The Landings near Antietam were made on September 3, 1862, and the landings became the site of future Antietam Station.

John Brown in the summer of 1859, he laid his plans, gathered his men, and decided to invade the North. The battle of Antietam was fought on September 17, 1862, with 120,000 casualties. Antietam Station became a hospital center.

Shenandoah Valley, the “ strategical neck of the Union’s lines of communication and supply depot at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers.

Headquarters here during the Battle of South Mountain.

The German Reformed Church served as a signal station during the Antietam Campaign.

The church steeple was found, containing the remains of President Abraham Lincoln's staff officer.

Following the Battle of South Mountain on September 14, 1862, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee had his headquarters here during the Battle of South Mountain.

The site of a ball held by Gen. Thomas J. Jackson at the Black Horse Inn.

Stonewall Jackson's headquarters was in a house near here.

Important Martinsburg—Site of cavalry skirmishes on September 5–6, 1862. One of Lee's greatest victories (Aug. 29–30, 1862), after which he decided to invade the North.

Confederate troops marching under arms was taken near here on September 10–11, 1862.

Although a Union division forced its way through on September 10–11, 1862.

B & O Railroad Station in Sharpsburg was used as a hospital after the battle.

From the Maryland shore of the Potomac River, a Federal soldier views the Antietam Bridge as he wades across the river from Virginia.
T

le 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 moved 50,000 men across Maryland, other Confederate forces moved into Northern Mississippi, the Tennessee Valley of western Virginia. Again seeing the war up-close and personal, Lee authorized the armies in interior Maryland to operate on their own.

At Sharpsburg, on the banks of the Potomac River, Lee encountered a much larger Union force, General George B. McClellan’s Army of the Potomac. The battle that followed was the bloodiest of the war—23,092 American soldiers killed, wounded, or missing. The Union’s decision to not pursue Lee, however, effectively ended Lee’s invasion of the North.

The next day, September 18, Lee ordered his men to cross the Potomac and into Maryland, where he hoped to lure McClellan into a trap. This failed, and the following day, September 19, Lee withdrew his army to Virginia. McClellan had the chance to deal Lee a decisive blow, but he failed to do so.

The Battle of Antietam was a turning point in the Civil War. It marked the end of Lee’s first invasion of the North, and it convinced the Union that they must invade the Confederacy if they were to win the war.

The Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, declared that all slaves in the rebellious states were to be free. This was a significant victory for the Union, as it helped to boost moral and recruitment efforts.

The war continued, however, and it was not until the spring of 1865 that Lee surrendered his army to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House. The Civil War had ended, but the impact of the war on America would be felt for generations to come.