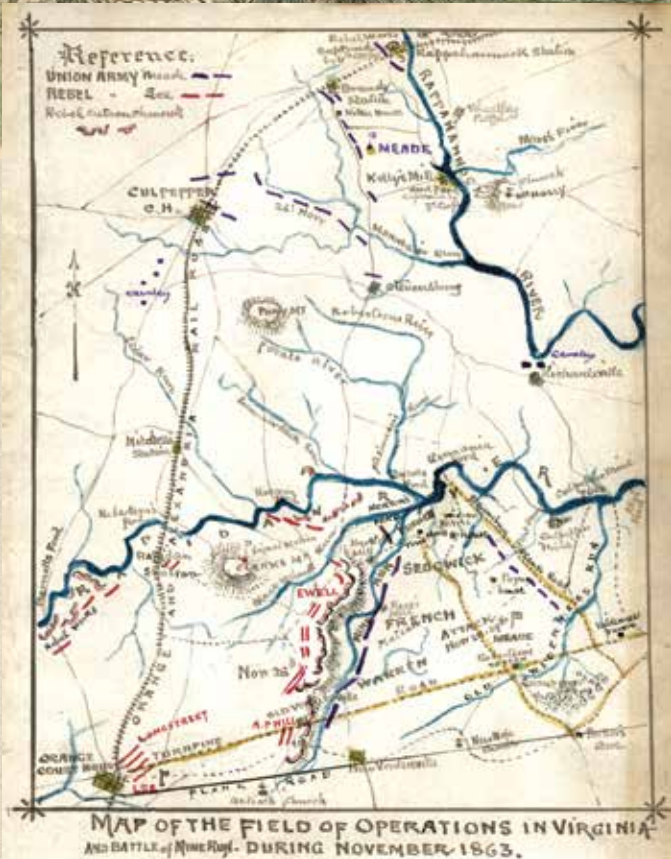


A DRIVING TOUR OF

Civil War Culpeper



"Culpeper, I think has been more savagely ravaged by the Yankees than any county I have seen. For miles and miles, the country is depopulated, fine mansions are standing untenanted and the fencing of the plantations are all destroyed. Yet in its desolation it is beautiful. It smiles even in its tears. The number of fields everywhere, though unfenced, are covered over with the finest clover and timothy."

—Captain Leonard Williams, 2nd South Carolina Cavalry, to his brother Henry, May 16, 1863. (*A Boot Full of Memories*)

Over 160 battles were fought in Culpeper County during the Civil War. Throughout continual occupation by one side or the other, trees were felled and used for shelter and firewood, food stores and housing were commandeered by whichever side was in charge at the time. The community suffered devastating consequences. This Guide to Civil War Culpeper highlights four major battles—Culpeper Court House, Brandy Station, Cedar Mountain, and Kelly’s Ford.



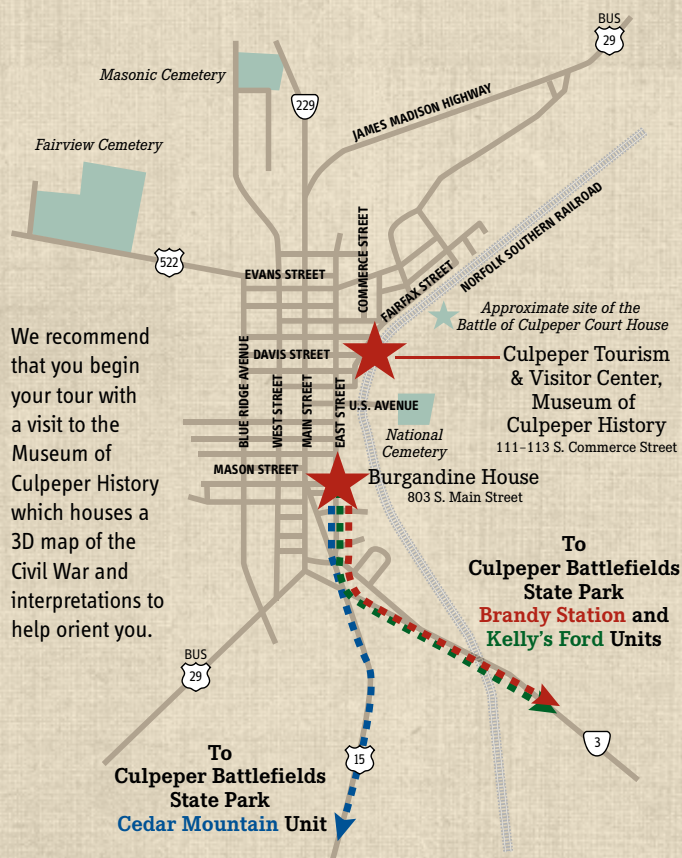
Overview of the Battle of Culpeper Court House

September 13, 1863

Following the Gettysburg Campaign, the unsuccessful Confederates retreated through Culpeper County, leaving behind only the Southern cavalrymen to patrol. When Federal officials gained evidence that a significant portion of the Confederate army was detached and sent to Georgia, Federal cavalry was assigned to push through the Confederate cavalry screen and verify the accuracy of the information themselves.

On September 13, 1863, under the command of flashy General George Armstrong Custer, a portion of the Federal cavalry rode into the town of Culpeper Court House, fighting with Southern horsemen and chasing a train loaded with supplies as it backed out of town. As the fighting progressed south of town, Custer was wounded when his horse was shot out from under him at the current intersection of Commerce and Davis Streets near the depot. Captured Confederate prisoners confirmed that Federal intelligence was correct.

DOWNTOWN CULPEPER



We recommend that you begin your tour with a visit to the Museum of Culpeper History which houses a 3D map of the Civil War and interpretations to help orient you.

Famous Faces

In September 1863, during the Battle of Culpeper Court House, the colorful Brigadier General George Armstrong Custer was wounded while battling Stuart’s cavalry at Greenwood Hill. In the months that followed, Custer’s brigade screened the upper fords on the Rapidan River, Raccoon Ford, Jacob’s Ford, and Germanna Ford before going to winter camp along the south side of Germanna Road, east of Culpeper and beyond Mount Pony. He set up headquarters in a farmhouse at Stevensburg that exists to this day known as the “Barbour House” or “Clover Hill.” Custer named his encampment “Camp Libbie” in honor of his new bride Elizabeth Bacon. Their time in Stevensburg served as a honeymoon for the couple.



Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer of 2nd Regular Army Cavalry Regiment and 5th Regular Army Cavalry Regiment in uniform with wife, Elizabeth (Libbie).

Although women in an army camp were rare at the time, she followed her husband to Stevensburg anyway. Other officers’ wives decided to follow her example, and also started taking their place next to their husbands. During their 12-year marriage she traveled the country, lived out of tents, and socialized with important generals, senators, and congressmen.

Famous Faces

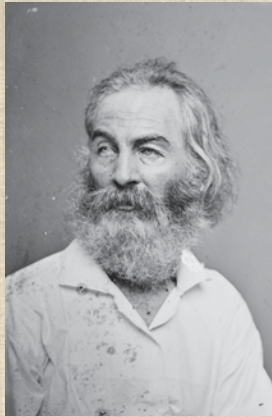
While visiting war-stricken Culpeper in 1864 as a nurse, Walt Whitman wrote the following passage which vividly evokes what life was like in the county during the Civil War.

Culpeper, where I am stopping, looks like a place of two or three thousand inhabitants. Must be one of the pleasantest towns in Virginia. Even now, dilapidated fences, all broken down, windows out, it has the remains of much beauty.

I am standing on an eminence overlooking the town, though within its limits. To the west the long Blue Mountain range is very plain, looks quite near, though from 30 to 50 miles distant, with some gray splashes of snow yet visible. The show is varied and fascinating. I see a great eagle up there in the air sailing with pois'd wings, quite low. Squads of red-legged soldiers are drilling; I suppose some of the new men of the Brooklyn 14th; they march off presently with muskets on their shoulders.

In another place, just below me, are some soldiers squaring off logs to build a shanty—chopping away, and the noise of the axes sounding sharp. I hear the bellowing, unmusical screech of the mule. I mark the thin blue smoke rising from camp fires. Just below me is a collection of hospital tents, with a yellow flag elevated on a stick, and moving languidly in the breeze. Two discharged men (I know them both) are just leaving. One is so weak he can hardly walk; the other is stronger, and carries his comrade's musket. They move slowly along the muddy road toward the depot. The scenery is full of breadth, and spread on the most generous scale (everywhere in Virginia this thought fill'd me). The sights, the scenes, the groups, have been varied and picturesque here beyond description, and remain so.

I heard the men return in force the other night—heard the shouting, and got up and went out to hear what was the matter. That night scene of so many hundred tramping steadily by, through the mud (some big flaring torches of pine knots). I shall never forget. I like to go to the paymaster's tent, and watch the men getting paid off. Some have furloughs, and start at once for home, sometimes amid great chaffing and blarneying. There is every day the sound of the wood-chopping axe, and the plentiful sight of negroes, crows, and mud. I note large droves and pens of cattle. The teamsters have camps of their own, and I go often among them. The officers occasionally invite me to dinner or supper at headquarters. The fare is plain, but you get something good to drink, and plenty of it. Gen. Meade is absent; Sedgwick is in command.



Red Trail (see map on page 4)

The Battle of Brandy Station



The fighting at Fleetwood Hill involved charge and counter-charge with fierce hand-to-hand combat. During the battle, **Maj. Gen. David McMurtrie Gregg's** Division suffered 376 casualties.

Major General James Ewell Brown "J.E.B." Stuart was chagrined after Brandy Station. He was taken by surprise and was severely criticized for his handling of the battle.



Green Trail (see map on page 4)

The Battle of Kelly's Ford



Confederate cavalry leader Fitzhugh Lee launched an embarrassing raid on a portion of the Federal cavalry under his good friend and former West Point classmate William Averell. Lee could not resist leaving Averell a taunting note: "If you won't go home, return my visit, and bring me a sack of coffee."

The Federal commander **Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker** ("Fighting Joe") was incensed and directed Averell to meet the challenge. The result was the March 17, 1863 Battle of Kelly's Ford.



Blue Trail (see map on page 5)

The Battle of Cedar Mountain

Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's success was made possible by a lack of cooperation between three Federal forces which together would have outnumbered Jackson, but instead provided an opportunity to defeat each separately. President Lincoln decided to rectify the situation by combining the commands into a new army under General John Pope. In the summer of 1862, the forces were to combine at Culpeper.





Red Trail

Culpeper from the northwest. Drawing by Alfred R. Waud, 1863

Overview of the Battle of Brandy Station

The Beginning of the Gettysburg Campaign

June 9, 1863

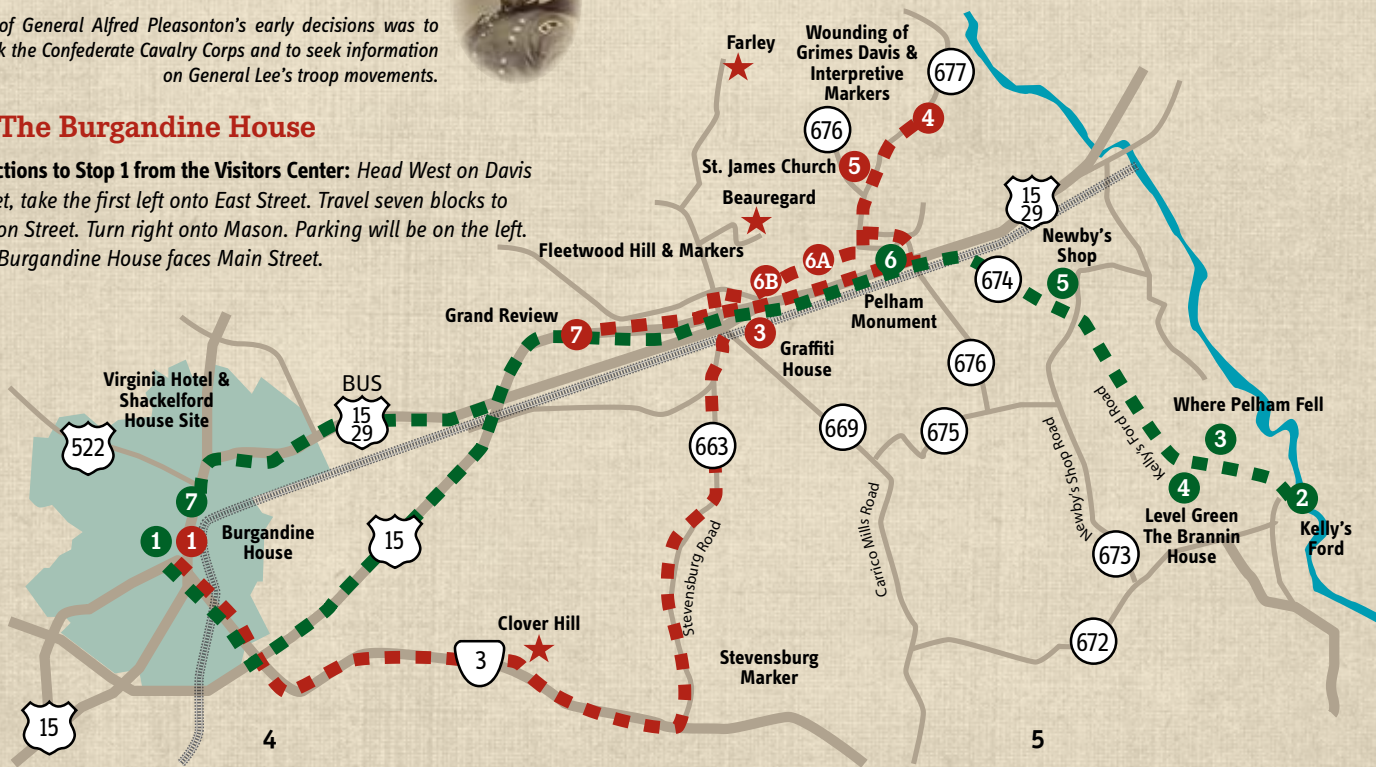
Federal forces in Fredericksburg, 35 miles to the east, were aware that some 10,000 Confederate cavalymen under Gen. J.E.B. Stuart had assembled in Culpeper. Sensing the southern horsemen were about to launch a raid on their supply lines, a Federal force of 8,000 cavalry under **Gen. Alfred Pleasonton** and 3,000 infantry sought to strike the Confederates first. On June 9, 1863, three different columns of blueclad horsemen converged on Brandy Station for what would be the largest cavalry battle of the war, and the opening engagement of the Gettysburg Campaign.

One of General Alfred Pleasonton's early decisions was to attack the Confederate Cavalry Corps and to seek information on General Lee's troop movements.



1 The Burgandine House

Directions to Stop 1 from the Visitors Center: Head West on Davis Street, take the first left onto East Street. Travel seven blocks to Mason Street. Turn right onto Mason. Parking will be on the left. The Burgandine House faces Main Street.



2 Stevensburg Marker

Directions to Stop 2 from the Burgandine House: Turn right out of the parking lot, then turn right on East Street. Turn left at the intersection of East & Orange Road (Route 15). Turn left on Germanna Highway (Route 3). Go 6.1 miles to a left on Stevensburg Road. Go .9 miles to the marker on the right.

Federal troops in a column under Col. Alfred Duffie rode from Kelly's Ford to Stevensburg to sweep the area of Confederates. Federal cannon posted on a hill in Stevensburg fired at Confederate resistance posted here in the valley of Mountain Run. A trusted scout, Will Farley, was killed and South Carolina Col. MC. Butler was wounded at this location by the same cannon ball. Duffie did not make it to Brandy Station until the battle was over.

3 Graffiti House

Directions to Stop 3: Take a right out of the marker parking lot and travel on Stevensburg Road for 3.4 miles to where it intersects with Carrico Mills Road. Take a left and go over the railroad tracks, taking the first right where the road curves left. The Graffiti House parking lot and Brandy Station Battlefield markers are .1 mile on the right.

Named for the numerous signatures, drawings, and messages scrawled on the walls of the upstairs portion of the house, The Graffiti House also served as a hospital during the Civil War. It is one of the few structures in the town of Brandy Station still standing from the war. See page 19 for more details.

Famous Faces



One of the Confederacy's most famous scouts, **Frank Stringfellow**, was born in Culpeper County. Serving in the same command were other notable scouts—Redmond Burke, Will Farley, and John S. Mosby.

Stringfellow's remarkable career included Dranesville, Seven Pines, Cold Harbor and other major battles. He was well known to Federal troops and their pursuit of him led to many spectacular escapes. In late 1863 there was fighting around Stringfellow's home in Culpeper County, The Retreat. His mother was wounded and taken by Federals in order to treat her injury. He sneaked into Federal camp wearing a woman's dress and bonnet. In 1864 cross-dressing once again gave the small-framed Stringfellow an advantage in espionage. He attended a dance dressed as a woman and there gained much information on Northern troop movements.

Legend has it that another scout, **Captain William Downs Farley**, was given a new overcoat before the grand review of the troops by Gen. Robert E. Lee. He gave the coat to a Culpeper woman to hold for him before the battle, since he did not need it in the June weather, and said, "If anything befalls me, wrap me in this and send me to my mother." On June 9, 1863, Farley, a scout for Gen. J.E.B. Stuart, was conferring with Col. Butler when a cannonball fired by Union troops from a mile away struck both men. Butler's foot was shot off, while Farley lost his right leg at the knee. He asked another soldier standing nearby, Lt. John T. Rhett, to bring him his severed leg. "He took it," Rhett would later write, "and pressed it to his bosom as one would a child and said, 'It is an old friend, gentlemen, and I do not wish to part from it.'" He was buried in Culpeper, but without the overcoat. In 2002, his remains were moved to his family plot in Laurens, South Carolina, to honor his last wishes.



Scouts and guides of the Army of the Potomac, Brandy Station, 1864.



4 Wounding of Grimes Davis Site & Interpretive Markers

Directions to Stop 4: Turn left from the Graffiti House. Go .1 mile and turn right onto Rout 663. Go .1 mile and turn right onto Route 29 North. Go 2.1 miles then take a left onto Route 676, following signs for the airport and Civil War Trails. Route 676 turns into Beverly's Ford Road. Stay on that road for 1.8 miles, passing the set of markers at St. James Church Road on the left and the Culpeper Airport on the right. Markers will be on the left.

Of the Federal cavalry columns trying to unite at Brandy Station, the largest wing—some 5,500 strong under Gen. John Buford—crossed the Rappahannock River at Beverly's Ford at 4:30 a.m. and galloped down the road you just traveled. Confederate soldiers camping between here and the town of Brandy Station awoke to the warning that the Yankees were attacking. Riding toward this area in various forms of dress, and many riding horses bareback, Rebel horsemen tried to slow down the Federal advance. At a bend in the road near this location, Federal Col. B.F. "Grimes" Davis was shot out of his saddle and killed by a pistol shot from Confederate Lt. R.O. Allen.

5 St. James Church

Directions to Stop 5: From the parking lot, turn right onto Beverly's Ford Road and travel .7 mile. Turn right onto Saint James Church Road. The entrance to the marker parking lot is on your left.

Confederate delaying tactics performed near the last stop bought time for the Confederates to assemble a row of cannon firing back across the field from this knoll and another in front of the St. James Church. Then several hundred horsemen from the 6th Pennsylvania cavalry drew sabers, charged toward the cannon, and slashed at the gunners. Suffering high casualties, some of the men from the keystone state rode through the guns, regrouped, and rode back

through the cannon as they retreated back across the field. By mid-morning Confederates learned of yet another surprise—the arrival of troops in the town of Brandy Station, behind this St. James Church line. Soon most of the Confederate troops that had been posted here were riding off to deal with the new threat.

Fleetwood Hill Markers

6A **Directions to Stop 6A at Fleetwood Hill:** *From St. James Church Road, take a right onto Beverly's Ford Road. Take Cobb's Legion Road .3 mile down the road. Take another right .2 mile onto Fleetwood Heights Road/Rt. 685. There is a commemorative marker at the top of the hill .7 mile from turn. You may pull into the drive just before the marker in order to read it. Do not park on the road as it is hazardous to traffic.*

Approaching the ridge known as Fleetwood Hill from the same general direction that you are driving, Confederate horsemen from St. James Church confronted the third column of Federal horsemen under Gen. David McMurtree Gregg on the slopes of this hill. Charges and counter-charges in classic cavalry style with mounted men thrusting sabers and firing pistols surged back and forth across these fields.

6B **Directions to markers at the bottom of Fleetwood Hill:** *Continue past the marker for .5 mile. Pull off into the parking area on the left to read the markers. The home across the field is Beauregard. It is a private home and is not open to tours. Please respect the owners' privacy and do not enter the property.*

As Federal horsemen emerged from the town of Brandy Station, a lone Confederate cannon in a small grove of trees fired slowly at

Culpeper Courthouse as it appeared in 1863. The men on the balcony were prisoners taken during the Battle of Kelly's Ford. The courthouse later burned and was rebuilt on the corner of Davis and West Streets.



A group of officers with gun at artillery headquarters in Culpeper, 1863.

them. Fearing more guns might be concealed in the woods, Federals brought up their own artillery before sending the horsemen charging up the hill. The Federal delay was critical—Confederate horsemen from St. James Church reached the crest first. Though the Northern cavalry fought better than it ever had before, the Confederates held the ground and the Federal cavalry retreated. On the following day, nearby Confederate infantry began the march that would lead them to Gettysburg.

7 Grand Review Site

Directions to Stop 7: *Take a left out of the parking area to the end of the road. Take a left toward Route 29 and then a right onto 29 South toward Culpeper. Location between 1 and 1.5 miles down 29 South is the "Grand Review" area where thousands of mounted cavalry assembled. The review was observed by General Robert E. Lee.*

Three grand Confederate cavalry reviews were held in this vicinity in the spring of 1863, including one on the day before the Battle of Brandy Station. Since the Confederates were aware that they would be launching a campaign into Pennsylvania and enemy territory, the review were evidently designed to raise the morale of the troopers before embarking upon an arduous campaign. However J.E.B. Stuart was criticized by some who contend that Stuart's attention to reviews, music and dancing resulted in the surprise attack at Brandy Station. The Grand Review site was chosen because its owner, John M. Botts, was said to be a Unionist. It was observed by some that if the Confederates were going to trample down the fields of a local farmer, they might as well do so on the fields of a Union sympathizer.



Green Trail

Kelly's Ford Mill painting by Private Robert Sneden. Courtesy Virginia Historical Society

The Battle of Kelly's Ford

March 17, 1863

During the first two years of the Civil War, the Confederate cavalry proved to be superior to the Federal horsemen both in skill and in the way the army commanders used their mounted branch. New Federal commander Joseph Hooker wanted to change that. After reorganizing his cavalry in February of 1863, Confederate cavalry leader Fitzhugh Lee launched an embarrassing raid on a portion of the Federal cavalry under Lee's good friend and former West Point classmate William Averell. Lee could not resist leaving Averell a taunting note: "If you won't go home, return my visit, and bring me a sack of coffee." Hooker was incensed and directed Averell to meet the challenge. The result was the March 17, 1863 Battle of Kelly's Ford.

1 The Burgandine House

Directions to Stop 1 from the Visitors Center: Head West on Davis Street, take the first left onto East Street. Travel seven blocks to Mason Street. Turn right onto Mason. Parking will be on the left. The Burgandine House faces Main Street. See page 19 for more details about the Burgandine House.

2 Kelly's Ford

Directions to Stop 2: Take a right out of the parking lot and a right onto East Street to the point where Route 15 Orange Road intersects with East Street. Bear left, then take a left at the stoplight onto Route 3 Germanna Highway. Go about 1.2 miles to a left onto Route 29 North. Travel 8.8 miles and turn right onto Route 674 Kelly's Ford Road, which bears left after the railroad tracks. Proceed 5 miles and turn left onto Route 620 Edward's Shop Road. Take a right into the parking lot. There are markers near the river.

The battle began with 2,100 Federal horsemen on the opposite bank of the Rappahannock River attempting to cross the chilling waters at Kelly's Ford, about 300 yards downstream. About 85 Confederates fought dismounted on this side of the stream, some sheltered in a dry mill race (a part of which is still visible just upstream), and also felled trees to obstruct the ford. Their actions were all meant to buy time for Fitzhugh Lee, back in Culpeper with about 800 men, to react. Federal horsemen, some wielding axes to clear the trees, others armed with

guns, established a foothold on this bank as Confederates retired toward the main body of troops who were simultaneously heading to their support.

"Kelly's Ford takes its name from a Mr. Kelly who owns or rather owned all the land in the neighborhood on each side of the river. Just by the Ford is a large brick mill, a store, a blacksmith's shop and various other buildings. This Kelly is an errant rebel, his son is now in confinement by Federal Authorities. The old man must be reaping the full benefits of his folly, his lands are occupied by both the Union and Rebel armies, everything about him is nearly desolated, his outbuildings are fast falling into decay, indeed the ruins of buildings are now found on all sides, fences have almost entirely disappeared."

—1st Lieut. Edgar P. Welling



Kelly's Ford Mill painting by Private Robert Sneden. Courtesy Virginia Historical Society

3 Where Pelham Fell

Directions to Stop 3: Take a left out of the parking lot and right back onto Route 674 Kelly's Ford Road. Travel .8 of a mile to a parking lot on the right. The trail continues past the marker to the scenic view of the Rappahannock River near Wheatley's Ford.

Positive that his old classmate would react aggressively, Averell decided to rest his horses and await Lee. Averell slowly moved into position behind a stone wall—the remnants of which can be seen to the right of the trail—with their backs toward the ford. Lee indeed attacked, charging in classic cavalry style across vast open fields that would have been in front of the stone wall. About 300 yards down the trail is a monument near where Confederate Major John Pelham was mortally wounded. It stands near a gap in the wall exploited by one of the Confederate charges. Pelham participated in the charge until a shell knocked him from his horse and a sliver of metal pierced the back of his skull. Moments later, the Federals launched a counterattack and the fighting moved further away from the ford.



4 Level Green—The Brannin House

Directions to Stop 4: Take a right out of the parking lot and travel for .5 mile. The Brannin House is on the left. It is in the tour as a point of interest, but is not open to the public. Please respect the owner's privacy. **This private home is not open to the public.**

The original portion of the English-style farmhouse was built ca. 1780 and is called "Level Green." Owned by Fielding Brannin during the war, it was used as a hospital. A wounded soldier supposedly left a bloody footprint stain on every other step of a stairway. The Confederate charges against the stone wall originated from the field to your right.

5 Newby's Shop

Directions to Stop 5: Continue from *The Brannin House* for 1.7 miles to the intersection of *Kelly's Ford* and *Newby's Shop Road*.

During the Civil War, Newby's blacksmith's shop stood to the right of this intersection. Confederate forces falling back from their failed attacks on the stone wall formed along this ridge in front of the shop. As the Federals approached, the Southern horsemen again charged, this time over the ground behind you. Federal horsemen repulsed the attack, and counter-charged with their pursuit halting here—on the former Confederate position. Under the mistaken belief that Southern reinforcements had arrived, Averell felt that he was outnumbered and withdrew. Before doing so, he felt the need to reply to Lee's earlier taunt. Averell left a sack of coffee with a note, "Dear Fitz, Here's your coffee. Here's your visit. How do you like it?"

6 Pelham Monument

Directions to Stop 6: Continue on *Route 674 Kelly's Ford Road* from *Newby's Shop Road* for 1.6 miles to where it intersects with *Elkwood Crossing*. Bear left onto *Elkwood Crossing* before crossing the railroad tracks. Travel .2 mile on *Elkwood Crossing* and turn right onto *Berry Hill Road*. Bear left onto 29 and immediately pull into the pull-off where the monument is located.

This monument honoring Major John Pelham was erected in 1926. The obelisk sits on a stone that is believed to have been brought from the field where the wounded Pelham was taken from his horse and placed in the ambulance for the trip back to Culpeper where he died. While it cannot be definitively proven, local lore suggests that the stone once laid on the place where it was believed Pelham was shot. Pelham was one of 146 Confederate casualties. Federals counted 85 men killed, wounded, or missing. Though the Confederates suffered greater losses, they were able to declare the battles a victory because they retained possession of the field.

7 Virginia Hotel & Shackelford House Site

Directions to Stop 7: Travel on *Route 29 South* toward *Culpeper*, taking the first *Culpeper* exit *Route 15/29 Business*. After 3 miles, *Route 15/29 Business* bears left and turns into *Main Street*. Travel .3 mile and take a left onto *East Spencer Street*. Park in the lot. There is a marker next to the lot on *Main Street* adjacent to where the *Shackelford House* stood and across from the *Virginia Hotel*. You can still see the double porches of the hotel which have since been incorporated.

On the field of battle, John Pelham had attracted the attention of army commander Robert E. Lee, who referred to him as the "gallant Pelham." The handsome 24-year-old bachelor also attracted the attention of young ladies like Bessie Shackelford, whose home site here is marked with a plaque. On the evening before the battle, Pelham visited Miss Shackelford, attended a party in Col. Welby Carter's room in the *Virginia Hotel* (the building still stands across the street), and the next morning gaily rode toward *Kelly's Ford* as word

of an imminent battle reached the town. That night, his motionless body was returned to the *Shackelford* house where he soon died.

Major John Pelham & Bessie Shackelford

Local lore states that Major John Pelham was infatuated with Elizabeth "Bessie" Shackelford, one of his host's three unmarried daughters. After sustaining mortal wounds at *Kelly's Ford*, he was taken to the *Shackelford* home in *Culpeper* where he died.

Still in his early 20s, he resigned from *West Point* in 1861 to join the South. During his short career, he managed to capture the admiration of General Lee. Prior to *Kelly's Ford*, Meade's advance in *Fredericksburg* had been stalled by brilliant handling of just two artillery pieces in the hands of Pelham. Lee was impressed. "It is glorious to see such courage in one so young!" he exclaimed.

Pelham fought in 60 battles and never lost a gun.

Major General Marsena Rudolph Patrick seated in center with hat on his knee with his staff in uniforms and swords, on the steps of the former home of Rev. Cumberland George, in Culpeper, VA.





Blue Trail

The battle of Cedar Mountain (Slaughters Mountain), drawn by Edwin Forbes

The Battle of Cedar Mountain

August 9, 1862

Confederate General Thomas J. Jackson earned the sobriquet “Stonewall” in the summer of 1861 and furthered his reputation by demonstrating great strategic skill during the spring of 1862. Jackson’s success in the spring was made possible by the lack of cooperation among three federal forces which together would have badly outnumbered Jackson, but instead gave an opportunity to defeat each separately. U.S. President Abraham Lincoln decided to rectify the problem by forging each of those commands into a new army under General John Pope. In the summer of 1862, the three forces combined here at Culpeper. Jackson sought to attack General Nathaniel Banks’ troops—the first of the commands to arrive—before the other two could provide support. They clashed south of town on August 9, under the brow of Cedar Mountain.

1 The Burgandine House

Directions to Stop 1 from the Visitors Center: Head West on Davis Street, take the first left onto East Street. Travel seven blocks to Mason Street. Turn right onto Mason. Parking will be on the left. The Burgandine House faces Main Street. See page 19 for more details about the Burgandine House.

2 Markers at Cedar Mountain & Interpretive Trail

Directions to Stop 2: Take a right back onto East Street after leaving the parking lot. Take a left where East intersects with Route 15/Orange Road and go straight through the light on Route 15 for 5.8 miles. Take a right onto Route 657 General Winder Road. Markers and interpretive trail are .1 mile.

Jackson with 22,000 men formed a line of battle here. The sweltering heat likely reached 100 degrees. Before the Confederates were ready to attack the 12,000 Federal forces behind them, Bank decided to strike first. As Confederate troops prepared to attack, their awkward line was not a good defensive position and it crumbled. Jackson rallied his men near here. He is said to have drawn his sword for the only time in the war here at Cedar Mountain. Jackson’s inspiration

and the timely arrival of reinforcements saved the day for the Confederates. A trail with interpretive markers takes you over the area with the most significant fighting.

3 Cedar Mountain Drive

Directions to Stop 3: Go back to Route 15 and take a left. Travel .8 mile to Route 649 Cedar Mountain Drive and take a right. Cedar Mountain is on the right.

The initial Federal line was along this road, including a row of cannon that initiated the battle with an artillery duel of nearly two hours in duration prior to the Federal infantry attack. During the cannonade, Confederate General Charles Winder was killed near the last tour stop.

4 Augur’s Attack

Directions to Stop 4: This stretch of Cedar Mountain Drive takes you through much of the battlefield described here.

Federal General Christopher Augur was severely wounded in an attack through a tall cornfield between this area and the Confederate line. Confederates complained that the corn concealed the Federal attackers until they had nearly reached the Southerner’s position. Federals grumbled that they were disoriented in the field and that troops in the rear echelons mistakenly fired into the rear of their own troops further ahead. Confederate cannon on the shelf of Cedar Mountain (the vista at your right) also raked the Federal line.





Gen. Webb's headquarters, Culpeper, Va. December, 1863

5 All Saint's Church

Directions to Stop 5: From the turn-off of Rt. 15 on Cedar Mountain Drive, the church stands on the right 1.8 miles.

The cornfield described in the last stop was part of the Crittenden farm. Their son, Charles T. Crittenden, served as an officer under Jackson and literally fought to defend his home. Crittenden reached the rank of major, was wounded twice during the war and is buried in the cemetery behind the church. Another area native, A.P. Hill, whose boyhood home still stands in the town of Culpeper, commanded nearly half of Jackson's forces, and launched the counterattack that turned the tide.

6 Cedar Run Church

Directions to Stop 6: From All Saint's Church, turn left out of the parking lot and travel 1.6 miles to Rt. 692 Old Orange Road. Take a right onto Old Orange Road. Cedar Run Church is .4 mile on the left. Continue straight until you reach Rt. 15. A right will take you to Culpeper, a left to Orange.

The Cedar Run Church stands on the same site as the structure which stood during the war. Confederate counterattacks advanced to 1/3 mile past the church before encountering Federal reinforcements in the twilight. Dominant Federal artillery brought an end to both the Confederate pursuit and the battle.

Though Jackson was successful, he withdrew after learning that he was badly outnumbered. However, the battle seemed to stun Pope, who soon retreated to Manassas where the Confederates would once more win a victory on the ground where "Stonewall" won his *nom de guerre*.

Famous Faces

Clara Barton, Angel of the Battlefield

Clara Barton's volunteer duties brought her to Culpeper County during one of the ugliest battles of the war—Cedar Mountain. The compassionate nurse cared for wounded soldiers; she brought water to the suffering men, assisted grateful surgeons, prepared food for troops in a local farmhouse, and cradled them in her arms as they lay dying.

Throughout the war she lobbied for medicine and supplies for the troops, and she herself survived a case of typhoid fever. Barton eventually founded the American Red Cross and persuaded the government to recognize the organization to provide aid for natural disasters.

"In my feeble estimation, General McClellan, with all his laurels, sinks into insignificance beside the true heroine of the age, the angel of the battlefield."

—Dr. James Dunn, surgeon at Antietam



"What could I do but go with them, or work for them and my country? The patriot blood of my father was warm in my veins."

Military Leaders

Many of the Civil War's most famous military leaders were familiar faces in Culpeper during the war. General A.P. Hill not only fought here, but also spent his childhood here. Robert E. Lee was an honored dinner guest as was the dashing young Major John Pelham who lost his life at Kelly's Ford. Confederate States of America (CSA) President Jefferson Davis also passed through Culpeper, making a whistle stop speech from a train at the depot.



Confederate President Jefferson Davis



Ulysses S. Grant



Robert E. Lee



Ambrose Powell Hill



George A. Custer



John Buford



George Meade



Confederate General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson



Union General John Pope

Places of Interest



Culpeper National Cemetery

Listed on the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.

The Culpeper National Cemetery was established on April 13, 1867, at 305 U.S. Avenue. The original cemetery consisted of six acres and was used as a final resting place for the heroes of the United States who fell in battle or died of disease during the Civil War in the Culpeper area.

The flagpole at the high point of the cemetery marks the location from which the Confederates fired upon the Union soldiers at the depot during the Battle of Culpeper Court House. There are many Civil War soldiers buried in the cemetery. The Monument to the Unknown Soldier and several granite monuments commemorate soldiers from several states, 17 interments in the Officers Circle around the flagpole, and one Confederate soldier.

Fairview Cemetery

Listed on the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.

Stroll through Fairview Cemetery and you will see headstones bearing the names of many of Virginia's most prestigious 18th century families. Established in 1855, Fairview's landscape design, grave markers, and plat enclosure are typical of late 19th and early 20th century cemeteries.



The Confederate Monument was unveiled on July 22, 1881, after years of fundraising. It rests atop a mound containing the remains of as many as 567 soldiers, mostly Confederate, whose remains were moved to what was then known as Citizens Cemetery from the Old Confederate Cemetery on the Jameson Estate near the present day Culpeper United Methodist Church. Will Farley, scout for J.E.B. Stuart, was buried in the Ashby family plot and was reburied in South Carolina in 2002 in the Farley family plot per his request. Entry at the fourth gate gives easy access to the Ashby family plot where Farley's gravestone still remains. The Confederate Monument is most easily accessed and visible from Gate 4 as well. The cemetery contains many of the Civil War's fallen.



Burgandine House

The Burgandine House, located at 803 S. Main Street in Culpeper, is one of the oldest remaining structures in the town of Culpeper, and is also open to visitors. The Burgandine House is a Main Street landmark and a very rare example of a working-class home. The lot on which it stands was part of the Spotswood tract which sold in 1754 to Robert Coleman, then to General Edward Stevens. Of log construction, many of the house's original features have been maintained. Although it was long believed to be the oldest house in the Town of Culpeper (circa 1749), more recent research indicates that it was probably constructed circa 1800. The building is well-preserved and was restored by the Town of Culpeper.

Note: Directions for all tours in this brochure begin at the Burgandine House. (540) 729-5218

The Graffiti House

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places

Owned and operated by the Brandy Station Foundation, the Graffiti House was one of the Civil War's many makeshift hospitals. It is a fascinating place to visit.



The dwelling contains a written record of 1862 through 1864 in the words of the soldiers who recuperated there. Troops from both armies scrawled graffiti, their names, regimental information and drawings. Much of the graffiti has survived and can be viewed by visitors. The house also has a gift shop that is staffed by volunteers well-versed in local history. (540) 317-5581 www.brandystationfoundation.com

Directions to Culpeper



Museum of Culpeper History

Relocated to the historic Culpeper Train Depot in 2014, the Museum of Culpeper History offers visitors an amazing glimpse into the history of Culpeper, Virginia and the Piedmont region. In the 19th century and American Civil War galleries, history unfolds through a large topographical map of Civil War era Culpeper. Explore this exceptional facility with remarkable galleries, exhibits, and artifacts that bring history to life and celebrate the people, places, and events that shaped the destiny of the region.

The Museum covers much more than the Civil War, however. Visitors will learn about the bright lights, baseball greats, and the world's longest supper table in the 20th century gallery. Return to the days of dinosaurs in the Triassic gallery where you'll discover dinosaur tracks excavated locally in Culpeper. Journey through the past into the daily lives of indigenous Manahoac Indians in the First People gallery. Meet the famous Culpeper Minute Men and explore Culpeper's connection with American heroes such as young George Washington and Daniel Boone in the 18th century gallery. And don't forget to take home your own piece of history with a visit to the Museum Gift Shop, where you'll find unique souvenirs, gifts, and keepsakes for explorers of all ages.

Museum of Culpeper History
113 S. Commerce Street • Culpeper, VA 22701
(540) 829-1749 • Office (540) 829-6434
www.culpepermuseum.com

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|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
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| | Town of Culpeper |

From Washington, DC/I-66: Take I-66 West to Exit 43A (Rt. 29 South) for about 40 miles to the first Culpeper exit – Bus 29. Go 3 miles into the Town of Culpeper, Main Street. At the 3rd light, turn left on Davis Street. Go to the end and turn right to the Train Depot/Visitors Center.

From Charlottesville/Route 29: Take 29 North for about 45 miles to Culpeper. Take the second exit at Culpeper – Business 29. At the fifth light turn right onto Davis Street. Follow Davis Street to the end and turn right to the Train Depot/Visitors Center.

From Richmond/I-95: Take I-95 North for about 60 miles to Fredericksburg Exit 130 – Culpeper/Rt. 3 West. Stay on Rt. 3 West for 35 miles. At the second traffic light, turn right onto Davis Street. Follow Davis Street to the end and turn right to the Train Depot/Visitors Center.

From Harrisburg/I-81: Take I-81 to I-66 East. Continue on I-66 to Exit 6 at Front Royal – Rt. 522 South. Follow Rt. 522 South for about 45 miles to Culpeper. In Culpeper, make a right turn at the traffic light intersection of Rt. 522 and Main Street. Turn left onto Davis Street at the next light. Follow to the end and turn right to the Train Depot/Visitors Center.

Suggested Reading

This Driving tour is intended to give a brief overview of battles fought in Culpeper County, highlighting some interesting facts and folklore. Many entertaining and informative books are available in our local library, or for sale at the Museum of Culpeper History.

Daniel E. Sutherland, *Seasons of War, The Ordeal of a Confederate Community 1861-1865*

Virginia Beard Morton, *Marching Through Culpeper, A Novel of Culpeper, Virginia*

William C. Davis, Bell L. Wiley, National Historical Society, *Civil War Album Complete Photographic History of the Civil War*

Eugene M. Scheel, *Culpeper: A Virginia County's History Through 1920*

Geraldine F. Chittick, *In the Field, Dr. Melvin J. Hyde*

Timeline

April 12, 1861 – First shots fired at Fort Sumter, South Carolina

April 15, 1861 – President Lincoln calls for 75,000 volunteer troops to put down the rebellion

April 17, 1861 – Unwilling to provide troops to fight against other Southern states, Virginia secedes from the Union

August 9, 1862 – Battle of Cedar Mountain

August 28-30, 1862 – Battle of Second Manassas, culminating the campaign beginning just prior to Cedar Mountain

March 17, 1863 – Battle of Kelly's Ford

May 1-4, 1863 – Battle of Chancellorsville

June 9, 1863 – Battle of Brandy Station

July 1-3, 1863 – Battle of Gettysburg, culminating the campaign beginning just prior to Brandy Station

September 13, 1863 – Battle of Culpeper Court House

November 7, 1863 – Battle of Rappahannock Station, afterwards Federal forces enter into Culpeper County and Confederate forces withdraw out of the county

December 2, 1863 – Following a week of maneuvers out of the county during the Mine Run Campaign, the Federal army returns to begin its winter encampment

May 4, 1864 – Winter encampment concludes with the Federal army marching east and leaving Culpeper for the final time

May 5-6, 1864 – Battle of the Wilderness

April 9, 1865 – Confederate army under Robert E. Lee surrenders at Appomattox Court House

April 14, 1865 – Lincoln is assassinated

May 26, 1865 – At New Orleans the last significant Confederate army surrendered



VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS

This guide is published by the Culpeper Tourism and Town Economic Development.
For more, please visit www.visitculpeperva.com, or call (540) 727-0611.

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