history.



Courtesy Library of Congress

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

Although President Abraham Lincoln personally opposed slavery, he was no abolitionist. Yet in 1862 he slowly yielded to pressure from men such as Frederick Douglass to broaden the war aims of the United States. He awaited a Union military victory, knowing that he needed Northern support for such a change.

The victory at Antietam (Sharpsburg) on September 17, 1862, gave Lincoln his opportunity. Five days later, he issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, thereby transforming the war for the Union into a war for freedom as well. The Proclamation stated that "all persons held as slaves within any state or designated part of a state, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free." In the final version promulgated on January 1, 1863, Lincoln opened the way for blacks to bear arms by declaring that "such persons of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service." This provision allowed about 200,000 Americans of African descent to serve in the United States Army and Navy during the war. While the proclamation itself actually freed no slaves, it encouraged them to liberate themselves.

Problems remained in the border states. Maryland, for example, had stayed with the Union but held many slaves. In December 1862, in Lincoln's annual message to Congress, he proposed that "every State, wherein slavery now exists, which shall abolish the same therein ... shall receive compensation from the United States." (In reality, such compensated emancipation did not occur.) Lincoln also wrote some loftier words: "We—even we here—hold the power, and bear the responsibility. In *giving* freedom to the *slave*, we *assure* freedom to the *free*—honorable alike in what we give, and what we preserve. We shall nobly save, or meanly lose, the last best, hope of the earth."

Lincoln on Antietam battlefield days after he issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.

HARPERS FERRY

Harpers Ferry, 1862.

Sent by Gen. Robert E. Lee to capture Harpers Ferry and secure Confederate lines of communication during the Maryland invasion, Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson approached Harpers Ferry from three directions with 24,000 soldiers in mid-September 1862. Jackson and 14,000 men swept Union troops at Martinsburg into the Harpers Ferry trap. Gen. John G. Walker's 2,000-man division secured Loudoun Heights, while Gen. Lafayette McLaws climbed Maryland Heights on September 13; the Federals there soon withdrew to Harpers Ferry.

Jackson, atop School House Ridge, used the terrain effectively to position his artillery and troops. On the night of September 14, however, 1,400 Union cavalrymen escaped across the Potomac River. The next day, the remaining Union garrison on Camp Hill and Bolivar Heights surrendered nearly 12,500 men, 73 cannon, 11,000 small arms, and 200 wagons—the largest capitulation of U.S. troops during the Civil War and the largest in American history until the fall of the Philippines in WWII. Jackson soon hastened his men toward Sharpsburg, Maryland.

SOUTH MOUNTAIN

After crossing into Maryland early in September 1862, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee divided the Army of Northern Virginia into four parts. He sent Stonewall Jackson with most of the army to capture Harpers Ferry, while Lee led the remainder over South Mountain, using it as a screen to help keep Gen. George B. McClellan's pursuing Army of the Potomac at bay. But then the Federals found a dropped copy of Lee's orders near the Monocacy River, and it became even more critical for the Confederates to hold the South Mountain passes until Jackson completed his mission and rejoined them. The two armies clashed in a day-long battle on September 14 at Fox's, Crampton's, and Turner's Gaps, giving Jackson just enough time to secure Harper's Ferry and return to Lee.

Courtesy Library of Congress

THE AFTERMATH OF WAR

Pry House – *Courtesy Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area*

During the Civil War, the Potomac River became the boundary between the United States of America and the Confederate States of America. Perhaps 500,000 Union and Confederate troops and their animals marched through and camped in the region, placing a tremendous strain on the environment, the lives of local residents and the economy.

Throughout the war, Confederate partisans mounted small raids along the border, and gangs of deserters from both sides roamed the region stealing horses and other livestock and committing mayhem. Besides property damage, civilians sometimes suffered personal assaults. Confederate partisans on a raid to Sharpsburg early in 1863 shot and killed a local citizen, and during the summer of 1864, a drunken Union soldier accidentally shot and killed a young girl at Sandy Hook.

After the Battle of Antietam, a soldier wrote, "few were the houses [near Sharpsburg] that had not been pierced by shot or shell." Union Gen. George B. McClellan made the Pry family home his headquarters; damages to the farm and house exceeded $2,400 and included the loss of 900 bushels of wheat and 20 acres of ripe corn. Pry, ruined by the occupation, eventually left Sharpsburg.

Later the following summer, a writer reported that "... farms have been terribly devastated. Fences have been destroyed, timber cut down, embankments thrown up, ditches dug, wheat, corn, and cloverfields destroyed, the whole presenting a scene of desolation and destruction painful to behold."

Civilians under fire.

Sharpsburg's Main Street, 1862, just a few days after the Battle of Antietam.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Large Civil War armies needed the logistical support of thousands of wagons and teams, traveling forges, caissons, and ambulances, as well as cooks, teamsters, blacksmiths, farriers, doctors, and hospital stewards.

The Union Army of the Potomac drew more than 100,000 pairs of shoes and boots, 93,000 pairs of trousers, and 10,000 blankets from advanced supply depots at Frederick and Hagerstown between September 12 and October 25, 1862. The army used more than 3,000 wagons and on October 1 had 22,493 horses and 10,392 mules.

Conversely, soldiers in the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia lacked food, shoes, and uniforms, as well as effective small arms, cannons, and ammunition. They also probably had no more than 16,000 horses to pull wagons and other conveyances.

Both armies foraged across the countryside. A Maryland newspaper reported, "The region of the county between Sharpsburg and Boonsboro has been eaten out of food of every description. The two armies ... have swept over it and devoured everything within reach."

MEDICINE

Some 18,440 soldiers were wounded in one day of fighting at Antietam on September 17, 1862, and another 3,122 in the Battle of South Mountain three days before. Transporting, operating on, and caring for this enormous number of wounded soldiers presented a challenge never before faced. A doctor reported, "There is not a barn, or farmhouse, or store, or church, or schoolhouse between Boonesville [*sic*], and Sharpsburg ... and Smoketown that is not gorged with wounded."

The surviving wounded were taken to hospitals in Frederick or Baltimore. In Frederick alone, 29 hospitals functioned in public buildings. The U.S. Sanitary Commission, established in July 1861, helped operate hospitals and distribute supplies.

Although medical practices made great advances during the Civil War, the germ theory of infection was unknown then. Surgeons operated on wounded soldiers in unsanitary conditions with unsterilized instruments. An amputee had a 65 percent chance of surviving surgery, but only a 10 percent chance of surviving infection if it occurred afterward.

1862 ANTIETAM CAMPAIGN
LEE INVADES MARYLAND

Cover:
Battle of Antietam by Thure de Thulstrup, painted ca. 1887, courtesy Library of Congress

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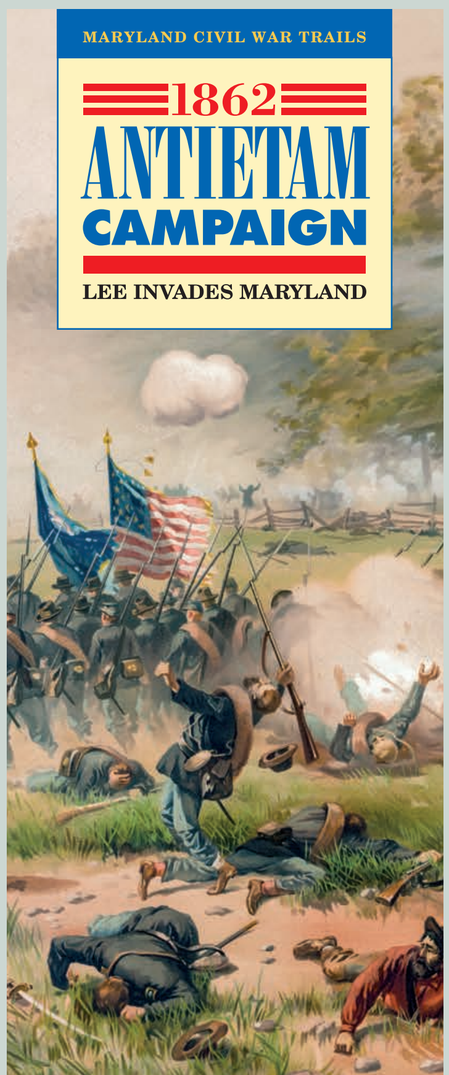
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor



How to Use this Map-Guide

This guide depicts a 90-mile historic and scenic driving tour that follows the route taken during Robert E. Lee's September 1862 Maryland Campaign. Information contained here and along the Trail tells stories that have been hidden deep within the landscape for 140 years. Follow the bugle trailblazer signs to waysides that explain the day-to-day stories of soldiers and civilians as thousands of men and boys marched toward their undeniable destiny.

Recreational activities such as hiking, biking, paddling, and horseback riding enhance the driving tour experience. Amenities along the Trail include dining, lodging, shopping, and attractions which highlight Maryland's important role in the Civil War. For more detailed travel information, stop by any Maryland Welcome Center, or local Visitor Center, or contact any of the organizations listed in this guide. For additional Civil War Trails information, visit www.civilwartrails.org. For more Maryland travel information, visit www.visitmaryland.org.

View west from South Mountain.

VIRGINIA CIVIL WAR TRAILS
NORTH CAROLINA CIVIL WAR TRAILS
WEST VIRGINIA CIVIL WAR TRAILS
TENNESSEE CIVIL WAR TRAILS

Follow these signs to more than 1,600 Civil War sites.

TRAVEL RESOURCES

For more information on the Civil War, recreation, and traveling in Maryland, please visit:

Maryland Office of Tourism Development
401 E. Pratt Street
14th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202
(877) 333-4455
www.visitmaryland.org

Conference and Visitors Bureau of Montgomery County, Maryland, Inc.
1801 Rockville Pike
Suite 320
Rockville, MD 20852
(877) 789-6904
www.visitmontgomery.com

Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc.
151 S. East Street
Frederick, MD 21701
(800) 999-3613
www.visitfrederick.org

Hagerstown/Washington County Convention & Visitors Bureau
16 Public Square
Hagerstown, MD 21740
(301) 791-3246
www.visithagerstown.com

Heart of the Civil War Exhibit & Visitor Center at the Newcomer House
18422 Shepherdstown Pike
Keedysville, MD 21756
(301) 432-6402
www.heartofthecivilwar.org/newcomer-house

National Museum of Civil War Medicine
48 East Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701
(301) 695-1864
www.CivilWarMed.org

South Mountain State Battlefield
6620 Zittlestown Road
Middletown, MD 21769
(301) 791-4767
www.dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/western/southmountainbattlefield.aspx

Antietam National Battlefield
P.O. Box 158
Sharpsburg, MD 21782
(301) 432-5124
www.nps.gov/anti

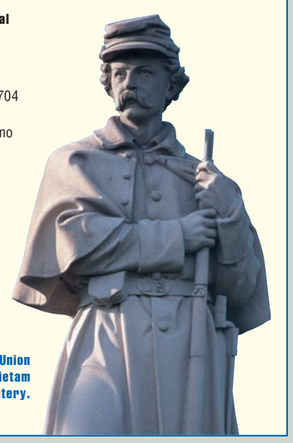
The Sunken Road at Antietam National Battlefield.

C & O Canal National Historical Park
Williamsport Visitor Center
205 West Potomac Street
Williamsport, MD 21795
(301) 582-0813
www.nps.gov/choh

Monocacy National Battlefield
4801 Urbana Pike
Route 355 South
Frederick, MD 21704
(301) 662-3515
www.nps.gov/mono

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
171 Shoreline Drive
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
(304) 535-6298
www.nps.gov/hafe

A detailed exhibit at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Frederick.



Monument to Union dead at the Antietam National Cemetery.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Dunker Church, Antietam

By the time of the Civil War, photography had so advanced that photographers could follow armies, take pictures, and develop them in field darkrooms. They could not, however, photograph moving subjects because of the long exposure times—5 to 15 seconds—needed to capture a scene on glass plates.

Alexander Gardner began photographing the aftermath of the Battle of Antietam on September 18, 1862, the day following. He took the world's first photographs of war dead, which shocked the public when displayed in Mathew Brady's New York gallery, since most civilians thought combat was like the romantic, bloodless images depicted in contemporary patriotic art. A reviewer wrote, "Mr. Brady has brought home the terrible earnestness of war. If he has not brought bodies and laid them in our dooryards ... he has done something very like it."

When President Abraham Lincoln visited the Union army early in October, Gardner also made the first candid outdoor photographs of a serving president.